

## A Breath of Fresh Air

Walking is recognised as one of the most pleasant ways to improve your health – enhancing stamina and energy, lowering blood pressure, easing back pain and reducing the risk of a heart attack.

As walking requires very little equipment it can be enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities. It is surely the most economical and fun way to keep fit.

## Planning Your Walk

- The walk measures four miles from one end to the other. Most people average two miles per hour, at this speed it would take two hours – but of course this can vary depending upon whether you are undertaking a brisk stroll or a gentle amble with stops along the way. Remember to allow time for rests, refreshment breaks and simply stopping to take in the view.
- If you are not used to walking, you might want to start with a shorter walk of around one and a half to two miles. The map overleaf highlights the route in half mile sections so that you can plan a shorter trip.
- Select strong, comfortable shoes with a good gripping sole or walking boots.
- Check the weather forecast for the day. Wear loose fitting, comfortable and bright clothing appropriate for the weather and crossing roads. Sun cream is always advisable, especially during spring and summer.
- You will need to cross some roads along the way. Extra care needs to be taken here, especially at the points on the map marked  Please follow the highway  code, see: [www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code)
- Drink plenty of water and take snacks with you. Refreshments are available along the route during normal opening hours. If you need a comfort break public toilets are marked by  and opening times are listed on: [www.thanet.gov.uk](http://www.thanet.gov.uk)

- Carry a mobile phone and let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return. In cases of emergency when you need to dial 999, six lettered marker posts have been erected every 250 metres along the middle section of St Peter’s Footpath (marked by letters **A** to **F** )
- And don’t forget the Countryside Code:  
Respect - Protect - Enjoy.

## Access for All



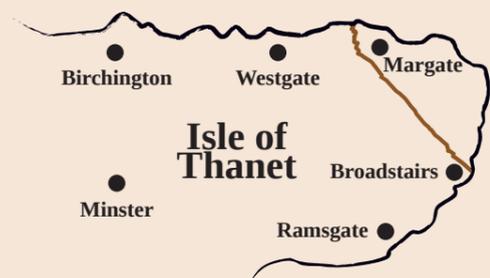
The Turner and Dickens Walk has been designed to be accessible for everyone. At all road crossings drop kerbs and tactile paving have been installed to assist wheelchair users, people with pushchairs and the visually impaired. All footways are at least a metre wide and the

entire route has been laid in hard surfacing. Marker posts have been put up every 250m along the middle section of St Peter’s Footpath and distinctive black and white signs with the “T&D” logo can be found along the way, to help keep you on the right track!

## Discover more walks in Thanet and Kent

If you enjoy this walk, Thanet Tourism [www.visitthanet.co.uk/walking](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk/walking) and Explore Kent websites [www.explorekent.org](http://www.explorekent.org) are the perfect place to find out about more walking routes across the area.

Download the Kent Connected app: <https://kentconnected.org/our-app> a free journey planner.



## The Countryside Code

### Respect – Protect – Enjoy

If you follow the Countryside Code wherever you go, you will enjoy walking in Kent and help protect the countryside now and for future generations.

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow the signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home or use bins and dog bins along the way
- Keep dogs under control
- Consider other people

## How to get there

### Train services

Margate station is located a 10-15 minute walk from one end of the route, and Broadstairs station is located on the walk itself. Tel: 03457 48 49 50 or visit: [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

### Coach services

National Express services run from both Margate and Broadstairs Tel: 0871 781 8181 or visit: [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)

### Local buses

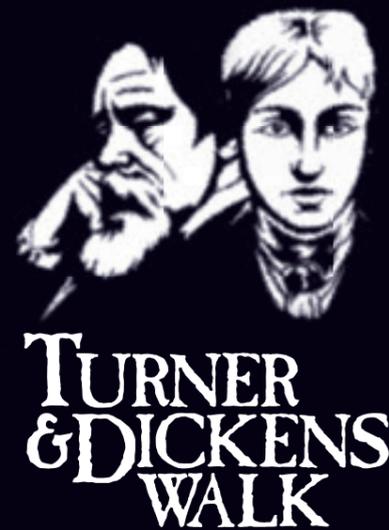
Frequent bus services including the ‘Thanet Loop’ run between Margate and Broadstairs, and frequent bus service stops are marked

### Route planning

[www.theaa.com](http://www.theaa.com), [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info), [www.visitthanet.co.uk](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk) (01843 577577)

### Taxis

Central Cars: 01843 888888  
Thanet Cars: 01843 292929  
United Cars: 01843 581581

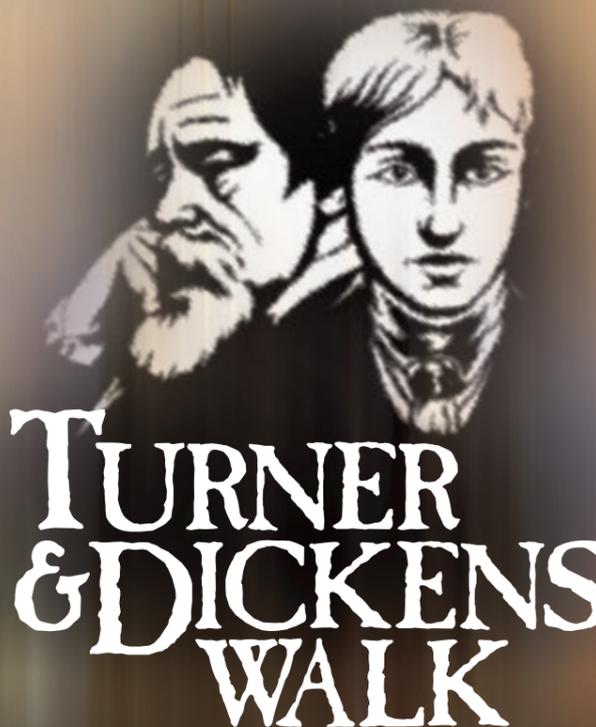


For more information visit [www.turneranddickenswalk.co.uk](http://www.turneranddickenswalk.co.uk) or call Thanet Tourist Information on 01843 577577



Our thanks and appreciation to two particularly useful sources of information used to compile this leaflet. Bob Cawthorne’s “Isle of Thanet Compendium” is a mine of information, facts and figures and the Trust for Thanet Archaeology’s website - [www.trustforthanetarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.trustforthanetarchaeology.org.uk) - is equally fascinating.

While every effort has been made to ensure that the content of this leaflet is accurate and up to date at the time of printing, no liability can be accepted for any errors, omissions or misrepresentations of fact contained herein.



A creative connection of

# Margate & Broadstairs

[www.turneranddickenswalk.co.uk](http://www.turneranddickenswalk.co.uk)

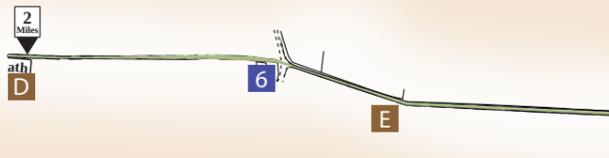
Enjoy the walk!

# MARGATE

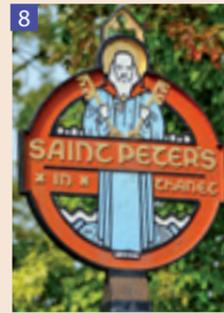
1 JMW Turner was 11 when he first came to Margate, later becoming a frequent visitor to the town. He produced more than 30,000 drawings and paintings in his lifetime, over 100 of which can be traced to the time he spent in Margate, where he was inspired by the unique quality of light. Turner Contemporary, named after the artist, is an internationally renowned gallery presenting a rolling programme of contemporary and historical art, events and learning opportunities. The gallery stands on the site once occupied by the guest house in which Turner stayed. Opposite the Harbour is Margate Old Town, now a vibrant area full of independent galleries, vintage and retro hotspots, quirky and contemporary shops and eateries.



7 St Peter's Church was built in the late Norman style in 1070 and later enlarged. The wooden roof dates from a refurbishment of 1687. In the reign of Henry VIII, archery practise was compulsory and took place near to the church. The church tower is 82ft high and four men kept a daily watch from it during the Napoleonic Wars. St Peter's churchyard is said to be the longest in the country. Very heavy rains in June 1966 caused around 100 graves to sink about 18 inches.



Cecil Square and Hawley Square were laid out in the Georgian period when Margate first became a popular and fashionable seaside town. In the 13th century what was then referred to as 'Meregate' was a small fishing hamlet by a wooden jetty, with a separate farming community by St John's Church. The church was first built in 1050 but destroyed by fire in 1250. During the Middle Ages peasants were buried outside but local dignitaries were buried under the church floor.



8 The historic village of St Peter's is brought to life in regular, award-winning village tours. These take place on Thursdays in groups of around ten and take up to two and a half hours. Costumed characters from past centuries help bring the past to life as you hear about conditions in the local workhouse, famous and infamous local residents and much more. Monthly churchyard and World War One and Two graves tours are also organised and take up to 90 minutes. See [www.villagetour.co.uk](http://www.villagetour.co.uk)



3 Outside Holy Trinity and St John's CEP School are the Margate mosaics. Children from the school, their parents and other local people worked with mosaic artist Martin Cheek to create the ten mosaic panels. Each is made with Bizassa vitreous glass, embedded in an aluminium frame. They depict a number of Turner's most famous paintings, including 'The Fighting Temeraire' and 'Rain, Steam and Speed'; as well as imagined scenes from Turner's life.



9 There are 24 Dickens inspired mosaic panels in St Peter's, set within a landscaped area. Children from Upton Junior School and other members of the local community worked with mosaic artist Martin Cheek to design the panels. Look out for some of Dickens' most famous characters, including Scrooge, Magwitch, Bill Sykes, Mr Bumble and Fagin. One panel shows Dickens and Turner face to face. They were contemporaries but Turner was already in his 30s when Dickens was born in 1812.



4 One only two surviving windmills in Thanet (the other is at Sarre), Drapers Mill is a smock mill built by John Holman in 1847. It was saved from demolition in the 1960s by the then headmaster of the school which shares its name. It has been restored to working order and houses 18th and 19th century milling artefacts. For details of the mill's opening times visit [www.visitthanet.co.uk](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk).



10 Close to Broadstairs railway station is Crampton Tower Museum, part of which is actually housed in the tower. The museum commemorates the work of Thomas Russell Crampton, born in Broadstairs in 1816. Crampton was an eminent engineer in his time and the museum contains working drawings, models, graphics, patents, awards and artefacts connected to his life and works. The tower was designed by Crampton for his own water company, the Broadstairs Water Company, and built in 1959. See [www.cramptontower.co.uk](http://www.cramptontower.co.uk)



5 Continue past the windmill and allotments and the path goes over the footbridge, crossing the Broadstairs to Margate railway line.



11 The name Pierremont derives from the French for St Peter's Mount. Pierremont Hall was built in 1785 and had grounds that extended to 30 acres. Queen Victoria stayed at Pierremont Hall as an 8-year old princess in 1827. She had her own white donkey, Dicky, for rides on the beach. Broadstairs and St Peter's Urban District Council bought the building for £5,500 in 1927 and it now houses the Town Council offices.

Image: Debbie Spalding Photography

6 The area where the footpath crosses Shallows Road apparently derives its name from an underground stream that surfaced here, hence 'The Shallows'. In the 17th century, the land was owned by the Churchwarden of St Peter's Church. It was bought for ten shillings (50p) by Stephen Shallows, a local Baptist, partly because of the coincidence of name.

However, his main purpose for buying the land was to establish a place where he and his fellow Baptists could worship in safety, as Baptists were persecuted in England at that time.



12 The building which is now home to the Dickens House Museum was originally a small Tudor building, later extended in Victorian times. Miss Mary Pearson Strong the owner when Dickens was a frequent visitor to Broadstairs. He later based the character of Betsey Trotwood in his novel David Copperfield on her. The house was named Dickens House at the end of the 19th century and opened as a museum in 1973. It houses Dickens' memorabilia, including his writing slope, and displays on the history of Broadstairs.

# BROADSTAIRS