

# ... Brighton

Nestling between the South Downs and the coast, Brighton & Hove, the UK's favourite 'city by the sea', has a bohemian, artistic and cosmopolitan atmosphere that can't be found anywhere else in the UK.

Combining the modern with the traditional, Brighton & Hove has a heritage that is rooted in the Regency era brought up to date with a unique cultural offer. There's elegant architecture, museums and galleries, great shopping, stylish cafés, bars and restaurants, glittering nightlife, arts and theatre and all the fun of the seaside.

## Getting to Brighton by car

Brighton & Hove is easy to get to, it is 54 miles due south of London and takes about an hour and a half to drive. South of the M25 ring road, the M23 leads into Brighton.

Like other historic and compact cities, parking right in the heart of the city is at a premium.

If you decide to bring your car into Brighton & Hove, there's no need to drive right into the city centre. A Park & Ride is available from Withdean Stadium in the north of the city. It's signposted from the A23 and enables you to park your car and catch a bus to the city centre.

# Top 5 must see places

The Royal Pavilion Stunning royal palace with an Indian exterior and a Chinese interior. www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk

### **Brighton Pier**

Iconic Victorian pier with various food and drink outlets, fairground attractions and Palace of Fun arcade. www.brightonpier.co.uk

Brighton Museum & Art Gallery Dynamic and innovative galleries including fashion and style, 20th century art & design and world art. www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk

#### Sea Life Centre

Watch in awe as giant turtles and sharks glide above you in the underwater tunnel. www.visitsealife.com/brighton

### The Beachfront

Stroll along the promenade and soak up the cosmopolitan atmosphere at one of the funky cafes and bars, relax on the beach or try one of the many water sports activities. www.visitbrighton.com



## Day one

Start your day with a visit to the spectacular Royal Pavilion as this explains why the city has always been known as a place to have fun and be yourself. Then stroll across the beautiful regency Pavilion Gardens and visit the Brighton Museum & Art Gallery which has a range of permanent and temporary exhibitions including the History of Brighton & Hove, art deco furniture and fashion through the ages.

After lunch in an independent café take some time to explore the bohemian North Laine area which is home to over 300 shops selling anything and everything from vegetarian shoes to African drums & vintage fashion. Then move across to the historic Lanes as these twisting alleyways are full of designer boutiques, antiques and jewellers.

In the evening return to the cultural quarter to see a West-End show at the Theatre Royal Brighton, classical concert at the Brighton Dome or contemporary dance at the Pavilion Theatre. After the show have a drink at one of the many pubs & bars to catch a local band or just watch the world go by.

# Day two

Relive your childhood with a trip to the Brighton Sea Life Centre, this Victorian aquarium is home to sharks and a giant turtle, marvel as they glide above you as you walk through the underwater tunnel. Then take a walk along the Brighton Pier, try your hand at the arcades, race the Dolphin Derby and win your loved one a prize.

After a fish 'n' chip lunch on the Pier take a walk along the seafront to see the Artist Quarter and the Fishing Museum, keep walking west to admire the stunning regency squares and the Victorian Bandstand. Once you reach the colourful beach huts you know you've arrived in Hove so head inland to explore the variety of shops and cafes.

In the evening head back into the city to see a film at the country's oldest continuously operating cinema the Duke of York's Picturehouse.









### Where to stay

The Grand Classic Victorian hotel. www.devere.co.uk/ourlocations/the-grand

The White House Contemporary bed & breakfast in Kemp Town. www.whitehousebrighton.com 01273 626266

Artist Residence Art hotel where each room has been individually styled. www.artistresidence.co.uk 01273 324302 My Holiday Let Luxury seaside self-catering accommodation. www.brightonholiday.com 07976 923733

Crown Gardens Centrally located cottages and apartments. www.crown-gardens.co.uk 01273 358086

Hilton Brighton Metropole Large seafront hotel . www.hilton.co.uk/ brightonmet 01273 775432

#### Where to eat

Terre a Terre Award-winning vegetarian food. www.terreaterre.co.uk 01273 729051

Food For Friends Vegetarian celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011. www.foodforfriends.com 01273 202310

Moshi Moshi Sushi and Japanese dishes. www.moshibrighton.co.uk 01273 719195 Due South At least 80% of the food is sourced from within a 35 mile radius of the restaurant. www.duesouth.co.uk 01273 821218

English's Edwardian seafood and oyster bar in the Lanes. www.englishs.co.uk 01273 327980

The Chilli Pickle Indian restaurant which is the in-house restaurant at myhotel. www.thechillipickle.com 01273 900383