

Savour Dartmouth's culinary delights

Indulge your senses in Dartmouth's vibrant food scene, where every meal is an experience to remember.

From award-winning cream teas and chef's tables to cosy medieval pubs and lively harbourside restaurants, the town offers a feast for every palate.

Discover traditional maritime buildings transformed into foodie destinations, enjoy classic fish & chips by the water, or grab the "best crab sandwich ever" as you wander the charming streets. In Dartmouth, every bite tells a story.



Discover Dartmouth's independent spirit

Immerse yourself in Dartmouth's treasure trove of independent shops, where creativity and character fill every cobbled lane.

From artisan boutiques and vintage curios to family-run galleries and quirky gift stores, the town is a haven for those who love to shop local. Wander past colourful shopfronts brimming with handmade crafts, delicacies, and one-of-a-kind finds, each with its own story to tell. Whether you're seeking a keepsake from your visit or the perfect gift, Dartmouth's independent shops offer an experience as warm and distinctive as the town itself.



Live authentically like a true local

Dartmouth is a year-round destination, offering the activities and events you would expect at home – but with the beautiful back drop of this river-based, rural idyll, and the soundscape of nature.

Whether you are here for a long weekend, or perhaps a month of remote working, you can make yourself feel right at home by taking advantage of everything on offer: morning yoga or Pilates to start your day, energising gym workouts, and peaceful riverside walks to unwind.



Enjoy an evening film or theatre night at The Flavel Arts Centre, join in a lively pub quiz, take a pottery class, or simply relax and socialise with friendly locals.

In Dartmouth, living like a local means embracing the rhythm of the town, where wellbeing, creativity, and community come together in every season.

Only in Dartmouth



1 The Station with no trains!

The station was built as a railway platform – but the line never crossed the Dart.

2 The world's first working atmospheric steam engine

Thomas Newcomen, born in Dartmouth, designed and built the first working steam engine, see an original Newcomen Engine in motion at The Engine House.

3 The UK's only remaining coal fired paddle steamer

The Kingswear Castle offers unique river cruise trips from Dartmouth to Totnes.

4 Christopher Robin's bookshop

A A Milne's son, Christopher Robin ran the Harbour bookshop in Dartmouth for over 30 years.

5 Home of the Gurgling Fish Jugs

The Dartmouth Pottery in Warfleet gave gurgling jugs their memorable fish shape.

6 The first coastal artillery fort in Britain

Dartmouth Castle's gun tower was the first purpose-built coastal artillery fort.

7 The "Tree of Jesse" Elizabethan ceiling

The Jesse Room in Dartmouth Museum has a unique plaster relief ceiling displaying the 'Tree of Jesse'.

8 The last working Tug & Platform Ferry

The Dartmouth Lower Ferry is the last Tug & Platform Ferry active in the UK.

A few hours in Dartmouth

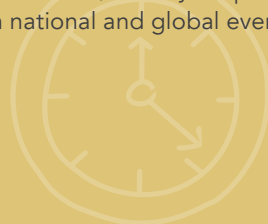
Short on time but eager to explore Dartmouth's rich history? **The Dartmouth Heritage Trails** are your perfect guide!

The Town Trail takes you around the historic streets where you can absorb the rich heritage of Dartmouth, whilst also taking in independent shops and galleries, and choosing the perfect refreshment stop.

The Castle Trail is a 20-minute walk along the harbour out to **Dartmouth Castle**, where you can hear tales of the town's centuries-old defences.

The views are spectacular, and for those who want a short river experience, the **Castle Ferry** is a great way to head back to the centre of Town.

Another option is to head to **Dartmouth Museum** - the perfect place to learn how this beautiful town has evolved over many centuries, literally shaped by trade, and played a role in national and global events.



24 hours in Dartmouth

Start your day in Dartmouth's historic centre from the Butterwalk and The Old Market to St Saviour's Church and Smith Street, taking in the medieval streets lined with pastel-coloured houses and quirky shops. From there, take the 20-minute walk out to the centuries-old Dartmouth Castle, enjoying panoramic views of the town and harbour.

Catch the Castle Ferry back view the beauty of Dartmouth, from the river.

Coffee time Pause for artisan coffee and pastries from a local café - choose among the town's thriving café scene, from riverside spots to tucked-away courtyards. Each offer the perfect setting for people-watching or planning the day's adventures.

Next, stroll along the Embankment for classic river scenes, spotting ferries and heritage steam trains across the water.

Lunchtime Dartmouth boasts a wide variety of food options with award-winning restaurants, stylish bistros, and cosy pubs. Sample freshly caught seafood - the town's crab sandwiches are legendary - or tuck into Devonshire specialities such as homemade pies and farm cheeses.

After lunch, you could enjoy a relaxing river boat trip towards Totnes, passing lush woods and elegant estates, or hop aboard the heritage Steam Train for further exploration.

If you are after something more active, then try your hand at kayaking with a guided trip from the harbour to the Castle and beyond. Or meander around Dartmouth's galleries and independent shops.

Tea Time A visit to Dartmouth is not complete without indulging in a classic Devon cream tea (cream first!).

Evening Dartmouth shows off yet another side of its character as the sun sets. Enjoy cocktails or local cider at a lively bar, before dining in one of the varied options available, delicious food and a warm welcome guaranteed.

After Dark Round off with a stroll beneath twinkling lights along the Embankment and Royal Avenue Gardens.



A very warm welcome to Dartmouth

A very warm welcome to Dartmouth - a beautiful and busy harbour town, with a long and rich history, nestled in stunning scenery.

Whether you revel in the fascinating history, take in jaw-dropping views as you walk along the river, or fancy indulging in the taste of local flavours, Dartmouth has it all. Every trip to this delightful corner of South Devon is inspiring, worthwhile, and will have you coming back for more.

Download our visitor App

Our Explore Dartmouth Visitors App is your pocket guide to the best of Dartmouth.

Discover local businesses, events, and experiences at your fingertips along with an interactive map to get you to where you want to be.

Scan the QR code for quick access to all you need to know about Dartmouth.

Or for more inspiration you can read our blogs, covering everything from kids activities to dog-friendly pubs, top 10 restaurants to the best beaches: exploredartmouth.co.uk/blog



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Dartmouth Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre is the perfect place to start if you are wanting to make the most of your visit.

Funded by the local businesses, and staffed by a team of knowledgeable and friendly volunteers, this is the place to get the most up to date information on all the activities available.

Mayors Avenue, Dartmouth TQ6 9YY



Getting to Dartmouth

Arrive by train or bus

The nearest train station to Dartmouth is Totnes, which is a 30 minute train journey from Exeter and Plymouth. The 92 bus to Dartmouth takes 40 minutes.

GWR trains from Paddington stop hourly at Totnes, making the journey from London around 3 hours.

Arrive by boat or steam train

The Dartmouth Steam Railway and River Boat Company operate River Cruises from Totnes to Dartmouth from April to October. The timetable is tide dependent, so check and book first. They also operate the steam trains from Paignton to Kingswear – a short ferry ride across the River Dart from Dartmouth. Timetables and booking are available at dartmouthrailriver.co.uk

Arrive by car

Dartmouth is just 35 minutes off the A38 Devon Expressway and 35 minutes from Torquay via the A379.

Explore DARTMOUTH



Views to tick off

- 1

Bayard's Cove Fort
- 2

The harbour entrance
- 3

Dartmouth Castle / St Petrox
- 4

Britannia Royal Naval College
- 5

Boat Float
- 6

The Butterwalk
- 7

Brown's Steps



Top 10 things to do in Dartmouth

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Discover history at the Newcomen Engine

Step back in time at the Newcomen Engine House, dedicated to one of Dartmouth's most famous sons, Thomas Newcomen, inventor of the world's first atmospheric steam engine. See an original Newcomen Engine in motion.

The Engine House, Mayors Avenue, TQ6 9YY
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Explore Dartmouth Castle

Immerse yourself in the heritage of this 14th-century fortress perched at the river's edge and uncover centuries of maritime secrets. The panoramic views of the Dart Estuary from the ramparts are simply unforgettable.

Castle Road, TQ6 0JN. English Heritage.



Dartmouth Castle

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Take to the Water

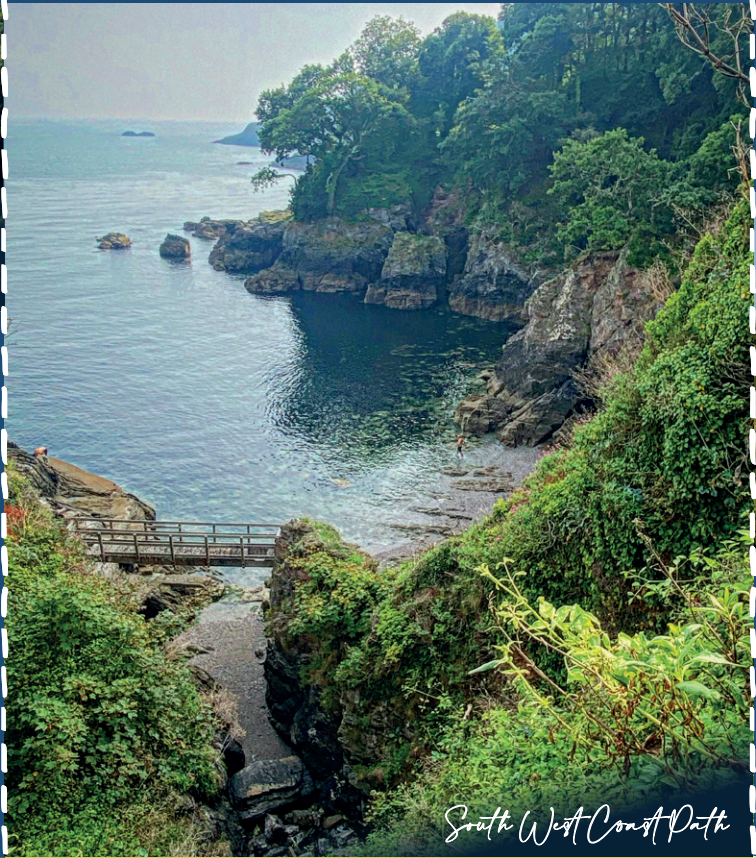
Dartmouth Harbour boasts an array of activities to suit all ages and energy levels such as ferries, river cruises, safe swim zones, and paddleboards or kayaks.

There are fantastic adventures just waiting for everyone on the River Dart.
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Ride the Dartmouth Steam Railway

Climb aboard a heritage steam train and feel the nostalgia as you journey past sparkling coastline and lush countryside. Every mile is packed with awe-inspiring views that will thrill travellers of all ages.

The Square, Kingswear, TQ6 0AA.



South West Coast Path

For more ideas of what to see and do
exploredartmouth.co.uk

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Discover Greenway House

Visit the enchanting riverside retreat once home to legendary author Agatha Christie. Tour the house, wander through lush gardens, and imagine the literary tales born here.

Greenway Road, Kingswear, TQ5 0ES. National Trust.
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Enjoy a Day at the Beach

From hidden coves, to expansive shingle shorelines, a beach visit is always on the Dartmouth agenda. Castle Cove, Sugary Cove, Blackpool Sands, Strete Gate and Slapton Sands are all waiting for you.
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Tour Britannia Royal Naval College

Embark on a guided tour of the Britannia Royal Naval College and step into the world of naval tradition, discovering grand architecture and stories of famous alumni. An unforgettable insight into Britain's maritime past. Advance booking required.

College Way, TQ6 0HJ. britanniaassociation.org.uk



Britannia Royal Naval College

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Visit Dartmouth Museum

Step into a world of maritime treasures and fascinating local history in a charming Tudor merchant's house. From model ships to curious collections, each room has a different story to tell.

The Butterwalk, Duke Street, TQ6 9PZ

Instagrammable views to tick off

- 1

Bayard's Cove Fort
- 2

The harbour entrance
- 3

Dartmouth Castle / St Petrox
- 4

Britannia Royal Naval College
- 5

Boat Float
- 6

The Butterwalk
- 7

Brown's Steps

See main map for locations

What's on

- Dartmouth is known for its vibrant annual calendar of events, celebrating everything from its rich maritime history to its reputation as a foodie's paradise, alongside numerous local community gatherings and festivities.
- Annual events include:
- ★ **Head of the Dart SUP Challenge** (April)
 - ★ **Dart Music Festival** (May)
 - ★ **Dartmouth Pride** (June)
 - ★ **Classics Regattas** (June/July)
 - ★ **Newcomen Steam Festival** (July)
 - ★ **Shakespeare Week** (July)
 - ★ **Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta** (August)
 - ★ **Book Festival** (Sept)
 - ★ **Food Festival** (Oct)
 - ★ **Candlelit** (Nov)
 - ★ **Dartmouth In December** (Dec)
 - ★ **NYE Fireworks** (Dec)

Wander and wonder in Dartmouth

Dartmouth town centre can be divided into a number of fascinating and distinct parts, based on their stories through time, and the modern day activities to be found there.



The Butterwalk

- The Artisan Quarter**

Centred around Flavel Arts Centre, Foss St, Broadstone, and The Old Market. Today's visitors might not realise this area was part of the River Dart before the land was reclaimed. Now a lovely area to browse, home to creative artisans alongside boutiques, cafes, galleries, and regular Market Days.
- The Royal Quarter**

Including the Boat Float, Royal Avenue Gardens, Duke Street, The Butterwalk and Victoria Road, this area is full of Royal connections which extend beyond the names to past visits by Royalty. Nowadays this area is the focal point for many Town activities and events, as well as home to Dartmouth Museum.
- The River Dart**

One of the UK's finest natural deepwater harbours, creating a sheltered waterway shaped by centuries of maritime history. Here you could catch a glimpse of elegant superyachts, visiting cruise liners, naval vessels and traditional sailing ships, with the occasional square-rigged galleon evoking Dartmouth's seafaring past. By day and night the river is alive with boats, creating a constantly changing living spectacle framed by rolling hillsides and historic waterfront streets.



The Bear & The Monkey

- The Bear & The Monkey**

The area now called Bayard's Cove was originally called Bearscove, and legend has it that the Earl of Warwick's bear is buried under the fort. Whilst the nickname "Monkey Town" is a title believed to be inspired by local sailors' traditions. These days the area boasts some of the most iconic views in Dartmouth.
- The Embankment**

The one mile promenade of North and South Embankment has seen a lot of maritime history sail by, from 11th Century crusades, to medieval adventurers, and more recently the mustering of over 450 ships in readiness for the D-Day landings. Still pivotal to Dartmouth's water-borne activities the Embankment is a fabulous place to watch the harbour world go by, try your hand at crabbing, or spot a seal sunbathing on a pontoon.



Watching harbour life