

BRIDLINGTON

# MARITIME TRAIL

*Bridlington  
in the East Riding  
of Yorkshire.  
Harbour postcode:  
YO15 3AN*

*This leaflet  
contains a fold-out  
map of the harbour  
with locations of  
artworks and  
information  
boards*

*Explore the vibrant  
life and history  
of Bridlington  
harbour*

*+ engage  
with  
your  
smart  
phone*

*Use the QR codes on  
the information  
boards to read about  
topics in more detail,  
or access webpages  
at:*

[bridlingtonheritage.org.uk/maritime](http://bridlingtonheritage.org.uk/maritime)



Main image: 'The Wilhelm' Unknown artist, c1880  
Courtesy of East Riding Museums Service  
All other photographs ©Julie Folds (Over The Moon Studios)

The Bridlington Maritime trail has been created by local historians and representatives of the fishing industry and Harbour Commissioners with the support of East Riding of Yorkshire Council, the Local Studies Library and University of Hull. The project has been sponsored by the Holderness Coast Fisheries Local Action Group and East Riding of Yorkshire Council.



Bridlington Maritime Trail takes you on a tour around the seafront and harbour discovering more about the area's heritage through inspiring art, fascinating artefacts and engaging information boards. The Trail illustrates the stories of heroes and villains of the past, helps you learn about the lives and livelihoods of the fishermen and their families, and explore Bridlington's historic harbour with its thriving modern fishing fleet.



Artworks by local artist Stephen Carvill feature on the Trail. They relate to different aspects of the harbour's history and present day activity:

## The Gansey Girl

The inspiration for *The Gansey Girl* sculpture came from an image by the renowned photographer Frank Meadow-Sutcliffe. The sculpture depicts a young woman knitting, while waiting for her husband to



Early work on The Gansey Girl

return from the sea. The tradition of knitting ganseys is particularly strong in this part of the Yorkshire coast, especially Flamborough village, with designs passed down through generations of local fishing families.

The sculpture incorporates the names of families that have fished off the coast or have been involved with harbour industry.

## Bay of Refuge

Recognizing the importance of Bridlington's role of a bay of refuge for passing ships, and highlighting the perils of maritime travel, *Bay of Refuge* features a transparency of an oil painting by local artist,



Stephen planning Bay of Refuge

JT Allerston, showing the Great Gale of 1871. The transparent panel is set into a metal frame, featuring a fretwork based on ships masts and rigging jostling in a storm, and the etched names of the shipping areas with a short storm warning courtesy of the Met Office and the BBC, a tribute to the shipping forecast, which reminds us, however secure we may be, that we are an island surrounded by nature's elemental forces.

The original of Allerston's painting is part of the East Riding Museums Collection at Sewerby Hall.

## Stone Markers

The Stone Markers are hand carved into York Stone using a carving technique called sunken relief; the background surfaces are left at their original height, while the objects themselves are carved into them.

### The Harbour Today

A lobster, hand-carved from life, represents the successful shellfish industry in Bridlington. This town, with its busy harbour, is the largest exporter of shellfish in the UK.



Carving the placemarkers

### Milne Spring

A natural freshwater spring, which rose and fell with the tides, was the necessary and useful source of water for

boats and ships at Bridlington harbour when they needed provisioning. The design consists of a spiral, symbolising life, sustained by water.

### Queen Henrietta Maria

The loyal wife of King Charles I, The Queen supported her husband by bringing him weapons and soldiers, offloaded at Bridlington harbour. As a result, Bridlington was shelled by the Parliamentary navy and Queen Henrietta had to take flight from her harbourside lodgings.

### The First lifeboat House and Seagull lifeboat

Marking the site of the first national lifeboat house in Bridlington, and honouring the privately sponsored lifeboat 'Seagull' which was housed nearby, this marker pays tribute to bravery and sacrifice of those who have risked their lives in attempt to rescue others from the perilous seas.

