



## England's Coast events are now at the touch of your fingertips, with its brand-new events calendar.

Englandscoast.com is the clever tool that offers you the chance to browse over 2,000 coastal businesses – including hotels, B&Bs, self-catering properties, activity and attraction operators, transport companies, restaurants and much more. Discover the many ways you can explore and enjoy the breath-taking English coastline in this 2023 Year of the Coast.



L-R: Cumbrian Gin Train, Bournemouth Air Festival, The Isle of Wight Garlic Festival

**13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 -** Celebrating the Year of The Coast 2023, the England's Coast team has just been awarded the Outstanding Contribution to Tourism Award by national tourist board VisitEngland.

Its new events calendar is the easiest way to find out what's happening across the coast, discover the many sights, attractions and activities – many free of charge, that are available up and down our beautiful coastline. For people planning an English coastal holiday, the new <u>Events Calendar</u> on englandscoast.com, provides visitors with an easy-to-use function displaying an expansive list of national events all along England's Coast.

Perfect for people who don't have time to input hours of research for their holidays or days out; the calendar will be updated on a regular basis, with new seasonal events added as they are created, showcasing the best of what England's Coast has to offer.

The new calendar has an extensive and eclectic list of events for all to enjoy, ranging from familyfun adventure, food and wine events, music, arts and culture to anniversary festivals, regattas and sports events, taking place around the coast.

With the cost of living still biting, the events calendar is perfect for mums and dads looking to plan some low-cost family-friendly days out. Check out the events below for budget-friendly choices:.

**Beachfest – Durham** (31 July – 30 Aug '23) is a free, three-week beach bonanza celebrating great British seaside heritage. Everyday a sandy beach and play area for children will be open with live music. Come for, fairground rides, beach hut trader stalls, and much more.

**The Festival of Chichester** - (10<sup>th</sup> June – 9<sup>th</sup> July '23) has become one of Sussex's favourite events. This month-long festival celebrates the arts, with community concerts, including classical music, rock, blues, jazz, folk and pop, as well dance and crafts... There are scores of free events, enjoy thrilling theatre, book events, talks and poetry, exhibitions, walks and tours – the rich mix offers something for every budget!

There are no ugly ducklings at **Abbotsbury Swannery** in Dorset. This is the only place in the world where up to 1,000 swans can be visited during the nesting and hatching season which continues to the end of June. Swans make incredible attentive parents and visitors are able to feed the swans by hand daily (12pm-4pm) until the end of June. The perfect day out for all the family!

Now in its twelfth year, Plymouth's **Love Summer Festival**  $(4^{th} - 7^{th} \text{ August '23})$  is a familyfriendly festival. Specially created with families in mind, the festival has three stages featuring a range of artists, a children's area, and a glamping and camping area should families wish to make a weekend of it.

Summer isn't summer without an air show, and for the mother of all air shows, **Bournemouth Air Festival** (1st August - 3rd September '23) is the UK's biggest.Four days of first-class entertainment and thrilling action in the air, on the land, and at sea! Now entering its fifteenth year, Bournemouth is in a league of its own. When the sun goes down, night air entertainment will light up the skies with pyrotechnic night flying, street entertainment, and live music and military performances. And best of all, the festival is completely free to attend.

For gourmands seeking a holiday with an epicurean twist, there's no shortage of mouth-watering events.

If garlic is a staple of your cooking, head to **The Isle of Wight Garlic Festival** (19-20 August '23). When it started back in the '80s, we were still a nation of unadventurous eaters, however, over the years, most British kitchens wouldn't be without a bulb of garlic. The festival has become so popular, it has expanded to host star chef demos, as well as live music and plenty of children's activities. This fun festival is not to be missed.

**Brand-new** for this year is the **Cumbrian Gin Train** (9<sup>th</sup> June - 15<sup>th</sup> September '23) a unique fun evening experience departing from Ravenglass Station travelling to the Shed 1 Distillery. Enjoy a scenic train ride to Dalegarth station, where the Shed 1 distillery team will be waiting to meet you. A fun evening with a special gin twist or two...

**English Wine Week -** (17 – 23 June '23) is a national celebration of Britain's fantastic vineyards and wine producers – believe it or not, there are over 400 vineyards dotted around this green and pleasant land! Each year some of the country's finest wineries open their doors to welcome visitors, hosting tours, tastings and special offers. Highlights include Rathfinny Wine Estate's Food and Wine Pairing Tour in East Sussex (19 – 22 June) and Furleigh Estate's Crab Cracking Masterclass in Dorset paired with the winery's sparkling wine (20 June). For more information on events visit: www.winegb.co.uk/events/english-wine-week-events

**Bridport Food Festival** -  $(11^{th} - 24^{th} June '23)$  promotes the area's fantastic local food and drink industry, as well as encouraging people to eat healthily. Try local Dorset wine, gin and spirits, fudge, pastries and artisan breads, ice-creams, chocolate and many more culinary treats. Originally launched in 2004, with the help of Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, the festival has since blossomed into a hugely popular event.

Besides the many events that are listed on the website, England's Coast is urging people to get out and explore the many wonderful coastal walks. To coincide with the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, two sections of the <u>King Charles III England Coast Path</u> were recently opened in Filey, North Yorkshire, and Crosby Beach, Liverpool. Another reason to get out and explore our beautiful coastline.

## -Ends-

**Press:** For further information, high-res images or to discuss a commissioned press trip, please contact Sally Firth at <u>Travel PR</u> on 020 8891 4440 or <u>s.firth@travelpr.co.uk</u>.

For more information on England's Coast visit <u>www.englandscoast.com/en</u> or contact Sheron Crossman, National Coastal Tourism Academy Marketing & Communications: <u>Sheron.crossman@coastaltourismacademy.co.uk</u>.

Notes to editors: The England's Coast project is delivered by the National Coastal Tourism Academy, whose partners include: Discover Yorkshire Coast, The North York Moors National Park Authority, Visit East Yorkshire, Visit Lancashire, Cumbria Tourism, This is Durham, Enjoy Redcar and Cleveland, Visit North Norfolk, Visit Essex, Visit Thanet, Dover/White Cliffs Country, Visit Brighton, Experience West Sussex, Visit Portsmouth, Discover Gosport, Visit Isle of Wight, Coast with the Most - Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole, Visit Dorset, Destination Plymouth and Hornblower City Cruises Poole

<u>The NCTA</u> was established in 2013 to help job creation and economic growth in the tourism economy of coastal towns. It is a not-for-profit organisation, working with industry, coastal destination partners, government departments, academia and national coastal organisations and is the recognised voice of coastal tourism.