



## Spirit of Discovery:

Explore Maritime Heritage experiences  
across Atlantic Coastal destinations



The  
**Atlantic Adventures**  
Collection





## Plymouth

**Plymouth, Britain's Ocean City, is one of Europe's most vibrant waterfront cities with so much to explore. There's something for every traveller to experience in this historic city, however long you have to stay around.**

There's also hundreds of years of history to uncover, from Sir Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada, to the Mayflower sailing in 1620, to a city rebuilt following the Blitz during World War II.

Visit the Barbican and Sutton Harbour for quaint cobbled streets, a picturesque harbour and wealth of independent shops and restaurants. Here you'll also find the National Marine Aquarium – the UK's largest with more than 4,000 animals.

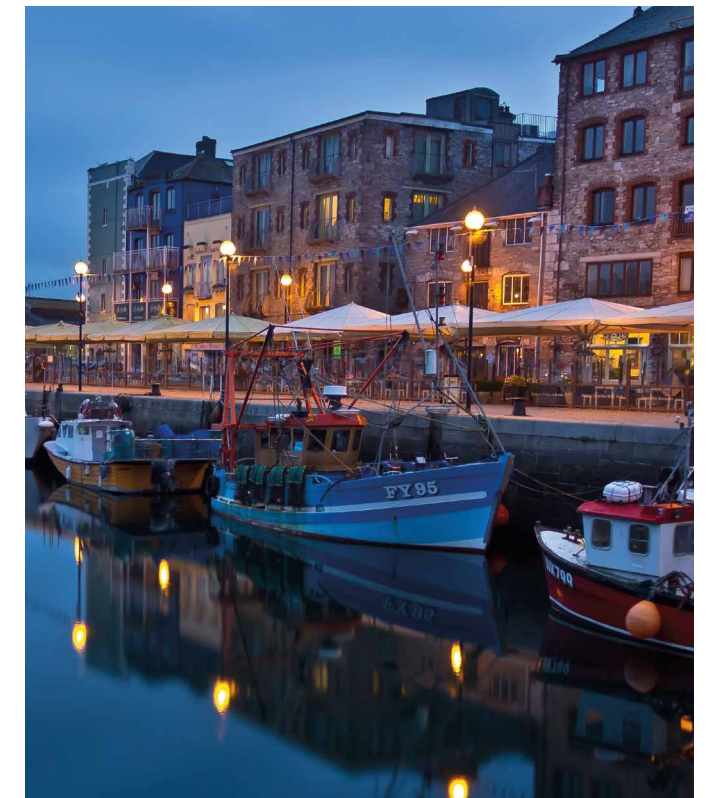
History fans should stop by the Mayflower Steps. Learn all about the departure of the Pilgrims on the Mayflower ship, who sailed from the UK to the US in 1620 in search of religious freedom.

A short walk from this historic heart of the city is Plymouth Hoe – to describe it as a park doesn't do it justice. The Hoe is home to the striking red-and-white striped former lighthouse, Smeaton's Tower, the art-deco, open-air swimming pool Tinside Lido and a number of statues and memorials.

Another unmissable spot is the historic Royal William Yard. Formerly a Royal Navy Victualling Yard, it's a grand and imposing sight, and the largest collection of Grade I Listed military buildings in Europe.

The Yard has now been transformed into one of the coolest spots to be, home to an array of restaurants, cafés, shops and galleries.

You can even navigate the city by boat – unsurprisingly, as Britain's Ocean City, one of the best ways to appreciate this wonderful place is on the water.



The Barbican

## Getting here

### Arriving by car

- Drive time from London is around 4 hours.
- Drive time from Manchester is around 4.5 hours.
- Drive time from Cardiff is around 2.5 hours.

### Arriving by train

Plymouth is easily accessible by train. Travelling from London takes around 3 hours with Great Western Railway, if you're coming from the north, the trip from Manchester can take 5 hours 15 minutes.

### Arriving by ferry

You can sail by cruise-ferry to Plymouth from France and Spain. Brittany Ferries run regular services from Roscoff in Brittany and from Santander in Northern Spain to the ferryport at Millbay – close to the city centre and waterfront.

### Arriving by air

There are 3 airports within an easy distance of Plymouth. These are Bristol, Exeter and Newquay.



# Maritime attractions to visit

## The Box

The Box is a major new cultural and heritage attraction. With a series of amazing permanent galleries filled with objects, you'll be able to discover the city's human history, natural history, art, media, photographic and archive collections.

You won't be able to miss the striking naval figureheads, all lovingly restored. Once built to adorn the bows of naval warships, these icons of maritime history are suspended in a huge sweep in The Box's main entrance.

One of the first exhibitions at The Box will be 'Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy', a major show that explores the myths and uncovers new meanings connected to the Mayflower's epic journey in 1620. Travel trade tours include The Box highlights tour, The Mayflower Experience and many other bespoke tours which can be tailor made for your group.

[www.theboxplymouth.com](http://www.theboxplymouth.com)



## Devonport Naval Heritage Centre

The Devonport Naval Heritage Site and Visitor Centre records the development of the Dockyard and Plymouth's pivotal role in supporting the Royal Navy through major conflicts since 1300, including two World Wars.

The centre is open by appointment to groups of visitors, exploring and conserving the character and history of Devonport Naval Base and the Dockyard for the future.

Tours are also available aboard HMS Courageous, a decommissioned nuclear submarine. Visit the 285ft long, 4300 ton, Churchill class, decommissioned nuclear submarine – the only exhibit of its kind in the UK. HMS Courageous provides a fascinating glimpse into the operation world of the 'Silent Service'.

<https://www.visitplymouth.co.uk/things-to-do/devonport-naval-heritage-centre-p1901323>



## Barbican and Mayflower Steps Walking Tour

The historic Barbican and Sutton Harbour are at the heart of the city's heritage with the oldest buildings and the greatest number of historical stories. Around the Barbican, a vibrant place of cobbled streets, narrow lanes and more than 200 listed buildings – many of them Tudor and Jacobean – you'll find a range of cosmopolitan boutique shops, galleries, pubs, cafés and restaurants.

Visit the Mayflower Steps from where the Pilgrims are believed to have left England aboard the Mayflower for a new life in America in 1620. Discover Plymouth's maritime heritage with the one-mile Sutton Harbour Trail, or take advantage of the two National Cycle Routes right on the harbour's doorstep.

Plymouth's waterfront is home to many historic stories, with the likes of Sir Francis Drake, Captain Cook and Charles Darwin all setting sail from our shores.

[www.devonandcornwalltourguides.com/tour/plymouth-walking-tour/](http://www.devonandcornwalltourguides.com/tour/plymouth-walking-tour/)



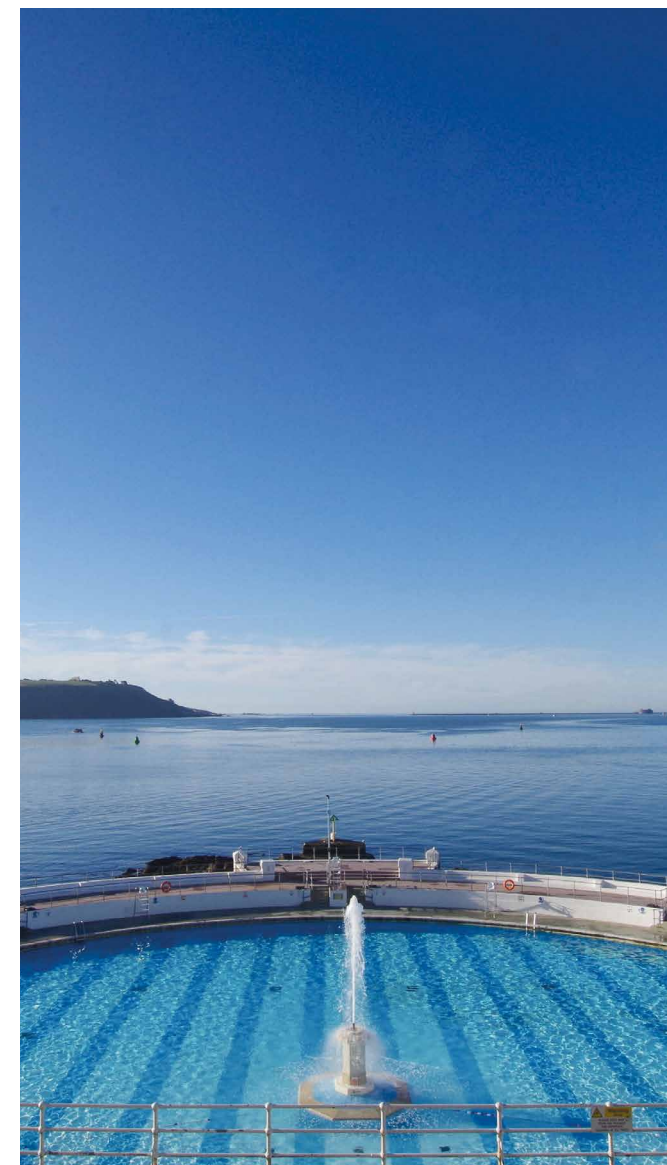
## Plymouth Boat Trips

A one hour harbour cruise departs daily from The Barbican Landing Stage, adjacent to the Mayflower Steps, Plymouth.

On departing the Mayflower Steps, your skipper will provide an informative commentary, as we sail across the spectacular Plymouth Sound, flanked by the beautiful Devon and Cornish coasts.

We pass Plymouth Hoe, the famous Drakes Island, heading for the river Tamar and the Royal Naval Dockyard, where the mighty warships and nuclear submarines await!

[www.plymouthboattrips.co.uk](http://www.plymouthboattrips.co.uk)



## Key events in Plymouth

### Illuminate

Illuminate is a spectacular light based festival held yearly at the Royal William Yard.

### Plymouth Seafood Festival

Brings The Barbican and Sutton Harbour alive with entertainment, activities and dishes to celebrate the city's fantastic caught seafood.

## Accommodation in Plymouth

### Crowne Plaza Hotel

[www.crowneplaza.com/crowneplaza/plymouth](http://www.crowneplaza.com/crowneplaza/plymouth)

### Jurys Inn – 247 bedroom

[www.jurysinn.com/plymouth](http://www.jurysinn.com/plymouth)

### Duke of Cornwall – 72 bedrooms

[www.dukeofcornwall.co.uk](http://www.dukeofcornwall.co.uk)

### New Continental – 99 bedrooms

[www.newcontinental.co.uk](http://www.newcontinental.co.uk)

## Food and drink in Plymouth

### Plymouth Gin

[www.plymouthdistillery.com](http://www.plymouthdistillery.com)

### The Boathouse Restaurant

[www.theboathousecafe.co.uk](http://www.theboathousecafe.co.uk)

### Rockfish Plymouth

[www.therockfish.co.uk/restaurants/plymouth](http://www.therockfish.co.uk/restaurants/plymouth)



For more information on places to stay, things to see and do and events in Plymouth, please visit [www.visitplymouth.co.uk](http://www.visitplymouth.co.uk)





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