

dover castle english heritage

Dover Castle English Heritage: Exploring the Historic Fortress of England

Dover Castle English Heritage stands as one of the most iconic and historically significant landmarks in England. Nestled on the white cliffs of Dover, this medieval fortress has played a vital role in the nation's defense, history, and culture for nearly a thousand years. Managed by English Heritage, Dover Castle offers visitors a unique glimpse into England's past, from its Norman origins to its strategic importance during wartime. Whether you're a history enthusiast, a family seeking educational activities, or a traveler looking for breathtaking views, Dover Castle provides an enriching experience that combines history, architecture, and stunning scenery.

Introduction to Dover Castle English Heritage

Dover Castle English Heritage is more than just a historic site; it is a symbol of England's resilience and strategic importance through centuries of conflict and peace. Located in Kent, the castle has defended the nation against invasion, served as a royal residence, and played a pivotal role during World War II. Managed by English Heritage, the site has been carefully restored and preserved to showcase its historical significance and to provide visitors with engaging educational experiences.

The castle's impressive size and strategic location atop the White Cliffs of Dover make it a must-visit destination for those interested in English history. Visitors can explore ancient tunnels, medieval towers, and expansive battlements, all while enjoying breathtaking views of the English Channel.

History and Significance of Dover Castle

Origins and Norman Construction

Dover Castle's history dates back over 900 years. Originally built in the 11th century, shortly after the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, the castle was developed to secure Norman control over the region and defend against invasion. William the Conqueror recognized the strategic importance of Dover's location, establishing a fortress that would serve as a vital defensive point and royal residence.

The earliest structures included a motte-and-bailey design, which was later expanded into a formidable stone castle. The construction of the Great Tower, also known as the Keep, began in the late 12th century under King Richard I, emphasizing the importance of durability and defense.

Medieval Defense and Expansion

During the medieval period, Dover Castle was continuously expanded and fortified. Key developments included the construction of massive walls, gatehouses, and defensive towers. The castle's strategic position allowed it to control access to England via the English Channel, making it a crucial point in defending against invasions from continental Europe.

Noteworthy medieval features include:

- The Great Tower (Keep): An imposing structure used for royal residence and defense.
- The Curtain Walls: Providing a formidable barrier against attackers.
- The Barbican: A fortified entrance that controlled access to the castle.

Role in Modern Warfare

Beyond medieval times, Dover Castle's role evolved with advancements in warfare. During the 19th century, the castle was adapted for military use, including the construction of underground tunnels and artillery positions.

In World War II, the castle's tunnels were transformed into an underground hospital, command center, and storage facility for soldiers. The secret wartime tunnels played a significant role in the defense of Britain during the Battle of Britain and the D-Day preparations.

Visiting Dover Castle with English Heritage

How to Access and What to Expect

Dover Castle is accessible year-round, with facilities and guided tours designed to enhance the visitor experience. When visiting, expect to explore a variety of historical sites, interactive exhibits, and scenic views.

Key attractions include:

- The Great Tower: Climb to the top for panoramic views of Dover and the Channel.
- Medieval Tunnels: Walk through the restored tunnels used in wartime.
- The Secret Wartime Tunnels: Discover the underground complex used during WWII.
- The Medieval Walls and Battlements: Experience the defensive architecture firsthand.
- The Victorian Lighthouse: See the historic lighthouse that has guided ships since the 19th century.

Guided Tours and Educational Programs

English Heritage offers various guided tours, including:

- Castle History Tours: Delve into the history, architecture, and stories behind Dover Castle.
- Wartime Tunnels Tours: Explore the underground tunnels and learn about their wartime significance.
- Family Activities: Interactive storytelling and craft sessions designed for children.

Educational programs are tailored for schools and groups, providing in-depth historical insights and hands-on experiences.

Visitor Facilities and Tips

The site is equipped with visitor facilities such as:

- On-site cafes and gift shops
- Accessible pathways and facilities
- Parking areas
- Guided and audio tours

To make the most of your visit, consider the following tips:

- Wear comfortable shoes suitable for walking and climbing.
- Check the weather forecast to dress appropriately.
- Book tickets in advance during peak seasons.
- Arrive early to avoid crowds and enjoy unobstructed views.

Why Visit Dover Castle with English Heritage?

Rich Historical Experience

Dover Castle offers a comprehensive journey through English history, from Norman conquest to modern warfare. Its well-preserved structures and interactive exhibits make history tangible and engaging.

Architectural Marvels

The castle's medieval architecture, including the imposing Keep, curtain walls, and underground tunnels, showcases centuries of defensive design and engineering ingenuity.

Stunning Natural Scenery

Perched atop the White Cliffs of Dover, the castle provides spectacular vistas of the English Channel, the coastline, and beyond. The scenic surroundings enhance the overall visitor experience.

Educational Value

With its extensive exhibits and guided tours, Dover Castle is an excellent educational resource for students and history enthusiasts alike.

Family-Friendly Activities

Interactive displays, storytelling, and outdoor exploration make Dover Castle a fun and informative destination for families.

How to Plan Your Visit to Dover Castle

Opening Hours and Ticketing

Dover Castle is generally open from early spring to late autumn, with seasonal variations. Tickets can be purchased online through the English Heritage website or on-site. Discounts are often available for members, seniors, and children.

Best Times to Visit

- Spring and summer months offer the best weather and longer daylight hours.
- Early mornings or late afternoons provide quieter experiences.
- Special events, reenactments, and seasonal festivals are held throughout the year.

Getting There

- By Car: Easily accessible via the M20 motorway; parking available on-site.
- By Train: Dover Priory station is a short train ride from London and other major cities.
- By Bus or Taxi: Local services connect to Dover town center and the castle.

Nearby Attractions

Combine your visit with nearby sites such as:

- Dover Marine Parade
- White Cliffs of Dover Walks
- Dover Museum
- St. Martin's Church

Conclusion: Experience the Heritage of Dover Castle

Dover Castle English Heritage offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore England's rich history, architectural grandeur, and wartime resilience. From its Norman origins and medieval defenses to its critical role during wartime, the castle embodies the spirit of the nation's enduring legacy. Whether you're interested in history, architecture, or simply breathtaking views, Dover Castle provides an immersive experience that educates, inspires, and captivates all visitors.

Plan your visit today to discover the secrets of this historic fortress and walk in the footsteps of kings, soldiers, and explorers who shaped England's story. With its strategic location, stunning scenery, and wealth of historical treasures, Dover Castle remains an essential destination for anyone interested in exploring England's past through the lens of one of its most magnificent castles.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the history behind Dover Castle managed by English Heritage?

Dover Castle, managed by English Heritage, is one of England's most iconic historic sites, dating back to the 11th century. It has served as a strategic military fortress, a royal residence, and a key defense point during various periods, including the Napoleonic Wars and World War II.

What are the main attractions at Dover Castle for visitors?

Visitors can explore the medieval Great Tower, the secret wartime tunnels, Roman lighthouse remains, and enjoy panoramic views of the English Channel. Interactive exhibitions and guided tours also provide rich historical insights.

Are there any special events or exhibitions at Dover Castle organized by English Heritage?

Yes, English Heritage hosts seasonal events, medieval reenactments, family activities, and special exhibitions throughout the year, offering engaging experiences for visitors of all ages.

Can I access the underground tunnels at Dover Castle managed by English Heritage?

Absolutely. The castle features extensive underground tunnels, including the WWII secret wartime tunnels, which are open to visitors with guided tours that reveal their historical significance.

Is Dover Castle suitable for children and family visits?

Yes, Dover Castle is very family-friendly, offering interactive exhibits, storytelling sessions, and activities designed for children, making it an educational and fun day out for families.

How do I book tickets for Dover Castle through English Heritage?

Tickets can be purchased online via the English Heritage website, where you can also find information on admission prices, guided tour options, and any current discounts or packages.

What measures are in place at Dover Castle to ensure visitor safety?

English Heritage implements safety measures such as controlled access, clear signage, regular maintenance, and COVID-19 precautions to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all visitors.

Is Dover Castle accessible for visitors with mobility challenges?

English Heritage provides accessible routes, ramps, and facilities to accommodate visitors with mobility issues, although some parts of the castle may have limitations due to its historic structure.

How does Dover Castle contribute to England's cultural heritage?

Dover Castle is a symbol of England's rich history, showcasing medieval architecture, military history, and strategic importance, and it plays a vital role in preserving and interpreting the nation's cultural heritage for future generations.

Additional Resources

Dover Castle English Heritage: An In-Depth Exploration of England's Fortress and Its Heritage Significance

Dover Castle English Heritage stands as one of the most iconic and historically significant castles in the United Kingdom. Located atop the white cliffs of Dover, this medieval fortress has played a pivotal role in England's defense, history, and cultural identity. As a prominent site managed by English Heritage, it attracts thousands of visitors annually who seek to explore its storied past and impressive architecture. This comprehensive review delves into the history, architecture, preservation efforts, visitor experience, and significance of Dover Castle, offering an authoritative perspective suitable for academic and enthusiast readership alike.

Historical Background of Dover Castle

Origins and Early History

Dover Castle's origins trace back to the late 11th century, shortly after the Norman Conquest of England in 1066. The first fortifications were established by William the Conqueror, recognizing the strategic importance of controlling the narrow channel and overseeing access to the continent. The initial construction primarily included a motte-and-bailey design, a common Norman military structure featuring a raised earthwork mound (motte) topped by a fortified tower and an enclosed courtyard (bailey).

Over the subsequent centuries, the castle evolved through successive phases of expansion and reinforcement, reflecting changing military tactics and technological advancements. The site's proximity to

continental Europe made it a critical point for defense, especially during times of invasion threat or conflict.

Medieval Expansion and Strategic Significance

By the 12th and 13th centuries, Dover Castle had transformed into a formidable fortress. Key developments included the construction of stone walls, towers, and the development of a sophisticated water supply system. Its strategic position allowed it to monitor and defend against invasions, notably during the Hundred Years' War and the wars with France.

One of the castle's notable features from this period is the Great Tower, built in the 12th century, which served both as a defensive stronghold and a residence for the garrison. The castle also played a role in controlling trade routes and maintaining regional stability.

Elizabethan and Civil War Periods

During the Elizabethan era, Dover Castle was further fortified to defend against possible Spanish invasion, especially in the wake of the Spanish Armada. The introduction of artillery necessitated the construction of new gun batteries and defensive works.

In the English Civil War (1642–1651), the castle changed hands multiple times, serving both Royalist and Parliamentary forces. Its strategic location meant it remained a vital military asset, although some of its medieval structures were adapted or reinforced during this turbulent period.

Modern Military Use and Decline

Post-17th century, the castle's military importance gradually declined as warfare technology advanced and the emphasis shifted from static fortifications to more mobile and modern defenses. Nevertheless, Dover Castle continued to serve military purposes into the 19th and early 20th centuries, including during World War II, when it was used for command and control operations.

The castle's role transitioned from active military installation to heritage site in the mid-20th century, culminating in its management by English Heritage, which has prioritized preservation and public education.

Architectural Features and Structural Highlights

Fortification Design and Layout

Dover Castle's architecture exemplifies a layered approach to medieval military design, combining Norman, medieval, and early modern features. Its layout comprises several distinct areas:

- The Great Tower: A Norman keep that served as a last refuge and residence.
- Curtain Walls and Towers: Enclosing the inner bailey, providing defensive strongpoints.
- The Medieval Town Walls: Additional fortifications that protected the surrounding settlement.
- The Secret Wartime Tunnels: Extensive underground passages built during WWII, which are among the most fascinating features of the site.

The castle's defenses are characterized by thick stone walls, arrow slits, gun ports, and strategically positioned towers designed to maximize visibility and firepower.

Water Supply and Sanitation

A remarkable feature of Dover Castle is its water supply system, which includes a well and a series of underground tunnels. These ensured the castle's inhabitants could withstand sieges for extended periods. The water system exemplifies medieval engineering ingenuity, with some parts dating back to the 12th century.

Underground Tunnels and WWII Installations

One of the most distinctive aspects of Dover Castle is its network of wartime tunnels, constructed in the 20th century. These tunnels served as:

- Command centers during WWII.
- Storage areas for munitions and supplies.
- Operations rooms for planning and coordination.

Visitors can explore these tunnels, gaining insight into the castle's role in modern history and military strategy.

Preservation, Restoration, and Management by English Heritage

Conservation Challenges

Dover Castle's long history presents unique challenges for conservation. Factors such as coastal erosion, weathering, and the wear and tear from millions of visitors necessitate ongoing preservation efforts. The castle's exposed cliff location makes it particularly vulnerable to environmental effects.

Additionally, balancing historical authenticity with visitor safety and accessibility requires meticulous planning and resource allocation.

Restoration Projects and Initiatives

Over recent decades, English Heritage has undertaken numerous projects to restore and maintain Dover Castle:

- Structural Reinforcements: Stabilizing walls, towers, and tunnels.
- Archaeological Investigations: Uncovering and documenting historical features.
- Visitor Facilities: Improving accessibility, signage, and interpretive displays.
- Special Exhibitions: Enhancing educational programs tied to the site's history.

These efforts aim to ensure the castle remains a viable educational resource while preserving its authenticity.

Educational and Community Engagement

English Heritage emphasizes public engagement through:

- Guided Tours and Reenactments: Bringing history alive for visitors.
- School Programs: Educational workshops related to medieval and military history.
- Volunteer Opportunities: Involving local communities in preservation efforts.
- Digital Resources: Virtual tours and online exhibits expanding access beyond physical visitation.

Visitor Experience and Accessibility

Tourist Attractions and Key Highlights

Visitors to Dover Castle can explore a range of attractions:

- The Great Tower: Climb to the top for panoramic views.
- Medieval Walls and Towers: Walk along defensive structures.
- The Secret Tunnels: Guided tours through WWII underground passages.
- Exhibitions and Displays: Artifacts, models, and interactive exhibits.
- The Medieval Courtyard: Reenactments and demonstrations.

The site offers a comprehensive journey through centuries of history, military innovation, and architectural evolution.

Facilities and Amenities

The castle provides various amenities to enhance visitor experience:

- Visitor Center with gift shop and café.
- Guided and self-guided tour options.
- Accessibility features, including ramps and accessible pathways.
- Rest areas and picnic spots.
- Educational resources for schools and groups.

Challenges and Criticisms

While generally well-regarded, some visitors and critics highlight issues such as:

- Overcrowding during peak seasons.
- Limited accessibility to certain historical areas.
- The need for ongoing restoration to prevent deterioration.
- Balancing commercial aspects with educational integrity.

Nonetheless, Dover Castle remains a flagship heritage site with a strong reputation for educational value and historical depth.

Significance and Cultural Impact of Dover Castle

Symbol of National Defense and Identity

Dover Castle has long served as a symbol of England's resilience and maritime strength. Its strategic position underscores its role in defending the nation from invasions and threats, especially during medieval times and the World Wars.

Historical and Archaeological Importance

The site offers invaluable insights into:

- Norman military architecture.
- Medieval siege warfare.
- Coastal defense strategies.
- Wartime logistics and underground engineering.

Its archaeological layers provide a rich tapestry of English history, making it a focal point for scholars and

historians.

Tourism and Economic Impact

As a major heritage attraction, Dover Castle significantly contributes to local and national tourism economies. It draws diverse audiences, from history buffs to families, generating revenue that supports ongoing preservation and community initiatives.

Conclusion: A Heritage Treasure with Enduring Relevance

Dover Castle English Heritage stands as a testament to England's medieval ingenuity, military resilience, and evolving history. Managed under the stewardship of English Heritage, it exemplifies best practices in preservation, education, and visitor engagement. Its layered architecture, extensive underground tunnels, and strategic significance make it a must-visit site for those interested in England's past.

While challenges persist in maintaining and interpreting such a complex site, Dover Castle continues to serve as a vital cultural and historical landmark. Its enduring presence atop the White Cliffs of Dover not only offers a window into the nation's defensive history but also inspires appreciation for the enduring importance of heritage conservation.

Whether viewed through academic lenses or as a captivating tourist destination, Dover Castle remains an iconic symbol of England's rich and diverse history, deserving recognition and continued stewardship for future generations.

[Dover Castle English Heritage](#)

dover castle english heritage: Dover Castle: A Frontline Fortress and Its Wartime Tunnels Jonathan Coad, 2011-07-01 Dover Castle is one of England's oldest and most famous fortresses. A medieval castle forms its core, but from the 1740s onwards its outer defences were dramatically reshaped in the face of the threat of invasion from France. During the Napoleonic Wars, a network of military tunnels were cut within the famous white cliffs to provide barracks for the garrison. These tunnels were adapted during the Second World War and played a vital role in Britain's war effort: it was from here that the near-miraculous evacuation of British and French troops from Dunkirk were masterminded in May and June 1940. This new guidebook, packed with plans, maps, historic photos and eyewitness accounts, tells the story of how the castle's defences were adapted to meet the needs of modern warfare right up to the Cold War.

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changing demands of weapons and warfare. This guidebook, packed with historic images, reconstructions and plans, provides a full tour of this iconic castle and relates its long and eventful history.

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dover castle english heritage: *1000 Things to Do in Britain* Editors of Time Out, Elizabeth Winding, 2011 Covering the length and breadth of Britain, this guide takes in both life-changing experiences and simple pleasures, with ideas for every budget. Go wild camping on Dartmoor or be pampered in a luxury spa, forage for your supper or take afternoon tea in Park Lane, ride along a deserted beach or go wild in the crowd at a festival.

dover castle english heritage: *Daily Life in Medieval Europe* Jeffrey L. Forgeng, 1999-08-30 Explore the Middle Ages, a complex and often misunderstood period in European history, through this vivid examination. Details of everyday living recreate the time period for modern readers, conveying the foreignness of the medieval world while bringing it into focus. The volume provides a two-pronged approach to history beginning with a broad sketch of the general dynamics that shaped the medieval experience while at the same time creating a detailed and clear portrait of what life would have been like for real individuals living in specific settings at the time. The reader is introduced to medieval society in the first three chapters, which include information on the life cycle, material culture, and the economy. These chapters provide an understanding of what people ate, what their social lives were like, what they wore, what kinds of jobs they had, and much more. Following are portraits of life in four specific medieval settings, offering in each case a particular example of the type: the village (Cuxham in Oxfordshire), the castle (Dover), the monastery (Cluny) and the town (Paris). Extensive use of documentary sources from each place sketch the broad contours of the social setting and provide details of the everyday experiences of real individuals. The volume concludes with an exploration of how ordinary people perceived the world in which they lived. Original games, recipes, and music are also provided to round out this rich introduction to life in medieval Europe.

dover castle english heritage: *Understanding the Castle Ruins of England and Wales* Lise Hull, 2016-03-15 Medieval castles were not just showcases for the royal and powerful, they were also the centerpieces of many people's daily lives. A travel guide as well as a historical text, this volume looks at castles not just as ruined buildings, but as part of the cultural and scenic landscape. The 88 photographs illustrate the different architectural concepts and castle features discussed in the text. The book includes glossaries of terminology, an appendix listing all the castles mentioned and their locations, notes, bibliography and index.

dover castle english heritage: *The Knight Who Saved England* Richard Brooks, 2014-04-20 The life and times of the greatest knight of the high middle ages, who saved England from the French. In 1217 England was facing her darkest hour, with foreign troops pillaging the country and defeat close at hand. But, at the battle of Lincoln, the seventy-year-old William Marshal led his men to a victory that would secure the future of his nation. Earl of Pembroke, right-hand man to three kings and regent for a fourth, Marshal was one of the most celebrated men in Europe, yet is virtually unknown today, his impact and influence largely forgotten In this vivid account, Richard Brooks blends colourful contemporary source material with new insights to uncover the tale of this unheralded icon. He traces the rise of Marshal from penniless younger son to renowned knight, national hero and defender of the Magna Carta. What emerges is a fascinating story of a man negotiating the brutal realities of medieval warfare and the conflicting demands of chivalric ideals, and who against the odds defeated the joint French and rebel forces in arguably the most important battle in medieval English history – overshadowing even Agincourt.

dover castle english heritage: *The Grass Roots of English History* David Hey, 2016-05-05 In medieval and early modern Britain, people would refer to their local district as their 'country', a term

now largely forgotten but still used up until the First World War. Core groups of families that remained rooted in these 'countries', often bearing distinctive surnames still in use today, shaped local culture and passed on their traditions. In *The Grass Roots of English History*, David Hey examines the differing nature of the various local societies that were found throughout England in these periods. The book provides an update on the progress that has been made in recent years in our understanding of the history of ordinary people living in different types of local societies throughout England, and demonstrates the value of studying the varied landscapes of England, from towns to villages, farmsteads, fields and woods to highways and lanes, and historic buildings from cathedrals to cottages. With its broad coverage from the medieval period up to the Industrial Revolution, the book shows how England's socio-economic landscape had changed over time, employing evidence provided by archaeology, architecture, botany, cultural studies, linguistics and historical demography. *The Grass Roots of English History* provides an up-to-date account of the present state of knowledge about ordinary people in local societies throughout England written by an authority in the field, and as such will be of great value to all scholars of local and family history.

dover castle english heritage: *The Impact of the Edwardian Castles in Wales* Diane Williams, John R. Kenyon, 2009-12-16 *The Impact of the Edwardian Castles in Wales* publishes the proceedings of a conference held in 2007, a year that marked the seventh centenary of the death of King Edward I, which set out to review recent scholarship on castles that he built in north Wales after two wars, in 1277 and 1282-83 and a Welsh uprising in 1294-95, and to rethink the effect that their building had upon Wales in the past, present and future. Building upon the seminal work of Arnold Taylor, whose study of the buildings and documentary evidence has been pivotal to Edwardian castle studies for more than fifty years, the volume includes papers which call into question the role of Master James of St George as the architect of the king's new castles; the role of Richard the Engineer, the nature of royal accommodation in the thirteenth century and a detailed look at how households worked, especially in the kitchen and accounting departments. New approaches to castle studies are encouraging a more holistic understanding of the Edwardian castles and their context and to this end papers consider their impact on Welsh society and its princes in the thirteenth century, notably Llywelyn ab Iorwerth (Fawr, the Great) and his grandson, Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, prince of Wales. Their symbolism and meaning through the words of Welsh poets and the mythology behind Caernarfon Castle are also examined, so too is the role of Welshmen in Edward I's armies. The wider context is considered with papers on the Edwardian towns in Wales, the baronial castles in north Wales and Edward I in Scotland and Gascony. The castles still have powerful resonance and the Minister for Heritage in the Welsh Assembly Government considers their role and presentation in Wales today and in the future. Robert Liddiard concludes that the volume 'not only takes our knowledge of the Edwardian castles forward, but also informs the study of castles in the British Isles'.

dover castle english heritage: *The Comforts of Home in Western Europe, 1700-1900* Jon Stobart, 2020-02-20 Comfort, both physical and affective, is a key aspect in our conceptualization of the home as a place of emotional attachment, yet its study remains under-developed in the context of the European house. In this volume, Jon Stobart has assembled an international cast of contributors to discuss the ways in which architectural and spatial innovations coupled with the emotional assemblage of objects to create comfortable homes in early modern Europe. The book features a two-section structure focusing on the historiography of architectural and spatial innovations and material culture in the early modern home. It also includes 10 case studies which draw on specific examples, from water closets in Georgian Dublin to wallpapers in 19th-century Cambridge, to illustrate how people made use of and responded to the technological improvements and the emotional assemblage of objects which made the home comfortable. In addition, it explores the role of memory and memorialisation in the domestic space, and the extent to which home comforts could be carried about by travellers or reproduced in places far removed from the home. *The Comforts of Home in Western Europe, 1700-1900* offers a fresh contribution to the study of comfort in the early modern home and will be vital reading for academics and students interested in early modern

history, material culture and the history of interior architecture.

dover castle english heritage: [The Rough Guide to Kent, Sussex & Surrey: Travel Guide](#)
eBook Rough Guides, 2024-07-01 This Kent, Sussex & Surrey guidebook is perfect for independent travellers planning a longer trip. It features all of the must-see sights and a wide range of off-the-beaten-track places. It also provides detailed practical information on preparing for a trip and what to do on the ground. And this Kent, Sussex & Surrey travel guidebook is printed on paper from responsible sources, and verified to meet the FSC's strict environmental and social standards. This Kent, Sussex & Surrey guidebook covers: Canterbury and around; North Kent; East Kent; The Kent Weald; The Sussex High Weald; East Sussex Downs; Brighton; West Sussex; Surrey. Inside this Kent, Sussex & Surrey travel book, you'll find: A wide range of sights - Rough Guides experts have hand-picked places for travellers with different needs and desires: off-the-beaten-track adventures, family activities or chilled-out breaks Itinerary examples - created for different time frames or types of trip Practical information - how to get to Kent, Sussex & Surrey, all about public transport, food and drink, shopping, travelling with children, sports and outdoor activities, tips for travellers with disabilities and more Author picks and things not to miss in Kent, Sussex & Surrey - The Seven Sisters and Beachy Head, Chartwell, The Turner Contemporary, The Devil's Punch Bowl, Rye, West Wittering, The Goods Shed, Pallant House Gallery, Charleston Farmhouse, Prospect Cottage, Hastings, Broadstairs Folk Week, Canterbury Cathedral, Botany Bay, Brighton, Petworth House, Dover Castle, Sissinghurst, Alfriston Insider recommendations - tips on how to beat the crowds, save time and money, and find the best local spots When to go to Kent, Sussex & Surrey - high season, low season, climate information and festivals Where to go - a clear introduction to Kent, Sussex & Surrey with key places and a handy overview Extensive coverage of regions, places and experiences - regional highlights, sights and places for different types of travellers, with experiences matching different needs Places to eat, drink and stay - hand-picked restaurants, cafes, bars and hotels Practical info at each site - hours of operation, websites, transit tips, charges Colour-coded mapping - with keys and legends listing sites categorised as highlights, eating, accommodation, shopping, drinking and nightlife Background information for connoisseurs - history, culture, art, architecture, film, books, religion, diversity Fully updated post-COVID-19 The guide provides a comprehensive and rich selection of places to see and things to do in Kent, Sussex & Surrey, as well as great planning tools. It's the perfect companion, both ahead of your trip and on the ground.

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