

Harwich, Essex, England

A maritime town steeped in seafaring legend — and your easiest gateway to London. But spend time in Old Harwich itself; it punches well above its size.

 Docked (pier port)  Typical call: 8–10 hrs  British Pounds (GBP)  English

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — Harwich International Port (Parkeston Quay), no tendering

Best For: Maritime history, London day trips, Mayflower heritage, fresh seafood

Walk to Centre: Old Harwich is 2.5 miles; take the local train (6 min) or taxi

Don't Miss: Ha'penny Pier, the Kindertransport memorial, and crab at The Pier restaurant

 Getting around:  Taxi  £7–£9 ·  Rideshare  Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Old Harwich Maritime Trail** — Follow the self-guided trail through the grid of narrow Georgian streets.
- **London Day Trip by Train** — From the station steps of Harwich International, you can be in central London in roughly 80 minutes.
- **Harwich Redoubt Fort** — A circular Napoleonic-era fort with a dry moat, built in 1808 to defend the harbor.
- **Electric Palace Cinema** — One of the oldest surviving purpose-built cinemas in the UK, opened in 1911 and beautifully restored to its Edwardian glory.
- **Dovercourt Bay Beach** — A quiet Blue Flag sand-and-shingle beach just one train stop from the port.

BEST WALKS

- **Old Harwich Maritime Trail** 2–3 hrs · Easy · Free — Start at Harwich Town station and head toward the waterfront.
- **Dovercourt Promenade & Lighthouses** 1–2 hrs · Easy · Free — From Dovercourt station, walk down to the seafront promenade.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:59AM–7:52PM · Jun 4:35AM–9:16PM · Aug 5:38AM–8:19PM · Sep 6:29AM–7:11PM · Oct 7:19AM–6:02PM	
Apr	50°	42°	11d		
Jun	68°	59°	9d		
Aug	75°	68°	8d		
Sep	70°	63°	10d		
Oct	61°	54°	11d		

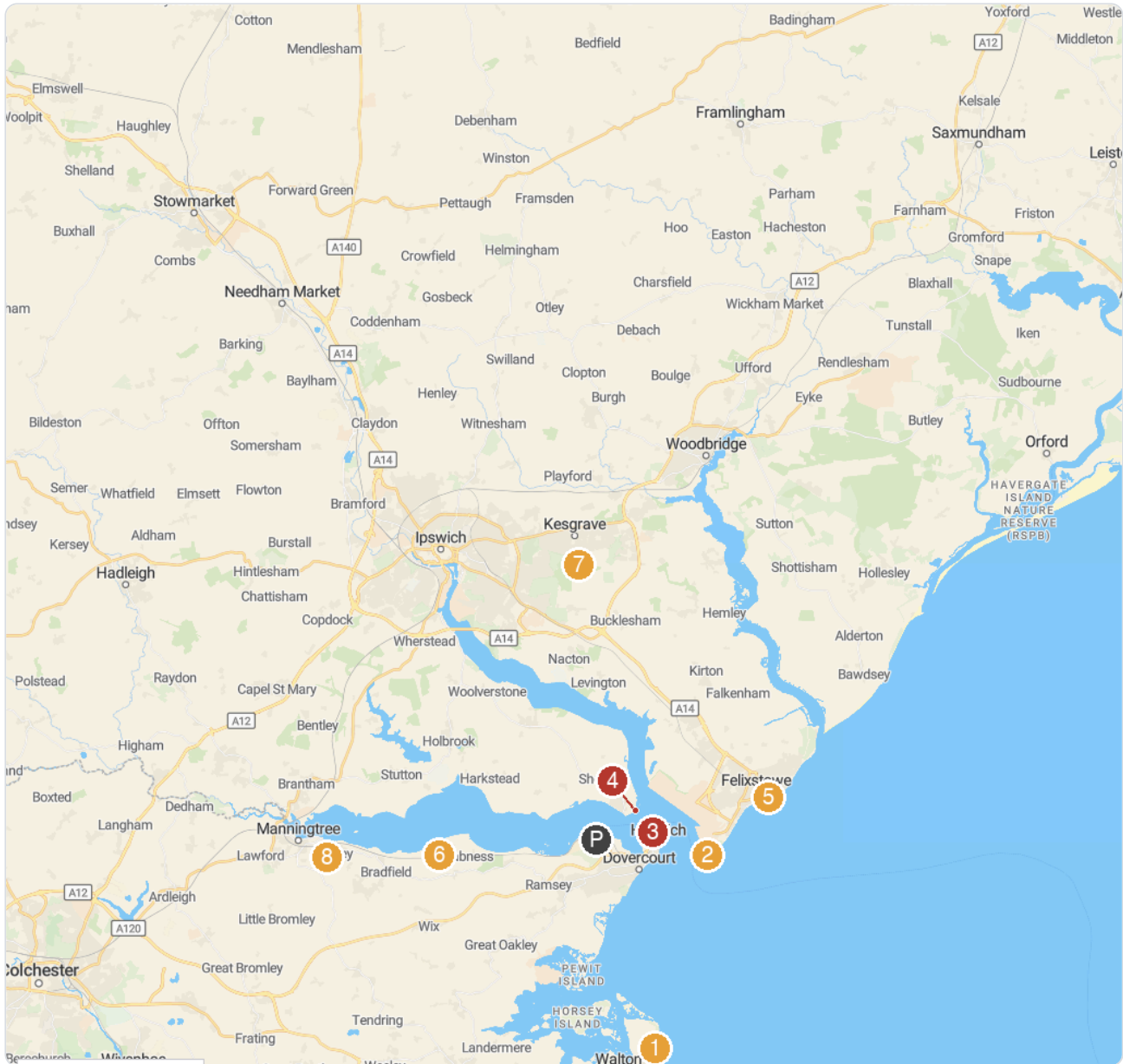
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Train is king. The station is 2 minutes from the ship. Buy a day return to Harwich Town or London using contactless card at the machine — no cash needed.
- London timing risk. If Harwich is a port call (not turnaround), allow 3–4 hrs round-trip travel minimum. Train delays can be real. Book the ship's London excursion if you need a guaranteed return.
- Eat the crab. Harwich is one of England's best ports for fresh-landed shellfish. The Pier Hotel restaurant on the quay is worth the splurge for lunch with a harbor view.
- North Sea weather. Even in summer the Essex coast can be windy and damp. Bring a waterproof layer — you'll be glad of it on Ha'penny Pier.
- Sunday hours. If calling on Sunday, shops don't open until 10–11am and close by 4–5pm. Pubs and restaurants stay open — head there early.
- Colchester alternative. If London feels too far, Colchester (Britain's oldest recorded town, Norman Castle, Roman walls) is a 40-min train ride — far less crowded and surprisingly rewarding.

Harwich, Essex, England — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Naze Tower | Historic Georgian tower with art gallery and panoramic views. | 2 Felixstowe Museum | Local history museum housed in a Victorian fort. |
| 3 Ha'penny Pier | Historic wooden pier offering ferry services and views. | 4 HMS Ganges Museum | Museum preserving the history of HMS Ganges naval training. |
| 5 Felixstowe Sea Front Gardens | Victorian ornamental gardens along Felixstowe's seafront. | 6 Wrabness Nature Reserve | Coastal nature reserve with woodlands, meadows, and wildlife. |
| 7 Suffolk Aviation Heritage Museum | Museum showcasing Suffolk's aviation history and aircraft. | 8 Old Knobbly | Ancient, gnarled oak tree, a local natural landmark. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |