



Happy days - the first shoots of spring are appearing, birdboxes are bustling and half term's just round the corner! Even in the shortest month of the year, there's plenty happening on the coast.

If this winter's left you the slightest bit low, banish any hint of blues at the **Broadstairs Blues Bash**, 18-22 February. Head to the Kent town for refreshing walks along seven bays and choose from around 100 gigs across 20 venues. Or hop across the Solent to the Isle of Wight and join the National Trust to step into the calming beauty of Newtown Nature Reserve for a **free, guided bird-watching walk** on 7 March, book ahead.

Should you find yourself on the Durham Heritage Coast, don't miss Seaham Seaside Market held every Friday in the heart of town, pick up crafts, fresh local produce and tasty food and drink. Valentines? Forget awkward candle-lit dinners, sparkle and meet new people on Coastal Cruises **Valentine's Cruise for Singles** sailing from Poole Quay, Dorset.

And to cheer up an otherwise quiet winter evening, enter our competition to win a night at the theatre on 9 March! Win tickets to The BFG production at Chichester Festival Theatre plus a luxury overnight stay for two at the Chichester Harbour Hotel – hello spring!



Doggy treats and discount dining in North Yorkshire

February's a great month for an escape to the coast with your very best friend. Fewer crowds and restrictions mean dogs can scamper free and the North Yorkshire coast has bags of space. Head to the beaches at Sandsend, Robin Hood's Bay and Filey, better still stay over!

Visit Whitby between 2 and 8 March and you're in for a treat, Restaurant Week sees restaurants, cafes and pubs offering set menus for a bargain £10, £15, £20 and £30!

[Plan where to go here](#)



Love stories in Plymouth

If your partner's a budding author, make a beeline for Plymouth Literary Festival at the Portland Square Building, 14-15 February, meet fellow creatives, hear author talks and open mic sessions. Join writing workshops, crime fiction discussions and enjoy the passion, what's more it's free!

If it's half-term action you're after, a trip to Plymouth has the bonus of multiple indoor attractions as well as fresh, sea air. If it's dry, download the Plymouth Trails app and follow the Mayflower or City Centre Trails with its images and videos, it gives a 'then and now' look at the city. Alternatively get up-close to more than 4,000 creatures at the National Marine Aquarium, it's the largest in the UK!

[Our top tips for Plymouth](#)



Break free in Lincolnshire

It's easy to have a touch of cabin fever in winter but nowhere feels freer than under the biggest of skies and on the widest of beaches on the Lincolnshire coast! Get back to nature watching wading birds, seals and an ever-changing seascape. Roam the unspoilt beaches of Saltfleet, Huttoft or Anderby Creek.

Sutton-on-Sea boasts the gleaming new Seaview Colonnade pavilion space, offering events, exhibitions, pop-up café, tennis and paddling pool on site. If you've tackled a bracing walk at Chapel Point near Chapel St Leonards, nothing beats a stop at the North Sea Observatory, outstanding birdwatching, sea views and an excellent café

[Lincolnshire Guide](#)



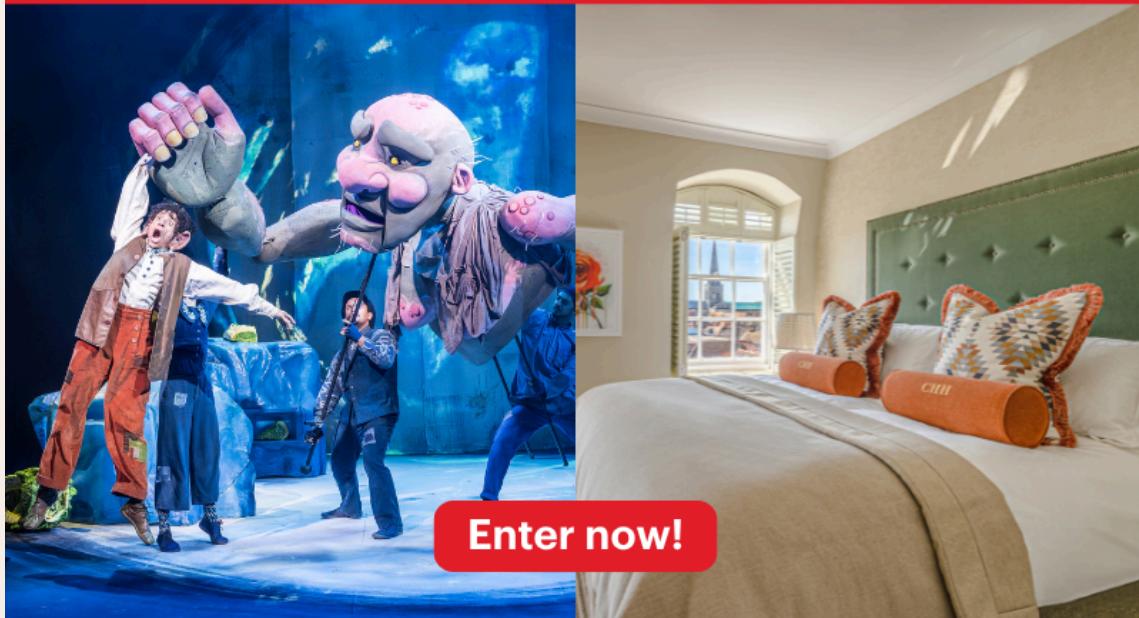
The Coast is Calling – explore the North East

This year the coast is surely calling, so discover somewhere new! If you've never been, the north east is a treasure trove – rugged cliffs, rare plants and wonderful wildlife on the Durham Heritage Coast, beachside castles, fishing villages and a spectacular 30-mile coastline in Northumberland and so much more.

Feel the sea air tingle with a stroll along the banks of Whitley Bay, Tynemouth, North Shields and Cullercoats, enjoying plenty of refreshment at the many cafes en route. In South Shields, you'll find miles of seaside charm along the coast path with views of sandy beaches, soaring cliffs and Souter Lighthouse, the world's first purpose built for electricity.

[Explore the North East Coast](#)

Win Theatre Tickets and a Night's Stay in Chichester



Enter now!

Win tickets to The BFG plus luxury overnight stay in Chichester!

Add a little magic and sparkle to an otherwise dark winter night with our gloriumptious competition! Enter for your chance to win two tickets to Roald Dahl's The BFG at **Chichester Festival Theatre** plus an overnight stay at the fabulous **Chichester Harbour Hotel** on Monday 9 March.

Following rave reviews at the RSC, this 'wondercrump of a show' visits Chichester only before a giant leap to Singapore. Packed full of whizzpoppers and frobscottle, this extraordinary theatrical experience has friendship at its heart and proves that dreams have the power to change anything.

You'll win an overnight stay with breakfast in a double room for two people at Chichester Harbour Hotel on 9 March. This elegant, boutique hotel is an easy 10-minute walk from the theatre and local restaurants and bars. The hotel - a Georgian town house - blends beautiful period features with luxurious furnishings and is conveniently situated right in the heart of this cathedral city where you can explore its Roman origins, quirky independent shops and iconic architecture.

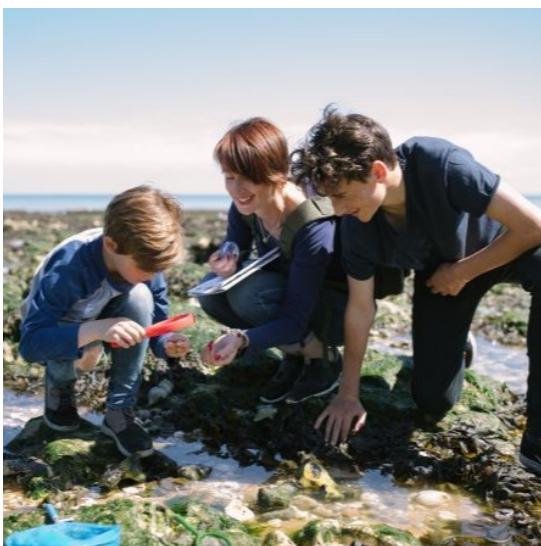
Don't miss your chance to win a 'Big, feisty and glorious' trip to Chichester, enter now.

Enter Now!



Piers, castles, stately homes and lighthouses, nowhere does seaside heritage better than England's coast. Check out stories of rum smuggling and Viking raiders in our new blog

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Looking for kid-friendly fun without breaking the bank this half term? Check out three stretches across the coast with bags of both outdoor and indoor adventure.

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England's Coast

ENGLAND'S COAST COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Registered office address: Midland House, 2 Poole Road, Bournemouth, England, BH2 5QY

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