



ENGLAND'S COAST EXPLORE GB UPDATE : YEAR OF THE COAST 2023

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YEAR OF THE COAST 2023

The English coastline is one of the most exciting in the world; more than 185 million years old, and one of the most varied – rich in maritime port cities, smuggling villages, family resorts, nature and unique sea life.

Year of the Coast 2023 marks:

- The heralding of the England Coast Path; on completion it will be over 2,700 miles long, the longest marked walking route in the world, it will reveal never before seen stretches of the coast
- An opportunity for coastal communities to collaborate and visitors to explore new coastal destinations
- A season to present sustainable coastal experiences, celebratory events, new product
- The chance to introduce a new generation to the nature, culture and heritage on the coast to ensure its sustainable future



YEAR OF THE COAST: WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING?

A year-long programme of events occurring around the whole of England's coastline, from major festivals to local food markets, arts trails to have-a-go water sports

Walking, cycling and hiking routes will be highlighted, and sustainable experiences promoted, from beach foraging to woodland retreats

Volunteering will be a particular focus, including beach clean-ups, conservation days, learning new skills and joining nature watch programmes to protect wildlife

New sample itineraries, local stories of coastal life through blogs and features and shared experiences in real-time via social media



A CELEBRATION OF THE ENGLAND COAST PATH

This exceptional coastline is about to become accessible on foot in its entirety for the first time; the English Coast Path National Trail will become the longest waymarked walking route in the world.

It will be the longest and most challenging UK National Trail and would take an estimated 10 months to walk in its entirety.

It passes through some of the UK's finest countryside and coastal locations.

2023 is also the 50th anniversary of the South West Coast Path, with celebratory events for this much-loved Path.

The Path is free and open to all, it presents a unique opportunity for all ages to get outdoors and explore the local landscape.

Notable stretches of the Coast Path already open include: Cumbria, Northumberland, Norfolk, Kent (White Cliffs Country), Brighton to Eastbourne.

[Read our blog here](#)



KEY EVENTS ON THE COAST

England's Coast is packed with exciting events year-round. Here are a few examples to entice your clients:

April: Whitby Goth Festival, Yorkshire

May: Dartmouth Music Festival, Devon (3 days of jazz, rock, pop music); Mersea Island, Essex, Food, Drink & Leisure Festival; Bridlington Kite Festival, E Yorks;

May-Oct: Puffins Galore! East Yorkshire Coast, giant puffin sculptures; Pirates Weekend Plymouth

May/June: Brighton Fringe Festival (Arts); Isle of Wight Spring Walking Festival

June: Retro Rendezvous, Ulveston, Cumbria (music, food, dance festival); Windsurfing Championships, Bridlington; Books by the Beach, Scarborough Literary Festival; Big Music Festival Jubilee Weekend, Plymouth; Broadstairs Dicken's Festival, 85th anniversary

July: Christchurch Food Festival, Dorset; Whitby Steampunk Weekend, Yorks; Acle Saxon Renactment, Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland; Southsea Food Festival

August: Brighton Pride, Dartmouth Regatta; Clacton Air Show, Essex; British Fireworks Championships, Plymouth; Margate Soul Festival; Broadstairs Folk Week; Blackpool Air Show

September: Bournemouth Air Festival, Dorset; Broadstairs Food Festival; Blackpool Illuminations (Sep-Jan)

October: Dartmouth Food Festival; Harwich Sea Shanty Festival; Dark Skies Festival, North York Moors National Park

November: Santa Specials, North York Moors Railway

December: Christmas Tree Wonderland, Bournemouth; Bridlington Food Festival, E Yorks; Robin Hood's Bay Victorian Weekend, Yorkshire; Portsmouth Christmas Market

TRAVEL TRADE ITINERARIES

With events and activities happening across our coastline, there's never been a better time to plan FIT and group visits to the coast for 2023.

For inspiration and new ideas see our sample itineraries:

[Durham and North East itinerary](#)

[Northumberland itinerary](#)

[Yorkshire itinerary](#)

[East Coast itinerary](#)

[South East Coast itinerary](#)

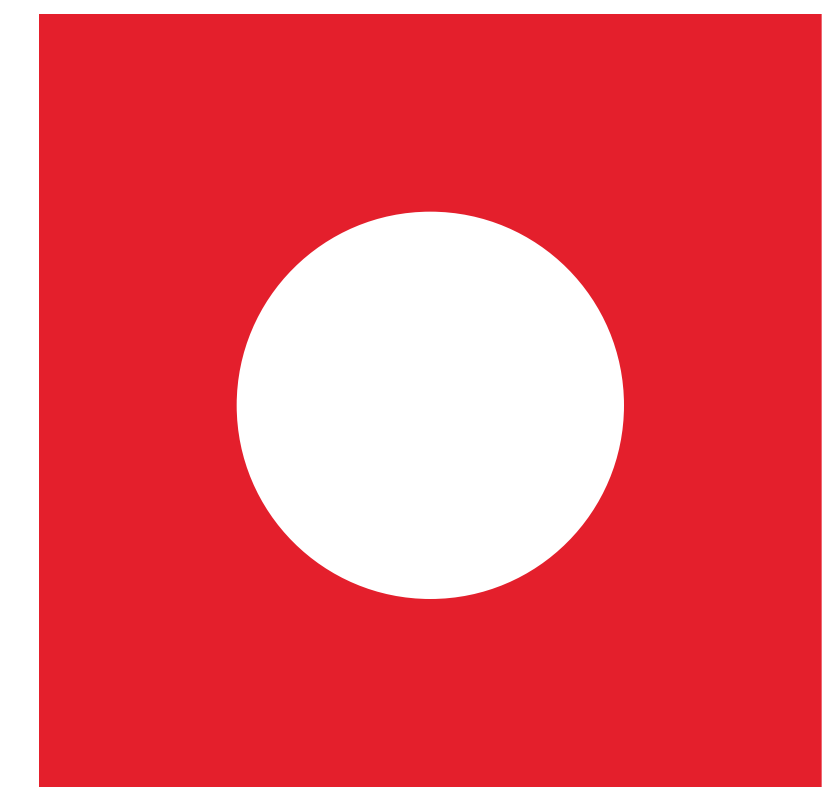
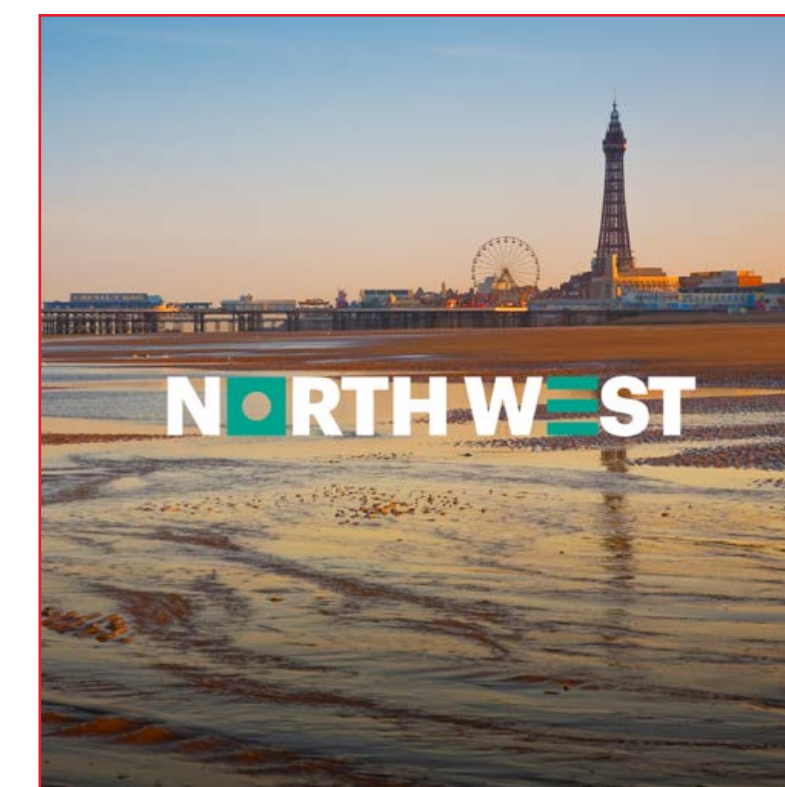
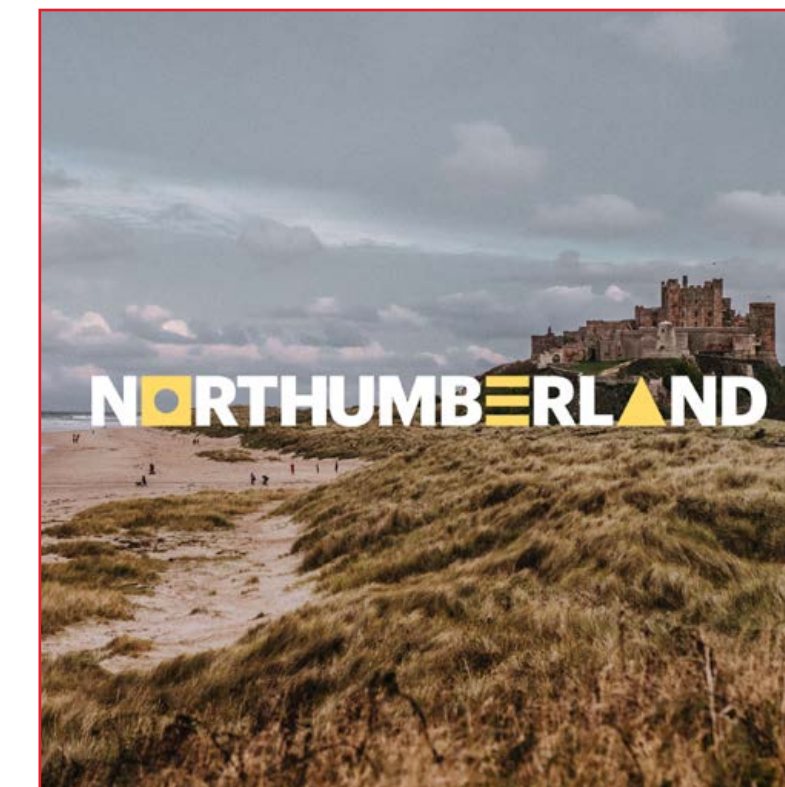
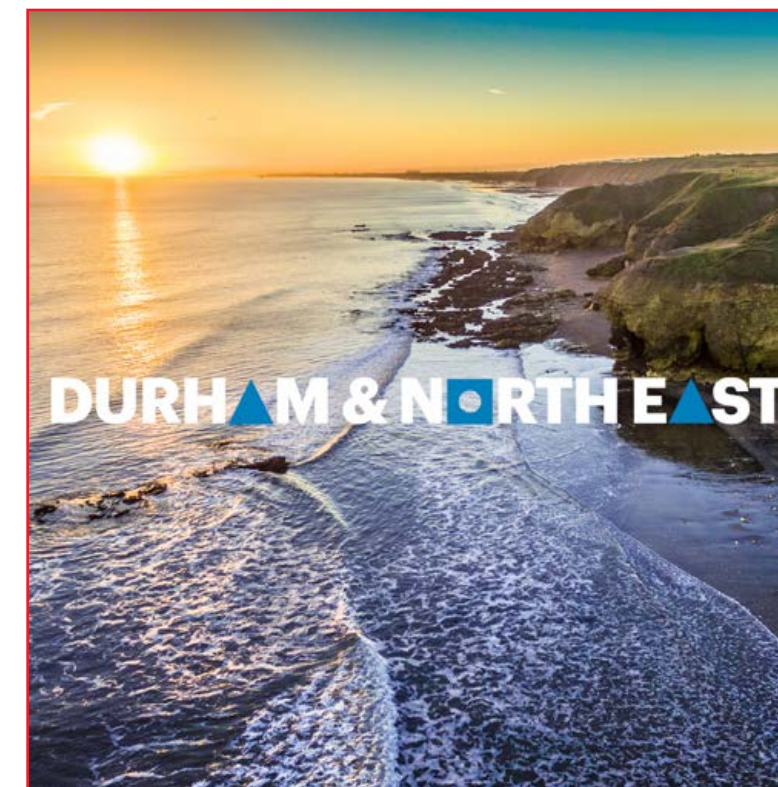
[South Coast itinerary](#)

[South West Coast itinerary](#)

[North West Coast itinerary](#)



Check out our highlights and regional videos on [YouTube](#).



SAMPLE PRODUCTS & EXPERIENCES

If you're looking for some new ideas and experiences for 2023 here are just a few:



White Cliffs Country, Dover

Visit **Barnsole Vineyard** – new wine tasting experience

Bright Moon Tai Chi – offering Chi Gong and meditation on Deal beach

Wild Kitchen – offer foraging for wild food on a bicycle tour



Brighton and Sussex

New bike routes - **The Living Coast by Bike** – perfect for people who want to explore #englandscoast



Essex

350 miles of coastline, nature Wallasea Island for birdlife, new wine tours - **Crouch Ridge Vineyard**



Ravensglass, Cumbria

Stay in newly restored **Pullman Railway carriage** beside Ravensglass & Eskdale Steam Railway



North York Moors National Park,

De-stress and renew with yoga and surf from **Adventures for the Soul**



Northumberland

Gaze at dark skies and stay in **Bamburgh Castle's** new accommodation – the Clock Tower and the Windley



CONTACT US

For further help and ideas planning your new trade products and experiences see our dedicated travel trade portal featuring trade friendly hotels, attractions and experiences

[Visit the Trade Portal](#)

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