

## THE COAST WITH THE MOST: A SUN-AND SEA-DRENCHED SUMMER ON THE IDYLIC ISLANDS OF GUERNSEY

*With wild stretches of coastline and sandy golden beaches to rival the Caribbean, the Islands of Guernsey are the perfect break for travellers looking to holiday a little closer to home this summer*



Imagery available [here](#)

**London, June 2024** – [The Islands of Guernsey](#) – comprising Guernsey, Herm, Sark, Alderney and Lihou – are just a stone's throw away from the UK but feel a world away during the summer months. With soft, sandy beaches, crystal clear waters and warmer temperatures than mainland Britain, travellers to Guernsey truly can enjoy a slice of laid-back island lifestyle. A 2024 report on Guernsey's bathing waters has confirmed that water quality is improving year-on-year and is of a high-quality standard, making it the perfect escape for wild swimmers looking for clean and clear waters this summer. With a number of new openings for 2024, established flight routes from major UK airports and an expanded 2024 summer ferry schedule with [Condor Ferries](#), guests should make 2024 the year they find their island feeling on Guernsey.

### Guernsey

The largest island of the archipelago, Guernsey is home to some of its most striking coastline, inspiration for J.M.W. Turner and Pierre-Auguste Renoir. From [surfing at Vazon Bay](#) to digging into fresh seafood at Fermain Bay, each coastal spot has its own secrets. Discover the island's mystical past with Guernsey RIB Voyages' [Legends of the Coast](#) tour, which takes guests on an adrenaline-racing journey to discover harbours, castles, pirates and smugglers! Art-lovers can expect to be inspired by the new [Finding Turner trail](#), a journey through the coastal locations that the Romantic artist visited in 1832, or opt to immerse themselves in Renoir's landscapes with the [Renoir Walk](#). Back for summer 2024 are the ever popular [Picnics at Pleinmont](#), where guests can enjoy a delicious bespoke hamper from Guernsey Hampers whilst strolling around Pleinmont Headland, the site of Victor Hugo's home during his exile in Guernsey.

The [VisitGuernsey app](#) has received an exciting new update for 2024, with [five new historical walking, cycling and driving routes](#) announced to coincide with the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day Landings. Walkers can stroll the coastline at their own pace whilst discovering Guernsey's fascinating wartime past. Water babies will feel at home in Guernsey, where wild swimming is a way of life – a late-2023 [update to the VisitGuernsey app](#) provides swimmers with detailed insights on the best swimming spots to visit and on the conditions they can expect.

Visitors can relax in the evening after a busy day's coastal exploring at [Peninsula Hotel](#), a Guernsey classic which has been refurbished for 2024 into a chic coastal bolthole with muted nautical decor and a welcoming ambience. Opened in 2023, the shepherd huts at [Beaucette Marina](#) are an alternative way to stay: uniquely positioned with vistas of the marina and harbour, each luxury hut is furnished with its own private hot tub from which to enjoy the Guernsey sunsets over the sea.

## **Herm**

The tiny, car-free island of Herm is truly an island paradise, with only 60 permanent residents, one hotel, one pub, and all this only accessible by [ferry](#). At only one and a half miles long and half a mile wide, the coastline of Herm can be explored on foot in only a couple of hours. With its fine white sand and vibrant blue sea, the Caribbean-like Shell Beach takes its name from the millions of tiny shells washed up by the Gulf Stream. In summer 2024, Shell Beach Cafe will host [Seafood Feast Weekends](#) on selected weekends throughout the summer, showcasing the island's freshly caught crab and lobster amidst an idyllic coastal location. This year, Herm will also play host for the first time to a long-running island music festival: usually held on Sark, the inaugural [HermFest](#) will take place at the Mermaid Tavern – an unmissable experience for music-lovers looking for an alternative festival in 2024.

## **Sark**

The similarly tiny island of Sark is home to such low light pollution that it became the world's first Dark Sky Island in 2011. Visitors to Sark in 2024 can enjoy its quirky customs, such as the annual [Sark Sheep Race](#) in July, which brings locals and visitors together for food and fun. Sark's coastline is best explored during the summer with [Adventure Sark](#), kayaking across crystalline waters or discovering hidden caves and gulleys on a coasteering experience.

## **Alderney**

Summer visitors to Alderney can take a dip in the sea at Braye and Corblets before drying off with a steamy sauna session at [Adrift](#) – a brand-new coastal sauna for 2024. [Alderney Week](#), the Channel Islands' largest festival – is an annual carnival taking place this year between 5 – 10 August. From a 'daft raft race', torchlit procession and colour party to underground parties taking place in a World War II quarry, all are welcome to join in the fun at Alderney Week!

For more information on the Islands of Guernsey, visit [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](#) or [Blue Islands](#). Aurigny operate year-round direct flights to Guernsey from London Gatwick, East Midlands, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter, Southampton and Dublin. New Aurigny flight routes to Guernsey from London Stansted and London City launched in March and April 2024, a new route from Edinburgh launched in May, and a new route from Cornwall Newquay is set to launch in July.

[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.

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