

Celebrity Silhouette and Regal Princess

Portland

A Perfect Location, A Unique Opportunity

Portland Port lies at the heart of the Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO world heritage site renowned for its breath-taking beauty and its incredible historical heritage.

Cruise guests visiting the port are treated to a whole host of exciting options, including the bucket list destination of Stonehenge, another UNESCO World Heritage site. And if two UNESCO World Heritage Sites are not enough for one port, passengers can also choose to visit a third at the Roman City of Bath. On top of those spectacular excursions, Dorset itself is a stunning place to explore, offering the best of countryside, coastline, events and attractions which are perfect for families and couples alike. Passengers can go to the ruins of Corfe Castle to learn about its 1,000 years of history, hear the whimsical tales of Minterne House or visit the unique and fascinating Abbotsbury Swannery. Or if you simply fancy tasting the national dish, Fish and Chips, and enjoying some relaxed sunbathing on an award-winning beach, then Portland Port can provide that too.

The Dorset landscape also provides the perfect setting for all manner of outdoor pursuits, with woodland

trails, mile upon mile of rolling green countryside and some of the most dramatic coastline to be found anywhere. The county has an abundance of activities on offer, from gentle walks and relaxing rounds of golf to high speed RIB rides and paddle boarding in Portland harbour, host to the 2012 Olympic sailing events.

Portland Port has witnessed remarkable growth over recent years. It was once a relatively unknown destination in the cruise industry, however since 2007 it has quickly developed an enviable reputation as the most popular cruise port in the South West of England.

In September 2022, the port announced its biggest investment and development project to date; £26 million to build a new quay, Deep Water Berth (DWB), and extend the port's main berth, Outer Coaling Pier (OCP). The finished project enhances the port's capabilities by providing two adjacent berths, both capable of handling larger cargo vessels and cruise ships up to 350m in length.

And when the time comes to depart our beautiful shores be sure to keep your eyes on the quayside. Portland Port prides itself on providing a memorable send off with a musical "Bon Voyage" and a 3 shot salute from the Nothe Fort Victorian Artillery Brigade.

Ian McQuade – General Manager – Commercial

Top Five Facts About Portland Port

1. **Home of Portland Stone** Portland stone is a limestone which was formed during the Jurassic period. It has been quarried on Portland since the Roman times and has been used as a building stone for many major public buildings including St Paul's Cathedral in London and the United Nations headquarters in New York City.
2. **At the heart of the Jurassic Coast** The Jurassic Coast is a 95 mile stretch of coast which reveals the history of Earth over 185 million years. It forms a near-complete record of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods and is world famous for its abundance of fossils. It is a site of such international importance that it was designated as England's first natural World Heritage Site in 2001.
3. **Gateway to the "Black Death"** The nearest town to Portland Port is Weymouth, which has the dubious honour of being the port where the devastating Black Death first entered England in 1348.
4. **Proud owner of a long naval history** King Henry VIII was the first to realise the strategic significance of Portland Port and built two castles to protect the approaches, Portland and Sandsfoot Castle. Portland Castle is open to the public and is within walking distance of Portland Port; it is one of the best preserved of its kind in the UK. In 1845 Portland Harbour became a naval base and convict labour was used to build a breakwater with 4 million tons of stone. It was bombed by the Germans in the Second World War and later nearly half a million American troops embarked for the D-Day landings. The Royal Navy sold the naval base to Portland Port Ltd in 1996.
5. **The word 'rabbit' has long been considered taboo on Portland** Instead, locals refer to them as "underground mutton", "long-eared furry things" or "bunnies". It is thought that the superstition surrounding rabbits was initiated by quarry workers who blamed them for increasing the risk of dangerous, sometimes deadly, landslides. If a rabbit was seen, the quarry workers would pack up and go home until they were assured that the area was safe. It is also said that local fisherman would refuse to go to sea if they saw a rabbit.

Experience Portland

Stonehenge

Link:

http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIs52I3dyn2QIV7ZTtCh1MsgonEAAYASAAEgJ81fD_BwE

Roman City of Bath
Link: https://visitbath.co.uk/

Salisbury
Link: https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/salisbury

Jurassic Coast
Link: https://jurassiccoast.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIxI-SxNyn2QIVhc0bCh2jgwA1EAAYASAAEgLxmPD_BwE

Abbotsbury Swannery
Link: https://abbotsburyswannery.co.uk/

Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens
Link: https://abbotsburygardens.co.uk/

Minterne House & Gardens
Link: https://minterne.co.uk/

Spectacular Dorset countryside
Link: https://www.visit-dorset.com/

Corfe Castle
Link: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/corfe-castle

Portland Bill & Lighthouse
Link: https://www.trinityhouse.co.uk/lighthouse-visitor-centres/portland-bill-lighthouse-visitor-centre

The Tank Museum
Link: http://www.tankmuseum.org/home

Athelhampton House
Link: https://www.athelhampton.com/

Port Info

Time zone : GMT
Operational hours : 24hrs
Berth Enquiries / Reservations : To General Manager – Commercial (i.mcquade@portland-port.co.uk) with Amy Sandford Smith copied in (a.sandfordsmith@portland-port.co.uk)
Latitude & Longitude : 50.570596, -2.432908
Prevailing weather : South westerly
Berth information : Primary cruise berth – Deep Water Berth Seconary cruise berth – Outer Coaling Pier Other berths available on Queens Pier Anchorage not applicable
Vessel length : 350m
Vessel width : Unrestricted

Air draft restrictions : None
Vessel draft : 10.50m
Depth on berth : DWB 11.7m OCP 11m Q Pier 7.6m to 11m
Largest cruise ship to call : Queen Mary 2 in March 2021
VTS channel : 74
Max ship dimension : MAX LOA 350m
Pilotage : Complusory
Tugs : 1 ASD 55T 2 ASDs 50T
Security facilities : ISPS compliant
Gangways : 12m, 15m, 20m and 29m, as well as an adjustable platform system that can be used in conjunction with 12m, 15m and 29m gangways listed.
Fresh water : On request via shipping agents
Power supply : No
Fuel supply : Yes via Bunker Barge, contact Monjasa Ltd.
Hot works, painting, lifeboats : Permitted but permit to work required via harbour office.
Waste handling : On request via shipping agents

Passenger Facilities

Terminal building : Yes
Currency exchange : In Weymouth (5miles/8km)
Internet access : Yes, in Cruise Terminal
Telephones : No
Taxis : Taxis can be called to meet passengers at the entrance to the berth.
Distance to railway station : Weymouth train station is the closest to Portland Port – 5 miles/8km (15 minutes).
Distance to airport : Bournemouth Airport – 43 miles/70km (1hr 10 minutes) Exeter Airport – 56 miles/90 km (1hr 25 minutes) Southampton Airport – 68 miles/109km (1hr 30 minutes) Heathrow Airport – 123 miles/198km (2hr 20 minutes)
Banks/ATMs : In Weymouth
Restaurant/Cafe : No

Contacts & Further Info

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