

# Stay a little longer...

## Suggested Itineraries



Osborne House, Isle of Wight

## The Isle of Wight

Steeped in history with 60 miles of stunning unspoilt scenery and a wealth of attractions, the Isle of Wight has something for everyone. Renowned for its dinosaur fossils and natural beauty spots, seaside resorts and music festivals the Isle of Wight is a unique holiday destination.

### Day 1: Osborne House

**AM** - No trip to the island would be complete without a visit to **Osborne House**, where Queen Victoria lived with her beloved Prince Albert and their nine children. You get an intimate glimpse into Queen Victoria's family life as you tour the nursery and private rooms of Victoria and Albert. View the magnificent Royal Apartments, including the sumptuous drawing and dining rooms and the richly decorated Indian-inspired Durbar Room. Stroll through Osborne's extensive grounds and don't miss the miniature Swiss Cottage, built to teach the royal children the art of household management!

**PM** - Take a ride on the **Isle of Wight Steam Railway** which passes through five miles of unspoiled Island countryside, recapturing the days of the branch line railway. Brought to life again are those perky tank engines and quaint, wooden-bodied carriages which were a familiar sight until the 1950's.



The Isle of Wight Steam Railway

### Day 2: Carisbrooke Castle & Newchurch

**AM** - One of the main tourist attractions on the Isle of Wight, **Carisbrooke Castle** is best known as the place where King Charles I was imprisoned. You can still play bowls on the very green Charles used. For a castle that has lived through more than 800 years of service, including resisting a siege by the French and seeing off the Spanish Armada, it's also wonderfully well preserved.

**PM** - Visit the **Garlic Farm**, the UK's largest grower of garlic and producers of delicious and unusual garlic products. Taste garlic ice-cream or try the range of 35 Vampire & Garlic Relishes. Learn about growing garlic, garlic for health and the power of garlic. It is renowned for its annual Garlic Festival, in August every year. Visit **Ventnor Botanic Garden**, a subtropical and exotic plant collection unrivalled elsewhere in the UK.



Carisbrooke Castle



Ventnor Botanic Garden

# The Isle of Wight

## Day 3: Alum Bay & The Needles

**AM** - Alum Bay is famous for its coloured sand cliffs overlooking the Isle of Wight's most iconic landmark, **The Needles**, a series of chalk stacks running out into the sea at the island's western-most point. You can visit **The Needles Rocks** and **Lighthouse** by pleasure boat. **The Needles Park** offers a range of attractions including the spectacular chairlift to the beach, Alum Bay Glass and Sweet Manufactory.

**PM**: - Built on the north shore of the Isle of Wight to guard the Solent the remains of **Fort Victoria** now house a **Marine Aquarium**, a **Underwater Archaeology Centre**, a **Planetarium** and a **Model Railway**. The surrounding Country Park offers Seashore and Woodland walks and the site is one of the best vantage points for watching the Solent boats and shipping.



The Needles, Isle of Wight

## Extend your stay

- Visit **Blackgang Chine**, the world's oldest theme park and one of the island's most popular destinations You'll find surprising and eccentric attractions set in 40 acres of Victorian Gardens.
- For animal lovers, **Isle of Wight Zoo**, Sandown is a sanctuary for big cats and primates.
- Visit **Dinosaur Isle**, Sandown, Britain's first purpose built dinosaur museum and visitor attraction. The Island's diverse geology contains a wealth of fossils from around 126 million years. The rocks record the best exposures of dinosaur material in Europe.
- The Isle of Wight is a wonderful destination for those who prefer to relax and escape. The beautiful countryside is perfect for walking and cycling, while the picturesque villages provide a perfect opportunity for gift-hunting and cream teas.

### Travel Information

The Isle of Wight is easy to reach from either Portsmouth, Southampton or Lyminster.

**Gatwick-Portsmouth (M23/M25/A3) 90 minutes**  
**Gatwick-Southampton (M23/M25/M3) 120 minutes**  
**Gatwick-Lymington (M23/M25/M3/M27/A337) 150 minutes**

Wightlink Ferries offer a ferry and catamaran service from **Portsmouth** and a ferry service from **Lymington**.

Red Funnel Ferries run a frequent service from **Southampton** to East Cowes.

## Further Information

### Where to stay:

[www.visitsoutheastengland.com/accommodation](http://www.visitsoutheastengland.com/accommodation)  
[www.visit-wight.co.uk/index.php/places-to-stay](http://www.visit-wight.co.uk/index.php/places-to-stay)  
[www.isleofwightaccommodation.com](http://www.isleofwightaccommodation.com)

### Useful websites:

[www.aroundgatwick.com](http://www.aroundgatwick.com)  
[www.visitsoutheastengland.com](http://www.visitsoutheastengland.com)  
[www.wightlink.co.uk](http://www.wightlink.co.uk)  
[www.redfunnel.co.uk](http://www.redfunnel.co.uk)  
[www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/osborne-house](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/osborne-house)  
[www.iwsteamrailway.co.uk](http://www.iwsteamrailway.co.uk)  
[www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/carisbrooke-castle/](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/carisbrooke-castle/)  
[www.theneedles.co.uk](http://www.theneedles.co.uk)  
[www.thegarlicfarm.co.uk](http://www.thegarlicfarm.co.uk)  
[www.botanic.co.uk](http://www.botanic.co.uk)  
[www.needlespleasurecruises.co.uk](http://www.needlespleasurecruises.co.uk)

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