

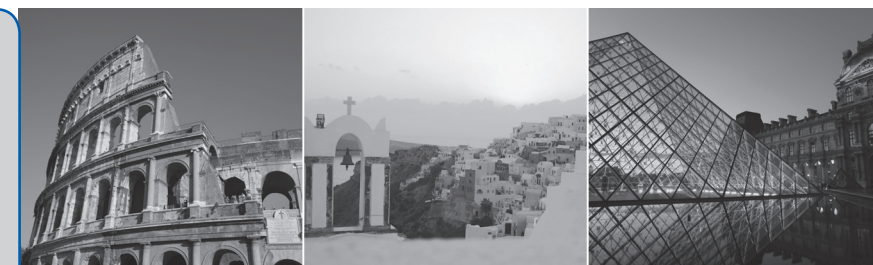
NOTES

Lined area for notes.

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PORT EXPLORER & SHOPPING GUIDE

Dover

GENERAL INFORMATION Dover is located on the Southeast tip of England and has a long and rich maritime heritage. One of the world’s premier seaports, Dover is situated in the County of Kent and is regarded as the shipping gateway to Europe. Because of the port city’s close proximity to mainland Europe, the areas history and culture has been intertwined with that of the continent. On a clear day, France is visible at only 21 miles across the channel.

The busiest cruise liner terminal in Britain, Dover has much to offer the visitor. Crossing the English Channel by ship offers spectacular views of the famous White Cliffs of Dover. There are scenic beaches, a modern marina, historic monuments and the magnificent Dover Castle. Because of its rolling hills, green valleys, fruit orchards and majestic coastlines, the county Kent is known as the “Garden of England.”

The building of the English Channel Tunnel created and extensive road system in the Southeast and consequently has had an impact on the local economy. Dover is thriving modern city which embraces its long relationship with the sea and makes for a fascinating place to visit.

HISTORY Because of its strategic location Dover through the centuries has played a key role in the history of England. Time and time again the city has been the center of conquest and has always been considered the gateway to England.

Seeking food and shelter on east coast, early inhabitants can be dated back to the Stone Age. Primarily farmers and fishermen at first, traded routes were eventually established with continental Europe during the Bronze Age.

Understanding the military importance of the area, Julius Caesar mounted an invasion in 55 BC. The Romans established fortresses and lighthouses. During the 5th century the Saxons arrived and continued to fortify Dover. During the Norman Invasion of 1066 the town was burned to the ground. Dover was rebuilt and the great stone castle was constructed during the 12th century. The city prospered during the Middle Ages as a thriving port doing business with France.

The 20th century saw World Wars and heavy bombardment of the city. Dover was key to the Allied efforts during the war. Local trawlers were converted to mine sweepers. They swept the English Channel were known as the “Dover Patrol.” Modern, Dover is still a major port town with a thriving tourism industry.



## PLACES OF INTEREST

**The White Cliffs of Dover** is one of England's most famous natural landmarks and to see them up-close is the only way to appreciate their true grandeur. The famous White Cliffs of Dover stand guard at the Gateway to England where millions pass each year on their journey to or from the Continent. The White Cliffs are a symbol of Britain's strength and a reassuring sight to returning travellers; they have been immortalised in song, in literature and in art.

**The White Cliffs Visitor's Centre** is a state of the art facility which introduces one to the internationally famous cliffs and surrounding coast and countryside with the aid of computer inter-actives, videos, and stunning photography.

**South Foreland Lighthouse** is a striking landmark situated on the White Cliffs of Dover. The historic Victorian building was part of the national system of light signals to guide shipping. For spectacular views, there is a 73 step climb to the balcony of the lighthouse, which offers a 365 degree panorama of East Kent, the English Channel and the North Sea.

**Dover Castle** sits on the town's scenic white cliffs like a sentinel steadfastly guarding the city. The medieval castle has evolved over the years to include a vast network of secret tunnels. A medieval historian described Dover Castle as "the key to the kingdom". When seen from the English Channel, its massive outlines can be appreciated.

### **Beyond Dover**

**Canterbury** is home to the famous Canterbury Cathedral, one of the world's oldest cathedrals. The city is the cradle of Christianity in Saxon England and stands on a site that had already been occupied for 350 years when the Romans arrived in 43 A.D. The cathedral which dominates the city and skyline is the Mother Church of Anglicans throughout the world. It dates from Norman times, and for 350 years after the murder of Thomas Becket in the cathedral in 1170 it was the destination of countless pilgrims.

**London** is one of the most fascinating cities in the world. The capital city is home to historic sites, royal palaces, museums, theaters, and exquisite restaurants and shopping. The 'West End' is the part of central London west of the city's limits, where three of the world famous shopping streets of Oxford Street, Regent Street and Piccadilly are located. In Trafalgar Square one can find the towering Nelson's Column and the nearby National Art Gallery. At the far end of The Mall is Buckingham Palace, the London residence of the Queen. On one side of The Mall is delightful St. James's Park, a quiet and relaxed oasis with its flowerbeds. Also, in the same area is Whitehall with its poignant War Memorial – the Cenotaph, Horseguard's Parade and Downing Street, the official London residence of the Prime Minister. On the river Thames is Westminster – Parliament Square and the Houses of Parliament, the focal point of English history. Nearby is the architectural and masterpiece of the 13th to 16th centuries – Westminster Abbey. It represents a unique pageant of British history as the setting for every Coronation since 1066, and for numerous other Royal occasions. Red Double Decker busses, The Tower of London, Big Ben, and the London Eye, this historic city has it all.

**Windsor** is steeped in history and dominated by its famous Castle, originally built as a fortress by William the Conqueror. The Windsor Castle is probably the largest fortress of its kind in the world and has belonged continuously to the sovereigns for over 900 years. The quaint Georgian shops along the town's High Street grew up around the Castle in the Middle Ages. The most prominent building on the High Street is the Guildhall completed by Sir Christopher Wren in 1689.

**Leeds Castle** is one of the most romantic and most ancient castles in the Kingdom. Shrouded in mist, mystery and legend, Leeds Castle rises from its own lake amidst one of England's most picturesque counties. The castle is home to a magnificent collection of medieval furnishings, paintings, tapestries and treasures.

- Admission charges are generally in local currency.
- When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Dover and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of your organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS *Bargaining:*** Shop prices are fixed and there is little opportunity to bargain.

***Tippling:*** Generally a service charge will be included on the bill; otherwise 10-15% is a good guideline.

***Local Cuisine:*** There are a wide variety of foods to choose from ranging from fresh seafood, to spicy hot curries. Traditional English cuisine includes such favorites as; Shepard' Pie, a dish of minced lamb with mashed potato, Steak and Kidney Pie and Fish and Chips. Regional treats include hand made Sussex cheeses and home-made sausages. Kent is famous for its local produce including Kentish Apples, pickles, strawberries and cobnuts.

***Drink Specialties:*** There is a wide selection of English Ales available throughout Britain, but probably best associated with this part of the world is the locally produced Cider.

**SHOPPING FACILITIES** The Dover historic district has some very good shopping opportunities on Cannon Street. There are also good local finds in the Market Square. De Bradleigh Wharf is a large warehouse complex that has been converted into shops where you can find almost anything. Shopping hours are from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday, closing at 2:00 pm on Saturdays. There may be one or two souvenir shops open on Sundays, but in general, most shops will be closed.

Local handicrafts include the traditional knitted sweaters, crystal, china, maritime items, arts and crafts, local souvenirs.

Value Added Tax (VAT), is added to most purchases. Visitors who spend over a certain amount may be entitled to re-claim some or all of the tax paid, however, regulations and conditions governing the refund of VAT are subject to change and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.® cannot guarantee the cooperation of local authorities.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The national currency of the United Kingdom is the Pound Sterling. There are 100 pennies to every pound. Notes are available in the following denominations; 5, 10, 20 and 50 pounds.

Most stores accept major credit cards. For large purchases use your credit card and let your bank handle the exchange. ATMS can be found at Banks and major hotels.

**POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES** The Dover Post Office is located at 68 Pencester Road.

Phone cards are available for use in various public card phones around the city. You can also place a call with your personal calling card using the following access codes:

AT&T:0800-89-001 / MCI: 0800-89-0222  
SPRINT: 0800 -89-0877

**TOURIST INFORMATION** UK Tourist Information Centres offer a wide range of information and services for visitors. The Dover Tourist Information Center is located at The Old Town Jail on Biggen Street. The Canterbury Tourist Information Centre is located across from the Cathedral at 12-13 Sun Street, The Buttermarket. Tourist Information Centres can be found throughout London with central locations at 1 Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus and Leicester Square.

**TRANSPORTATION** There is strict security surrounding the dock area. Taxis may be found outside the terminal in a clearly marked zone.

Taxi stands are plentiful in and around Dover. The main stands in town can be found outside major hotels and railway stations.