

September's Tourism Matters - Get Involved

Dear Colleague

Turner Prize - The Final Countdown

There is just 16 days to go until Turner Prize 2019 opens at Margate's Turner Contemporary. This is a great opportunity for the town and area to showcase what we have to offer visitors and residents

Look out for a dedicated Tourism Matters all about Turner Prize coming out shortly

Check out our Turner Prize [website pages](#)

Be a Turner Prize Volunteer

Turner Contemporary are looking for volunteers to support Turner Contemporary and Margate NOW during Turner Prize 2019. These volunteers will provide an outstanding welcome to the thousands of visitors expected to come to Margate and will encourage them to seek out all of the exciting events happening across the town as part of Margate NOW, an ambitious and dynamic festival of art, events and performance. For further information [click here](#) and to apply please complete the [online application form](#) by **5pm on Friday 13th September 2019**.

To volunteer you must be able to attend the training session on **Wednesday 18th September 2019 10am-5pm**. If you are unable to join us on this day, please email volunteer@turnercontemporary.org before making an application.

Vote for Margate as Best UK Seaside Town

We are pleased to announce Margate has been announced as a finalist in the 'Best UK Seaside Town' category of the British Travel Awards.

The town is up against Blackpool, Bournemouth, Bude and Skegness.

Voting is open until Monday 30 September on the [British Travel Awards website](#)

Visitor Information Service Update

Please note that the Thanet Visitor Information Service at Droit House will be open 5 days a week (Wednesday - Sunday) 10am - 5pm after Sunday 15th September

Broadstairs Information Kiosk is open daily until Monday 16th September when it will revert to opening Friday - Monday until Broadstairs Food Festival weekend. After this it will open Saturday and Sunday and the last week of October for half term. The kiosk closes on Sunday 27th October and will reopen at Easter 2020. Full details of their opening hours for the remainder of the season can be found on [their website](#)

Ramsgate Visitor Information Centre at The Custom House is open daily 10am-4pm

Margate Caves Reopens

After a 15 year wait the Margate Caves reopened to the public on Thursday 22nd August, welcoming over 5000 visitors in the first two weeks. As well as visiting the Caves visitors can

spend time in the shop or in the cafe where a variety of food options are available including vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options.

The regeneration of the Caves was made possible by the fundraising efforts of The Friends of Margate Caves, The Margate Caves Community Education Trust, from a successful bid with the National Lottery Heritage Fund to crowdfunding, local fundraisers, a postcard auction and much more.

Preparing to open included extensive safety works to the Caves, building the new visitor centre, an outreach programme and lots more.

Open Top Bus running during Broadstairs Food Festival

The Open Top Bus between Ramsgate and Broadstairs will be running a special service to coincide with this years Broadstairs Food Festival.

The service will run its usual route from Friday 4 to Sunday 6 October For further details [click here](#)

Vegetarian and Vegan Venues

We are gathering information on vegetarian and vegan cafes and restaurants in the area, so please let us have details of any you are aware of. Please send info to tourism@thanet.gov.uk

In the Media

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

- [JMW Turner in Britain Magazine](#)
- [Tiina Turner at Dreamland in The Times](#)
- [Open Top Bus in The Guardian's '10 best open top bus rides in the UK'](#)

Your News

Dreamland has been announced as finalists for the 'Best for Big Kids in London & South East 2019 Family Favourites Awards!' Voting is open until 30th September [via the website](#)

Congratulations to **The Minnis Bay Bar and Brasserie** (Pub of the Year) and **The Ambrette** (Taste of England) who have been announced as finalists in the Visit Kent Tourism Awards 2019. The winners will be announced on Monday 2nd December. Good luck to them both

Events

- 13 - 22 September: [Heritage Open Days](#)
- 14 and 15 September: [Westgate Literary Festival](#)
- 20 - 22nd September: [Margate Jazz Festival](#)
- 21 September: [Great British Beach Cleans](#)
- 28 September: [Margate NOW starts](#)
- 29 September: [OhSoRetro](#) at Palm Bay
- 4-6 October: [Broadstairs Food Festival](#)