

## WAYS TO GO WALKABOUT ON THE ISLANDS OF GUERNSEY THIS AUTUMN

*13 new Walking Festival tours and a new art-themed route celebrating J.M.W. Turner make autumn 2024 the perfect time to enjoy an outdoor adventure on the Islands of Guernsey*



Imagery available [here](#)

**London, August 2024** – 13 new tours, including a wheelchair-accessible tour of a historic fort, have been added to this year's [Autumn Walking Festival](#), a hotly-anticipated annual event on the [Islands of Guernsey](#). Guernsey and its sister islands of Herm, Sark, Alderney and Lihou are home to a wide variety of terrain, from sandy golden beaches to rocky cliffs and lush meadows, perfect for experienced and novice walkers alike. Throughout the festival, visitors and residents can discover the Islands' unique landscapes, culture and history with tours led by local guides. The new itineraries, which also include a tour of a World War II German battery and a seaweed foraging walk, are just one more way to discover the Islands of Guernsey on foot this autumn.

### Discover Guernsey's secrets with a local guide

For many Guernsey locals, spending time in the great outdoors is a way of life, and little wonder; the Islands are home to some of Britain's most dramatic landscapes. The Autumn Walking Festival, sister event to the Spring Walking Festival, is a staple of the Guernsey calendar, this year taking place between 14 and 29 September. During the festival, locals and visitors can join experienced, professional guides from across the Bailiwick to embark on cultural, natural and historical explorations of the Islands. Each tour is themed, with evergreen highlights including [Walking in the Footsteps of Renoir and Victor Hugo](#), and [Hidden Gems of Guernsey](#), and with prices ranging from £8 to £25 per tour.

This year, 13 new tours have joined the mix, delving even deeper into the Islands' past and present. 2024 marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings, a particularly poignant moment for the Islands of Guernsey, which were occupied by the Germans in World War II. Those wanting to discover Guernsey's wartime past can do so with a new historical walking [tour](#) of the German Underground Hospital or the equally fascinating [Fort George: Military Cemetery and Target of Allied Air Raids](#).

Walkers looking for a moment of peace and connection with nature should not miss the new seaweed foraging [tour](#) on Guernsey's western coast or a [tour](#) around the picturesque and tranquil St Saviour's Reservoir. A [new accessible tour](#) will open Fort George's extraordinary war history to wheelchair users, and the festival is set to end with the dramatically titled [Incarceration, Fortification and Escapes](#), which tells the real-life stories of escapes from Guernsey during the occupation period.

### Walk in the footsteps of J.M.W. Turner

Also new for 2024 is a trail and exhibition exploring the influence of the Islands on J.M.W. Turner, some of whose sketches were revealed to have been produced during the artist's visit to the Islands. Following the success of 2023's campaign celebrating *Renoir in Guernsey, 1883*, art-lovers can now discover Turner's landscapes in a new walking trail by Art for Guernsey.

Entitled [Finding Turner](#), the interactive experience opened on 20 April 2024 and is set to be accompanied by an exhibition on Turner's visit to Guernsey in 1832. Walkers can discover the landscape that inspired Turner at several installations and frames across the Islands, giving them a powerful insight into the permanence of Guernsey's landscape. In addition to the walking routes, local artist James Colmer was commissioned to create a series of works in response to the Romantic artist's sketches, forming an initial exhibition and enhancing the trail. In 2024, three international artists are also set to visit the Islands to respond to the scenes where Turner sketched, with their works to be featured in a 2025 exhibition.

The Turner Trail is now available to explore on the VisitGuernsey app, which was launched in 2023 and which provides a number of self-guided walks around the Islands. Also joining the app for 2024 are five new historical routes commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings and the Islands' role in World War II, alongside the Renoir Walk – a self-guided trail around the coastal spots that inspired the renowned Impressionist artist.

### **Where to stay**

The Islands of Guernsey offer a variety of accommodation options to suit all travellers, from a high-end five-star hotel (The Old Government House Hotel) to family-run B&Bs and coastal glamping sites. Of particular note is the [Peninsula Hotel](#), a beloved Guernsey institution which was recently renovated into a chic coastal bolt hole inspired by the hotel's location on Grand Havre Bay. With classy nautical decor, a cosy restaurant serving local produce and friendly, family-run service, the Peninsula is the perfect place to restore and refuel after a busy day exploring the Islands' highlights.

*Rooms at Peninsula Hotel in September start at £215, based on two people sharing a Standard Double and including breakfast. [peninsula.gg](http://peninsula.gg), 01481 248400*

Hotel imagery available [here](#).

### **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 airlines. [Aurigny](#) operate year-round direct flights to Guernsey from London, East Midlands, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter, Southampton and Dublin. New flight routes to Guernsey from London Stansted, London City and Liverpool launched in March and April 2024, with new routes from Edinburgh and Cornwall Newquay having launched in May and July respectively. [www.aurigny.com](http://www.aurigny.com)

[Condor Ferries](#) operate 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. Return pedestrian fares start at £90 per person. [www.condorferries.co.uk](http://www.condorferries.co.uk)

For more information on the Islands of Guernsey, visit [here](#).

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