

The ISLANDS of GUERNSEY

FROM STARGAZING TO RARE HEDGEHOGS AND WWII BUNKERS, HERE IS WHY BRITS SHOULD VISIT THE ISLANDS OF GUERNSEY



London, August 2025 – Located in the Channel Islands, just an hour away from mainland UK, the Islands of Guernsey are a collection of small, picturesque islands. Whilst they all offer stunning scenery, delicious cuisine and comfortable accommodation, each island also presents its own distinctive experiences including “Caribbean-like” beaches, WWII tours, stargazing opportunities and even rare wildlife spotting, meaning there is an island for all travellers no matter their interests.

See below for a reason to visit four of the Islands of Guernsey.

BEST FOR HISTORY: Guernsey

Being the largest of the islands, Guernsey offers a rich historical journey stretching from ancient stone age sites to the moving remnants of the German Occupation during WWII. Travellers can explore the 800-year-old [Castle Cornet](#) that stands at the mouth of St Peter Port harbour. The castle was built to guard the Channel Islands against French forces in the early 1200s century and was further modified by the Nazi's during their occupation of the Channel Islands in WWII. Art lovers can enjoy the [Renoir Walk](#) – a short, self-guided trail that takes visitors to the locations painted by the impressionist during a summer holiday in 1883 – and WWII enthusiasts can visit the [German Underground Hospital](#) and Ammunition Store, which is the largest structural reminder of the island's German Occupation. The maze of tunnels covers an area of about 6,950 square metres and is almost invisible from the surface.

Stay at The Old Government House Hotel, where rooms start at £281 per night for a Classic Double room based on two guests staying. www.theoghotel.com

Brittany Ferries operates from Poole and Portsmouth to Guernsey year-round, priced from £40 per person. www.brittany-ferries.co.uk. Aurigny operates year-round direct flights to Guernsey from London, Southampton, and other regional airports, priced from £49.99. www.aurigny.com

To book a WWII guided tour, visit www.toursofguernsey.com

BEST FOR UNSPOILT BEACHES: Herm

Overflowing with breathtaking scenery and nature, including Europe's southernmost puffin sanctuary, Herm has no cars and a population of approximately 60 residents. Situated in a corner of the island is Shell Beach, a little-known gem providing travellers with a taste of the Caribbean just hours away from the UK. With its fine white sand and vibrant blue sea, Shell Beach takes its name from the millions of tiny shells washed up by the Gulf Stream. The beach is a great spot for kayaking or paddle-boarding, while the well-stocked beach café nearby offers ice creams and all the essentials for a day in the sun. At low tide, rock pools and boulder strewn islets are revealed to delight explorers of all ages.

Stay at The White House Hotel, where rooms start at £160 per night for a Standard Garden View Cottage Room, based on two people sharing. www.herm.com/stay/white-house-hotel

Travel Trident offers daily ferry services to Herm from Guernsey. Same day returns are available from £14 for adults, £5 for children and £1 for infants. www.traveltrident.com

For more information on Shell Beach, visit <https://www.visitguernsey.com/see-and-do/things-to-do/shell-beach/>

BEST FOR STARGAZING: Sark

Nestled next to Guernsey, the tiny and remote island of Sark is car-free, meaning all transport is done on foot, bicycle or via horse and carriage. With no streetlights to pollute the skies, Sark was declared the World's First Dark Sky Island in 2011, providing unmatched opportunities for stargazing (some visitors have claimed never to have seen brighter stars or darker skies). From Sark's Observatory, built in 2015 and located at the centre of the island, planets and many constellations can be seen from its 10-inch Meade telescope. Travellers can stay at country bolt-hole Stocks Hotel, from where they can venture out to the Observatory or spend their evenings gazing up at the heavens.

Stay at Stocks Hotel, where rooms start at £157 per night for a standard double, based on two people sharing. www.stockshotel.com

Sark Shipping offers several daily services between Guernsey and Sark. Adult tickets from £28 for off-peak return travel. www.sarkshipping.gg

For more information on Sark as a Dark Sky Island, visit www.darkskyisland.co.uk.

BEST FOR WILDLIFE: Alderney

Alderney is a sanctuary for nature lovers – although small in size the island boasts a biodiverse landscape of wildlife and habitats. Guests should keep an eye out for dolphins and seals in the ocean, the beautiful Glanville Fritillary butterfly and even the Alderney Blonde Hedgehog – a rare form of European Hedgehog that can be found foraging around the island after sunset in spring and autumn. Puffins are also one of Alderney's most iconic residents and can be spotted on the nearby island of Burhou from March to August whilst they raise their chicks. Boat tours are available to view the puffins, in line with wildlife codes of conduct.

Stay at The Blonde Hedgehog Hotel, where Standard Double Loft rooms start from £170 per night. www.blondehedgehog.com

Alderney Ferry Services offer multiple daily services between Guernsey and Alderney from £60 per person. www.alderneyferry.com

To retrieve a copy of Alderney's three-day wildlife guide, visit www.visitalderney.com/our-island/nature

For more information on visiting the Islands of Guernsey, please visit www.visitguernsey.com.

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How to get there

With flight times from the UK as little as 40 minutes and ferry sailings from three hours, visitors can opt to take the ferry over the Channel from Poole or Portsmouth or fly directly from the UK with Aurigny. Aurigny operates year-round direct flights to Guernsey from London, Southampton, and other regional airports. www.aurigny.com. Blue Islands offers multiple flights to Guernsey per day from Jersey and Southampton, plus daily flights from Newcastle and Edinburgh via Southampton. www.blueislands.com

Brittany Ferries operates fast and traditional ferries from Poole and Portsmouth to Guernsey year-round. Ferries depart from Guernsey's St Peter Port to Sark, Alderney, and Herm at multiple times throughout the day during the summer. <https://www.brittany-ferries.co.uk/>