

Attractions between Ashford and Eastbourne



Bodiam Castle
www.nationaltrust.org.uk
01580 830196



Smugglers Adventure
www.discoverhastings.co.uk
01424 422964



Pevensey Castle
www.english-heritage.org.uk
01323 762604



Seven Sisters Sheep Centre
www.sheepcentre.co.uk
01323 423302

The Kent and East Sussex Railway
www.ksr.org
01580 765155

Bluereef Aquarium
www.discoverhastings.co.uk
01424 718776

Eastbourne Miniature Steam Railway
www.emsr.co.uk
01323 520229

McArthur Glen Designer Outlet, Ashford
www.ashforddesigneroutlet.com
01233 895900

Romney Hythe & Dymchurch Railway
www.rhdr.org.uk
01797 362353

Hastings Castle
www.visit1066country.com
01424 451111

Fort Fun
www.fortfun.co.uk
01323 642833

Please note that not all attractions listed are directly accessible from the train station, local buses and taxis may be needed. Check attractions websites or contact them for details. Not all attractions in the area have been included so please check out www.visitsussex.org and others for more.

Rye Castle Museum
www.ryemuseum.co.uk
01797 226728

East Hill Lift & West Hill Lift
www.visit1066country.com
01424 451111

Michelham Priory & Gardens
www.sussexpast.co.uk
01323 844224

Calls to 0845 numbers cost max 5p per min from BT, other providers may vary.

Rye Cycle Hire
www.visitrye.co.uk
01797 223033

1066 Battle of Hastings, Abbey & Battlefield
www.english-heritage.org.uk
01424 773792

Rye Heritage Centre (Audio Walking Tours)
www.ryeheritage.co.uk
01797 226696

Battle Museum of Local History
www.battlemuseum.org.uk
01424 775955

Smallhythe Place
www.nationaltrust.org.uk
01580 762334

Yesterday's World
www.yesterdayworld.co.uk
01424 775378 24 Hr info
General Enquires 01424 893938

Clambers Play Centre
www.clambers.co.uk
01424 423778

Events and Festivals

This area has an exciting year long programme of events and festivals for you to enjoy. There are medieval festivals, music and arts events, bonfire celebrations, rowing regattas, open-air theatre, carnivals plus much more.

Accommodation

And if you're looking for somewhere to stay we have every kind of accommodation at highly competitive prices - seafront hotels and B&B's, country houses and charming rural retreats.

Contact the relevant Tourist Information Centre for full details or go to:

www.visit1066country.com
www.kenttourism.co.uk

www.visitheartofkent.com
www.visiteastbourne.com



Tourist Information Centres

Ashford

18 The Churchyard
Ashford
Kent
TN23 1QG
01233 629165
tourism@ashford.gov.uk
www.visitheartofkent.com

Rye

The Heritage Centre
Strand Quay
Rye
TN31 7AY
01797 226696
ryetic@rother.gov.uk
www.visitrye.co.uk

Battle/Bexhill

Battle Abbey
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0AD
01424 776789
battletic@rother.gov.uk
www.visit1066country.com

Tenterden

Tenterden Gateway
2 Manor Row
High Street
Tenterden
TN30 6HP
01580 762558
tenttic@ashford.gov.uk
www.ashford.gov.uk
www.tenterdentown.co.uk

Hastings Town Centre

Priory Meadow
Queens Square
Hastings
TN34 1TL
01424 451111
hic@hastings.gov.uk
www.visit1066country.com

Eastbourne

Cornfield Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4QL
0871 663 0031
tic@eastbourne.gov.uk
www.visiteastbourne.com

Hastings Old Town*

Until 1 November
The Stade
Rock-a-Nore Road
Hastings TN34 3AR

Pevensey & Herstmonceux

For enquiries please visit
www.enjoysussex.info

From 7 November

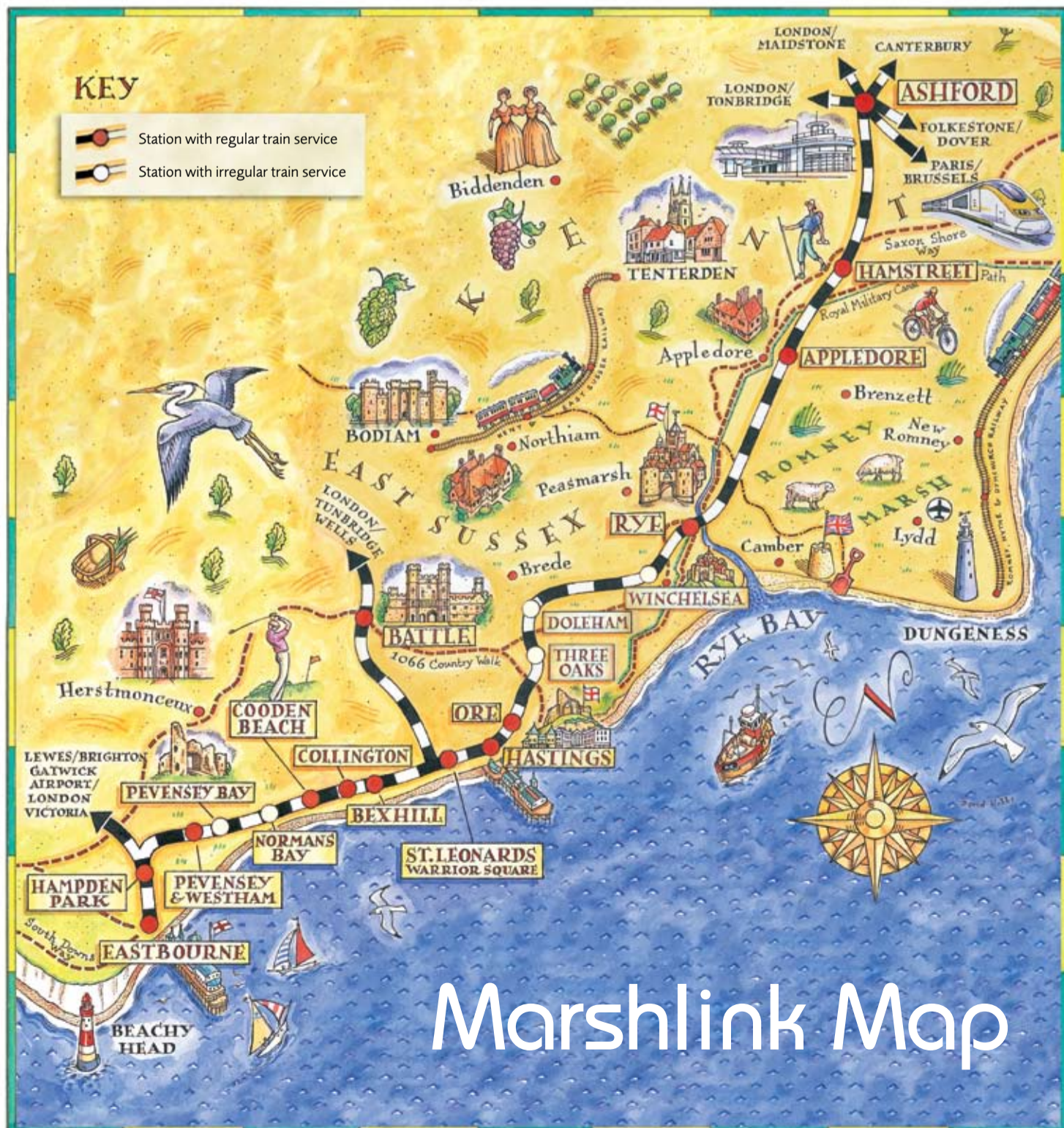
Old Town Hall Museum
High Street, Old Town
Hastings TN34 1EW

New Romney and Dymchurch
visitor centre. Call 01797 367934.

For information on all walks and
cycle routes contact the Tourist
Information Centres or see:

Walks: www.eastsussexcc.gov.uk
Cycle Routes: Romney Marsh
Countryside Project
www.rmcp.co.uk / 01797 226488

*The Old Town TIC will be closing
in preparation for a planned major
development of the site, but will
be moving to the Old Town Hall
Museum from 7 November 2009.



Marshlink Map



Images by Bob Mazzer and Chris Parker. Illustrated map by David Hobbs.



The Marshlink Line; the railway between Hastings and Ashford, extending to Eastbourne passes the landing place of William the Conqueror, follows dramatic coastline, crosses the stunning Romney Marsh, and continues through the 'Antient' Towns of Winchelsea and Rye. There are a huge variety of wonderful walks and cycle routes throughout this area. Three major paths are the Royal Military Canal Path, the Saxon Shore Way and the 1066 Country Walk. The South Downs Way, from Eastbourne heading westwards, is an exhilarating route along the rolling chalk downs of Sussex.

Hastings: a mix of old and new, combining a medieval fishing port and cosmopolitan town centre. It retains a strong maritime tradition, with the Shipwreck & Coastal Heritage Centre, Fishermen's Museum and Europe's largest beach launched fishing fleet operating from the Stade. There are various guided walks and trails around the Old Town, Burton's St Leonards and Hastings Country Park – an unspoilt 660 acre stretch of clifftop countryside that offers panoramic views. Hastings is part of the national cycle route (route NR2) and there is a cycle hire shop in the town. Direct trains to Battle (site of the Battle of Hastings), Tunbridge Wells, Eastbourne and Brighton available.

Three Oaks: a small village with local pub, the 1066 Country Walk is nearby.

Doleham: a circular walk, which takes you through fields, across streams and into Brede village, with views across the Brede Valley.

'Antient' Town of **Winchelsea:** founded in the 13th century by Edward I replaced 'Old Winchelsea' which was lost to the rising sea. Today, a captivating town of picturesque Georgian houses, has inspired many great artists, such as Turner and Millais. There is an extensive network of short and long-distance walking trails including a circular Winchelsea Walk which takes you through the Pannel Valley Nature Reserve and along the Royal Military Canal. Pett Pools Nature Reserve is nearby and attracts hundreds of interesting birds. Access is restricted, therefore several bird species breed in spring and early summer - there is a clear viewing point from the side of the road.

Rye: a thriving market town, beautifully preserved, with a maze of cobbled streets crammed with medieval, Tudor and Georgian buildings. The town's maritime heritage dates back to Norman times when it was owned by the Abbey of Fecamp in Normandy. By the 18th century, Rye had become a major centre for smuggling and some of the secret tunnels and passages the smugglers crept through can be seen today on a Blue Badge Guide tour. There are also two audio walking tours of the town and an impressive walk to Camber Castle across the marshes. There is a scenic cycle track from Rye to Camber. Camber beach, with over half a mile to walk

to the water's edge at low tide, provides plenty of opportunity to beachcomb for beautiful shells.

The outstanding surrounding area has everything from Rye Harbour Nature Reserve, golden sands beach at Camber and the Romney Marsh. The Marsh is famous for its sheep and smuggling. RSPB Dungeness Nature Reserve, occupies 2000 acres of the Dungeness peninsular, the largest shingle formation of its kind in Europe and is an area famous for its rich variety of animal and plant life. Lydd and New Romney both have town trails.

Appledore: discover the history of 15 Romney Marsh churches, cycle the 40 mile trail - see the lovely Fairfield church in a field, the unique belfry at Brookland, and the leaning tower of Newchurch. A Fifteen Marsh Churches leaflet is available from local Tourist Information Centres.

Ham Street: the starting point of the circular cycle route, Parish Pedals. It's a half-day's ride following the cliffs that enclose the prehistoric bay of Romney Marsh offering sweeping views towards the English Channel. You can also start the Fifteen Marsh Churches cycle route from here.

Ashford: a busy shopping town steeped in history, and home of Ashford International Station. There are a number of walks and cycle routes that will take you around the town and area. Take the walking tour, the Urban Heritage Trail, showing the mix of medieval, Georgian and Jacobean buildings. Direct trains to Canterbury, Margate, Broadstairs, Folkestone, Maidstone, London and Europe are available.

St Leonards: offers some interesting and independent shopping. You can also spend time walking around Burtons St Leonards – a unique example of a Regency new town from 1828.

Bexhill: perfect for an easy walk along the wide, two mile promenade. The De La Warr Pavilion, a centre for contemporary arts, architecture and live performance, offers breathtaking views over the English Channel from its open roof top. The town is also surrounded by stunning countryside and is linked to the 1066 Country Walk.

Collington: near the Polegrove Recreation Ground and west of Egerton Park.

Cooden Beach: a great place to start/finish a walk along the shingle beach.

Normans Bay: a small village on the shingle banks in the centre of the Pevensey Levels. Its name came from the nearby landing of the Norman invasion fleet in 1066. Today it is popular with windsurfers and ramblers.

Pevensey Bay: visit Pevensey Bay and the Pevensey Levels. This is a Site of Special Scientific Interest with a Nature Reserve lying in the heart of a large grazing marsh.

Pevensey & Westham is just west of Pevensey Castle. Now owned by English Heritage, the castle was originally a Roman fortress almost 1000 years before William the Conqueror landed on Pevensey Beach in 1066.

The 1066 Country Walk, a Circular Pevensey Castle Walk, a Pevensey Levels & Castles Circular Cycle Route all start here.

Hampden Park: nearby Shinewater Park, combining purpose built recreation facilities within a country park atmosphere – parts of the park are dedicated to wildlife.

Eastbourne: a busy seaside town, nestling at the foot of the South Downs. Along the seafront you will find the magnificent Carpet Gardens, 1930's bandstand and the restored Victorian Pier. Both walkers and cyclists can enjoy a variety of routes around the Beachy Head area. This high point on the chalk cliffs has a visitor centre and spectacular views over the sea and lighthouse. There is also a circular walk from Eastbourne to Alfriston, in the Cuckmere Valley, using the South Downs Way.



Travel Information

Train

National Rail Enquiries 0845 748 4950 / www.nationalrail.co.uk
Southern 0845 127 2920 / www.southernrailway.com
Southeastern Railway 0845 000 2222 / www.southeasternrailway.co.uk
www.thetrainline.com

Bus

Stagecoach in East Kent and East Sussex 08456 00 22 99
www.stagecoachbus.com/eastsussex
Traveline (national public transport information) 0871 200 22 33
www.traveline.info

Plus Bus

PLUSBUS ticket are available to a number of Marshlink Stations, including Ashford, Rye and Hastings. The ticket enables you to pay for your rail and discounted local bus travel in one transaction.

Fares are based on a discount of the day or weekly tickets charged on the buses, in the zones concerned.

This ticket enables passengers to travel on local bus routes between urban and rural areas in each zone. Ask at train stations for more details or see the website www.plusbus.info

If you have any comments about this guide please call 01737 724159 or write to Sussex Community Rail Partnership, Rye Station, Station Approach, Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7AB

This guide, produced by Hasting & 1066 Country Marketing on behalf of the Sussex Community Rail Partnership (SCRP), provides leisure and tourism information about the Marshlink railway.

SCRP, working closely with its partners including local councils, the voluntary sector and the rail industry, delivers improved and promoted rail services. SCRCP also contributes to substantial growth in use by encouraging model shift and tourism, brings redundant buildings back into use, supports local communities and groups, runs local events and improves facilities.

For further information look out for our new website at www.sussexcrp.org

