



## **Something for the whole family in Portsmouth!**

**Get some great ideas for all the family and have a fun packed winter in Portsmouth.**

### **Free Attractions**

#### **Portsmouth City Museum**

The Museum is FREE of charge all year round. Come and see the exciting exhibition that allows you to explore the life and works of Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes. Learn about life in Portsmouth both past and present through their exhibitions and reconstructions. Their regularly changing programme of temporary exhibitions and children's activities means you are bound to find something new.

#### **Royal Armouries at Fort Nelson**

Spend the day discovering the forts including the historic guns and cannons, make your way through the secret tunnels and underground chambers, where the costumed actors bring life to times past. Some special events may incur a charge.

#### **Cumberland House Natural History Museum and Butterfly House**

Come and explore the British wildlife and its many habitats. The museum tells the tale of the wild riverbank, marshes, woods and urban areas of the city, and includes a fresh water aquarium. During the summer you can also take an exciting walk through their house filled with butterflies, see how many species you can spot as they fly around your head.

#### **Fun at the Library**

If you are not a member yet, go to any Portsmouth library and join, your ticket will allow you to go to any of the Portsmouth libraries. With hundreds of wonderful books to choose from you will never be bored, so take the books home and read all summer long. But the best thing is, all this is FREE! so contact [libraries@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) for more information.

#### **aspex**

Portsmouth's leading contemporary art gallery invites you to explore the innovative, contemporary and visual art on display. With exhibitions, workshops and events throughout the year from international and local Portsmouth artists. Why not finish off your visit with a cup of coffee and slice of cake in their café.

### **Children's Play Areas**

Children of all ages and abilities will love our city play areas. With a variety of challenging activities for children, the facilities can include swings, spring rockers, climbing bars, slides and bridges. Some of the larger sites include skate parks, BMX tracks, sand pits and ball game areas. Parents can relax and soak up the sun whilst the children play. Visit [www.portsmouth.gov.uk/visiting](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/visiting) for a complete list of all play areas.

### **Adventure Playgrounds**

There are 5 adventure playgrounds within the city that are supervised by Portsmouth City Council Play Service, offering a wide range of challenging play opportunities for children between the ages of 5-13 years. They provide a safe, fun and friendly environment for all children to play in. For locations and more information visit [www.portsmouth.gov.uk/visiting](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/visiting)

### **Free and Healthy**

#### **Cycle Routes**

*Circular ride around Langstone Harbour* is a 15 mile circular ride perfect for older children. This ride takes in mud flats, salt marshes and reclaimed land as it loops around the harbour.

*Seafront cycle ride* is a 4.5 mile ride from Portsmouth Historic Dockyard along the seafront to Eastney. This route makes a great day out, you can stop at one of the bars and restaurants along the way or one of the many attractions along the seafront.

#### **Healthy Walks**

A fantastic programme of 12 healthy walks in 12 exciting locations around the city. Discover and learn about hidden parts of the city, whilst improving your health and keeping green. Most of the walks are on flat paved areas with a pace to suit all ages and abilities, it is a great sociable event for the summer.

### **Attractions Under £5\***

#### **Southsea Model Village**

A fantastic selection of miniature models laid out in colourful gardens, with a railway that meanders around the village. An exciting adventure in this miniature world for children and adults, with great views over the Solent and Isle of Wight from the top of Castle Hill.

#### **Pirate Pete's**

A great indoor children's playground with a pirate ship, tunnels, two ball ponds, bridges, aerial runways, large soft play area and loads more.

#### **Pyramids Centre**

A great day out for all the family with its Tropical Leisure Pool, Toddlers Pool, Wave Pool, 3 flumes and a café.

#### **Krazy Kaves**

An indoor activity centre, for children up to the age of 12. With loads to keep the children busy including slides and soft play equipment it is a great place to take the kids whilst the adults are able to watch and relax.

### **Southsea Skate Park**

This fantastic facility welcomes all skateboarders, BMX riders and inline skaters throughout the year. It is the ultimate venue on the South Coast with an array of facilities available to help you perfect your tricks and stunts. For anyone who has ever wanted to take up the sport there are beginners coaching sessions on Saturday and Sunday mornings, for more information visit the unofficial website [www.southseaskatepark.com](http://www.southseaskatepark.com)

### **Swimming**

Swimming is a great way to get fit and have fun. With four swimming centres in the city, the Pyramids Centre, Eastney Swimming Pool, Victoria Swimming Centre and St Lukes Community Leisure Centre. All the family can go along and swim for fun or join in with one of the classes. These facilities also offer a wide range of sporting and fitness classes and are available for all ages and abilities.

### **Portsmouth Leisure Facilities**

With 9 centres within the city we can offer a wide range of leisure and sporting facilities for all ages and abilities. This will include swimming, trampolining, gym facilities, badminton, personal training, workout classes, sauna, sunbeds, steam rooms, football, athletics, dance, Kung Fu, Kickboxing, tennis and holiday activities for children. For full details of all our centres and facilities, take a look at the new Portsmouth Leisure Facilities- Centre Directory.

### **Attractions from £5 - £10\***

#### **Spinnaker Tower**

With its magnificent views across the coast and largest glass floor in Europe this attraction is a must. See the city on display as you look down upon it from 170 metres above sea level. Why not enjoy a warm drink on a cold winter's day in their Café bar or visit the newly refurbished gift shop.

#### **Blue Reef**

Discover a whole range of local marine species and tropical fish, watch the otters play in their enclosure, see the rays splash around, and come face to face with sharks. There are informative talks throughout the day, feeding demonstrations, themed activities and the exciting underwater tunnel. Get £1 off per person by using this link!

#### **Playzone**

A great indoor adventure play arena for children of all ages, including toddler's who have their own zone. The kids will love the ball pools, huge slides, giant rope bridges, squeeze rollers, bouncy poles and crawl maze. With adults being encouraged to play with the kids in the fully air conditioned Playzone, it really is a great family day out.

#### **Royal Marines Museum**

The museum highlights the skills and courage of the Royal Marines, from their beginnings in 1664 to their current day involvements. Packed with exhibits, interactive displays and films, you can experience the barrack conditions and come face to face with a snake and scorpions. There is also an impressive special events programme.

### **D-Day Museum**

The only museum in Britain dedicated to D-Day. This was the turning point of the Second World War. Come and watch a unique archive film, see personal displays of memorabilia, maps, uniforms and vehicles. The museum is also home to the Overlord Embroidery which portrays the story of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy.

### **Cinema**

At the Odean at Port Solent and VUE at Gunwharf Quays you will always find the latest blockbuster movies showing. Why not book on line to beat the queues.

### **Attractions from £10\***

#### **Fort Widley Equestrian Centre**

Horse riding lessons at Fort Widley available Wednesday 4-5pm and at weekends. Go along for fun or take up lessons either way a fantastic sport that must be tried by everyone.

#### **Portsmouth Historic Dockyard**

Visit the world famous historic ships including HMS Warrior 1860, the Mary Rose and HMS Victory where you can step in the footsteps of the hero Admiral Lord Nelson, take a Harbour Tour around the Solent or test your skills, command a war ship or fly a helicopter at Action Stations.

#### **Kings Theatre**

With over 100 years of entertainment experience the Kings Theatre has a programme for all the family this summer. With children's shows, drama, music and comedy there is always a performance to suit the whole family.

#### **New Theatre Royal**

With a packed programme for 2008 a trip to the theatre can not be missed. Performances include Canterbury Tales, an evening with Sheila Hancock, The Nutcracker and Portsmouth Youth Variety Show. You are guaranteed to find more than one performance that you will want to see.

#### **Clarence Pier**

A traditional seaside funfair with loads of fun packed rides for all ages, including the Dodgems and Waltzer. Why not play a round of crazy golf, stop off at a café, or treat the kids to an ice cream, candy floss or sticky apple.

### **There is still loads more....**

There are loads more things to see and do in Cosham, Paulsgrove, Drayton and Farlington areas so visit [www.aboutmyarea.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyarea.co.uk) to find out more.

### **Aspire**

Why not take a look at the fantastic new programme produced by Portsmouth City Council Cultural Services, packed with details on theatre, dance, comedy, music, exhibitions, activities, talks, walks and events within the city.

\* based on one standard adult admission.