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Aurigny's Magazine

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# EnVoyage

Aurigny's leisure and business magazine

ISSUE 43

ISSUE 43



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# FALL FOR NEW ADVENTURES

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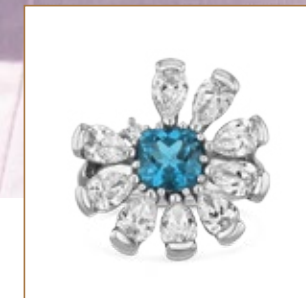
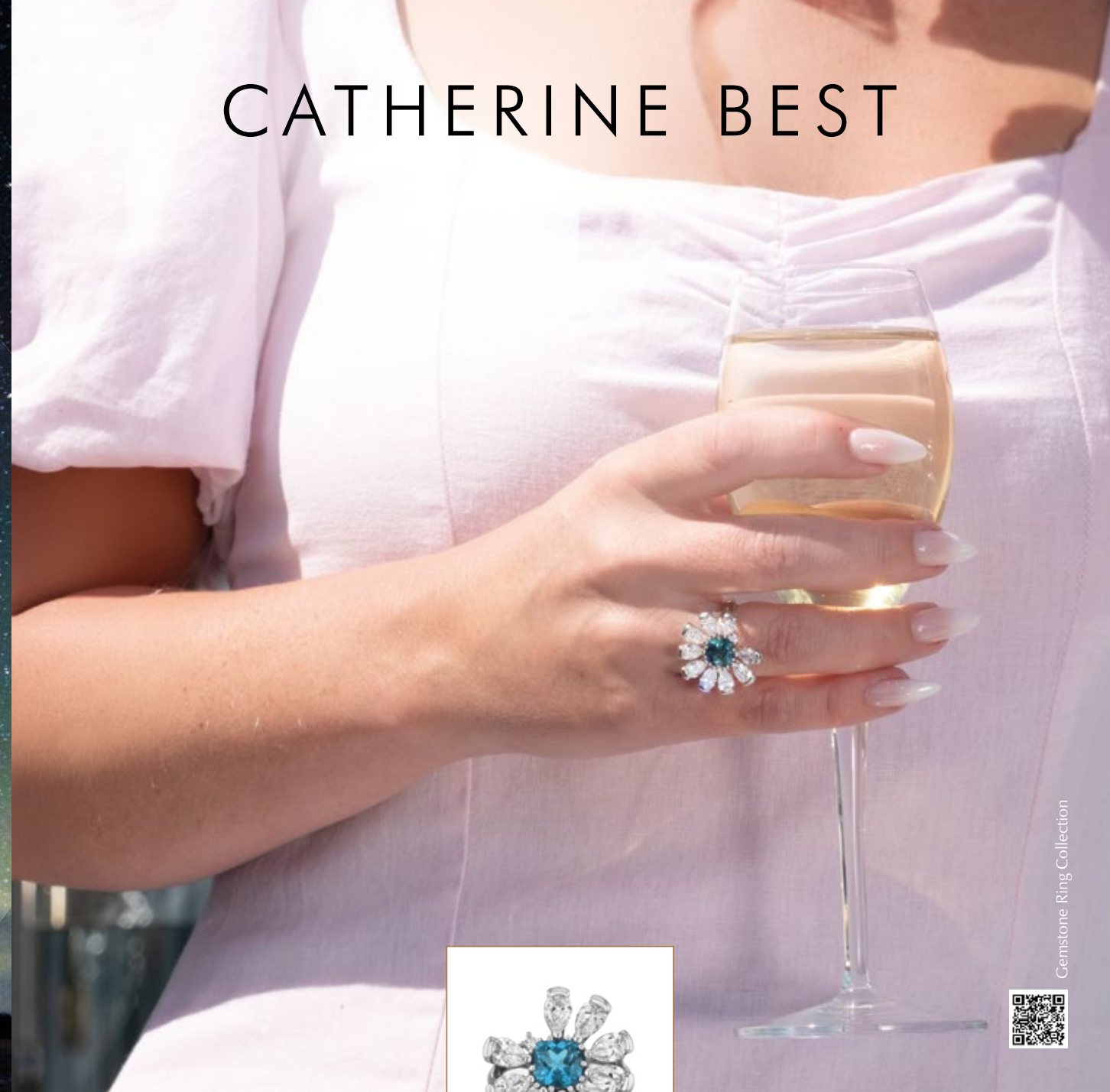
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Ibn Battuta



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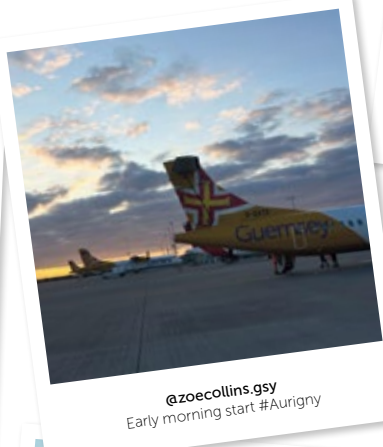
# #Aurigny

## SEND US YOUR SHOTS!

We want to see your photos, perhaps a colourful sunset at 12,000 feet, a runway panoramic or an on-board abstract. Upload your best photo to any social media platform and tag using #Aurigny. It could be featured in the next issue of En Voyage. Please remember to make sure your device is switched to the flight safe mode for taxi, take-off and landing, and upload at a suitable time.



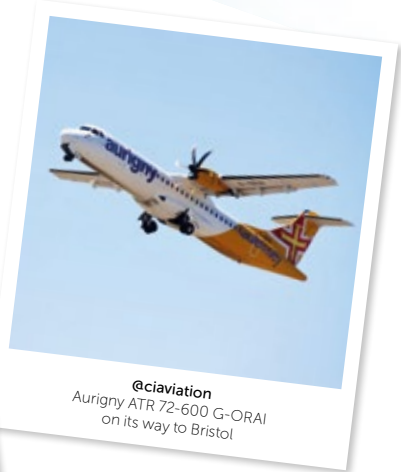
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Caught this beauty touching down on Runway 23R at Manchester!



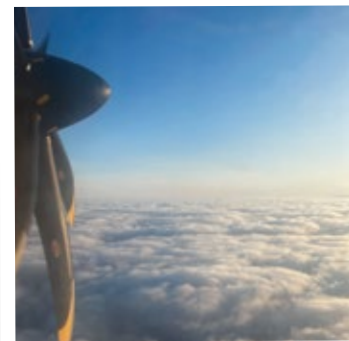
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Early morning start #Aurigny



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Aurigny lining up for 26L, on her way back to my home island



@ciaviation  
Aurigny ATR 72-600 G-ORAI on its way to Bristol



@susie.armstrong  
Blue skies this morning #Aurigny

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What's a magazine without wordsmiths? En Voyage receives content from a variety of writers and contributors in both Guernsey and further afield.

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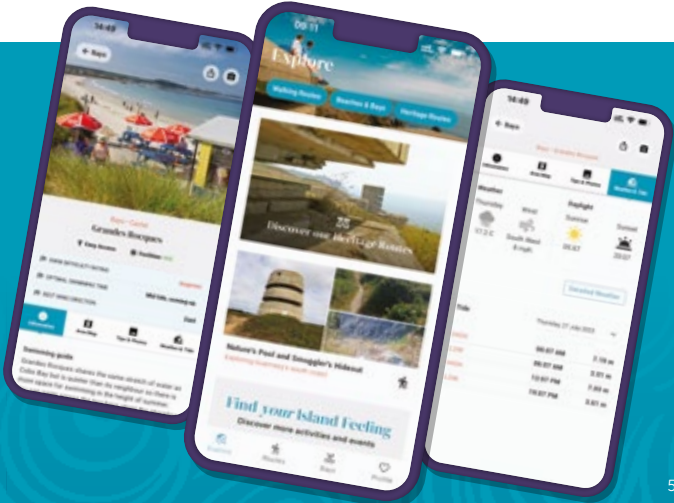
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**SKY SNACKS AND DUTY FREE**

The ISLANDS of  
GUERNSEY

## Download our App

Explore the islands' stunning scenery, secluded coves and rich heritage with self-guided walks and wild swimming guides.







The Guernsey Tourism Partnership is dedicated to representing and promoting tourism related businesses in Guernsey.

We have created a network of members to share ideas and information to benefit all. Our goal is to establish tourism as one of the core industries in Guernsey and to promote its unique benefits to the public, both locally and abroad. Below are just some of our many partners.

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## A warm autumn welcome from Aurigny

DAVE COX, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

On behalf of all of us at Aurigny, it's my pleasure to welcome you on board. As autumn settles in and we begin to gear up for the colder months, our teams are working hard behind the scenes to ensure your journey is safe, comfortable, and enjoyable.

We're continuing to invest in your travel experience, too. We're working hard with our airport partners to deploy our new Avi Ramps at Gatwick and Southampton, making boarding and disembarking smoother and more accessible for all our travellers. We want everyone, whether local or visiting Guernsey, to be able to enjoy our beautiful islands.

We're also proud to be championing more of what Guernsey has to offer. If you're feeling the chill, why not try our new locally roasted coffee from Bean14, brewed right here on the island? It's part

of our wider commitment to supporting local suppliers and bringing you a genuine taste of home while you travel.

Looking ahead, we're excited to launch our new mobile app, soon available on the App Store and Google Play. From booking flights to managing your trips, it's designed to make flying with Aurigny simpler and easier than ever before.

As always, our dedicated people – from those behind the scenes to the cabin crew here with you today – are at the heart of everything we do. If there's anything our crew can do to make your flight even more enjoyable, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you for choosing Aurigny. We're delighted to have you with us this autumn.

**Safe travels and bon voyage.**



# SAVING YOUR WANDERLUST

## THE CARBON SOLUTION HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT

Have you ever been made to feel bad about air travel in conversations around climate change? You’re not alone. Cutting flights is a major step for lowering emissions, but what if there were a largely untapped, powerful lever inside your own home that, for some, could be just as effective?

Societies and policymakers often chase the most visible carbon cuts – the “heroic sacrifices” like reducing travel. But what if a simpler, less painful option could be easily expanded to reach more people and help achieve effective health and environmental goals by focusing on the seemingly mundane?

Your wanderlust shouldn’t need to be suppressed. If similar thoughts and pressure were put into tackling domestic energy waste, could we still see positive outcomes? Certainly from a local horizon, the spreadsheets at Guernsey Electricity say we could.

### Name one thing I can do that would make a big difference?

You’ve heard it all before: switch lights off, unplug devices, turn down the thermostat. These small, boring steps feel insignificant and lack that tangible sacrifice we associate with big change.

But while days get shorter and the air starts to bite, it’s time to top-up our electricity by burning through several thousand tonnes of fossil fuels, right here in Guernsey.

Use cleaner, cheaper electricity between 11pm and 5am.

Set the timers on your electricals to:

- Heat your water
- Wash and dry your clothes
- Clean the dishes
- Charge your electric vehicle

As an individual, we feel powerless to clean our air and cut infrastructure costs. But when thousands of us make small, consistent changes, that’s where we hold the power to flip the switch on the current narrative.

### What about my heating?

Stop heat from escaping and you’ll cut both energy bills and local greenhouse gas emissions.

- ✓ Cleaner air
- ✓ Better bank balance

But, some electric heating relies on fossil fuels.

If you use an electric boiler, you may switch on for a few hours from around 5pm – just like everybody else. Alongside cooking, watching TV, washing and other to-do list items, ‘peak time’ electric heating means electricity demand tips over the 60 Megawatts (MW) that can be imported through the subsea cable from the European grid. Our engineers then need to fire up another 12MW fossil fuel engine at the power station so everyone gets on-demand electricity.

In 2024, we used 5900 tonnes of fossil-fuels to generate the island’s electricity. Guernsey may be small, but that’s 25 road trips around the globe.

### How about Off-Peak electric heating?

If electric heating is on the cards, an off-peak option could be perfect for you. Off-peak storage heaters, for example, bank cheap, clean electricity overnight – which also happens to be when we’re importing 100% low-carbon hydro, wind and solar power from Europe.

Off-peak heating is also the most likely option to get accepted onto the network – and an electric boiler, the least likely.

### Picture what’s going on

Electricity and water may hate each other, but they’re both very similar.

Much like the reservoir, there’s only a certain amount of power available in the network at any given time. And just like water, when everyone demands it all at



once, there’s less to go around. Overnight, less people demand resources, so there’s more available for you to use.

Just like a new power shower, a new electric heating system will also need enough “flow” of electricity. The underground cables – your electrical “pipes” – must be big enough to handle the huge amount of extra electricity needed. If they’re not, a heating system simply won’t work.

That’s why your installer needs to check your property’s electricity supply using an ‘additional load’ application.

### Save money and carbon

The Three Key Power Plays

1. Use, run or charge electricals between 11pm and 5am
2. Find your cheap times on the back of your electricity bill and use electricals then if you need them earlier in the day
3. Insulate your property and plug the small gaps to keep draughts and cold weather from thieving your hard-earned heat

### Did you know?

Speaking of water, rain actually affects how much electricity people use. Even during a short burst, electricity use will spike.

Winter is the busy season for electricity. Want to learn more about energy here in Guernsey?



Sign up for our e-newsletter or follow us on social media [www.electricity.gg/subscribe](http://www.electricity.gg/subscribe)







ABOVE L-R: GUINNESS BARRELS ©SHUTTERSTOCK. CHRISTMAS AT THE CASTLE; HA'PENNY BRIDGE; THE TEMPLE BAR. BELOW: GRAFTON STREET LIGHTS. BOTTOM LEFT: TRINITY COLLEGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

## A QUICK GUIDE TO... DUBLIN

With flights operating between 20 December and 6 January, a minibreak in Ireland's capital city is a tempting mid-winter trip, whether you're visiting friends and family or travelling for leisure.

Wrap up warm and experience the best that the capital of the Republic of Ireland has to offer this winter. Dublin lights up with festive cheer over the Christmas period – and you'll be spoilt for choice for where to go!

You can't visit Dublin without a trip to Ireland's number one visitor attraction, **The Guinness Storehouse**. The panoramic mountain, bay and rooftop views from the 360° Gravity Bar tower are worth the admission alone.

Add in the creamy pint you'll get in the rooftop bar and what's not to like? Visit [guinness-storehouse.com/en/visit](http://guinness-storehouse.com/en/visit) for details of tours and tastings.

The newer Guinness Open Gate taproom and beer garden around the corner on James Street is a sneaky peek into the experimental side of the brewery, with small batch brews poured from a limited-run beer roster. See [guinnessopengate.com](http://guinnessopengate.com).

And especially for Christmas, the brewery's courtyard is turned into a festive wonderland, with a festive food fair and the sounds of contemporary Christmas music.

### Christmas spectacular at Smithfield Square

The newest addition to Dublin Christmas Markets has everything,

including an ice rink, ice museum (wrap up and explore the hand-crafted ice sculptures), market stalls, and a big wheel with views of the city. Entry to the market is free, but you will need to book the ice rink and museum. Open 11am – 9pm between 25 November and 2 January.

Check out the **Alpine Skate Trail** at Dún Laoghaire for a day on the ice. There are two separate rinks for various skill levels, whether you're a wannabe Olympian or would prefer to hang on to a penguin skate aid! See [iceskating.ie](http://iceskating.ie) for more information.

### Wild Lights at Dublin Zoo

Step into a glowing world of light and imagination at Dublin Zoo, where you can expect dazzling lanterns, jaw-dropping scenes, and festive wonder around every corner.

Due to popular demand, Wild Lights has been extended to run until the end of January. (Thursday – Sunday nights from 4 – 23 November; seven days a week from 22 November – 31 December, excluding 23 – 26 December when it is closed; Thursday – Sunday nights from 1 – 31 January).

There are a number of 'winter bundles' options to purchase at Dublin Zoo – see [dublinzoo.ie/wildlights/](http://dublinzoo.ie/wildlights/). Early booking recommended.

Why not head out of the city to **Luggwoods**, where you'll discover an enchanted forest? Start with a stroll through the twinkling trees,

meeting charming Christmas characters on the way. Then hop aboard the new Luggwoods Express Train, arriving at Santa Claus Village, which overlooks the breathtaking Dublin City lights. You'll even get the chance to meet the man himself... check out [luggwoodsevents.com/christmas/](http://luggwoodsevents.com/christmas/) for more information.

The **New Year's Festival** takes place from 30 December – 1 January, at multiple venues across Dublin.

Listen to DJs and street entertainers while diving into foodie delights, or head to Dublin Castle for the matinee & countdown concert. Stay up for the fireworks display above Dún Laoghaire Harbour and Howth Harbour. Festival information at [nyfdublin.ie](http://nyfdublin.ie).

Flights operate 20, 23, 27 and 30 December, and 03 and 06 January.

At the time of going to print, dates for **Christmas at the Castle** at Dublin Castle had not been confirmed.

Should you be visiting when it is on, you'll discover Dublin's only Bavarian-style market, which is free to enter. As well as traditional wooden chalets, expect entertainment, food and drink, and even a vintage carousel!

If visiting outside of the Christmas market dates, there is still plenty to see. Dublin Castle was constructed in the early 13th century on the site of a Viking settlement. It served

for centuries as the headquarters of the English, and later British, administration in Ireland. In 1922, following Ireland's independence, it was handed over to the new government, and is now a major government complex and a key tourist attraction. Open all year except 25 – 27 December and 1 January.

More information at [dublincastle.ie](http://dublincastle.ie).

### OTHER MUST-SEE HIGHLIGHTS IN DUBLIN

Explore museums like the **National Museum of Ireland** or **Trinity College Dublin**, Ireland's oldest and highest-ranking university, founded by Queen Elizabeth I. It was created by royal charter in 1592 and modelled after the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

Originally lying some distance east of the walled city, on the site of the former Priory of All Hallows, Trinity College is now in the heart of Dublin, opposite the historic Parliament House.

**St Patrick's Cathedral** is one of Dublin's most popular attractions, and is one of the few buildings left from the medieval city of Dublin.

**St Stephen's Green Park** is an oasis in the heart of the city. The gardens are a well-tended mix of seasonal favourites, and there's a huge duck pond in the centre – if you're lucky, you might even get to see swans.

Round off your visit with a trip to the **Temple Bar Pub** [thetemplebarpub.com](http://thetemplebarpub.com) – enjoy Irish music, beer and whiskey, or join a walking tour of the city, beginning and ending at the world-famous pub.

Information about taking skis on Aurigny can be found at [aurigny.com/faqs](http://aurigny.com/faqs)





## Aurigny in Focus: How we're Performing

We're back again this month to keep you informed of our operations and our performance. As summer has now commenced, we can look back and reflect on what a busy time this has been for travel on and off the island!

For Aurigny, summer is a crucial period not just for our travellers, but for Guernsey's hospitality industry. In this issue, we share how we performed, the challenges we faced, and the steps we are taking to keep improving.

## August in Context

In August, we carried over 59,000 travellers, which represents one of the busiest periods of the year. We're pleased to report our highest flight completion rate since we began publishing these updates in June.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our incredible cabin crew for their dedication to serving a significant number of travellers, as well as for the positive customer feedback received about their attentiveness and care. We really value the feedback shared by our travellers and encourage everyone to complete our post-flight surveys, which play a vital role in helping us improve.

This performance highlights all our team's hard work in ensuring our community and visitors can rely on us throughout one of the busiest months of the year.

**59K**  
TRAVELLERS CARRIED

## IN FOCUS REPORT - AUGUST

### Our On-Time Performance

As is industry standard, we measure on-time performance by the percentage of flights arriving within 15 minutes of their scheduled time.

1. During August, 84% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule, excluding weather and Air Traffic Control (ATC) restrictions – compared with 83% in July. Although small, this increase demonstrates our continued commitment to punctuality, even during a busy peak travel month.
2. Including weather and ATC impacts, 74% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule. The gap between these figures highlights the challenging weather conditions we faced in August, especially impacting our Alderney service, which has more restrictive operational requirements during adverse weather.

By comparison, all airlines at London Gatwick achieved 72% on-time performance within 15 minutes of schedule.

Overall, August was a good month, with a reliable performance and continued improvements.

\*Source: Eurocontrol.

### Our Completion Rates

A completion rate measures the percentage of flights we operated compared to the planned number.

1. In August, our flight completion rate was 99.3% when excluding weather, ATC restrictions and medevac requirements, ahead of July's 99%.
2. Including the impact of weather and ATC restrictions, our completion rate was 98%.

Meanwhile, all airlines at Gatwick achieved a 95% flight completion rate in August. We want to apologise to anyone who was affected by the small number of cancellations in August and want to thank you for your patience. Regrettably, a small level of disruption within the airline industry is unavoidable; however, we performed strongly compared to our peers. Please know our primary focus is always to get you where you need to be in the safest, most comfortable way.

\*Source: Eurocontrol.

## What we're Doing

In the last issue, we reported the innovative steps we were taking to combat pilot shortages, which were affecting Aurigny just like all other airlines across the globe.

We're pleased to report further developments on this: together with Leading-Edge Aviation, an Oxford-based flight training academy that supplies high-quality pilots to other leading airlines, such as British Airways, we're offering a unique programme. Each year, aspiring pilots will move from flying the Diamond Star DA40 and Diamond Twin Star DA42 light aircraft with Leading Edge to the ATR72-600 with Aurigny and then to the Boeing 787 with Norse Atlantic UK. This programme not only creates a clear pathway for the next generation of pilots but also strengthens Guernsey's role in global aviation.

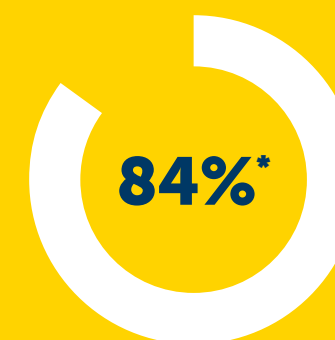
On National Accessible Air Travel Day, we highlighted our significant progress with our partner Aviramp. The specialised ramps provide step-free access to aircraft, making boarding and disembarking easier, safer and dignified for all travellers. They've already benefited 6,000 customers who have requested additional assistance over the last twelve months, as well as families with small children.

In addition to the Aviramps already at Guernsey Airport, they will soon be available at both Southampton and Gatwick. Importantly, when it comes to on-time performance, the ramps save on average an extra 4 minutes per aircraft rotation, directly improving efficiency and strengthening our on-time performance. While there's still more to do across aviation, this is a step in the right direction to making air travel both more accessible and more reliable.

## Our Call Centre

After reviewing performance in July, we made sure to increase resources to support the busy summer month of August.

With customer service remaining a priority, in August, we answered over 3,500 calls with the average wait time of 50 seconds. We're pleased to see these measures have had a positive impact, reducing our average call wait time by more than half, well below our two-minute target. This reflects our commitment to customer service during one of the busiest travel periods of the year.



FLIGHTS ARRIVING WITHIN  
15 MINUTES OF SCHEDULE



FLIGHT COMPLETION  
RATE

**3.5K**  
SUPPORT CALLS  
ANSWERED





# AURIGNY SUPPORTS THE SUNFLOWER PROJECT



Aurigny CEO Nico Bezuidenhout and Youth Commission CEO Louise Leale.

Aurigny has named the Guernsey Sunflower Project, run by the Youth Commission, as its new Official Charity Partner. The announcement was made on the International Day of Charity and highlights Aurigny's commitment to supporting children and young people across the Bailiwick.

The Sunflower Project provides specialist support to around 100 children each year in Guernsey and Alderney who have experienced the loss of a close loved one. Without this dedicated help,

bereavement can have a lasting impact on a young person's wellbeing and development. As part of the partnership, Aurigny is offering fare-free travel to the project's staff so they can travel between the islands and reach families wherever they are. The airline team will also host annual events for bereaved children, creating moments of connection and joy, while fundraising initiatives will help secure the project's vital services into the future.

Aurigny CEO Nico Bezuidenhout stated:

'Family is very important to me, and I know how deeply grief can affect children. One of the things that drew my family to Guernsey was its strong sense of community. We are delighted to support this service, which plays such an important role for young people.'

Youth Commission CEO Louise Leale added:

'We are incredibly grateful for Aurigny's support. Together, we can bring comfort and light to children living with loss and help them make special memories.'

# A NEW PATHWAY FOR FUTURE PILOTS

Aurigny and Norse Atlantic UK have joined forces with Leading Edge Aviation to create a unique new pilot training programme. The scheme gives aspiring aviators a clear pathway from their first training flights to operating a Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

Trainees will begin with Diamond Star training aircraft at Leading Edge in Oxford, before moving to Aurigny's ATR 72-600 fleet in Guernsey. After gaining experience as First Officers, pilots will then progress to Norse Atlantic UK's Boeing 787 fleet at Gatwick.



Each year, four pilots will be selected for this integrated programme. They will gain a BSc degree in Air Transport Management with Airline Pilot Training, specialist ground and

flight training, and a focus on wellbeing and professional development.

Aurigny COO Philip Smallwood announced:

'This new pathway places Aurigny and Guernsey firmly at the heart of pilot careers, ensuring a long-term source of talent for our services.'

Leading Edge CEO Andy McFarlane added:

'This partnership sets a new benchmark in pilot training and offers an unparalleled opportunity for students to progress directly to the long-haul flight deck.'

# 1.3 MILLION PEOPLE TRACK AURIGNY FLIGHT

A regular Guernsey to Manchester service unexpectedly captured worldwide attention when more than 1.3 million people tracked the journey online via Flightradar24, making it the most watched flight in the world that day.

The flight, GR678, operated by an ATR 72-600, departed Guernsey as normal, with the crew unaware of the attention it was receiving. Aviation fans speculated online about what might be onboard, from high-profile celebrities to even the Crown Jewels.

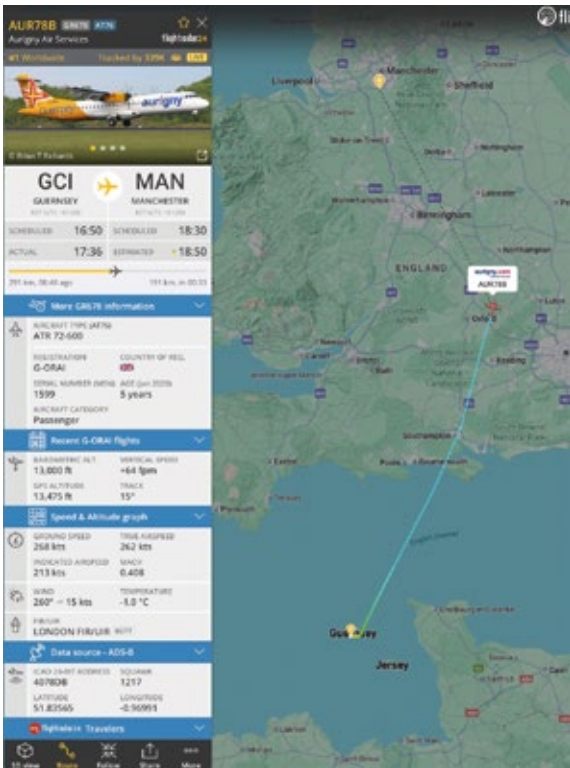
First Officer Tamer Birsan, who piloted the flight, said:

'For us, it was just a routine journey we know well. After leaving Guernsey, we were treated to clear views across the south coast and London. To discover afterwards that more than a million people had followed us was a big surprise.'

The unusual spotlight also highlighted Guernsey as a destination. VisitGuernsey's Sam Claxton noted:

'It is not every day Guernsey finds itself in the global spotlight thanks to a routine flight. We hope this sparks journeys for people to discover our stunning coastline and warm hospitality.'

With up to 20 flights a week between Guernsey and Manchester, the route offers plenty of opportunities for travellers to turn curiosity into a visit.



# MAKING AIR TRAVEL MORE ACCESSIBLE

Aurigny is introducing fully electric Aviramps at Southampton and London Gatwick, adding to the units already in place at Guernsey Airport.

The ramps provide step-free access to aircraft, making boarding and disembarking easier and more dignified for passengers with reduced mobility, as well as families with young children.

The investment is already proving beneficial. Over the last year, more than 6,000 Aurigny passengers requested additional assistance. Trials also show that the ramps improve efficiency, saving around four minutes per turnaround, which benefits all customers.

Aurigny Deputy COO Dave Cox commented:



'By working with Aviramp and Guernsey Ports, we have been able to improve boarding experiences for many travellers. This is about smoother, faster and more dignified journeys.'

The airline is also exploring options for smaller aircraft, including the Twin Otters soon to serve Alderney, ensuring accessibility improvements continue across its network.



# 75,000TH PASSENGER ON LONDON CITY SERVICE

Aurigny has celebrated carrying its 75,000th passenger on the London City to Guernsey route, launched in March 2024.

The milestone was marked with a visit to Guernsey by senior leaders from London City Airport, who joined in the celebrations and met local businesses that benefit from the service.

The route has been especially popular with the finance sector thanks to the airport's location, just 10 minutes from Canary Wharf. Aurigny reports more than 2,000 same-day return business trips have already been made since launch.

London City was recently named the UK's best airport by consumer watchdog Which?, praised for its convenience and efficiency.

Aurigny CEO Nico Bezuidenhout announced:



'We are proud to provide unrivalled access to the heart of London via London City, alongside connectivity to the wider world through Gatwick.'

The 75,000th passenger, travelling from Luxembourg for a wedding, received complimentary tickets for a future journey.

# COMING SOON: A SMARTER WAY TO TRAVEL WITH OUR NEW APP

Designed to keep everything you need for your journey right at your fingertips

Whether you're booking your next adventure, reviewing past trips, or staying updated on important travel details, our app makes navigation simple. Built to the latest WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility guidelines, it's created to ensure everyone can access the service.

Simply add your bookings to the 'Manage Trips' section of the app to enable notifications and get real-time updates about your travel.

## TOP 5 FEATURES OF OUR NEW APP

- 1. **Built for Mobile** – A clean, intuitive design that adapts perfectly to any screen size for effortless navigation.
- 2. **Booking History at a Glance** – Easily track and review all your trips from the past year in one place.
- 3. **Travel Made Simple** – Instant access to your bookings, boarding passes, and key travel details, all in your pocket.
- 4. **Seamless Repeat Bookings** – Save time by quickly booking flights through your frequent flyer account.
- 5. **Stay Informed, Always** – Receive timely notifications about your flights directly to your phone.



With our app in your pocket, travel becomes simpler, faster and more organised – so you can focus on the journey, not the logistics.

Launching soon on the App Store and Google Play.

# The prompted path

## What we lose when AI removes the process

500,000 years is a blink, in geological terms. Yet, it was enough to take the human eye from a light-sensitive patch on a primordial blob to the ball of complexity that lets you read this article, discern beige from ecru, or recognise a friend from across the room. Before speculating on the vast causal chain that produced it, Darwin admitted the likelihood of the human eye evolving as “absurd in the highest possible degree.”

A day is literally a blink, in claymation terms. The animators behind Wallace & Gromit will spend weeks on the slightest facial expression, tweezing every millimetre of eyelid movement, rigging and shifting Gromit's plasticine peepers, which themselves are among hundreds carefully designed to reflect light, expression and nuance.

A second is a blink, in generative AI terms. No slow dance between ideation and execution, no Darwinian crawl, no carpal tunnel from folding Gromit's eyelids, just a prompt and a near-instant output. With the bottleneck of creation being lifted, we're invited to ask – what's lost in the removal of process?

Time, skill, and resource aren't just constraints to creativity, but regulators. They force ideas to pass through a gauntlet that either improves or discards them. Remove the space between idea and result, and the floodgates holding back the sea of imagination slop are lifted; all the fever-dreams that would never survive a sketchbook, rehearsal room, or red pen come bursting through. I'm sure you've felt this flood. The creative process doesn't just reality-test ideas, it quality-tests them, but it also shapes and expands them.

Cast your mind to 1400s Florence. For 25 years, an 18-foot-tall block of white marble stood degrading in a cathedral courtyard. For all its initial promise, sculptors wouldn't go near it. Too narrow to shape freely, veined with streaks of weak, fracture-prone stone; one wrong chisel and the slab is in shards. Eventually, studying the stone, a sculptor saw it through.

The marble's limited depth, awkward proportions, and the frustrated hackings of earlier attempts presented a significant challenge. The sculptor shaped the statue around these constraints; aligning the weight-bearing leg

with the strongest vein, inward-angled limbs, compact pose, shaping the posture around the scars. The result? An output determined by process and constraint – Michelangelo's David was complete. Often, creative parameters shape the result for the better.

It's not enough to leap from idea to outcome; the space between these points is integral to the final product. Doing the work, building the prototype, playing the notes, mixing the paints, working to the budget – ideas become something else on their path to completion.

Take bubble wrap and Post-it notes: both began life with abandoned purposes, one as a wallpaper concept, the other as a bookmark. In their development and application, their promise expanded.

So, the creative process prunes, adapts, and evolves ideas beyond their original conception. With the collapse of that space, we remove the parameters to creativity, but we also lose the forces that, often enough, turn an idea into its best version.

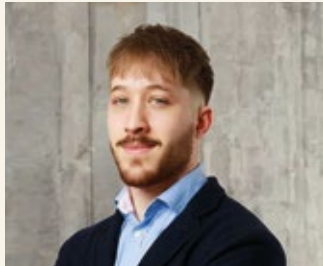
Naturally, this isn't the full picture. For all that's lost when we skip the work, there are gains to consider.

Nobody's deleting their translation app because it skips the “poetry” of manual translation, or uninstalling their coding copilot out of respect for the “programming journey.” Sometimes, the shortest route is the best one – freeing time, removing restrictions, levelling the playing field.

And that levelling is moving fast. AI titans like OpenAI's Sam Altman foretold of an “every employee a CEO” AI utopia, and while this remains questionable, the democratisation of skill is expanding: every user a Rembrandt, every prompter a Beethoven. With this new competitive landscape, we're unlikely to see excellence erased; we're more likely to see it redefined.

The electric guitar didn't kill music, photography didn't destroy art – they brought new standards and expanded the meaning of mastery. No doubt AI will do the same.

The challenge for us is discernment. Sometimes the work needs the journey; sometimes speed serves the work. Knowing which is which will matter more and more, because some details only reveal themselves in the blink.



**Jesse Byrne**  
Client Planning Executive

Jesse has a strong interest in industry and consumer dynamics and how they can be used to shape campaign strategy. With a particular focus on the evolving impact of technology on consumer-brand relationships, he heads the agency's AI steering committee.

TPA is the Channel Islands' leading creative agency. So, if you want to lead together, talk to us.

[tpagency.com](https://tpagency.com)

Don't  
chase,  
lead.







# OUR FLEET

Aurigny has a fleet of five fuel-efficient ATR aircraft and two next Generation Dornier 228s.

The aircraft are suited to our regional network.

Did you know? Some of our aircraft registrations have a special meaning to us; for example, G-PEMB is named after Pembroke Bay in Guernsey.



**ATR 72-600**  
**NUMBER IN FLEET** 5  
**BUILT** Toulouse, France  
**ENGINES**  
2 x Pratt & Whitney PW-127 M Turboprops  
**MAXIMUM SPEED** 276 knots (318 mph)  
**PASSENGERS CARRIED** 72  
**RANGE** 1,023 miles (1,646 km)



**Dornier 228NG**  
**NUMBER IN FLEET** 2  
**BUILT** Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany  
**ENGINES**  
2 x Garrett TPE331-10 Turboprops  
**MAXIMUM SPEED** 223 knots (257 mph)  
**PASSENGERS CARRIED** 19  
**RANGE** 350 miles (563 km)



**1968**  
Founded



**17 MILLION**  
Aurigny has carried over 17 million passengers since it was founded



**HOLIDAY FLIGHTS IN 2020**

Aurigny was one of the only airlines in the world to offer isolation-free holidays in 2020 with travel corridors between Alderney, Guernsey and the Isle of Man



**1977**  
First airline in the world to ban smoking on all services



**1**  
FA Cup  
Flown to Guernsey on 19th August 2016



**7**  
Aircraft



**1**  
Birth on board  
Between Alderney and Guernsey



**1**  
In-flight marriage



**300**  
Staff



## AURIGNY GUERNSEY'S AIRLINE

OK, it's not the easiest of names – pronounced **Or-ree-nee** – but it's certainly one that islanders are proud of. 'Aurigny' is the Norman name for Alderney, the northern island in the Bailiwick of Guernsey, where Aurigny Air Services was launched in 1968.

Aurigny has been serving the Channel Islands for over 50 years and is owned by the States of Guernsey.

## OUR DESTINATIONS

### FROM GUERNSEY FROM ALDERNEY

- ALDERNEY
- BIRMINGHAM
- BRISTOL
- DUBLIN\*
- EDINBURGH
- EXETER
- GRENOBLE\*
- LEEDS BRADFORD\*
- LONDON CITY
- LONDON GATWICK
- MANCHESTER
- SOUTHAMPTON
- PARIS CDG

- GUERNSEY
- SOUTHAMPTON

**Our winter schedule is out now.**

Flights available until August 2026. Visit [Aurigny.com](http://Aurigny.com) for more details.

\*Denotes seasonal route



# SAFETY FIRST

## HAND BAGGAGE

Once you've boarded and located your seat, please ensure your hand baggage is stowed safely. Small bags can be placed underneath the seat in front of you, unless you are seated in an emergency exit row.

All other items should be placed inside an overhead locker. Please take care when opening the overhead lockers as items may have moved during the flight and falling items may cause injury.

## YOUR SAFETY

We want to look after you on board and our main concern is for your safety and that of the Aurigny crew. Cabin crew are here primarily for your safety, so please pay attention to their instructions. Any feedback about the crew and flight is welcomed.

Life jackets are provided for use in the extremely unlikely event of an emergency. It is an offence to tamper with or remove them without authorisation and this may jeopardise the safety of others.

Both staff and passengers have the right to fly within a calm, safe and friendly environment. Aurigny has a zero-tolerance policy towards any violent, disruptive or offensive behaviour, and crew have been trained to deal with such incidents.

## SMOKING

Smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes is not permitted on board, including within the toilets.

## FOOD ALLERGIES

Allergy information is available for all snacks – please see the packaging label or ask a member of the crew.

## TRAVELLING WITH INFANTS AND CHILDREN

Infants under the age of 2 need to be secured whenever the seatbelt sign is on, this can be achieved through the use of a seatbelt loop provided by the airline to secure the infant on an adult's lap. A child

over the age of 2 must be secured in their own seat to ensure their safety in the event of an emergency landing or turbulence.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES\*

### HANDHELD DEVICES WITH A 'FLIGHT SAFE' MODE

Handheld devices, such as tablets, e-readers and mobile phones, may be used during all phases of the flight, provided the 'flight safe' mode is enabled before departure. Larger devices must be safely secured in hand luggage during taxi, take-off and landing, either in the overhead locker or under the seat in front of you. Any device that transmits or receives communications but does not have a flight safe mode must be switched off from doors closed to doors open.

### LAPTOPS, ULTRABOOKS AND NOTEBOOKS

Devices may be used during boarding but not for taxi, take-off and landing, when they must be safely stowed away in hand luggage. They may be used in flight, provided they are set to flight safe mode, with WiFi turned off. Bluetooth can only be used throughout the flight on the ATR.

### DEVICES WITHOUT A 'FLIGHT SAFE' MODE

This will include items such as DVD players, electronic games and music players. Only small, handheld devices may be used during taxi, take-off and landing. Larger devices must be switched off and safely stowed away in hand luggage during taxi, take-off and landing.

## BLUETOOTH ACCESSORIES

All Bluetooth accessories (for example wireless keyboards, headphones etc.) may be used on the ATR.

### ARE THERE ANY TIMES I CANNOT USE MY HANDHELD DEVICES?

Under certain circumstances your flight or cabin crew will ask that all electronic devices be switched

off, for example, during refuel operations. This will be announced over the PA.

### CAN I USE MY HEADPHONES THROUGHOUT THE FLIGHT?

Personal headphones can be used for some stages of the flight and may be attached to your personal device. We ask that customers remove their headphones whenever the seatbelt signs are illuminated during the taxi, take-off and landing phases and during the safety demonstration.







### CAN I USE A REMOTE POWER PACK?

Aurigny does not allow passengers to charge their devices while on board our aircraft.

**Please ask a member of cabin crew if you have any queries.**

\*Electronic devices can only be used on the ATR aircraft. Unfortunately, they cannot be used on the Dornier.

## BAGGAGE ADVICE FOR PASSENGERS

-  Always secure a tag onto your baggage containing key contact details, including where you will be staying.
-  Insert a sheet of paper into your bag with key personal details, such as your name, contact details, flight numbers and address of where you will be staying.
-  Carry any essential items, such as money and medication, with you on the flight.
-  Customise the look of your bag to make it easier to identify.
-  Immediately report the loss of checked-in luggage if it does not arrive at your destination. Do this before leaving the airport.
- 

# ON BOARD PASSENGER AWARENESS

## Welcome on board!

We hope that you will enjoy your flight and, of course, allow others to enjoy theirs. All passengers have the right to safe, secure and comfortable travel on board our aircraft. Unruly or disruptive behaviour would ruin this experience and could also be traumatic for passengers or crew.

## UNRULY BEHAVIOUR PRIOR TO FLIGHT:

If unruly or disruptive behaviour is noticed prior to the flight, please be aware that transport may be denied.

## UNRULY BEHAVIOUR DURING THE FLIGHT:

If such behaviour is demonstrated during the flight, please be aware that there may be serious consequences to these actions. The aircraft may divert and make an unscheduled landing, authorities may meet the flight, and the person responsible for the unruly or disruptive behaviour may be arrested, fined, charged and/or prosecuted.

It is for this reason that we ask all passengers to always:






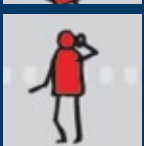

1. Follow crew member instructions promptly
2. Respect crew members and fellow passengers
3. Behave in a safe and appropriate manner
4. Refrain from endangering the safety of the aircraft or its occupants

## OFFENCES AND OTHER ACTS COMMITTED ON BOARD AIRCRAFT:

Under the Air Navigation Order (A.N.O) and Aviation & Maritime Security Act the following are considered as unacceptable behaviours on board:

1. Assault and other acts of interference against a crew member on board a civil aircraft
2. Assault and other acts endangering safety or jeopardising good order and discipline on board a civil aircraft
3. Other offences committed on board a civil aircraft

## OFFENCES TO AVOID:

	Assaulting, intimidating, threatening a crew member or passenger.		Smoking anywhere on board, including in the lavatories.
	Refusing to follow instructions from the crew.		Tampering with the smoke detectors.
	Intoxicated or disorderly conduct or consuming alcohol which was not provided by crew members. You are not permitted to consume your duty free purchases on board.		Using a portable electronic device when not permitted to do so.
	Engaging in or displaying any indecent or lewd behaviour.		Removing or damaging safety or emergency equipment, the aircraft or property on board.



# WHO CAN YOU TRUST?

## INSIDE THE GREY AREAS OF THE BEAUTY INDUSTRY

BY ELLA HARVEY, FOUNDER OF ELLA HARVEY AESTHETICS

The beauty industry has come a long way in the last decade. What was once seen as a surface-level career is now seen as a skilled, respected profession, and rightly so.

But with popularity come problems, and one of the biggest challenges we face in 2025 is something most clients still don't realise: the beauty and aesthetics industry is almost entirely unregulated.

Yes, you read that right. In the UK and Channel Islands, there are no legal requirements around who can carry out certain aesthetic procedures, which training counts, or even which products can be used on your skin. And in the wrong hands, that's dangerous.

### A QUICK COURSE DOESN'T MAKE YOU QUALIFIED

Today, you can take a one-day online course and walk away with a certificate to inject someone's face, tattoo their brows, or remove pigmentation with a laser. No medical background, no qualifications, no proper training.

When I trained in permanent makeup back in 2012, it was a completely different experience. I had to submit proof of qualifications before I was even accepted onto the course. I studied a full theory portfolio, then completed multiple days of practical training on real clients from diverse backgrounds. And even then, it took me two years of working in clinic to really understand how pigment heals, how different skins respond, and how to manage complications.

Learning to do it right takes time on skin. It's not just about what can go well – it's about knowing how to react when something doesn't.

### COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS AND CUT CORNERS

With platforms like Amazon selling aesthetic supplies, it's become alarmingly easy to purchase counterfeit products. They look identical to legitimate ones, but may contain banned or unsafe ingredients. As a client, you'd never know until something goes wrong.

That's why it's vital to choose practitioners who order through professional suppliers, who have verified



insurance, and who can show proof of accredited training. If they can't answer those questions, that's your red flag.

### WHAT IF IT'S MORE THAN SKIN DEEP?

One of the most overlooked issues in our industry is the psychological side of cosmetic treatments. Body dysmorphic disorder (BDD) is real, and it's more common than many think. As practitioners, we have a duty to recognise the signs – even when clients don't say a word.

At Ella Harvey Aesthetics, we take that responsibility seriously. Every client starts with a thorough consultation. Our team goes through extensive hands-on training, advanced theory, and regular reviews to ensure we meet the highest standards – not just in artistry, but in safety, ethics and client care.

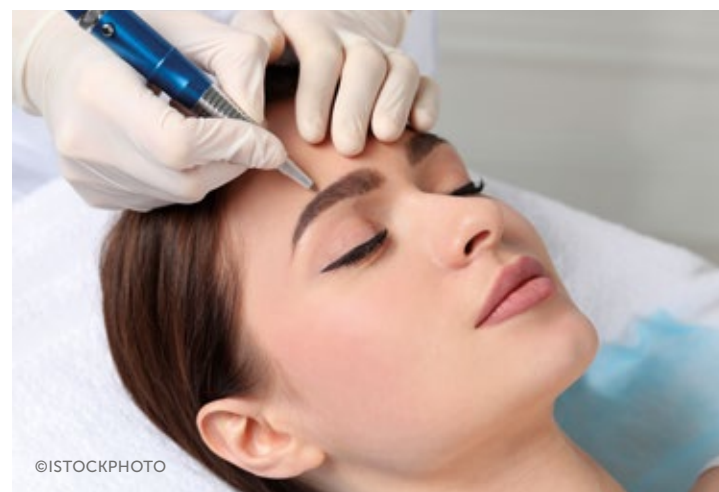
We are fully insured, accountable, and confident in saying no when something doesn't feel right. Because good work is never rushed, and your wellbeing will always come before a sale.

To learn more or book a consultation –

Email: [book@ellaharvey.com](mailto:book@ellaharvey.com)

WhatsApp us on: 07592 170688

Follow us on Instagram: @ellaharveyaesthetics



©ISTOCKPHOTO

## GUERNSEY

# Beach Guide

Guernsey has a beach and a bay for everyone. Here we discover Moulin Huet.



## MOULIN HUET

When the artist Pierre-Auguste Renoir came to stay on Guernsey in 1883, he produced several canvases depicting Moulin Huet.

The rocks in his paintings can still be identified on the beach, even through his Impressionist lens. It's pleasing, and oddly reassuring, to think that they stand as impressively today as they did for Renoir all those years ago.

The reasonably steep cliff path leads down from the car park to a couple of small flights of steps that divide two sections of beach.

To the right, hemmed in by a wave-cut platform of rock, lies a ribbon of pebbles that is fairly unremarkable save for the Moulin Huet stream, which pours out onto the stones from several feet above. To the left, however, is a much more impressive stretch; with the tide out you'll find the sandy beach to be one of the prettiest the island has to offer.

Sprinkled with large fingers of rock rising ten feet or more out of the sand, the beach is substantial and at the very lowest tides (twice yearly) it's possible to walk all the way across the bay to Petit Port.

At high tide the beach takes on an almost otherworldly appearance, as the waters advance to the base of the cliff and the rocks protrude in odd shapes above the surface. It's extremely beautiful, and fantastic for swimming, though when the sea is rough it can become a touch hazardous.

A very decent tearoom, toilets and a large car park make for a more family-friendly South Coast

experience than is to be found at adjacent bays, and marks out Moulin Huet as a relaxed alternative to busy Saturdays at Petit Bot.

*Taken from Guernsey Beach Guide*

**Optimum Tide:** Low

**Best Feature:** The echoes of Renoir



TOP: ©ISTOCKPHOTO  
ABOVE: ©VISIT GUERNSEY



### WHAT'S THERE ?



### DOGS ON BEACHES

See [gov.gg/dogsonbeaches](http://gov.gg/dogsonbeaches) for up-to-date information.



# INSIDE OUTSIDE LIVING.

The frameless insulated sliding doors by Swiss manufacturer Sky-Frame blend naturally into their surroundings, creating a seamless continuity between indoors and outdoors and blurring the line between where the living space ends and the view begins. [SKY-FRAME.COM](https://www.sky-frame.com)

## SKY-FRAME

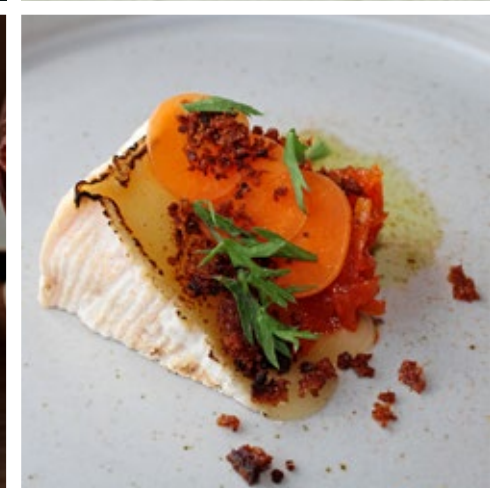
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VRAIC TEAM, OPPOSITE PAGE  
AND NIGHTTIME EXTERIOR ABOVE ©VRAIC.  
OTHER IMAGES ©TAMMY SNEDDON, GUERNSEY PRESS.

# VRAIC – WHERE THE FOOD STEALS THE SHOW

IF LUNCH IS MORE OFTEN THAN NOT A HASTY AFFAIR (A SANDWICH GRABBED AT A DESK OR FOOD GULPED BUT NOT TASTED), THEN CLEAR YOUR DIARY FOR A THREE-HOUR CULINARY JOURNEY AT ONE OF GUERNSEY'S NEWEST RESTAURANTS, VRAIC. AMANDA EULENKAMP REPORTS.

Even though Vraic – situated by the coast at Chouet – has only been open a matter of weeks and months, it's already received rave reviews, including from celebrity chef Tom Kerridge, who flew to the island especially to try it out.

His verdict? 'Some of the most amazing, exciting and tasty food I've eaten in a long time! Get on a plane people and go!'

So when my colleague, Guernsey Press features editor Tammy Sneddon, and I were invited to lunch to experience the multi-course tasting menu, we didn't need asking twice.

Armed with a notebook (me) and a camera (her), we left the office with our colleagues looking enviously on...

We were warmly greeted at the entrance to the restaurant – not the door, the actual gate to the

property – and invited to enjoy pre-dinner drinks either on the front terrace complete with fire pits and sheepskin rugs, or upstairs, to take in the panoramic views of Chouet. We opted to sit outside near the fire pits, and were handed the drinks and food menus to peruse. There is a wine pairing option (£95 per person) but on this occasion, we decided to try a non-alcoholic sparkling rose – one of the best non-alcoholic drinks that I've ever had, being on the dry side and not too sweet (which many non-alcoholic wines can be).

Being a tasting menu, everyone eats in a single sitting (1pm for lunch, 7.30pm for dinner). As we took our window table inside, we settled in for a couple of hours of sheer foodie joy.

Tammy had mentioned to me that she wasn't a fan of fish but that she was hoping Nathan

(Davies, executive chef and the inspiration behind Vraic) would change her mind. Popping the first mouthful – the seaweed, crab and hazelnut bite – into her mouth in one go was enough to have her enthusing about the slightly earthy, buttery and sweet taste she was experiencing. A fish fan, I was likewise smitten, just as I was with each and every dish – as we talked over the lunch, we knew we would run out of superlatives when we came to writing up our reports!

In Tammy's words: 'The rest of the meal continued in a journey of sights, smells, tastes and textures that surprised, delighted and amazed. From the jewel-like pieces of seaweed in broth, to the pillowy-softness and crunchy crust of the Welsh grain bread slathered in miso Guernsey Dairy butter ('Eat this like no-one is looking'), the surprisingly light and spring-like tasting turbot

(along with the surprise course of crispy turbot skin with a sour cream and caviar dip – nothing is wasted), to the beery local sirloin beef, the lemony explosion-in-the-mouth meringue and the sweet (but not cloying) tangy yoghurt sorbet with pine cone syrup, which I could eat forever.'

But Vraic is far more than 'just superb food'. It's an experience, a culinary journey with each course's flavours building on the previous one; a crescendo of taste sensations exploding in our mouths; a show of skill and presentation, of understanding the food and working culinary magic with it (see what I mean about the superlatives?!).

We both loved the vibe of the restaurant with its simple and clean lines, which showcases the food and highlights the open kitchen where the chefs operate. Guests are welcome to pop by and watch them working.

The service is on another level – effortlessly charming, laid-back yet on-point professional. Each dish is introduced with the ingredients' provenance explained. Expect pine

cones from Herm, Alderney salt, local meat and fish, as well as very locally-foraged seaweed, harvested just a couple of hours earlier.

Our meal ended with a choice of coffee (Tammy) or peppermint and kelp tea (me), plus some divine petit fours, which included burnt butter fudge and 'Nana Builth's' Welsh cakes. The latter brought back aspects of my childhood as my Welsh Nana Jones would bake Welsh cakes (and you can't beat them fresh from the griddle!).

As we saw other tables take their leave, chatting to Nathan, the other chefs (some of whom are local but others have followed him from Michelin-starred SY23 in Aberystwyth), and the waiting staff, we knew it was time to head back to the office.

At £145 a head for the food, Vraic's pricing is on a par with other tasting menus in the UK – but is on our doorstep and is making the most of our local produce. If you have a special occasion coming up, then take the plunge and experience the best of the best – a restaurant that Guernsey should be proud to have.

## ABOUT NATHAN DAVIES

Executive chef Nathan Davies was behind SY23 in Aberystwyth, which earned a Michelin star and was crowned 'Opening of the Year' in the 2022 Michelin Guide.

He boasts a varied career from working for Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, to being a private chef in France.

'Vraic' is the local word for seaweed. The restaurant works closely with local seaweed foragers, farmers, and fishing boats, to offer a seasonal tasting menu that celebrates the best of Guernsey and the British Isles.

Vraic is open for lunch Friday and Saturday 1pm, and for dinner Wednesday – Saturday 7.30pm. Closed Sunday – Tuesday.

See [vraig.gg](http://vraig.gg) for further information.





IMAGES ©GUERNSEY PRESS



# REDISCOVERING ADELE H

**THIS YEAR THE ISLAND HAS BEEN CELEBRATING GUERNSEY'S ONLY ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINATED FILM. SHAUN SHACKLETON REPORTS.**

In September The Victor Hugo in Guernsey Society and the Victor Hugo Centre organised a special event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of French director François Truffaut's feature film, *The Story of Adele H*, which was filmed in Guernsey and whose cast included many locals.

It included a short documentary film, presentations by Hugo experts and a screening of the original film.

The film is based on the life of Victor Hugo's youngest daughter, Adele. The fifth and last child of Victor Hugo, when she was 13 her elder sister Leopoldine drowned in a boating accident on the River Seine. When Adele was 21, she was forced into exile with her family.

While living in the Channel Islands, she became romantically involved with a British lieutenant, Alfred Prinson, who took part in the famous spiritualism sessions organised by Victor Hugo.

The young officer thought no more of her when his regiment left for Canada, but Adele was infatuated and followed him.

Needless to say, the story doesn't end well.

In 1975 François Truffaut was already a multi-award-winning director, widely considered to be one of the key figures of the French New Wave cinema. Shooting for the film began in Guernsey on 7 January 1975, 100 years after the actual events, with St Peter Port doubling as Halifax, Nova Scotia. Isabelle Adjani, who plays Adele, was only 19 during the filming. Having appeared previously in only four films, her performance as Adele earned Adjani an Academy Award nomination for best actress. The lieutenant

is played by Bruce Robinson, one of three British professionals in the film. All the other cast members, except a French violinist, were islanders.

Assistant director Suzanne Schiffman said that they wanted to film scenes at Hauteville House because Adele had lived there. While viewing it they were impressed by St Peter Port's possibilities as a backdrop and as they had received so much assistance from locals, decided to film it here. Scenes were shot in the Markets, Sausmarez Manor, Vimiera College before it became St Pierre Park Hotel, Pleinmont Point, Saints Bay and some Town streets. A house in Pedvin Street was transformed into a Victorian residence in Nova Scotia and was very much the focal point for the two months of filming.

Many local people were involved in the filming – several of the actors with spoken parts were members of GADOC (The Guernsey Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Club) and extras in the crowd scenes answered advertisements in the Guernsey Press. Local carpenters and builders were employed to build the sets and local animals also appear in the film. The fire brigade was also employed to replicate snow by blowing foam on Hauteville.

The stories and memories of those who helped create the film were captured and compiled by filmmaker and director of Guernsey Filmworks, Lars Janssen, who created the short documentary, 'Adele, between two tides', which premiered before the movie screening in September. Lars directed the recent action-adventure film *Captain Hook: The Cursed Tides*. The event also featured presentations from Laura El Makki, author of the award-winning 'Adele Hugo, ses écrits, son histoire',

and Diana Holmes, emerita professor of French at the University of Leeds and film scholar.

'The celebration recalled a unique time 50 years ago when our island appeared on cinema screens around the world,' said Larry Malcic, chairman of the Victor Hugo Centre. 'An example of how Guernsey continues to benefit from Victor Hugo's global reputation.'

To find out more about *The Victor Hugo in Guernsey Society*, [victorhugoinguernsey.gg](http://victorhugoinguernsey.gg). For information on the Victor Hugo Centre, visit [vhc.gg](http://vhc.gg).



## MEMORIES ABOUT THE SHOOT

Following a successful call out via several outlets such as the Guernsey Press and the Facebook page Guernsey Days Gone By, former members and family of the local cast of *The Story of Adele H* contacted the Victor Hugo Centre and the Victor Hugo in Guernsey Society about their roles in the film. Interviewed by the centre's operation manager Laura Harrison and filmed by local filmmaker Lars Janssen at the beginning of August, they were featured in a short documentary called 'Adele, between two tides' that was premiered before the showing of the feature film.

'It was quite exciting as I was at Oxford studying architecture and my dad Lawrie contacted me and said: "How would you like to get involved in a film? You look like the actor playing the lieutenant," explained Andrew Ozanne. 'He was providing the horse carriages, the horses and the riders for the film. He explained that I'd be in a scene filmed at Pleinmont and I'd be riding Claudius Flavius, though he wasn't used to being ridden.

'Dad explained that Truffaut wanted me to gallop down from the TV mast and stop right in front of Isabelle Adjani. I was quite alarmed. What I didn't know was that Bob Froome was hiding and shouted "Gee up", and frightened Claudius. I wasn't aware he was there – Claudius certainly wasn't. We did three takes.'

Andrew remembered sitting in make-up with Isabelle before the scene.

'She asked me what I was going to do, as she was to stand by the foreshore. My father realised that she was nervous and that it was too much of a risk, so had a word with Truffaut and he changed the scene. I'm glad I didn't have to race down the hill and stop in front of her.'

Andrew shared a few other memories about the shoot.

'Dad got to know Truffaut and they really enjoyed each other's company. I think whisky might have been involved,' he joked. 'My dad appears repeatedly throughout the film and at the end he was presented with a book about French carriages.

'Isabelle was very focused and worked hard. I think she did remarkably well and she was respected by everyone. I chatted to Truffaut. He was quite grumpy but I imagine that goes with the job. I never realised there was so much work that goes into a film. He had a booming voice and when he spoke everyone listened. But he was very approachable and very knowledgeable about Victor Hugo and Guernsey.'

Laura asked Andrew if he was paid for being in the film.

'Cheeky as I was, I got paid £50 each time for the ride and my plane fare.

'That must make me a film star,' he said, laughing.

Andrew took his friends at university to the film's Oxford premiere.

'I was so excited to see my three-second clip.'

'We understood that a lot of people in the film were no longer with us so it's even more important to capture the memories,' said Laura. 'We're really trying to demonstrate in as many ways possible how Victor Hugo enhances culture in Guernsey and that there are many ways to tell the story – and this is one of the ways.'





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## WHAT'S ON IN THE BAILIWICK?

THE FRENCH MARKET ©GUERNSEY PRESS



### Until 30 November TENNERFEST 2025

The Channel Islands' fixed-price food festival has been running for more than 25 years. Discover new flavours in hotels, restaurants, bistros, gastro pubs and cafes, from traditional Guernsey cuisine to Chinese, Indian, Italian, and more.

Menus are fixed from three courses for £10 per head, to £15, £20, £25 and over £30. Check out [tennerfest.com](http://tennerfest.com) for more information.

### 10 – 13 October THE FRENCH MARKET

Market Square, St Peter Port

The French Market is a charming pop-up experience with French traders from Normandy offering a fantastic selection of regional products, including: cheese; fresh fruit and vegetables; honey; soaps; bags; cashmere jumpers & scarves; cider, Pommeau, Calvados & apple juice; saucisson & charcuterie.

### 11 – 25 October

#### 25TH ANNIVERSARY NERINE FESTIVAL

Guernsey Gardens, La Ramée

An opportunity to see a stunning display of nerines, including the Nerine sarniensis, also known as the Guernsey lily.

There are nerine plants to buy each day, and on Saturdays and Sundays there will be someone to answer questions.

Free entrance and parking. Details at [plantheritageguernsey.org.uk](http://plantheritageguernsey.org.uk). Read more about the Nerine Festival on page 36.

### 17 – 18 October

#### THE NATIONAL GILBERT & SULLIVAN OPERA COMPANY

See HMS Pinafore at the Princess Royal Centre for Performing Arts – tickets on sale from [guernseytickets.gg](http://guernseytickets.gg) or call 01481 229999.

### 18 October – 31 December

#### DAVID ROBILLIARD: WELCOME TO THE FRIENDLY ISLE

Guernsey Museums & Galleries, in association with Guernsey Arts, presents this new temporary exhibition at Guernsey Museum at Candie.



THE FRENCH MARKET ©GUERNSEY PRESS





ALPINE LODGE ©THE OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE HOTEL

18 October

**SOUPE SPOOKY SATURDAY**

Takes place between 11am and 3pm at the Victorian Walled Kitchen & Garden, Saumarez Park.

Enjoy spooky fun for kids, pumpkin carving and other activities, plus soup to warm you up.

18 October

**CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF STARGAZING**

Mark a decade of stargazing under Sark's world-famous dark skies at the Dachinger Observatory, Sark

Following a warm start to the evening over food and drinks at the Old Hall, enjoy a planetarium show and guided stargazing at the observatory (weather permitting). Wrap up warm! Free entry, registration required – go to [darkskyisland.co.uk/rsvp](http://darkskyisland.co.uk/rsvp)

19 – 25 October

**THE 49TH BWCI GUERNSEY INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL**

Whether you're a seasoned competitor or a passionate chess enthusiast, this Festival brings players from around the globe for a celebration of strategy, skill, and sportsmanship.

Takes place at St James Concert Hall. More information at [guernseychessfestival.org.gg](http://guernseychessfestival.org.gg)

30 October – 2 November

**GLOBAL COLLECTION FESTIVAL 2025**

This new, three-day festival, will see 16 international artists collaborate with local talent; expect an unprecedented listening experience featuring everything from classic jazz to afrobeats, soul, house and more.

For more details, schedules and line-up info, visit [stjames.gggcf25/](http://stjames.gggcf25/)

19 November – 4 January 2026

**ALPINE LODGE**

While away a wintry afternoon or evening at the Alpine Lodge at the Old Government House Hotel.

Complete with snowy scenery, rustic wooden walls, a flickering fire, a fully stocked bar, sofas and chunkyrugs, it's everything you'd want in an après-ski experience.

Ski passes include a choice of mulled wine or mulled cider upon arrival, one alcoholic drink token or unlimited soft drinks, a luxurious cheese fondue, goulash, and unlimited use of the chocolate fountain.

Children's passes are also available for selected times, and include festive activities, hearty food and drinks, and a special visit from Father Christmas.

Book your time slot at [theoghhotel.com/alpine-lodge](http://theoghhotel.com/alpine-lodge)



SOUPE SPOOKY SATURDAY ©GUERNSEY PRESS

**WHAT'S ON ELSEWHERE?**

ABOVE: GANDEYS HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR.  
RIGHT: LAPLAND UK: MANCHESTER

**MANCHESTER**

until 1 January 2026

**THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ EXPERIENCE**

Immerse yourself in this exciting and exclusive app-only adventure. Follow the Yellow Brick Road, crack puzzles, uncover hidden clues, and evade the Wicked Witch's dark magic as you race against the clock to rescue Dorothy and her companions.

Up to eight players per group; all quests within a half-mile radius. Takes two to three hours to complete.

More information at [im-puzzled.com/products/the-wonderful-wizard-of-oz-experience-manchester](http://im-puzzled.com/products/the-wonderful-wizard-of-oz-experience-manchester).

10 October – 2 November

**GANDEYS HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR****Trafford Centre**

Dare you enter the haunted Big Top? This spine-chilling, action-packed legendary show is filled with frights, delights, and dazzling sights for the whole family!

This is Halloween entertainment like you've never seen before... the circus of screams awaits... if you dare!

10 October – 30 November

**MEL BROOKS' YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN****Hope Mill Theatre**

Mel Brooks has adapted his legendarily funny film into this monster musical comedy. Young Frankenstein has all the panache of the screen sensation with a little extra theatrical flair added. Visit [hopemilltheatre.co.uk/event/young-frankenstein/](http://hopemilltheatre.co.uk/event/young-frankenstein/) for tickets.

30 October – 1 November

**MANCHESTER OKTOBERFEST**

The beer festival takes place at First Street in the city centre.

Enjoy wonderful German music, food, and steins of beer, served in the blue and white Bavarian giant tent (can host more than 1,000 people). For information and tickets, see [manchester-oktoberfest.co.uk](http://manchester-oktoberfest.co.uk).

8 November – 24 December

**LAPLAND UK: MANCHESTER**

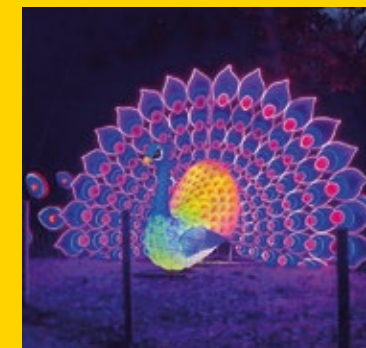
In the depths of The Enchanted Forest, a secret Elven world awaits... step through the magical doorway to Father Christmas's mythical homeland. Lapland combines the scale and detail of film production with the immersive magic of theatre, transporting guests into an original storytelling world unlike any other. See [portal.laplanduk.co.uk/manchester/](http://portal.laplanduk.co.uk/manchester/) for more information.

8 November – 3 January

**LAND OF LIGHTS LANTERN FESTIVAL**

Wander through a world where imagination shines, from majestic monuments to roaring dinosaurs and fantastical dreamworlds, all brought to life with breathtaking colour and creativity.

Free parking, suitable for all ages, photo points through the trail. More info at [landoflights.co.uk](http://landoflights.co.uk).



LAND OF LIGHTS LANTERN FESTIVAL ©VISIT MANCHESTER



# STOCKS SARK

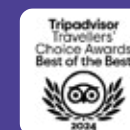
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# THE SILVER ANNIVERSARY OF THE NERINE FESTIVAL

PLANT HERITAGE GUERNSEY IS CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE NERINE FESTIVAL THIS OCTOBER. THE ANNUAL TWO-WEEK FESTIVAL HONOURS THE NERINE SARNIENSIS - KNOWN AS THE GUERNSEY LILY TO MANY - IN ALL ITS GLORY.

The Guernsey Lily is a perennial bulb and varies in colour from white, pink and apricot through to vivid oranges and deep reds. The flowers shimmer in the sunshine, making them a truly spectacular plant to look at.

The first nerine to be cultivated in Europe, the Guernsey Lily is reported to have been grown in Paris in 1630. Guernsey's climate would have been, and still is, suited to this plant and it is likely to have grown well and flourished in gardens on the island.

Plant Heritage Guernsey was awarded National Collection Status for Nerine sarniensis in 2017, and the best of its collection will be on display between Saturday 11 October and Saturday 25 October for this special celebration.

The festival started in 2000 and was originally held in the lower glasshouse at Candie Gardens, but now Plant Heritage hosts the festival in a bigger space at Guernsey Gardens.

'The new space is easier for us to take them to and from. It wasn't the easiest at Candie, and it is easier for people to get to,' says Rose Rankilor of Plant Heritage Guernsey.

Plant Heritage's collection has expanded from the first festival with people giving their plants to the collection. At the festival, bulbs will be for sale so that people can enjoy the Guernsey Lily in their own garden or greenhouse.

'We have a pretty good collection, and by the time of the festival they will be fresh and ready. This is the

best time of year for them as they will really be looking their best,' says Rose.

'It's when they naturally flower, so they will be looking great. There are a lot of different varieties, and they will all be on display.'

Over the fortnight the festival is on, hundreds of visitors are set to visit with some people making special trips to the island especially to go to the festival.

'I know of couples who come over every year for the festival, which is great,' says Rose.

However, this year's visitors are in for an extra special treat, as the festival celebrates its silver anniversary.

There will be two visiting speakers coming over to the festival.

NERINE LILIES, ALSO KNOWN AS GUERNSEY LILIES, SYMBOLIZE CONNECTION, JOY, SECURITY, AND AFFECTION. THEY ARE ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH RESILIENCE, ENDURING BEAUTY, AND HOPE. THE FLOWER'S NAME IS DERIVED FROM THE NEREIDS, SEA NYMPHS IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY, WHO WERE KNOWN FOR THEIR BEAUTY AND KINDNESS, AND THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH THE SEA.

[THEFLOWERCONNECTION.CO.UK/NERINE-STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-HEART](http://THEFLOWERCONNECTION.CO.UK/NERINE-STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-HEART)

Dr John David has recently retired as head of horticultural taxonomy at RHS Garden Wisley and is currently a research fellow at the University of Reading pursuing research on bulbous plants. He is a member of the RHS's Bulb Expert Group and of the Nerine and Amaryllid Society.

He will be speaking at Les Cotils on Monday 13 October from 7pm to 8pm about the Nerine bowdenii.

Dr Graham Duncan will be travelling from South Africa, where the Nerine sarniensis is a native plant, to speak on Wednesday 22 October at Les Cotils at 7pm. He has recently retired from Kirstenbosch National Botanic Gardens in Cape Town and is knowledgeable on South African bulbs. He will talk about Kirstenbosch and how he came to spend his entire working life there.

He will also speak about the South African bulbs that can be grown here in Guernsey.

As well as the two visiting experts, Nerine Group leader Andrew Lanoe will host two talks during the festival. He will show visitors around the collection and talk about Nerines and the history of the collection.

There is a lot going on during the two weeks and the Guernsey Gardens' greenhouses full of Guernsey Lilies in all the glory, will be well worth a visit.

The festival will be open each day during the two weeks from 10am until 4pm.

[plantheritageguernsey.org.uk/event/25th-anniversary-nerine-festival-2025/](http://plantheritageguernsey.org.uk/event/25th-anniversary-nerine-festival-2025/)







ALL IMAGES ©PETER FRANKLAND

# ELEVATING FOOD TO NEW HEIGHTS

AMANDA EULENKAMP AND PHOTOGRAPHER PETER FRANKLAND ENJOY LUNCH AT THE PANDORA HOTEL.

Situated on Hauteville, just a stone's throw from Victor Hugo's House, the Pandora has elevated itself up the star rankings to its current (well-deserved) three star position.

It's mid-makeover, with a modern new vibe running through the already-done rooms and public areas, and the food has also been elevated; the dishes we were served for this review could easily have come from a 5\* hotel's kitchen.

The view over Town and the sea is stunning from the garden, and takes advantage of the hotel's lofty setting above the rooftops. The secret garden is just waiting to be discovered by locals and visitors alike, who are looking not only for

somewhere to relax over a cold drink in the summer or a toasty hot chocolate in the winter, but also somewhere to wander before or after some good value-for-money dining.

Our table was in the recently refurbished bar. For those wanting to dine al fresco, there is a small adjacent terrace with a few tables on to take advantage of the views over the garden.

Drinks delivered, we started with the chicken terrine appetiser that was served at the hotel's Tasting Menu evening earlier in October. Delicious and light, it teased our palates into wanting more, as a good starter should.

Always a favourite, the brightly-coloured and fresh caprese salad

didn't disappoint. It's easy to be complacent with a dish like this, but flavoursome tomatoes coupled with soft mozzarella cheese and rocket drizzled with oil proved exactly why this combo is on so many menus.

General manager Will Haegeland explained that they are making a conscious effort to buy octopus from local fishermen given the rise in number in local waters (and the subsequent reduction in availability of crabs and lobsters). The deceptively simple octopus sandwich fused flavour with tradition, and makes a great lunchtime filler.

We also chose to share a burger, which was simply superb. A soft brioche bun sandwiched the beef

THE SECRET GARDEN IS JUST WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED BY LOCALS AND VISITORS ALIKE, WHO ARE LOOKING... FOR SOMEWHERE TO RELAX OVER A COLD DRINK IN THE SUMMER OR A TOASTY HOT CHOCOLATE IN THE WINTER.

patty and melting cheese together. I don't usually order a burger but this would make me have one in future. The triple-cooked chips were crunchy on the outside, soft and fluffy on the inside.

We finished with a light and freshly-made-that-morning mango cheesecake. Chef explained that a different flavour is made each day. This was delicious and not too sweet, rounding off the meal perfectly.

For those with time to enjoy the bar, then linger longer. There are books and papers to read, and for anyone wanting to play a game or two, there are plenty thoughtfully stacked on the shelves. Sadly, we had to return to work, but I can easily see the temptation to take a

coffee and settle down on a chair on an autumnal day and while away a few hours.

Will explained that the next stage of the hotel's makeover is the lounge. Local interior designer Katie Le Tissier – who has already worked her magic on the bar and other areas – is behind the new look. As part of the rebirth of this period property, the bar will be re-branded 'Harold's Bar' and the restaurant 'Harold's Brasserie', in recognition of the original owner.

The hotel is due to close just before Christmas and re-open in February, when it will showcase more of its updated image. But if you can, make time to pop in before then to enjoy a quality meal and drink – just head up the hill.





# LIFTING THE VALE

IRON AGE INVASIONS, RUSSIAN REBURIALS AND UNEARTHED GERMAN TRENCHES – THERE ARE PLENTY OF STORIES TO BE TOLD OF THE VENERABLE VALE CASTLE, AND ANDY WALKER HAS BEEN TELLING THEM, AS FELLOW TOUR GUIDE SIMON DE LA RUE REPORTS.

One sign of autumn in Guernsey – along with the crunchy leaves, the nights drawing in and the occasional force 8 hitting the west coast – is the sight of people with walking poles, rucksacks and water bottles being led along footpaths and lanes by guides carrying folders full of historic photos.

This year's Autumn Walking Festival consisted of three dozen tours over 16 days, across Guernsey, Sark, Herm and Lihou. And among the new tours in September was one called The Vale Castle – The Bastion of the North, which was led by the man who is perhaps the most prolific of all the Bailiwick's tour guides and certainly the one with the greatest claim to nominative determinism.

Andy Walker has built up what he terms 'a plethora of walking tours' over the course of his 12 years as an accredited tour guide, with more than 60 different routes covered, each with its own packed folder of images and notes.

'My interest in tour guiding started in the early 2010s, when I attended lots of tours as a customer,' he tells me.

'In fact, I went to so many that I started being asked to be a 'back stop' on some of them. And then I thought "Hmm, wouldn't it be enjoyable to do them myself?" So I trained up and here I am.'

Andy makes an effort to explore all aspects of Guernsey history, so prefers not to specialise – although he admits that 'the Occupation and fortifications are my area'.

As well as the walking tours, he does presentations in care homes but – in common with many tour guides – he does all this as a hobby. He officially retired from his day job nine years ago but on the day I met up with him, he'd been helping out at Active Health and he also volunteers with U3A, the Guernsey Conservation Volunteers and has done a lot of work with Festung Guernsey over the years, as well as his ongoing involvement with the Shrine of the Sacred Heart at the Fort Hommet headland.

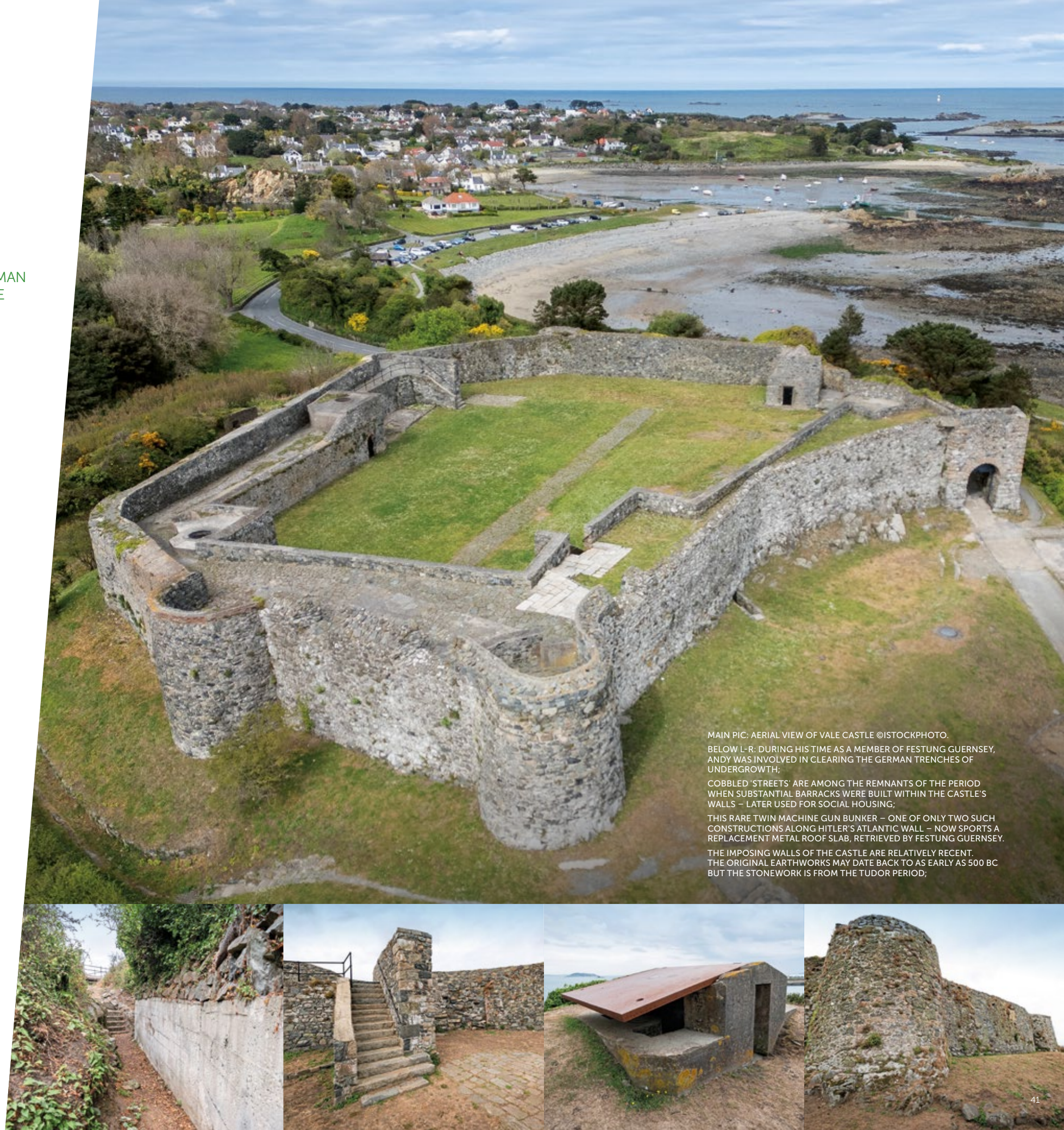
'I'm useless at being retired,' he concludes.

Although Andy has conducted tours in the past which have featured the Vale Castle, he felt he wanted to do a shorter tour that went into more detail about the site, so Bastion of the North focussed entirely on the castle itself throughout its 90-minute duration.

'I wanted to go more in-depth but I also wanted to provide a shorter tour, because two-and-a-half hours is quite a long tour for some,' he says.

When I come to talk to Andy about the Vale Castle itself, I must admit I begin to feel like we're comparing notes, rather than conducting an interview. I too have researched the site for a tour of my own, although I haven't done it for about 10 years.

Like me, Andy has largely gained his information and images from a combination of frequent visits to the Priaulx Library, Island Archives and Guille-Allès Library and via the careful use of internet search engines.



MAIN PIC: AERIAL VIEW OF VALE CASTLE ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

BELOW L-R: DURING HIS TIME AS A MEMBER OF FESTUNG GUERNSEY, ANDY WAS INVOLVED IN CLEARING THE GERMAN TRENCHES OF UNDERGROWTH;

COBBLED 'STREETS' ARE AMONG THE REMNANTS OF THE PERIOD WHEN SUBSTANTIAL BARRACKS WERE BUILT WITHIN THE CASTLE'S WALLS – LATER USED FOR SOCIAL HOUSING;

THIS RARE TWIN MACHINE GUN BUNKER – ONE OF ONLY TWO SUCH CONSTRUCTIONS ALONG HITLER'S ATLANTIC WALL – NOW SPORTS A REPLACEMENT METAL ROOF SLAB, RETRIEVED BY FESTUNG GUERNSEY.

THE IMPOSING WALLS OF THE CASTLE ARE RELATIVELY RECENT. THE ORIGINAL EARTHWORKS MAY DATE BACK TO AS EARLY AS 500 BC BUT THE STONEMASONRY IS FROM THE TUDOR PERIOD;







ABOVE: ANDY WALKER IS ONE OF THE MOST PROLIFIC TOUR GUIDES IN GUERNSEY, HAVING DEvised MORE THAN 60 TOURS IN 12 YEARS. ABOVE RIGHT: THE CASTLE AFFORDS A COMMANDING VIEW OVER BORDEAUX. ©VISITGUERNSEY.

'The evidence is that it was an Iron-Age hill fort,' he says.

'There was a dig led by Ken Barton in 1980 which confirmed that. But there's not much documentary evidence of the earliest occupation of the site. The first pottery finds were from the 15th Century when the castle was most likely a place of refuge – somewhere to escape to in the event of an attack. But there is evidence that one such attack came before that, with an invasion by Owen of Wales in the 1370s. It would have been just earth and ramparts then, with a palisade – the stone walls developed afterwards. What you see now is from Tudor times.'

Inside the castle, we walk past the capped well and amid the several threshold stones which lie embedded in the soil, each marking where a door into the old barracks used to be – buildings which were used for social housing between the First and Second World Wars.

One aspect of the site which has radically changed since I last led a tour there is the series of trenches connecting machine gun and mortar positions on the north-eastern slopes. Previously obscured by dense vegetation, these have since been painstakingly cleared by volunteers to uncover a fascinating site which puts you, briefly, into the boots of the occupying German soldiers who were stationed there during the Second World War. Tobruk pits and personnel bunkers have also been unearthed, though you wouldn't want to try fitting an entire tour party in there.

'I tell people they can explore them in their own time when the tour is finished,' Andy says.

One part of the site which remains unaltered over the last decade – indeed, over the last century – is the very modest little graveyard on the left of the pathway going up to the main entrance of the castle.

'Thousands of Russian troops were housed in the island during the Napoleonic period, after they returned from a campaign in the Netherlands,' Andy says, referring to a joint campaign launched against the French by what was known as the Second Coalition, mainly consisting of Britain, Russia and Austria.

'These troops were not permitted to set foot on English soil due to the Bill of Rights, so they were sent here to the Channel Islands. Unfortunately, many of them were suffering with swamp fever and some sadly died during the short time they were here. They were interred in a small burial ground just to the south of the castle.'

He recounts the disinterring of these bodies in the 1920s, due to quarrying work being carried out by Mowlem's – the company which owned the land adjacent to the castle.

'They ate into the burial ground and the remains were reinterred in that very small plot alongside the path.'

Like me, Andy is hopeful that at some time in the future, this tiny, consecrated plot will be accompanied by some form of information board which can tell the

story of how our Russian military allies came to be buried there.

In the meantime, Andy can tell the story of their service to one group at a time and is ready to field the many questions that result, along with queries about all aspects of the richly historic site.

'I get a real variety of questions, depending on what the customers are interested in,' he says.

'They can vary from "What range did the German mortars have?" to "What kind of stone is in the fabric of the castle?" or "What is that island I can see over there, which I saw on my way to Herm the other day?"'

Some of the more challenging questions come from the large percentage of walkers who are local to the island.

'The walking festivals are not just for visitors – we get a lot of locals as well, and many of them come back year after year. You really need to have done your homework but if I don't know the answer to a question, I offer to find it out and email it to them. You can't just make it up.'

*Guernsey's next walking festival is from 23 May – 7 June 2026 but tours are available all year. The website of the Bailiwick of Guernsey Guild of Accredited Guides – [guernseyguidedtours.com](http://guernseyguidedtours.com) – has the contact details of all accredited guides. There is free public access to the Vale Castle year round, apart from the August Bank Holiday when it welcomes the Vale Earth Fair.*

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# AUTUMN IS CALLING

By Amanda Eulenkamp

## INTRODUCING THE WRITERS



Jessamy Baldwin



Rupert Diggins

JUST ONE FOR THE ROAD

Do the crispy days of autumn speak to you? Or do you prefer the summer sun, desperately missing it as the nights draw in?

If the latter, then our travel pages will call out to you. Cape Town (average temperature October – February is between 23 and 28 degrees) is basking in its summer season while we shiver up north, and having visited during this period, I can vouch for the hot days. Be warned, though, early mornings (especially if on safari) can be bitingly cold.

Having visited South Africa on a number of occasions, I've tried to give a whistle-stop tour of some of my favourite places. I don't suggest that you try and fit them all into one holiday (unless you're fortunate to have time to spare), but with good planning, you can certainly fit in a few.

Tenerife has traditionally been a draw for Brits to escape the winter weather. Similarly to South Africa, I have holidayed there on a number of occasions, and have picked some of my favourites for you to enjoy.

Travel blogger Rupert Diggins had the most wonderful extended travel experience earlier this year, starting in Vietnam and ending in New Zealand. In this issue, he shares his journey to and around Hanoi, a place I've never visited but am now oh so tempted to. I'm particularly intrigued by Hanoi Train Street, a unique attraction where trains pass through narrow alleyways, mere inches from homes and cafes.

The farthest I go on a train nowadays is usually from Birmingham International to Great Malvern via Birmingham New Street. So, writing about five fun things to do near Birmingham

Airport was an interesting one for me, as I confess I usually leave it as soon as possible! Perhaps I need to factor in some extra time to explore its environs.

Not far away from Birmingham is Stratford-upon-Avon. Jessamy Baldwin (a former student at close-by University of Warwick) shares her ideas for what to do in 48 hours.

Birmingham is also home to one of the UK's plethora of Christmas Markets. Read our guide to some favourite ones, all easily accessible from one of the UK airports that Aurigny operates to. Plus, take advantage of the Paris flights, and visit some French 'Marche de Noël'. For those of you who like to wrap up warm this season, with hands wrapped around a steaming mug of hot chocolate or Glühwein, these are the pages for you!





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: HYDE PARK; WINCHESTER HIGH STREET;  
HYDE PARK; SOUTHAMPTON; MANCHESTER; BRISTOL. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO



# CHRISTMAS MARKETS

EUROPEAN-STYLE CHRISTMAS MARKETS HAVE SPREAD THEIR WINGS OVER RECENT YEARS AND CAN BE FOUND IN MANY UK TOWNS AND CITIES, AS WELL AS ON THE CONTINENT.

Whether you hop over to the mainland or fly to Paris and go on from there, there are markets to suit everyone.

Amanda Eulenkamp gets into the Christmas spirit and highlights some worth visiting.

## FLY TO BIRMINGHAM FOR...

**THE FRANKFURT CHRISTMAS MARKET, BIRMINGHAM**  
**1 NOVEMBER – 24 DECEMBER**

Visit the largest authentic German Christmas market outside of Germany or Austria. Discover a large range of traditional goods and gifts as well as authentic food and drink. Enjoy live music on Victoria Square. Find out all about the market at [thebfc.co.uk](http://thebfc.co.uk).

The big wheel and ice rink are also regular fixtures at the market –

Book at [iceskatebirmingham.co.uk](http://iceskatebirmingham.co.uk).

## FLY TO BRISTOL FOR...

**BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**27 NOVEMBER – 14 DECEMBER**

Wander through Bath's historic city centre, transformed into a winter wonderland with twinkling chalets, unique gifts, and gourmet food and drink.

See [bathchristmasmarket.co.uk](http://bathchristmasmarket.co.uk) for more information.

**BRISTOL CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**7 NOVEMBER – 23 DECEMBER**

Located in the heart of Bristol city centre, discover more than 40 unique stalls and festive entertainment, with special visits from Santa and his elves. Savour delicious drinks and listen to live music at the Jager Barn Bar or the brand-new Bar Glisse. Why not book one of the private ski gondolas or a charming hot air balloon basket?

Read more at [bristolchristmasmarket.com](http://bristolchristmasmarket.com).

## CHELTENHAM CHRISTMAS MARKET

Enjoy not one but two Christmas markets on the Promenade in Cheltenham.

The Gift Market dates are from 20 – 23 November, while the extended Art & Craft Market runs from 11 – 23 December. Chalets will fill the Promenade, alongside a small number of catering units.

Find out more at [cotswoldmarkets.com/cheltenham-christmas-market](http://cotswoldmarkets.com/cheltenham-christmas-market).

## FLY TO EXETER FOR...

**EXETER CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**20 NOVEMBER – 19 DECEMBER**

Set against the awe-inspiring backdrop of Exeter Cathedral, this Christmas market offers twinkling chalets, seasonal delicacies, and handpicked traders showcasing the very best of Devon and beyond.

You can also take advantage of Exeter Cathedral's Entry by Donation offer to explore its amazing architecture.

For more information visit [exetercathedralchristmasmarket.co.uk](http://exetercathedralchristmasmarket.co.uk).

## FLY TO LONDON FOR...

**HYDE PARK WINTER WONDERLAND, LONDON**  
**14 NOVEMBER – 1 JANUARY 2026**

Billing itself 'The ultimate destination for festive fun', Hyde Park Winter Wonderland has everything from thrilling rides and immersive icy attractions to carnival games and enchanting shows, accompanied by a cornucopia of festival food and drink.

Visit [hydeparkwinterwonderland.com](http://hydeparkwinterwonderland.com) for further information and ticket sales.

## FLY TO MANCHESTER FOR...

**MANCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKETS,**  
**7 NOVEMBER – 22 DECEMBER**

The 200+ stalls are spread across nine key city centre locations. Visitors can enjoy seasonal treats, mulled wine, and a wonderful festive atmosphere.

'A Taste of Christmas' on Albert Square and the stalls at Cathedral Gardens will remain open throughout the Christmas period until 4 January 2026.

More information can be found at [visitmanchester.com/listing/manchester-christmas-markets/32735101](http://visitmanchester.com/listing/manchester-christmas-markets/32735101).

**CHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET,**  
**19 NOVEMBER – 22 DECEMBER**

Discover unique, locally made produce, handmade crafts, jewellery, accessories, stocking fillers and more, from around 80 traders at the historic and magical market, situated in the square around the town hall.

See [visitcheshire.com/events/chester-christmas-market](http://visitcheshire.com/events/chester-christmas-market) for more information.

## FLY TO SOUTHAMPTON FOR...

**SOUTHAMPTON CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**13 NOVEMBER – 4 JANUARY 2026**

Step into Christmas with Southampton's festive wonderland, featuring traditional wooden chalets as well as a variety of thrilling rides and attractions, including the UK's tallest Ferris wheel. Little ones can take a trip







ABOVE & RIGHT: CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN PARIS ©SHUTTERSTOCK.

into the Christmas Fun House or whizz down the Ice Slide, or take a ride on Santa's Runaway Train.

Or pop into the Moose Bar or Alpine Bar for a warming hot chocolate or mulled wine.

For further information visit [southamptonchristmasmarket.co.uk](http://southamptonchristmasmarket.co.uk).

#### WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS MARKET, 21 NOVEMBER – 22 DECEMBER

In the run up to Christmas, Winchester Cathedral has an exciting events programme, from concerts to Lantern Parades. The Christmas Market is recognised as one of the best in Europe, attracting tourists for its bustling atmosphere, stunning location and handpicked high quality exhibitors.

Visit [winchester-cathedral.org.uk/christmas](http://winchester-cathedral.org.uk/christmas) for more information.

#### FLY TO PARIS FOR... SOME OF THE BEST MARCHES DE NOËL

#### TUILERIES GARDEN CHRISTMAS MARKET 'LE MAGIE DE NOËL' (NEAR TO THE LOUVRE) 16 NOVEMBER – 5 JANUARY 2026

Explore more than 100+ Swiss-style chalets offering French-produced speciality food and products, as well as enjoy a Ferris wheel, a carousel, and a Christmas-themed ice skating rink. One of Paris's biggest markets, it stretches along the garden's entire north edge from Rue des Pyramides to Place de la Concorde.

#### MONTMARTRE CHRISTMAS MARKET (NEAR SACRÉ-CŒUR) 22 NOVEMBER – 28 DECEMBER (TBC)

A small but charming market featuring around 15 – 20 chalets, a large decorated Christmas tree, and occasional visits from Santa.

#### EIFFEL TOWER CHRISTMAS VILLAGE ON QUAI BRANLY FROM EARLY DECEMBER UNTIL JUST AFTER NEW YEAR'S DAY

One of Paris's best mid-size markets and probably its most photogenic. With Christmas trees and fake snow, this market specialises in gourmet food and local cuisine.

#### NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS MARKET AT SQUARE VIVIANI 28 NOVEMBER – 25 DECEMBER (TBC)

Visit one of the most picturesque markets at Square Viviani, located across the Seine from the famous cathedral on the Left Bank's Quai Montebello. Specialises in high-quality arts and artisan crafts made in France, as well as the usual vin chaud (hot mulled wine) and roasted chestnuts.

#### STRASBOURG, CAPITALE DE NOËL 26 NOVEMBER – 24 DECEMBER

The train from Paris Gare de l'Est takes around one hour 45 minutes to Strasbourg, or there are direct flights from London Gatwick.

Alternatively, fly into Basle (from London City among others) and take the train to Strasbourg.

Strasbourg is the home of the very first 'Christkindelsmärik' (market of the infant Jesus) in France. Held in 1570, it is also one of the oldest markets in Europe, and is today consistently considered the best Christmas market in France.

Each year, a 30m-tall Christmas tree is brought to Place Kléber and decorated with colourful ornaments and twinkling lights. Enjoy traditional treats, such as the little Christmas biscuits called bredle, and mulled wine.

See [noel.strasbourg.eu/en/](http://noel.strasbourg.eu/en/) for further information.

#### COLMAR CHRISTMAS MARKET 25 NOVEMBER – 29 DECEMBER

If you're staying longer, then the five hour 40 minutes' train journey to the medieval Alsatian town of Colmar is worth taking. Situated right in the heart of the historic town centre, Colmar's six Christmas markets radiate warmth and an inviting atmosphere where you are sure to make some delightful discoveries. Each with its own particular theme, the markets will envelop you in the magic of Christmas, a unique atmosphere guaranteed to delight young and old alike.

See [christmas.alsace/colmar-christmas-market/](http://christmas.alsace/colmar-christmas-market/) for further information.



PUERTO DE LA CRUZ ©ISTOCKPHOTO

## FROM WINTER CHILLS TO TENERIFE THRILLS

TENERIFE, THE LARGEST OF THE CANARY ISLANDS, HAS BEEN A FIRM FAVOURITE WITH BRITS SEEKING WINTER SUNSHINE FOR YEARS. ONWARD CONNECTIONS FROM MULTIPLE UK AIRPORTS, INCLUDING LONDON GATWICK, BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, AND MANCHESTER, MEAN IT IS A RELATIVELY EASY HOP FOR GUERNSEY-BASED FOLK.

AMANDA EULENKAMP SHARES SOME OF HER FAVOURITE THINGS TO DO ON THE ISLAND.

My first visit to Tenerife was around 12 years ago, to a travel conference. As most of these conferences are, it was out of season, but the weather was still good enough to grab some sunbathing time. I've also visited several times in the autumn (September/October), experiencing temperatures in the high 20s and low 30s.

The weather is one of the first things that people think of when planning a trip to Tenerife – after all, the island boasts sunny days and warm temperatures year-round, with the winter generally hovering around 20 degrees.

When I worked in travel, a holiday in Tenerife (and other beach destinations) was called a 'fly and flop', focusing on unwinding in the sun and relaxing, rather than a packed itinerary of activities or sightseeing.

But there is far more to do in Tenerife than lie around a hotel pool or on the beach. Be warned: the beaches in Tenerife vary from black volcanic sand in the north (such as Playa Jardin in Puerto de la Cruz) to golden (imported) sand in the south, such as Playa del Duque.

Accommodation ranges from hotels (golf hotels, beach hotels,

ones aimed at families and others at couples) to self-catering apartments and villas, and everything in between.

On that first occasion, I stayed at one of the hotels that makes up the Mare Nostrum Resort in Playa de Las Americas. It comprises three hotels: the Mediterranean Palace, the Cleopatra, and the Sir Anthony, and even though it was busy when I went, there was always space by one of the pools.

Playa de las Americas is probably one of the first resorts that people think of in Tenerife; it is popular for its beaches, where you can either relax or enjoy surfing,





paddleboarding, or jet skiing. It's also well-known for its lively nightlife, with numerous bars and clubs.

But my favourite hotel on the island is the pink-hued Abama, a Ritz-Carlton hotel that I have been fortunate to experience on several occasions. Situated high up on the west coast of Tenerife, it offers stunning views across the sea to the island of La Gomera.

I think I fell in love with it on my very first trip, a travel agents' long weekend, designed to give us a taste of Tenerife. Since then, I've returned to enjoy its relaxed yet sophisticated vibe, its fabulous spa and pools, plus its bars and restaurants (including the Michelin-starred M.B., the first restaurant on the island to be awarded two stars. Definitely worth a visit).

I even had a go at playing golf (my tennis grip was not quite the right angle, so the ball consistently veered off to the left, although luckily I didn't hit anybody!). Golfers will love the course

(designed by former Ryder Cup player and golf architect Dave Thomas), as well as the location, rising up as it does on the western side of the Teide volcano, offering breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean and the neighbouring island of La Gomera from nearly every hole.

I've never been to La Gomera, but a couple of friends of mine holidayed there a few years ago and loved it. Travel blogger Rupert Diggins is also a fan; here is what he wrote in issue 32 of *En Voyage* about it:

If you love nature and the authentic Canaries then how about combining Tenerife with another Canary Island – La Gomera!

Getting to La Gomera is easy with up to seven ferries a day from Los Cristianos in Tenerife to La Gomera. Prices are around 45-80 euros one way per person.

The island of La Gomera is famous for its Garojonay National Park up high in the mountains which is a magnet for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts. Valle del Rey on the

West coast is a fascinating old hippy town while in the east the capital of San Sebastian de La Gomera is reputed to be the last stop that Christopher Columbus made before heading off to discover the New World.

If a two-centre island holiday appeals, then many visitors to La Gomera choose to stay in the south at the magnificent Hotel Jardin Tecina and Golf. This stylish hotel features typically styled Canarian rooms, a fabulous choice of restaurants, a beautiful spa and tropical gardens not forgetting a superb 18-hole golf course.

But back to the main island.

Two trips I particularly enjoyed were to Mount Teide, an active volcano in the Teide National Park and the highest point in Spain, and a boat trip to see the marine life that thrives in the waters surrounding Tenerife.

While you can rent a car to visit Mount Teide, you may find it more relaxing (and informative) to join a guided tour as I did. The Mount Teide Cable Car is a must

for enjoying panoramic views from the base station and the upper La Rambleta platform. You can then explore nearby trails, though a permit is required for the final ascent to the summit via the Telesforo Bravo path.

Many of the resorts in western Tenerife offer visitors the chance to get out and witness a variety of marine mammals in the wild. Between November and early March, it is a great time to watch humpback whales passing on their migration, while orcas and sperm whales visit in the spring. Throughout the year you can often spot dolphins and pilot whales.

And finally... When my grandchildren holidayed in Tenerife earlier this year, they loved visiting a local market, plus heading to one of the 'amazing' water parks. Tenerife offers something for all ages, all types of holidaymakers (whether 'flying and flopping' or sightseeing and exploring), and for all seasons.

*Check out [visittenerife.es](http://visittenerife.es) for more information.*

OPPOSITE PAGE: ABAMA GOLF COURSE.

TOP: ROQUE ARGANDO, GAROJONAY NATIONAL PARK, GOMERA. ABOVE: THE ABAMA HOTEL.

RIGHT TOP TO BOTTOM: TEIDE VOLCANO CABLE CAR; PLAYA DE LAS TERESITAS; DRAGON TREE, ICOD DE LOS VINOS; IGLESIA DE LA ASUNCION, SAN SEBASTIÁN DE LA GOMERA.

ALL IMAGES: ©ISTOCKPHOTO

**IF YOU LOVE NATURE AND THE AUTHENTIC CANARIES THEN HOW ABOUT COMBINING TENERIFE WITH ANOTHER CANARY ISLAND – LA GOMERA!**





# HELLO HANOI

TOUCHING DOWN IN HANOI, IT WASN'T THE HEAT OR THE TRAFFIC THAT STRUCK TRAVEL BLOGGER RUPERT DIGGINS FIRST — IT WAS THE ENERGY. MOPEDS ZIGZAGGED THROUGH THE STREETS IN A BLUR, THE SCENT OF SIZZLING STREET FOOD FILLED THE AIR, AND LAYERS OF HISTORY SEEMED TO REVEAL THEMSELVES ON EVERY CORNER OF THIS CHAOTIC, CHARISMATIC, AND OH-SO-CHARMING CAPITAL OF VIETNAM.



TRẦN QUỐC PAGODA ©ISTOCKPHOTO



ABOVE: TURTLE TOWER, HOÀN KIẾM LAKE.  
RIGHT: BUSY STREET CORNER, OLD QUARTER. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

Hanoi is surprisingly accessible for UK travellers, yet feels a world away the moment you arrive.

On the drive from the airport into the city centre, I shared a taxi with two young, budget-conscious travellers at the start of their gap year. Their excitement was off the charts — just like mine. While my days of hostel dorms and 4am returns may be behind me, my passion for exploration is stronger than ever. It was time for me to say: Hello, Hanoi!

### BEST TIME OF YEAR TO VISIT

Hanoi's charm shifts with the seasons, offering something unique year-round: spring (March – April) brings mild temperatures and blooming flowers, autumn (October – November) is often hailed as the best time with golden leaves and clear skies, summer (May – September) is hot, humid, and rainy yet rewards with lush landscapes and fewer crowds, while winter (December – February) offers a cooler, calmer atmosphere.

Personally, I loved visiting in early May, when the city, while warm, felt both alive and easy to explore.

### STAYING IN STYLE

After a long flight from London, nothing beats checking into a hotel that feels like a home away from home — and in the heart

of Hanoi, La Mejor Luxury Hotel ([lamejorhotel.com](http://lamejorhotel.com)) did just that. Conveniently located on Tạ Hiện (nicknamed Beer Street) in the Old Quarter, it offered the perfect balance of modern comfort and traditional Vietnamese charm.

The rooms are elegantly designed, with plush bedding, tasteful décor, and thoughtful touches that made my stay very special. The staff went above and beyond to ensure my visit was memorable, offering friendly tips on navigating the city and discovering hidden gems.

One of my favourite spots was the rooftop terrace, where panoramic views of Hanoi stretched out below. Watching the city lights twinkle while enjoying one of the hotel's signature cocktails — the aptly named Hanoi Mule — was the perfect way to start my holiday.

### TRAVELLING AROUND THE CITY

Getting around Hanoi is an adventure in itself. Walking is ideal for exploring the Old Quarter and Hoàn Kiếm Lake. The city's traffic is famously chaotic, but once you get used to it, it's surprisingly manageable. Crossing the street is an experience that can feel daunting at first but take my advice and do as the locals do: raise your hand and keep walking — it actually works!

For longer distances, taxis are affordable and convenient. I was recommended to download the Grab app, which is widely used throughout Southeast Asia.

For a more traditional experience, cyclo rides (pedal-powered rickshaws) offer a leisurely way to see the city, particularly around the Old Quarter. Motorbike taxis are another option for the brave, though helmets are essential. While public buses are very cheap, they can be tricky for first-time visitors.

For me, the combination of walking and Grab rides was by far the easiest and most comfortable way to get around Hanoi.

### THE OLD QUARTER

Exploring Hanoi's Old Quarter is like stepping back in time. Its maze of narrow streets, each historically tied to a trade, is filled with bustling markets, street food stalls, and a mix of French colonial and traditional architecture. I particularly enjoyed the magnificent St Joseph's Cathedral, a gorgeous 19th-century building modelled on the Notre Dame in Paris. Also worth a visit is the Opera House, which is located close to the very classy Tràng Tiền Plaza, home to top luxury brands like Cartier, Boss and Gucci.

Hàng Gai ('Silk Street') is perfect for high-quality silk. Hanoi's artisan





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: HÚC BRIDGE, HOÀN KIẾM LAKE; TRAIN STREET, OLD QUARTER; TEMPLE OF LITERATURE; FRUITS AND SPICES; MULTICOLOUR DRY WEED FOR MAKING MAT OR WICKER; MAKING TRADITIONAL SAUCE; INCENSE DRYING ©ISTOCKPHOTO. RUPERT DIGGINS, TRAIN STREET.

scene includes ceramics from Bát Tràng, hand-embroidered textiles, Nón Lá hats, and the city's renowned coffee and tea. Bargaining is part of the fun in markets, while boutiques and traditional shops provide fixed prices.

I found wandering around without any set plan was the best way to soak up the sights, sounds, and smells and truly experience those hidden, authentic areas of the city.

### HOÀN KIẾM LAKE

Just a short stroll from the Old Quarter sits Hoàn Kiếm Lake, Hanoi's most cherished landmark and a peaceful green oasis at the very centre of the city.

At dawn, locals (not middle-aged British bloggers I hasten to add), gathered here to practise tai chi. By day, couples wander hand in hand and families come to relax, while the occasional wedding party was observed capturing photos of their precious day against the scenic backdrop. It takes a good hour to stroll around the lake, so do as I did and stop at one of the coffee stalls and watch the world go by.

The lake is also wrapped in legend. According to folklore, Emperor Lê Lợi was gifted a magical sword by the gods to defeat foreign invaders, which he later returned to a sacred turtle living in the waters — hence the name 'Lake of

the Returned Sword'. As a wildlife nut, I spent some time looking for that turtle — maybe you will have better luck!

Further highlights include the scarlet Húc Bridge, which arcs across the water to the Ngọc Sơn Temple on a tiny island. After dark, the bridge is beautifully illuminated, with its reflection shimmering on the lake.

### HISTORY, ART & CULTURE

No visit to Hanoi is complete without exploring its rich modern history. The city's museums and landmarks offer an insight into Vietnam's struggle for independence. Highlights include the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Hỏa Lò Prison (the 'Hanoi Hilton'), the Vietnamese Women's Museum, the Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long, and the Vietnam Military History Museum. Together, these sites provide essential context, showing that Hanoi is more than just bustling streets and cafés.

Hanoi is also a vibrant centre of traditional arts and culture. Examples include the captivating Water Puppet Theatre and Ca Trù music.

### TRAIN STREET

Few places in the world can match the drama or excitement of Hanoi's Train Street, where café culture collides with one of the city's quirkiest attractions. Tucked away in the Old Quarter, this narrow

stretch of track has become one of Hanoi's most photographed spots.

Since trains don't always run on time, check with your hotel to understand the day's schedule. You should then aim to be there 30-45 minutes before the street transforms in preparation for the train thundering through.

The best way to soak up the atmosphere is from one of the family-run cafés that line the tracks. Not only will they serve you a strong Vietnamese coffee, but they'll also give you a friendly heads-up when the next train is due. And if you wander a little too close to the tracks, don't be surprised by the piercing shriek of a police whistle reminding you to step back — safety first, thrill second!

### LOCAL MARKETS & STREET FOOD

Hanoi is a street-food paradise, perfect for travellers who love to eat their way through a city. At bustling markets like Đồng Xuân, sizzling stalls serve phở, grilled meats, fresh spring rolls, and other local favourites, while smaller neighbourhood markets such as Chợ Hôm and Long Biên offer a glimpse into everyday Hanoi life.

Must-try dishes include phở, bún chả, bánh mì, and the famous egg coffee (cà phê trứng). Joining a food tour is a great way to discover hidden gems and experience the city's flavours like a local.

### NIGHTLIFE IN HANOI

When the sun goes down, Hanoi's nightlife comes alive — especially in the Tạ Hiện Beer Street area of the Old Quarter. Here, the tiny pavements fill with rows of plastic stools as both locals and tourists gather to drink bia hơi (fresh beer) that costs less than a pound a glass.

It's lively, noisy, and wonderfully chaotic. Street musicians add to the atmosphere, and you'll often find yourself chatting with fellow travellers at the next table. Alongside beer, there are endless food stalls and bars serving everything from grilled skewers to western snacks.

For those looking for something a little more refined, Hanoi also has plenty of rooftop bars with stunning views over the city, as well as sophisticated cocktail lounges. But Beer Street is where you'll find the beating heart of Hanoi after dark.

### DAY TRIPS FROM HANOI

Hanoi is a fantastic city break on its own, but it's also the perfect base for exploring northern Vietnam. During my time I took the opportunity to visit a couple of fabulous destinations on the tourist route:

Hạ Long Bay — Just two to three hours from Hanoi, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is famous for its emerald waters and dramatic limestone cliffs. I took an overnight

cruise, which was the perfect way to experience some quite breathtaking scenery. There was fine dining, cooking classes, and even late-night squid fishing off the back of the boat — not that I caught anything but it was still fun!

Ninh Bình — Often called 'Hạ Long Bay on land', this region features limestone karsts, rice paddies, and riverboat trips through caves and temples. About two hours south of Hanoi, I stayed in the backpackers' haven of Tam Cốc, which has a really cool laid back vibe.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

Hanoi is a city of contrasts: frenetic yet peaceful, traditional yet modern, chaotic yet charming. From sipping egg coffee on Train Street to exploring the timeless Old Quarter, every day brought a new adventure. This amazing city swept me up, spun me around, and left me longing for more — and not just for those rooftop cocktails!

Aurigny has agreements with both British Airways and Emirates, which offer flights to Hanoi from the UK via a connecting airport (Dubai in Emirates' case).

*Rupert Diggins is a multi-award-winning UK travel writer, blogger, and the founder of Just One for the Road.*





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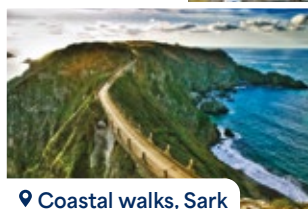
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## There's more to the Channel Islands than you might think...

Guernsey is the perfect launchpad for island hopping adventures, with nearby gems like Jersey, Alderney, Herm, Sark and Lihou just waiting to be discovered.



📍 Food festivals



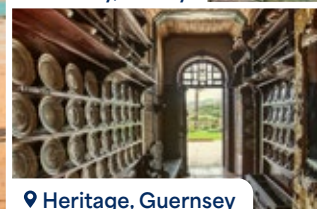
📍 Coastal walks, Sark



📍 Stunning beaches, Herm



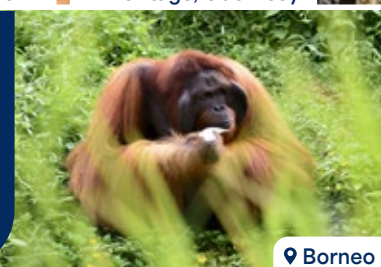
📍 History, Jersey



📍 Heritage, Guernsey

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TABLE MOUNTAIN AND THE TWELVE APOSTLES,  
WITH CAMPS BAY ON THE RIGHT ©ISTOCKPHOTO

# VISITING SOUTH AFRICA

AMANDA EULENKAMP HAS ENJOYED SEVERAL HOLIDAYS IN VARIOUS AREAS OF THE COUNTRY, AND SHARES SOME OF HER FAVOURITE PLACES.

Flying to South Africa in our winter, their summer, is ideal, as there is minimal time difference (South Africa is always two hours ahead of GMT), so no jet lag to conquer.

It's a huge country (five times the size of the UK), with inland safari destinations, including the Kruger National Park; several major mountain ranges, with the Drakensberg being the highest (and don't forget Table Mountain in Cape Town); the wonderful winelands, with picturesque towns such as Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, and Constantia; and stunning seascapes, especially along the coast of Hermanus, known as the 'Whale Route', from where you can expect to see whales, along with dolphins, seals, and penguins.

My aunt lived in **Cape Town** when I was a little girl, and my parents still have a painting of Table Mountain hanging in their home, while I have kept a treasured book from a

Durban book shop. Suffice to say, I always had a taste to travel there, and have been fortunate to do so, both for work and pleasure.

The city is dominated by **Table Mountain**, named for its distinctly flat top that resembles a table. My top tip is, if the weather is clear, to take advantage and head up straight away! You want to avoid being up there when the 'tablecloth', the often-present cloud formation that shrouds the mountain, is there, as views will be severely limited.

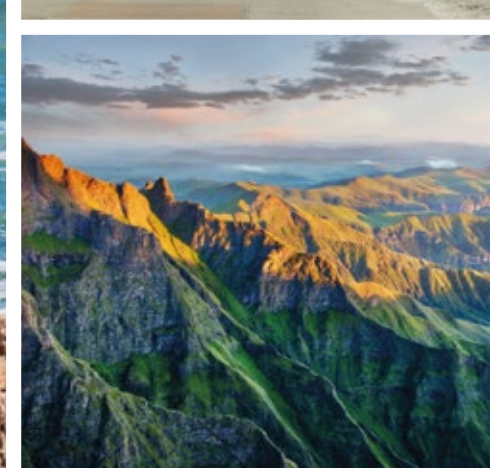
If an early bird, aim to get there before the crowds (and the heat of the day). Before you go, though, make sure you have purchased tickets for the Table Mountain Cable Car; buying online will save time. Check out [tablemountain.net/plan-your-visit/buy-tickets](https://tablemountain.net/plan-your-visit/buy-tickets).

You can use public transport (the MyCiTi Bus) to get to the mountain, or visit as part of the city sightseeing hop-on, hop-off

bus. Alternatively, take a taxi. Once you've got there, and the sun's shining, you will be rewarded with the most magnificent views of the city and out to sea.

One visible landmark is **Robben Island**, which has been used at various times between the 17th and 20th centuries as a military base, a hospital for lepers, and a prison. Its most famous inmate is arguably Nelson Mandela, who spent 18 of his 27 years in prison there for his anti-apartheid activism. Now a South African National Heritage Site as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, I can thoroughly recommend visiting. When I went, we were shown around by a former prisoner, which added authenticity to the visit. Robben Island is approximately a 30-minute ferry ride from the Nelson Mandela Gateway, located at the **Victoria & Alfred Waterfront**. For information about visiting the island, see [robben-island-tickets.com/en/](https://robben-island-tickets.com/en/).





ABOVE L-R: VICTORIA & ALFRED WATERFRONT, CAPE TOWN; PENGUINS ON BOULDERS BEACH; BONTEBOK ANTELOPE, CAPE POINT NATURE RESERVE; SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALES, HERMANUS; ROBBEN ISLAND; DRAKENSBURG MOUNTAIN RANGE; VINEYARD, STELLENBOSCH; FAMILY OF ELEPHANTS, MADIKWE GAME RESERVE. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

The Waterfront is home to numerous restaurants, cafes, shops, attractions, and several hotels. Last time I was in SA, there was more building going on – according to its website, waterfront.co.za, it is a 123-hectare mixed-used development, with everything from residential to commercial property, hotels, retail districts, and the recently opened **Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa**.

My favourite hotel at the Waterfront is the **Cape Grace**, a Fairmont-managed hotel; it combines style and elegance with comfort and a sense of adventure. One of my fondest memories is of storytime for its younger guests (my sons loved this when they were little!). Situated in the marina district, it boasts superb views of Table Mountain.

While there is plenty to keep you occupied at the Waterfront, for those that would like to stay a little way out of the city, then indulge in the splendour that is Red Carnation's **Twelve Apostles Hotel and Spa**. Having enjoyed a dinner there, I can vouch for its spectacular location poised above the Atlantic Ocean. And, of course, it is part of the Red Carnation Hotel Collection, just like the OGH in Town.

The sea plays a big part in South Africa, and you won't want to miss seeing some of the wonderful marine life. The mission of the **Two Oceans Aquarium** at the Waterfront is 'to take action, so that everyone can share abundant and healthy oceans for life'. See aquarium.co.za for more details. But do take a trip to **Boulders Beach** in Simon's Town, to see the iconic African penguins, which are protected within the Table Mountain National Park. There are boardwalks to walk on to view the penguins.

The two oceans that the aquarium takes its name from are the Atlantic and the Indian, which geographically meet at Cape Agulhas, the southernmost point of Africa. However, the **Cape of Good Hope** is their symbolic meeting place, and a trip there is not to be missed. The **Cape Point Nature Reserve** is one of the main attractions for visitors to Cape Point; here, you can take the Flying Dutchman Funicular up to the old lighthouse, with stunning views of the surrounding area.

Around 90 minutes southeast from Cape Town is **Hermanus**, known as one of, if not the, best places to watch whales, whether from the cliff path or a boat tour. It's a great

place to stop if you're planning to drive the **Garden Route**, a 190-mile coastal stretch from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth.

Another area to visit, whether for a day trip or longer, is the **Winelands**. I've been to Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, and Constantia, just three in the world-class winery region. Most of the estates offer guided tours and tastings (worth doing an organised tour or booking a private driver, rather than driving). There is also the Franschhoek Wine Tram (winetram.co.za), which offers a hop-on, hop-off experience.

Some of our family Cape Town holidays have been two- or three-centre. While you can go on Big Five safaris close to Cape Town, and along the Garden Route, my experience is of **Madikwe Game Reserve**, in the North West Province, bordering Botswana. It's malaria-free, which was (and is) one of the main attractions, especially when my sons were young.

On these trips, we flew into Johannesburg and out of Cape Town, or the other way around. Madikwe is around a four to five hour drive from Johannesburg, and well worth every mile. Even writing this has brought back the best safari memories! For an

authentic bushveld experience, I can thoroughly recommend the various stays I've had at Jaci's Safari Lodge and Jaci's Tree Lodge, see [jacislodges.co.za](http://jacislodges.co.za).

History lovers (and those who enjoy the outdoors) should visit the **KwaZulu-Natal**. As well as the awesome Drakensberg mountain range (the 1964 film *Zulu* was filmed here), don't miss a visit to **Rorke's Drift**, where the Battle of Rorke's Drift, an engagement in the Anglo-Zulu War took place. We stayed at Fugitives' Drift Lodge, from where we went to the battlefields at Isandlwana. Sitting above the ground where there are piles of white rocks to denote the graves, while listening to one of the Zulu men tell the tale of the Battle of Rorke's Drift, remains one of the most haunting yet memorable experiences of my life.

*British Airways has non-stop flights from London (Heathrow is the primary hub for direct routes) to cities such as Johannesburg and Cape Town; or why not enjoy a two-centre holiday, combining Dubai and South Africa? Fly to Dubai with Emirates for a few nights before continuing your journey.*

*Aurigny has relationships with both airlines.*







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ABOVE L-R: CADBURY WORLD;  
 DRAYTON MANOR; THE NEC. ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

## FIVE FUN THINGS TO DO NEAR BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT

### BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

Around 10 miles from Birmingham Airport, Birmingham Botanical Gardens is the green heart of Birmingham. It is one of the UK's most historical Botanic Gardens which has remained intact since 1829.

There are more than 1,000 plant species at the glasshouses, many not found anywhere else in the UK. Children are not forgotten, with two playgrounds (the Children's Playground and the Treetops Adventure Playground) that are interactive spaces offering hands-on activities, playful sculptures, and educational exhibits.

As well as the gardens, there is a bakery selling coffee, salads, pastries, cakes and sourdough, plus The Gardens Shop, which sells snacks, ice creams, sweets and cold drinks.

A packed programme of events and activities takes place all year. From 25 October – 2 November, follow the Spider's Tangle Trail, a unique outdoor experience combining art, storytelling and nature (ideal for 4 – 11 year olds); and from 28 November – 1 January 2026, enjoy Luminare – Winter Light Trail 2025, where you can journey through the gardens transformed by mesmerising installations, projections, music and glowing tunnels of light.

More information at [birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk](http://birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk)

### CADBURY WORLD

Enjoy a day full of fun at Cadbury World. Take a self-guided tour where you'll discover the history, the making, and the magic of Cadbury confectionery as you journey through an assortment of chocolatey zones. Please allow at least two hours.

Pre-booking is essential and it is important that you enter the attraction at the times you have booked and shown on your ticket.

Before or after the tour, head to the Cadbury World Café, Shop and African Adventure play area.

Full information, T&Cs, plus tickets and prices can be found at [cadburyworld.co.uk](http://cadburyworld.co.uk)

### DRAYTON MANOR THEME PARK

Around 20 minutes' drive from the airport, Drayton Manor Resort (which celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2025) has rides and attractions for all the family, whether it's a fast rollercoaster or the more sedate Thomas Land for the little ones, where they can immerse themselves in the world of Thomas the Tank Engine.

There's even a 4\* hotel on site, so you can make the most of your stay.

Seasonal events include Spooktacular Halloween and Christmas Wonderland (selected dates between 22 November and 31 December). New for 2025 is Elftoria, filled with festive surprises and elf-sized charm, plus the

brand-new Cinderella pantomime, a dazzling show packed with songs, sparkle, and seasonal cheer.

Drayton Manor Zoo offers a captivating experience for all ages, with 15 acres of open plan zoo. It's home to more than 500 animals from all over the world, including endangered species.

Plan your visit at [draytonmanor.co.uk](http://draytonmanor.co.uk)

### THE NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE MUSEUM

The largest motorcycle museum in the UK attracts around a quarter of a million visitors each year. Situated directly opposite the NEC, it is easily accessible from the airport.

There are around 1,000 machines from 170 different marques at the museum, in five display halls. One of the biggest attractions is the comprehensive cross-section of British machines, spanning the '60 Glorious Years' of motorcycle manufacturing in Britain. The earliest machines date from 1898.

See [nationalmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk](http://nationalmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk) for further information.

### NEC

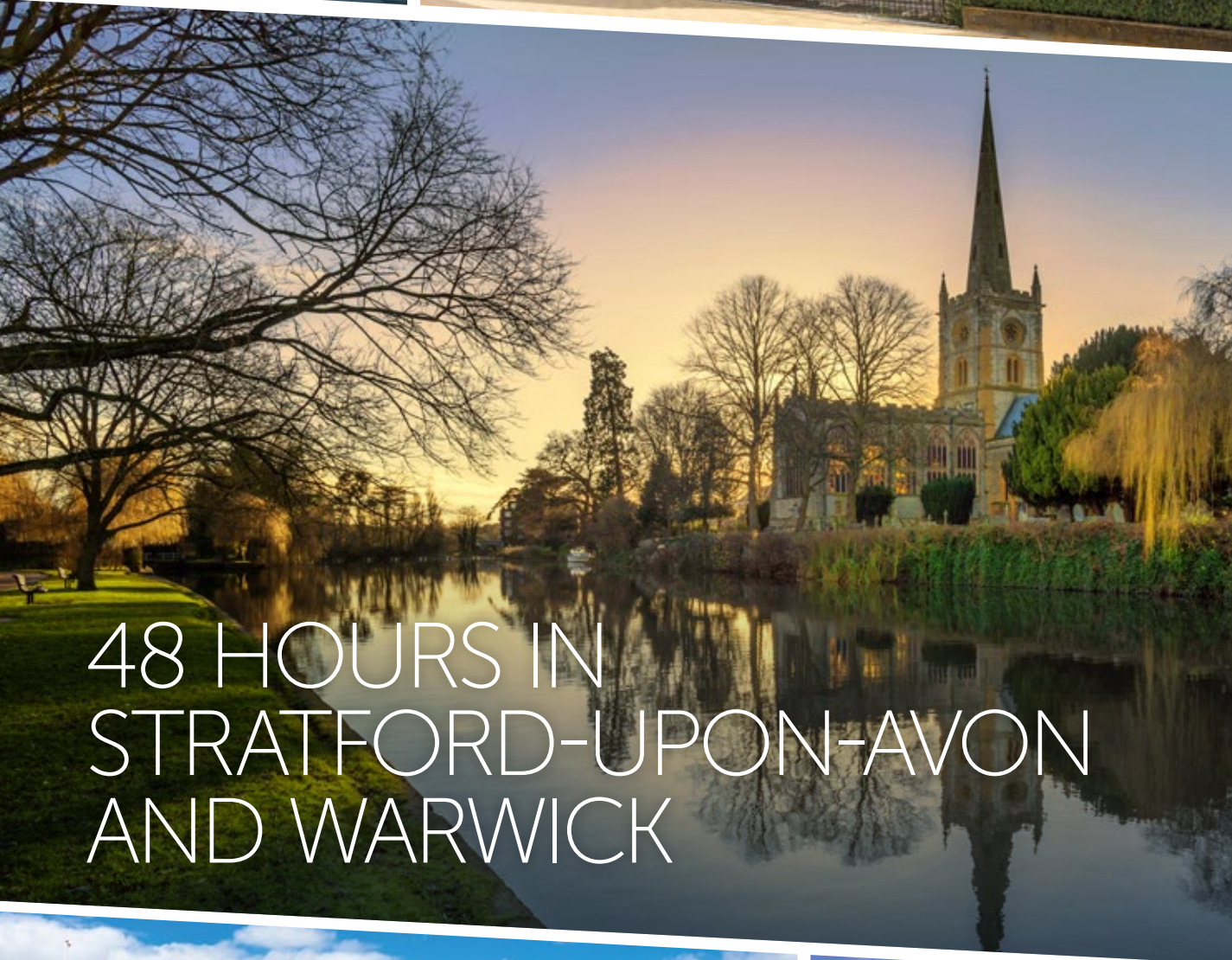
The NEC (or National Exhibition Centre) is an easy, five-to-10 minutes, under cover, walk from Birmingham International Railway Station. One of the busiest convention centres in Europe, you'll find restaurants and bars, a casino, an 11-screen cinema, plus events from motor shows to pop culture expos.

Event information can be found at [thenec.co.uk/whats-on/](http://thenec.co.uk/whats-on/)





IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BOATS ON THE RIVER AVON; WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHPLACE; THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE; GOWER MONUMENT; LORD LEYCESTER HOSPITAL, WARWICK; WARWICK CASTLE; SHAKESPEARE'S BURIAL PLACE, HOLY TRINITY CHURCH. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO.



# 48 HOURS IN STRATFORD-UPON-AVON AND WARWICK



## JESSAMY BALDWIN – WHO SPENT THREE YEARS AT WARWICK UNIVERSITY – SHARES HER TOP TIPS FOR SPENDING A COUPLE OF DAYS IN THE AREA.

It takes less than an hour to swap Guernsey's salty sea air for the historic charm of Shakespeare country, thanks to Aurigny's direct flights into Birmingham. A short drive delivers you to two of England's most atmospheric towns: Stratford-upon-Avon, birthplace of the Bard, and Warwick, home to one of the country's finest medieval castles. In just 48 hours, you can experience both England's literary heart and its medieval might.

### DAY ONE: STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Begin where it all started: at the timber-framed house on Henley Street where William Shakespeare was born in 1564. The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (open 10am – 5pm daily, prebook online) maintains five properties connected with his life, and each feels like stepping into another century. After a gentle wander along the River Avon, pause at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

Lunch is best enjoyed beside the water. The Dirty Duck, a pub beloved by actors, is perfect for a hearty pint and bite to eat. In the afternoon, drift through Stratford's cobbled lanes, pop into independent bookshops and peruse the antique jewelry shops. If the sun shines, hire a rowing

boat and view the spires and gables from the Avon itself.

Round off your evening with fine dining at Salt, a Michelin-starred modern British restaurant, where inventive dishes prove there's more to the town than quills and codpieces. If you can fit it in, an evening performance at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre is a must.

### DAY 2: WARWICK

The next morning, drive just nine miles to Warwick, a compact gem with a big personality. Its highlight, Warwick Castle, rises from the banks of the River Avon like something from a fairytale. Built in 1068 by William the Conqueror, it has endured battles and banquets, and today offers a surprisingly lively mix of history and spectacle. Check out the falconry displays, dungeons, maze, Zog playground, peacock garden and seasonal events (including Halloween fright nights and festive Christmas light trails).

Next, head into Warwick's town centre. Smith Street – the oldest shopping street in town – is lined with half-timbered shops, coffee houses and antique emporiums. For lunch, The Rose & Crown is a stylish gastropub that balances good beer with imaginative plates. In the afternoon, wander through St. Mary's Church, where the tower

views stretch right across the Midlands, before meandering back towards Birmingham in time for your flight home.

### Fun facts

- Stratford's Royal Shakespeare Company has sent actors such as Dame Judi Dench and Sir Ian McKellen onto the global stage.
- Warwick Castle once housed prisoners during the English Civil War, including a young Oliver Cromwell.
- Stratford is also known for its butterfly farm, Europe's largest, where tropical species flit around exotic plants.

### Final thoughts

Two towns, two very different atmospheres, bound together by history and the gentle Avon. In Stratford, you walk in the footsteps of the world's most famous playwright; in Warwick, you stride through battlements and legends. Together, they make for a weekend that's equal parts culture, charm and escapism. Proof that with Aurigny, the Midlands is closer than you think.





I'VE TAUGHT MY FRIENDS AT UNIVERSITY HOW TO SURF, TO MIXED RESULTS. ONE SAID I WAS A GREAT TEACHER, THE OTHER ACCUSED ME OF WATERBOARDING.

ABOVE L-R: CATHERINE GILL; SURFERS AT VAZON ©VISIT GUERNSEY; BRANSCOMBE'S LOAF, DARTMOOR ©PETER WILSON; CATHERINE 'ON THE ROCK' WITH THE GUERNSEY FLAG.

# COMING HOME

A NEW OCCASIONAL SERIES WHERE WE ASK A LOCAL STUDENT WHO IS STUDYING IN THE UK OR OVERSEAS WHAT IS THEIR FAVOURITE THING (OR THINGS) ABOUT HEADING BACK TO GUERNSEY – AND ALSO WHAT IS THERE TO DO IN THEIR NEW TOWN OR CITY FOR VISITORS?

## ► NAME: CATHERINE GILL

At university, there are three questions you get asked the most. What's your name, what do you study, and where are you from? I'm Catherine, I study history, I'm from Guernsey. It's a set of questions and answers drilled into me so hard that I'm probably still saying them in my sleep.

The last answer, 'I'm from Guernsey', is often met with a blank face. 'It's an island between England and France,' I say. Still nothing. Jersey's name must often be begrudgingly invoked to spark the first hint of recognition in their eyes.

UK students generally don't have or bother with this problem – they give themselves a handy shortcut to this question by simply saying the city they're closest to or the county they live in. This is in order to avoid giving the name of an obscure village or town with a distinctly un-cool name.

Technically, I could say the Channel Islands, but this will invariably result in being asked to

## ► UNIVERSITY: UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

clarify which island anyway. Not least, I will still have to go through the backchannel of saying 'ever heard of Jersey?', because it's still unlikely they know it. So, I might as well start where we'll end up.

Some fellow Guernsey students I talk to tell me how tired they get of going through these motions, and wading through the sea of stereotypes, assumptions and same-old questions about this island we call home. Yes, our speed limit really is 35mph. No, we don't have a McDonald's. Yes, we do have our own language. No, I can't speak it.

Personally, I delight in these interrogations, and I know I'm not the only one.

Some days I'm in the mood for some myth busting – I was once asked if we have the internet. Other times, when someone is asking me if I can get back for Christmas (seeing as people assume we don't have an airport and the seas must be so rough), I can't resist the opportunity to embellish some.

But be it by plane, flying over our island's tiny profile ringed with white and blue, or by ferry, when I set eyes on our picturesque harbour and capital – coming back to Guernsey, affectionately or derogatorily called 'the rock', is always a dream.

Meeting up with friends on any one of our beautiful beaches, hearing what they've all been up to and the latest scandalous updates on their work nemeses, running into old faces in the most niche places. Come winter, the first night back is normally set to the music of the fog horn. I love to hear it the first night as it sends me right off to sleep. From then on I revert to my love-hate relationship with it as it either keeps me up or lulls me off to a sense of peaceful isolation.

The wind is something else, and the waves whip up a frenzy. I am transfixed watching them batter the coastline, with the sea spray and seaweed flinging over the coastal defences in some places – the untamed power, but beauty,

of it all. At this time of year, I get dragged, or I drag others, into the icy waters. Various justifications are given ranging from its health benefits to... masochism, maybe.

My tune changes at summertime, where the first swim back is nothing short of a joy. On my lunch break at work I can just hop off to the coast for a dip without any rush. I can just be driving along anywhere, see a beach or slipway and jump straight in on a whim.

I'm hardly starved of beaches in Devon, and its red sand is one of a kind, but I still catch myself feeling unimpressed when I've grown up here with the likes of Cobo to lounge on. I've seen overcrowded beaches in England; we don't hold a candle to them. I go haring off after our dog who is set on terrorising people with beach barbecues and I go diving off rocks and piers for shells to my heart's content.

My university friends don't appear to appreciate the thrills of lawnmower racing the same way I do. It's a good life, and one I don't always look forward to leaving.

Exeter isn't a big city and doesn't have as much going on as compared to some of my friends who are studying elsewhere, but that's not why I chose it. It's right on the doorstep of Dartmoor, 30-odd minutes away by train, and its coasts, gorges and valleys

are gorgeous in their own right.

I can spend my weekends out on the moors on long walks where I hardly see anyone, going past wild ponies and hair-raising crossings of fields with bulls. I have all the time in the world to work through my thoughts, all the while running the very real risk of getting completely and totally lost, which is not a sensation I'm familiar with coming from such a small and contained place.

Dartmoor and Guernsey share the same common experience of thick fog, although I'm a sight more worried when it descends out on the moors compared to the rock. Of course, it's not like the two lives split across the sea are completely different, I take bits of each to both, though they don't always gel.

I've taught my friends at university how to surf, to mixed results. One said I was a great teacher, the other accused me of waterboarding. I try to make my favourite university dish, cajun chicken alfredo, at home on the electric cooker to disastrous results.

I graduated from Exeter this summer, and it feels strange to actually fully unpack my luggage and settle back in properly without having to uproot my life into two suitcases in a few weeks' time.

I've got mixed feelings about it all.

As I hope has come across in my writing, I love this island and the people in it to bits. But flying back in for the last time this summer, I was struck more intensely than usual at just how small we are. I can't escape from civilisation the same way I could in Devon.

We don't have the same rolling hills and endless stretches of horizon that Dartmoor has – unfortunately, swimming doesn't hit the same spot for me, no matter what our Sea Donkey might say. I already greatly miss my friends there and feel more cut off from them than they are from each other.

Just recently, by sheer coincidence, two of them realised they were both stopping over in villages separated by a 10-minute drive in the east of England. Neither of them lives in the east of England. They scrambled to find the time and managed to scrape 30 minutes together. By comparison, I don't think anyone is making an accidental stop-off over here.

The day after graduation I took the Guernsey flag down to the university's 'rock' where I held it aloft for a photo, to the confusion of some Geography students nearby.

'What flag's that?' they asked...





Architecture

Interiors

Landscapes



StuDiO is an award-winning architecture and design practice working on residential, commercial and community projects across Guernsey and beyond. Our considered, contextual designs create beautiful, functional and sustainable structures and spaces that will be enjoyed for generations. We offer interior design and landscape design as part of broader architectural commissions, or as standalone services. We take pride in tailoring each design to meet the precise needs of each client and site, and in working closely with trusted contractors and consultants to deliver exceptional results. Planning a project? Get in touch to find out how we can work together.

### *The West Coast Farmhouse*

Our bold yet sensitive extension of this traditional, 17th-century farmhouse creates a delicate dialogue between granite, glass and garden. It introduces much-needed colour, texture and movement, establishing a new sense of cohesion and flow. The fully glazed extension acts as a framing device – a quiet intervention that plays with light, shade and reflection. The smooth white plaster contrasts with the restored granite wall, drawing attention to its rich texture and layered history.



### *Alba*

Establishing a new restaurant in the historic Market Buildings presented both an opportunity and a challenge – one that demanded sensitivity, precision and collaboration. Despite the constraints presented by the space, the result is a striking blend of bold, bespoke contemporary design and rich historical texture. Transforming a vacant unit into a vibrant, high-quality restaurant and bar that opens directly onto Market Square, Alba has injected new energy into this historic part of town.



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Agility.  
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90

Group Employees

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NSM is an independent financial services group, headquartered in Guernsey, providing private client, funds and corporate services



OPERA BUYS HFL LIMITED

HFL Limited, a Guernsey-based fiduciary and fund administration firm, is joining Opera – the privately owned group that has recently acquired Oak and Amber Trust.

This is the third acquisition for Opera, which is majority backed by Pula, the family office of local resident Stephen Lansdown, the co-founder of Hargreaves Lansdown. It said the move reflected its commitment to bridging the gap between boutique firms and global operators driven by private equity.

HFL, a family-owned fiduciary and fund administration firm in Guernsey, serves venture capital clients, their investors and private clients.

‘HFL is a fantastic addition to our group – a business with deep sector expertise, a trusted reputation, and a strong alignment with Opera’s purpose-driven approach,’ said Kim Sgarlata, group CEO and executive director of Opera.

‘We are building Opera with intention, bringing together exceptional firms who share our long-term vision and our belief that relationships and purpose matter. This is not about



Kim Sgarlata

creating the biggest group. It is about creating the right one.

‘HFL brings exceptional expertise, warmth and innovation that will make us all stronger. Together, we will continue to grow in ways that serve our clients, empower our people, and strengthen our collective ability to lead with innovation and care. I cannot wait to see what we will achieve together.’

Matt Westgarth-Smith, managing director of HFL, said: ‘This is not just another acquisition – it is a strategic step towards becoming a key player

in supporting Europe’s innovation ecosystem.

‘As a family-owned firm, it was vital for us to remain private and partner with shareholders who share our long-term view and values. With Opera and the backing of Stephen Lansdown – one of the UK’s original tech entrepreneurs – we are entering a new chapter, grounded in continuity but focused on growth and innovation.

‘I’m incredibly proud of what the HFL team has built – and excited about what comes next.’

The Opera business model provides patient capital, strategic vision and operational expertise to its portfolio of companies. The acquisition is part of Project Overture, Opera’s five-year strategic plan focused on three transformation pillars – using smarter technology to simplify work and support better service, delivering sustainable organic growth by increasing visibility and brand presence in the market, and global expansion through targeted acquisitions. The group is planning further acquisitions and expansions into key strategic markets.

VISITOR LEVY COULD GIVE GUERNSEY ‘TOOLS TO COMPETE AND THRIVE’



Fiona Drane, director of Scotland’s Community Tourism Association

Charging visitors a levy to spend nights in the island could actually encourage more people to come to Guernsey on holiday, a tourism expert has said.

The Guernsey Hospitality Association agrees and is trying to encourage the States to back such a scheme.

It presented to 30 deputies at an event which also heard from Fiona Drane, the director of Scotland’s Community Tourism Association, who supports the levy idea.

‘This is what the best practice is,’ she said. ‘It could give Guernsey the tools it needs to compete and thrive. Tourism is absolutely vital here. It

supports jobs, hospitality, transport and local pride.’

GHA president Alan Sillett has suggested a ‘per-person, per-night’ charge, estimating that £2 to £4 nightly could raise between £2m. and £6m. annually. The prospect of somehow charging French day-trippers has also been suggested.

Mr Sillett reiterated that all decisions would have to be made and communicated clearly from the start. It believes that a ring-fenced tax would make the industry more self-sufficient and independent.

‘A collaborative approach makes so much sense,’ he said.

‘The Guernsey Hospitality Association very much look forward to working with government in a positive and constructive way.’

He wants to set up an industry focus group to work with States officials on the project.

Hotelier Callum Le Noury, operations director of Sarnia Hotels, is backing the idea.

‘I’m all for it as long as the funds stay in tourism,’ he said.

FNB CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY IN GUERNSEY



South Africa’s First National Bank has outlined its commitment to Guernsey at an event to mark the 10th anniversary of its establishment of a bank in the island.

The move in 2015 bucked the trend of banks withdrawing from the island due to regulatory changes and the demands on banking groups.

FNB, part of First Rand, South Africa’s biggest bank by market value, has had a private wealth and trust

offering in the island for more than 40 years. So when it looked at an offshore banking option, Guernsey was a natural choice.

‘Our commitment to Guernsey remains,’ said FNB chief executive Harry Kellan.

The island is a popular domicile for South Africans seeking offshore structures, including trusts, funds and insurance solutions, and it is a well-known jurisdiction for South



African high-net-worth individuals seeking a suitable location where their assets can be managed.

FNB said that Guernsey offered clients good offshore capabilities and a trusted and credible regulatory environment, and a long history with South Africa. Most South African clients use a Guernsey account for travel and currency investment, and estate planning.

SURE EMPOWERS GUERNSEY FAMILIES WITH GREATER CONTROL OVER DIGITAL LIFE



Mike Fawcner-Corbett of Sure

Sure is launching a new pay monthly mobile plan aimed at helping parents and carers manage safe access to devices and connectivity.

Called ‘Basic Sharer’, the plan is £12.50 a month and includes unlimited calls and SMS messages, but not mobile data.

It is designed for parents who want their children to be connected, but not have internet access.

‘We’re all living increasingly digital lives and while that brings lots of benefits it also comes with challenges, especially for young people navigating the online world,’ Sure acting chief commercial officer Mike Fawcner-Corbett said.

‘Working with movements like Smartphone Free Childhood has highlighted how much our community cares about online safety.

‘We see it as our responsibility to support families with the tools and guidance they need.’

It is hoped the plan will give parents and carers greater ability to manage and monitor online activity, with children only able to access digital services via wifi at locations such as home or school.

Sure’s range of handsets includes the Nokia 110 – an ideal phone for those who just want calls and SMS – and smartphones from Samsung and Apple that come with parental controls built in.

Guides to using parental controls and safety features on Apple and Android devices, as well as home routers, are also available on Sure’s website.

‘It is all about giving families options, we want to put the power in their hands so they can decide how their kids engage with the online world,’ Mr Fawcner-Corbett said.

‘Our role is to provide the right tools and the support so people can make the choices that work for them.’

FUNKY PIGEON BRAND SOLD

WH Smith has sold its Funky Pigeon brand to Card Factory, as the retailer continues its move towards becoming a pared-down travel retailer.

The novelty greeting cards line, based in Guernsey and Bristol, has been sold for £24m. Card Factory will be looking to integrate its technology into its consumer business.

Card Factory said that the acquisition supported the firm’s ambition to become ‘the leading omnichannel retailer in our sector’ and would build its status in the digital market.

Funky Pigeon’s sale price was based on an average £32m. revenue and around £5m. of Ebitda (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) over the past two financial years.

When the deals have been completed, the only remaining WH Smith shops will be in airports, train stations and motorway service stations, with some remaining stores in hospitals. The high street stores have already been sold to the retail-focused private equity business Modella Capital. They are due to be rebranded as TG Jones.



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## TOKENISATION: THE APPROACHING REVOLUTION FOR FUNDS

BY MATT BREHAUT AND TOM CAREY, PARTNERS IN CAREY OLSEN'S CORPORATE TEAM IN GUERNSEY

### WHAT IS TOKENISATION?

Tokenisation is the digital representation of traditional, real-world assets ('RWAs') – such as bonds, equities, real estate and funds – in computer code stored on a decentralised ledger (a 'blockchain').

Tokenisation makes the leap to *decentralisation* of data, where no-one 'holds' the data. The blockchain becomes a single store of information, where service providers access and manipulate the data, rather than holding it on their servers.

We think the best way to describe tokens is: 'a new way of storing data, with significant technological advantages'.

### PERMISSIONED TOKENS

'Permissioned' tokens are the key to mainstream adoption. They can only be sent or received based on verified credentials of the digital 'wallets' to which the tokens are credited (Bitcoin, by contrast, can be sent to or from any wallet). This facilitates the application of mainstream compliance requirements on tokens.

For example, a token can be programmed so that it cannot be transferred to a digital wallet unless the investor's wallet satisfies specified AML requirements. In practice, a Guernsey administrator will determine whether the investor has satisfied those criteria, designate their wallet accordingly and thereby permit a transfer of the token to that wallet.

### THE PRINCIPAL BENEFITS OF TOKENISATION

We think the benefits of tokenisation and the 'smart contracts' they can run ('smart contracts' is just another name for computer code) will be:

- **Efficiency:** The blockchain will be a single source of data, eliminating the need for duplicative, labour intensive and error strewn data inputting.
- **Risk:** The potential for instant settlement (transferring a token from one wallet to another in seconds, not days) means the elimination of counterparty risk, with less need for central counterparties and reduced collateral requirements.
- **Automation:** Processes currently requiring manual input will become fully automated. A classic example is capital calls sent to investors. A single data input could be made by the administrator for a drawdown amount, which gets automatically allocated to investors *pro rata* to their holding of tokens, deducted from their wallets and transferred to the fund's wallet – all in seconds (think of it as a very clever direct debit). The recent GENIUS

Act in the US, which creates a federal regulatory framework for stablecoins (cryptocurrencies backed by stable assets like the U.S. dollar) will help legitimise the use of blockchain based payments.

- **New pools of capital:** The ability to 'fractionalise' the tokens (break them down into smaller and smaller pieces) means smaller investment sizes, which means new investors (e.g. HNWI's and mass affluent) can access products hitherto reserved for only the most sophisticated institutions. 'Feeder' funds specifically set up for such investors, with standardised investment terms, could invest into the main fund.
- **Liquidity:** Technology platforms – like those offered by TISE – facilitate token trading via electronic order books: an essential feature for smaller investors typically unable to hold otherwise illiquid investments for many years.

### HOW IS GUERNSEY PLACED?

Given its large funds industry and its legal and regulatory environment, Guernsey is ideally placed to benefit from tokenisation.

Our Lending, Credit and Finance Law makes clear that tokens representing RWAs are not 'virtual assets' and therefore regulated in the same manner as the RWAs they represent.

Our Electronic Transactions Law and Electronic Transactions Ordinance facilitate the use of electronic documents and processes, the storage of information in electronic form and the enforceability of a contract carried out by means of an 'electronic agent'.

### WHEN WILL THIS HAPPEN?

It's already started! Headline grabbing examples – such as the Dubai Land Department's announcement that it had fully funded a tokenised a £0.5m property project in *one minute and 58 seconds*, attracting 149 investors from 35 nationalities – demonstrate the huge appetite among investors familiar with the technology.

Traditional managers are catching up, issuing an increasing number of tokenised versions of their products. There is no doubt that this area will grow exponentially in the coming years.

*Matt Brehaut and Tom Carey are partners in Carey Olsen's corporate team in Guernsey. They specialise in the establishment of Guernsey domiciled funds, and lead the firm's digital assets team in Guernsey, working with clients to explore ways in which the island can remain at the forefront of new technologies such as tokenisation.*





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# FINANCIAL ADVISERS: THE GPs OF YOUR FINANCIAL HEALTH

BY BEX GOATER, DIRECTOR, NETWORK INSURANCE & FINANCIAL PLANNING

When you hear 'financial adviser', what comes to mind? Someone in a suit talking in spreadsheets? Someone you only see when you're retiring or investing? In truth, independent financial advice is much broader – and more personal – than that.

Think of us as the GPs of the financial world. Like your doctor, we take a holistic view of your situation, listen carefully, spot things you may not have noticed, and build a tailored plan to support your long-term wellbeing. And, just like a GP, we're most effective when we're not just responding to emergencies, but helping you stay healthy over time.

#### THE DIAGNOSTIC PROCESS

When a client walks into my office, they don't always have a clear idea of what they need. They might come in with a specific question – 'Should I move my pension?', 'Can I afford to retire at 60?', or 'How should I invest a recent inheritance?' – but, more often, there's more to consider. And that's where the diagnosis begins.

A good financial adviser doesn't just answer the question asked. We look to understand the full picture – income, expenditure, assets, liabilities, family circumstances and objectives. Sometimes the most important insight comes not from what's said, but from what's unsaid. Our role is to listen deeply and ask the right follow-ups – to uncover what really needs attention.

Only once we understand the person, not just the problem, can we go away and formulate a plan. That may involve some detailed research – and then we return with a set of tailored recommendations. Just like a GP might suggest lifestyle changes alongside a prescription, our advice might range from complex technical solutions to simple practical steps.

And it doesn't end there. The key to good financial health is ongoing maintenance – regular reviews, check-ups after any life changes, and staying on top of shifts in regulation or market conditions.

#### TOP TIPS FOR FINANCIAL FITNESS

Whether or not you're working with a financial adviser right now, there are a few simple principles everyone can follow to keep their financial house in order. Think of them as the 'five-a-day' of personal finance:

- 1. Schedule regular financial check-ups.** Life moves fast – and your finances should keep pace. Whether annually or every few years, taking stock of your financial situation helps you stay aligned with your goals. A review doesn't have to mean big changes; sometimes, just knowing you're on track is a comfort in itself.
- 2. Flag any life changes.** Moving house, changing jobs, getting married or divorced, having children, inheriting money – these all have financial implications. A proper financial review after a major event can help you avoid missed opportunities or unexpected risks.
- 3. Know your numbers.** Many people aren't sure what they spend. Awareness is power. A good budget isn't about restriction – it's about directing money to what matters most.
- 4. Plan ahead – not just for retirement, but for life.** Yes, pensions are important. But so are holidays, education costs, supporting ageing parents, or even starting a business one day. A sound financial plan is a life plan with numbers attached.
- 5. Ask questions.** If financial jargon feels overwhelming, speak up. A good adviser welcomes questions – clarity builds confidence, building a relationship for life.

The most rewarding part of my job isn't just seeing a client meet their financial goals – although that's wonderful. It's knowing that I've helped them feel more confident, less anxious, and more in control of their future. We all want peace of mind, especially in uncertain times, and engagement and education are key.

So whether you're 25 or 65, just starting out or well into your financial journey, think of your adviser as your financial GP. Book that check-up. Ask the awkward questions. Be honest about what's going on.

Financial health, just like physical health, is best when it's proactive – and looked after with care.

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## TERRES MISES À L'AMENDE – A LONGSTANDING AND UNUSUAL ASPECT OF GUERNSEY LAW



Andrew Laws  
Senior Partner



Josh Tucker  
Associate

BY ANDREW LAWS, SENIOR PARTNER & JOSH TUCKER, ASSOCIATE, BABBÉ

The term 'Terres Mises à L'Amende' (meaning 'penalty land') will be known to many islanders and is a way that an owner or occupier of land can enforce against those who trespass on the land.

If a piece of land has been determined as 'Terres Mises à L'Amende' this allows the landowner to enforce a fine of £50.00 against those who trespass (i.e. park their vehicle) on their land.

### HOW MAY I BENEFIT FROM THIS?

For land to benefit from the protection of 'Terres Mises à L'Amende' an application must be made by the landowner, occupier or tenant to the Royal Court seeking an order that any trespasser be liable to prosecution. The application will need to identify the area of land they wish to be protected by the order (typically by referencing a plan).

While a tenant of the land in question can make the application, the landowner must provide their consent to it. As a tenant it is therefore important that you engage with your landlord at an early stage to obtain their consent so that you can progress the application as swiftly as possible.

If convinced to do so, the Royal Court will grant the application and make the relevant order.

### WHAT HAPPENS ONCE AN ORDER IS MADE?

Once an order has been made, notices expressing that the land has been determined as 'Terres Mises à L'Amende' must be published twice in the La Gazette Officielle. Another required step is to erect a sign on the land stating that the land is now determined as 'Les Terres Mises à L'Amende'.

### WHAT IS THE PROCESS IF SOMEONE TRESPASSES OVER THE LAND AND AN ORDER IS IN PLACE?

The fine of £50.00 can be recovered as a civil debt. Should the fine remain outstanding then a claim can be issued in the Petty Debts Court.

In the event where unauthorised parking has occurred on the land, the landowner can obtain details of the vehicle registration from the Vehicle Licensing Authority.

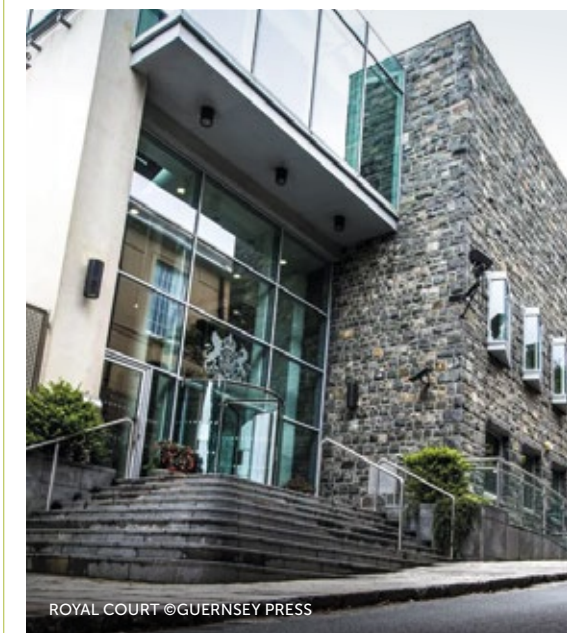
### DURATION AND LIMITATIONS

If an order is made then it will only be valid for 10 years, after which the landowner will lose its right to enforce unless they make an application to renew the order.

It is also worth noting that if the original applicant sold the land, then the order will cease. It is therefore wise that the new owner of the land makes an application to extend the order to benefit them as the new owner. In the event of a sale, the order will automatically expire six months after completion of the sale (unless an application to extend is made).

A further consideration is that where land is jointly owned and not all owners agree to the proposal to determine the land as 'Terres Mises à L'Amende', then the application may fail.

*Should you wish to make an application or extend a current order, please get in touch with the team at Babbé who would be happy to advise.*



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## SUPPORTING UK GROWTH

**Guernsey-domiciled funds are driving international capital into the UK at twice the pace of overall foreign direct investment (FDI), according to a new report by Frontier Economics, one of Europe's largest economic consultancies.**

The report, The Value of Guernsey's Funds Industry to the UK's Growth Ambitions, commissioned by Guernsey Finance, finds that Guernsey-domiciled funds currently channel £58bn into UK assets, with investment growing by 7% per year since 2021.

Almost 90% of Guernsey-domiciled funds' managed assets are sourced from non-UK investors, supporting FDI into the UK.

For example, Guernsey-domiciled Gresham House is investing in a range of infrastructure assets including a national network of landscape scale habitat banks to drive biodiversity, vertical farms to boost UK food security and regional fibre-optic networks across the country.

### KEY FINDINGS:

- Guernsey-domiciled funds channel £58bn in UK assets
- Almost 90% of Guernsey-domiciled funds' managed

assets are sourced from non-UK investors, supporting FDI into the UK

- Investors from 63 countries each accounted for more than £50m. of assets in Guernsey-domiciled funds in 2024.
- Guernsey funds' UK investments are growing at 7% per year, double the growth rate of the UK's FDI position.
- At this pace, Guernsey funds could channel nearly £23bn in additional private finance into the UK by 2029, surpassing the UK National Wealth Fund's £22bn private financing target.
- Guernsey funds support specific areas of the Government's growth pillars around the country, including Investment, Infrastructure & Planning, Innovation, Net Zero, and Place.
- UK-based fund managers and issuers benefit from Guernsey's lower cost, faster time to market and deep fund infrastructure expertise – built and refined over 60 years to support the needs of UK firms.

- The International Stock Exchange (TISE), headquartered in Guernsey, supports more than 60% of its listings from UK issuers.

Guernsey-based funds are backing projects in a variety of sectors and across all four nations of the UK, from student housing in Durham and telecommunications in Liverpool to fibre connectivity in Cornwall and Derry, wind farms in Aberdeenshire, and foodtech in Birmingham.

'Guernsey and the UK have a uniquely close relationship built on trust and transparency,' said Rupert Pleasant, Chief Executive of Guernsey Finance. 'As Frontier Economics' research makes clear, deepening that partnership offers huge potential, not just for financial services but for national prosperity. Guernsey is delivering international finance to all four nations of the UK, and across all regions of England, in a range of sectors where it's most needed – and it is doing so at scale and speed.'

The full report can be accessed here: [guernseyfinance.com/industry-resources/literature/general/the-value-of-guernseys-funds-industry-to-the-uks-growth-ambitions/](https://guernseyfinance.com/industry-resources/literature/general/the-value-of-guernseys-funds-industry-to-the-uks-growth-ambitions/)





# HOW BOND INVESTMENT CAN ANCHOR YOUR PORTFOLIO

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**Julius Bär**  
YOUR WEALTH MANAGER

As the sun sets on another glowing European summer, some of you may have disembarked from a holiday sailing on the high seas. Similar to the often-fluctuating landscape of the ocean, navigating global finance can be challenging as a high-net-worth individual.

In the face of shifting economic tides, squalls of inflationary changes, and the occasional sea fog of uncertainty, seeking an anchor is crucial to steady yourself amid the swells of market volatility. Bonds can offer exactly that.

Derek Beatty, Senior Portfolio Manager at Julius Baer Guernsey, delves into how bond investment can provide stability and mediate risk, to set the course for your long-term investment goals.

### WHAT IS A BOND?

In its simplest form, a bond is a form of debt. Unlike equities, a bond is nominal. When you invest in a bond, you are lending money to a borrower, instead of buying an ownership stake. The 'borrower' can be a range of institutions, from corporations to the government itself. By opting into a bond, you receive fixed interest payments until the bond has reached maturity. Then the full amount is returned to you at face value, provided the company stays solvent.

The consistent, fixed return and assurance of repayment are what make bond investments a cornerstone of conservative investment strategy. Bond investors essentially lend to stimulate economic activity while reaping the benefits of capital preservation and liquid income.

### STABILITY AT SEA: BONDS VS EQUITIES

To truly conceptualise the decision at hand, think of this: in the investment world, equities are speedboats – fast, agile, and high-octane. However, bonds act like yachts. While they cannot accelerate ahead in bull markets, they are significantly less likely to capsize in a storm. Their fixed-interest payments enforce a stabilising effect on portfolios to offer less price volatility than stocks. Hence why bonds are a key tool for investors when diversifying their portfolios.

### WHY DO BOND PRICES RISE AND FALL WITH INTEREST RATES?

While bonds are relatively stable, it must be cautioned that their prices do move in response to interest rates. When interest rates rise, bond prices fall, and vice versa. This is particularly relevant to those trading bonds

ahead of maturity, as this inverse relationship affects returns. Therefore, against the backdrop of today's fluctuating economy, understanding this dynamic is vital to strategically managing bond investments. Wise investors may take an active approach to adjust the duration of their bonds to seize opportunities on the horizon or protect capital, which influences a bond's sensitivity to interest rates.

### NOT ALL BONDS ARE CREATED EQUAL

Much like your nautical vessel of choice, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to bonds. Bonds are created with a multitude of variables; some offer high rewards but greater uncertainty, while some offer lower risk but more modest returns. Therefore, understanding the landscape of the surrounding waters is vital to steering the helm of your ship.

Government bonds from stable, developed countries often have minimal credit risk as there's a lower chance the government will default on its payments. However, in turn, their yields are typically lower. In the other extreme, 'junk' bonds are known for their high yield return. Issued by companies with lower credit ratings, they have a far higher likelihood of payment default. However, to compensate, they offer significantly higher returns.

Bond credit ratings are categorised into a rating system, ranging from AAA (lowest credit risk) to D (currently in default). When carefully building an effective bond portfolio, many blend a broad matrix of different issuer types, maturities, and credit ratings.

### BONDS AS YOUR FINANCIAL ANCHOR

In the choppy waters of today's uncertain world, bonds remain an attractive investment choice. They can offer security, stability, and portfolio diversification. They are the financial anchor in a broader investment strategy: essential for navigating both calm and stormy seas.



Through well-informed guidance and tailored strategy, bonds will be a necessity on your journey of financial investment. If you are looking for personalised and expert investment advice, reach out to Derek Beatty at [derek.beatty@juliusbaer.com](mailto:derek.beatty@juliusbaer.com).

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# When will your retirement take off?

By Paul McCormick, Director & Senior Financial Adviser at Gower



If, like me, you're part of Generation X, i.e. you're aged between 45 and 60, you'll know how easy it is to put off preparing for retirement. Life is busy – careers, mortgages, children, ageing parents – financial planning often takes a back seat. But here's the truth, the decisions we make today will shape the freedom and choices we have tomorrow.

That's why I always recommend **Future Forecast**, Gower's personalised financial planning service.

## See the bigger picture

Future Forecast is designed to help you understand your current financial position and where it could take you.

Whether you're wondering:

- Will I have enough to retire comfortably?
- Can I afford to support my children with university or housing?
- What happens if I want to reduce my working hours in the next few years?

Future Forecast helps answer these questions with clarity and confidence.

## Built for real life

No one's financial journey is straight or predictable. With Future Forecast, we stress-test your plan to explore what might happen if life throws you a curveball. Like a change in income, market fluctuations, or unexpected expenses. This means you're not just planning for best-case scenarios, but building in the resilience to handle change.

And because life doesn't stand still, neither does your plan. As your goals evolve, we're here to adjust and guide you through each stage. From active working years to retirement and beyond.

## Why it matters now

Many of us in our 40s and 50s are approaching a critical window. There's still time to strengthen your financial position, but waiting another five or ten years might limit your options. Future Forecast gives you the awareness and control to make confident decisions today – whether that's increasing your pension contributions, rethinking your investment strategy, or setting clearer goals.

## Start with a conversation

Financial planning doesn't have to be complicated. In fact, most clients tell me they feel a huge sense of relief after going through the process because they finally know where they stand and what they can do about it.

If you're starting to think seriously about your future, Future Forecast is the ideal first step.

## Let's talk about your future.

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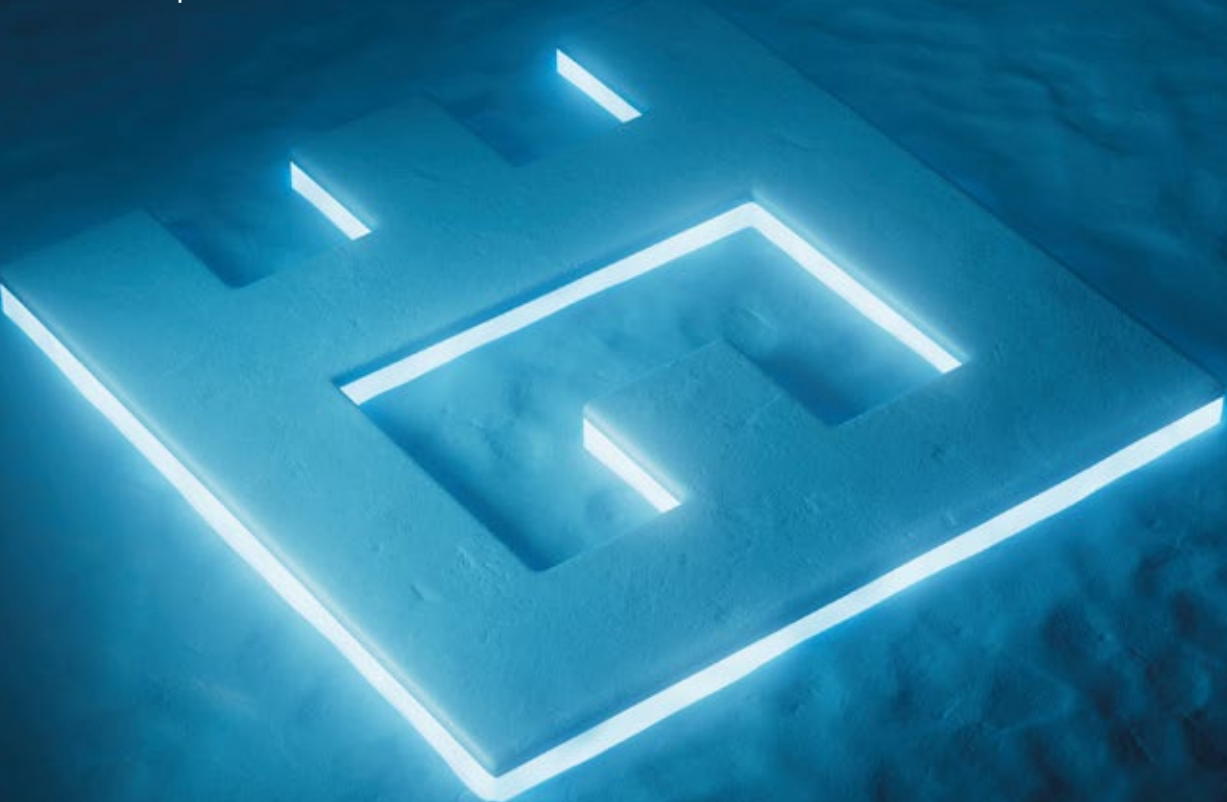


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## GUIDING COMPLEX FAMILIES: THE IMPORTANCE OF A FIRM BUT FAIR TRUSTEE

BY MATTHEW GILLIGAN, CLIENT SERVICES DIRECTOR, FORT

Managing wealth across generations is never just about numbers. For ultra-high-net-worth individuals (UHNWIs), it often involves navigating deep-rooted family dynamics, differing values and evolving priorities — particularly when trust structures are involved.

As families become more globally dispersed and diverse in their views, the challenge of aligning around a unified vision for trust assets becomes more complex. Differing generational perspectives — especially around investment preferences, risk appetite and social responsibility — can lead to misalignment or outright conflict. In these moments, a firm but fair trustee plays a vital role in protecting the integrity of the structure and helping the family move toward an amicable solution.

### BRIDGING GENERATIONAL GAPS

A recurring theme in today's family offices is the divergence between founding and next generation family members. Older generations may lean towards traditional investment strategies, favouring capital preservation and more conservative allocations. In contrast, younger family members increasingly prioritise sustainable and ethical investments, with ESG frameworks and impact strategies gaining traction.

Whilst this philosophical shift is not inherently problematic, it can create tensions when the trust deed offers broad discretion and/or lacks clear guidance. Disputes can emerge over investment direction, asset liquidity, or even the long-term purpose of the trust itself. In the absence of clear family governance or a cohesive vision, a well-positioned trustee is essential to interpret and uphold the terms of the trust, balance competing voices and offer objective guidance and leadership.

### LEGAL TOOLS TO REDUCE CONFLICT

Prevention is better than cure, so avoiding conflict in the first place is, of course, preferable to trying to resolve it later down the line. One increasingly popular solution among legal advisers is the introduction of a Family Charter or Constitution. Though not typically a binding legal document, a Family Charter sets out shared values, principles and goals — providing a framework for decision-making and future engagement.

Such charters often cover issues including:

- the family's collective mission and purpose;
- investment philosophies across generations;
- succession planning and expectations; and
- procedures for resolving disputes internally.

When paired with a robust trust structure, a well-drafted Family Charter can bring clarity and alignment, making it easier for trustees to act in accordance with the spirit — not just the letter — of the family's intentions.

Other legal mechanisms, such as Letters of Wishes or formal family governance committees, can also provide helpful context to trustees, without compromising their fiduciary independence.

### THE TRUSTEE'S CRUCIAL ROLE

Even with the best governance tools in place, the role of the trustee remains pivotal. A professional trustee must remain impartial, upholding their duties in accordance with the trust deed, applicable law and the long-term interests of the beneficiaries — not simply the loudest voice at the table!

A "firm but fair" trustee knows when to listen, when to mediate and when to act decisively. Their value lies not only in administration but in offering continuity, clarity and authority when the family cannot reach consensus on its own.

Guernsey, with its mature and respected legal system, provides a strong foundation for trustees to operate effectively in this space. Its trust law is well tested and its courts are known for supporting professional trustees in the careful and considered exercise of their powers — even in the face of challenge.

### IN PRACTICE

Trustees working with complex family structures should ideally have experience navigating cross-generational dynamics, as well as the sensitivity to respect cultural and personal differences. In many cases, they may also work closely with lawyers and family office advisers to help implement governance frameworks, interpret Letters of Wishes, or mediate on sensitive matters.

Ultimately, when disputes do arise — and they often do — it is the trustee who must stand as the final guardian of the trust's purpose and integrity.

### CONCLUSION

Family wealth brings opportunity but also complexity. The combination of legal foresight — through tools like Family Charters — and a steady, professional trustee creates the conditions for families to thrive across multiple generations. In a world where values evolve, a firm but fair trustee remains the anchor that holds the structure together.





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## GUERNSEY A DESTINATION OF CHOICE

Guernsey offers more than just scenic coastlines and a relaxed island lifestyle — it presents, for many, a compelling fiscal opportunity. With no capital gains tax, no inheritance tax, and caps on personal income tax, Guernsey can be attractive for those looking to optimise their financial affairs. With a politically stable environment, high-quality healthcare and close proximity to the UK, it's clear why many high-net wealth individuals choose to make Guernsey their home.

### Tax Capping for Guernsey Residents:

Depending on an individual's Guernsey tax residence classification there are various tax caps available:

- > **Open Market Cap - £60,000.** Available for the first four years of Guernsey residence. Requires the purchase of an open market property within 12 months before or after becoming tax resident. The purchase must generate minimum document duty or anti-avoidance duty of £50,000 (property cost of approximately £1.4m).
- > **Foreign income tax cap - £160,000.** For non-Guernsey source income only. Guernsey source income remains subject to 20% tax. Guernsey bank interest is not considered Guernsey source.
- > **Annual tax cap - £320,000.** A global cap utilised by individuals with substantial Guernsey source income.
- > **The "Standard Charge".** Currently £40,000 per annum and is available by election in place of worldwide income disclosure, for those who are broadly "part-time" tax resident on the Island.

Guernsey (including Alderney) property income and withdrawals from Guernsey pensions, are taxable in addition to the tax caps.

### Other potential benefits:

There are other significant tax incentives for Guernsey residents:

- > **Capital Gains Tax** - Guernsey has no CGT. Non-UK residents are also outside the scope of UK CGT on most disposals (excluding direct and indirect disposals of UK land and property).

> **Inheritance Tax** - Guernsey does not levy inheritance, wealth or estate taxes. Long term non-residents of the UK are also outside the scope of IHT on most non-UK assets. A long-term non-UK resident is broadly one who has been non-UK tax resident for 10 complete UK tax years (this period is reduced in some circumstances).

> **Dividend Income** - Certain dividends received by new Guernsey residents can be exempt from taxation in Guernsey when paid within the first two full years of residence. Should an individual not be entitled to claim dividend exemption, if they are a controlling shareholder in a UK resident company that pays the dividend, they may be able to claim double tax relief in Guernsey, based on UK corporation tax paid by the company, meaning little if any Guernsey tax is payable on that dividend. In most cases UK dividend income is solely taxable in Guernsey under the terms of the double tax treaty.

> **Pensions** - The potential to receive UK pension income, including a lifetime flexible drawdown, free from UK tax. UK pensions come into scope of UK IHT from 2027 so this is perhaps more relevant now for Guernsey residents.

LTS Tax Limited, registered with the Chartered Institute of Taxation, is an independent and leading tax practice in Guernsey. The team is qualified to provide UK and Guernsey tax advice and would be pleased to discuss UK and Guernsey tax matters with you.



Julian Turian  
ATT FMAAT  
Executive Director



Natalie Chamberlain  
CTA  
Executive Director







IMAGE ©LOCATE GUERNSEY

# 5 WAYS TO MAKE FRIENDS IN YOUR NEW ISLAND COMMUNITY OF GUERNSEY

Moving to a new place is an exciting adventure, but it can also feel a little overwhelming.

If you're wondering, 'Will I be able to meet people?' or 'How do I make new friends?' you're not alone. The good news is that Guernsey is known for its warm, welcoming spirit and at Locate Guernsey, we're here to support you every step of the way as you settle into island life.

Here are five simple ways to start building your social circle and feel more at home in Guernsey:

## 1. SAY 'YES' TO INVITATIONS

One of the easiest ways to meet new people is to accept invitations when they feel right for you. Whether it's a casual coffee with a colleague or a refreshing sea swim with a neighbour, each 'yes' opens the door to new connections and unexpected friendships.

## 2. GET INVOLVED IN LOCAL EVENTS

Guernsey may be small, but it's bursting with activity all year round. From food festivals and art exhibitions to sports events and community fairs, there's always something happening. Attending local events is a great way to meet people who share your interests and discover more about your new home.

## 3. VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Volunteering is a fantastic way to connect with others while giving back to the community. Whether you're passionate about a cause, want to use your professional skills, or simply enjoy helping, there are many local charities and organisations that would love your support.

## 4. TAP INTO EXISTING CONNECTIONS

You might be surprised by who you already know with ties to Guernsey. Maybe a former colleague lives here, or a friend of a friend made the move a few years ago. Reaching out to these connections can offer valuable insights and they might even introduce you to others in the community.

## 5. JOIN LOCATE GUERNSEY'S SETTLING-IN EVENTS

Still finding your feet? We've got you covered. Locate Guernsey hosts regular settling-in events for our clients designed to help newcomers meet others, learn about island life, and feel part of the community. These events are relaxed, friendly, and a great way to start building your network.

## ABOUT LOCATE GUERNSEY

Locate Guernsey is a government agency that promotes Guernsey as a destination of choice for relocation, as well as offering free and impartial support throughout the relocation journey. If you are new to Guernsey and would like support to settle into island life or are considering a move to the island and have questions about the relocation process, please get in touch. The Locate Guernsey team can be contacted on [enquiries@locateguernsey.com](mailto:enquiries@locateguernsey.com) or calling 01481 220011.

More information can be found at [www.locateguernsey.com](http://www.locateguernsey.com).



To start your journey, call the Locate Guernsey team

T: +44 (0)1481 220011

E: [enquiries@locateguernsey.com](mailto:enquiries@locateguernsey.com)

W: [locateguernsey.com](http://locateguernsey.com)

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# GUERNSEY PROPERTY MARKET: STABILITY, STRENGTH AND OPPORTUNITY

SWOFFERS DIRECTOR SOPHIE EPHGRAVE GIVES AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT PROPERTY MARKET, AND LOOKS AT WHY GUERNSEY IS THE PERFECT RELOCATION DESTINATION.

In today's world, where many property markets can fluctuate unpredictably, Guernsey stands apart for its consistency.

Between January and August this year, total market sales reached £105.3m. – almost identical to the £106.3m. recorded in the same period last year. This steady performance reflects the strength and resilience of the island's property sector.

And there are signs that momentum is building. Compared to last year, enquiries are already coming in at a noticeably higher rate. With a strong pipeline of sales already signed and scheduled for court completion in the months ahead, the final quarter of 2025 is shaping up to be busier than usual. Traditionally, this period is the most active of the year, and we are confident that 2025 will surpass 2024 in terms of both activity and overall performance.

Within this environment, we continue to lead the market, representing more than three-quarters of all Open Market sales by value. Our position as market leader is built not only on results, but on the personal, professional service we offer every client. Many buyers and sellers return to us time and again because they know their move will be handled with care, discretion, and expertise.

## DECADES OF EXPERTISE

Established in 1972, Swoffers has grown steadily over more than five decades to become the largest and most experienced property team on the island. Today, the firm employs more than 30 professionals, each bringing a wealth of local knowledge and market expertise. This scale allows us to not only deliver outstanding service but also to represent the widest selection of Open Market properties available for sale or rent.

Whether clients are seeking a contemporary apartment, a traditional Guernsey farmhouse, or a substantial coastal residence, our portfolio caters to a diverse range of tastes and budgets. This breadth of choice ensures that both newcomers and long-time residents can find the right property fit.

## WHY GUERNSEY?

Of course, a property is only part of the story. Increasingly, international buyers are drawn to Guernsey for the lifestyle it offers – one that blends security, community, and a unique island charm.

Life here is safe and relaxed, with the added benefits of stunning coastlines, excellent schools, and a strong sense of community. But beyond lifestyle, there are significant financial advantages that make Guernsey particularly appealing.

As a well-regulated, low-tax jurisdiction, Guernsey has created an environment that welcomes newcomers. Relocation is remarkably straightforward: in most cases, the process is as simple as buying or renting an Open Market property. For families and individuals considering a move, this ease of transition is a major draw.

## TAX BENEFITS FOR RESIDENTS

The island also offers long-term financial incentives that are hard to ignore. High net worth individuals who choose to make Guernsey their permanent or part-time home can take advantage of capped taxation:

- Tax on non-Guernsey source income can be capped at £160,000 per year.
- For those with both Guernsey and non-Guernsey source income, the cap rises to £320,000 annually.
- Newcomers benefit from a special regime: a £60,000 cap on worldwide income, provided they purchase an Open Market property and pay £50,000 in document duty – equivalent to a purchase price of £1.36m.

These caps sit alongside other attractive measures. Guernsey maintains a flat 20% income tax rate, a 0% corporate tax regime (with certain exemptions), and no inheritance tax, capital gains tax, death duties, VAT, or GST. For many international buyers, these advantages create a compelling financial case to complement the island's lifestyle appeal.

## LOOKING AHEAD

With the final months of the year set to be busy and confidence running high for 2025, our outlook for the market is positive. As the largest and most trusted estate agency on the island, the firm is well positioned to guide clients through both the practical and financial aspects of relocating to Guernsey.

For those seeking not just a property, but a safe haven, a smart investment, and a unique way of life, Guernsey continues to deliver. And with Swoffers leading the way, the future of the island's property market looks brighter than ever.

Buying or selling? Get in touch: email [sales@swoffers.co.uk](mailto:sales@swoffers.co.uk) or call 01481 711766.



# Could Guernsey be your next move?

- A low tax regime
- Personal and financial safety
- A well-regulated offshore financial centre
- Convenient travel links to the UK and Europe
- A low crime rate

**swoffers**  
RELOCATE

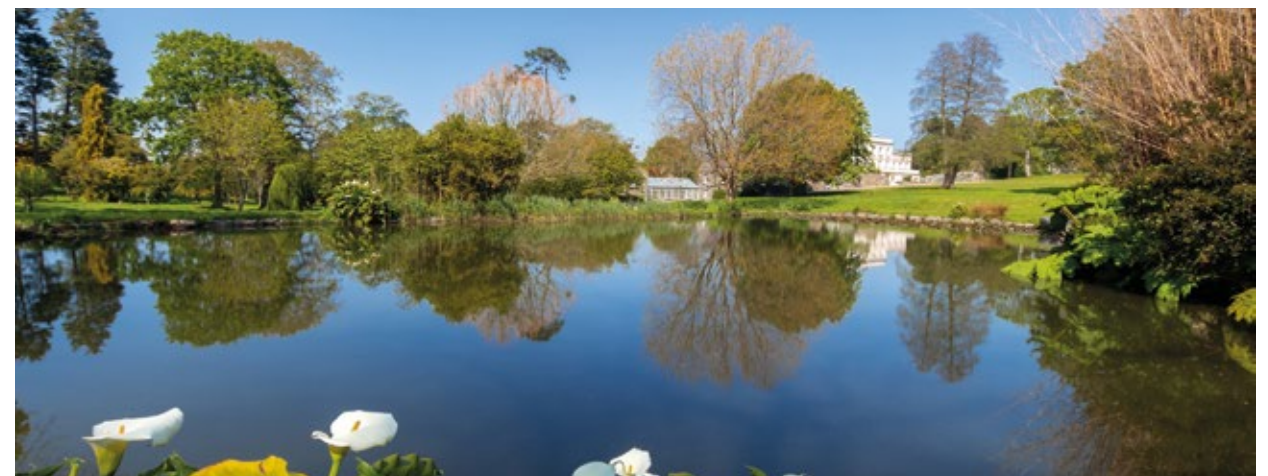


## Normanville St Peter Port, Guernsey, POA

A rare opportunity to acquire not just a home on the beautiful island of Guernsey, but a living piece of the island's history. Set amidst lush woodland and landscaped gardens of 17 acres, this estate is a serene, private sanctuary.

### Key Features

- Six bedroom suites, including a luxurious principal bedroom
- Detached guest cottage
- Separate staff accommodation
- Home cinema, indoor swimming pool and leisure suite
- Landscaped gardens, tennis court, and parkland grounds



To arrange a private viewing of Normanville, or to discuss relocating to Guernsey, contact Craig Whitman [craig@swoffers.co.uk](mailto:craig@swoffers.co.uk) or Sophie Ephgrave [sophie@swoffers.co.uk](mailto:sophie@swoffers.co.uk) or call 01481 711766.



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IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

## TRUSTED ADVISERS FOR A SEAMLESS RELOCATION

BY MARTYN BAUDAINS, PARTNER, OGIER

The island of Guernsey is well known for its unspoilt beaches, sunshine, great restaurants, golf courses and friendly people.

Beyond these attractions, Guernsey is an independent, self-governing jurisdiction with a capped tax system, free from capital gains, inheritance, or wealth taxes – all compelling reasons that position Guernsey as a great place to live.

Individuals and their families looking to relocate to Guernsey can expect to enjoy a relaxed lifestyle, great healthcare and education systems, a thriving entrepreneurial culture, access to high quality property and a straightforward route to residency. Add to that the safety and security offered by island life, and you'll be left wondering why you didn't relocate sooner.



In recent years, the island has reformed its tax arrangements for those looking to relocate. Individuals who meet the simple criteria can enjoy even greater benefits for their initial years as residents. By purchasing a property over a certain value, you may be entitled to an annual tax cap of £60,000 for up to four years. Given the rise in remote working, more entrepreneurs – both young and not so young – are attracted to the easier and safer way of life in Guernsey.

Moving offshore requires the right advice, which is why our relocation team is here to assist. We help with your property purchase and wealth structuring, and we can connect you with trusted contacts in the tax and banking fields to ensure you receive expert, bespoke advice tailored to your requirements.

Having outlined some of the compelling reasons to move to Guernsey, it might be tempting to relocate straight away. However, it is important to consult with experts before making any decisions. So before jumping on that boat or aeroplane, ensure you seek the right advice from experienced professionals. Ogier's relocation team offers a discreet, knowledgeable, and proactive service to help you navigate the unfamiliar processes and to achieve the best outcome for you.

*Partner Martyn Baudains is a top-tier property lawyer in Ogier's property law team in Guernsey and advises on all aspects of residential and commercial property including conveyancing, property finance, and developments.*

**INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES LOOKING TO RELOCATE TO GUERNSEY CAN EXPECT TO ENJOY A RELAXED LIFESTYLE.. AND [THE] SECURITY OFFERED BY ISLAND LIFE.**



## NEW CORPORATE LAWYER AT APPLEBY



Advocate Kate Ovenden has joined Appleby as a partner in its Guernsey office.

A highly experience finance, corporate and financial services lawyer, she advises international and local clients and intermediaries on a wide range of mandates.

She has been practising for more than 27 years, qualifying at and working for a leading City law firm for 10 years before returning to Guernsey in 2006. She qualified as a Guernsey Advocate in 2010.

Guernsey Group Managing Partner Richard Sheldon said: 'We are delighted to welcome Kate to our team. This is a really exciting time for our Guernsey office with Kate being the third Partner to join Appleby in the last 12 months.'

## SENIOR ROLES AT BLUE PARAMETERS



Marine environmental specialist Blue Parameters has appointed Guernsey-born Nick Burton as managing director. Mr Burton brings both international experience and a deep personal connection to the Channel Islands to the role.

'I'm incredibly proud to start this role with Blue Parameters in the Channel Islands,' he said. 'Our waters are some of the most ecologically important and economically valuable in the British Isles. From seabed protection to renewable energy, we have a real opportunity to be a model for sustainable marine development — and Blue Parameters is here to support that journey.'

The restructure also includes two new senior roles, with James Scott-Anderson as technical director and Simon de la Rue as commercial director.

## NEW MD AT ROSSBOROUGH



Rosborough, part of the Gallagher Group, has appointed Natasha Lucock as managing director of its Guernsey office. She has more than two decades of experience in the insurance industry, including 20 years in underwriting and six years in broking. She joined the business in 2018.

'I am honoured to take on the role of Managing Director in Guernsey. I look forward to building on the strong foundations already in place and working with our talented team to deliver exceptional service to our clients,' she said. 'Rosborough and Gallagher have a proud history in Guernsey, and I'm excited to lead the business into its next chapter.'

## DISTINGUISHED LITIGATOR JOINS MOURANT



Experienced litigator John Greenfield has joined Mourant's dispute resolution team.

His specialisms span the full range of major litigation and advocacy work, including asset tracing, multi-jurisdictional disputes, and commercial and trust litigation. He has been involved in some of the most significant litigation cases before the Royal Court of Guernsey and the Guernsey Court of Appeal, and is one of the few Guernsey advocates to have appeared as counsel before the Privy Council.

He has been ranked in Chambers and Partners for over 20 years, and currently holds the ranking of 'Senior Statesperson' in Offshore: Dispute Resolution'. In Legal 500 UK 2025, he is named in the Hall of Fame, a prestigious ranking which recognises lawyers who are at the top of their field for their long-standing involvement in market-leading work.

## SAVILLS RESTRUCTURES PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM



L-R: Shane Brouard, Emily Rowe, Michelle Brehaut and Heather Scott.

Following the promotion to director of Michelle Brehaut, a chartered surveyor who has been with Savills for more than a decade, the local property management team has had a restructure.

Joining the firm as associate director is Shane Brouard, who will be responsible for a number of prestigious residential developments in Guernsey, as well as leading a team of property manager.

Two further property managers have also joined the team: Emily Rowe as residential property manager, and Heather Scott, who will help manager Savills' extensive commercial property portfolio.

Tony Rowbotham, head of office at Savills, said: 'We are delighted that Shane, Emily and Heather have joined us. Our team, driven by Michelle Brehaut, has seen tremendous growth in recent years and with Shane taking on the head of residential block management, along with the addition of Heather and Emily to our property management team, it will allow us to expand the scope and breadth of our client services.'

## NEW CHAIRMAN AT GUERNSEY ELECTRICITY



Guernsey Electricity has appointed Julian Critchlow as chairman of its board of directors, following the retirement of Peter Shaefer.

Mr Critchlow brings more than 40 years' experience in the energy industry to the board. Most recently he was the director general, energy transformation and clean growth at the UK government Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy.

CEO Alan Bates said: 'I am delighted that Julian has joined the board as he brings a wealth of experience both in the UK and internationally, and I look forward to working closely with him on our key business priorities.'

## INSURANCE CORPORATION APPOINTS NEW MD



Sarah Beatty has been appointed managing director of Insurance Corporation of the Channel Islands. Ms Beatty has been with ICCI for nearly 21 years; during the last decade, she has held a range of senior positions with the firm, most recently as commercial director.

She succeeds Mark Marshall, who will continue to support the business during the transition, which marks a new chapter in the company's continued evolution, as it prepares to operate under the Intact Insurance brand — the parent company behind ICCI — reinforcing its commitment to local expertise backed by global strength.

## CLICKSMITH PROMOTES TWO STAFF MEMBERS



Digital marketing agency Clicksmith has announced two senior promotions as part of its continued growth.

Former journalist Kim Bougourd, who has been with the company from the very beginning, has been promoted from client services director to the newly created role of project and operations director. In her new role, she will focus on leading the agency's operations and delivery, ensuring that projects run efficiently across all departments and aligning internal processes to support Clicksmith's growing portfolio.

Meanwhile, Megan Carre steps up from senior client services manager to become head of client services.

'I couldn't be passing the client services reins to anyone more competent and deserving than Megan,' said Ms Bougourd.

## SURE APPOINTS NEW CCO



Sure has welcomed Simon Baldwin as its new chief commercial office, a role that brings him to the Channel Islands from Singapore after a career spanning some of the world's most advanced and dynamic telecoms markets.

In his new role, he will look after the firm's commercial activity across the Channel Islands and Isle of Man, for both consumers and businesses.

## CHANGE AT THE TOP AT CREASEYS



Changes to the board of Creasey & Son Limited and subsidiary companies, Creasey's

Limited and Creasey's (Franchise) Limited, have been made as generation four of the family-run business transitions to generation five.

Outgoing managing director Peter Creasey becomes chairman, replacing brother Tony who remains as a director. Jonathan Creasey takes over as managing director, while Ben Creasey becomes company secretary.

'For the immediate future, nothing really changes, as we have great management teams running both of our businesses,' said managing director Jonathan Creasey. 'There's still a great future for the High Street. Town and the High Street are so important for our island community.'

The firm is currently involved in two large projects — the expansion and upgrading of the department store on the High Street, and the redevelopment of St Martin's Marks & Spencer Food Hall.

## PRAXIS PRIVATE WEALTH TEAM STRENGTHENED

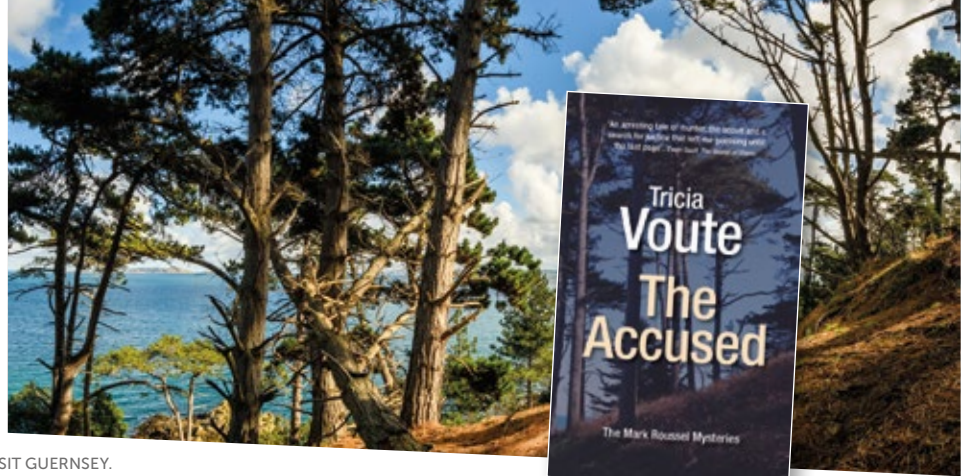
Two experienced professional have strengthened Praxis's private wealth team.

Wayne Mollet has joined as client services director, bringing 20 years' experience in trust and private wealth manager, while Natasha Tauckoor joins as associate director. She has more than two decades of experience in the fiduciary and private wealth sectors.

Ciaran O'Neill, Managing Director of Praxis in Guernsey, said: 'Wayne and Natasha bring strong leadership, a positive approach and a global outlook that further strengthen our private wealth capabilities in Guernsey.'

'Their expertise ensures we continue to deliver the high standards our clients expect while helping us attract and retain top talent. As an independent firm with the scale, expertise and culture to deliver, we are committed to being both the best team on the island and the employer of choice in our sector.'





ABOVE: TRICIA VOUTE. RIGHT: PINE FOREST ©VISIT GUERNSEY.

# MURDER, MYTHOLOGY AND MEDIEVAL MOMENTS

SHAUN SHACKLETON INTERVIEWS TWO OF GUERNSEY'S PUBLISHED FEMALE AUTHORS

**Murder, mystery and Guernsey folklore are just three of the ingredients in *The Accused*, the first book in Tricia Voute's Mark Roussel Mysteries series.**

She wanted the book to be as realistic as possible.

'It's a crime thriller, not a police procedural,' said Tricia. 'There are real locations in the book and when I wrote it the restaurant, Octopus, was still going. And I use real surnames. I'm aware people might say that's not what we're like but I wanted to represent the island as it is.'

The story sees the murderer, Pierre Bourgaize, back on-island to complete his sentence. Everyone is horrified but Guernsey Press agony aunt Viv Le Prevost suspects a cover-up. She convinces Mark Roussel, recently returned from London, to investigate. Mark is worried about stepping on people's toes, justifiably so when he is refused access to the forensic reports and the trial proceedings. But on visiting the pine forest where Jasmine Gardiner was hanged and mutilated, he is intrigued: the case against Pierre does not add up.

It is summer, but Mark finds himself on a dark journey into Guernsey's history and his family's fascination with the witches' books. When he uncovers the truth, does he dare tell the authorities?

'I wanted to explore my fascination with local mythology and folklore – my gran was such a Guern and told me loads of stories – so the book is all about belief systems, the so-called Black Books and witches.

'One agent came back to me and said: "All these witches; Harry Potter is so over". She didn't get it. She didn't get the Guernsey I gave them.'

Tricia was going to self-publish but a friend told her about Steve Foote and Blue Ormer Publishing. And here she found a home for Mark Roussel.

'The second one in the series is being written now.'

I asked Tricia about her writing routine.

'I'm quite a slow writer. I have no set amount to write at a given time, I just write what I can write. Plotting-wise, I use a giant sheet of paper with all the characters.

'The story does write itself, though. But you go back and find something you didn't realise, so there's constant revision. You have to use the English that goes with that type of book. Because I was going to sell it to a publisher I got a professional editor to proofread it.'

Tricia says she's a very visual learner.

'So I can see my characters. Viv Le Prevost, especially in number two, I can't believe she's not real.'

Despite its summary, the book isn't gory, said Tricia. Though it can get a bit scary in parts.

'There's a bit when Viv smears some lotion on her face that the witches use – I've done a lot of research and disappeared down a wormhole on the internet concerning the drugs – and she has a trip. She gets stuck on Lihou and the tide comes up.

'The myth of witches in Guernsey, I know a lot of it was about hysteria, but I'm intrigued about what really happened. If they met up with some guy at the Catoroc who dressed up as the Devil, if he wasn't the Devil, then who was he? It's fascinating. I had some fun doing the story.'

When she writes, Tricia tends not to read.

'I quite like my literary novels but I'm not influenced by other people's words. A writer once said "If you write, don't read", because you'll be echoing that voice. So I read a lot of non-fiction while I'm writing.'

The upcoming books in the Mark Roussel Mysteries series will be discovering his life.

'That's the narrative arc. You know something has happened in his past. Each will be a self-contained story. The idea is to write four books.'

Leaving behind contemporary Guernsey, we travel back to medieval Yorkshire for Jill Bray's debut novel, *A Brotherly Devotion: Murder Most Foul...*

'I studied medieval history at Huddersfield College, evening classes, and for my final paper I wrote about York,' explained Jill, who is a chartered surveyor and chartered architectural technologist. 'I used to work in Leeds and on Thursdays the Yorkshire Archaeological Society was open late so I'd go in and read all the documents. They were all in Latin but at the time my Latin was good.'

During last year's Guernsey Literary Festival, Jill went to the workshop Bringing The Past To Life – How To Write Historical Fiction, which was taken by the author Anna Mazzola, who has this month been awarded the KAA Gold Dagger for best crime novel of the year for *The Book Of Secrets* at the Crime Writers' Association Dagger Awards.

'I wrote the original story back in the late 80s. It was all handwritten as there was no computers to write with then. After the workshop I thought, "I've got the story" so I started writing it again. I started with a murder, then I wrote about the daughter of the sheriff of Yorkshire who was in an arranged marriage but in love with someone else. The old novel was completely different to the new one.'

Using real historic people as the characters, the story begins in York, July 1224, when a monk is savagely murdered along the banks of the River Ouse.

Simon de Hale, the sheriff of Yorkshire, is given the job of finding out who committed the murder. With a riot at the Abbey of St Mary's and then another suspicious death of a benefactor of the abbey,

Simon is unsure whether the killings are a grudge against the abbey or something more personal.

While he struggles to find clues that might lead him to the killer, his daughter Katherine is slipping out of the castle alone to meet with a young knight, Alexander de Ros, with whom she is in love. When Alexander asks her to marry him, she could not be happier. However, unbeknown to Katherine, her father has already agreed her betrothal to another man and obtained the King's approval for the marriage.

With the impending arrival of the Royal Justice Robert de Lexington to the city, will Simon be able to find out who the killer is before the court sits? And will Katherine really have to go through with a marriage to a man that she does not love?

'I kept in touch with Anna after the workshop – she has been fantastic, very encouraging. She's really helped me and she has books of her own to write and deadlines to keep.'

Anna gave Jill a list of publishers she thought might be interested in her book.

'One publisher said they liked it but it wasn't really their genre so I sent it to Tara Flynn of Holand Press. And that's who published the book.'

Does the book use the language of the time?

'At that time the clergy and the sheriff, the hierarchy, would have all spoken French. The peasants would have spoken English. But there are people calling people "sire" and "lady".

'Also, during that time, time as we know it didn't exist. There were no hours or minutes. Just sunrise and sunset which were divided up into 12 equal segments. The only measure of time were the church or abbey bells.

'The main meal of the day was at lunchtime, the middle of the day. If there were meals held in the evening, candles had to be used and not everyone could afford them.

'Bedtime would be around the time it got dark, the equivalent of our 5 or 6 o'clock.

'Also during the medieval period, York was England's second city next to London and had great political, economic and religious significance. It didn't have a port but the River Ouse was tidal.'

Jill has already started her second novel.

'It's the same characters, the sheriff and his family, and begins with the sheriff's eldest daughter pregnant with his first grandchild.

'When you finish a novel you think "I don't know what to do". I thought about something more modern. I had some short stories I'd written in the 90s, but there were no mobiles or emails then so the plots didn't work.'

For now, though, Jill is more than happy to stay in medieval York. An early rating for *A Brotherly Devotion* showed it at #7 in Amazon's Best Sellers in Spiritual & Historical Fiction.

'Attending Anna Mazzola's workshop at the Guernsey Literary Festival last year made me realise how much I loved writing. If I hadn't gone, none of this would have happened.'

*The Accused* by Tricia Voute is published by Blue Ormer and can be ordered at [blueormer.gg](http://blueormer.gg). To find out more about the author, visit [triciavoute.com](http://triciavoute.com).

*A Brotherly Devotion: Murder Most Foul...* by Jill Bray is available from Amazon.

LEFT: YORK ©ISTOCKPHOTO. ABOVE: JILL BRAY.







# AUTUMN IN GUERNSEY

BY NATALIE HENRY FROM ISLANDFAMILIES

There's really something special about autumn in Guernsey. The IslandFamilies household loves this time of year – wellies, puddle suits, and plenty of outdoor exploring – and I particularly love how the light changes making family photos a little more golden too.

Long walks are a staple autumnal activity in our house, and the quiet lanes at this time of year make for some lovely little expeditions kicking crispy leaves. So, wrap up warm and head out and about. A few of our favourites are Les Vardes Quarry Nature Walk, a loop around the reservoir, through Vale Castle and along to Bordeaux, and across L'Ancrese Common on to Pembroke Bay. The Visit Guernsey app provides self-guided walking tours with plenty to choose from in a variety of lengths, so it's easy to find something that'll suit your family's pace.

If you're lucky, the hedgerows will still have some blackberries come October. Fill a tub for crumbles or just enjoy them straight from the

bramble. Alongside blackberries, autumn also brings wild sloes and sweet chestnuts scattered across the lanes, though I must confess, we've no idea how to prepare either for eating. Foraging can continue beyond food through, with acorns and conkers falling throughout October and into November.

We really can't talk about autumn without discussing pumpkins. And while they're readily available in many places across the island during October, they've become synonymous with Le Hechet Farm and its wonderful pumpkin shop. Open daily throughout the month, the farm is a must-have visit for families who want to choose their pumpkins, meet adorable calves, and hop on a tractor – plus, there are local crafts and sweet treats. Older kids can feed the 'gram too with photo opportunities galore.

While you're out, why not do some geocaching as you go? We consider it to be a secret weapon to get youngsters out into the fresh air, especially as they get a

little older and a plain walk isn't as exciting as it once was (Pokémon Go works well too). There are hundreds of caches in Guernsey along with some on Lihou, Herm, Sark and Alderney too. It's fun, it's free, and it makes you look at some of your favourite places in a new way as you hunt for treasure.

Parks are another staple in our autumn days. Saumarez Park is always a winner, no matter what time of year. The ducks are the star of the show for our youngest, while her older brother makes a beeline for the play area. When we're joined by the older ones (with or without their friends) they can enjoy some independence and pop off to the cafe by themselves before rejoining us.

Scooters and bikes are great here or at Delancey Park, which obviously also boasts a good play area too. Sticking to wheeled adventures, we love a walk to the fairy ring with scooters, and it's better outside of summer because we all know parents are carrying those scooters for a large part of it!

OPPOSITE PAGE L-R: GEOCACHE AT L'ANCRESE;  
AUTUMN LEAVES IN SAUMAREZ PARK; LE HECHET FARM PUMPKIN SHOP.  
ABOVE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CHRISTMAS EVE ON PEMBROKE; DINOSAUR LAND ON CHOUET;  
SPLASHING IN WAVES AT BORDEAUX; DIGGING AT CHOUET. ALL IMAGES ©ISLAND FAMILIES.

I'm a firm believer that the beach is not just for summer, and to be honest I enjoy it more in the shoulder months. I admit I'm not a sea swimmer at the best of times (though there's an open water swimming local community if you're looking for someone to go with) but there's plenty of fun to be had on the sand even when it's not sunny.

Kite flying is fantastic if the wind's strong enough, and sandcastles don't care what time of year it is – we've spent Christmas Eve on the beach several times. Essentially, as long as they're dressed correctly for the weather, children will thoroughly enjoy the beach whatever the weather, and autumn is perfect as it's not too cold for the adults who stand and watch the playing.

The winning activity in our house must be the Jurassic Park we built on Chouet – we took dinosaurs, used a blue bin bag to create a pool, and dug tunnels through the sand. Hours of fun – just remember to take all rubbish with you when you leave the beach.

The sand at Chouet is also home to the autocross with Sunday dates in both October and November – fun to watch all year round but even better with a hot drink from a local kiosk.

To me, autumn is a perfect time for picnics, and it doesn't have to be a cold sandwich on a cloudy day either. We've found hot dogs travel well in an insulated water bottle – perfect for slapping in a bun when you reach a good spot. I've even been known to pack rice and curry in a mini thermos for the kids, so the choices are limitless. Pair it with a hot chocolate and you can sit and watch nature, or listen to the waves crash on a beach somewhere.

If you're looking for an adventure without breaking the bank, head to Victoria Tower. You can borrow the key from Guernsey Museum for free, climb the 99 steps and enjoy panoramic views across St Peter Port. Or for another fantastic view, head to the Guet where you can see across Cobo and Grandes Rocques from the top of the 18th century

watch-house. The kids can run around, climb logs, hang from rope swings, look for pine cones, and search for the hidden fairy door.

If the weather's truly not in your favour, head to Guille-Allès Children's Library and enjoy its haven that is secret shelves, fairy-lit trees, and cosy little reading nooks. Older kids might enjoy using the Fab Lab, or even popping to Priaux Library to research local history.

You don't have to spend a fortune to make great memories in the autumn. Whether you're hunting for blackberries, braving the sea, or climbing tower steps, Guernsey truly delivers all year round.

*IslandFamilies is a vibrant hub of information, and home to the popular Community Club, helping families get most out of life in the Bailiwick. Visit [islandfamilies.com](http://islandfamilies.com) for more information on things to do, places to go, and money to be saved along the way.*







ABOVE: MIN HENRY, WINTER SWIMMING ©VISIT GUERNSEY.  
FAR RIGHT: BOXING DAY SWIM AT COBO BAY ©GUERNSEY PRESS.

# WINTER SWIMMING

ALL YEAR ROUND LOCALS CAN BE FOUND TAKING A DIP IN ONE OF THE ISLAND'S MANY BAYS OR THE BATHING POOLS IN TOWN. MIN HENRY, FOUNDER OF GUERNSEY SWIM ALL SEASONS GROUP, SHARES EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WINTER SWIMMING THE GUERNSEY WAY.

## Bianvnu!

I first started winter swimming in 2019. It seemed a smooth transition from July, continuing from one season to the next. I was not a confident swimmer and had never been the adventurous type, but I found the experience hugely exhilarating and it gave me a lovely buzz, with skin tingling and feeling I was achieving things I could not have ever imagined.

Since that winter, I have completed six winters of swimming and set up Guernsey Swim All Seasons in November 2020. We currently have more than 2,300 members and a vibrant Facebook group. We meet every Saturday as a group and daily in small buddy groups around the island. Winter swimming (November to March) is a unique experience when done safely; you will laugh, whoop. A euphoric experience and great for increasing the endorphins.

## WINTER SWIMMING THE GUERNSEY WAY

- What are the best ways to stay safe when winter swimming?
- Let someone know where you are going. A simple text from

your phone, or a note on the kitchen table, is a great way to notify someone of your location.

- Always swim with others, a friend, or in a swim group.
- Choose your location and know the best tide times/pier heights to swim at that location.
- Check the weather: the wind direction, the tidal conditions, is it a dropping or rising tide, the water conditions and know your limits. If in doubt, stay out.
- Assess how you are going to enter the water and plan where you will exit.
- Use a tow float to show others and especially boat, where you are. These are excellent to aid you if you need to rest or offer help to others.
- Mid to higher tides are best. You are less likely to be seen from the shore if you are in difficulty at a low tide swim. Swim where the general public can see you.
- Enter the water slowly and let your body become accustomed to the cold.

## WHAT ARE THE SIGNS THAT YOU SHOULD NOT GO SWIMMING?

If you are feeling under the weather. Don't think that if you put a brave face on, it will toughen you up and it will cure all. We can get relief from headaches, stress and low mood from taking a swim, but we must not think we are letting anyone down by missing a few swims. Cold water can cause raised blood pressure, faster heart rate and shortness of breath.

If the sea is rebounding off sea walls. There have been several accidents involving swimmers getting into difficulty, as the wave hits the sea wall and then rebounds into the next advancing wave.

## WHAT ARE THE BEST LOCATIONS TO SWIM IN THE WINTER?

Always check the wind directions. Our Guernsey Swim All Seasons Facebook page has a daily map of sheltered bays for that day. Even predicted sheltered bays can surprise us with unfavourable conditions at times.

Our La Vallette Bathing Pools are a wonderful asset at any time of year, but during the winter months they come into play even more.

The changing rooms keep clothes dry while you swim in the rain, and the wonderful café – with log fire to warm yourself up afterwards with a bacon bap or hot chocolate – is a perfect way to end your swim experience.

Please check for swim times for the pools, as it can still be dangerous when the tide covers the pools at high tide.

West coast – Cobo would be my choice at a half- up to high tide swim, in public view and usually someone else swimming too.

East coast – I would choose Salerie Corner on a higher tide, again close to the road and often with others swimming, especially at lunchtimes. Keep to the inside of the pier.

North coast – Pembroke, Chouet or Ladies' Bay are great at mid- to high tides.

## HOW LONG SHOULD PEOPLE STAY IN, WHEN THE WATER REACHES ITS COLDEST POINT?

There is no fixed rule that you should go by. The rule we often hear, of one minute's swim time for every degree of the water temperature, is of no use and it is widely known as a broken rule of thumb. Everyone needs to experiment on their own swim journey. Try dipping for just a minute or two and see how your body reacts; take it from there, increase your time. I read a quote that said 'don't be a sheep' – we always encourage our swimmers

to not worry about being the first person out of the water. You usually find that once the first person rises to get out, most will start to follow. You will find your reaction will also vary from day to day. Tiredness, food consumed or not consumed, wind chill and effort taken while swimming, all affect you.

## WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE BE WEARING IN WINTER? ARE WETSUITS NEEDED?

Cor la, eh! There is no stigma attached to what you wear during winter swimming, swimmers are just delighted that you are in and enjoying the sea as much as they are.

There will be the swimmers who go in all year round in just their usual 'bathers', but many will don the neoprene shoes or boots and invest in a long sleeve rash vest or a neoprene top. If you want to wear a shorty or full wetsuit then do.

One definite essential is a bounné or two (pom-pom hat or beanie). You need one to keep your head warm while swimming and a dry one to keep you warm afterwards.

## ANYTHING ELSE?

You will come across a strange sight of heads sticking out of towel tents. If you are a visitor for the first time to Guernsey, you may be surprised to see heads poking out of strange towelling creations. Us locals call these 'wraps'. Basically, it is a beach towel sewn up with

arm holes. We like to keep our modesty when changing and it keeps us extra warm after winter swimming.

A warm flask is essential (usually accompanied with someone sharing their lunch box, filled with Guernsey Gâche or flapjacks). The most organised will have a filled hot water bottle to put under their fleece for that drive or 'pushang' (cycle) home.

It is really important to enjoy the experience. If you stop enjoying cold water swimming, then stop and start again when you feel the time is right. Every winter is different and some winters are harder than others.

So from me, cheerie and perhaps you will join a group on your visit this winter and experience the joy of winter swimming.

## THE SKIPTON INTERNATIONAL BOXING DAY DIP

This fundraising event for the Guernsey Cheshire Home is held annually on 26 December at Cobo Bay. Hundreds of swimmers, many in festive fancy dress, brave the chilly waters to raise money for the charity.

It is one of the biggest charity events in Guernsey's calendar.

Visit the Facebook page for updates and details [facebook.com/skiptonboxingdaydip](https://facebook.com/skiptonboxingdaydip)





THE LIONESSES CELEBRATE THEIR EUROS VICTORY ©PA WIRE

# SPORTS NEWS

GARETH LE PREVOST ROUNDS UP SOME OF THE SUMMER'S SUCCESSES.

## FOOTBALL

Two Guernsey football stars were crowned European champions over the summer.

In June, Premier League midfielder Alex Scott played an integral role for the Young Lions as England retained their UEFA Under-21 Euro crown in Slovakia, overcoming Germany 3-2 after extra-time in the final.

Scott started five of the six games during the tournament as England progressed through the group stage with a 3-1 victory over Czechia in their opener, a goalless draw against the home nation and a 2-1 defeat to the Germans, in which Scott scored England's goal. England then beat Spain 3-1 in the quarter-finals and the Netherlands 2-1 in the semi-finals to reach the

showpiece in which they gained revenge for their earlier group defeat to Germany. The following month, Scott's former St Martin's club-mate Maya Le Tissier was part of the England Lionesses squad who retained the Uefa Women's Euro title in Switzerland, albeit as an unused substitute throughout the tournament.

IN AUGUST, LE TISSIER WAS NAMED IN THE PFA WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE TEAM OF THE YEAR FOR THE 2024-25 SEASON THANKS TO HER CONSISTENT EXCELLENCE AT THE BACK FOR MANCHESTER UNITED, WHOM SHE CAPTAINS.

LEFT: MAYA LE TISSIER HOLDING THE EUROS TROPHY OUTSIDE NO 10 DOWNING STREET ©PA WIRE



MATT STOKES BATTING AGAINST SWITZERLAND ©PETER FRANKLAND



GUERNSEY V PAPUA NEW GUINEA ©MARTIN GRAY

## CRICKET

History was made at the KGV Playing Fields in August as Guernsey hosted Papua New Guinea in a T20 International match – the first time the Island men's team had played an official T20I against a nation from outside of Europe.

The visitors, who were in the Channel Islands preparing for their ICC Challenge League A tournament in Jersey the following week, were red-hot favourites for the win as, at No 22 in the world, they were ranked 15 places above Guernsey.

They did emerge victorious, too, but only after an entertaining, tense battle that went down to the final over.

Guernsey posted a testing total of 165 for 6 from their 20 overs with Tom Nightingale making a brilliant 75 from 51 balls, well supported by Zak Damarell who contributed 45 from 27.

However, the hosts were made to rue some missed chances in the field as a second-wicket partner of 99 between top-scorer Sese Bau, who hit an outstanding 85 from 52 deliveries, and Boio Ray, who made 46, put Papua New Guinea in a strong position.

Teenager Charlie Forshaw bowled superbly late on to pick up two wickets in two balls to give Guernsey renewed hope, but PNG managed to get over the line with four balls to spare.

'Coming into today not really expecting much, but we've ended up running the 22nd best side in the world pretty close and arguably could have won at one point,' said Guernsey captain Ollie Nightingale.

In the subsequent 50-over friendlies played between the sides, Guernsey gained some revenge as they won both matches.

Guernsey ended their season a fortnight later with a three-match T20I series against Switzerland at the KGV. Unfortunately, the first two games were abandoned due to rain, but the Greens won the third by seven wickets and teenage debutant Ed Robinson was named player of the match for his innings of 42.

During the Switzerland series, Matt Stokes became the first Guernsey player to pass 1,000 runs in T20 internationals.

## MOTORSPORT

Le Val des Terres outright record holder Wallace Menzies demonstrated his love of the course once again when the British Hill Climb Championship paid its annual visit to Guernsey in July.

Driving his Gould GR59M, Menzies took home the maximum 20 points having won both run-offs with near identical times of 27.04sec. and 27.05sec.

'I think it went really well. Everything went to plan and was really clean,' said Menzies. 'It felt like there was a decent amount of grip all of the way through.

'It's such a well-run event as usual: the guys and girls who put everything together, it's really impressive. It's not something we see very often and it's nice to see every single marshal smiling and happy,' he added.

The local drivers also made their mark with seven making the top-12 run-offs. Nick Saunders finished fourth in both, pushed all the way by Tim Tulie, while Emma Rayson underlined her status as queen of the hill with remarkable results of ninth and 11th overall.



NICK SAUNDERS COMPETING AT THE BRITISH HILL CLIMB CHAMPIONSHIP ©ANDREW LE POIDEVIN



# Guernsey Museum at Candie

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

# CHRIS GEORGE

50 YEARS OF

# FACES



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L-R: PETE SARGENT RIDING IN THE MOUNTAIN BIKE CROSS COUNTRY; PRINCESS ANNE TALKING WITH THE GUERNSEY BOWLS TEAM AT THE OPENING CEREMONY; LINDSAY SWORD FINISHING THE TRIATHLON AT STROMNESS HARBOUR.

## ISLAND GAMES ROUND-UP

BY GUERNSEY PRESS REPORTER JAMIE INGROUILLE AND PHOTOGRAPHER SOPHIE RABEY, WHO TRAVELLED TO ORKNEY FOR THE 2025 ISLAND GAMES.

Team Guernsey achieved a flurry of medals in a week of glorious sunshine at the Orkney 2025 Island Games.

Although the northerly location brought fears of cold and rain, and the touring team lacked several hot prospects who had stepped down after the Guernsey 2023 home Games, ultimately it all came together for Sarnian athletes and spectators alike.

Guernsey's athletes shone in pleasant conditions and ultimately placed third in the medal table with 20 golds, all but two of which were achieved by female competitors.

Games debutante Chloe Bown proved the most successful of all these golden girls.

She won four individual golds and contributed to all three of Guernsey's relay triumphs in a busy week at the Pickaquoy Centre pool.

'I've definitely exceeded expectations,' the 18-year-old said.

'Not just individually, but also as a team. You can have such good swims individually and sometimes there is extra pressure, especially as Guernsey is one of the top swimming places competitively.'

Guernsey's other swimming gold came from Tatiana Tostevin's sprint for 50m backstroke glory. Orla Rabey, Oriana Wheeler

and Delphine Riley also claimed individual medals at 'Picky'.

In the nearby athletics arena, Guernsey achieved five golds – all from different individuals.

Rhiannon Dowinton achieved a terrific three-peat of 100m hurdles successes, the first of which had come as a 16-year-old at Gibraltar 2019, while Vicky Hancock defended her long-jump title.

But there were also new champions crowned as Darcey Hodgson strode to 800m gold, Chris Bain triumphed in a tactical 5,000m, and Games first-timer Nic Ackermann – who had qualified at the last possible opportunity – won the 400m hurdles.

Abi Galpin, Gian-Luca Robilliard and debutante Amelia Hart also mounted the podium individually and two medals in the final day's relays topped it all off.

The Army's Pippa Inderwick proved a surprise package in the cycling events, not least through winning both individual and team gold in the road race.

The Games debutante concluded her wonderful week with a criterium gold built on top-three finishes for both her and Hannah Kennedy.

Guernsey achieved further medals in the team events and through the time-trialling efforts of veteran Phil Touzeau.

Rose Ogier made history as the first winner of a Games lawn bowls competition.

Not only that, she partnered Julie Williams to gold in the pairs event on the quality green of the Kirkwall Bowling Club.

At the archery range, long-term campaigner Zoe Gray finally struck that coveted individual gold with her triumph in the head-to-head knockout.

Former Sark competitor Monika Komla also made the individual podium, while the likes of Zoe's sister Lisa featured in the team medals.

Setting the tone for all this had been a thrilling triathlon in Stromness, where Guernsey's women achieved a team gold under the spearheading of individual silver-medallist Kennedy. That followed a bronze in the men's team event.

Alex Tapp and David Trebert's badminton doubles silver was another highlight of the long week, while Guernsey's sailors brought home a bronze thanks to the efforts of a team blending youth with experience.

But it was not all about the medals, as this new-look Guernsey team – packed with first-timers – made plenty of memories and can approach the Faroe Islands 2027 with a spring in their step.





OPPOSITE PAGE: GUERNSEY'S WOMEN TOPPING THE PODIUM IN THE CYCLING ROAD RACE; NICOLAS ACKERMANN ON HIS WAY TO GOLD IN THE 400M HURDLES; WOMEN'S 4X100M RELAY SWIMMING TEAM CELEBRATE GOLD AND AN ISLAND GAMES RECORD, AMELIA HART, EMILY PIKE, ABI GALPIN AND DARCEY HODGSON WON SILVER IN THE 4X400M; SAILOR JESSICA WATSON OUT ON THE WATER IN THE BAY OF KIRKWALL; JAMES MARSHALL ON COURSE IN THE CYCLING TIME TRIAL; ROSE OGIER PICKED UP TWO GOLD MEDALS AT KIRKWALL BOWLING CLUB; SWIMMER CHLOE BOWN WON THE MOST MEDALS FOR GUERNSEY DURING THE WEEK.

THIS PAGE: ORIANA WHEELER IN THE POOL IN THE WOMEN'S 400M INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY; ARCHER ZOE GRAY SECURED HER FIRST INDIVIDUAL ISLAND GAMES GOLD; RHIANNON DOWINTON AND VICTORIA HANCOCK WON GOLD AND BRONZE IN THE WOMEN'S 100M HURDLES; CHRIS BAIN STORMING TO GOLD ON THE TRACK IN THE 5000M; ALEX TAPP AND DAVID TREBERT COMPETING IN THE MEN'S DOUBLES BADMINTON FINAL.

MAIN IMAGE: CHLOE TRUFFITT IN THE CYCLING ROAD RACE.





ALL IMAGES ©CHRIS GEORGE

# CHILDREN IN SPORT: FUN, FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY

BY GUERNSEY SPORTS COMMISSION

Sport has long been a cornerstone of childhood development, offering far more than just physical activity. From the first kick of a football to the final lap of a swimming competition, children’s involvement in sport shapes their bodies, minds, and social lives in profound ways.

In an age where screens dominate and sedentary lifestyles are on the rise, sport remains one of the most powerful tools for nurturing healthy, resilient, and well-rounded young people.

And here in Guernsey we are lucky to have a wealth of opportunities on offer whether your child wants to play as part of a team, is keen on individual sports, wants to compete at the highest level possible, or just have fun and make new friends.

The Guernsey Sports Commission wants every child to develop a love of sport from an early age. Our

staff work in primary schools, helping teachers to deliver PE, ensuring all children can access the lessons, supporting the development of fundamental movement skills and delivering a range of after-school/lunchtime/ breakfast sports clubs. We are also passionate about ensuring children and their families know about the opportunities to play sport outside of school and how they can access support if they need it.

‘A few years ago, we introduced our Sports Voucher scheme to help support families who may struggle to afford club memberships or subscriptions,’ said Nicky Will, Director of Communications for the Commission.

‘We are now issuing over 160 vouchers a year, paying for memberships for sports including football, netball, basketball, gymnastics, boxing, squash and climbing.

‘Recipients can be referred by school, family support workers or any other professionals working with the child or family and we work with them to find a sport and a location that really suits them.

‘The scheme has been a huge success and continues to grow, helping to break down one of the major barriers to participation – the issue of cost.’

Children really are spoilt for choice here in Guernsey when it comes to the range of sports on offer. The Sports Commission tries to help by providing taster sessions and ‘have a go’ events to help promote what’s on offer.

‘We’ve just had our Utmost Community Sport Fun Day with 24 different sports coming along to showcase what they do and give out information about how to join or play their sport,’ said Nicky.

‘During the summer holidays

THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN SPORT ARE WELL DOCUMENTED – BETTER PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, IMPROVED FOCUS IN SCHOOL AND HIGH SELF-ESTEEM.

we ran 18 different sports taster sessions with everything from football, softball and beach cricket to karate, bowls, and boxing for children from years 5 to 9 to try.

‘We also ran a number of stand-up paddle board and fun lifesaving sessions over the holidays alongside our daily On Your Marks multi-sports sessions which were attended by over 340 different children.

‘We hosted the 11th Specsavers Youth Games earlier this year with over 800 children from school years 5 and 6 taking part in 23 different sports, receiving free training in the run up to Games Day when they all took part in a fun competition followed by a loud and colourful closing ceremony.

‘All of these opportunities help children and families find out more about what’s out there.’

It’s important though that parents can feel reassured that the sport

they choose for their child is safe and well run.

All the sports who take part in the Commission’s events must meet certain standards.

‘Our SportsMark accreditation scheme ensures that a sports club or organisation has high standards of safeguarding and welfare as well as fit for purpose corporate governance and appropriately qualified coaches,’ explained the Commission’s Relationship Director, Steve Sharman.

‘We have more than 50 local sports clubs who have already achieved SportsMark and we are supporting a handful who are currently working towards achieving the accreditation.

If any parent has any concerns about a club or if they want to find out more about SportsMark they can contact me at the Commission.’

The benefits of participating in sport are well documented – better physical and mental health, improved focus in school and high self-esteem.

Team sports like basketball or football teach cooperation, communication, and leadership. Individual sports such as gymnastics or squash foster independence, self-motivation, and goal setting. Win or lose, children learn to persevere, adapt, and grow.

But most of all playing sport should be about having fun, making new friends, building communities and shared experiences and that’s something the Guernsey Sports Commission does every day.

To find out more about the Guernsey Sports Commission visit [www.guernseysports.com](http://www.guernseysports.com)





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# Relocating to Guernsey

A journey to your dream home and lifestyle.

Moving to an island such as Guernsey is a thrilling prospect, as a fresh opportunity for professionals or a quality lifestyle for high net worth individuals. However, preparing to adapt to a totally unfamiliar environment will often be quite overwhelming.

Speaking to and taking advice from local professionals will allow you to make the most of a uniquely transformative experience and navigate this exciting life transition with as much comfort as possible. Whether it's one of Guernsey's location specialists, tax advice, schools, banking, investments, property, architecture, restaurants or outdoor activities – Guernsey, as a small friendly community with its local knowledge has a lot to offer.

James Gavey, Founder & Director of JGA Architecture has had the pleasure of working with a number of relocators, assisting with architectural advice for property alterations and new build homes. He recently sat down

with new clients to see how they are experiencing Guernsey life so far.

## So, why Guernsey?

We were looking for somewhere close to the coast with good connections to the UK. Our friend, who was born here, mentioned Guernsey so we paid a visit in April last year. We stayed at the Old Government House Hotel and enjoyed the atmosphere in town with the cafes, bars and restaurants. Nick Paluch suggested we take a stroll around the Jerbourg peninsula and up to Moulin Huet, and we were smitten. The final deciding factor was the presence of four indoor courts at the Guernsey tennis club. Everything fell into place.

## What advice did you seek prior to the move?

We were put in touch with LTS tax who were very helpful along with Locate Guernsey who have been invaluable.

## Did you face any challenges during the process or was it fairly straightforward?

It was all fairly straightforward and we did manage to find a suitable place to rent and then buy after looking at various properties. The Open Market offers a lot of potential, however, prices are slightly higher compared to the UK.

## How has island life treated you so far?

We have really enjoyed the experience. I love being able to nip to the golf driving range 3 minutes from the gym so we are not spending half the day in the car. The music scene is great and we have loved the bands and outdoor cinema showings at Castle Cornet - a wonderful location.

## How was your property search experience?

We eventually found a fairly tired property in an excellent location 5 minutes walk from the beach and have decided to demolish and reconstruct.

## How have you found the design process for your new home?

We have instructed James Gavey to design and project manage the process. They have been a pleasure to work with and have designed what should be a stunning property that fits in well with the local vernacular.

## What advice would you give to anyone thinking of relocating to Guernsey?

A lot is packed into a small place in Guernsey. The people are tolerant and polite. It's like living in the UK in the eighties. I was struck by the fact that when I was in the pub, a customer purposely left his wallet on the table when he went to the Gents. I think that sums it up.

Working alongside other local industry specialists JGA Architecture can provide advice at an early stage of the relocation process to help guide clients with property feasibility, planning, design and managing a building project. Working alongside local contractors and specialists, JGA aim to provide suitable recommendations within the local construction industry and make the entire project experience an enjoyable and rewarding journey.



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Visit our website to find out more







IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

# THE YOUTH COMMISSION AND HOME-START:

## LISTENING, SUPPORTING, AND STRENGTHENING EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

At 14, Josh\* had stopped attending school regularly. His mum was worried about his mood swings, growing isolation, and refusal to talk about how he was feeling.

He'd lost interest in the things he used to enjoy and was spending most of his time alone in his room. When a teacher made a referral to the Youth Commission's listening support service, Josh was reluctant, but agreed to meet with a youth worker 'just once'.

That one session became many. The youth worker didn't pressure Josh to open up. Instead, they offered a safe, quiet space to talk — or not talk — at his own pace. Over time, Josh began to speak about how overwhelmed he felt, how anxious he was about school, and how he didn't want to burden his mum. Through consistent, non-judgemental listening and emotional support, Josh gradually rebuilt his self-esteem and began re-engaging with school and friends.

Josh's story is not unusual. Every week, the Youth Commission and Home-Start hear from children, young people, and families who are facing emotional pressures. In response, both organisations offer not just services — but people who listen.

The Youth Commission supports children and young people aged 4 to 18 across the Bailiwick, providing one-to-one listening support, youth work, wellbeing programmes, and advocacy. Their listening support offer provides a safe, confidential space for young people to talk to a trusted adult about whatever's on their mind — without judgment or fear of getting into trouble. Whether it's anxiety, low mood, self-esteem issues, or family worries, the focus is on emotional safety and helping young people feel heard and understood.

Home-Start focuses on families with children under five, offering early intervention through weekly home visits, parenting support, and peer-led groups. Their

volunteers and staff are trained to listen with empathy and build trusting relationships with parents who may be struggling with postnatal depression, isolation, or stress. The ability to share feelings openly — without fear of judgment — is often the first step in building stronger families.

Although they serve different age groups, the Youth Commission and Home-Start share a deeply-held belief: that listening is an act of care. Their collaborative working helps ensure that emotional wellbeing is supported at all stages of a child's development — from infancy through adolescence.

When Home-Start identifies older siblings who may be struggling emotionally, they can refer into the Youth Commission's services. Similarly, when youth workers encounter parents who are overwhelmed or under pressure, they can signpost to Home-Start for family support. This wraparound approach means families experience continuity and care, with support built around their needs — not rigid service boundaries.

For Josh, knowing there was someone who would show up and listen every week made all the difference. For his mum, it meant not feeling alone in trying to help him. And for both, it proved that listening isn't just kind — it's powerful.

*If you would like to get involved, please contact us on [info@youthcommission.gg](mailto:info@youthcommission.gg)*

\*Not his real name.



# GUERNSEY FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION ASSOCIATION

All approved foster carers have the opportunity to be supported by The Guernsey Foster Care & Adoption Association, which is a local registered charity run by local carers.

The Guernsey Foster Care & Adoption Association supports carers by:

- Informing and supporting foster carers, adoptive parents and prospective carers and adopters.
- Initiating, facilitating and where appropriate funding, training in response to the needs of carers and children.
- Providing foster children and adoptive children with experiences that they may not have had.
- Organising a range of social activities for fostering and adoptive families so they can share their experiences and learn from one another.
- Arranging and facilitating monthly support groups for all members of the Association.
- Working closely with social services but remaining independent and able to act as an advocate for carers if needed.
- Funding alternative therapies for fostered and adopted children where they are thought to be beneficial.
- Representing the Association at Corporate parenting meetings.

All foster carers and adoptive parents are automatically members of the Association if they want to be. There is no membership fee.

## SO... WHAT IS FOSTERING?

Fostering is caring for children and young people in a family setting at a time when they cannot live in their own family. Foster carers support and care for children and provide for all their needs.

Children may be placed with foster carers for a variety of reasons which include family illness, relationship difficulties, parental drug or alcohol misuse, domestic abuse, mental ill health and family breakdown or child protection concerns.

Foster carers are people who work as part of a team of professionals to ensure fostered children receive the highest standards of care. They offer fostered children a safe and caring home and family for as long as they need it. Foster carers can, and do, make a real difference to the lives of children and young people who come into their care. They make this difference by working with a range of other professionals to provide security, stability and support at a crucial time in the child's life.

There are many different types of foster care and ways that people can help to support the most vulnerable children in our community:

## RESPITE

**Short period of specified time** — Providing short-term time limited care or planned respite care to support a foster placement. Also provides holiday respite for foster carers who have planned a holiday abroad where they are unable to take the child in placement. This type of foster carer is suitable for people who work and are not able to care for children after school.

## LONG-TERM

**Intended to last for the duration of the child's time in care and into adulthood** — Providing stable foster placement until leaving full-time education and beyond into adulthood.

## SHORT-TERM

**Temporary but can be as long as two years** — Providing substitute care while plans are agreed where it is either safe for a child to return home or to move to a permanent home. Also allows for a child to be safe whilst a specific piece of work is carried out, such as assessment of parents.

## SPECIALIST

**Intended to last for the duration of the child's time in care and into adulthood** — Providing reparative care for children and young people with complex needs, disability and challenging behaviour. Specialist foster carers cannot work alongside this role.

Foster carers may specialise in caring for children of a particular age. For example, some will foster babies or very young children before they return home or are adopted. Other foster carers look after primary school aged children or prefer to offer a home to teenagers. Some foster carers are happy to care for a wide age range of children.

The Committee believes that all children needing substitute care should have the opportunity to live in a family. To achieve this, foster care must be a partnership between the carers, supervising social worker, child's social worker and any other professionals, all working together in the best interests of the child. This partnership should extend to the children in care and their parents or interested relatives.

Foster carers are provided with a fostering allowance to cover the costs of the child as well as training and support from their own supervising social worker.



*If you are interested in finding out more about fostering, please visit [www.guernseystostart.com](http://www.guernseystostart.com)*

**'MY FOSTER CARERS GAVE ME A GRASP OF A DIFFERENT WAY OF LIFE... I WAS VERY LUCKY TO LIVE THERE.'**

A CHILD IN FOSTER CARE.





Gordon Young enjoying a cuppa.



Ben Rowe and Marlene Place. Images ©Guernsey Press.

# IT'S GOOD TO TALK

Bringing serving and ex-serving personnel together is the aim of the Royal British Legion's Banter Breakfast. Olivia Thompson reports.

Taking place on the first Saturday of each month between 8am and 9am, the breakfasts are arranged by the RBL's Welfare Team in conjunction with Sarnia Hotels and also supported by Stan Brouard.

'It all started in June 2018, following the funeral of a local serviceman,' said Welfare Team leader Marlene Place. 'I spoke to many veterans at the time, and a common theme was that there wasn't much support locally – or they simply didn't know where to turn for help they needed after leaving the Armed Forces.'

Now in its seventh year, the Banter Breakfasts provide a venue to replicate the camaraderie which is often missed by people who have served in the Armed Forces. It's a chance for people with shared experiences to connect and support each other. 'Sarnia Hotels agreed to support us, and the breakfasts have been hosted by Les Rocquettes Hotel ever since – that's over 80 Banter Breakfasts and counting,' said Marlene.

'It's a great initiative and we're proud that Les Rocquettes has been able to provide a space that suits the needs of the group,' said Calum Le Noury, ex-serviceman and operations director, Les Rocquettes Hotel. 'At the breakfasts, people can find out more about what the welfare team does, as well as share their experiences with other military people who understand.'

Families are encouraged to come along to the breakfasts, which regularly see around 60 to 70 people attend each month, with ages ranging between two and 92 comfortably hosted at the hotel.

'People don't necessarily like to turn up on their own, so it is important that they have their family there, and they are part of that support network,' explained attendee Dolly Gray.

Dolly served at the same time as friend Steve Le Messurier, who regularly joins the breakfasts too.

'When you are done [in the services] you hand in your ID card and that's it, you're out there on your own, so when you come to something like this and have that community feel, it is really important,' he said.

Ben Rowe, president of the Royal British Legion Guernsey Branch, began going to the breakfasts seven years ago with his family, and said that he found them not just beneficial for him, but for them as well.

'You walk into the room and can sense the camaraderie between everyone,' he said. 'I left the army in 1993 and moved here in 2009. When the breakfasts started, I came as there was nothing else, and here we are a few years later and I have ended up as president.'

'It's a chance for people to speak about things that happened and share their common ground. It could be the first time families hear what their loved ones were doing in the Services as ex-service personnel typically don't speak that much about it. The kids listen to the conversations; it's the best way for them to understand.'

'We have leaflets and welfare cards in the room, and if that means someone can get the mental wellbeing help they need, then we have done what we set out to do.'

Gordon Young has been attending the Banter Breakfasts for around five years and had not realised that this kind of support was available before.

'What they are doing at Les Rocquettes Hotel is a fabulous thing and it brings the community together – the hotel setting really makes it easy for everyone to come along,' he said.

As well as providing information and signposting on housing, healthcare, financial, and other support to veterans returning or moving to the island, the welfare service offers a confidential Psychology Support Service once someone has reached out.

The Banter Breakfasts take place on the first Saturday of every month between 8am and 9am, at Les Rocquettes Hotel. Cost is £5 per person. They are open to all members of the Armed Forces community, including veterans from all three services, their families and those currently serving.

'Everyone with a military connection is welcome to come along, enjoy a friendly atmosphere with old and new friends,' said Marlene. 'There is no pressure at all, just a chance to connect and find support if you need it.' Les Rocquettes Hotel offers a discount on accommodation for veterans (HM Armed Forces Veteran card) and serving personnel who show their ID card.



## SKIPTON INTERNATIONAL MARKS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY

Skipton International has donated nearly £380,000 through its Community Fund to charities across the Channel Islands since 2018.

The Skipton Community Fund has enabled more than 80 small local charities and not-for-profit organisations to deliver meaningful, locally driven change. It was established in 2018 to support community-led initiatives – many of which are volunteer-led and focus on wellbeing, inclusion, and social connection.

Dani Barnett, chair of the Skipton Community Fund, said: 'On International Day of Charity, I'm especially proud of what the Skipton Community Fund has achieved across the Channel Islands. It's the small, heartfelt initiatives, from sensory gardens to pop-up cafés, which help to knit our communities together.'

## CLEAN EARTH TRUST ACQUIRES ELECTRIC VAN

Thanks to Suntera Global, Titan Wealth and others, the Clean Earth Trust – a local charity whose aim is 'limiting human impact on the environment', has been able to acquire an electric van.

Prior to this, the charity used an old petrol van that had become unsafe to drive, threatening the charity's ability to run events, including the bi-weekly beach cleans open to the public, and several beach clean events for corporate clients. Through its Repair Café, it also runs events focused on repairing clothing and other items.

'Having a fully electric van helps us operate as sustainably as possible in our efforts to protect our marine environment from pollution caused by marine litter and



L-R: (Back) Paul Bugden, Simon Fairclough, (Front) Andrew Munro, Olivia Bennett.

to encourage a repair, re-purpose and reuse approach to clothing and household items through our Repair Café events,' said Paul Bugden, policy officer for the Trust.



## BUTTERFIELD'S CHARITABLE TRUST AWARDS £80,000 TO LOCAL CHARITIES

The Butterfield Charitable Trust – Channel Islands, which opened for applications last year, has allocated more than £80,000 worth of grants to a number of local charities that support the needs of the community in Guernsey and Jersey.

The Major Grant programme, which offers amounts of £10,000 or more, has been awarded to two local charities (one in each island). In Guernsey, Headway will use the funds to support cognitive modules for those living with a serious brain injury, helping to teach new skills and coping strategies.

Richard Saunders, Butterfield's Managing Director for the Channel Islands & the UK, said: 'We are delighted to see the first grant allocations be awarded to a number of deserving local charities.'

## MOURANT SUPPORTS PIONEERING SEA WATER TESTING INITIATIVE

As part of its commitment to the Mourant Ocean Pledge, Mourant has made a donation to help fund a revolutionary sea water testing kit in Guernsey.

The kit will be used by La Société Guernesaise and affiliated citizen projects to measure, amongst other things, the temperature, pH and salinity of the water in the seas around Guernsey. This allows professionals to further monitor the health of sea creatures as well as the recent influences of climate change.

'Protecting our oceans is vital to the health of island communities such as Guernsey,' said Mourant's Guernsey Managing Partner, John Lewis. 'We're proud to support La Société Guernesaise in introducing this innovative sea water testing kit, which will provide valuable data to help monitor and preserve Guernsey's marine environment. At Mourant, we're committed to giving back to the communities where we live and work, and this project is a meaningful way to contribute to the long-term sustainability of our local environment.'

Nicky Harris from the Marine Biology Section of La Société Guernesaise, said: 'The equipment allows us to investigate how different bays vary in their temperature, salinity and total dissolved solids... and how this relates to the health and growth of the different eelgrass beds.'



# A TASTE OF GUERNSEY, NOW SERVED IN THE SKIES

## SUPPORT LOCAL – INTRODUCING BEAN14

### A LOCAL STORY

Bean14 began in 2006, when founder Chris started roasting coffee in his parents' basement on a two-kilo roaster he named Ivor, after Ivor the Engine.

What started as a hobby quickly grew into a business. After Chris attended a dinner and got chatting to others, one thing led to another, and he ended up roasting coffee for a café. He gave himself two years to make a living from the coffee or return to his previous job.

As the business grew, space became an issue. With little money but plenty of determination, Chris moved from the basement to his father's empty greenhouse. Coffee plants were planted, and the previous flower-packing area became the coffee roasting area. He then moved to a 15-kilo roaster, Dougal, named after the yellow dog in the Magic Roundabout.

Bean14 continued to grow, offering not just roasted coffee but also machines, accessories, and training. Soon another move was needed, this time to a purpose-built roastery. In 2017, the team settled into their current site and invested in a 30-kilo roaster named Kitt, after the famous car from Knight Rider. Equipped with both manual and AI technology, Kitt ensures precision, consistency and quality in every roast.

Today, Bean14 is a team of nine full-time staff plus part-timers, mostly island-based. They cover everything from sourcing green beans and roasting them to servicing machines, supplying cafes, and even providing cups and alternative milks needed to enjoy coffee at its best.

### SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY

Chris never started Bean14 as a dream to get rich, but to do something no one else in Guernsey was doing in quite the same way. Nearly 20 years later, he says it's still a challenge – competing with large, imported brands is never easy. Nevertheless, Bean14 continues to thrive thanks to its values: sustainability, community, and quality. From carbon-neutral roasting and electric vehicles to Fairtrade sourcing and support for the Guernsey Nature Commission, the business puts the island first.

Bean14 is an accredited Fairtrade roaster and a proud supporter of the Nature Commission, helping to protect and improve Guernsey's environment.



Twenty years on, roasting coffee still brings a smile to Chris's face. He states, 'Coffee can bring tears to your eyes and knowing it's something I created from the bean to the cup is just sublime, and so incredibly rewarding'.

### WHY AURIGNY CHOOSES LOCAL

This change is an output of Aurigny's customer experience programme, which is closely examining customer feedback to make improvements to its service.

You told us you wanted better coffee on board, and we've listened. By sourcing from a homegrown roaster, we can deliver a quality experience while also supporting the local economy. Using fairtrade beans ensures that the coffee is ethically sourced and supports farmers all around the world. At the same time, Bean14's business itself contributes to Guernsey through sustainable practices and community initiatives.

This collaboration is just the first step in Aurigny's wider commitment to supporting local enterprise and people employed locally. As Guernsey's airline, we believe our flights should reflect the island's heritage and spirit – so look out for more local touches in the future.

### PLEASE CHOOSE LOCAL

We strongly encourage you to support local whenever you enjoy a brew on board, because without your support, Bean14 wouldn't make it into your cup. Our cabin crew even visited Bean14, tried it themselves, and gave it their stamp of approval. That's how you know it is good!

**Bean14**



# Sky Café

Enjoy refreshing drinks and snacks at great prices, plus make the most of Aurigny's excellent duty-free offers.

Products listed may be subject to change due to availability.

## Light Bites



Muffin - mixed flavours  
**£3.00**



Walker's All-Butter Shortbread 11g  
**£1.50**

## Sweet Snacks



Cadbury Nibbly Fingers  
125g (Not included in Deals)  
**£3.50**



Nestlé KitKat 4-finger  
41.5g  
**£2.50**



Cadbury Dairy Milk  
Chocolate Bar 45g  
**£2.50**

## Savoury Snacks



Pringles Original  
40g  
**£2.50**



Pringles Sour Cream  
& Onion 40g  
**£2.50**



Mini Cheddars  
45g  
**£2.50**



Sea Salted Pretzels  
30g  
**£2.50**



Sour Cream & Chive  
Pretzels 30g  
**£2.50**

## Great Value Deals

### DEAL 1

Any Hot Drink  
& Muffin

**£5.50**

### DEAL 2

Any Beer, Cider or  
Wine & your choice  
of Savoury Snack

**£8.00**

### DEAL 3

Any Soft Drink  
& your choice of  
Savoury Snack

**£4.00**

### DEAL 4

Any Hot Drink &  
your choice of  
Sweet Snack

**£5.25**

### DEAL 5

Any Soft Drink &  
your choice of  
Sweet Snack

**£4.00**

### ALLERGENS

Please be aware that some of our products may contain allergens and some of our customers may bring onboard their own products containing allergens. If you are susceptible to serious complications arising from allergens **it is your responsibility** to make our cabin crew aware of this immediately.



# Sky Beverages

## Hot Drinks

**WARNING**  
These drinks are hot. Please handle with care in order to protect yourself and fellow passengers



Tetley Tea  
£3.00



Clipper Earl Grey Tea  
£3.00



Hot Chocolate  
£3.00



Bean14 Coffee  
£3.00



Bean14 Decaf Coffee  
£3.00



Nescafé Cappuccino  
£3.00



Nescafé Latte  
£3.00

## Soft Drinks & Water



Coca Cola Classic 150mm



Diet Coke 150mm



Sprite 150mm



Schweppes Indian Tonic Water 150mm

£2.00



Ballygowan Water



Still 500ml  
Sparkling 500ml

£2.75



### Daymer Bay Orange Juice

Squeezing the best from nature, inspired by the natural beauty of North Cornwall's Daymer Bay.  
250ml  
£2.75



Blackcurrant Ribena 200ml  
£2.50

# Sky Bar Service

## Mini Spirits



£6.50  
2 SPIRITS AND 2 MIXERS £14  
Bacardi Carta Blanca Rum 50ml  
Jack Daniel's Whiskey 50ml  
Gordon's Dry Gin 50ml  
Smirnoff Red Vodka 50ml  
Bombay Sapphire Dry Gin 50ml  
Bell's Scotch Whisky 50ml  
Blue Bottle Gin 50ml  
Blue Bottle Pink Gin 50ml  
Whitley Neill Blackberry 50ml

## Beers & Cider

Madri Lager 440ml  
Thatchers Gold Cider 440ml  
£5.50

2 FOR £10



## Wines



2 FOR £10  
£6.00  
Jack Rabbit Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, White Zinfandel or Pinot Grigio 187ml



Lunetta Prosecco  
200ml  
A deliciously light and fruity Prosecco with hints of apple and peach on the nose and a fresh, softly sparkling palate.  
£7.50

2 FOR £14

## BLUE BOTTLE DRY GIN



The epitome of boutique distilled gin. Each batch is meticulously crafted in a copper still at the Three Fingers Distillery on Guernsey. Blue Bottle gin has a unique combination of botanicals scrupulously selected to create a delectable treat.

50ml only £6.50





# Sky Duty Free

## Spirits



Bombay  
Sapphire  
Dry Gin 1ltr  
**£22**

**2 FOR  
£40**

Gordon's London  
Dry Gin 1ltr **£14.99**  
Smirnoff Red  
Vodka 1ltr **£12.99**  
The Famous Grouse  
Whisky 1ltr **£15.99**

**MIX & MATCH**  
Gordon's Gin and  
Famous Grouse Whisky  
**2 for £26**



### Wheadon's Gin

70cl  
Handcrafted Gin from the Island of Guernsey.  
A premium artisan gin distilled in very small  
batches, Wheadon's seasonal infusions balance  
locally foraged flavours with a traditional blend  
of botanicals to produce perfectly balanced  
gins for a discerning palate.  
Inspired by our island home and constantly  
seeking expressive and unique flavours to  
delight drinkers, Wheadon's can be enjoyed  
on the rocks with a garnish, or pairs perfectly  
with tonic.  
**£40**

## Cigarettes & Tobacco

Marlboro Gold	200 / 400s	<b>£63 / £94</b>
Benson & Hedges	200 / 400s	<b>£50 / £80</b>
Lambert & Butler Silver	200 / 400s	<b>£50 / £66</b>
Mayfair King Size	200s	<b>£50</b>
Golden Virginia Tobacco	5 x 50g	<b>£56</b>
Amber Leaf	8 x 30g	<b>£50</b>

**ALLOWANCES & PAYMENT**  
On flights from the Channel Islands to the UK, the allowance includes 200 cigarettes and four litres of spirits. On flights from the UK to the Channel Islands, the allowance includes 200 cigarettes and one litre of spirits. A duty-free service is only available on the ATR aircraft. You must be 18 years old or above to purchase tobacco or alcohol. Major credit or debit cards are accepted.

**PLEASE NOTE**

Items will not be exchanged/refunded. Please check your duty free purchases before departing the aircraft.

# Everyday credit cards that give you more...

Exclusive local offers • Additional cashback  
Travel benefits • Exclusive event invites



Scan the QR  
code to discover  
more about our  
credit cards



*butterfieldgroup.com*



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