

## SCULPTURE TRAIL

How many sculptures can you spot around Battle?

### 1 Almonry Gardens

Hand carved stone Orb by Elliot Brotherton, depicting local flora and fauna and the town's motto *Per Bellum Patria* – Through Battle the Land and the Nation.

### 2 Cherry Gardens

Hand carved stone sculpture by Gavin Roweth, commemorating the significant role the parish church of St Mary the Virgin has played in our nation's history. Sculpture carvings include references to significant historical artefacts present in the church.

### 3 Park Lane

Hand carved stone sculpture and bench by Gavin Roweth, commemorating Battle Bonfire Boyes and the town's gunpowder heritage.

### 4 Lake Field

Hand carved stone way marker by Gavin Roweth, giving distances to historically significant locations.

### 5 Marley Gardens

Hand carved stone sculpture and bench by Gavin Roweth, commemorating Newbery Preserves and the fruit farms and orchards that form a key part of Battle's agricultural heritage.



This leaflet aims to give you a taste of what Battle has to offer and act as a trail guide, which can be used on its own or in conjunction with the Geotourist App. For further information about Battle please visit Battle Town Council at the Almonry [map no 7].



Fabulous walks & facts about the town of Battle



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## Walking in the Footsteps of History

The town of Battle is situated within the banlieu, or 'Leuga', of all land within a league of the high altar, assigned by William the Conqueror to the new Abbey.

The town is mentioned in both the Domesday Book of 1086, consisting of 21 bordars, and the 12th Century Chronicle of Battle Abbey, which lists 110 householders and 114 plots in the 'new town'.

At the heart of the town is the Abbey green, which has played host to a wide range of community activities, markets, fairs and celebrations since the original market charter purportedly granted by William I and subsequently ratified by Henry I in a writ dated 1103/06 to the monks of St Martin of Battle.

The high street has changed very little in form over the last 900 years. However, many significant economic and social changes have impacted its function and the lives and times of its residents. Not least, the town's economy has shifted its focus from agricultural to today's commerce and tourism.

Battle Museum of Local History preserves and exhibits hundreds of fascinating objects from the town's past, including prehistoric and Roman items, the world's oldest effigy of Guy Fawkes and artefacts from the two World Wars.

Several sculptures have also been placed around the town depicting the life and times of the town and its residents for residents and visitors to enjoy and remember. These are marked on the map overleaf with a numbered pink circle.

**Battle Heritage Trails** gives you the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of history. The trails have been designed to ensure there is something for all ages and abilities. You can use this leaflet as your guide or download the **Geotourist app** from the iTunes store (for iPhones) or from [play.google.com](http://play.google.com) (for Android phones). Look out for the children's trail, which is also marked on this map. You can buy an activity book to accompany this trail from the Almonry, Museum or outlets on the high street.

Other guides and routes are available at:

[www.battlesussex.co.uk](http://www.battlesussex.co.uk)

Battle Town Council has produced this leaflet with the support of the Battle Heritage Trails team.



## 7 ALMONRY HOUSE & GARDENS

This building was also once a Hall House and like its lovely gardens are the setting for the Museum. It is now home to Battle Town Council offices and the Pilgrims Rest dates from the 15th century. Its top storey is tile-hung, a feature of many local buildings in which roof tiles are set vertically to protect inner walls from the weather.



## 4 ST MARY'S CHURCH

The beautiful Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin was founded by Abbot Ralph circa. A.D. 1115. The Benedictine Battle Abbey was built on the battlefield of the Norman conquest and established St. Mary's to serve the community which had grown up around the monastery. Can you find where Isaac Ingall is buried in the churchyard. He was a butler at Battle Abbey in the 1700's and lived to be 120 years old - if his tombstone is to be believed...

## 6 PILGRIMS REST

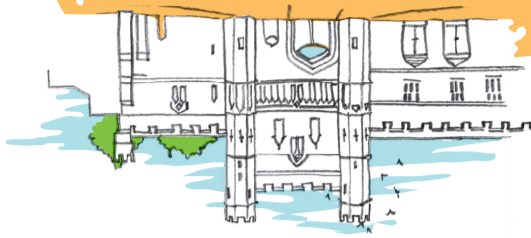
Just outside the gates of the Abbey is one of the oldest houses in the town built in 1420. Its frame is made of oak timbers and it is a Sussex Hall House, meaning that the central hall was open to the roof and provided a gathering place with a fire for all the family. It is now a wedding venue.



## 5 BATTLE ABBEY

The Abbey was finished after William died, partly of good French stone, and has been much changed since. Monks lived here for 500 years and it had a great estate covering all the land within 1 1/2 miles of the Abbey.

King Henry VIII, dissolved the monasteries and in 1538 the great abbey church was knocked down - but its huge crypt chapels can still be seen. The manor house built on part of the Abbey's site is now Battle Abbey School, which has been educating children since 1912.



## 3 THE BULL INN

In 1685 there was a fire in the abbey kitchen and the building was demolished. The stones were sold for 20p a cartload and many were used to rebuild the Bull in 1688.



## 1 BATTLE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY

Battle Museum of Local History preserves and exhibits hundreds of fascinating artefacts from the town's past, including objects from prehistoric and Roman times to the world's oldest effigy of Guy Fawkes and items from the two World Wars.

## 1066 Country

**1066 Country** is recognised throughout the world as a leading destination of historical significance. At its heart lies the town of Battle, the very spot where King Harold fell during the Battle of Hastings. An event so significant it completely changed the course of English history - and today the Battle of Hastings is probably the one date in history that every adult and child can recall.

The town sits on a ridge of land a short distance from Hastings and is surrounded by woodland, including the Great Wood and Powdermill Wood. The buildings on the high street show how people through the ages have utilised these surroundings to source materials to create buildings for shelter and comfort, including wood, stone, clay for bricks and tiles, straw for thatched roofs and wattle and daub - a mixture of sticks, twigs and mud that fills the gaps between the big beams in timber buildings.

Further afield you will find Crowhurst and Beauport. King Offa of Mercia gifted the land now known as Crowhurst, to the Bishop of Selsey around 771; the Bishop then built a church. Sir John Pelham, who was given the land in 1412 by Henry IV, built the present parish church.

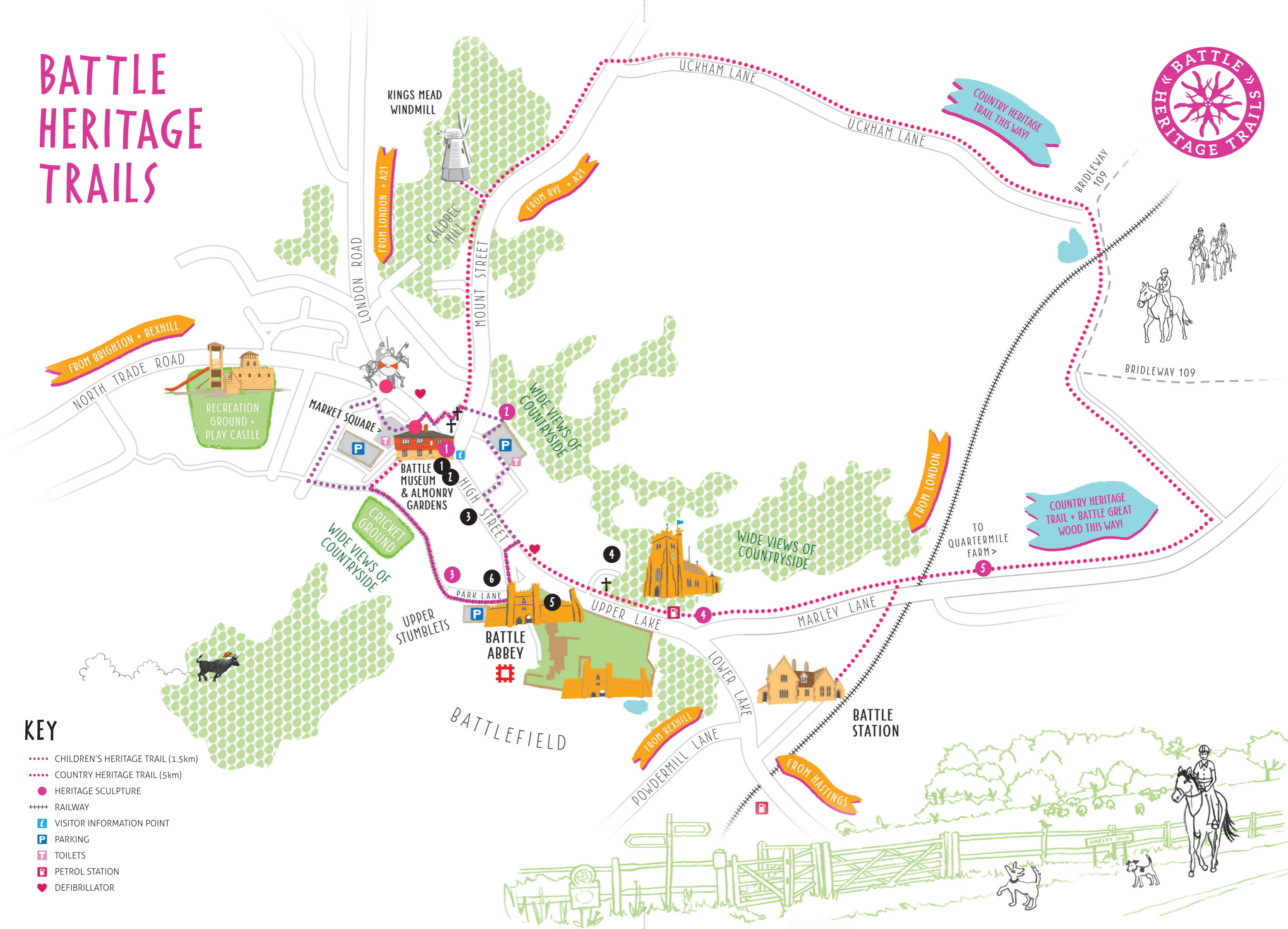
Beauport is located on the western end of the ridge at the very edge of the parish of Battle. Commonly referred to as Beauport Park, the estate was famously owned in the 1700's by General Sir James Murray. Murray named the estate after Beauport in Canada and began the tradition of planting rare and unusual trees. Today the estate comprises a hotel, health club, riding school, caravan park, golf course and approximately 164 acres of surrounding woodland.

We really hope you enjoy your visit to our town, have fun and discover something new.

Please post your pictures on to our town facebook and instagram pages and if you have enjoyed your time here we would be grateful for a review and rating on our **Battle High Street Tripadvisor** listing.



# BATTLE HERITAGE TRAILS



## KEY

- ..... CHILDREN'S HERITAGE TRAIL (1.5km)
- ..... COUNTRY HERITAGE TRAIL (5km)
- HERITAGE SCULPTURE
- ++++ RAILWAY
- ℹ VISITOR INFORMATION POINT
- P PARKING
- T TOILETS
- ⛛ PETROL STATION
- ♥ DEFIBRILLATOR