



DARTMOUTH ARRIVAL

There are two possibilities for cruise ships arriving in Dartmouth dependent on the vessel and tides/weather.

Anchorage at the mouth of the River Dart in Start Bay with a tender transfer of approximately 10 minutes

Moorings mid-river with a tender ride of approximately 2 minutes

The sail in/ tender ride is one of the most stunning along the South West coast, passing [Dartmouth](#) castles on either side of the vessel and with a comprehensive view of the town and homes which are in a designated area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The tender pier is located on the Town Jetty right in the heart of the town centre. Coaches pick up at the top of the jetty and shops, cafes, banks are right at hand there too. Although Dartmouth is hilly, much of the town is on flat, reclaimed ground, making it accessible.

Please refer to our technical section for further details and co-ordinates.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

All cruise ships are met by our multi-lingual team from Dartmouth Tourist Information Centre. They are positioned on the town jetty for the entire call. Maps and information will be forwarded to the ship upon arrival and we can supply tourist staff on the ship, upon request. We often arrange for special welcomes or farewells. In the past, these have included gift bags of local produce, live music and sea shanty singers. Our award winning town crier meets & greets arrivals and the town's Mayor and Mayoress often offer a personal welcome as well.



EXCURSIONS

Dartmouth is already well-established with shore tour programmes set up by the main shorex companies. Some wonderful attractions are in the area such as the [Britannia Royal Naval College](#), steeped in history and with Royal connections as well, or [Greenway](#) Agatha Christie's riverside home where you can travel to by water ferry. The beauty of our location is that as well as places of interest being only a coach ride away, we can also offer other modes of transport within minutes of the tender pier, such as steam train rides, river boat excursions and trips on the UK's last remaining paddle steamer - the [Kingswear Castle](#).

In addition to this list, we are working to establish smaller, more intimate, local experiences in line with Darius Mehta's ethos. We have the opportunity to create rib excursions with a [marine biologist](#), bird watching with prestigious [Slapton Ley Field Centre](#), kayaking, local cookery courses and the chance to sail on [Pilgrim of Brixham](#), an 1895 wooden gaff-rigged sailing trawler.

Dartmouth works well for full day, as well as half day calls.



AN INTRODUCTION TO DARTMOUTH

Some cruise destinations can look quite dull from a ship. Others are iconic and really set the scene for the day ahead and that's what makes Dartmouth so special. Whether you're anchored at sea, looking out across the harbour entrance flanked by both castles, or are lucky enough to sail up the river, into the heart of the community, it is a spectacular scene - setter for what's to come. We are justifiably proud of the experience that we offer to cruise passengers. Dartmouth has in the past, offered a warm welcome to the likes of Hebridean Princess, Europa & Sea Cloud and we try hard to offer our 'upmarket historic town' with perfectly matched cruise ships.

Set in a picturesque location on the river Dart, the historic town is hugged by the surrounding Devon hills. This small naval port has played an important role in the UK's nautical history. A deep-water port for sailing vessels, Dartmouth's strategic importance dates back to 1147 where it was used as a sailing point for the crusades. Bayards Cove is Dartmouth's oldest wharf and the cobbled quayside is where the Mayflower moored up in 1620 and we look forward to celebrating Mayflower 400 in 2020.

Set in an area of outstanding beauty the town has developed as an extremely strong premium tourist destination, thanks to its beautiful environment, facilities for leisure sailing & cruise ships, and its quirky independent hotels, restaurants and boutique shops. Each arrival is carefully researched by our cruise team, so that the ship can be given the best possible, individual welcome. The town jetty is the place to pick up information, to ask questions, and to start to feel at home. And if we can add our own little treat to make the day more memorable, then we shall.

Whenever conditions permit, ships take up the mid-river mooring, affording them the most wonderful views of Kingswear, Dartmouth and the river beyond. For those that remain at anchor, the 10 minute transit to the town jetty, remains one of the most charming tender rides in the country, passing Dartmouth Castle and many beautiful homes.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Dartmouth has a year - round calendar of events, from music festivals in the spring through to October food festivals.

In August 2020, Dartmouth will be taking part in the [Mayflower 400](#) celebration - a programme of events to mark the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower. Dartmouth has always been proud of her links with the vessel - which sought shelter and repair here at the start of her voyage, with her sister ship, the Speedwell. A series of events, including the possible construction of a Pilgrims village, is still in the planning stage. We shall, of course, keep you updated.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Dartmouth is fortunate to be home to an award winning Tourist Information Centre, which is located a few steps from the tender pier.

Their fully comprehensive website www.dartmoutheverytime.co.uk provides all the information you will need about Dartmouth and please note that there is a specific [pre -cruise page](#) for guests with cruise reservations. Their staff are also happy to answer [email](#) queries.

All ships are met by multi - lingual tourist information staff, who remain on the jetty for the length of the port call. We are pleased to arrange for tourist information staff to board the vessel on arrival, upon request. Maps and information will be brought on board as a matter of course and will also be available on the jetty.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Captain Mark Cooper - Dartmouth Harbour Master & CEO has overall responsibility to deliver all services of Dart Harbour. He is also a member of the Board and heads up the Senior Management Team.

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