

GREAT BRITAIN- ISLE OF WIGHT

**Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++44**

Visit Isle of Wight: Isle of Wight Tourism, Westridge Centre, Brading Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 1QS. Tel. +44 (0) 1983 813800, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 823031, website: www.islandbreaks.co.uk

Capital: Newport, Isle of Wight

Background: -Around 1900 BC the Beaker people arrived – so called from their distinctive pottery. They called the Island *Wiht* (weight) meaning raised or what rises over the sea. Then the Romans arrived in 43 AD and translated *Wiht* into the name *Vectis* from the Latin *veho* meaning lifting. At the outset of the Civil War in 1642, the Parliament assumed control of the Island and retained their control throughout the conflict. In spite of this, King Charles I went to the Island on escaping from imprisonment at Hampton Court in November 1647. As a prisoner at Carisbrooke Castle, the King made several unsuccessful attempts to escape before being transferred to Newport in September 1648, where abortive negotiations with parliament (known as the Treaty of Newport) took place. In November, the King was seized by the Army and taken to the Hurst Castle and then to his trial and execution in London. In the 19th century the Island was transformed by the coming of the railways. Queen Victoria took advantage of the island's new accessibility by using Osborne as her retreat. Affairs of the state soon followed her and the modesty furnished family home had to be enhanced with apartments where she could receive foreign heads of state. However, her children enjoyed many hours and a great deal of freedom at Osborne as a visit to Swiss Cottage will indicate. Queen Victoria's affection for Osborne added to the Island's attractions of climate and scenery, and Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin & Ventnor expanded from fishing villages to fashionable resorts.

Location: Isle of Wight is an English Island and county in the English Channel three miles from the south coast of England. It is situated south of the county of Hampshire and is separated from mainland England by the Solent.

Map References: United Kingdom

Area: 380 sq.km (147csq.mi)

Population: 2006 est. 140,000

Nationality: English, Hampshire dialect

Ethnic Groups: 98.7% white

Religions: Anglican, Roman Catholic, Non-Conformist

Languages: English

Currency: 1 British pound = 100 pence

Ports and Harbors: Cowes Harbour, Yarmouth Harbour, Ryde Harbour

Airports: Sandown Airport, Bembridge Airport

Visa: required by all except the following nationals of: EU countries, Australian, Canadian, USA and Japanese.

Duty Free: see Duty Free in GB section.

Health: see Health in GB section

HOTELS / MOTELS / INNS

BEMBRIDGE

BEMBRIDGE COAST HOTEL, Fishermans Walk, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5TH, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 873931, warnerweb@warnerleisurehotels.co.uk, <http://www.isleofwight.com/bembridgecoast>

THE WINDMILL INN, 1 Steyne Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5UH, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 872875, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 874760, E-mail: enquiries@windmill-inn.com, website: www.windmill-inn.com

COWES

ALBERT COTTAGE HOTEL, York Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6BD, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 299309

DUKE OF YORK HOTEL, Mill Hill Road, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7BT, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 295171, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 295047

NEW HOLMWOOD HOTEL, Queens Road, Egypt Point, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8BW, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 292508, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 295020, website: www.newholmwoodhotel.co.uk, reception@newholmwoodhotel.co.uk

NEWPORT

CASTLE LODGE, 54 Castle Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 527862, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 559030, website: www.castlelodgeiow.co.uk, castlelodge@hotmail.co.uk

MEDINA QUAY TRAVEL INN, Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EL, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 825082

NEWPORT QUAY HOTEL, 41 Quay Street, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5BA, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 528544, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 527143, website: www.newportquayhotel.co.uk, bookings@newportquayhotel.co.uk

WHEATSHEAF HOTEL, St. Thomas Square, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1SG, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 523865

RYDE

APPLEY MANOR HOTEL, Appley Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 1PH, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 564777, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 564704, website: www.appley-manoor.co.uk, info@appley-manoor.co.uk

LAKE SIDE PARK HOTEL, High Street, Wootton Bridge, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 4LJ, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 882266, website: www.lakesideparkhotel.com, info@lakesideparkhotel.com

RYDE CASTLE HOTEL, Esplanade, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 1JA, Tel. +44(0) 1983 563755, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 566906, www.rydecastle.com, 6506@greeneking.co.uk

RYELF'S HOTEL, Union Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2LG, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 564062

SANDOWN

CORNER HOUSE HOTEL, 1-5 Fitroy Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8HY, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 403176, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 403176, www.cornerhousehotel.co.uk, info@cornerhousehotel.co.uk

MARINA BAY HOTEL, 17 Culver Parade, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8AT, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 403677, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 403295, website: www.marinabayhotel.co.uk, info@thamarinabayhotel.com

MELVILLE HALL HOTEL, Melville Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 9DH, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 400500 / 406526, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 407093, website: www.melvillehall.co.uk

OCEAN HOTEL, Esplanade, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8AB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 402351, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 406699, website: www.ocean-hotel.co.uk, enquiries@ocean-hotel.co.uk

PARKBURY HOTEL, 29-31 The Broadway, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 9BB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 402508, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 404471, website: www.grandukhotels.com

TROUVILLE HOTEL, Esplanade, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8LB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 402141, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 403143, website: www.trouvillehall.co.uk, info@trouvillehotel.co.uk

SEAVIEW

PRIORY BAY HOTEL, Priory Drive, Seaview, Isle of Wight, PO34 5BU, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 613146, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 616539, E-mail: enquiries@priorybay.co.uk, website: www.priorybay.com

THE SEAVIEW HOTEL, The Seaview, High Street, Seaview, Isle of Wight, PO34 5EX, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 612711, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 613729, website: www.seaviewhotel.co.uk, reception@seaviewhotel.co.uk

THE SPRINGVALE HOTEL, Springvale, Seaview, Isle of Wight, PO34 5AN, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 612533, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 812905, E-mail: recveption@springvale-hotel.co.uk, website: www.springvale-hotel.co.uk

SHANKLIN

AUCKLAND HOTEL, 10 Queens Road, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO37 6AN, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 862960

BOURNE HALL COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL, Luccombe Road, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO37 6RR, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 862820, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 865138

OCEAN VIEW HOTEL, 1-5 Park Road, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO37 6BB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 863262 / 861111, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 867139

ORCHARDCROFT HOTEL, Victoria Avenue, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO37 6LT, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 862133, website: www.orchardcroft.co.uk, admin@orchardcroft.co.uk

VENTNOR

BURLINGTON HOTEL, Bellevue Road, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1DB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 852113, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 857426, website: www.burlingtonhotel.uk.com, info@burlingtonhotel.uk.com

EVERSLEY HOTEL, Park Avenue, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1LB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 852244, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 856534, website: www.eversleyhotel.uk.com, eversleyhotel@yahoo.co.uk



THE WELLINGTON HOTEL, Belgrave Road, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1JH, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 856600, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 856611, E-mail: enquiries@thewellingtonhotel.net, website: www.thewellingtonhotel.net

VENTNOR TOWERS HOTEL, 54 Madeira Road, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1QT, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 852277, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 855536, website: www.bw-ventnortowershotel.co.uk

AIRLINES/HELICOPTERS/AIRPORTS

BEMBRIDGE AIRPORT, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5PR, Tel. +44 (0) 8708 815062, Fax. +44 (0) 8708 815063, website: www.eghi.com

BRITISH AIRWAYS, Waterside PO Box 365 Harmondsworth, UB7 0GB Tel: 0044 208 875 95 51 (Local 08457 79 99 77) Fax: 0044 208 562 99 30 Web site: www.britishairways.com

ISLE OF WIGHT AIRPORT LTD, Scotchells Brock Lane, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 0JP, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 405125, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 406117, E-mail: office@isleofwightairport.co.uk, website: www.isleofwightairport.co.uk

CRUISE & SHIPPING LINES

HOVER TRAVEL, Quay Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2HB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 811000, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 562216, website: www.hovertravel.co.uk

RED FUNNEL FERRIES, Tel. +44 (0) 8448 449988, website: www.redfunnel.co.uk

WIGHTLINK FERRIES, Tel. +44 (0) 2392 855230, Fax. +44 (0) 2392 855257, E-mail: info@wightlink.co.uk, website: www.wightlink.co.uk

ENTERTAINMENTS

COWES

JP MORGAN FLEMING ROUND THE ISLAND YACHT RACE, The Parade, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7QJ, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 296621, website: www.roundtheisland.org.uk

LITTE BRITAIN CHALLENGE CUP REGATTA, The Parade, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7QJ, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 813818, website: www.littlebritain.co.uk

RORC COMMODORES CUP, 82 High Street, Cowes, Isle of Wight, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 295144, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 292242, website: www.rorc.org

NEWPORT

ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL, Seaclose Park, Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EW, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 813813, website: www.isleofwightfestival.com

SANDOWN

WHITE AIR (EXTREME SPORTS FESTIVAL), Yaverland Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8QB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 760553, website: www.whiteair.co.uk

YARMOUTH

YARMOUTH OLD GAFFERS FESTIVAL, The Quay, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, PO41 0NT, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 761704, website: www.yarmoutholdgaffersfestival.co.uk

HISTORICAL SITES

COWES

OSBORNE HOUSE, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6JX, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 200022 / 813818

NEWPORT

CARISBROOKE CASTLE, Castle Hill, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1XY, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 522107 / 813813.

SHANKLIN

SHANKLINE CHINE, Esplanade, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO37 6BW, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 866432, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 866145, website: www.shanklinechine.co.uk

YARMOUTH

YARMOUTH CASTLE, Quay Street, Yarmouth, PO41 0PB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 760678

MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

COWES

COWES MARITIME MUSEUM, Beckford Road, Cowes, PO31 7SG, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 293341, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 823841, E-mail: museums@iow.gov.uk

NEWPORT

CLASSIC BOAT MUSEUM, Newport Harbour, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EF, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 533493, website: www.classicboatmuseum.org

DINOSAUR FARM MUSEUM, Newport, Isle of Wight, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 740844, E-mail: dinosaurfarm@btopenworld.com

THE ISLE OF WIGHT BUS & COACH MUSEUM, Newport Quay, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EF, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 533352, website: www.iowbusmuseum.org.uk

THE ISLE OF WIGHT SHIPWRECK CENTRE, Arretton Barns Craft Village, Arretton, Isle of Wight, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 533079 / 539360, E-mail: museum@iowight.com

SANDOWN

LILIPUT ANTIQUE DOLL & TOY MUSEUM, Sandown, Isle of Wight, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 407231, E-mail: liliput.museum@btconnect.com

BRADING THE EXPERIENCE, High Street, Brading, Sandown, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 407286, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 402112, website: www.bradingtheexperience.co.uk

VENTNOR

WIGHT LIGHT GALLERY, 1A High Street, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1RY, Tel. +44 (0) 856327, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 856327, website: www.wightlightgallery.co.uk

SHOPPING CENTRES & MALLS

RYDE

FIRE ART, 64 George Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2AJ, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 614455, website: www.firedartceramics.co.uk

VENTNOR

BONCHURCH POTTERY, Shore Road, Bonchurch, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1NR, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 854445, website: www.bonchurchpottery.co.uk

ISLE OF WIGHT STUDIO GLASS, Old Park, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1XR, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 853526, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 854054, website: www.isleofwightstudioglass.co.uk

NATIONAL PARKS & ZOOS

ALUM BAY

THE NEEDLES PARK, Alum Bay, Isle of Wight, PO39 0JD, Tel. +44 (0) 8704 580022, website: www.theneedles.co.uk

RYDE

BUTTERFLY & FOUNTAIN WORLD, Staplers Road, Wootton, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 4RW, Tel/Fax. +44 (0) 1983 883430, E-mail: info@butterfly-world-iow.co.uk, website: www.butterfly-world-iow.co.uk

SANDOWN

ISLE OF WIGHT ZOO, Yaverland Seafront, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8QB, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 403883, website: www.isleofwightzoo.com

SEAVIEW

SEAVIEW WILDLIFE ENCOUNTER, Seaview, Isle of Wight, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 612261, website: www.flamingoparkiw.com

VENTNOR

VENTNOR LBOTANIC GARDEN, Undercliff Drive, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1UL, Tel. +44 (0) 1983 855397, Fax. +44 (0) 1983 856154, website: www.botanic.co.uk

