

Discover **WINCHELSEA**



also available to download at
winchelsea.com



Discover Winchelsea

Winchelsea is one of the Cinque Ports,
an historic town in an Area of Outstanding Natural
Beauty on the East Sussex coast

With surrounding countryside protected by the
National Trust, there are spectacular views along the
Brede Valley and across Rye Bay to Dungeness

Winchelsea is one of the best preserved
medieval planned towns in the country, with streets
laid out on a rectangular grid pattern

Founded in the late thirteenth century as a port by
King Edward I, it replaced Old Winchelsea which was
swept away by ferocious storms and the rising sea



winchelsea.com

*For what to see
what to do
and where to stay
read on...*



What to see... What to do...

- Use the map in the centre fold to explore the town
- Visit the Court Hall Museum
- Book a Cellar Tour
- See the stunning stained glass and impressive medieval tombs at St Thomas's Church
- Pay your respects at Spike Milligan's grave
He told us he was ill
- Take in the panoramic views from
the Lookout and the Beacon
- Stop for a drink or a meal at the New Inn
- Pick up a coffee from the Little Shop
- Visit the Cellar Door at Charles Palmer Vineyards
walk the vineyard trail or book a wine tasting
- Follow the 1066 Country Walk and
the Royal Military Canal Path



*For everything you need to know about the
history and life of Winchelsea
go to
winchelsea.com*

Winchelsea Corporation

The story of the Corporation stretches back to the thirteenth century and the Mayor and Jurats governed the town until relatively modern times

Now a charity with no local government powers or public funding, the Corporation has stewardship of the medieval town gates and Court Hall. It runs the Museum, publishes the *Winchelsea Town Guide* and maintains the town website

The Mayor continues to represent Winchelsea at the ceremonial and civic events of the Cinque Ports' towns. The Corporation is able to fulfil its charitable objectives through the generous support of the local community





The Museum contains displays and exhibits that illustrate the history of Winchelsea. Located in the High Street, the Court Hall dates back over 700 years. It is the home of Winchelsea Corporation and in its time has served as the town gaol and community hall. Here the most famous Victorian actress, Ellen Terry, passed on her skills to Winchelsea children

Exhibits include maps, models, pictures, pottery and items relating to daily life. Staffed by knowledgeable local volunteers, the museum is regularly open from Spring to Autumn with books and other gifts on sale

Opening times are posted on winchelsea.com where you will find lots of information about the history of Winchelsea

The Court Hall Museum



Considered one of the finest church buildings in Sussex, St Thomas's was planned to be of cathedral proportions with a nave extending almost to the churchyard wall. The ravages of the Hundred Years' War left it severely damaged and only the chancel remains

The remarkable stained glass windows were designed by Douglas Strachan and installed between 1929 and 1933

The Alard tombs are St Thomas's most important relics. The Alards were Winchelsea's most significant family and their tombs were placed here in the fourteenth century. Comedian Spike Milligan lived in nearby Udimore and is buried in the churchyard

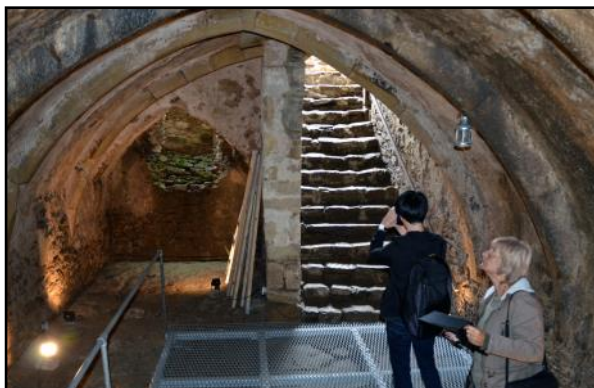
St Thomas's Church

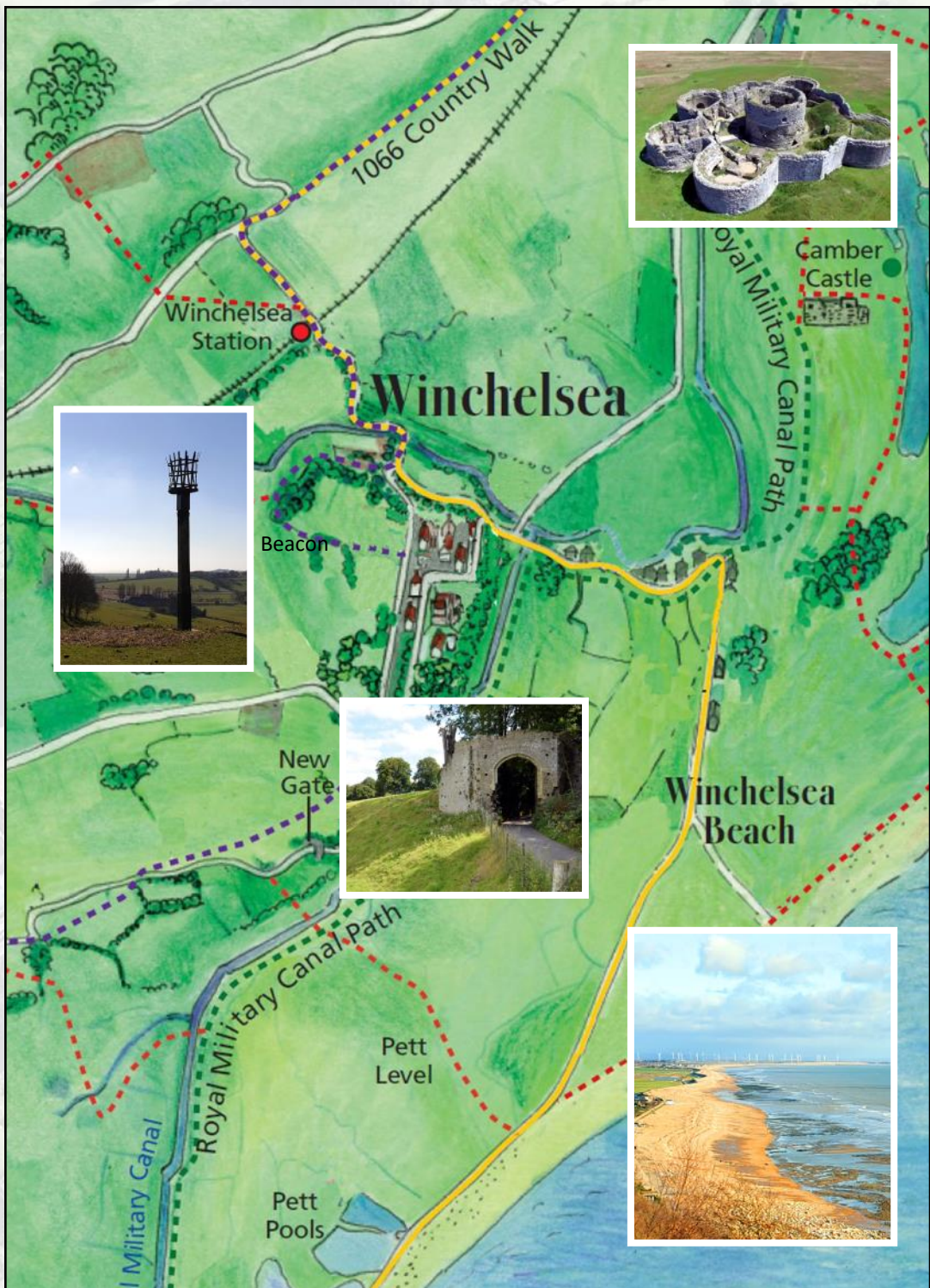
The Winchelsea Cellars

The stone-vaulted cellars are an important part of the town's medieval history. You can easily identify the cellar entrances at ground level, but the size, scale and beauty of what lies below can only be appreciated by a visit underground

Built around 1300, thirty-three accessible medieval cellars still exist and the sites of another seventeen are known
Only Southampton has similar numbers of the same quality

Volunteers lead regular tours of a selection of the cellars from Spring to Autumn. Visit winchelsea.com to read more about their history and to book a tour





Walks and Views

See the town map in the centre fold for the places to go to get the best views

- Looking west from the *Millennium Beacon* you can admire unspoiled country views along the Brede valley
- Looking east from *The Lookout* at the end of the High Street you can enjoy the sea view of Rye Bay with Dungeness beyond
- From North Street you can see across to Udimore and Rye
- A stroll southwards along Wickham Rock Lane takes you to the *New Gate* which was once the only way out of Winchelsea by land
The gate is about fifteen minutes' walk from the church

The 1066 Country Walk comes through Winchelsea

The route winds through the countryside that witnessed the Norman Conquest, starting in Pevensey, passing through Battle and finishing in Rye
visit1066country.com/things-to-do/1066-country-walk-p881061

The Royal Military Canal skirts the east of the town

The Canal Path runs south to the sea at Pett and north to Rye passing the impressive Tudor shell of Camber Castle
theromneymarsh.net/royal-military-canal

- *OS Explorer maps 124 and 125 are recommended for these walks*



The Winchelsea Year

Key events:

April

Mayor Making Ceremony
Garden Society Spring Show

June

National Garden Scheme garden openings

August

Summer Fete and Fun Dog Show

September

Garden Society Autumn Show

November

Christmas Fair

December

Christmas Windows



*For dates and details
of these and other events
go to
winchelsea.com*

THE LITTLE SHOP - 9 HIGH STREET WINCHELSEA



It may be little, but you will be amazed how much our shop has to offer to help meet your essential shopping needs, including takeaway hot drinks, daily newspapers, bread, pastries, sausage rolls milk, vegetables, fruit, meat - all fresh and locally sourced

We are open every day from 8am

01797 226287



WINCHELSEA FARM FOODS



THE NEW INN

WINCHELSEA

German Street Winchelsea TN36 4EN

01797 226252

newinnpubwinchelsea@outlook.com

newinnpubwinchelsea.co.uk

The warmest of welcomes awaits you at the New Inn
A traditional family-run Inn, dating back to the late 1700s

**Located in the heart of the town overlooking the Church
A perfect setting to relax, eat, drink or stay
in one of our four ensuite rooms**

Our wonderful secret walled garden offers al fresco
dining during spring and summer

**We offer a range of real ales, and an extensive menu
using fresh, locally sourced food where possible**

Dogs welcome in the bar, restaurant and garden areas



**We are a family-run single wine estate located
in the ancient town of Winchelsea**

Visit our charming Cellar Door and sample the wines,
walk the vineyard trail or book a wine tasting to hear our story
You can also stay on-site at Wickham Manor, a beautiful
16th Century Manor House nestled within our
750-acre mixed farm and vineyard

Cellar Door Opening Hours

Wednesday to Saturday: 11am - 5pm Sunday: 12pm - 4pm



Charles Palmer Vineyards, Cellar Door

Wickham Manor, Wickham Rock Lane, Winchelsea, East Sussex TN36 4AG
07869 148935

vineyard@charlespalmer-vineyards.co.uk

Winchelsea New Hall

Spacious, light hall with a large stage in a beautiful
setting. Fully equipped to cater for up to 120 people
with excellent facilities including
a professional quality kitchen

**Ideal for wedding receptions, parties
meetings, exercise classes and groups**

Fully accessible and with
disabled parking and toilet facilities

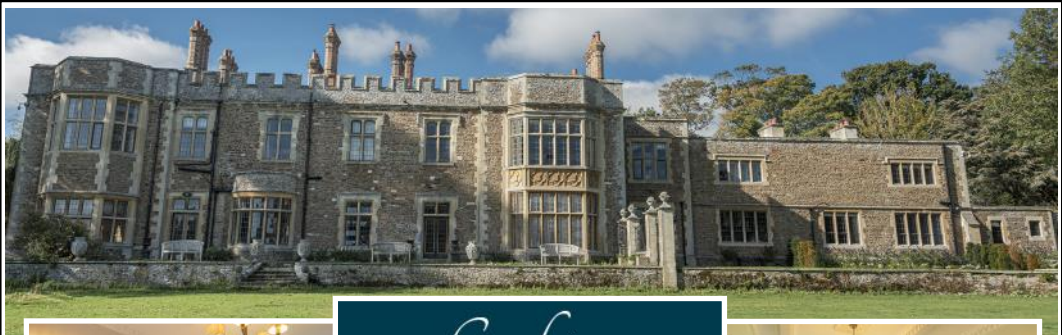


For enquiries contact
07422 724051

newhall@winchelsea.com
winchelsea.com/new-hall

Registered Charity
Number 235174





*Greyfriars
Winchelsea*

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Our two self catering apartments, Eagles Nest and Herons Wood offer private gardens with hot tubs, spectacular views and quiet luxury Available to book separately sleeping 4 and 5 respectively, or two together sleeping 9 Set in 18 acres of private grounds, just a mile from the beach and two miles from Rye

Book online at greyfriars.co **or email** [caroline @greyfriars-winchelsea.com](mailto:caroline@greyfriars-winchelsea.com) **07853 190939**



VISIT

1066 COUNTRY

**Ancient settlements.
Modern lifestyles.**



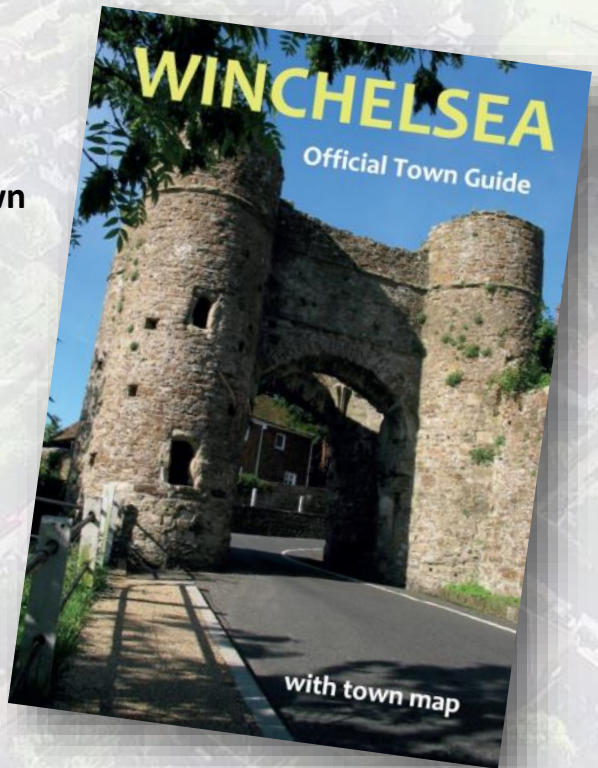
visit1066country.com

Photography by Clive Sawyer

Websites and Town Guide

**The illustrated
official Town Guide
tells the story of the town
its medieval cellars
historic buildings and
famous residents**

Copies are on sale
at the Museum
and in the Church



- **East Sussex Coast and Countryside**
visit1066country.com
eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism
- **Rye Harbour Nature Reserve**
sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk
- **High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**
highweald.org
- **National Trust**
[nationaltrust.org.uk/
features/working-for-wildlife-at-winchelsea](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/features/working-for-wildlife-at-winchelsea)



winchelsea.com

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Travel Information

Regular bus services run between Hastings and Rye
The 100 via the A259 stops in the centre of Winchelsea
The 101 via Winchelsea Beach stops at the Sea Road
junction on the Rye side of Winchelsea
 $\frac{1}{3}$ mile below the Strand Gate
For times see stagecoachbus.com/timetables

The railway station lies a mile from the centre of
Winchelsea and is served by trains on the Marshlink Line
which runs from Ashford International to Eastbourne
via Rye and Hastings
Timetables at southernrailway.com

Bus and train information also available from
traveline.info 0871 2002233

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Photos by Nick Chillingworth, Phil Mack, Jonathan Murphy, David Page, Melvyn Pett, Ian Rowlands, Sid Saunders, Paul Whiteman.