

DELEGATE NEWS

— 2018 —



Welcome to Southport

Delegate News is here to provide delegates coming to Southport with a useful and interesting read about the resort ahead of or during your visit.

If you have enjoyed it, why not use Delegate News to help you in planning a relaxing day visit or short break following your business trip? There's a selection of high quality accommodation on page 4, and also event highlights, plus details of our superb restaurants and other things to do around the town.

Enjoy the magazine!

The Vikings are here!



The Atkinson in Southport has been chosen as the only North West venue to display the fabulous Viking: Rediscover the Legend exhibition in partnership with the British Museum and the Yorkshire Museum.

For the first time the most significant Viking treasures will be on display together. Star objects from the British Museum feature alongside the Yorkshire Museum's world-class collections and are interpreted in new ways to give a fresh perspective on how Vikings shaped every aspect of life in Britain.

It includes the most famous Viking collections in this country, including the Vale of York Viking Hoard, Cuerdale Hoard and the Bedale Hoard.

The exhibition also features groundbreaking research by archaeologists and new discoveries by metal-detectorists.

Emma Lloyd, Programmes & Audience Development Manager said:

"This is a huge success story for The Atkinson and for Sefton as a cultural

tourist destination and the Atkinson has been chosen as the only North West venue to host this incredible exhibition. We expect this exhibition to attract visitors from all over the region and beyond to see this rare and unique collection in one place. 2018 is the 10 year anniversary of Liverpool's Capital of Culture and this nationally significant exhibition highlights the significance of the Liverpool City Region's arts and cultural offer both for the economy and for education."



Viking: Rediscover the Legend is on display in Southport from 31 March - 7 July 2018.

Image credit: Cuerdale Hoard @York Museum



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SOUTHPORT
DIFFERENT
EVERYTIME



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Dear Delegate ...

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Southport for your event. Southport is a vibrant place to visit at any time and makes the perfect place for a day trip or short break, whatever the time of year.

If you get time to explore during your stay or if we can tempt you to come back again, we have plenty to discover including world famous events in abundance (see page 5 for more details) and some great attractions including Merseyside's only water park, Splash World! 22 miles of beautiful coastline, together with the graceful Marine Way Bridge and historic iron pier, blend together effortlessly to create stunning views - so don't forget your camera!

Keen shoppers will delight in the internationally renowned Lord Street and Chapel Street, with their glass-covered arcades and impressive choice of high street names, independent boutiques and hidden gems. There are also two retail and leisure parks just a short stroll from the town centre.

For a bite to eat or to wet your whistle, there are over 200 restaurants, cafes and bars offering a mind-boggling choice of cuisine, excellent service and great value for money. For more information on things to do in the resort call into the Information Desk and pick up a copy of the 2018 Visitor Guide, or check visitsouthport.com.

*Mark Catherall
Head of Tourism, Sefton Council*

Southport Pier Gets a Makeover



Major refurbishment works on Southport Pier have already started as part of a huge multi-million pound project benefiting the whole resort.

The iconic pier could be thought of as the backbone of Southport. Stretching out across the golden sands for just under a mile it is the oldest cast iron pier in the UK and the second longest. It is the focal point of many a day out and provides a superb viewing platform for the one of the resorts largest events, the Southport Air Show.

Sefton Council secured £2m from the Coastal Community Fund in order to undertake the extensive works and with match funding from the Council's pier contingency fund the overall project will deliver more than £2.9 million worth of improvements creating additional jobs, increasing visitor numbers and securing Southport Pier as a valued asset for many years to come.

The refurbishment of the Grade II listed pier structure is being carried out in two stages – the first phase was

completed in December 2017 and the second is due to start in March 2018 with the pier remaining fully open for visitors to enjoy during the works.

As well as general repair work and freshening up of paintwork, other plans include the creation of exciting new retail units, improvements to the end pavilion and two new structures providing visitors direct access onto the beach!

Cllr Marion Atkinson, Sefton Council's Labour Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills, said: "We are delighted the works on Southport Pier have started which will truly transform the attraction. The works will see major improvements that will improve access, add new uses while enhancing and protecting the pier for years to come."

The overall project is due to finish in December 2018.

FIND US ONLINE... for everything you need to know

Southport's website is updated regularly and provides a wealth of information. It's the perfect way to plan your visit with searchable information on everything the resort has to offer including accommodation, attractions and places to eat. You can even book your tickets to our spectacular events right here! Browse now at visitsouthport.com and if you need any assistance while you are in resort, just pop into The Atkinson on Lord Street and visit our Information Desk.

Life is Bliss Down at Waterfront



December 2016 saw an exciting plot twist in Southport's story as Bliss Investment Partners moved in - acquiring the Landmark 'Waterfront' site on Southport's Marine Lake including the prestigious Ramada Plaza Hotel.

For the last year, the Bliss team have been hard at work developing plans for the launch of the new Waterfront which will be a vibrant multi-faceted leisure based destination and the 133 room, 4* Hotel will be the first element to see a re-vamp on a huge scale.

2018 will pave the way for change, seeing Ramada

Plaza Hotel transform into the chic, art deco inspired Bliss Hotel Southport. Still under the Wyndham umbrella as one of the UK's first 'signature collection' hotels, this will be an exciting change for the site, maintaining the already luxurious essence of the hotel whilst refreshing the look, feel, space and experience.

'Our ambition for the Waterfront and all its component parts is big - Southport's breath-taking coastal location within 45 mins from both Liverpool and Manchester has long been a destination for Leisure and Business travellers. We plan to attract more of both with enhanced amenities - in particular better conference and event facilities served by a first class hospitality, entertainment and hotel offer which will make The Waterfront a 'go to' venue for businesses and organisations from around the World' -Daniel Broch, Bliss Hotels Co-Founder

With work beginning in 2018 delegates and local residents alike will be able to witness this exciting transformation which will begin with the soon to be launched Floor 05 in the Hotel, injecting the development with style, panache and luxury.

The Master Barbers Shop

Southport is the last place you would expect to find the Best Barbershop in Britain!

The Master Barber's Shop is located in the exclusive Wayfarers Arcade, Lord Street and has gained this official title not once but twice in the last two years.

Featuring in competition's run by Hairdressers Journal and the National Hairdresser's Federation, not only have they been awarded accolades for their male grooming and hairdressing skills but also for their fabulous retail offer.

Step through the doors and you'll discover that it is without doubt a one-off - a one-of-a-kind destination shop stocking a wide range of products



from top line perfume houses such as Penhaligons and Floris to traditional ranges such as GEO Trumper and Mason Pearson.

The luxuriously fitted shop is a real attraction in the town and the premises have been styled to create a warm and comfortable masculine interior with an ambience like no other.

The Master Barber's Shop offers some more diverse services, such as sports massage, manicure and pedicure which complement the more traditional services such as hairdressing and open razor shaving.

Wet shaving is currently enjoying a remarkable renaissance, with the figures showing the number of barbers performing traditional open razor shaves in Britain has jumped by 50% in the past 12 months. A traditional wet shave with hot towels and face massage is one of the most relaxing, indulgent experiences known to man and The Master Barber's Shop is recognised as the North West's leading exponent of this almost lost art. Treat yourself, you're worth it!



Hidden gems and cosy retreats

Southport and its surrounds are peppered with warm, cosy guesthouses and self-catering cottages just outside the town. So whether you want to be central for all the bars, restaurants and attractions – or surrounded by the beautiful West Lancashire countryside – there will be somewhere for you.

The Leicester is just 3 minutes walk from the iconic Lord Street, Southport's main shopping street and home to a plethora of bars, restaurants and tearooms. It's also only 5 minutes from Southport's famous, listed iron pier and the Marine Lake.

This family-run boutique guesthouse prides itself on offering the warmest of welcomes to guests and offers both continental and full English breakfasts, using the finest locally sourced ingredients.

If you're looking for somewhere outside the town and just that little bit different, why not take a look at Oaklee Barns in nearby Lydiate.

This guesthouse is adjacent to Oaklea Racing Stables and is the perfect place to stay for any horse racing enthusiast. It is only 15 minutes from Aintree, home of the world famous Grand National and both Haydock Park racecourse and the town of Southport are easily accessible.

Find out more about these properties and many more at visitsouthport.com



JUST SOME OF THE PLACES TO STAY IN SOUTHPORT

HOTEL NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Adelphi	39 Bold Street	PR9 0ED 01704 544947
Ambassador	13 Bath Street	PR9 0DP 01704 543998
Aotearoa B&B	28B Part Street	PR8 1HY 01704 260057
Barford House	32 Avondale Road	PR9 0ND 01704 548119
Bold Hotel	583 Lord Street	PR9 0BE 01704 532578
Bowden Lodge	18 Albert Road	PR9 0LE 01704 543531
Braemar	4 Bath Street	PR9 0DA 01704 535838
Captain's Quarters	21 Bath Street	PR9 0DP 01704 628755
Castle Mews	9 Castle Street	PR9 0NR 01484 722400
Clifton Villa	6 Bath Street	PR9 0DA 01704 535780
Cross Farm Holiday Cottages	Mairsough Lane Downholland L39 7HT	0151 526 1576
Damwood	107 Hall Road, Scarisbrick L40 9QD	07507 402400
Dukes Folly Hotel	11 Duke Street	PR8 1LS 01704 533355
Edendale	83 Avondale Road North PR9 0NE	01704 530718
Formby Hall	Old Southport Rd, Formby L37 0AB	01704 875699
GlennRay House	12 Alexandra Road	PR9 0NB 01704 548751
Heidi	43 Bold Street	PR9 0ED 01704 531273
Leicester	24 Leicester Street	PR9 0EZ 01704 530049
Le Maitre	69 Bath Street	PR9 0DN 01704 530394
Lynwood House	11a Leicester Street	PR9 0ER 01704 540794
Martin Lane Farmhouse	5 Martin Lane Burscough L40 8JH	01704 893527
Metro	King Street	PR8 1LH 01704 536836
Mews Cottage	Back 76A Botanic Road PR9 7NE	01704 227222
Oaklee Barns	Southport Rd, Lydiate L31 4HH	0151 526 0094
Peaky Blinders	589 Lord Street	PR9 0AN 01704 808182
Prince of Wales	Lord Street	PR8 1JS 0871 222 0039
Promenade Apts	70-71&78-79 The Promenade PR9 0JJ	01704 541719
Ramada Plaza	Promenade	PR9 0DZ 0844 801 3580
Rea's Holiday Apartment	21 Saunders Street	PR9 0HP 01704 549990
Riverside Holiday Park	Southport New Road	PR9 8DF 01704 228886
Royal Clifton	The Promenade	PR8 1RB 01704 533771
Salfordian	37 Park Crescent	PR9 9LJ 01704 538810
Sandcroft Holiday Flats	13 Albany Road	PR9 0JF 01704 537497
Sandybrook Farm	Wyke Cop Road	PR8 5LR 01704 880337
Scarisbrick	Lord Street	PR8 1NZ 01704 543000
Seaview	28 Bath Street	PR9 0DA 01704 530874
Talbot Hotel	23-25 Portland Street	PR8 1LR 01704 533975
Vincent	98 Lord Street	PR8 1JR 01704 534400
Warwick Hotel	39 Bath Street	PR9 0DP 01704 530707
Waterford	37 Leicester Street	PR9 0EX 01704 530559

Celebrate 100 years of the RAF with Southport Air Show



The fabulous Southport Air Show roars into town in July in 2018, which also coincides with the Centenary of the Royal Air Force and what better way to celebrate the RAF than witnessing the

spectacular flying programme we have planned?

Now in its 27th year, the event ensures visitors a truly amazing experience. Recognised as the North West's largest Air Show and one of the resort's biggest events, attendees are guaranteed three days of spectacular aerial entertainment with breath taking displays from both military and civilian aircraft PLUS extensive ground attractions making this one of the most popular public events in the country.

The Friday night flying and fireworks programme, which was included in 2017 for the first time, adds a completely new element to an already thrilling show. Premier tickets are available for the Lancaster Lounge which offers not only top-notch catering but unquestionably THE best view in the show, from the iconic Southport Pier! Go to visitsouthport.com for more information and to purchase your tickets online.

Southport Flower Show

The UK's biggest independent flower show dates for 2018 are Thursday 16th to Sunday 19th August and the show theme will be 'Once Upon a Time' which should really fire up the imagination for exhibitors in both the floral marquees and show gardens.

But Southport Flower Show is about so much more than flowers. It also boasts gift & craft marquees, a central arena with entertainment throughout the day, a beekeeping marquee and celebrity theatre.

And when you're feeling peckish there's a food festival with a mouth-watering choice of street food, craft beers and cocktails - and there's a huge choice of culinary delights to take home as well.



Burritos, bangers and bells!

There is always something going on in Southport and for 2018 we've packed our events diary with everything from rum to rockets, from boats to baubles and everything in between.

The Southport Festival in May brings a cross-destination extravaganza of music and culture featuring art, poetry, drama and comedy over a myriad of different genres - many of which are free to enjoy.

The Southport Food & Drink Festival has been running for over a decade and is a must for food lovers. Set in the beautiful Victoria Park, this free event over three days features an eclectic mix of street food, specialities from artisan producers and funky bars and the open-air venue creates a wonderfully relaxed 'festival' vibe.

The 24-hour Yacht race in September is quite a sight, especially if you're brave enough to be there at dawn. These graceful boats gliding across the Marine Lake with the rising sun behind them is a joy to behold.

Late September sees the skies emblazoned with the most amazing pyrotechnic displays as seven of the UK's best companies vie for the top prize in the British Musical Fireworks Championship. Seated tickets are limited and always sell-out so get yours quickly although standing ticket holders are welcome to bring along folding chairs and a picnic ... just don't forget to wrap up warm!

As autumn arrives, the resort turns towards all things ghostly as the Southport Halloween Festival cackles and groans into town. Shortly after, the fun-packed Christmas Lights Switch-On marks the beginning of a glittering festive season in Southport.



Dates for your Diary in 2018

1st - 4th February	Southport Jazz Festival
4th February	Southport Mad Dog 10K
12th - 14th April	Aintree Grand National
11th - 13th May	Southport Festival
20th May	Southport Triathlon
1st - 3rd June	Southport Food & Drink Festival
3rd June	Cancer Research Race for Life 5k & 10k
16th - 17th June	Woodvale Rally
1st July	British Armed Forces Day
1st July	Southport Half Marathon
6th - 8th July	Southport Air Show
16th - 19th August	Southport Flower Show
8th & 9th September	24 Hour Yacht Race
23rd September	Natterjack 10K
28th - 30th September	British Musical Fireworks Championship
4th - 21st October	Southport Comedy Festival
October TBC	Southport Halloween Festival
18th November	Southport Christmas Lights Switch On
December TBC	Christmas Market

Southport welcomes Lib Dems



The Lib Dems are coming to Southport for Spring Conference on 9 – 11 March at the Southport Theatre & Convention Centre.

The Liberal Democrat annual spring conference brings together

thousands of people each year to exchange ideas, shape party policy and catch up with old friends as well as making new ones. The host town plays a vital part in bringing each conference to life and they are very excited this year to have chosen Southport.

“It’s never easy to choose a conference venue that balances all the needs of the party and delegates, but it quickly became clear that Southport has everything we’re looking for,” said Michael Smith, Head of Conferences for the Liberal Democrats.

Despite a busy agenda there’s plenty of time scheduled for delegates to get out and see the local area.

The delegates have already highlighted an interest in taking a stroll on the iconic pier, exploring local shops and boutiques, sampling cafes and restaurants, and most of all, relaxing each evening after a long day of

conference and enjoying the local Southport nightlife.

With a record number of delegates coming to Lib Dem conferences in 2017, they are expecting a fantastic atmosphere this year. More than 2,000 party members, the Parliamentary team, international delegations, journalists and party observers will be travelling to Southport from across the length and breadth of the country.

It promises to be a memorable few days for everyone involved and those who have been to Southport before are very excited to show the rest of the delegates and party members what Southport has to offer.

Go to libdems.org.uk/ conference for more information about what they have planned.



Southport Pulls An Ace Out Of The Hat

In September 2018, Southport will conjure up a friendly welcome as over 400 magicians mystically appear in the resort for their annual convention.

The International Brotherhood of Magicians is the world’s largest organisation dedicated to the art of magic. It has over 11,000 members in hundreds of local ‘Rings’ spread throughout 88 countries. The British Ring No. 25 was founded in 1928 for professional and amateur magicians and is the largest Ring of the International Brotherhood of Magicians with around 700 members. They arrange events to promote the advancement of magic as an art form and to offer a learning process for those interested in enhancing their magical knowledge.

“We are delighted to be returning to Southport for our annual convention which will include magic shows, demonstrations, a trade fare, competitions, lectures, talks and plenty of magical mayhem. Past attendees, competition winners and participants include Paul Daniels, Derren Brown, Wayne Dobson and Paul Wilson, to name but a few.

“Our President for this year is Richard Cadell, who will be bringing with him his little furry friends, Sooty, Sweep and Soo, and we are delighted they will be



with us in Southport.” – Moira Fletcher, Convention Organiser.

There will even be opportunities for the general public to attend some of the shows at the Convention Centre, and also anyone who may have an interest in magic can attend as a delegate. So, if you fancy yourself as a budding Ali Bongo or just love seeing magic performed by the best in the business, grab your wand and contact Moira for more information – Email moira1.fletcher@gmail.com or by phone 07771 613894.

FUN FACTS

There's a lot of work that goes into looking after our fabulous conference and event delegates ... and an awful lot of food and drink too.

In fact between the Southport Theatre & Convention Centre (STCC) and the adjacent Ramada Plaza Hotel in 2017 visitors slurped their way through a staggering 83,000 cups of tea & coffee!

The STCC served 9,000 lunches and 15,000 dinners,

there were some 78,000 bums on seats in the main theatre. They also polished 22,000 gleaming glasses, sold 20,000 glasses of wine and went through 132 kegs of beer ... hic!

Next door, the Ramada Plaza made 2,496 beds, fluffed 4,500 pillows to within an inch of their lives and served a whopping 37,000 eggs.

Phew!

Let's be social...

Follow Southport Conferences on social media before, during and after your event to get up to date information about the resort PLUS why not upload photo's and updates while you are in Southport? We'd love to see and read about your experiences here. See southportconferences.com for links.



SRP enjoys the High-Life rather than the Half-Life!

Over 300 of the UK's top radiation safety scientists will gather at the Southport Theatre and Convention Centre, from 1st - 3rd May 2018 for The Society for Radiological Protection's (SRP) Annual Conference.

Radiological protection is a specialist job in health and safety, safeguarding people and the environment from the effects of ionising and non-ionising radiation. It is important to ensure we comply with government and international rules and regulations.

We all live in a radioactive world in a radioactive universe. There is radiation in the air we breathe, the food we eat and the ground on which we stand. Radiation is used to diagnose and treat illness. Electricity can be made with the help of a radioactive process. Factories can use radiation to test products and optimise production. However, despite its usefulness, radiation can be dangerous. Making sure we stay safe is the job of the expert scientists in radiation protection.

Founded in 1963, SRP is Europe's largest Society for radiation protection professionals, with members involved in industry, medicine, research and teaching, power generation, government regulation and nuclear decommissioning.



The theme of the conference is "A New Legislative Landscape" reflecting recent changes to radiological protection legislation and delegates will hear a number of presentations on the subject.

The conference will include an exhibition featuring a range of trade stands representing suppliers and businesses involved in radiological protection.

"This is the fourth time SRP has chosen Southport for its conference. It is popular with members as it is a good location, the Convention Centre is large and flexible, there are plenty of good



quality hotels and delegates know they can be assured a good time in the many bars and restaurants when they get time out from a busy programme to socialise!" – Richard Wilkins, SRP Media Officer.

A Taste of Southport



For those of you who are not familiar with who we are, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about the SRA.

The Association was founded in 2006 and now has 27 members all of whom are proud to offer a varied style of restaurant and cuisine for you to enjoy.

Our members serve everything from Chinese to Italian and Japanese to Indian – not forgetting traditional British of course.

When the SRA was set up it had one simple aim – to promote our businesses to you, our customers. All member restaurants are vetted before being allowed to join and have to make certain guarantees.

One of which I am particularly proud of in this era of fast food and microwave chefs, is that we promise that over 70% of the

food we serve is produced freshly on site using as many locally sourced ingredients as possible.

Each restaurant is owned by local people who take pride in their establishment. With us you will get that personal touch that only an owner can offer.

Thank you for your interest in our Association and I hope you will find a restaurant which tickles your taste buds!

Fred Burnell, SRA Chair



BEST OF BRITISH

CONSERVATORY BAR & BISTRO

01704 533771
www.royalciffon.co.uk

FORGE BRASSERIE

01704 500522
www.forgebrasserie.co.uk

THE HUNGRY MONK

01704 809355
www.thehungrymonk.co.uk

MARINE BRASSERIE

01704 516220
www.ramadaplazasouthport.co.uk

NOSTALGIA TEA ROOMS

01704 501294
www.nostalgiatearooms.co.uk

AROUND THE WORLD

ASIATIQUE

01704 807477
www.asiatique.co.uk

CHURRASCO

01704 512345
www.churassorestaurant.co.uk

HO LEE CHOW

01704 551167
www.holeechow.co.uk

KASTURI INDIAN CUISINE

01704 533102
www.kasturirestaurant.com

LINGS ON KINGS

01704 530169
www.lingsonkings.co.uk

RILEY'S

01704 501745
www.rileysbarandrestaurant.co.uk

TAJ MAHAL

01704 544991/545070
www.tajmahalsouthport.com

THE FIG BISTRO

01704 544615
www.thefigbistro.com

V- CAFÉ & RESTAURANT

01704 883800
www.thevincenthotel.com

VINCENT PACIFIC

01704 883800
www.thevincenthotel.com

A TASTE OF EUROPE

AUBERGE BRASSERIE

01704 530671
www.auberge-brasserie.com

BISTROT VÉRITÉ

01704 564199
www.bistrotverite.co.uk

CHEZ MOI

01704 545619
www.chezmoibrasserie.co.uk

GUSTO TRATTORIA

01704 544255
www.gustotrattoria.co.uk

LORDS CAFÉ BAR

01704 543814
www.lordscafebar.co.uk

PIZZERIA MAMMA MIA

01704 540259
www.mammiasouthport.co.uk



EL RINCON BODEGA

01704 53000
www.rinconbodega.com

ROBERTO'S ITALIAN

01704 530099
www.robertositalian.co.uk

519 LORD STREET

01704 534782
www.fiveonenine.co.uk

TRATTORIA 51

01704 510051
www.trattoria51.com

VILLAGGIO CUCINA

01704 563538
www.villaggiocucina.co.uk

VOLARE

01704 546232
www.volaresouthport.com

Eat, Drink & be Merry

Food Glorious Food

If you enjoy dining out, then Southport is foodie heaven. Most of the high street brands are here, but it is the independent sector that is the real jewel in the crown. Local restaurateurs are so proud of the offer they have their own association for independent restaurants. Whether it's Sushi or Tapas, Egyptian or Thai, you will find it here in Southport. When planning your visit make sure you go to the 'Food & Drink' section of visitsouthport.com and take a look at the mouth-watering choice of places to eat.



It's a Rum do!



Well, actually there's a lot more than rum in Southport, but let's start there. Le Grog is a rum and cider bar just off Lord Street. It boasts over 60 rums - dark, amber, white and spiced - as well as an excellent selection of ciders. So let your inner pirate out and sample some of this amber nectar.

On Lord Street itself there is Lords Café Bar where you can kick back and relax with a glass (or bottle) of wine and choose a light bite from their menu. Don't forget to finish off with a coffee - 'The best cappuccino I have had in Southport' is how one customer describes it.

Gin seems to be the flavour of the moment and Southport has its' share of bars offering a large selection of gins. Why not call into Remedy on Lord Street? With over 50 gins (and 40 whiskeys) on offer, there's sure to be one you haven't yet tried. But if you're not ready for a tippie - they also serve superb coffee and a great choice of cakes!

Café Culture

Southport has no shortage of places to enjoy coffee and cake, from traditional tearooms to contemporary French patisseries.

If you prefer a traditional English tearoom, then don't miss Nostalgia. The décor, music and uniforms of the staff will take you back in time to when things were a lot more relaxed and far less complicated. Enjoy superb service, an excellent choice of home cooked food and just watch the world go by as you look out onto Lord Street.

If French patisserie is more to your taste, then don't miss Patisserie Valerie, a haven of indulgent cakes, patisserie and fine teas and coffees.

You can also enjoy their own home made gelato - Italian style ice cream as well as the finest confectionery including truffles, marzipan figures and much more.



Time to Explore



Southport is ideally situated for touring the area with most of the region's highlights less than an hour away ... and only 30 minutes from the motorway network.



Martin Mere

A few miles outside Southport there are several opportunities to enjoy some wildlife and farm animals 'up close and personal'

Martin Mere has plenty to see and do all year round, with more than 100 types of rare and endangered water-birds, a family of enchanting otters, award winning canoe and boat safari, a Downy Duckling experience in spring and an imaginative playground for young adventurers.



The Lake District

From England's highest mountain to its deepest lake, the glorious Lake District National Park is just over an hours drive from Southport and a fantastic location for a day out in the countryside.

The scenery is truly magnificent so why not visit and explore quaint towns and villages, visit stone circles and historic castles and maybe even take in a cruise on Lake Windemere.



Another Place

Just a few miles from Southport, Crosby beach is home to 100 iron men who keep a watchful eye on the approach to Liverpool Bay. This iconic sculpture was created by Antony Gormley who cast the 650kg figures from his own body and installed them so that the tide would ebb and flow around them to reveal and then submerge them, giving them a sometimes eerie quality.



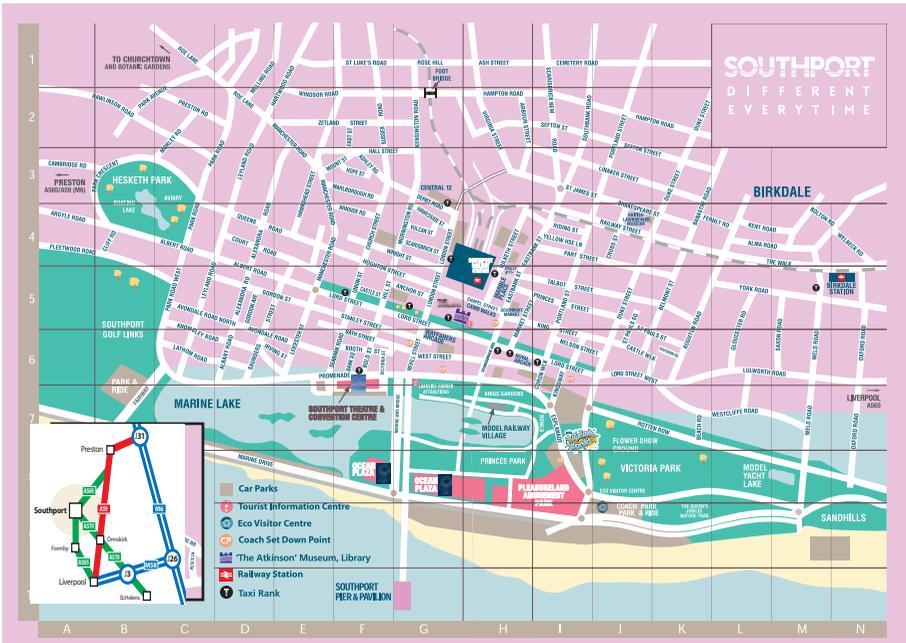
Liverpool

Just over half an hour from Southport is Liverpool, one of the most vibrant and exciting cities in the world. Easily reached by car or regular train service, it's so easy to get to for a day trip. Experience The Beatles Story, the amazing museums, the Albert Dock - or why not catch a Liverpool or Everton game. There's so much to do you really will be spoilt for choice.



Getting around Southport

Everything's within walking distance!



Roads

From the South, take the M6 to exit 26; the M58 will take you to Ormskirk and then take the A570 to Southport. From the North, follow the A59 from Preston (exit 31 from the M6) then follow signs to Southport.

Trains

Fast and frequent trains link Southport with Liverpool and Wigan/Manchester (including the Airport).

- Merseytravel 0870 608 2608 www.merseytravel.gov.uk
- National Rail 0845 748 4950 www.nationalrail.co.uk

Buses

Many local bus services terminate in the centre of Southport from Preston (Stagecoach) and the Liverpool and Wigan areas (Arriva).

- Traveline 0870 608 2608 www.traveline.org.uk
- Arriva 08701 20 10 88 www.arriva.co.uk/bus-times

Planes

Southport benefits from being close to two international airports, making access to the town easy from almost anywhere in the world.

- Liverpool John Lennon Airport 0871 521 8484 liverpooljohnlennonairport.com
- Manchester International Airport 0161 489 3000 www.manchesterairport.co.uk

Banks

- Santander 25-29 Chapel St
- Barclays 265-267 Lord Street
- Halifax 331 Lord Street
- HSBC Lord Street
- Lloyds 23 Lord Street
- RBS 269 Lord Street
- Natwest London Street
- Woolwich 22 London Street
- Yorkshire 25 Eastbank Street

Pharmacies

- Boots the Chemist PLC 31/39 Chapel Street, PR8 1AL
- Castletown Chemist Ltd 13 Union Street, PR9 0QF
- Sainsbury's plc Lord Street, PR9 0AP
- Moss Chemists 34 Shakespear St, PR8 5AB
- Superdrug Pharmacy 10 Eastbank Street, PR8 1AF

Taxis

- Yellow Top 01704 531000
- Kwik Cabs 01704 547000
- Central Cabs 0800 544414
- All White 0800 537777

Places of worship

- Christ Church, Church of England, Lord Street, Southport 01704 531756
- Elm Pentecostal Church Rufford Road, Southport 01704 544419
- Evangelical Pentecostal Church Argyle Road, Southport 01704 535989
- First Church of Christ the Reformed Lord Street West, Southport 01704 531751
- Grace Baptist Church Market Street, Southport 01704 542057
- Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall, Duke Street, Southport 01704 536648
- New Age Spiritualist Centre Portland Street, Southport 01704 539859
- Southport New Synagogue Portland Street, Southport 01704 539859
- Southport Muslim Society Sussex Road, Southport 01704 539859
- Southport Hebrew Congregation Arnside Road, Southport 01704 532964
- Southport Unitarian Church Portland Street, Southport 01704 229177
- St. Maries on the Sands Seabank Road, Southport 01704 531229
- St. George's United Reformed Church Lord Street, Southport 01704 533353
- The Salvation Army Shakespear Street, Southport 01704 547805
- Victoria Methodist Church Sussex Road, Southport 01704 544028
- St Lukes Parish Church

71 Hawkshead St, Southport 01704 538703

- Southport Spiritualist Church 27a Hawkshead St, Southport 07761 444812

Parking

Southport's "Park & Ride" schemes provide easy edge of town parking with a regular and frequent bus service into the town centre.

£2.00 per car on entry

- Explanade Park and Ride Southport Eco Visitor Centre 1100 cars / 50 coaches

Opening Times:
25th March to 30th September (summer)

7.00am-7.00pm, First bus 7.30am, last bus 6.30pm (Mon-Sat only)

1st October - to 31st March (winter)
7.00am-7.00pm, First bus 7.30am, last bus 6.30pm (Mon-Sat)

7.30am - 7.00pm (Mon - Sat) 9.45am - 7.00pm (Sun)

- Fairways Park and Ride Turn left at top of Promenade, which leads to Fairways 890 cars

Opening Times:
1st April to 30th September (summer)
9.45am - 7.00pm (Sun only)

SOUTHPORT

Fairways not Motorways

If you're looking for a golf break and you want to play several world-ranked courses without spending hours on the motorway, then Southport is where you need to be. As well as Royal Birkdale, host of The Open in 2017, you can play Hillside, Formby, Southport & Ainsdale, Hesketh and West Lancashire – all within a short 'drive' of the town centre – and not a motorway in sight!

Whilst many will want to play Royal Birkdale, right next door is Hillside, a superb links course and widely regarded as the 'best course never to have hosted The Open'. Double Open Champion, Australian Greg Norman, graciously wrote an unsolicited note to the Club after playing Hillside stating that: 'The back nine holes are the Best in Britain.' So make sure Hillside is added to your 'need to play' lists when in the area.



A Grand Day Out... or Three!



Undeniably one of the highlights of the British sporting calendar, the Randox Health Grand National Festival provides excitement and anticipation in abundance as the event gallops onto the diary in April. This intense three days of world class sporting entertainment climaxes on Saturday when around forty of jump racing's equine stars line-up for the world's most famous horse race.

Attending the Grand National steeplechase could be described as a once-in-a-lifetime experience, yet it is something you will want to repeat year after year. Ladies Day on the Friday attracts 55,000 and is an unmissable social occasion and never fails to create a buzz across the North West region. The Saturday race is attended by 70,000 race goers and watched by some 600 million people around the world and sees the jockeys guiding their steeds across the infamously challenging fences including Becher's Brook, Canal Turn, Valentine's and The Chair. This is the ultimate test of courage, skill and stamina for both horse and jockey.

The 2018 meeting will take place at Aintree Racecourse from Thursday 12th to Saturday 14th April, around 30 mins drive from Southport. For more information or to book your tickets please contact 0344 579 3001 (tickets) or 0151 522 2911 (hospitality) or visit randoxhealthgrandnational.co.uk

Beach Feats!

Fancy yourself as a bit of an adrenalin junkie? Get yourself down to the beach and find your inner surfer dude (or dudette!) Kite Zone is a dedicated kite surfing area on Ainsdale Beach which lies between Liverpool and Southport on Sefton's beautiful Natural Coast. Kite Zone attracts kite surfers, kite buggiers and landboarders due to the huge, safe, open beach which is free from obstructions.

Kite surfing, also known as kite boarding, involves using a power kite to pull a rider through the water on a small surfboard or kiteboard. A kite surfer or kiteboarder uses a board with foot-straps or bindings, combined with the power of a large controllable kite to propel themselves and the board across the water. The sport is still relatively young, but is rapidly growing in popularity. Kite surfing is one of many forms of kite propulsion, which include kite landboarding, snowkiting, kite buggying, kite skateboarding, kite jumping, and using kites to propel sea kayaks. A kite can even propel a large ship!

If you're not quite up to having a go yourself, you can always watch as these amazing and colourful contraptions fly above the waves.

There is a permit system in operation to ensure all users have appropriate and adequate insurance cover. For more information about Kite Zone and to apply for a permit to kite surf, visit forms.sefton.gov.uk/kitepermit

