



Dartmouth



A natural harbour, steeped in maritime heritage, Dartmouth is the perfect location for an exceptional port call. For over 900 years, sailors have left the town's shores and it was from the medieval quay of Bayards Cove that the Pilgrim Fathers set sail on their journey to the New World.

Whether you're anchored at sea, looking out across the harbour entrance, or are lucky enough to sail up the River Dart into the heart of the community, we're sure the view of Dartmouth will set a spectacular scene for what's to come. To start the voyage to Dartmouth, please complete our online enquiry form for cruise ships.

A short stroll from the disembarkation point on the Town Jetty, guests will find the centre of this attractive, bustling riverside town. Excursion transportation can pick up within two or three minutes' walk of the tender point. There is also direct access from the same jetty to the river boats that ply the river, offering a variety of tours. Britannia Royal Naval College, Mayflower trails and Agatha Christie's riverside home, Greenway feature on our shore excursion portfolio.

But a trip to Dartmouth isn't just about the town and its fascinating history. The surrounding countryside is part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty full of rugged coastlines, beaches and wooded valleys, all presenting exciting outdoor tour possibilities.

Ships' guests are met by the local Visitor Centre team (French and German speakers can be arranged), as well as our award winning Town Crier, in order to offer the warmest welcome.

Dartmouth has become a popular port of call to a mix of different ships and nationalities, from international cruise companies, to boutique and explorer brands – many return year after year. The

harbour's geographical position lends itself to overnight sailing from other cruise ports and is easily combined with Around Britain & Ireland itineraries or cross – channel to Northern France.

Dart Harbour & Navigation Authority is a Trust Port and a Local Lighthouse Authority.

Top Five Facts About Dartmouth

1. Home to the Britannia Royal Naval College for naval officer training, this is where the Queen and Prince Philip first met in 1939.
2. Greenway House & Gardens – home of Agatha Christie, overlooks the river Dart and is open to the public. Christie moved here in 1938 and based several plots around the setting.
3. The Onedin Line TV series made Dartmouth its filming base between 1971 and 1980. The town and Start Bay were used, as was the river which became 'the Amazon' for episodes, complete with plastic alligators.
4. In 1147, the second crusade saw 150 ships and 10,000 crusaders depart Dartmouth for the Holy Land.
5. Dartmouth had a railway terminal (now a café) without ever having a railway line. Trains actually arrived in Kingswear and passengers were ferried across the river and dropped off at the Dartmouth railway terminal.

Experience Dartmouth

Greenway House

Agatha Christie's holiday home and inspiration for more than one murder mystery. Image credit: Visit South Devon

Link: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/greenway>

Britannia Royal Naval College Tours

With an intriguing heritage spanning over 150 years, Britannia Royal Naval College takes the visitor on a revealing voyage from past glories to the present day.

Link: <https://discoverdartmouth.com/attraction/britannia-royal-naval-college-tours>

Dartmouth Castle

One of the most beautifully located fortresses in England. For over 600 years Dartmouth Castle has guarded the narrow entrance to the Dart Estuary and the busy, vibrant port of Dartmouth. It offers stunning views of the estuary and out to sea whatever the weather.

Link: <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/dartmouth-castle/>

Coleton Fishacre House and Gardens

1920s home to the D'Oyly-Cartes of Gilbert & Sullivan fame.

Link: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/coleton-fishacre>

Mayflower Trail (walking tour)

An atmospheric walk through the Dartmouth of 1620.

Link: <https://www.dartmouthmayflower400.uk/dartmouth-walking-trail/town-trail/>

Kayaking

There is simply no better way to explore Devon's stunning coastline than by kayak! All are welcome and no experience is required.

Link: <https://www.seakayakdevon.co.uk/>

Slapton Sands WW2 tours

During WWII the residents of Slapton and nearby villages were evacuated in order for the areas to be used for training exercises in preparation for the D-Day landings. A Sherman amphibious tank and several plaques stand at Torcross car park (0.5km back along road) as a memorial to the lives lost in WWII "Exercise Tiger," where German torpedo boats intercepted a convoy of vessels and sunk two tank landing ships killing 749 American servicemen. Image credit: Visit South Devon

Link: <https://discoverdartmouth.com/attraction/slapton-sands>

Port information

Time Zone : GMT

Berth Enquiries / Reservations : Dart Harbour Office

Lat & Long : 50 21 30N 003 34 40W

Prevailing weather : SW winds. Sheltered harbour from prevailing weather.

Anchorage position : 50 20 20N 003 33 30W

Distance to landing stage : Berthing in town = 100m. Berthing at anchorage = 1.5nm

Berth information : Can berth vessels up to 220m LOA in the centre of town (exact length will depend on tide and design of vessel) on two mainstream buoys with a direct tender ride (2 min) into the centre of town. Vessels greater than 180m can anchor in the mouth of the river and access town via a 10min tender ride.

Vessel length : Up to 220m on main stream buoys. Unrestricted in mouth of river.

Vessel width : No restrictions

Air draft : No restrictions

Vessel draft : Max 8.5m

Depth on berth : 7.8m

Largest cruise ship to call : The World (196m) – berthed inside on Main Stream Buoys but required tug support to enter the port. Outside at anchor the largest vessels are circa 250m.

VTS Channel : 11

Max ship dimension : 220m inside. No limit on LOA in anchor.

Pilotage : Compulsory pilotage for all vessel >50m.

Tugs : Tug support provided by Plymouth, Teignmouth and Fowey Harbours.

Security facilities : ISPS secure point set up on Town Jetty.

Gangway : Not available

Fresh water : Not available

Power supply : Not available

Fuel supply : Not available

Hot works/painting/lifeboats : Not normally an issue.

Waste handling : Can be provided at additional cost

Passenger facilities

Cruise Terminal Building : N/A

Currency exchange : Not available

Internet access : Free WiFi supplied within the port

Telephones : Pay phones located around town

Mailbox : Post/Parcels accepted at Harbour office

Taxi rank : Outside of Platform One, South Embankment Dartmouth

Distance to railway station : Totnes mainline station 14 miles / 22.5 km

Distance to airport : Exeter International Airport via Kingswear 34 miles / 73.5 km

Bank/ATM machine : South Embankment Dartmouth

Restaurants / cafes : Many in town

Further contacts & info

Enquiry form : Dart Harbour Office

Tel : 00 44 (1)803 832337

Email : info@dartharbour.org

Website : www.dartharbour.org

Social media : Twitter @dartharbour Facebook Instagram LinkedIn

Address : 6 Oxford Street Dartmouth Devon TQ6 9AL

Tourist information : Explore Dartmouth