Colwyn Bay

THE ESSENTIAL POCKET GUIDE 2018/19











#MAKINGMEMORIES

on the Waterfront









THE INSIDE STORY

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This symbol identifies attractions that are normally open all year round.

Conwy county's classic coastline is the place to be for epic seaside experiences.

Put your best foot forward with a walk on our stretch of the ground-breaking Wales Coast Path, the first of its kind in the world. Take a short stroll or hardcore hike – or bike it – to get acquainted with our wide, open, exhilarating shores.

All along our coast you'll stumble across things to see and do. Kinmel Bay's seemingly endless sands are a big draw for beach bums, while charming, timeless Rhos-on-Sea offers peaceful village vibes between the bustling resorts of Colwyn Bay and Llandudno.

At Colwyn Bay, the ambitious Porth Eirias development has given the coastline a new lease of life (and beach!). Featuring a delectable seafront bistro run by top chef Bryn Williams and a buzzing watersports activity centre, the revitalised promenade is a legend in the making.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Don't miss out! Check our website to see all the big events taking place in Conwy County throughout the year. visitconwy.org.uk/events





Don't forget!

While you're here you can find out about what's on, where to visit and things to do at the Tourist Information Point at Rhos-on-Sea. And, if you haven't already found somewhere to stay, check out the accommodation on our website.



RHOS-ON-SEA

Small is beautiful in this charming seaside town located between big brothers Llandudno and Colwyn Bay.

If only all seaside towns could be like this – neat, pristine and peaceful. The long seafront walkway from Colwyn Bay takes in Rhos-on-Sea's breakwater, where a little harbour has an atmosphere reminiscent of a West Wales coastal village.

Rhos's sparkling coastal waters are popular with watersports fans and anglers, while walkers and cyclists make for the car-free promenade path. It's not just the traditional promenade and lung fulls of salty sea air that attract walkers. Start your exploration from the tiny, roughly vaulted St Trillo's Chapel at Rhos Point. Standing on the site of an ancient healing well, it's the smallest church in Britain, seating only six. St Trillo's is one of 26 historic sites on the circular Rhos-on-Sea Heritage Trail, which also takes in the remains of Llys Euryn, a 6th century hill fort, perched above the town with all-seeing views.

The 'small is beautiful' theme continues at the delightful Harlequin Puppet Theatre, perhaps Rhos's greatest claim to fame. Another 'mini' attraction is Rhos Fynach Mini Golf. It's crazy golf with a fun nautical theme, with holes that include 'The Surfboard', Pirate's Skull' and 'Submarine'. Take a walk along the main street and look at the shops. They're all small and mostly independent. There's a farm shop stuffed with fresh produce, shops selling antiques, home accessories and jewellery... there's even a shop selling period costumes. And there's a great range of cafés and restaurants too.

ATTRACTIONS AND PLACES OF INTEREST

OI IIIIIIIIII
Children's Play Area & Paddling PoolB5
2 Combermere GardensD5
3 Community CentreD4
4 Cricket GroundC3
5 Fishing TripsD5
6 Llys Euryn (Remains of) E1
Puppet TheatreE5
8 Rhos Park (Bowls & Tennis)C3
9 St Trillo's ChapelA4
Rhos PointB5
11 Crazy GolfC5
12 Adults Outdoor GymC5
CHIDCHEC 65 DI ACEC



(Numbers in brackets refer to churches)

Assembly of God	(1) C4
Church in Wales	(2) E4
Methodist	(3) D3
United Reformed	(4) B4







- 2 Attraction / Place of Interest
- Tourist Information Point
- ★ Post Office
- → One Way Street

Pay and Display Car Park



Accessible toilet fitted with National Key Scheme (RADAR) lock

VISITCONWY.ORG.UK VISITCONWY.ORG.UK



The sweep of coast from Rhos-on-Sea to Colwyn Bay and beyond has seen a major transformation with new projects and attractions breathing new life into the resort.

The Porth Eirias waterside development is fast becoming a major attraction along the North Wales coast. There's a bistro run by celebrity chef Bryn Williams and a range of watersport tuition provided by Colwyn Bay Watersports.

But we're not just making waves. Our green spaces are keeping up too. Colwyn Bay's green fingers just keep on growing. The town has won yet another Wales in Bloom prize for its fabulous floral displays – for the 15th year running.



Eirias Park is a lovely 50-acre green oasis with a boating lake, bowling green, playground and Colwyn Leisure Centre complete with swimming pool, squash courts and leisure suite The park is also home to Stadiwm Zip World, a first-class sporting venue that hosts prestigious rugby union matches and popular outdoor concerts.

Colwyn Bay's prime attraction, perched panoramically on the hillside, is the Welsh Mountain Zoo – National Zoo of Wales. It's a caring conservation zoo, with many rare and endangered species from around the world including snow leopards, red pandas, Sumatran tigers, chimpanzees and Californian sea lions.

Colwyn Bay is also the perfect place for a day's retail therapy. Pick up a gift for someone or treat yourself! Many of our excellent independent stores are family run. If you're looking for your high street favourites, we have those, too. Plus, one of the region's largest shopping malls, complete with handy free parking. The weekly farmers' market selling everything from organic pork to preserves is on every Thursday at the Bay View Shopping Centre. Bag yourself a bargain at the street market every Tuesday and Saturday.



KEY

- • -	Railway with station	d	Gwydyr Forest Park	ï	Tourist Information Centre
	Snowdonia National Park Boundary		Mountain Peak	į	Tourist Information Point

ABERGELE & PENSARN

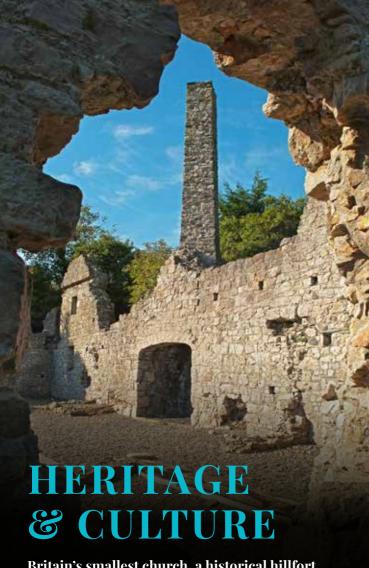
Pensarn's popular north facing promenade has classic seaside amusements and a lovely shingle beach. Historic sites at the ancient market town of Abergele include the 15th century parish church of Saint Michael, and the town is a great base for walking the surrounding countryside or playing a few rounds at the excellent 18-hole golf course.



TOWYN & KINMEL BAY

This busy part of the coast features mile upon mile of big sandy beach and offers classic seaside family fun. Kinmel Bay is popular for canoeing and kitesurfing. The pretty harbour is a favourite among yachtsmen and fisherman alike. And next door, Towyn's collection of beach front amusements and entertainments are a big hit with visitors. The area is well known and loved by thousands as a camping and caravanning centre. Head to Tir Prince and Knightly's Fun Park for something to keep the whole family happy.

VISITCONWY.ORG.UK



Britain's smallest church, a historical hillfort and a ruined mansion are some of the delights to be found on the Rhos-on-Sea Heritage Trail. Neighbouring Colwyn Bay's heyday as a bustling resort is reflected in the ornate shopfronts and gabled buildings - follow the Colwyn Bay Heritage Trail booklet to find out more. And then enjoy a show or a movie at Theatr Colwyn. This Victorian gem, built in 1885, is reputedly the oldest working theatre in Wales.



THE RHOS-ON-SEA HERITAGE TRAIL

The trail takes you past the town's historic locations including Bryn Euryn ancient hill fort, the sixteenth century ruins of Llys Eurvn, built on the site of a thirteenth century palace, and the tiny chapel of 6th century Saint Trillo on the shore. Pick up a copy of the trail leaflet from the Tourist Information Point.

COLWYN BAY HERITAGE WALK 01492 577510

colwynbayheritage.org.uk

The Colwyn Bay of vesteryear. a fashionable seaside resort favoured by prosperous, privileged travellers, hasn't entirely disappeared. The architecture of the old town still displays the wealth, opulence and spirit of those times. You'll see it when you follow the 29-point route of the Colwyn Bay Heritage Trail. The trail is available to download from the Colwyn Bay Heritage Group website.

EIRIAS PARK OR HERITAGE TRAIL

colwynbayheritage.org.uk Enjoy the two mile circular route exploring the park's history. Follow the Trail using the 20 QR (Quick Response) points to reveal the unexpected aspects of the park's heritage, including a zoo, a boating lake, dinosaurs, marionettes and a gorsedd stone circle. A map of the route is available on the website

ORIEL COLWYN

01492 577888

orielcolwyn.org

Oriel Colwyn is a gallery space dedicated to showcasing photography and photographic works. Housed upstairs at the Theatr Colwyn building, admission is free and exhibitions are available to see most weekdays between 10am and 5pm and during normal theatre and cinema opening times. Oriel Colwyn is a multi-purpose exhibition space and therefore occasionally unavailable. Please phone ahead in advance if travelling to confirm the gallery is open.

THEATR COLWYN 01492 577888 theatrcolwyn.co.uk

At the heart of Colwyn Bay since it first opened as a venue in 1885, Theatr Colwyn shows a varied programme of live music, stage plays, dance and stand-up. You can still catch a movie at this, the oldest working cinema in the UK, which now has digital

technology.





FAMILY FUN

Penguins, puppets, crazy golf, funfair rides and sandy beaches – our coastal attractions are perfect for all the family.



WELSH MOUNTAIN ZOO

Colwyn Bay, 01492 532938 welshmountainzoo.org

This caring conservation zoo set high in the wooded hills above Colwyn Bay, is the perfect place to see all your favourite animals and get to know some new ones. It's home to many endangered species from around the world including snow leopards, red pandas and Sumatran tigers. Open all year, every day except Christmas Day. Seasonal free minibus from Colwyn Bay railway station. Please check the website for details and opening hours.

HARLEQUIN PUPPET THEATRE

Rhos-on-Sea, 01492 548166 puppets.uk.com

Britain's very first theatre designed just for puppet shows has been entertaining audiences of all ages since 1958, and still holds regular performances today. Backstage, find out about the puppeteers, the story of the theatre, and the marionette tradition. Please check the website for times and dates of the shows.

ADVENTURE TRAIL

Adventure Park, St George Abergele 01745 361368 adventuretrail.wales

Explore beautiful woodland and experience nature at its finest with more than 40 fun challenges. Plenty of picnic areas along the way so, pack up a feast and enjoy fresh air and fun activities. See website for opening times.

TOTALLY APE

Old Colwyn 01492 518484

facebook.com/TotallyApe

Children's indoor soft play centre with two separate playframes. One for toddlers and a larger main frame for the older children to climb, clamber, slide and explore. See the website for opening times.

ABERGELE LEISURE CENTRE

Abergele, 01492 577940 conwy.gov.uk/leisure

This excellent leisure centre offers swimming tuition for all ages in the 25 metre pool where you can try snorkelling or aqua aerobics. There's also a fitness suite and an all-weather pitch.

RHOS FYNACH MINI-GOLF

Rhos-on-Sea 01492 548185 rhosfynach.co.uk/golf.htm

Another family attraction is Rhos Fynach Mini Golf. It's crazy golf with a fun nautical theme, with holes that include 'The Surfboard', 'Pirate's Skull' and 'Submarine'. Great fun for all the family.



TIR PRINCE

Towyn, 01745 345123 tirprince.co.uk

Experience the thrills of American-style harness racing, including flood-lit evening race meets at this entertainment complex. And as if that wasn't enough, there's a fairground with rollercoaster rides, a go-carting track and an outdoor market too. Please check the website for opening times and dates for race meetings.

KNIGHTLY'S FUN PARK

Towyn knightlysfunparks.com

Make your holiday a break to remember at this vibrant funfair and amusement park. There's a variety of fun rides for all the family and entertainment for everyone to enjoy a fantastic fairground, amusement arcade, bar, restaurant, and beautiful floral garden area. Please check the website for opening times.



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Abergele, 01745 824034 abergelegolfclub.co.uk 18 hole parkland course.



OLD COLWYN GOLF CLUB

Old Colwyn, 01492 515581 oldcolwyngolfclub.co.uk 9 hole meadowland course.



Opening times and facilities may change without notice so please contact the individual attractions before setting off



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RHOS-ON-SEA **GOLF CLUB**

Penrhyn Bay, 01492 549641 rhosaolf.co.uk

18 or 9 hole parkland course.

SILVER BIRCH **GOLFAND** FOOTGOLF CLUB

Betws yn Rhos 01492 680690 silverbirchgolfclub.co.uk Two 9-hole courses that can be combined for an 18-hole round Plus the first 18-hole footgolf course in Wales.

beautiful parkland and conveniently located just minutes from the A55.

EIRIAS PARK

Discover the great

facilities at Eirias.

Set in 50 acres of

Eirias Park is great for families. It covers 50 acres of beautiful parkland and features a boating lake, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, bowling greens, a children's adventure playground, and a wheeled sports area.

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COLWYN LEISURE CENTRE

The excellent facilities include a six lane 25 metre swimming pool with water features and separate water slide, a fitness suite and a multi-purpose sports hall.



The stadium at Eirias is the perfect venue for top class sports events and outdoor concerts. Featuring a rugby and football pitch, as well as an athletic track. It continues to host all the home fixtures of the under 20s 6 Nations.

EIRIAS EVENTS CENTRE

The Eirias Events Centre offers the flexibility to cater for a wide range of events from exhibitions and conferences to team building days and concerts



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ACTIVITIES & ADVENTURE Go for it!









When it comes to activities and adventure, you'll never be stuck for things to do in this part of the world. Pulse-pounding adrenaline sports, picturesque coastal walks, a challenging round of footgolf, jet skiing and kitesurfing are all in the running. Go on have a go!

COLWYN BAY WATERSPORTS

Porth Eirias, Colwyn Bay 01492 437177

colwynbaywatersports.co.uk

Colwyn Bay Watersports offers sailing, windsurfing and power boating courses as well as equipment hire from a fleet of sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing and SUP kit. Whether you're a complete beginner looking to get a taste of the sports, or just want to get out on the water and practice, Colwyn Bay beach is the perfect place to start. See the website for opening times.

SEA ANGLING TRIPS

Rhos-on-Sea

Take a trip on a charter vessel with an experienced skipper (weather permitting, of course!). Depending on the season you can fish inshore for whiting, codling, bass, mackerel and more. Or venture further out for pollock, cod, conger and coalfish. See locally for details.

TAN-Y-MYNYDD TROUT FISHERY



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Moelfre, Abergele, 01745 826722 tan-y-mynydd.co.uk

This established fishery has five lakes set in tranquil countryside. A fly-fishing haven and a test for the best angler or just great fun for beginners. Open daily all year from dawn to dusk, except Christmas Day.

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COASTAL LAUNCHING SLIPWAYS

Harbour Office, Conwy 01492 596253

You can launch your craft from several locations along the coast including Porth Eirias Slipway, Colwyn Bay (powered craft only including PWC) and Aberhod Slipway, Rhos-on-Sea (non powered craft only). Fees are payable and you will need to be covered by the appropriate insurance. For more details see conwy.qov.uk

COLWYN JET SKI CLUB

Colwyn Bay colwynietski.com

This friendly club promotes safe personal watercraft riding and provides on-site RYA training to members by qualified instructors.



ADVENTURE PAINTBALL

St George, Abergele 01745 361368 adventurepaintball.co.uk

If you're idea of fun is chasing your mates around a forest, armed with just a paintball gun and your wits, then Adventure Paintball in Abergele is for you. This is the place to come if game scenarios with titles like The Grave Yard, The Lost Uranium and Sam Missile Base set your heart racing! Prepare to splat or be splatted!

Advance booking required.

NORTH WALES KITESURFING SCHOOL

Kinmel Bay 07799 532725 kiteboardinglessons.co.uk Kitesurfing lessons run by IKO kitesurfing instructor on 3 miles of quiet beach. Check the website for details and booking.



WALKING CONWY COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE

01492 575200, conwy.gov.uk/countryside

Popular local trails include Pwllycrochan Woods, the Fairy Glen at Old Colwyn and Bryn Euryn above Rhos-on-Sea. Leaflets available locally or see the website for more information.



WALES COAST PATH

Boot up and get walking. The acclaimed Wales Coast Path stretches for 870 miles around Wales' entire shoreline. Our bit – the 34½ miles between Kinmel Bay and Llanfairfechan packs in lots of highlights. Shingly Pensarn Beach (SSSI), spot wildlife on the slopes of the Great Orme and come face to face with Conwy's mighty World Heritage castle. conwy.gov.uk/countryside

PEDAL POWER

National Cycle Route 5 is its official name, but we know it better as the coastal bike ride between Llanfairfechan and Kinmel Bay. Most of the route is traffic free, and you can join at various points along the way. It's one of the greenest ways to see our coastline and



countryside. Pick up a copy of the Conwy Cycle Route Map from Conwy or Llandudno Tourist Information Centres or download from visitconwy.org.uk



BRYN EURYN

local nature reserve



125m

- Great views
- Close to Rhos-on-Sea
- Rich in wildlife
- Historical ruins

Served well by a network of paths, Bryn Euryn is a prominent limestone hill overlooking Rhos-on-Sea. It is a rich mixture of grassland and woodland, part of it being a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It also has great historical interest with Llys Euryn - a house dating from the 15th century and a hilltop fort from the 6th century.

Follow the waymarked trails to discover beautiful butterflies, fabulous flowers and historical ruins

Bryn Euryn is managed by Conwy Countryside Service as a Local Nature Reserve. For information and leaflets on a variety of walks in Conwy County: www.conwy.gov.uk/countryside

Please follow the Countryside Code and ensure that dogs are kept under close control.

The Summit Trail

This waymarked circular trail leads you past the ruined mansion of Llys Euryn, through woodland and grassland, to the ancient hillfort at the summit, with its panoramic views, and back to the starting point of the car park. The trail is about a mile in length and does have some steep climbs/descents which can be slippery after rain, so you will need stout footwear. Follow the green waymarkers from the car park entrance.

Woodland Trail

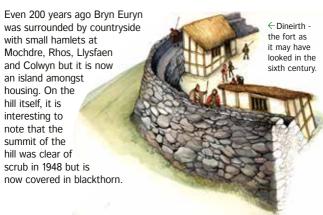
This waymarked circular trail initially follows the Summit Trail, then continues through woodland, with fewer climbs/ descents, and back to the starting point of the car park. This trail is about 1.5 miles in length. Follow the red waymarkers from the car park entrance.

Although limited, access for mobility scooters is possible by following sections of the trail. Telephone 01492 575200.

VISITCONWY.ORG.UK 18 VISITCONWY.ORG.UK 19

History

The Summit Trail takes you by the fifteenth century mansion of Llys Euryn, once celebrated in bardic verse. It also leads you to a sixth century hillfort at the summit of Bryn Euryn, with its panoramic views. The summit was also used by the RAF during the war. The history of both sites is detailed on boards located on site.



Flowers

Bryn Euryn has a rich variety of wild flowers both in the grassland and woodland, which love the lime rich soil here. The grassland areas are valuable enough to have been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest and the whole hill has been declared a Local Nature Reserve in recognition of its great wildlife and community value.

The woodland flowers are best seen in the spring and include wood anemone, dog's mercury, wood sorrel and wood avens. In the damper parts of the wood the attractive hart's tongue fern is abundant. The grassland areas bloom through the summer - except for the spring cowslips - and characteristic species include common rockrose, kidney vetch, lady's bedstraw, carline thistle and wild thyme. Where the rock lies near the surface the nationally scarce hoary rockrose and Nottingham catchfly can be found. Several orchids are to be found including early purple orchid, pyramidal orchid, and green winged orchid.



Image credit: Everyday Nature Trails @ https://theresagreen.me/

Butterflies

The flowers support a great variety of insect life. Twenty six species of butterfly have been recorded on the hill. In the woods you will notice the speckled wood. On the rocky areas you will see the wall brown and grayling. Flying among the grasses you may see the meadow brown and small heath, while on the bramble and gorse the gatekeeper may be found. Near the summit in May and June you may find red admirals and painted ladies, which have migrated from Central Europe and North Africa. Other colourful finds include the peacock, small tortoiseshell, small copper and the common blue. A day flying moth you may see in the summer is the handsome six spot burnet moth. It has dark green wings spotted with red but it becomes a crimson blur when it flies. Its caterpillar feeds on the abundant bird's foot trefoil and then its characteristic pale yellow cocoons can be found on the stems of plants.

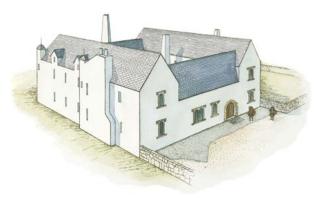


Speckled Wood

Six spot burnet moth

Geology

Think of tropical seas and coral reefs! These were the conditions 350 million years ago when the limestone from which Bryn Euryn is composed was formed from the accumulated and compressed remains of sea creatures. Volcanic activity and earth movements then buckled the limestone and incorporated mineral veins into the rock. More recently, some 12,000 years ago in the last Ice Age, huge glaciers scoured out the softer rocks and left the valleys around Bryn Euryn and the steep cliffs on the southern side.



Llvs Eurvn as it may have looked around 1600.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES



If you need further information while you're planning your holiday or once you are here, contact or visit one of our Tourist Information Centres.

OPEN ALL YEAR

LLANDUDNO:

Unit 26, Victoria Centre, Mostvn Street, LL30 2NG t: (01492) 577577

CONWY:

Muriau Buildings, Rosehill Street, LL32 8LD t: (01492) 577566

TOURIST INFORMATION POINT

Rhos-on-Sea: Happy Faces Centre, Promenade, LL28 4EP

GETTING AROUND

Why not leave your car behind, relax and enjoy the scenery by using our network of buses and trains. Full details in the Public Transport Guide available at TICs. Call Traveline Cymru on **0800 464 00 00** or go to traveline.cymru: the journey planner and timetables website for public transport in Wales.



Looking for information on Llandudno, Conwy & the Conwy Valley, then pick up a copy of these **Essential Pocket Guides** at TICs or email:

tourism@conwy.gov.uk



Published by:

Tourism Marketing Team Community Development Service Conwy County Borough Council Library Building, Mostyn Street Llandudno, LL30 2RP t: 01492 575945 / 575950 © Conwy County Borough Council

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Designed by: View Creative

37 Rhos Road, Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy, LL28 4RS. t: 01492 542400 www.viewcreative.co.uk

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COLWYN BAY

ATTRACTIONS & PLACES OF INTEREST

1	Boating Lake	G11
2	Tennis Centre	F11
3	Eirias Park - Bowling Greens	G10
4	Colwyn Leisure Centre	H11
5	Library	E7
6	Colwyn Bay Market (Tuesday & Saturday) Station Road and Sea View Road	E7/E8
7	Model Yacht Pond	G12
8	Pwllycrochan Woods (Nature Trail)	G4
_	Porth Eirias (Watersports Centre, Bistro & Cafe)	
	Queens Gardens (Green Flag Award)	
	Bay View Shopping Centre	
12	Eirias (Events Centre & Stadiwm Zip World	l) H11
13	Theatr Colwyn/Cinema/Oriel Colwyn	F8
14	Welsh Mountain Zoo	F1
	Wheeled Play Facilities suitable for BMX, Skateboards, In-line Skates & Scooters	
~	UIDOUES A BLASES OF WORSHI	

CHURCHES & PLACES OF WORSHIP (Numbers in brackets refer to churches)

Baptist	(1) D7, (2) G7, (3) F8
Church in Wales	(4) D3, (5) F7, (6) F7
Congregational	(7) F8
Methodist	.(8) F7, (9) H9, (10) E6
Presbyterian	(11) E6, (12) B3
Roman Catholic	(13) D5
Society of Friends - Quaker M	eeting House (14) F9

SYMBOLS KEY

20 Attraction / Place of Interest



→ One Way Street

Pay and Display Car Park

Pay and Display Seafront Parking 10am-4pm Monday to Sunday inclusive. Parking FREE between 4pm-10am

Petrol Station

Toilets

Accessible toilet fitted with National Key Scheme (RADAR) lock