

August's Tourism Matters - A short read for a busy August

We can't believe we are half-way through August already and that there are only a few weeks to go before the school summer holidays are over. We appreciate that it is a busy time of year for you, so we have kept this issue of Tourism Matters short and to the point.

Turner Prize Update - Enter Your Event

Are you planning an event, exhibition or project during Turner Prize 2019 (28 September 2019 to 12 January 2020)? If so, and providing it meets set criteria, it could be associated as part of Turner Prize 2019 and use a sister brand that has been developed by Turner Contemporary for events. It will also be included on www.visitthanel.co.uk and www.visitkent.co.uk which collectively attract over 1.1 million users every year. Turner Contemporary will also be signposting visitors to the events listings.

Further details on the criteria and the form to complete to register your event can [be found here](#)

Your event should be submitted by **Wednesday 28 August** for the Panel meeting on **Friday 30 August**. You will receive notification by **Friday 5 September** with details on how to use the brand toolkit and confirmation that your event will be promoted.

The aim is to create a real buzz of activity for the whole of Thanet around Turner Prize 2019 coming to Margate.

**Please note that if an event is being held on public land, that you will need to contact the Events Team at Thanet District Council (events@thanel.gov.uk). The events process it is a minimum of 14 weeks before the event date that application is required.*

Save the date: Wednesday 18 September - Workshops for Coastal Businesses looking for more out of season visitors

We are working with the National Coastal Tourism Academy to bring you a FREE workshop. The workshop is for local businesses looking for more out of season visitors and targets international markets, specifically visitors from France, Germany and The Netherlands. The National Coastal Tourism Academy has an exciting marketing and booking tool, 'England's Coast' aimed to help you deliver this and you can be featured (again for Free) on their itinerary builder.

Its new interactive video technology allows holidaymakers to create their own itineraries and book direct with coastal businesses via an itinerary builder, but the scope of the project also targets the travel trade through independent and group itineraries. You can visit the website [here](#)

Over 1,600 coastal businesses – hotels, B&Bs, pubs, attraction providers and many more - are already listed giving holidaymakers and the travel trade huge choice for creating imaginative coastal escapes, especially out of the peak holiday season.

We'd love you to get involved and be featured on the itinerary builder. To explain more about England's Coast, a FREE workshop is being held on

Wednesday 18 September 2019 - 2pm to 4pm, Location TBC

Businesses which have already joined England's Coast are welcome too – a fantastic opportunity to find out more about working with overseas visitors and the travel trade.

Register now to book your space and find out more about attracting international visitors to your business!

To book your place please email tourism@thanet.gov.uk with your name, name of your business and a contact phone number.

Visitor Information Service Update

Opening Times

Please note that the Thanet Visitor Information Service at Droit House is now open 7 days a week from 10am - 5pm. These hours will be until Sunday 15th September when we will revert back to opening 5 days a week (Wednesday to Sunday) 10am to 5pm.

Visitor Maps

Visitor Maps are available for display in your business. If you require more please contact the team at visitorinformation@thanet.gov.uk. The team are endeavouring to deliver maps as quickly as possible, however if you are able to collect them from Droit House it would be appreciated by the team.

Event Posters

If you wish for your event to be promoted in the Tourist Information Point boards, please provide your posters to the team 3-4 weeks in advance of the event happening. The team are endeavouring to update the boards fortnightly during peak season and monthly during low season. 12-15 A4/A5 posters can be dropped off to Droit House for inclusion plus leaflets to display in the Visitor Information Centre.

Please note that these events must have a touristic appeal, any community event posters will be taken however are not guaranteed to be displayed.

In the Media

Here's a couple of articles we've picked up in the national press this month:

The Times - [My love letter to Margate](#)

Lonely Planet have published their 'Ultimate United Kingdom Travelist' of the 500 greatest experiences across Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands. We are pleased to say Broadstairs has been named 93rd. Also featured in the top 500 list is Margate's Shell Grotto and Dreamland

To read more about this, [please click here](#)

Help us Keep our Beaches and Bathing Waters Clean

Every year Thanet District Council works in partnership with Southern Water and the Environment Agency to promote how businesses, residents and visitors can help keep our beaches and bathing waters clean. As one of our most popular tourism attractions it's important that our beaches and bathing waters continue to meet the standards that allow us to receive Blue Flag and Seaside Awards each year.

As a beach business you can help us to achieve this goal.

- If you have outside seating make sure tables are cleared quickly to help avoid attracting seagulls and waste blowing onto the beach or street
- Make sure that you use a licensed commercial waste service to take away any waste you produce
- If you are providing containers for your customers to take food/drink/products away in - think about providing waste and recycling bins for them to put their waste in
- Avoid putting grease and fat down you drains
- If you provide toilets make sure that your customers know that it should only be poo, pee and paper that gets flushed down them
- Educate your customers about their responsibilities in keeping the beaches and seas clean - you can request some Beauty of Beach posters by emailing communications@thanet.gov.uk

Thank you for your help

Callout for info - What's New and Anniversaries 2020

We are compiling what's new and anniversaries information for upcoming marketing, travel trade and PR opportunities. If you have something new and newsworthy you would like us to shout about or a key anniversary coming up that you will be celebrating in a way that could attract visitors to the area, please let us know. Please send details to Julie on julie.edwards@thanet.gov.uk

Your News

We are delighted to announce that Isle Magazine was again recognised in the Kent Press and Broadcast Awards, receiving a Highly Commended award for its hyper local content and vibrant look. Well done to Simon Abra and Kiki Case, and the whole Isle team, for showing Thanet so beautifully and giving us a magazine to be proud of!

Congratulations to Kathy Bailes from The Isle of Thanet News, who was awarded Highly Commended in the Newspaper of the Year category

Events

Here are just a few events taking place across the area in the next few weeks

- Until 18th August: [Summer Rep Season](#), Sarah Thorne Theatre
- 18 August: [Margate Community Blue Light Day](#), Margate Lifeboat Station
- 24 and 25 August: [The British Kitesurfing Championships](#), Ramsgate
- 24-26 August: [Thanet Open Studios](#)
- 7 and 8 September: [Wheels and Fins Festival](#), Joss Bay
- 7 and 8 september: [Eat Drink Margate](#), Dreamland
- Until 8th September: [Woolly Watery World](#), Thanet Visitor Information Centre
- 13 - 22 September: [Heritage Open Days](#)

For more events happening in the area go to www.visitthanet.co.uk/whats-on/find-events