

*If you only have a weekend to spend in the Maldon District, we have put together some suggested itineraries to make the most of your time*

# WEEKENDER

## COASTAL EXPLORER – NORTH

### DAY ONE

Have breakfast in one of the seawall cafés at Heybridge Basin, then stroll along the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation. Afterwards, if you're feeling energetic, you can walk nine miles along the seawall to Goldhanger, or take the car – there are country pubs there for lunch. Visit the Grade I Listed St Peter's church, then head through the old stile in the churchyard for a seawall walk or a bracing swim.

### DAY TWO

Spend the day in Tollesbury exploring the nature reserves, with lunch at the marina and afternoon tea in the sail lofts.

## COASTAL EXPLORER – SOUTH

### DAY ONE

Walk from Burnham-on-Crouch to North Fambridge and enjoy lunch in the historic pub, explore Blue House Farm nature reserve and return by train. Enjoy an evening movie at The Rio.

### DAY TWO

After a fried breakfast at Burnham Yacht Harbour, catch the ferry to Wallasea Island where you can explore the RSPB sanctuary and enjoy lunch at Essex Marina.

## WARTIME MEMORIES

### DAY ONE

Start from St George's church, Heybridge Basin, made from a wartime Armstong hut, then walk around the seawall to view Osea Island, a World War One secret naval base. Return to Maldon to visit The Combined Military Services Museum. Enjoy lunch in the Airmen's Mess at Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome and explore the museum, before returning to Maldon and visiting the town's Commonwealth War Graves.

### DAY TWO

Head to Bradwell-on-Sea to Bradwell Bay airfield and the poignant crashed Mosquito war memorial, then view the Mulberry Harbours. On the way, take a look at the D-Day Embarkation Hard at St Lawrence Bay. If you have time, head to Burnham-on-Crouch for the four-mile walk to the unique two-storey World War Two Minefield Observation Tower.

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**Hire a beach hut at Promenade Park. Follow the Wildlife Scavenger Hunt & go crabbing**  
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## FAMILY FUN

### DAY ONE

If the weather's fine, take a dip in the open-air Woodup salt water pool in Tollesbury, followed by a picnic and a walk along the seawall. In the afternoon, burn off steam in the Great Braxted playground and take a trip on the Braxted Bakery's miniature train.

### DAY TWO

Hire a beach hut and spend the day at Maldon's Promenade Park, enjoying the Splash Park, Promenade Park Zoo, and the Museum in the Park. Follow the self-guided Wildlife Scavenger Hunt and go crabbing, before enjoying a fish and chip supper.

## THE WET WEEKEND

### DAY ONE

Start at the Museum of Power in Langford and enjoy lunch there before visiting Maldon's Combined Military Services Museum. Later, learn about the Battle of Maldon in the Maeldune Centre, before heading to Blackwater Leisure Centre for a swim.

### DAY TWO

Visit the Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome and have lunch in the Airmen's Mess, then return to Maldon for tenpin bowling at Madison Heights.

## A GOURMET WEEKEND

### DAY ONE

Enjoy brunch at The Farm Café by Black Pig in Chigborough, then

Take a trip on the River Baliff at Blackwater

visit New Hall Vineyard in Purleigh for a self-guided tour and tastings (summer only), followed by lunch at Clayhill Vineyard in Latchingdon or Crouch Ridge in Althorne. Take a stroll through vineyard country then dress for dinner at Bella's Italian restaurant in Burnham.

### DAY TWO

Have oysters for breakfast at Blackwater Seafood in Promenade Park, then wander past the Maldon Salt works in Downs Road and along the river past Carr's Flour, up Market Hill and right into Cromwell Lane for lunch at Maldon Smokehouse. Stroll up the hill and enjoy Maldon's unique shops, with evening fine dining at HAUS or Le Bouchon. ■