



MORECAMBE BAY

GUIDE FOR
GROUPS

EXPLOREMORECAMBEBAY.ORG.UK

WELCOME

Explore Morecambe Bay –
a great place to experience amazing sunsets
and discover natural landscapes.

Morecambe Bay stretches from the south west coast of **Cumbria** to **Fleetwood** in Lancashire, taking in some great traditional coastal towns such as **Morecambe** and **Grange Over Sands**.

At the heart of the Bay is **Morecambe**, a town which offers a great traditional day out and the perfect base from which to explore the wider area. With over five miles of promenade featuring the award winning **TERN Art Project**, attractive stone jetty, sand and pebble beaches and not forgetting the ever popular **Eric Morecambe statue**, groups can take in the seaside air at a leisurely pace.

Just to the south lies the charming village of **Heysham**, home to **St Patrick's Chapel** and **St Peter's Church**, some of the finest Anglo-Saxon and Vikings sites in the Northwest. North of Morecambe is **Carnforth**, made famous by the 1945 David Lean film 'Brief Encounter.' Groups can experience the recreated **Refreshment Room** as part of a visit to the **Carnforth Heritage Centre**. The centre still shows the film today whilst displaying a wealth of railway memorabilia.

Back towards the coast is **Leighton Hall**. Renowned as a hidden gem set amongst the

Arnside and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) this historic house presents fascinating tours and breathtaking displays by birds of prey.

The Bay also offers opportunities for a range of amazing wildlife experiences for groups, like watching the wildlife at **Leighton Moss RSPB Nature Reserve** (which has been home to BBC Autumn Watch). Leighton Moss features five birdwatching hides overlooking shallow meres with fascinating wildlife from bearded tits and bitterns to marsh harriers and red deer.

On the northern **Cumbrian** side of the Bay groups are spoilt for choice with a strong selection of destinations and attractions worthy of a group visit. Historic houses like **Levens Hall** and **Holker Hall** provide exceptional group visits whilst the stunning ruins of **Furness Abbey** in Barrow were once one of the richest Cistercian monasteries in England. Head towards **Piel Island and Castle** by ferry for spotting seals lazing around the southern tip of **Walney Island**.

Morecambe Bay has plenty for groups to discover as well as the perfect place to relax, explore and enjoy.

Suggested itineraries are provided opposite and you can download some **Free Images** from www.flickr.com/photos/exploremorecambebay for your own promotions.

For further enquiries call (01524) 582808 (Morecambe Visitor Information Centre)
or visit www.exploremorecambebay.org.uk.

ITINERARY SUGGESTIONS

MORNING

Start your day with some wildlife watching at RSPB Leighton Moss (as featured on BBC's Autumn Watch) and see if you can spot otters, marsh harriers and red deer.

Continue to the Heritage Centre at Carnforth Station to find out more about the history of this charming town.

LUNCH

Spend time enjoying the food at Leighton Moss Visitor Centre Café or dine at Carnforth Station's 'Brief Encounter' Refreshment Rooms.

Visit The Longlands Hotel, situated near the Lancaster Canal at Tewitfield, or head to Heysham Village and enjoy a tasty lunch at The Royal Hotel.

Alternatively, enjoy a meal with a view at one of the hotels, restaurants and cafés situated along Morecambe's spectacular promenade.

AFTERNOON

Visit the historic house and grounds of Leighton Hall, ancestral home of the world-renowned Gillow furniture family.

Visit the picturesque village of Heysham and its fascinating Viking monuments and coastline, or take a trip into Lancaster to discover its wealth of history and heritage.

Head through to Morecambe to enjoy a stroll along the promenade, taking in the TERN project artworks and beautiful sea views.

Browse the range of stalls inside the Festival Market, visit an exhibition at Morecambe Heritage Centre or take a tour of the Winter Gardens (Sundays / seasonal opening - please see www.morecambewintergardens.co.uk for details), before heading to the Art Deco Midland Hotel for a luxurious Cream Tea - a treat not to be missed!

EVENING

Enjoy the entertainment arranged within your hotel in Morecambe or take in a show at The Platform, Morecambe's music and entertainment venue.

Discover delicious Italian food and try your hand at a game of two of bowling at Soul Bowl.

These itineraries are only suggestions. Call **Morecambe Visitor Information Centre (01524) 582808** for more assistance in planning your ideal visit. Details correct at time of print.



EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER FOR GROUPS

Experience a Cross Bay Walk with the Queen's Official Guide. (May to Sept)

Enjoy Brass Bands concerts in Happy Mount Park (Sundays May - Sept)

Step back in time in Heysham with the epic Viking Festival (July)

Join in the fun at Morecambe Carnival (August)

Experience Wayne Hemingway's Vintage by the Sea - a spectacular weekend! (Sept)





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