

PORT ST MARY

Port St Mary is one of several working fishing ports on the Island. Take time to understand the maritime history that has shaped the town or venture out on the water to explore the towering cliff faces and wealth of marine wildlife.



As a sheltered bay, Chapel Beach is the perfect location for sun-bathing, snorkelling and sea-swimming, complete with a swimmers raft during the summer months.

BIRD-WATCHING: Oystercatcher, Eider Duck, Grey Heron, Shelduck, Shag, Redshank



Image credit: Neil G. Morris, Manx BirdLife

ON LAND

Raad ny Foillan: Follow the coastal route east passing Scarlett and Langness peninsula, or travel west along the cliff tops towards the Chasms where you'll find large fissures in the rock before descending to the Calf of Man.

A memorial garden here commemorating those lost from the town during the World Wars is set on Bay View Road and overlooks the sea.



ON THE WATER

The lifeboat slip, at the far end of the town, provides easy access to the harbour from where you can explore Carrick Bay by kayak or paddleboard. You can also access the bay at Gansey, which is renowned for its windsurfing and surfing opportunities.

UNDER THE WATER

Grading: Red - Difficult The 30-40 minute snorkel safari commences from the gully near the car park on the eastern side of the Point and exits at Chapel Beach. There are many gullies and overhangs to explore swim carefully around a section of protected eelgrass and further around the rockline you will find the remains of a concrete hulled yacht called the 'Made of Crete'.



Depending on the state of the tide and time of year, you may see Beadlet and Snakelocks anemones, Limpets, Wrasse, Shoals of Sand Eels, Lions Mane Jellyfish, Shore and Edible Crabs and Lobster.

Remember: Always inform someone of where you are going and what time you intend to return. Always check tide time before venturing out on the water as some areas of the coastline can be cut off by the tide.



Respect the rights of all users & leave no trace.
Please don't stand on the species that live on the rocks or kick the seabed.
Please refer to the Coastal Code & Angling Guide

For information on guided trips, experiences or equipment hire you can book on the Port St. Mary Blueway see www.visitisleofman.com



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ON LAND



Follow the Port St Mary Heritage Trail around the harbour and Kallow Point, and learn fascinating facts and stories about the town's history. The trail will take around 45 minutes.

The outer harbour offers some excellent pier fishing from the breakwater where you may catch pollack, wrasse, grey mullet, mackerel and coalfish. The Ledges or rocks at Perwick Bay may yield the odd tope. Note minimum landing sizes apply.



Wartime History: On Kallow Point, there is a memorial to the Dunkirk evacuation and all those lost during Operation Dynamo in May 1940. It is commemorated with the anchor of Mona's Queen III which was retrieved from the shores of Dunkirk and was one of three ships that the Island lost in the space of 24 hours.

WILDLIFE

Dolphins and porpoises are frequently spotted in the vicinity of the harbour and Perwick Bay.

Did you know: The Great Auk was a large puffin-like bird that is believed to have lived here along the coast in the 1800s before becoming extinct. Bones of these famous birds were found in a cave near The Ledges and you can find out more about their story at the Manx Museum.



Wildlife Safety: Be aware of seasonal restrictions such as bird nesting between April and July each year and seal pupping between September and December. Always keep 50m away from seals and DO NOT approach seal pups.

ON THE WATER



Various boats and small catamarans set off from the harbour and provide trips for fishing, wildlife spotting and coastal cruises.

Boating or kayaking around Kallow Point and Perwick Bay provide stunning views of the cliff faces and plenty of opportunity to spot the local wildlife first-hand before continuing down the southern coast to the Calf of Man.



GEOLOGY: Explore The Ledges which are formed from the mud at the bottom of a 340 million year old sub-tropical sea. Here you can walk the rows of prehistoric limestone rock that extends out into the sea and discover fossils of corals and feather stars which show as white patterns on the exposed rocks. The white outline depicts the Port St Mary Ledges Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI).

KALLOW POINT

THE LEDGES

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CELEBRATING OUR ISLAND
a special place to live & work

