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It's the most wonderful time of the year! Welcome glittering festive lights and the sound of popping corks. Whether you're planning to grab last-minute gifts at bustling markets hot toddy in hand or escaping the central heating for a tingling Boxing Day Walk, you'll find festive fun all along the coastline along with mesmerising frosty seascapes.

Never one to be out of the spotlight, **<u>Blackpool</u>** even outshines itself this year with six miles of sparkling illuminations to 5 January, but also Christmas by the Sea, shop in Christmas Chalets, enjoy simulated snowfalls, snow slide, festive trams and free ice rink!

On the south coast, **Brighton** offers a new Winter Fayre with a free-to-enter Christmas Market to 22 December, expect children's activities, live music, creative workshops and for skaters, the Pavilion Ice Rink.

Big-hearted swimmers should register ahead to take a charity plunge; Boscombe, Bournemouth, hosts The Macmillan White Christmas Dip on Christmas Day, on Boxing Day head to Deal Pier for an Icebreakers Boxing Day Dip or to Whitby Pier for its Lions Dip and on New Year's Day brave Southend for its RNLI New Year's Day Dip, Mablethorpe for its Big Dip or Morecambe Bay to raise money for St John's Hospice.

Check out all the top tips for Christmas on the coast in our latest blog.

And as our gift to you, enter our competition to win a charming handmade silver necklace, worth £95, courtesy of master goldsmiths Jana Reinhardt.

Happy Christmas!



Make it better by the beach

Every escape to the coast should be perfect, but there's always room for improvement! We work with hotels, B&Bs and attractions all around the coast who listen to your views and want to get it right.

Tell them what's important to you in our new consumer survey, there's the chance to win one of four $\pounds 25$ shopping vouchers so share your thoughts <u>here</u>.

Enter now for your chance to win £25



Portsmouth's on ice

Igloos feature for the first time at Portsmouth's <u>Gunwharf Quays' Christmas Village</u>, so get into the festive spirit at the Alphine Lodge Bar for mulled wine, Bratwurst and chocolate churros. At night ride the Observation Wheel, blazing with more than 10,000 lights, so grab the kids for all the fun of the festive fair, available to 31 December.

This south coast city has got its skates on this year with a **massive ice rink in Guildhall Square** with space for up to 200 skaters per session. Get out on the ice from 9am but there are early morning sessions and live DJ nights for merrymakers.

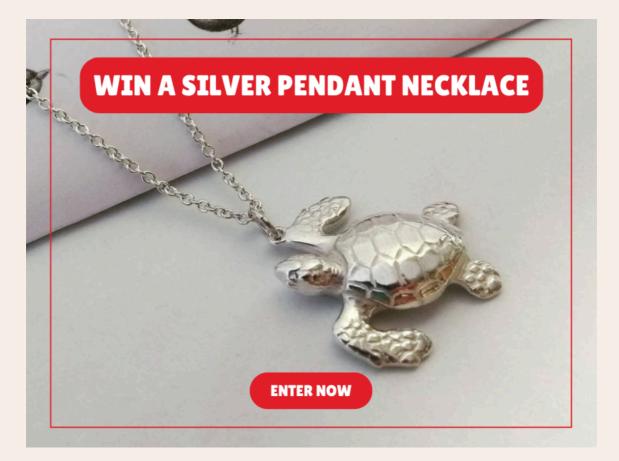


Silent nights in Lincolnshire

Escape the bustle of the shops and tinsel and spend some time in nature. Lincolnshire's coast offers miles of sweeping sandy beaches, amazing flocks of migrating birds and the arrival of grey seals at Donna Nook Nature Reserve, a noisy spectacle that plays out till January.

As one of the country's top birdwatching counties, winter sees more than 45,000 wetland birds and up to 20,000 starlings providing spectacular murmurations. Strike out on frosty walks, stay in an inn, B&B or country hotel and enjoy great value immersed in peace away from the crowds.

Check out Donna Nook National Nature Reserve!



Start the new year in style – win a beautiful handmade silver necklace!

We've teamed up with ethical jewellery brand <u>Jana Reinhardt</u> to give you the chance to win a stunning handmade sea turtle necklace, worth £95. Made entirely from recycled silver it comes with a matching adjustable chain worn at either 41cm or 46cm.

Intricately designed, this delicate pendant features a finely carved shell with tiny scales creating a life-like replica of these gentle creatures, a perfect reminder to take things a little easier and flex with your surroundings, after all, turtles move at their own slower pace on land but are super agile in water.

Jana Reinhardt is a husband-and-wife team of master goldsmiths, experts in creating sustainable jewellery collections. Committed to being as green as possible, they only use recycled precious metals, responsibly sourced lab-grown gemstones and all packaging is plastic-free, for each sale they plant a tree with Ecologi. Browse their charity collection <u>here</u>.

To win this beautiful handmade necklace simply enter here

Enter now!

Check out our latest blogs



Need something to look forward to after the festivities? With Highcliffe Castle, the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Poole's wonderful old town and harbour, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole are great out of season and offer way more than beautiful beaches.

Read Blog

Discover winter wonderlands in stately homes in East Yorkshire, the first floating sauna on the Isle of Wight and what Santa's up to in Kent, from carols by candlelight to lantern parades, celebrate the season doing something different read more in our new blog

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