

Hastings & 1066 Country



Easy to get to! Hastings & 1066 Country is in the county of East Sussex, bordering with Kent, with an extensive coastline and beautiful countryside.

Road: 60 minutes by road from the Channel Tunnel/Ferry Ports at Dover/20 minutes from Eurostar at Ashford International. 95kms by road to London.

By Rail from London: Direct rail links of 1hr30 to Hastings/1hr15 to Battle. 1hr to Rye, changing at Ashford. Direct rail to Gatwick Airport, 1h30 to Bexhill and Hastings.

Public Transport: Good Public transport links within 1066 Country to reach our 35+ attractions.



What's in a name? This is where one battle, fought in the year 1066 changed the course of English History. Today, you'll find the unique charm of Hastings combining a medieval fishing port and Old Town and cosmopolitan town centre, the Edwardian seaside resort of Bexhill on Sea, the delightfully unspoilt medieval town of Rye, and historic Battle, the site of the Battle of Hastings and only one of five UK spots to make the 2014 Lonely Planet list of 50 European undiscovered locations.

Many attractions close together: Five majestic castles, five splendid gardens, five golf courses, two vineyards and walking & cycling trails to suit all abilities are set in rolling countryside with superb coastal views. With over 35 attractions, most of which are open all year round, 1066 Country makes the ideal short-break destination.

1066 Country likes to party: Our busy programme of festivals begins in February with the Rye Scallops Week and stretches right through to the spectacular Sussex bonfire season in November, making 1066 Country the ideal destination

Attractions:

- **Battle** – Battle Abbey & 1066 Battlefield, Yesterday's World, Battle Museum, 2 golf clubs and 1 golf school.
- **Bexhill** – De La Warr Pavilion arts centre, Bexhill Museum. Motor Heritage Trail, Egerton Park.
- **Hastings** – East & West Hill Cliff Railways, Fishermen's Museum, Hastings Museum and Art Gallery, Shipwreck Museum, Hastings Lifeboat Station, 1066 Story in Hastings Castle, Smugglers Adventure, Hastings Blue Reef Aquarium, Jerwood Gallery (20c & 21c British Art), True Crime Museum, White Rock Theatre, 1066 Target Sports.
- **Herstmonceux and Pevensey** – Herstmonceux Castle Gardens & Grounds, Observatory Science Centre, Pevensey Castle, Drusillas Park, Pevensey Court House and Gaol.
- **Rye** – Rye Castle Museum, Ypres Tower, The Story of Rye at the Heritage Centre, Rye Harbour Nature Reserve and Camber Castle, Kino digital cinema, Rye Arts Museum.
- **Gardens, parks and vineyards** – Great Dixter, King John's Nursery and Gardens, Merriments, Pashley Manor, Bedebury National Pinetum & Forest, Gardens & Grounds of Herstmonceux Castle, Bewl Water, Hastings Country Park, Carr Taylor Vineyards, Sedlescombe Bio Dynamic Vineyards.
- **Historical** (other than the above) – Bateman's (former home of Rudyard Kipling), Bodiam Castle.
- **Novelty** – Kent & East Sussex Railway & Cavell Van exhibition (Bodiam), The Giants of Brede, Flowermakers' Museum (Hastings), Bodiam Boating Station (river boat trips to Bodiam Castle/kayaking), Stone Cross Windmill,
- **Other** – Carr Taylor Vineyards, Sedlescombe Organic Vineyards, Bewl Water Reservoir.

Hastings & 1066 Country

The Arts

- Grade 1 listed De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill. Now a major arts centre on the south coast.
- Jerwood Gallery of 20th & 21st Century British Art, Hastings.
- Rye Art Gallery – 400+ works of artists from Burra to Whistler.
- Thriving artistic community in Hastings & St Leonards and Rye. September is a great time for the arts events in the area.

Literary Connections

- Lamb House, Rye – Henry James.
- Bateman's – Rudyard Kipling.
- Rye – Mapp & Lucia.



Highlights :

Local produce

- Romney Marsh lamb, sustainably caught fish and seafood, wine, fruit juice and cheese,
- For antiques and collectables, works of art by talented local artists, visit Rye and St Leonards & Hastings Old Town.

Key Themes

- Maritime Heritage
- History
- Gardens, vineyards and beautiful walks
- Quirky and unusual

Annual Special Events:

- Rye Bay Scallops Week
- Jack in the Green
- Rye International Jazz Festival
- Hastings Seafood and Wine Festival
- Battle of Hastings Re-enactment,



Contact details for trade enquiries:

Jane Ellis, Tourism Marketing Officer
Tel: 01424 451113
Email: jmellis@hastings.gov.uk

Directions and distance from Central London:

- 60 miles (approx. 96km) to the south of London by road along the A21.
- 45 miles (approx. 72km) from the Ferry Ports and Channel Tunnel.
- Fastest route into 1066 Country is via the M20 towards Ashford, then the A2070 via Brenzett towards Rye.