

## Suffolk - something for everyone



Suffolk is a magnificent county packed to the brim with stunning countryside, 45 miles of glorious coastline, plus a perfect blend of both quaint and contemporary Villages & Towns, as well as a fantastic range of boutique shops, restaurants, cafes, pubs, inns, hotels, B&Bs, culture, attractions and much, much more.

The weather here is generally better than the rest of the UK, with sunny Suffolk being one of the driest counties in the UK. There is an abundance of things to do when you move to Suffolk. Whatever your interests and budget, you will not be disappointed by the choice of great days out and fun activities. Given our coastline, there are plenty of watersports on offer - sailing, wind surfing etc as well as just splashing about in the water. We also have a lot of land-based activities here, including walking, bird watching, cycling, golf etc, so something for everyone.

For lovers of wildlife and the great outdoors there are wonderful, informative nature reserves in Suffolk such as RSPB Suffolk. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has several popular sites, each offering a wide range of different scenery as well as a diversity of wildlife and birdwatching opportunities.



There is also the Walberswick National Nature Reserve, one of the most diverse sites in the UK with unique groupings of habitation. There are also plenty of opportunities to meet some of your favourite Animals in various zoos and wildlife centres and farms - check out The National Stud, Newmarket, Jimmys Farm, Ipswich, and Suffolk Owl Sanctuary, Stonham Aspal for some great family days out with your favourite species.

Children are not the only family members that Suffolk warmly welcomes - you can also take your four-legged friend along too! Dog Friendly Suffolk boasts plenty of pubs, accommodation and beaches that welcome both you and your hound.

There are always a great selection of events taking place to choose from, including Festivals featuring an eclectic mix of music, food, comedy and performing arts each year, Fetes and Fairs, with stalls, games, displays and more, courses, where you can expand your skills in just about anything, and finally tours to really get to know a particular area and its history.



Entertainment is highly varied, and Suffolk has a thriving arts and culture scene, which you can sample by visiting one of the theatres, cinemas, or by taking in a music concert.

Suffolk has a well established reputation as a source of inspiration for local artists. Gainsborough & Constable, two of Britain's greatest painters, were born and inspired by the landscapes and scenery, and Art Galleries host a variety of techniques and disciplines, and feature an array of Art Exhibitions.



Shopping addicts will not be disappointed by the vast range of shops, selling everything from antiques, local, fresh food and clothes, to homeware, jewellery and other unusual, hand-made items.

Food and drink in Suffolk includes many world class food and drink manufacturers, and some seriously well-established family firms that have produced top quality produce for generations. A great food-related day out can be had at the annual Aldeburgh Food and Drink Festival.

Other delights for foodies can be had by sampling Organic Food - especially from one of the organic Focus Shops located in both Halesworth and Southwold - or visiting one of the many Farm Shops and Farmers' Markets.

Whatever you decide to do when visiting Suffolk, it is bound to leave you feeling famished and in need of urgent refreshment! luckily, there are many pubs & inns offering great ales, fine wines, home-made food and children's menus.



In terms of transport links, Suffolk is very well catered for. The Port of [Felixstowe](#), the UK's largest container port, is based here and handles 40% of the UK's container trade, connected to 365 ports worldwide. Stansted is Europe's fastest growing airport and is located within less than 30 minutes from Suffolk, connecting the county to over 130 destinations in more than 30 countries.



Closer to home, Suffolk is connected to London via frequent high speed rail services via Ipswich and Cambridge, but also Stowmarket and Bury St Edmunds. The train takes only approx. 70 minutes and 50 minutes

respectively. Road transport is also good as the county is surrounded by major link roads – the M11 to the west, A14 to the north and A12 to the east. Perfect for day trips from Suffolk to London.

So many people love Suffolk so much that they decide to move to Suffolk!

Suffolk is a naturally beautiful county that is also rich in history which can be seen in the architecture everywhere. For a guide to attractions in Suffolk, from RSPB Birdwatching Nature reserves to historic houses and areas of outstanding natural beauty. For 'activities for all' please see the [Guide to Suffolk Activities](#) for lively days out with the children, please see [Days Out in Suffolk](#), and for less vigorous things to do please see ['Things to Do in Suffolk'](#)

## Suffolk Attractions

The **National Trust** has many outstanding properties in Suffolk such as Ickworth House (which is why King Edward VI School chose it for one of our colleges) near Bury St Edmunds, pictured below - There are so many we've had to list them separately, so for a full listing of all the National Trust properties please see the hyperlink guide to [The National Trust in Suffolk](#).

Suffolk played an important role in England's prosperous **wool**



**trade** from Medieval times, so you'll see many old buildings around the county that were once associated with this trade, such as Bosmore Mill in the village of Needham Market, which also boasts a peaceful millpond.



The beautiful medieval village of [Lavenham](#) was one of the 20 wealthiest towns in England in Medieval times due to its role in the wool industry. The Village has retained an almost perfect medieval market square and an **Anglo Saxon Mead Hall - The Guildhall**. In many of Suffolk's towns and villages there's a parish church not to be missed, and Lavenham's (left) contains some prime examples of 15th century stained glass.



Close by is [Long Melford](#), (Village green and Holy Trinity Church pictured above) whose wealth was also derived from the wool trade. The beautiful **Holy Trinity Church**, sitting atop the hill overlooking Long Melford, has some stained glass windows which survived the Cromwellian destructions (the 'Clopton Windows'), and together with the historic almshouses nearby forming Trinity Hospital, is well worth a visit. [Concerts](#) are frequently held in the Church during the summer.



Many of Long Melford's 15th century timber framed properties survive today so there is plenty to see. Additionally Long Melford boasts the longest High Street in the UK, which has many antique shops, art galleries, boutiques and café's, and the water meadows behind the High Street are worth a visit too.

## Suffolk Attractions



Framlingham has a large castle on its hill, dominating the town-scape, and run by English Heritage. **Framlingham Castle** is a fascinating place to spend a few hours, and Framlingham is a lovely town so this is well worth a day trip.



Woodbridge (Tide Mill pictured above) is another old and fascinating town not to miss. Suffolk's astonishing array of well-preserved market towns lie in countryside that is breathtaking, rich in waterways and rivers, such as the famously beautiful River Stour and the lovely market town of Sudbury.

Find more information on our pretty [Suffolk Towns & Villages](#) here. Further information about Suffolk can be found here:

<https://www.taketometosuffolk.com/>

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