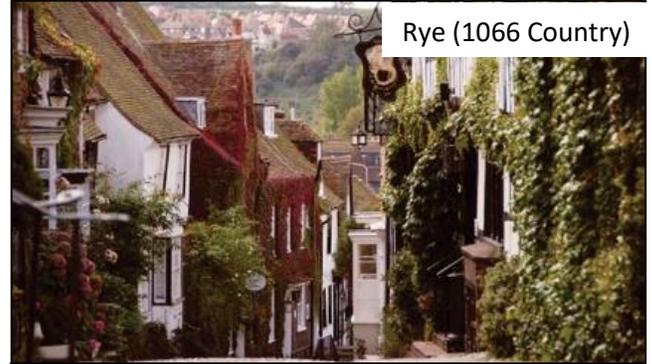


# TOURISM SOUTH EAST

## Visit London & South East England - Coast, Countryside & Culture – 6 day Itinerary

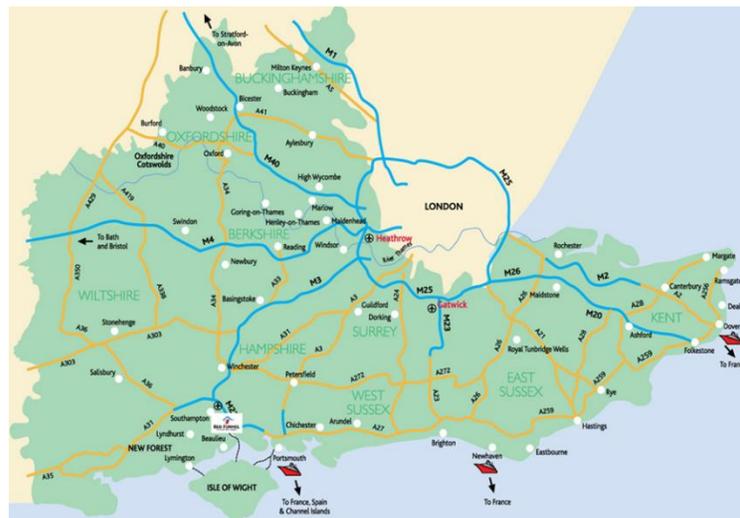


### About South East England

The beautiful South East England is the gateway to England on Europe's doorstep – discover amazing history, stunning landscapes and the great outdoors. The area covers Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, London, Oxfordshire, Surrey and Sussex.

### Combine your stay with a visit to London, within 2 hours of most South East destinations.

Follow the River Thames from Reading to Windsor, Runnymede, Hampton Court Palace and through London to Greenwich and discover England's Liquid history.



### GATWICK AIRPORT GATEWAY TO LONDON & SOUTH EAST ENGLAND

The Gatwick Express provides a non-stop service to London Victoria station departing every 15 minutes and taking about 30 minutes journey time. Regular rail services link the airport directly with destinations around South East England including Brighton and Eastbourne, as well as to Portsmouth, Southampton and Guildford.

[www.gatwick.com](http://www.gatwick.com)

[www.visitsoutheastengland.com](http://www.visitsoutheastengland.com)

# London & South East England: City, Coast, Countryside & Culture



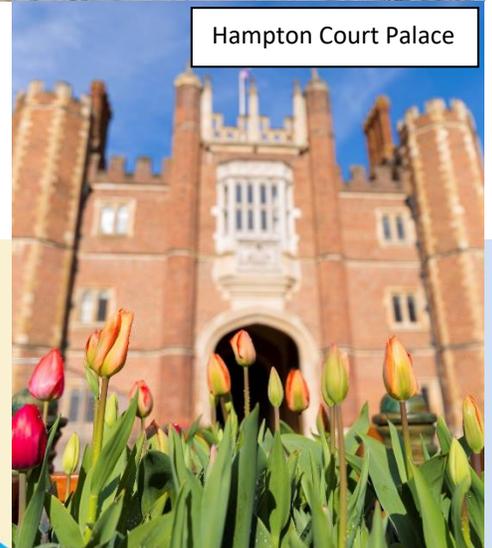
Windsor



City Cruises, London

## Itinerary Locations

1066 Country, Portsmouth, Windsor and along the River Thames to Greenwich stopping at Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) and City Cruises.



Hampton Court Palace



Windsor

1066 Country



Rye Castle



Camber Sands



Winchelsea Cellars



Full Throttle Boat Charters



Rye Harbour Nature Reserve



Charles Palmer Vineyards

Start your trip in **1066 Country** ([www.visit1066country.com](http://www.visit1066country.com)). Set deep in history, where the Sussex Weald meets the sea, lie the ancient settlements and rich landscapes of 1066 Country. Open skies and broad horizons inspire the imagination. 1066 Country is home to some of Sussex's finest coast and countryside including the famous historic site on which the Battle of Hastings was fought. It encompasses 30 miles of coast, 22 Festivals, 15 museums, 4 galleries and 6 castles! Discover the unique towns and villages of Battle, Bexhill, Bodiam, Camber, Hastings, Herstmonceux, Pevensey, Rye and Winchelsea.

### Where To Stay

#### [Flackley Ash Hotel](#),

Peasmarsch - A cosy country house hotel, set in 5 acres just outside Rye. 44 rooms, including garden suites and four poster rooms, a la carte restaurant and small indoor swimming pool and spa facilities.



#### [The Gallivant, Camber](#) - A

boutique hotel across the road from the sand dunes and beautiful beach of Camber Sands. Good restaurant serving local produce. Yoga and Wellness.



[Wickham Manor](#), Winchelsea - A National Trust-owned 16th Century Manor House nestled within the 750-acre mixed farm and the Charles Palmer vineyard.

Accommodation is in two self-contained areas of the house.

Take a look at other [accommodation options](#) on the 1066 Country website.

### What To Do:

[Full Throttle Boat Charters](#) - Boat trips from Rye Harbour out to sea for an exhilarating experience. 9 seater RIB speedboat is the best way to see the Sussex coast line.

[Discovery Centre](#) at [Rye Harbour Nature Reserve](#) – An important wildlife site set in an exceptional coastal and wetland landscape. Home to more than 4,355 species of plants and animals.

Wine tasting and tour of [Charles Palmer Vineyard](#) at Winchelsea - an ideal climate for vines; proximity to the sea, south facing slope and its terroir.

Tour [Winchelsea](#). Once one of England's most thriving ports, now landlocked, it was planned as a medieval new town, set on a hill and constructed with hidden vaults beneath. Book a [Cellar Tour](#).

[Rye Heritage Centre](#) – Housed in a converted 19th century sail loft, it includes the Rye Town Model 'Story of Rye' Sound and Light Show, a vintage, hand built 1:100 scale model of Victorian Rye.

[Discover Rye](#) - A medieval citadel huddled against invaders and the sea. It's home to a myriad of art, curiosities, cosy pubs, as well as modern boutique hotels, contemporary restaurants and Rye Castle Museum (Ypres Tower).

[Lamb House](#) (National Trust) – the former home of author, Henry James.

HMS Victory, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard



The D-Day Story



DAY THREE PORTSMOUTH



Southsea Castle

Gunwharf Quays



Spinnaker Tower



The Mary Rose, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard



Start your visit to Portsmouth ([www.visitportsmouth.co.uk](http://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk)) on a high at the **Spinnaker Tower** then enjoy a maritime themed visit to **Portsmouth Historic Dockyard** to discover centuries of history - including Henry VIII's **Mary Rose**, Nelson's **HMS Victory**, **HMS Warrior**, boat trips around the harbour plus lots more. Visit **The D-Day Story**, now including a visit on board the massive landing craft LCT7074. Nearby Henry VIII's **Southsea Castle** offers free visits (Apr- Oct). For those who like a spot of shopping, stop off at Gunwharf Quays.

### Where to Stay & Eat

- **Royal Maritime Hotel & Club** - Established in 1850, it gained 'Royal patronage' in 1855, after Prince Albert visited the hotel. Queen Victoria became patron. Royal visits include Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles III (patron since 2007). Membership is open to all serving and retired members of the Armed Forces and their families as well as those of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Merchant Navy. It has 90 comfortable bedrooms, a restaurant, café, bars and leisure facilities: swimming pool, spa pool, sauna, skittles alley and billiards room.
- **Ibis** - In a prime location in the centre of Portsmouth close to popular annual events including Goodwood Festival of Speed, and Victorious music festival. 144 rooms are an ode to the naval history of Portsmouth, with porthole-shaped windows.
- **Abarbistro** - Family-run bistro & bar situated in the heart of Old Portsmouth. Back in 1784 there was a pub on the site called the Shipwrights Arms. By 1887, it was known as the American Hotel, legend has it, that it used to house convicts waiting to be deported to penal colonies in Virginia during the 18th century.



### Things To Do

- **The Mary Rose** - 2022 marks 40 years since the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's favourite ship, was raised from the sea bed. Now in world-class museum within the Dockyard
- **Portsmouth Historic Dockyard** - Historic ships, include Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson's flagship HMS Victory, Queen Victoria's HMS Warrior and the only surviving ship from the First World War's Gallipoli campaign, HMS M.33.
- **Spinnaker Tower** - 170 metres tall, offering breathtaking views over the city, Portsmouth Harbour, the Solent and Isle of Wight. High-speed lift and 3 viewing decks. The glass 'Sky Walk' is 100m above sea level.
- **The D-Day Story** - Following a £5 million transformation project (Heritage Lottery Fund) - the museum provides an engaging insight into the lives of those who took part in D-Day; individuals on the shore in Portsmouth, or those who went over to Normandy. Take a guided tour of the massive landing craft LCT7074.
- **Southsea Castle** - Built in 1544, it was part of a series of fortifications constructed by Henry VIII around England's coasts to protect from invaders.
- **Gunwharf Quays** - home to over 95 retail outlet stores offering famous brand names at discount prices.
- **Portsmouth Museum and Art Gallery** - Take a walk through Portsmouth's heritage, discover the world of Sherlock Holmes, see fascinating works of art.
- **Kings Theatre** - Built in 1907, the Grade II listed, Kings Theatre showcases major touring productions, comedy and a vibrant line-up of music, dance and cabaret.
- **Charles Dickens' Birthplace Museum** - Small terraced house where, in 1812, Charles Dickens was born.
- **Hovertravel** - the only scheduled Hovercraft operator in Europe, is the quickest way to reach the Isle of Wight.



Windsor Castle



The Savill Garden



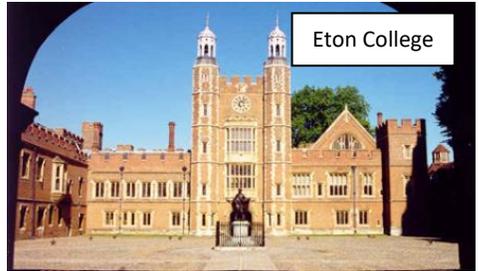
French Brothers Boat Trips



Royal Windsor Station



Ascot Racecourse



Eton College

The royal town of Windsor was first recorded in 1130, owing its existence to the siting of William the Conqueror's castle, first established in 1086. Ever since, the town and castle have been inextricably linked. For visitors, a tour of Windsor Castle is a must-see of course, but there are many other attractions for groups and individuals to enjoy within the **Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead**.

Take a sightseeing cruise on the River Thames with **French Brothers**, offering a relaxing time afloat. A short drive across Windsor Great Park, enjoy a tour of the beautiful **Savill Garden**, managed by the Crown Estate. Further along the river lie the hidden gems of **Maidenhead Heritage Centre**, where you can fly the Spitfire Simulator and **The Stanley Spencer Gallery** with exhibitions of the great 20<sup>th</sup> century British artist. For evenings, the **Theatre Royal Windsor** has a full calendar of plays or the historic Old Courts Arts Centre. There's **Dr Choc's**, chocolate Factory where you can make your own bon bons or **Windsor & Eton Brewery** where you can tour and sample the ales. Queen Elizabeth II was renowned for her love of horse racing, training and racing her own thoroughbreds. Include a race meeting at **Ascot Racecourse** or at **Royal Windsor Racecourse**.

**Windsor Tourist Guides** walking tours cross the picturesque bridge from Windsor to Eton and **Tootbus's** hop-on hop-off bus tours, take in charming Datchet and the **Royal Farm Shop** in Old Windsor. And for families there's **Legoland**.

### Where to Stay

#### [Fairmont Windsor Park -](#)

A beautiful hotel set in the English countryside where history and iconic elegance merge to create an outstanding destination.



#### [Castle Hotel, Windsor -](#)

Located opposite Windsor Castle and Windsor Guildhall. Steeped in history, with regal connections and sightseeing opportunities on its doorstep.



#### [Macdonald Windsor Hotel -](#)

Contemporary townhouse situated just two minutes' walk from Windsor Castle.



[The Royal Adelaide Hotel -](#) A boutique hotel just off the famous Long Walk. A stunning Georgian building.



### Things to Do

[Ascot Racecourse](#) – One of the world's most famous and best-loved racecourses.

[Dr Choc's Windsor Chocolate Factory](#) – Chocolate workshops, café and shop.

[French Brothers Boats](#) – From Windsor incl. 40 minute round trips, from Maidenhead and historic Runnymede. Maidenhead Heritage Centre.

[Legoland Windsor Resort](#) – Theme Park, on-site hotels.

[The Old Court \(Artspace\)](#) – Vibrant arts centre.

[The Savill Garden](#) – One of the country's finest woodland gardens, located in Windsor Great Park.

[The Stanley Spencer Gallery](#) – Art Gallery in Cookham dedicated to Stanley Spencer's works.

[Theatre Royal Windsor](#) – Grade II listed local theatre, providing a mix of theatrical, live music and comedy.

[Tootbus](#) – Climb aboard at any of the stops and explore Windsor and Eton, separated by the Thames.

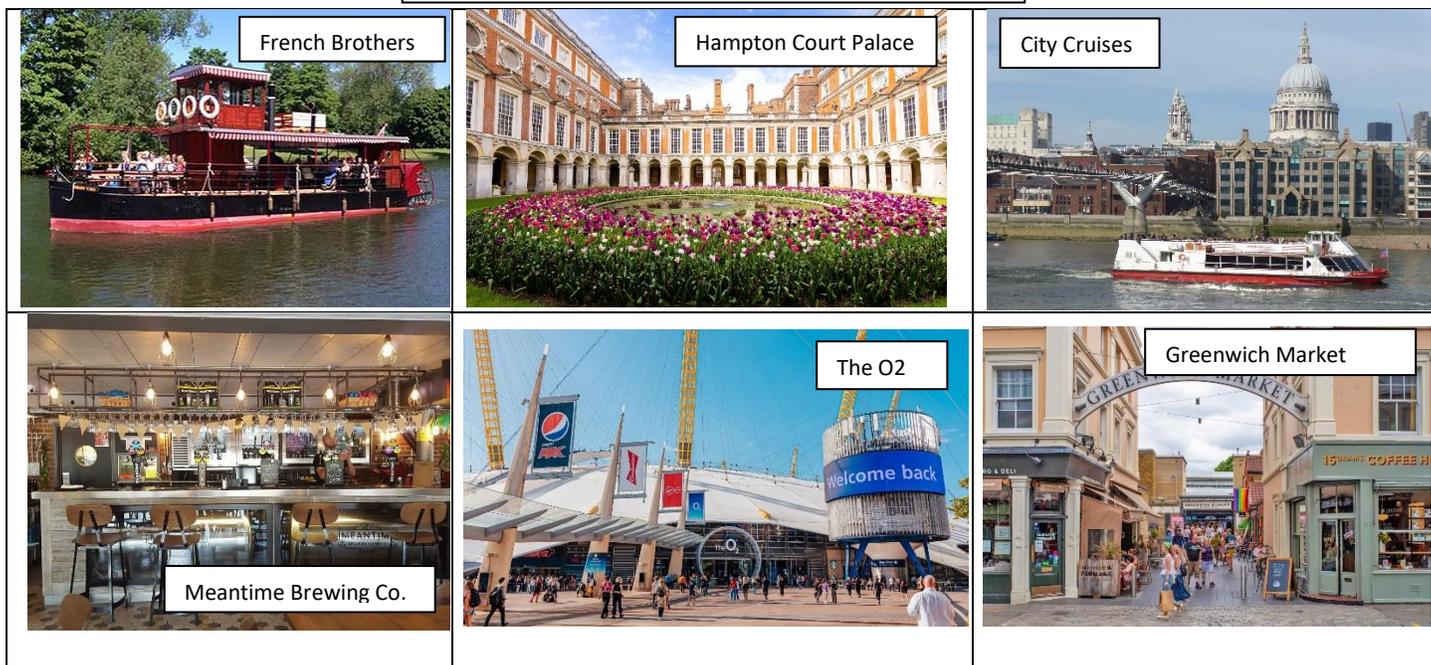
[Windsor Castle](#) – An official residence of King Charles III and the oldest inhabited castle in the world.

[Windsor & Eton Brewery](#) – Local craft brewery with tours.

[Royal Windsor Racecourse](#) – Race days and events.

[Windsor Royal Station](#) – Dining and shopping set in the old royal station.

## DAY FIVE ALONG THE THAMES TO GREENWICH



From Windsor you can follow the River Thames to Greenwich with various stops along the way. Start with a cruise from Windsor to Runnymede with **French Brothers**. Next stop is **Hampton Court Palace**. Experience the public dramas and private lives of Henry VIII, his wives and children in the world of the Tudor court. Admire Henry's Great Hall and Tudor kitchens. Discover the spectacular baroque palace built for William III and Mary II and explore Hampton Court Palace's outdoor spaces and 60 acres of magnificent gardens.

Take a sightseeing tour in London and be dropped off at Westminster to take a **City Cruises** sightseeing trip to Greenwich. City Cruises is the No.1 sightseeing tour on the Thames! Cruises depart every 30 minutes, every day of the week, all year round.

The **Royal Borough of Greenwich** is one of London's most popular places to visit and an easy hop from central London by river, rail, or London Underground. Beautifully set on the bank of the river Thames, it is easy to get to so many world class museums, galleries, markets and eateries all in close proximity

### Greenwich

- **Royal Observatory Greenwich** - Home of Greenwich Mean Time and the Prime Meridian of the world - the line of 0° Longitude. You can also see an awe-inspiring show at London's only Planetarium.
- **National Maritime Museum** - The official home of Britain's nautical archive and maritime collections. Discover epic stories of exploration and endeavour that have shaped the world.
- **Old Royal Naval College** - Sir Christopher Wren's riverside masterpiece: encompassing some of the finest buildings in the world. Home to Painted Hall and the neoclassical Chapel of St Peter and St Paul.
- **London Guided Walks** provide private tours, treasure hunts, insightful and well-prepared walks

### Where to Stay

- DoubleTree by Hilton London Greenwich
- Novotel London Greenwich
- The Clarendon Hotel

### Things To Do

#### Hampton Court Palace

Hampton Court Palace's annual Tulip Festival in April brings displays of multi-coloured blooms to the heart of the Tudor palace and the ornate Baroque Fountain Gardens, Kitchen Gardens and beyond into the Formal Gardens. Included in admission, visitors can stroll through a sea of colours at the same time exploring the history of the tulip flower, believed to date back to Queen Mary II (1662-1694) when some were as valuable as the price of a house!

#### City Cruises

As well as hop-on, hop-off cruises there's a selection of dining cruises; with good food and great views it's a memorable way to see the capital. Or, experience an exhilarating 50-minutes on the water with a thrilling speedboat ride with ThamesJet speedboat. You'll see the best sights of London from Westminster down to Tower Bridge. Make sure to keep an eye out for glimpses of Big Ben, the London Eye and the Tower of London as you return to Westminster

**London & South East England: City, Coast, Countryside & Culture**

**[www.visitsoutheastengland.com](http://www.visitsoutheastengland.com)**

**USEFUL INFORMATION**

**DISTANCES**

- Gatwick Airport to Rye 62 miles, 1hr 20mins
- Heathrow Airport to Rye 83 miles, 1hr 46mins
  
- Rye to Portsmouth 95 miles, 2hrs 26mins
  
- Portsmouth to Windsor 67 miles, 1hr 17mins
  
- Windsor to Hampton Court Palace 15.4 miles, 42mins
  
- Hampton Court Palace to Westminster by road 14.2 miles, 1 hr
  
- Westminster to Greenwich by City Cruises 1hr 20 mins
- Westminster to Greenwich by underground Jubilee and DLR or Thameslink 25mins
- Westminster to Greenwich by road 6 miles, 37 mins
  
- Greenwich to Gatwick Airport 41 miles, 47mins
- Greenwich to Heathrow Airport 65 miles, 1hr 25mins

**Flights**

Norwegian from Bergen, Copenhagen, Oslo, Stavenger and Stockholm.

**Tourism South East**

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- Fran Downton, [fdownton@tourismse.com](mailto:fdownton@tourismse.com)

**Destination Contacts**

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- Windsor – Julia White, [Julia.White@RBWM.gov.uk](mailto:Julia.White@RBWM.gov.uk)
- Greenwich – Ales Kosejk, [Ales@visitgreenwich.org.uk](mailto:Ales@visitgreenwich.org.uk)

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- Historic Royal Palaces, Ann Wilson, [groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk](mailto:groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk)