GREAT
BRITAIN
You're invited

VisitBritain™

Hastings & 1066 Country

Theme

Arts & Antiques

Reasons to visit

1066 Country's newest attraction – Jerwood Gallery, Hastings, the perfect link in a fabulous arts' trail through 1066 Country. This visit can be made entirely by rail and connections between the towns of Hastings, Battle, Bexhill and Rye are good.

1066 Country can be reached in just 1 hour 15 mins from London by train, making this the perfect short break from the city, or perfect base from which to visit London for the day during the Olympic Games or Diamond Jubilee of 2012.

1066 Country has a wealth of top quality restaurants and award-winning accommodation. We are happy to host journalist visits and help organise itineraries with complimentary entrance to attractions. Assistance with media rates for accommodation where complimentary not available. Please contact:
Jane Ellis Travel Trade and Tourism PR, jmellis@hastings.gov.uk
01424 451113

Day One

Morning & Afternoon	**Arrive Rye (via High Speed Link – Ashford)**
	The town has a lively community of artists.
	Rye Art Gallery is divided into two sections.
	The Stormont holds a collection of over 400 works by nationally and regionally important artists such as Burra, Grant, Bell, Piper, Epstein and Whistler
	The Easton Rooms is recognized nationally for its exciting selling exhibitions of contemporary paintings, prints, photography, ceramics, glass, jewellery, textiles etc. 6 – 7 shows annually.
	Rye has over 30 antiques shops and an antiques trail leaflet can be downloaded from www.visitrye.co.uk Call in for a cuppa with Andy McConnell, BBC Antiques Roadshow glass expert, at his shop Glass Etc.
	The very popular Rye Arts Festival takes place annually for a fortnight in September with a programme populated by nationally and internationally respected speakers, authors and musicians.
Evening	Overnight in Rye

Day Two

Morning & Afternoon	**Jerwood Gallery, Hastings Old Town** (opens Spring 2012).
	Permanent collection of 20th Century British Art housed in this purpose-built gallery, with temporary exhibitions of young artists.

	Private collection of art open to the public for the very first time. Explore the galleries and antiques shops of bohemian Old Town of Hastings and St Leonards popular with artists and creatives, inspiration for photographers and artists alike. Norman Road, St Leonards is home to the nationally recognised Lucy Bell Fine Art Photography Gallery and down at Marine Court is the Arts Forum. Don't forget to pop in to the Shirley Leaf and Petal Company, which celebrated its centenary in 2010 and functions today as a working museum, creating leaves and petals for Hollywood (Gladiator rose petals arena scene), Berlin National Opera, West End shows, top fashion designers. Coastal Currents Arts Festival takes place annually throughout September.
Evening	**Overnight in Hastings**

Day Three	
Morning	Head for Battle – direct mainline rail to London Bridge, Waterloo East and London Charing Cross. See if you can pick up a bargain from Gorringes Auction House . Make your way to Saffron Gallery – also very active in the Battle Arts group who are responsible for the annual Battle Arts Trail. Louise Giblin, Olympian body cast sculpturess, has exhibited here.
Afternoon	**Take the train to the De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill via Hastings** – award-winning Grade One Modernist icon on the sea-front of Bexhill on sea. Two contemporary art galleries, busy programme of live performances, sea-facing restaurant. Current exhibition – Warhol is Here! Sept 2011 – Jan 2012 Bexhill is otherwise known as the birthplace of British motor racing and prototype models of Elva cars can be seen at Bexhill Museum. Eddie Izzard is patron of this quirky museum, which also houses the Bexhill Museum of Costume History.

	Some quirky charity shops to be found in Bexhill. Eras of Style has just opened in the old Gorringes auction house – massive collection of retro antiques.
Evening	Travel to Hastings (10 mins by train, 20 mins walk from station to Old Town).