Introducing Southend-on-Sea

Located on the east coast and just a short trip from London, Southend is perfectly placed, whether you’re looking to get away from it all for a long weekend, or you simply want to make the most of what this vibrant town has to offer...

You can discover more about upcoming seasonal markets and opening hours, as well as the family, sporting and cultural events taking place across the whole borough.

Make your next visit to Southend extra special and check out www.visitsouthend.co.uk today!

See our other guides for more information on getting the most out of your time in Southend, or go on line at: www.visitsouthend.co.uk

www.visitsouthend.co.uk

Shopping-on-Sea

Southend is one of the region’s most popular shopping destinations, thanks to hundreds of stores offering a diverse range of products. In fact, the town is a real shopaholic’s paradise, with two exceptional shopping centres – The Royals and The Victoria – complemented by the High Street itself.

Further afield, there are even more stores on offer across the whole borough, with a great mix of famous names and unique retail outlets. Selling everything from cutting edge fashion to this year’s must have gadgets, there are stores aplenty on Leigh Broadway, Thorpe Bay Broadway, Southchurch Road and Hamlet Court Road.

Whatever you want, whatever you need – Southend is perfect for your next shopping trip.

For the whole family

In Southend, shopping is something for the whole family to enjoy, with events taking place throughout the year to make sure everyone has a great time. Highlights include the incredible Christmas Spectacular – complete with parade and fireworks display – and an authentic Chinese New Year celebration.

These are complemented by traditional markets, adding another dimension to the shopping opportunities on offer and helping to make your trip to Southend even more special.

Make more of your trip

A visit to Southend can be much more than just great shopping. The areas surrounding the High Street are packed with bars and restaurants – perfect if you want to take a break from the hustle and bustle, or if you really want to make a day of it. But it doesn’t end there, with an Odeon multiscreen cinema showing the latest blockbusters seven days a week, as well as bars and clubs opening as the sun sets, providing the perfect escape after a day of retail therapy.

Travelling in and around Southend

By rail
Two direct rail lines link Southend with London, serving Liverpool Street and Fenchurch Street. Not only do these provide swift journeys to and from the capital, but they also link the town with other surrounding destinations, including Leigh-on-Sea, Shoeburyness, Westcliff and Southchurch.

By bus
An extensive network of buses operates between Southend’s Travel Centre, located just off the High Street, to a variety of destinations in and around the town. The First X30 runs hourly, seven days a week from London Stansted, direct into the travel centre.

Parking
Parking in Southend is easy with over 10,000 car parking spaces available across the town. Located strategically, these car parks give shoppers swift and easy access to the heart of Southend’s Town Centre.

Cycling
It’s great to explore Southend-on-Sea on two wheels. New cycle routes and facilities are being put in place to make journeys into the town centre even easier.

Useful websites
If you want to find out more about what’s going on in and around Southend-on-Sea, or if you simply want to plan your perfect visit, head online and check out all the latest information on these fantastic websites...

www.visitsouthend.co.uk
www.adventureisland.co.uk
www.southendmuseums.co.uk
www.sealifeadventures.co.uk
www.thecliffspavilion.co.uk
www.southendmarineactivitiescentre.co.uk

Welcome
Welcome to Shop-on-Sea, your indispensable guide to retail therapy in Southend-on-Sea. With hundreds of stores to choose from – including the biggest High Street names and stylish independent boutiques – you’re sure to enjoy the perfect shopping trip.

And, remember, a trip to Southend doesn’t have to end there. There are countless restaurants, bars and cafes if you want a relaxing meal, exhilarating activities and entertainment facilities for you to enjoy, and a unique cultural calendar that’s sure to fascinate and inspire you.

Southend-on-Sea really does have it all. We hope you have a great time... and happy shopping!

Stay-on-Sea
Whether you’re visiting for the sensational shopping or the exhilarating rides, the cool new music scene or just to relax, Southend-on-Sea is the perfect place for a mini-break.

Activity-on-Sea
If you want to get active, then Southend-on-Sea is the place for you. With seven miles of glorious coastline, it’s a hotspot for all kinds of water-sports and other marine activities.

Dine-on-Sea
With more than 300 places to eat, Southend-on-Sea is bursting with taste sensations, with flavours from all four corners of the globe – from France to Thailand and India to Austria.

Fun-on-Sea
Southend’s glittering seashore is home to a range of amusements, including Adventure Island, one of the biggest and best family fun parks in the south east.
The Victoria

The Victoria Shopping Centre, located at the northern end of Southend-on-Sea’s high street, offers a contemporary, tranquil shopping experience. Sandwiched between Southend Victoria railway station and the main shopping district, it offers a welcome retreat and alluring stores. Enjoy a relaxed browse through the glass covered shopping mall and savour your shopping experience by sipping a ‘grand’ Starbucks Coffee and people-watching. With over 40 stores, including high street favourites Next, New Look, Argos and Peacocks and independent boutiques, The Victoria Shopping Centre is where style starts. With 670 car park bays – and free Sunday parking – your shopping trip is sure to be effortless and enjoyable.

www.victoriasasc.co.uk

High Street

Southend High Street is a shopaholic’s paradise, famous for its fabulous ‘retail therapy’ opportunities.

This bustling thoroughfare is lined with names such as Marks & Spencer, Waterstones, BHS and WH Smith, while H&M, Primark, Debenhams, Boots and TK Maxx are located in The Royals Shopping Centre. Similarly, Next, Argos and New Look can all be found in the Victoria Shopping Centre. But that’s only the tip of the iceberg and there are a huge range of retail outlets to choose from, whether you want something from a name you recognise or a unique boutique.

Meanwhile farmers’ and specialist markets run throughout the year to bring another dimension to the shopping opportunities on offer. All this adds to everything the town has to offer, including the very best in relaxed al fresco dining.

The Royals

Located at the southern end of the High Street, The Royals Shopping Centre is home to a wide variety of stores, all under one roof.

With five major retailers – Boots, Debenhams, H&M, Primark and TK Maxx – within the centre, as well as a diverse selection of smaller and independent stores, there really is something for everyone.

And The Royals experience doesn’t end with shopping. Promotional events entertain the crowds throughout the year, while mouth-watering food outlets make for a more memorable and enjoyable spot of retail therapy. For more information visit:

www.royalshoppingcentre.co.uk

Queens Road

To the east of the High Street, Queens Road offers you the chance to try something a little different, with a host of exciting stores providing unique shopping opportunities.

From arts and crafts supplies, to hard-to-find music and films, there’s something to suit every taste and every wallet. There are plenty of places to unwind and relax too, with cafes, restaurants and bistros alongside hair and beauty salons.

www.ravensltd.co.uk

Clifftown

Connecting Southend Central station to the High Street, the Clifftown area has plenty to offer shoppers, especially those looking for somewhere to take a break from their retail therapy.

There are bars and bistros a plenty down every side street, providing delicious, fresh food and refreshing drinks – perfect to put the spring back in your step. And there are lots of places to shop too, with shops ranging from the historic department store Ravens through to boutiques offering the latest fashion for men and women.

www.ravensltd.co.uk

Southend’s World-famous Seafront

Southend-on-Sea’s seafront is a fantastic place to visit all year round.

As well as the stunning beaches, there’s Adventure Island, Southend Pier, Sea-Life Adventure, Southend Marine Activities Centre, the amusements and the striking modern viewing tower that offers spectacular views out across the Thames estuary.