

6 SANDOWN ITINERARIES

It's easy to explore the Isle of Wight using sustainable transport. Here are a few ideas for fun local days out – no car required!



DINOSAURS

1 Sandown bus station is located in the high street. The route 8 service takes you through to Ryde via Yaverland where you can visit the **Isle of Wight Zoo** or walk in prehistoric footsteps at the famous **Dinosaur Isle** (pictured) – the first purpose built dinosaur museum in the UK. In the other direction the route 2 service will take you through to the picturesque village of Godshill. Why not visit **The Model Village** where if you're standing in the right place you can see the real **All Saints' Church**, the model of the church, and a model of the model!

💡 **Bring your camera: All Saints' Church Godshill is a picturesque medieval church and apparently the most photographed church in the UK.**

isleofwightzoo.com | dinosaurisle.com | modelvillagegodshill.co.uk



UP THE DOWNS

2 Sandown sits in a beautiful bay with stunning walks in all directions. If you're after a flat walk then stroll along the promenade to **Shanklin** – there are cafés and ice cream stops along the way to re-fuel. If you fancy a lazy day then hire a deck chair, and relax on one of the many sandy beaches. Why not dip your toes in the sea too? For the more adventurous take a hike up to **Culver Down** (pictured) passing the **Yarborough Monument**. Once at the top, the view of the bay will take your breath away!

💡 **Pick up the 'Rambles by bus' leaflet and follow the family-friendly coastal walk, suitable for all ages and most abilities.**

iowramblers.com



BEACH OUT

3 Sandown's beach is one of the finest on the Isle of Wight, with miles of soft golden sands crowned by **Sandown's pleasure pier**. Popular with tourists and surfers, Sandown is a traditional 'bucket and spade' holiday resort with a wide range of entertainments. You can hire bikes, enjoy watersports and even do a spot of fishing from the end of the pier – and if you strike lucky, have a BBQ on the beach for tea!

💡 **One of the six wonders of the Isle of Wight is right on Sandown's doorstep: 'Lake where you walk!' Can you name the other five wonders?**

sandownpier.co.uk



SUSTAINABLE SANDOWN

A Cycle hire: Sandown Bicycle and Beach Hire

Esplanade, Sandown PO36 8JS
Telephone 07704 929869
sandownbikeandbeach.co.uk

C Nearest train station: Island Line

Sandown Station, Station Avenue
Sandown PO36 9BN
Telephone 0871 200 4950
southwesttrains.co.uk/island-line

B Nearest bus station: Southern Vectis

Sandown High Street & Victoria Road
Telephone 01983 827 000
islandbuses.info



TRAIN IT



4 It's straightforward to get the Island Line train that goes from Sandown to Shanklin, which is a traditional seaside town with gift shops, cafés and gorgeous sandy beaches. It's also home to **Shanklin Chine**, the Island's oldest tourist attraction, where you can see a spectacular waterfall and walk through the rock formation. The **Old Village** is famous for its thatched pubs and tea rooms. There's also **Jingle Bells** – the only dedicated Christmas shop on the Island, open from March to Christmas Eve.

💡 If you fancy seeing what happens in a signal box, take the train in the other direction to Brading station where you can have a sneaky peek.

www.shanklinchine.co.uk

GO WILD



5 Many attractions on the Island are dog-friendly, including **Robin Hill Country Park** (pictured, take the route 8 bus). You can also head for **Osborne**, Victoria and Albert's seaside estate, where dogs are welcome to explore the grounds with you.

At Sandown beach, some parts are dog friendly all year round, and the majority of beaches on the Isle of Wight welcome dogs from September through to March. We recommend enjoying the sea view from one of the many pubs along the Esplanade.

💡 You can take your well behaved dog on board the Island's buses and trains for no extra charge.

robin-hill.com | english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/osborne
visitisleofwight.co.uk/inspiration/dog-friendly-ideas

BICYCLE ISLAND



6 Sandown is located on the popular **Red Squirrel Trail** which is perfect for cyclists who prefer going off-road on mainly flat, gentle routes. Most of this trail is based on smooth cycleways which were created from disused railway lines and you can enjoy a lovely leisurely cycle through the heart of the Island's countryside. If you're feeling energetic, you can cycle all the way to Cowes. Keep a look out for the Island's red furry residents!

Alternatively, cycle along the revetment to Shanklin. This is a flat concrete ride right along the front, with sensational views of the beach and sea.

💡 Hire **Red Squirrel Electric bikes** from the **Visitors' Centre** in Newport. Pick them up and head for the cycle route – or they will deliver the bikes to your accommodation.

nutsnotto.co.uk