



Six reasons to visit Norfolk

- 1 The beaches** – with some of the country's best beaches, a number of which have the prestigious Blue Flag award, Norfolk has a wide variety of choices. From wide expanses with few people around to the bustle of seaside resorts – there's something for everyone.
- 2 Wide open space** – Norfolk is known for its big skies and despite not being as flat as you may think, there's plenty of space for everyone and it's very easy to get away from it all and be at one with nature.
- 3 Norwich** – "A Fine City", as the sign proudly states as you enter. A wonderful, historic place blending the old and new, all within a walkable distance if you want to explore on foot. Many great places to eat and drink, too.
- 4 History** – as well as the medieval city of Norwich, there are grand houses such as Blickling Hall and the Holkham Estate, along with other places of interest and plenty of fantastic museums to inform and engage. And – the Deep History Coast – a fossil hunter's paradise.
- 5 Walking and cycling** – with its vast network of tracks and pathways, Norfolk boasts marvellous options for those energetic enough to explore. From coast to fen, there's something for everyone, accompanied by amazing vistas and our plentiful and varied wildlife.
- 6 Attractions** – for all of the family, from nature reserves to theme parks, Norfolk has activities to suit most tastes – all done without it ever feeling busy or crowded. ■

Where to stay in Norfolk?



Norfolk boasts some wonderful landscapes, from coasts to fens. And with such a wide variety of possible holiday destinations each offering

something different and unique, choosing where to stay can be difficult.

In this newsletter, we recommend some of the best sites that offer easy coastal access, from Hunstanton in the west, where you can watch the sun set over the Wash, to Waxham in the east where you can view a North Sea sunrise.

When making recommendations, we do so with some caution. As with any campsite there are factors beyond our control that can impact your stay. We may have enjoyed a quiet, blissful night under canvas, but others may have had different experiences. I know from having visited many sites over the years that much depends on the weather, time of year, who is pitched nearby and even what type of mood you're in when you arrive (which might be very different to your mood when you booked).

We've experienced all of the above, but it's important to scratch below the surface and consider what the site was actually like, despite negative factors. I recall a visit to Burnham Deepdale in 2016 and the campsite behind the

backpackers. The weather forecast was not the best, but we had a camper van and attached an awning, so the mood was buoyant. However, on the second night, we awoke to gale force winds and the awning had ripped, with no sign of the storm abating. After hurriedly taking the awning down at 3am, we hunkered down in the van until daylight and then promptly decided to go home. But I'd definitely go back there. Lovely site, great location and delicious breakfasts from the nearby Deepdale Café. So, although our trip had been a right-off, the site was a hit.

Overleaf you'll find a list of camp sites that we've visited and enjoyed, as well as ones that have been recommended by people we know. Please have a Google for yourself and see what each site has to offer – some may not suit your tastes or needs. Contact the site if necessary. I've always found site owners are keen to answer any questions. We're also happy to help.

Best, Matt

■ **Matt Dunscombe is the co-founder and owner of The Little Beach Bell Company. You can call him on 07718 129 110 or email: info@thelittlebeachbellcompany.co.uk**



The old harbour and salt marshes at Thornham

Campsites to consider



Seal colony Blakeney Point

Norfolk is blessed with a wealth of great campsites. Here are some we think you should find out more about.

- Scratby Hall, Scratby
- Walnut Farm, Waxham
- Keith Farm Campsite, Sea Palling (C&C membership)
- Cromer Camping, Cromer (July to mid-Sept)
- Manor Farm, East Runton
- Forest Park, Northrepps
- Kelling Heath, Kelling
- Breck Farm, Bodham
- Galley Hill Farm, Blakeney
- Highsand Creek, Siffkey
- Mill Farm, nr Wells
- Norfolk Brickyard, nr Holkham
- Burnham Breck, Burnham Market (Aug only)
- Deepdale Backpackers Camping, Burnham Deepdale
- Poplars Campsite, Holme
- Searles, Hunstanton

Let us know your recommendations. Email info@thelittlebeachbellcompany.co.uk to tell us your favourite places to camp in Norfolk.

Find out more

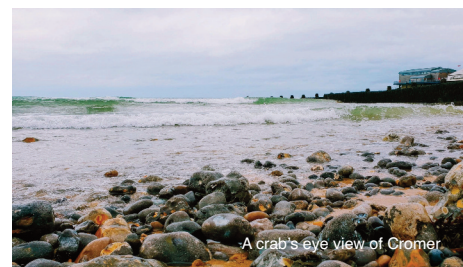
Visit the campsites.co.uk website to find out about a wide selection of Norfolk campsites that cater for different tastes and needs. Some are dog-friendly, others are adult-only, while some are just for caravans. Select what you need from the filter at the top of the page. I'm sure you'll find something that's right for you.

A stone's throw (ish) from a fantastic beach

In this newsletter, I've focused on sites that offer easy access to a beach. It's not difficult to find a lovely, clean beach in Norfolk – some bustling with holidaymakers close to a town or resort, or others that are quieter, calmer and have little or no facilities.

As a family, we've enjoyed many of Norfolk's beaches and depending on how we feel, we choose our destination accordingly. Cromer has always been a favourite and it always will be. To us, it has the perfect combination of bustle and calm, together with some of the best chippies in North Norfolk.

But at other times we opt for the wilds of Holkham or wide spaces of Brancaster at low tide. My advice would be to choose a campsite that allows for choice of beach visit. The A149 coast road link the majority of North Norfolk's gems so getting between them is not too hard.



A crab's eye view of Cromer

Did you know?

- Cromer is a coastal town 23 miles (37km) north of the county town of Norwich and 4 miles (6.4 km) east of Sheringham.
- As well as being a popular tourist destination, the town is known for the Cromer Crab, which is a major source of income for local fishermen.
- Built in 1901, Cromer Pier is 151 metres (495 ft) long and it's home to the Pavilion Theatre.

The joys of bell tent camping

So, for those of you who do not go camping regularly, we have the solution for you.

Rather than missing out on an experience that you'll no doubt love (I'm being positive here) because you simply don't have the necessary equipment – and let's face it, the full kit can be expensive if it's not going to be used frequently – you can enjoy a taste of the camping life by hiring one of our bell tents (or more, of course, if you are in a group).

At The Little Beach Bell Company, we do all the hard work for you. We pitch your bell tent at the site that you choose, kitting it out with the things you need for a comfortable night. Then, we take it down again when you're finished and left. It really is that easy.

We also aim to be an affordable option, along with being flexible and doing whatever we can to make your experience as fun-filled and memorable as possible. So give us a try!

Don't forget your campsite essentials

It always pays to be prepared when camping and there are certain things that you should always bring with you. These include:

- bottle opener/corkscrew (you know why)
- toilet rolls
- makeshift washing line and pegs
- carrier bags/bin liners
- safety matches
- baby wipes – they always come in handy.



How it works

We provide cool-camping experiences in Norfolk, where you can enjoy a wonderful stay in one of our fantastic bell tents. We do the hard work. All you need do is rent one of our bell tents and choose a location – we'll pitch the tent wherever you want to stay. We'll come and take it down and away after you've gone, it's that simple.

■ Call Matt on 07718 129 110 or email info@thelittlebeachbellcompany.co.uk

