

October's Tourism Matters - Workshop invitation, Brexit and free opportunities

Welcome to October's Tourism Matters. This month we are inviting you to get involved and offer your thoughts on the destination by way of a workshop and short questionnaire. There is also info on how tourism businesses can prepare for a no deal Brexit and an opportunity to attend a Brexit Readiness Workshop.

Destination Management Framework - Workshop Invitation

Yesterday you should have received an invitation to this workshop, to help us look at what's needed for the long-term success of our local visitor economy. If you wish to attend, please register now as places are limited. Whether or not you wish to attend, we would appreciate you completing a short 9 question survey, please click [here](#).

If you did not receive the invitation, please let us know on tourism@thanet.gov.uk

Government advice - Preparing for no deal Brexit if you work in tourism

The government has distributed a 10 point checklist to understand what you need to do to prepare for no deal Brexit if you work in tourism or hospitality business. It includes information on

- Your employees
- Your business and data
- Travelling to Europe
- Your customers and online services

To read the checklist, [please click here](#)

Brexit Readiness Workshops

The Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce are delivering a series of sector specific Brexit Readiness workshops over the next few weeks funded through the Government's Brexit Readiness Fund. They are holding four events for tourism and rural businesses which Visit Kent will be supporting, alongside other experts. Please see below the dates of the sessions, timings for each are 12:30pm to 4pm:

Monday 14th October - Innovation Centre Medway, Rochester

Monday 21st October - The Grand, Folkestone

Tuesday 29th October - Brachers LLP, Maidstone

Wednesday 30th October - Discovery Park, Sandwich

Further information is on the website www.brexitreadykent.co.uk

England's Coast opportunities

England's Coast Ambassador Training is a free online training course to improve the visitor experience offered by tourism businesses on the coast, [click here](#) to find out more.

Also free is the opportunity for your tourism business to be included on their website and featured on their itinerary builder, which allows holidaymakers to create their own itineraries and book direct with coastal businesses. Over 1,600 hotels, B&Bs, pubs, attraction providers

and more are already listed, giving holidaymakers and the travel trade huge choice for creating imaginative coastal escapes, especially out of the peak holiday season. Have you signed-up yet? [If not, click here](#)

In the Media

Coverage we have picked up this month includes the following

- CN Traveller - [18 amazing things to do in Margate](#) by Anna Hart
- The Independent - [The Turner in Margate: Art and the seaside resort that time forgot](#) by Zoe Ettinger
- Spectator Life - [The best art galleries outside of London](#) by Will Gore
- i Paper - [How to spend a weekend in Margate](#) by Chris Muggan
- The Sun - [Going coastal from Margate to Cornwall](#)
- Crew Clothing (October Editor's Picks) - [Broadstairs Food Festival](#)

Plus there has been lots of reviews of Turner Prize, which we are in the process of adding to the website. Check them out early next week [here](#)

Visitor Information Service Update

Francesca Sayer-Doyle (Fran) has recently re-joined the team after maternity leave. She is now sharing the role of Visitor Services Officer with Lisa Powell and works Wednesday to Friday. You can get in contact at: francesca.sayer-doyle@thanet.gov.uk

What are you doing for Christmas and New Year?

If you have not already supplied your event information for Christmas and New Year, do please let us know so that we can add it to our website, include in social media and answer media enquiries that we may receive

Events can be submitted using the online form on [our website](#) from where they will be authorised for publishing

Taste of Kent Awards - vote local

Voting is open in the Taste of Kent Awards and an amazing 30 Thanet businesses have been nominated in the following categories

- Kent Beer of the Year (2)
- Kent Butcher Shop of the Year (1)
- Kent Coffee Shop of Tea Room of the Year (6)
- Kent Dining Pub or Bistro of the Year (2)
- Kent Food Business of the Year (4)
- Kent Local Food Retailer of the Year (3)
- Kent Restaurant of the Year (12)

Please spare a bit of time and support your favourites by voting for them [here](#)

Tourism Alliance questionnaire

The Tourism Alliance is undertaking a piece of research into regulatory compliance on behalf of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and Kent was chosen as the location for data collection with outcomes aimed to improve support for tourism SMEs nationally. As such, they would like businesses to complete their [questionnaire](#). It should take no longer than 10 minutes, the deadline is Friday, 18 October and only one response per business please.

The purpose of the project is to gain a better understanding of the ways in which tourism businesses, particularly micro-businesses and SMEs, across Kent gain guidance on how to comply with regulations impacting their business. This will be extremely useful in finding ways to improve and encourage access to the services that can assist businesses to more effectively address regulatory compliance issues.

Your News

Congratulations to the excellent Thanet restaurants that have been included in the 2020 Michelin Guide

*Stark in Broadstairs has been awarded 1 Michelin Star, the first ever in Thanet, and one of only a handful in the whole of Kent

*Arya Restaurant in Ramsgate awarded Michelin Bib Gourmand

*Wyatt and Jones, Broadstairs, Angelas, Bottega Caruso and Hantverk and Found, Margate are also listed in the guide

Happy anniversary to **Marine Studios** in Margate who is celebrating 10 years since they opened their studio in the town

Events

- 12th and 13th October: [Artists Open Houses](#)
- 13th October: [Ramsgate Handmade Fair](#)
- 19th - 25th October: [Beastly Bones and Curious Creatures](#), Powell-Cotton Museum
- 19th - 27th October: [Get Spooked](#) at Dreamland
- 23rd - 27th October: [Margate Film Festival](#)
- [Halloween Events](#)
- 2nd November: [Quex Bonfire and Firework Event](#)
- 5th November: [Broadstairs Fireworks](#)