Shops & Galleries

A visit to Ilfracombe's town centre is a treat for shoppers and fans of Victorian architecture and history alike. With an excellent selection of independent shops, greengrocers, butchers and bakers, some handed down through generations. You will also find a building society and chemists. Around the harbour and along the seafront and surrounding streets you will find traditional seaside souvenir gift shops and galleries as well as a well stocked convenience store. It has often been said that you can find anything you need in Ilfracombe, just not all in the same place!

Eating & Drinking

Ilfracombe is the gastronomic centre of North Devon and some of the best culinary talent is found in and around the town. This is a real food lovers paradise with fresh fish & live seafood direct from the harbour, fine local & Exmoor meats, local fruits & vegetables, unique cheeses & dairy products and more. There is something for everyone from takeaways through cafes and tearooms, welcoming pubs and bars to restaurants serving British and International cuisine. Something to suit all tastes and pockets.

LOCAL INFORMATION

Car Parking

Follow the signs for short and long stay car parks in the town. For more information see visitilfracombe.co.uk/carparking

Dotto

Why not explore Ilfracombe on the land train? The route takes in much of the town.

Ilfracombe Tourist Information Centre

Located at The Landmark in the middle of the cones. Extensive visitor information on Ilfracombe and wider North Devon. Coach, Lundy Ferry, attractions and accommodation bookings. Popular shop. Open all year.





visitilfracombe.co.uk call 01271 863001





Maritime Ilfracombe

Home of Damien Hirst's 'Verity'. There has been a port here since the 12th Century and a settlement for much longer. Today the predominant use is for leisure and tourism, but still a working harbour with fish and seafood landed daily.

1 Damien Hirst's Verity

Guarding the harbour entrance on the Pier, at nearly 25 metres tall. Verity is a bronze statue of a pregnant woman holding a sword aloft and a set of scales, said to represent truth and justice.

(2) St Nicholas Chapel

14th Century chapel believed to be the oldest working lighthouse in England.

(3) Fish Trail

Follow our Fish Trail around the harbour to discover Ilfracombe's maritime, naval heritage past and present.

(4) The Pier

Take one of the many boat trips to cruise the spectacular coastline and hidden coves, spotting seals and dolphins along the way.

Take a day trip to Lundy Island, the UK's first marine reserve. The more adventurous can try a watersport or go deep sea fishing.

(5) RNLI Lifeboat Station

See Ilfracombe's Shannon class lifeboat The Barry and Peggy High Foundation as well as an inshore boat & launching tractor.

6 Harbour Beach

A small beautiful golden sandy strip visible at all but the highest tides, easy access and ideal for families.

7 Old Quay Head

An Ancient listed pier structure. Look Eastward and you can spot the famous Ilfracombe Sleeping Elephant!

8 Fore Street

Linking the Harbour to the Town centre. Wander along it and enjoy a fine cluster of restaurants, bistros and bars plus the most ancient taverns in town dating from the 14th Century.

The Seafront

(9) Capstone Hill

Stroll along the promenade to discover a range of cafes and bistros, as well as some of Ilfracombe's heritage and cultural activities. Perhaps you fancy a rest on the beach or in the delightful gardens.

A wide Victorian promenade around a dramatic

headland. The poignant statue at the top is a

her death from the cliffs at Hillsborough.

A small beach with stream, rocks and the

Stand in the centre of the decorative paving

Location for outdoor markets, the fun fair and

other events. Also a fun 15-hole crazy golf

and clap to hear a 'ping' echo back.

(12) Victorian Pleasure Gardens

course, great for adults and kids alike.

(10) Wildersmouth Beach

famous Preacher's Rock.

Clapping Circle

memorial to a young woman who sadly fell to

(14) Landmark Theatre

Hosts a diverse programme of events both in the theatre and the pavilion.

15 Runnymede Gardens

A delightful pleasure garden with free musical performances in the bandstand during the summer.

(16) Ilfracombe Museum

With 8 rooms for you to explore and almost 28,000 items in the collection there is something of interest to everyone.

(17) Tunnels Beaches

These Victorian hand carved tunnels through the cliffs lead to a unique tidal bathing pool.

(13) Olympic Hero

Test your athletic prowess on the Seafront at the commemorative mosaic celebrating Britain's best triple jumper, Jonathan Edwards, who lived in Ilfracombe.

> SW Coast Path

Look out for the Interpretation boards, part of a series lining the route of the South West Coast Path as it runs through the town.





Explore Ilfracombe's famous tunnels beaches, enjoy a boat trip or visit an attraction. But whatever you do don't forget the stunning coastal walks and of course the vitamin sea!

Around The Town and to the West

Wander through the shops on the High Street or take the high ground to explore nature and experience some of the fabulous cliff views.

(18) Town Centre

Find many independent food retailers, clothes and homeware shops together with a building society and chemists. The High Street also boasts a three screen cinema, quality coffee shops, cafes, take-aways, pubs and restaurants.

(19) Fore Street

Ilfracombe's oldest street links the Town centre to the Harbour. Here you will find specialist arts, crafts and experiences plus various eateries.

20 Bicclescombe Park

An award winning public park with mature gardens and lake, play area and all-weather tennis courts, plus an old corn mill with tea room.

(21) Cairn Nature Reserve

This former railway is an historic woodland and grassland area of about 15 acres with a variety of paths winding their way to Cairn Top which stands some 520ft above sea level, well worth the climb for the extensive views across the town to the Bristol Channel and Wales.

22 The Torrs

Another high ground, visible from most of Ilfracombe is part of the South West Coast Path. With its zig-zagging coastal paths, spectacular cliff views, abundant coastal plants, flowers and open spaces, this area was laid out in the 1880s for Victorian recreation.

23 White Pebble Beach

A wonderful secluded pebbly beach reached by steep steps.

24 Lee Bay

A sheltered, peaceful and charming refuge, within an area known as "Fuchsia Valley" – such is the abundance of these vivid flowers in this steeply wooded combe. The valley sides drop away and the dramatic jagged rocks of the bay, rock pools and more can be explored.

The town offers independent shopping at its best and if you're a foodie you won't be disappointed either. The town offers an ever growing number of places to eat or drink.

A Short Trip Out of Town, Heading East

There are many opportunities to take a walk and stop at a tea room, but you can also enjoy sports and activities or visit one of the popular attractions.

25 Hillsborough

A great spot for walking, wildlife watching or a picnic with fabulous views of the coast is the site of an iron age fort.

26 Rapparee Cove

A beach accessible via steep steps where you can discover the story of one of our many wrecks, the 'London' destroyed in 1795.

27 Swimming Pool

25m swimming pool and learner pool as well as a spacious gym.

28 Skate Park

There is something for everyone of all abilities making it a great spot for beginners and experienced skaters alike.

29 Hele Bay

Popular with bathers since Victorian times, having a part sand and part shingle beach. Reached by a scenic walk over Hillsborough or a short drive from the town centre.

30 Golf

Ilfracombe Golf Club boasts one of the most spectacular locations for an exhilarating round of golf, every tee has an awe-inspiring view over the sea.

(31) Watermouth Cove

The South West Coast Path traverses the cliffs passing the charming harbour, a favourite spot for viewing porpoises, dolphins & seals.



Events

Ilfracombe is an exciting place to visit with a wealth of events and festivals on offer all year round. Many of the events are held in the Seafront and Harbour areas, including Beer & Music Festivals and regular music on the Bandstand.