

# Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate

## Find out why your group would love it here...

Group and Travel Trade Guide 2018



Ramsgate Royal Harbour



Phyllida Barlow's sculptures tower over visitors.  
Credit Manu Palomeque

Turner Contemporary – art by the sea



Spitfire and Hurricane Museum – legendary fighter aircraft



Broadstairs Food Festival 10th anniversary (Autumn)

For group visit ideas and information go to  
[www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups) or call 01843 577577



# Welcome

The seaside resorts of **Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate**, are situated on the north-eastern coast of Kent. Each has their own character delivering great-value, quality attractions and facilities for the group travel trade.

The area is rich in history and heritage with strong links to great names. See if you agree with **Charles Dickens** who loved to holiday in Broadstairs and described it as 'Our English watering place' and **Augustus Pugin**, designer of the interiors of the Houses of Parliament, lived in Ramsgate in the house he designed 'The Grange'.

The internationally acclaimed Margate's **Turner Contemporary**, is named after the famous artist **JMW Turner**, who frequently visited the town and described the skies here as 'the loveliest in Europe'. Take a ride through the decades on Gallopers, Big Wheel and Grade II\* Scenic Railway alongside arcades, side shows, events and roller disco at 'The UK's original Pleasure Park' **Dreamland**.

Take an indoor safari and discover Major **Powell-Cotton's** extensive world class collection of his African Adventures, alongside a historic house, acres of gardens, farmers market and much more. Or get close to iconic fighter aircraft at the **Spitfire and Hurricane Museum**.

## Why Visit Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate?

- Located just 75 miles (121km) from London and 20 miles (32km) from Dover
- See world-class art at Margate's international art gallery **Turner Contemporary**
- Experience **JMW Turner's Margate (Turner Contemporary, Turner Itinerary)**
- **Dreamland Margate**, UK's original pleasure park
- Explore **Charles Dickens' Broadstairs (Dickens House Museum, Bleak House, annual Dickens Festival)**
- Learn about **AWN Pugin (The Grange, St Augustine's Church, Pugin Town Trail (self-guided walk))**
- Visit the **Pugin and St Augustine Visitor Centre**
- Discover world class collections at the **Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex House and Gardens**
- **Ramsgate**, the only Royal Harbour and Marina in the country
- Miles of glorious coastline and 15 sandy beaches and bays with more Blue Flag beaches than any other district
- Itinerary suggestions – **Pugin's Ramsgate, Frontline Thanet, Beside the Original Seaside, Dickens' Watering Hole**
- Accommodation available for groups

15 sandy beaches and bays with more Blue Flag beaches than any other district

01843 577577

visitorinformation@thanet.gov.uk www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups



Credit Hufton + Crow

# Turner Contemporary

See world-class art in a stunning seaside setting

Turner Contemporary is one of the most distinctive galleries in the UK, showcasing the best in contemporary and historical art. Through a rolling programme of temporary exhibitions and events, the gallery offers a space for everyone to embrace their curiosity. Inspired by Britain's best-loved painter, JMW Turner, the gallery is situated on the same site where Turner stayed

when visiting the town, with spectacular views out to sea. Original works by Turner are regularly on display at the gallery, from a single work to sketchbooks and entire exhibitions. The iconic building, designed by award-winning David Chipperfield Architects, has been voted as a 21st Century landmark by British Airways.

-  Entry to the gallery is free
-  There is a drop-off point outside the gallery and a coach park nearby
-  Special group packages available, including tours, creative sessions, catering and shop discount
-  Turner Contemporary's café serves delicious modern seasonal cuisine, with food and drink sourced locally where possible
-  Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holidays Autumn/Winter 10am – 5pm, Spring/Summer 10am – 6pm
-  01843 233000  
info@turnercontemporary.org  
www.turnercontemporary.org/visit

# Dreamland

A unique vintage amusement park with live music, street food and pop-up entertainment



Credit Jason Pay

-  Free to enter and pay to ride. Peak and off peak wristbands available from as little as £9. See website for full details  
Group discounts available (10% or more) for groups of 10+. Group discounts available for Octopus Garden and Roller Disco  
For a bespoke group booking or quote please email sales@dreamland.co.uk or call 01843 295887
-  Public pay and display car park and coach parking onsite Belgrave Road, Margate CT9 1XG
-  Sign up to their newsletter to be the first to find out about offers, events and more
-  Dreamland has a wide range of delicious food and drink around the park to suit all tastes and budgets
-  Please check the website for times
-  01843 295887  
office@dreamland.co.uk  
www.dreamland.co.uk

Dreamland Margate is considered to be the oldest-surviving amusement park in Great Britain: the site of Dreamland (as it was re-named in 1920) dates back to the British railway boom and the early 1870s when, in its original form, the 'Hall by the Sea' was operated by the circus tycoon, 'Lord' George Sanger.

Following significant additional investment in 2017, Dreamland was re-landscaped to provide a space that brings together an amusement park with lovingly restored vintage rides, world-

class entertainment spaces and much more, set against the backdrop of the beach.

With interactive art installations, adventurous street food from around the world served from vintage trucks, eclectic bars and a broad programme of live entertainment, the park has a hugely unique offering for visitors.

A stand out cultural destination, the park has a garden walkway that gives everyone the opportunity to admire its antique menagerie cages from the 1800s,

capturing part of the site's rich history.

The ride line-up features the UK's oldest wooden rollercoaster - the grade II\* listed Scenic Railway, the Magic Mouse, Wedgwood Tea Cups. The Waltzer has been lovingly restored to its former 1940s glory.

There's plenty of fun for the little ones too, with a selection of smaller rides to enjoy, as well as live shows and pop-up entertainment throughout the park.

# Powell-Cotton Museum Quex House and Gardens



There are acres of beautiful informal gardens to explore, including herbaceous borders, exotic trees and a woodland walk

Naturalist, explorer and collector Major PHG Powell-Cotton established a museum in the gardens of Quex House to house his extensive world class collection, consisting of 19th century natural history from Africa and Asia, oriental fine arts, antique furniture, ceramics, weaponry and local archaeology. Quex House is a Regency mansion also open to the public and

proudly displaying fascinating furniture, objet d'art and a beautiful library.

There are acres of beautiful informal gardens to explore, including herbaceous borders, exotic trees, a woodland walk, listed statues and a Victorian Walled Garden. Also at Quex Park, Quex Craft Village and Quex Barn farmers market and restaurant.



Visit their website for group rates or to receive a tailor-made quotation for your visit



Free and unlimited coach parking. Coach drivers receive a complimentary refreshment voucher for £5



Group rates for 20 and over – Adults £7.45 and Concessions £5.45



Mama Feelgoods Boutique Café caters for pre-booked groups of up to 100 guests serving delicious homemade dishes from an extensive menu. Afternoon cream teas and the finest selection of tea and coffee are also available. Lunch bookings essential



Museum and Gardens open Mid-January to Mid-December 10am – 5pm (closed on Mondays, except Bank Holidays)



Quex House open from Easter to 31st October yearly 1 – 4pm (closed on Mondays, except Bank Holidays & occasionally closed for wedding functions. Please check in advance of your visit)

01843 842168  
enquiries@quexmuseum.org  
www.quexpark.co.uk



# Hornby Visitor Centre

Fascinating displays about some of the nation's best loved toys, iconic brands of Hornby, Scalextric, Airfix and Corgi.

The Hornby Visitor Centre, features treasures from the Company's archives dating back as far as the 1920s, including fascinating displays about some of the nation's best loved toys, with sections dedicated to

the iconic brands of Hornby, Scalextric, Airfix and Corgi. Visitors are able to see some stunning model rail layouts and also try their skills on a Scalextric circuit.



Group rate for 8 and over – Adults £3.50, Concession £1.75



Drop off and coach parking onsite. Coach drivers receive free entry



FREE guided tours of the Visitor Centre are available subject to advance booking



Open 7 days a week  
10am – 5pm (April – Sept),  
10am – 4pm (Oct – March)



01843 233524  
visitorcentre@hornby.com  
www.hornby.com/visitorcentre



Credit: John Coverdale



Credit: Michael Desbruslais

## Pugin and St Augustine Visitor Centre and Shrine

Come and see the ideal design of Augustus Pugin, the man who designed Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, at the home of the Gothic Revival on Ramsgate's clifftop. The

church is also the Shrine of St Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, who landed near here in AD 597. A fascinating historical and active place!

- Free. Donations welcome
- Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
- Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
- Daily 10am – 4pm
- 01843 606756  
office@augustineshrine.co.uk  
www.augustine-pugin.org.uk



## Pugin's The Grange

Pugin's contribution to the townscape of Ramsgate brought lasting fame to the town

Restored by Landmark Trust, a Grade I listed house designed and lived in by 19th century architect Augustus Pugin who is best known for the magnificent interiors, furnishings and fittings

of the Houses of Parliament. The Pugin family's contribution to the townscape of Ramsgate brought lasting fame to the town and can be seen from the East Cliff to the West Cliff.

- Free access to information display in Cartoon Room on Wednesday afternoons. Weekly guided tours of main rooms at The Grange £4 per person
- Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
- Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
- Open on Wednesday afternoons from 2 – 4pm or by appointment. Two guided tours for a maximum of 20 people: advance booking essential to secure a place
- Please book tours in advance through The Landmark Trust Booking Office on 01628 825925 or bookings@landmarktrust.org.uk



Credit: Kane Guy

## Ramsgate Tunnels

Home to over 1,000 people during the darkest period of WWII

Reopened May 2014, this complex of underground tunnels was home to over 1,000 people

during the darkest period of WWII – come and experience how life underground was for them.

## Ramsgate Maritime Museum

- Adult £2.50, Child £1
- Drop off and coach parking available nearby
- Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
- Easter Weekend, May Bank Holidays and from 1st June – 30th September, Tuesday – Sunday 10.30am – 5pm
- 01843 570622



Discover connections to 'The Titanic', see Ramsgate's own Meridian Line and objects raised from Stuart Warships lost on the Goodwin Sands. Enjoy a guided tour of Steam Tug Cerveria, and learn the history of her working life on the river Thames.

- Adult £7, Senior £5, Child (3-16 years) £4, Under 3's are Free
- Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
- Group visit arranged by prior agreement and advance notice
- Café on Site
- Tours 1st October to 31st March  
Wednesday – Sunday at 10am, 12pm and 2pm and 1st April – 30th September  
Wednesday – Sunday at 10am, 12pm, 2pm and 4pm. Special Tours as advertised
- 01843 588123  
reservations@ramsgatetunnels.org  
www.ramsgatetunnels.org



# The Spitfire and Hurricane Museum

Bringing history alive for all the family

The Spitfire & Hurricane Museum is a unique site which not only displays the two iconic war planes themselves but also a whole host of objects and artefacts which help tell the story of life in, and around, Ramsgate

during WWII. In addition to the collection, the museum boasts a small shop and a fantastic café which serves teas, coffees and quality hot food. Most important of all, the Allied Air Crew Memorial

-  Free entry  
From 1st April 2018 a 1/1 spitfire simulator, charges apply
-  Free onsite coach and car parking
-  Onsite Merlin Café
-  1st November - 31st March daily 10am - 4pm, 1st April - 31st October daily 10am-5pm. Closed 24th December - 2nd January and Mondays in January and February
-  01843 821940  
enquiries@spitfiremuseum.org.uk  
www.spitfiremuseum.org.uk

Garden where all visitors are welcome to sit on the benches to relax and reflect in an evocative atmosphere. The Museum offers bespoke educational sessions and can accommodate group or coach bookings.

-  Adults £2, Child 50p
-  Free onsite coach and car parking
-  March - October daily 10am - 4pm, November - February Weekends 10am - 4pm
-  01843 825224  
info@rafmanston.co.uk  
www.rafmanston.co.uk

# RAF Manston History Museum



Located opposite the Spitfire and Hurricane Museum. Based on the history of the airfield from 1916 with aircraft and artefacts dating back to WWI



# Dickens House Museum

Explore Charles Dickens' relationship with Broadstairs through his letters and personal items in the home owned by Mary Pearson Strong who was

the inspiration for Betsey Trotwood in David Copperfield. Also original prints, costumes and Victoriana. Guided tours available.

## Explore Charles Dickens' favourite holiday resort

-  Groups (10 - 25 people)  
Adult £3.20, Under 16's/ Students £2.20
-  Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
-  Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
-  2018 SEASON:  
Good Friday 30th March - Friday 15th June daily 1 - 4.30pm  
Saturday 16th June - Sunday 9th September daily 10am - 4.30pm  
Monday 10th September - Sunday 28th October daily 1 - 4.30pm  
November Weekends only 1 - 4.30pm  
Closed December - March  
2019 season reopen Good Friday 19th April
-  01843 861232  
(Group Bookings 863453)  
Lault@btinternet.com  
www.dickensmuseumbroadstairs.co.uk



# Bleak House

Charles Dickens' favourite holiday home and where he wrote David Copperfield. Also features The Smuggling Museum.

-  Adults £4, Child £2
-  Daily 11am-5pm
-  01843 865338  
enquiries@bleakhousebroadstairs.co.uk  
www.bleakhousebroadstairs.co.uk

Walk around unspoilt and charming Broadstairs and you'll find **Crampton Tower Museum** www.cramptontower.co.uk dedicated to Thomas Crampton, celebrating buses, trams and railwayana.

Just outside Broadstairs experience a **St Peter's Village Tour** where costumed characters guide you through village history www.villagetour.co.uk War Graves tour available



# Margate Museum

## Learn about Margate's history

Located in the Old Police Station and Magistrates Court learn about Margate's history as part

of the Isle of Thanet, sea-bathing machines, paddle-steamers, shipwrecks and day-trippers



Adults £2, Concession (School groups, NUS Students and over 60's) £1.50. Joint ticket with Tudor House £3, Concession £2.50



Drop off point and coach parking available nearby



Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby



Wednesdays, Weekends all year plus Summer Bank Holidays 11am – 5pm. Last admission 4pm. Look out for special exhibition opening days.



01843 231213  
info@margatemuseum.org  
www.margatemuseum.org



Adults £2, Concession (School groups, NUS Students and over 60's) £1.50. Joint ticket with Margate Museum £3, Concession £2.50



Drop off point and coach parking available nearby



Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby



Wednesday, Friday and Weekends all year plus Summer Bank Holidays 11.30am – 2.30pm



01843 227996  
info@margatemuseum.org  
www.margatemuseum.org



# Tudor House

Thought to be one of the oldest of its kind in Kent, it was built around 1525 and is believed to be the home of a wealthy yeoman farmer

Try to solve the mystery of the **Shell Grotto's** 70ft of winding underground passages decorated with strange symbols mosaiced in millions of shells. To plan your visit see [www.shellgrotto.co.uk](http://www.shellgrotto.co.uk)

# EVENTS 2018 and beyond

Why not plan your visit around an exciting event in our annual calendar? Below are some of the larger events taking place this year. For full event information please visit our website [www.visitthanet.co.uk](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk)



Broadstairs Folk Week

## OCTOBER 2017

Island Stories (until 27 April 2019)  
[quexpark.co.uk](http://quexpark.co.uk)

Arp: The Poetry of Forms and Tracey Emin: 'My Bed'/JMW Turner (13 October 2017 until 14 January 2018)  
[turnercontemporary.org](http://turnercontemporary.org)

## FEBRUARY 2018

Journeys with 'The Waste Land' (3 until 7 May)  
[turnercontemporary.org](http://turnercontemporary.org)

Broadstairs Blues Bash (16 – 18)  
[broadstairsbluesbash.com](http://broadstairsbluesbash.com)

GEEK (16 – 18) [geek-play.com](http://geek-play.com)

## MARCH 2018

Ramsgate International Film and TV Festival (15 – 18)  
[ramsgateiftfest.org](http://ramsgateiftfest.org)

Broadstairs Spring Fair (30 – 1 April)  
[broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk](http://broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk)

## APRIL 2018

Margate Comic Festival (14 – 15)  
[margatecomicfestival.wordpress.com](http://margatecomicfestival.wordpress.com)



## JUNE 2018



Credit: Tom Parsons Photography

Royal Harbour History Festival (15 – 17)  
[rhhf.co.uk](http://rhhf.co.uk)



Broadstairs Dickens Festival (15 – 17)  
[broadstairsdickensfestival.co.uk](http://broadstairsdickensfestival.co.uk)

Broadstairs Folk Week (10 - 17)  
[broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk](http://broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk)



Theatre Royal Margate – Heritage Open Days

## SEPTEMBER 2018

Heritage Open Days (13 – 16)  
[visitthanet.co.uk](http://visitthanet.co.uk)



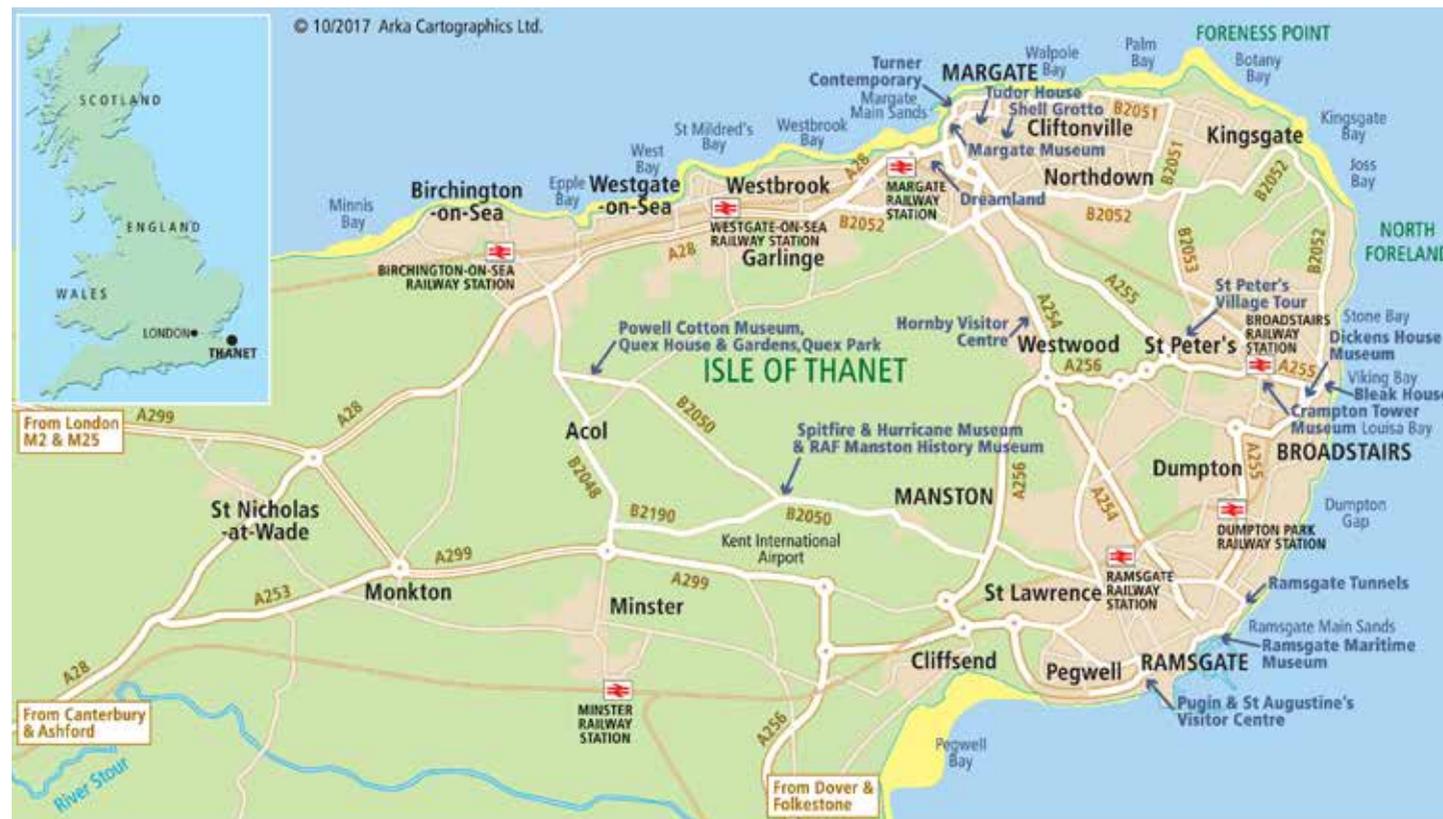
Broadstairs Food Festival (28 – 30)  
[broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk](http://broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk)

## OCTOBER 2018

Screamland (19, 20, 25 – 27, 31 and 2 – 3 November)  
[dreamland.co.uk/screamland](http://dreamland.co.uk/screamland)

# How to get here

The seaside towns of Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate are situated on the north-eastern coast of Kent and can be easily reached from London and mainland Europe via good road, rail, ferry and Eurotunnel services.



## Coach Parking

### Margate

Dreamland, Margate (CT9 1XG)  
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20  
Margate Lido (CT9 1RX)  
All day £7

### Broadstairs

Joss Bay, Broadstairs (CT10 3PG)  
Prices 1 April – 31 October  
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20  
Vere Road, Broadstairs (CT10 1JF)  
Prices 1 April to 31 October  
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20  
Prices 1 November - 31 March  
Up to 24 hours - £10  
30 minutes drop off - £1 (all year)  
Millennium Way, Broadstairs  
(CT10 2LA)  
Free on street parking

### Ramsgate

Port of Ramsgate (CT11 9FT)  
£18.50 per 24 hours or part thereof  
by prior arrangement with Port  
Security tel 01843 587661  
Until 31st March 2018  
Limited on-street parking at  
Victoria Parade (CT11 8DU)  
and Royal Esplanade (CT11 0HE)  
Villages  
Minnis Bay, Birchington (CT7 9QR)  
Prices 1 April – 31 October  
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20

Prices shown are 2017/18

- M25 links to M26, M20, M2 then A299 into Thanet
- St. Pancras International Station, London to Ramsgate – 75 minutes
- Ferry services into Dover (approx 20 miles/32 km from Ramsgate)
- Eurotunnel into Folkestone (approx 30 miles/42 km from Ramsgate)

## Planning to bring your group to our beaches & bays?



To help plan your group visit and keep safe on our beaches and bays, please take a look at this useful information

[www.visitthanet.co.uk/group-travel/group-beach-info](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk/group-travel/group-beach-info)



Ramsgate Royal Harbour

We can provide assistance with itinerary planning and destination literature. Free images for tour planners', website and promotional material are available on request.

For more information, group visit ideas, accommodation and to sign up to receive our newsletter visit our website.

Included within this brochure is just a snapshot of what there is available in Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate for group visits with lots more information on the area available on our website.

For group visit ideas and information go to

**[www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups)**

or call **01843 577577**

