



5 DAY Heritage Holiday in the Isle of Man

By Seaside Cottages

Welcome



Seaside Cottages

Holiday Cottages | By the beach | Dog friendly | Self catering

There are so many special places in the Isle of Man to visit that are rich in history and heritage.

Whether you live on the Island and have some time off to explore, or you are a visitor experiencing our Island for the first time, we have designed this **5 day itinerary** to make sure you don't miss out on the best sites.

We have assumed you will be making the most of the public transport on offer, since some of these modes of transport date back to the Victorian era and are worth enjoying. Watch out for the suggestions and clickable links to help you get around.

The guide is written from the perspective of having your base from our Port Erin holiday cottages by the beach, although the timetables are included to show routes from everywhere on the Island.

And if you are on staycation, make the most of 2021 by touring the Island as a visitor to really make the most of your heritage-rich home.



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Day 1

01

Milner's Tower

Built in 1871 and standing at the top of Bradda Head, it is Port Erin's special landmark.

It was built in honour of safe-maker William Milner who helped the residents of Port Erin. From above, the Tower resembles a lock!

A wonderful walk up-to the Tower gives you incredible views over Port Erin bay.



Day 1.....

Cregneash

Wander around the quaint white cottages. This was one of the last strongholds of a community using Manx language and customs, and you can immerse yourself in imagining the crofting way of life.

You will see Loaghtan sheep (4 and sometimes 6 horns!) and Manx Cats (no tails) too!

Enjoy a cream tea at the lovely tearooms here, or head to The Sound Café to watch seals and birdlife at the Calf Sound ([link to blog](#))



Walk or take a bus (28 from Port Erin, 20 mins, seasonal).

https://www.iombusandrail.im/media/2027/seasonal_services.pdf



Day 1.....

Meayll Stone Circle

On the way back to Port Erin, you will find this chambered cairn on Mull Hill dating from 4000BC. Late Neolithic or early Bronze age, there are six chambers with an eighteen foot stone circle in the centre, exposed by the open heathland.

At the top of the hill are the remains of a World War 2 early radar warning system. You can see this historical land-mark from the bus, or better still a great way to do this is on foot.



Day 2

02



Travel via Steam Train from Port Erin to Castletown

<https://www.iombusandrail.im/heritage/our-railways/isle-of-man-steam-railway/>

Castle Rushen

One of the most wonderfully preserved castles in the world, originally built in the 12th Century, this heritage landmark is a fantastically imposing feature in Castletown.

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/CR-Group-Info2019.pdf>

See the murder holes, 17th century dining room and medieval kitchen!

Enjoy displays showing the different times in history, bringing this medieval Castle to life.

Day 2.....

Old House of Keys

The centre of 19th century Manx political life and the former home of the Manx parliament. Sit in the debating chamber and watch a theatrical re-enactment of a historical debate.

<https://www.visitisleofman.com/experience/the-old-house-of-keys-p1292491>

Nautical Museum

Discover Castletown's nautical life and historical excavations, and learn about how the Nautical museum are preserving George Quayle's prominent creation "Peggy", an armed racing yacht, into her third century.

<https://www.visitisleofman.com/experience/nautical-museum-p1292041>

Old Grammar School

A former school for boys, built in 1200AD, enjoy a class and indulge in an historical way of learning in the Victorian classroom, and see examples of schoolwork.

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/old-grammar-school/>

Photo Manx National Heritage



Photo VisitIOM



How about some lunch? See this [blog](#) for some ideas of cafes and restaurants to visit in the South of the Island



Day 3

03

Rushen Abbey



Steam train from Port Erin to Ballasalla, for Rushen Abbey, then jump back on to get to Douglas

https://www.iombusandrail.im/media/2020/2021-steam_railway.pdf

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/rushen-abbey/>

A monastery in 1134, stroll around the immaculate gardens. In the early 1900s onwards it was popular for strawberries and tea served in the garden, and in 1998 it was acquired by Manx National Heritage and restorations commenced where archaeologists made discoveries about the Monk's way of life.

Now a heritage centre, with the remains of the Abbey having been restored, and walkways constructed to allow visitors to learn about its incredible history.

Its worth having a coffee here in the beautiful Abbey restaurant

Day 3.....

Tower of Refuge

From the train station head to the promenade to enjoy a view of the Tower of Refuge. It was built in 1832 as shelter to mariners shipwrecked on St Mary's Isle.

It was constructed by Sir William Hillary, founder of the RNLI, who had been at the forefront of rescues on the Isle, including that of the crew of the St George Steam Packet Steamer RMS St George when it was wrecked in 1830.

Manx Museum

A short walk to the Manx Museum will show you treasures and artifacts from the Isle of Man's 10,000 year history illustrating its Viking and Celtic past.

<https://www.visitisleofman.com/experience/manx-museum-p1292001>

Camera Obscura

Take a walk up to peaceful Douglas Head via the steps ascending from South Quay by the side of the Swing Bridge, admire the beautiful views over Douglas harbour, and maybe watch a ferry departing to Heysham or Liverpool.

Drop down to the Great Union Camera Obscura, then admire the old amphitheatre on Douglas Head.

Photo by Andrew Haddock



Photo Visit Isle of Man



A spot of lunch at one of the beautiful cafes or restaurants on the picturesque Quay is a perfect pit-stop.

If you have time, enjoy a Horse Tram ride along the promenade



04

Day 4

Laxey Wheel

A dramatic beauty. This is the largest surviving waterwheel of its kind, and served Laxey for 70 years.

Climb to the top via the spiral staircase to the viewing platform, the wheel is still turning! Enjoy the panoramic views, and then explore the Laxey Mines to learn about the lives of the miners.

From Laxey , jump on the Electric Tram to Ramsey (45 mins from Laxey)



Take the bus to Douglas: Derby Castle MER Station (11 or 1H) in around 60 mins from Port Erin.

Then take the tram to Laxey <https://www.iombusandrail.im/media/2021/2021->

[manx electric railway.pdf](https://www.iombusandrail.im/media/2021/2021-manx-electric-railway.pdf) which takes around 30 mins from Douglas

Day 4 continued....

Grove Museum

Built by a wealthy merchant family from Liverpool as their summer retreat in Victorian times, enjoy wandering around this house which has been kept as it was with their possessions and an insight into their life with vintage farming equipment, country garden and servants quarters.

Check opening times before you go with Manx National Heritage here

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/> or on 01624 812686



Photo Janice Farnan

Milntown Estate

A 20 minute walk crossing the Sulby River will take you to Milntown Estate on Lezayre Road.

The estate was created in the early 16th Century, originally 500 acres, gradually sold-off including the Sky Hill area, and the land that Ramsey Grammar School and Ramsey Golf club now occupy. It now has 15 acres.

Learn about the wealthy families that occupied and owned the Estate over the centuries, and who assumed important positions in the Isle of Man. It was run as a girls boarding school from 1898 to 1911, “Home School for the Daughters of Gentlemen” and later run as a hotel. It is now owned and preserved with many 1800s refurbishment features.

<https://www.milntown.org/the-estate-325494/>



Visit Isle of Man



A trip to the Ramsey Gelatory before you come back is a treat



Photo by Peter Killey

05

Day 5

Peel Castle

Constructed by Vikings in the 11th Century, this majestic fortress stands on St Patrick's Isle and is linked to the town by a causeway. Cathedral ruins stand within the walls of the Castle. The outer walls remain intact and offer plenty of opportunity to wander inside the structure while you listen to an audio guide.

It was occupied by Royals, Government and Military over the centuries. There is plenty of folklore to learn about including the story of the 'Moddey Dhoo' , the black dog that roams the halls.



Jump on a bus to Peel from Port Erin taking 30 mins
(Bus Operating Saturdays, Sundays and Public
Holidays 29 May to 5 September 4R, 8, 8R)
https://www.iombusandrail.im/media/2027/seasonal_services.pdf

Alternatively, take the steam-train or bus to Douglas,
then bus Douglas to Peel

Day 5 continued....

House of Manannan

Named after Manannan, the "Great mythological sea god" , you will be immersed in the Island's Celtic, Viking, and Maritime history.

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/house-of-manannan/>



Visit Isle of Man

Grab a bite at the Fish Bar as you reach the promenade: A Kipper Bap is a favourite here. Or sample [The Boatyard](#) (Dog friendly), [Harbour Lights](#), or a coffee at [Roots by the Sea](#)



Visit Isle of Man

GETTING AROUND



Visit Isle of Man

Hop on the Victorian steam train between Port Erin and Douglas, and perhaps take the dining carriage with a fireman's brunch or an afternoon tea on the way.

Or enjoy waving at passers by from the Electric Tram between Douglas and Ramsey.

You can even take a Tram up to the summit of Snaefell if you have time on your five day schedule.

And don't forget the Douglas Horse Tram for some old fashioned seaside memories as you ride along the Promenade.

Getting around

Steam Railway

<https://www.iombusandrail.im/heritage/>

Isle of Man Steam Railway

May - July 2021

Provisional timetable. Please check our website www.rail.im for any further extensions or updates



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
R	R	R	R	R	R	R
31						
R						

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	
		R	R	R	R	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		R	R	R	R	R
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		R	R	R	R	R
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		R	R	R	R	R
28	29	30				

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	
		R	R	R	R	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		R	R	R	R	R
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		R	R	R	R	R

	09:50	11:50	13:50	15:50		17:45
Douglas						
Pt Soderick	10:03	12:03	14:03	16:03		17:58
Santon*	10:11	12:11	14:11	16:11		18:06
Ballooish	10:20	12:20	14:20	16:20		18:15
Castletown	10:27	12:27	14:27	16:27		18:22
Colby	10:38	12:38	14:38	16:38		18:33
Port St Mary	10:46	12:46	14:46	16:46		18:41
Port Erin	10:50	12:50	14:50	16:50		18:45

	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:00	07:45	19:15
Port St Mary	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:05	07:48	19:20
Colby	10:14	12:14	14:14	16:14	07:56	19:30
Castletown	10:27	12:27	14:27	16:27	08:07	19:42
Ballooish	10:35	12:35	14:35	16:35	08:15	19:49
Santon*	10:47	12:47	14:47	16:47		
Pt Soderick	10:55	12:55	14:55	16:55		
Douglas	11:08	13:08	15:08	17:08	08:45	20:30

A TRULY UNIQUE DINING EXPERIENCE

CALL 697457



THE DINING CAR

Select the date on which you wish to travel and match the letter code to the timetables below. If two letters apply both timetables are running.

TO ALIGHT: Inform the Guard on boarding. **TO BOARD:** Give a clear hand signal to the Driver.

* Denotes request stop.

✕ A buffet, breakfast or restaurant service of hot food or snacks and hot & cold drinks are available. Please see Dining Car leaflet for more information.

• When boarding at a main rail station, we suggest you arrive at least 15 minutes prior to departure to allow time for ticketing and boarding.

• Unless on a pre-booked trip, seating is not assigned and is on a first come first served basis.

• We are an authentic heritage railway. However, the locomotive used depends on the maintenance needs of our rolling stock. Therefore, our diesel locomotive may operate instead of a steam loco.

Please note that Ronaldsway Halt is also a request stop. All information correct at time of printing. Operational constraints may apply. Please confirm latest updates via our website, Facebook /IoMTransport or Twitter feed @iombusandrail prior to travelling.


Manx Electric Railway

<https://www.iombusandrail.im/heritage/>

Manx Electric Railway & Snaefell Mountain Railway

May - July 2021

Provisional timetable. Please check our website www.rail.im for any further extensions or updates



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
					C	C
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					C	C
31						
C						

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	
		C	C	C	C	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		C	C	C	C	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		C	C	C	C	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		C	C	C	C	
28	29	30				

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	
		C	C	C	C	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		C	C	C	C	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		C	C	C	C	

SNAEFELL MOUNTAIN RAILWAY TIMETABLE C


From	To	09:40	10:10	10:40	11:10	11:40	12:10	12:40	13:10	13:40	14:10	14:40	15:10
Douglas	Ramsey												
Douglas	Lezay												
Douglas	Santon												
Douglas	Lezay												
Douglas	Ramsey												
Douglas	Douglas												

MANX ELECTRIC RAILWAY TIMETABLE C

From	To	09:40	10:10	10:40	11:10	11:40	12:10	12:40	13:10	13:40	14:10	14:40	15:10	15:40	16:10
Douglas	Geashill*														
Douglas	Rainey*														
Douglas	South Cape*														
Douglas	Lezay														
Douglas	Dhoon*														
Douglas	Railaynes*														
Douglas	Lezay*														
Douglas	Balla Vaa*														
Douglas	Ramsey														
Douglas	Balla Vaa*														
Douglas	Lezay*														
Douglas	Railaynes*														
Douglas	Dhoon*														
Douglas	Lezay														
Douglas	South Cape*														
Douglas	Balla Vaa*														
Douglas	Ramsey														

Please note that the Snaefell Mountain Railway commences Saturday 29th May

Go Explore by bus, train and tram



www.rail.im

Don't Miss
Our celebratory Snaefell Mountain Railway 125th Anniversary book by local historian Andrew Scarffe £14.99

Available in all Railway Gift Shops or online www.rail.im/shop

Getting around

Bus

Timetables:

<https://www.iombusandrail.im/>

Or use journey planner Traveline:

<https://www.traveline.info/>



Manx National Heritage Cards

You can get an annual pass here if you are a Manx resident :

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/shop/product/annual-pass/>

Or a holiday pass here if you are visiting for 14 days:

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/shop/product/adult-visitor-holiday-pass/>

To become a member of Manx National Heritage click here:

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/get-involved/membership/>



Visit Isle of Man

Getting around....

Go Explore Heritage Cards

These are a fantastic deal!

One of these cards entitles you to unlimited travel and unlimited access to all Manx National Heritage attractions for five days.

Buy a card, then top it up whenever you like. Child passes are reduced.

If you are already a member of National Trust or English Heritage, you can enter the sites for free, and just require a travel card if you are using public transport

https://iom-ssp.unicard-uk.com/ssp/iom/landing_page.jsp



Rail.co.uk

Thankyou

LIKE TO STAY?



I hope you find this five day schedule useful.

Make sure you take photos and tag in @seasidecottages.im on [instagram](#) and [facebook](#) so we can share your pics

Read our weekly blog to keep up to date with what's happening
www.seasidecottages.im/blog

If you are looking for self catering accommodation, our beautiful Port Erin 4 Star Gold holiday cottages sleep six, are dog friendly and are close to the beach.



Email me at : seasidecottagesiom@gmail.com



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www.seasidecottages.im