

England's Coast sets out to make next year one to remember with the Year of the Coast 2023



L-R: Bournemouth Beach Lodges; Bridlington Harbour; 'The Edge, Cumbria's new Coastal Activity Centre.

Those planning a staycation in 2023 need look no further than our very own English coastline where the water's edge is always brimming with a variety of exciting events from festivals to local food markets, walking trails to water sports and much more. [Year of the Coast 2023](#) celebrates our breath-taking coastline and celebrates a year-long programme of events occurring around the whole of England's coast including various new sections of the England Coast Path opening.

"Through Year of the Coast 2023 we will promote the coast as a sustainable, year-round destination to raise awareness of opportunities for coastal communities and showcase new hands-on experiences, attractions and events," says Samantha Richardson MBE, National Coastal Tourism Academy Director which delivers England's Coast.

"As an island nation, this is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of blue health and introduce a new generation to the nature and heritage on our coast. We'll be championing beach clean-ups, charity swims and of course, the amazing new England Coast Path which will open new coastal stretches to the public for the first time – there's a lot to celebrate!"

Planning your next getaway doesn't have to be a headache. Be it stargazing under Whitby's dazzling night sky, a family trip to see kites soar through the skies of East Yorkshire or discovering the cultural and artistic highlights of West Sussex, [England's Coast](#) is the easy-to-navigate booking tool that helps you to map out your coastal trip to perfection. With over 2,000 coastal businesses to browse, including hotels, B&Bs, self-catering properties, activity and attraction operators, transport companies, pubs, restaurants, food producers, and much more – holidaymakers have ample choice from which to build their personal tailor-made ocean-front itinerary all in one place.

Here are just a few examples as to where you can start your adventure in 2023...

Cumbria

An exciting new launch for coastal [Cumbria](#), 'The Edge' is Cumbria's new Coastal Activity Centre, set to open in Whitehaven in July 2023. The cutting-edge venue will provide bespoke water sports, recreational, arts and activity facilities at Whitehaven Harbour, 'the coastal gateway to the Lakes', as well as a community and educational centre for public use. The only centre of its kind on the North West, its fantastic location is at the start of the C2C Cycle Route and will feature new accommodation (17 rooms), food and drinks offering, and viewing platform overlooking the coast.

Book with England's Coast: Stay in Whitehaven at [Summergrove Halls](#), a hotel nestled amongst beautiful gardens with easy access to the Cumbrian Coast and Western Lakes.

East Yorkshire

See the coastline come to life with splashes of colour at the annual [Bridlington Kite Festival 2023](#), set to take place on 20th & 21st May. Watch kites of all shapes and sizes, including some of the world's largest inflatable kites, paint the skies above the dramatic cliffs of the East Yorkshire coast. As well as professional demonstrations, for those wanting to get a little closer to the action, visitors can have a go with kites available for loan during supervised sessions.

Book with England's Coast: Stay nearby at [Waves and Wolds](#) in the postcard-perfect village of Sewerby. Waves and Wolds is a cosy and comfortable bungalow offering a large garden space for sundown drinks and alfresco dining. Just a five-minute walk will take you to views of beautiful chalk cliffs, seabird colonies, lighthouses, and beaches.

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

Head down to Bournemouth for three days of unrivalled local produce at [Poole Seafood Festival 2023](#) (dates TBC). Tempt your taste buds with some of the south coast's finest seafood, local artisan burgers and pizzas as well as a spectacular line up of live music. Indulge in the height of luxury at the champagne and oyster bar, or grab a refreshing local ale, cider or wine at the onsite bar. Once your stomach is satisfied, weave your way through themed clothing stalls, jewellery, art and accessories stalls and support the local business' delights on offer.

Book with England's Coast: Make the most of the tranquillity of the water's edge with a stay at [Bournemouth Beach Lodges](#). Located only a few steps away from the soft sand and lapping waves, the uninterrupted views of the glistening water right from your window is the definition of serenity.

Isle of Wight

Hop across to the Isle of Wight for one of its annual highlights. Set to be particularly special, 2023 will see [Shanklin Town Regatta](#) celebrating 170 years. This event brings the whole town and its visitors together for a day bursting with entertainment and excitement for everyone. Beach sports and swimming events for all ages will run throughout the day with festivities continuing into the evening with a barbeque, music, and firework display; a perfect day out for the entire family.

Book with England's Coast: Stay in the heart of the action at [The Priory](#) (by Shanklin Holiday Homes), a beautiful clifftop apartment dating back to 1864 with sea views across Sandown Bay, sleeping four guests across two bedrooms. With two acres of woodland gardens, surrounding National Trust grounds and coastal walks right on the doorstep, there is plenty to be explored.

West Sussex

Head to the south coast in [West Sussex](#) where the buzzing seaside town of Worthing will host its annual [PRIDE](#) event in the seafront Steyne Gardens from 7-8th July 2023, celebrating diversity, equality and inclusivity. There'll be a vibrant two-day programme of live music and amazing artists, entertainment, food and drink and – of course – wonderful parades and costumes galore, to rival nearby Brighton's events. The main event, the Parade on the Prom, will start at 11am on 8th July.

Book with England's Coast: Just steps away from Steyne Park and the beach, stay at the independent, family-run [Ardington Hotel](#), a contemporary beachside hotel with 45 stylish bedrooms and an award-winning restaurant.

North York Moors National Park

What better way to fully immerse yourself in the wonders of nature than gazing in awe at the Milky Way and marvelling at the millions of stars in the night sky? From the 10th-26th February, [Dark Skies Festival](#) will be back for its 8th year. Heighten your senses and discover the beauty of the world at night through activities such as night runs, zip wires, astrophotography workshops, stargazing safaris, children's trails and mindfulness experiences.

Book with England's Coast: Looking for a perfectly romantic end to your night under the stars? Nestled in a pocket of private woodland nearby stand three [Whitby Log Cabins](#) spread across four acres. They are laid out so that each unit has privacy and its own outside space offering a sense of total seclusion.

Dartmouth

The beautiful town of Dartmouth on the banks of the picturesque River Dart boasts a packed calendar of festivals and events throughout the year, but one of the annual highlights is [Dartmouth Shakespeare Week](#) by the Inn Theatre Company: enjoy spectacular performances of the Bard's best plays against the stunning backdrop of Dartmouth Castle (July 2023, dates TBC).

Book with England's Coast: Stay nearby at [The Old Bakery](#), a modernised Townhouse situated in Dartmouth Town centre. With popular restaurants, cafes and amenities just a stone's throw from its front door, this property truly is perfect for families, couples and friends wanting to escape to a hidden gem.

Press: For further information, high-res images or to **discuss a commissioned press trip**, please contact Lizzie Cooper or Sally Firth at [Travel PR](#) on 020 8891 4440 or l.cooper@travelpr.co.uk / s.firth@travelpr.co.uk.

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

England's Coast advises visitors to adhere to local travel restrictions and regional tiers, which can be found on the Gov UK website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area>.

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, Visit Cumbria, This is Durham, Visit Northumberland, 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 and Hornblower City Cruises Poole.

[The NCTA](#) 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.