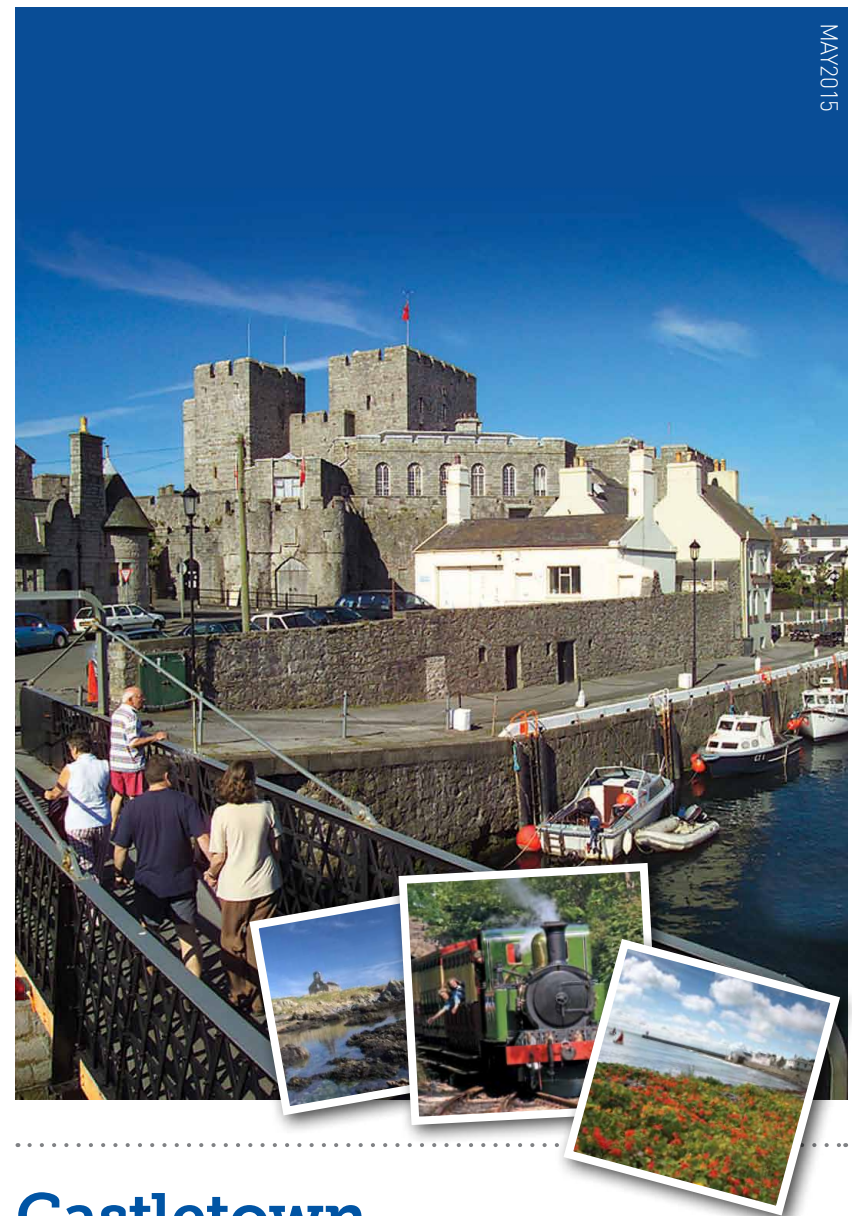




## Did you know?

- The Isle of Man measures 33 miles long and 13 miles wide.
- The Island has its own language, Manx Gaelic. Ellan Vannin is Manx for Isle of Man.
- The Isle of Man has the oldest continuous parliament in the world, called Tynwald.
- Snafell is the Island's highest peak at 2036 feet and provides breathtaking views.
- The Island's coastline is around 100 miles in length including 26 beaches to explore.
- Home of the world famous TT Races, held on the 37 ¾ mile TT Mountain Course.



## Castletown

### Things to see & do



[www.visitisleofman.com](http://www.visitisleofman.com)



# Welcome to Castletown

No visit to the Isle of Man is complete without a trip to the ancient Capital of the Isle of Man, Castletown home to Castle Rushen. Castletown has many heritage attractions and traditional cobbled streets overlooking a tidal harbour where numerous boats are moored.

Take some time to explore Castletown and the surrounding area which is also well worth a visit. We wish you an enjoyable stay on the Isle of Man and we hope that you come again soon.

## Shops, Cafés and Pubs

In the picturesque town of Castletown you will find traditional cobbled streets home to small independent shops, a post office and ATM's, as well as cafés, restaurants and public houses. Pick up your free Taste Directory for a summary of eateries which have all been independently assessed as part of the Taste Isle of Man quality assurance scheme to help you make an informed choice about where to eat and drink during your visit.



# Things to see & do

If you have a short time to spend during your visit these attractions are all within the town:

## 1. Castle Rushen



*Approx 15 mins walk from Castletown Station. Allow approx 1 ½ hours to visit.* One of the best preserved medieval castles in Europe can be found in the heart of the town. Today, archaeologists are still uncovering stories from the castles ancient walls, which bear evidence of many sieges. Inside, fine rooms, spiral staircases and wall walks all tell the tale of Castle Rushen as a royal residence, mint and prison.

## 2. Old House of Keys



*Approx 15 mins walk from Castletown Station. Allow approx 45 mins to visit.* Take your seat in the former home of the Manx Parliament and enjoy an active debate in the finely restored debate chamber. Sessions take place at 11am and 2.45pm and tickets can be purchased beforehand from the Old Grammar School.

## 3. Old Grammar School



*Approx 10 mins walk from Castletown Station. Allow approx 30 mins to visit.* Built around 1200AD the Old Grammar School was the first church for the settlement that grew up around Castle Rushen and latterly a school for boys. The Old Grammar School offers a fascinating insight into the Islands educational history.

## 4. The Nautical Museum



*Approx 15 mins walk from Castletown Station. Allow approx 1 hour to visit.* For more than 200 years the Nautical Museum was home to the 'Peggy' the earliest example of a British Yacht. The Peggy is currently undergoing long term conservation work at a specialist facility. Explore the new 'Quayle Gallery' to learn about the Peggy's eccentric owner George Quayle who in his time was a businessman, banker, soldier and alleged smuggler.

If you have a little more time to spend during your visit these attractions are all close by and well worth a visit:

## 5. Scarlett Visitor Centre



*Approx 25 mins walk from Castletown Station. Allow approx 30 minutes to visit, longer to also explore the local area.* Outstanding coastal scenery and spectacular rock formations make this an interesting place to visit. You'll find maps, diagrams and displays at the visitor centre including information about the complex geology, fossil remains and wildlife you may spot during your visit. Open Tuesday to Sunday 2pm-5pm from May through to early September.

## 6. Manx Aviation and Military Museum



*Approx 20 mins walk from Castletown Station. Allow approx 1 hour to visit.* This excellent volunteer-run museum is packed with memorabilia from local military and aviation history, with something of interest for everybody. The Island played a surprising role in both World Wars and exhibitions cover the four airfields and some of the many wartime flying accidents which happened here.

## 7. The Original Manx Fudge Factory



*Approx 15 mins walk from Ballasalla Station. Allow approx 1 ½ hours to visit.* Pay a visit to the Original Manx Fudge Factory where you'll learn how traditional fudge, toffee and chocolate is produced using local ingredients. Open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

## 8. Rushen Abbey



*Approx 10 mins walk from Ballasalla Station. Allow approx 1 hour to visit.* In nearby Ballasalla is one of the most important medieval religious sites in the Isle of Man. Originally gifted by King Olaf I for use as a monastery in 1134. Today the remains of the Abbey sit in the peace of the Abbey Gardens and the Interpretation Centre tells its story from 1134 to the present day. There is the opportunity to visit The Abbey restaurant on site for lunch or dinner.

## 9. Silverdale



*Approx 10 mins walk from Ballasalla Station. Allow approx 2 hours to visit.* Surrounded by acres of beautiful woodland, Silverdale is an idyllic spot with the crowning feature being a water-powered Victorian merry-go-round which is believed to be the oldest of its kind. The craftworks studio is a great place to get creative with ceramics and paints and is located within close proximity to the Ice Cream parlour and restaurant. It's also worth while taking a walk through Silverdale Glen to Rushen Abbey to make a wish at the Monks Well.

## Visitor Information

Visitor information can be found at the Castletown Civic Centre on Farrants Way. Open from Monday to Saturday all year. Telephone: +44 (0)1624 825005.

## Further Information

For more information and to start planning a future visit to the Isle of Man go to [www.visitisleofman.com](http://www.visitisleofman.com) or contact the Isle of Man Welcome Centre, telephone: +44 (0)1624 686766 or email: [tourism@gov.im](mailto:tourism@gov.im)