

Love the Old Town

Your guide to the best experiences, entertainment, history, arts, offers and more - right on your doorstep!



**Your
Southampton**



A photograph of a stone archway leading to a narrow street in Old Town Southampton. The archway is constructed from large, irregular stones. The street beyond the archway is paved with cobblestones and features a black street lamp and two black bollards. The buildings on either side of the street are made of stone and brick, with windows and doors visible.

Step into Old Town...

where every street tells a story, every building has a past, and every visit offers something new. Immerse yourself in centuries-old history, with local gems at every turn and free trails for you to explore.

Enjoy world-class dining and authentic flavours in over 50 independent restaurants, bars and cafés. Watch as the world's largest ships sail by and let loose at night with exciting live music and themed parties. And the best part? All this and more are right on your doorstep!

What will you LOVE about Old Town?

To discover everything on offer go to visitsouthampton.co.uk/oldtown



History on your doorstep

Brimming with secret vaults, old ruins and some of the UK's most intact medieval walls, the history and heritage alone in Old Town will keep you busy for hours on end. Discover them on your very own adventure with self-guided trails or simply have a wander around to see where your feet will take you – you never know what you might find! The world's oldest bowling green, famous departures from RMS Titanic and the Mayflower, and St Michael's Church, one of the oldest buildings still in use today are just a few to get you started.

Rich in arts & culture

Old Town is a treasure trove for art enthusiasts, featuring many public art installations from sculptures to large mosaic murals.

Wander through Winkle Street, just behind Platform Tavern, and see how many 'Small Face' sculptures you can find along the walls. Or head to the Back of the Walls, just off Bernard Street, to explore 'Fruit Market,' a striking metal installation that retraces the former town wall at the site of Southampton's old Fruit Market. Don't forget to check out the new artwork by artist Jennifa Chowdhury on East Street.



Find out more at
visitsouthampton.co.uk/southampton-got-art



Delectable dining

For authentic flavours from India, Korea, Italy and Thailand to hearty roasts and classic pub favourites, Old Town is brimming with flavour and some of the best cuisine around. Wine and charcuterie at Porters, Spanish tapas at La Regata, dynamite sushi at Ava's Cocktail Bar, brunch at XOXO or Rita's – the choice is yours.

For your traditional pub fare such as bangers & mash, fish & chips or a good ol' juicy burger you have local favourites such as the Titanic Pub, Platform Tavern, Duke of Wellington, The White Star Tavern and The Standing Order.

On a sunny day, enjoy one of the many terraces and soak up the sunshine the al fresco way. Take a look at what foodie delights await at visitsouthampton.co.uk/business-directory/food-and-drink



Cocktails, coffee & more

A spicy date-night with a bit of bubble and fizz or an after-work tittle with friends, Old Town also has quite the selection when it comes to drinks. Enjoy cocktails at Mailroom, savour beers, wines, and ciders at Oasis Bar, or relax with a refreshing pint at Dancing Man Brewery or Stein Garten. For that morning coffee run or a catch up with friends try Edison's, Bisque Coffee, room2, Bistro Baristo, Costa and Rita's In The Park.



Exciting experiences

When it comes to things to do, Old Town offers some of the best experiences day and night. Free-play amusements at High Score Arcade, hitting home runs at 1st Base, axe throwing at Axeology, testing your skills at Houdini's Escape Rooms or unwinding with a game of pool at Rocket Ronnies - there is something for everyone!



Entertainment at its best

It's no secret that Southampton is home to some of the best indie music venues in the country, and Old Town offers plenty. Catch a gig at The 1865 for world-class tribute bands and shows or sit back and tuck into an evening meal whilst you listen to live music at The Platform Tavern throughout the week or at room2 every Friday night. HMV and Vinilo Record Store host regular meet-and-greets and shows in-store.

For something a little different, head to The London Hotel, Southampton's premier cabaret venue, where you can enjoy a weekly programme of DJs, drag bingo, karaoke, quiz nights and shows. Beity Restaurant is also known for hosting Lebanese Nights which combines dinner and a show with belly dancing and live music.

For more ways to Light Up Your SOcial life head to visitsouthampton.co.uk/nightlife



Heritage Open Days

6th - 8th September

Curious minds and explorers will have the unique opportunity to go inside some of the city's most beloved sites for FREE during Heritage Open Days. Venues opening for 2024 include The West Gate, Bargate, Canute's Palace, Quilter's Vault, 88 High Street Vault, Weigh House & Vault and God's House Tower.

Find out more at

visitsouthampton.co.uk/heritage-open-days



Southampton Cocktail Week

30th August – 8th September

A week-long celebration of Southampton's vibrant cocktail scene. You can expect exciting masterclasses, themed evenings, exclusive offers and cocktail creations. Ava's, Rita's and XOXO are just a few of the venues in Old Town taking part.

Get your tickets at southamptoncocktailweek.co



Take a deeper dive into history

Book a guided tour with a local expert to learn about Old Town's deep history including links to the Romans, Saxons, Tudors, the 100 Years War, the Mayflower, the Titanic, Jane Austen and so much more. You can also explore at your own pace with a free self-guided tour.

Learn more at

visitsouthampton.co.uk/trails-tours



Explore an award-winning arts and heritage venue: God's House Tower

Originally built as a defensive measure during medieval times, God's House Tower has served many purposes over the years, including as a town jail and archaeology museum. Today, this iconic structure thrives as a vibrant arts and heritage hub, celebrating the creations of visual artists.

Don't miss GHT Lates, held on the last Friday of every month, where you can explore the venue at night and enjoy live performances, street food and drinks.

godshousetower.org.uk





#LetsMeetOnEastStreet

East Street is your go-to when you want to finish off the day with some fun, from family experiences to specialty shops, and services – it has a bit of everything!

A closer look: Padharo

Born out of two friends passion for food, Padharo takes diners on a culinary journey through cherished family recipes passed down through generations. They specialise in modern Indian vegan and vegetarian cuisine from freshly cooked masala dosa to 'prawn' koliwada.

Jane Austen 250

Next year, Southampton will be celebrating Jane Austen's 250th birthday. The famous literary author was a frequent visitor and former resident of Southampton. Her travelling writing desk will be exhibiting at God's House Tower in November 2024 – February 2025 with plenty more events to come.

Discover Jane Austen's Southampton story at visitsouthampton.co.uk/janeausten250

JANE
AUSTEN  250



Oxford Street

The home of independent dining

Enjoy a wide range of cuisines from breakfast through till dinner. Find delicious Vietnamese food at House of Hien, authentic Italian cuisine at Oxford Brasserie, mouth-watering steaks at Carnicero and bottomless brunches at Medbar.

A closer look: The Grapes

It's said that three brothers narrowly avoided boarding the ill-fated Titanic after losing track of time whilst quaffing a few drinks at The Grapes. Once a hotspot for sailors, it is now a popular spot to catch all the latest sports, play pool or simply enjoy a refreshing drink.



LOVE the green spaces

On a nice day, why not take a stroll through Queens Park, Mayflower Park, or the Green Flag awarded Town Quay Park? They are perfect for family picnics or a peaceful stroll. You might even spot a cruise ship or two nearby!





Authentic flavours from Italy in Town Quay

Nestled in the old town walls you'll find Ennios, an AA Rosette-winning Italian restaurant that serves up a delectable selection of traditional dishes and fine wines. The site was once the home of an old Victorian Woolhouse which was designed by Scottish-born architect John Geddes.

Stories from Southampton's Walls

A 19-metre brick wall etched with the names of American soldiers that passed through Southampton in preparation for the Normandy Landings. Find it by walking to the lower end of Western Esplanade, just before you reach THE PIG - in the wall Hotel.



Magic awaits at The Dark Arts Potion Bar

Grab your fellow witches and wizards and discover the magic of The Dark Arts Puzzles and Potions Bar. Team up to solve a mystery puzzle box, work your way through themed escape rooms, try your hand at making some magical potions, or simply sit back and sip a cauldron coffee whilst you enjoy some free parlour puzzles.

Discover the oldest museum in the city!

Celebrating 112 years since it opened as a museum, Tudor House & Garden has over 800 years of local history captured all in one place. During the summer, its Tudor Knot Garden, filled with period plants, is a beautiful place to explore and unwind over a coffee and cake or delicious cream tea.





Southampton Old Town Mystery Guides

Go on an immersive 'whodunit' puzzle adventure through the heart of Old Town, as you follow the maps, unlock the clues, track down hidden objects, decode symbols to help you unravel the epic tale and unpick the crime. What are you waiting for? Choose your group of detectives, or go it solo and buy a Mystery Guide at mysteryguides.co.uk

Want a copy for FREE?

Visit God's House Tower during September 2024 (excluding Heritage Open Days) and receive a free copy, RRP £19.99! To redeem you must bring this guide with you and show upon entry whilst purchasing a ticket for The Stories Behind the Stones exhibition. While stocks last, one per group.

Be sure to follow the Your Southampton Facebook and Instagram pages too for Mystery Guide giveaways and clues for hidden copies around Old Town...

LOVE local. Shop local.

Old Town plays host to a number of fantastic small businesses for you to discover unique gifts and five-star friendly service. Get everything you need for your next big art project from Povey at Perrys, add to your vinyl collection with Vinilo Records, HMV and Oxfam Music, or pick out a colourful new print or stationery, created by local artists, at God's House Tower.

If you're looking for a bit of pampering, try award-winning Danica Payne Aesthetics or Vikki Pink. For those interested in body art, Old Town boasts some of the city's finest tattoo shops, offering unique designs and expert craftsmanship like Asgard and Kookie Tattoo.





Events not to be missed!

There's always something going on in Old Town.

Every Week (FREE)

Live Music

at The Platform Tavern

Every Friday from 6pm (FREE)

Live Music and Happy Hour

at room2

30th August – 8th September

Southampton Cocktail Week

6th September

The Ed Sheeran Experience

at The 1865

6th - 8th September (FREE)

Heritage Open Days

7th September

Love Distraction - A Tribute

to The Human League

at The 1865

13th – 22nd September

Southampton International

Boat Show

14th September

Craft Beer South

at The 1865

14th September (FREE)

FLARB: Free, Lazy, Arty, Radical, Book Club

at God's House Tower

19th September

Fizz & Frolics Ladies Day

at The Grand

20th September

Are You Experienced? - Tribute To Jimi Hendrix

at The 1865

21st September (FREE)

Paint Your Own Banner

Drop-in Family Workshop

at God's House Tower

To see our full programme of events go to visitsouthampton.co.uk/events

MUSIC IN THE CITY

28th - 29th
September

1,500 musicians, 300 performances, 55 venues, and one weekend. **Music in the City returns!**

This FREE event celebrates every genre of music in Southampton, with 19 of the venues right here in Old Town. We have iconic bars, traditional pubs, historic ruins, and the vaults, so this is one not to be missed.

See the full lineup at musicinthecity.org

Do more for less!

The SO Card is the city's free discount card packed full of local offers from restaurants, bars, shops, attractions and more.

It's SO easy to use with no sign up and no joining fee. Simply download the digital card or collect a physical one from the Marlands Shopping Centre, pick out your favourite offer and redeem in-store.



See some exclusive offers running throughout September only:

- **Puzzle Box and six Extraordinary Elixirs for £89 at The Dark Arts Potion Bar** (Sunday to Thursday)
- **20% off escape rooms using the code 'LOVETHEOLDTOWN'** at The Dark Arts Potion Bar (excluding Saturdays)
- **Howden Insurance £50 home challenge: if they can't beat your current home insurance quote, they'll give you £50**
- **20% off September events at The 1865 when you use the code: 'OLDTOWN20'** (excluding Craft Beer South)
- **Fish and Chips with a drink £13/soft drink £10 at The Platform Tavern**
- **Any Sandwich with a drink £12/soft drink £9 at The Platform Tavern**
- **25% off bar drinks at The Star Hotel** (Tuesday - Saturday)

For full T&Cs and all SO Card offers visitsouthampton.co.uk/offers



Your Southampton

Your Community. Your City. Your Home.

LOVE local? Follow Your Southampton to hear about all the latest events, offers, inspiration and community news in the city.

Your Southampton

- @yoursoton
- @your_southampton

Visit Southampton

- @visitsoton
- @visit_soton

THE OLD TOWN MAP

KEY

MEDIEVAL TOWN WALLS

SITE OF MEDIEVAL TOWN WALLS

CITY VAULTS

EXPERIENCES

- 1 1ST BASE
- 2 AXEOLOGY
- 3 DARK ARTS POTION BAR
- 4 HIGH SCORE ARCADES
- 5 HOUDINI'S ESCAPE ROOM
- 6 ROCKET RONNIES
- 7 LEO LEISURE
- 8 THE GRAND

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

- 9 BARGATE
- 10 GOD'S HOUSE TOWER
- 11 THE WEST GATE
- 12 QUILTER'S VAULT
- 13 88 HIGH STREET VAULT
- 14 WEIGH HOUSE & VAULT
- 15 CANUTE'S PALACE

HISTORY & LANDMARKS

- 16 HOLYROOD CHURCH
- 17 MEDIEVAL MERCHANT'S HOUSE
- 18 ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
- 19 AMERICAN D-DAY WALL
- 20 THE WOOL HOUSE (DANCING MAN BREWERY)
- 21 TUDOR HOUSE & GARDEN
- 22 SOUTHAMPTON (OLD) BOWLING GREEN
- 23 MAYFLOWER MEMORIAL

PUBLIC ART

- 24 FRUIT MARKET
- 25 HAMTUN STREET MURAL
- 26 SOUTHAMPTON MURAL 2013
- 27 SMALL FACES
- 28 TELEPHONE BOXES
- 29 EAST STREET ARTWORK

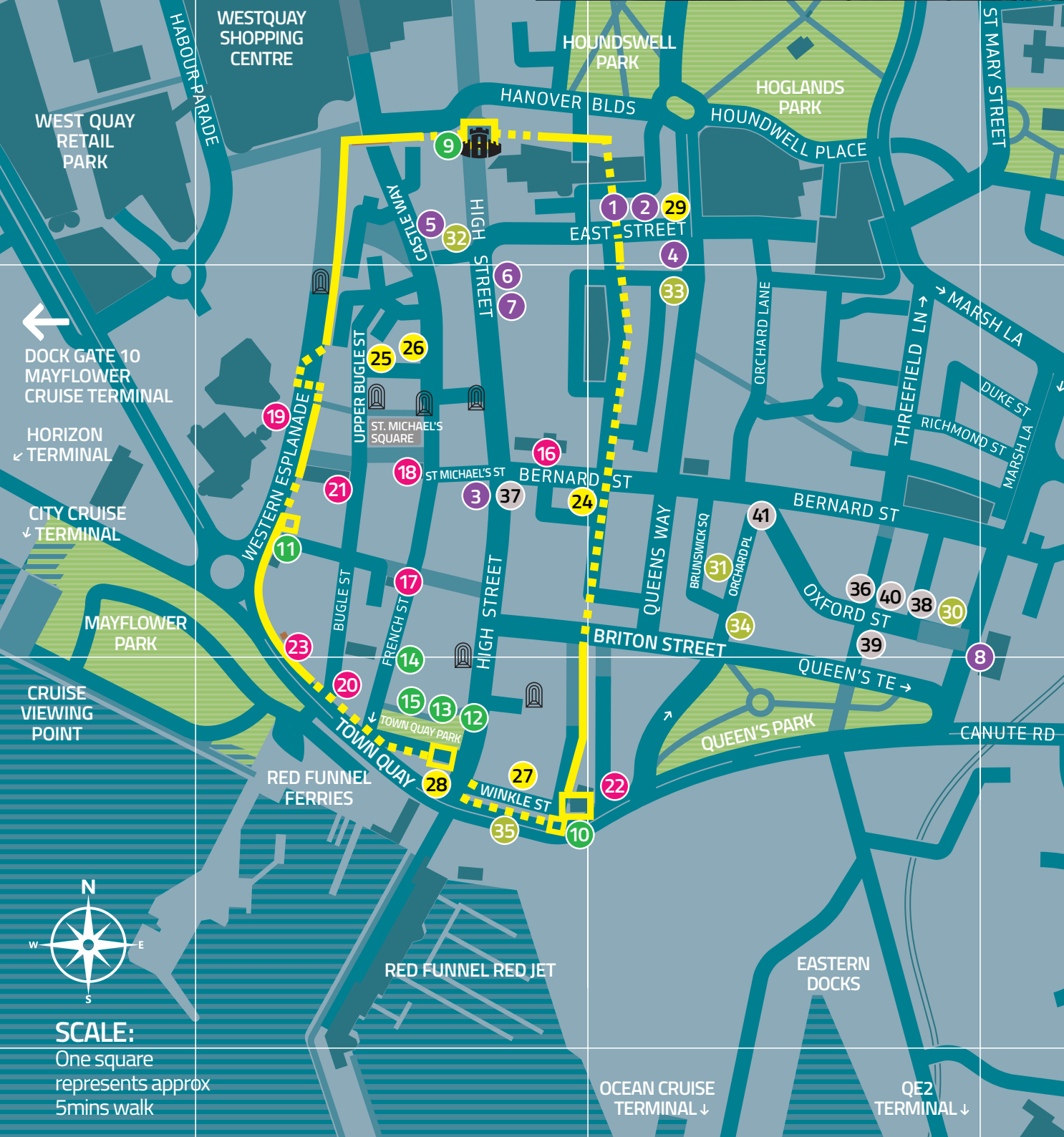
MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

- 30 THE LONDON HOTEL
- 31 THE 1865
- 32 HMV
- 33 VINILO RECORD STORE
- 34 ROOM2
- 35 PLATFORM TAVERN

SOUTHAMPTON COCKTAIL WEEK

- 36 AVA'S
- 37 DARK ARTS POTION BAR
- 38 XOXO
- 39 RITA'S
- 40 THE WHITE STAR TAVERN
- 41 DELUXE ONE OXFORD

Your
Southampton



WEST QUAY RETAIL PARK

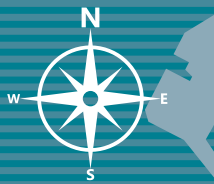
DOCK GATE 10 MAYFLOWER CRUISE TERMINAL

HORIZON TERMINAL

CITY CRUISE TERMINAL

MAYFLOWER PARK

CRUISE VIEWING POINT



SCALE:
One square represents approx 5mins walk

OCEAN CRUISE TERMINAL ↓

QE2 TERMINAL ↓