



2018 BEST OF DORSET

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2018 BEST OF DORSET



Free
high quality
road map

BEST OF DORSET Attractions



FORDE ABBEY
Annual Charity Summer Fair 26 July 2018

Special Events

Throughout the season all the attractions have special events to suit all tastes and interests, for listings visit:



www.dorsetattractions.co.uk

Scan this QR code on your mobile to go straight to the Website
Alternatively visit the individual attraction websites for up to date information.



**For News & Events
Visit Your TIC today**

Dorset's Tourist Information Centres

A great source of in depth local knowledge. Assistance with finding & booking accommodation and travel. Plus current information on local special events as well as maps and books.

Blandford Forum TIC
Riverside House, 1 West Street,
Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AW
Tel: 01258 454770
www.ruraldorset.com
blanfordtictic@btconnect.com

Bournemouth TIC
Pier Approach Bournemouth
Dorset BH2 5AA
Tel: 01202 451734
www.visit-dorset.com
info@bournemouth.gov.uk

Bridport TIC
Bridport Town Hall, Bucky Doo Square,
South Street, Bridport, DT6 3LF
Tel: (01308) 424901
www.visit-dorset.com
Bridport.tic@bridport-tc.gov.uk

Christchurch TIC
49 High Street, Christchurch,
Dorset, BH23 1AS
Tel: (01202) 499199
www.visitchristchurch.info
cic@regentcentre.co.uk



Abbotsbury Swannery

Dorchester TIC
Dorchester Library
South Walks House
Charles Street, Dorchester DT1 1EE
Tel: (01202) 262600
www.westdorset.com
dtic@dorset.gov.uk

Lyme Regis TIC
Guildhall Cottage, Church Street,
Lyme Regis, DT13 3BS
Tel: (01297) 442138
www.lymeregis.org
ltic@dorset.gov.uk

**Poole Tourism,
c/o Poole Museum**
4 High Street, Poole BH15 1BW
Tel: (01202) 815341
www.visit-dorset.com
info@pooletourism.com

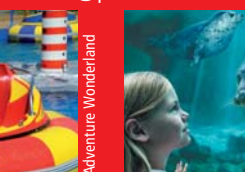
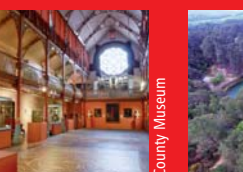
Shaftesbury TIC
8A Bell Street, Shaftesbury,
SP7 8AE
Tel: (01747) 853514
www.shaftesburydorset.com
tic@shaftesburytourism.co.uk

Sherborne TIC
3 Tilton Court, Digby Road,
Sherborne, DT9 3NL
Tel: (01935) 815341
www.visit-shaftesbury-dorset.gov.uk
sherbtic@dorset.gov.uk

Swanage TIC
The White House, Shore Rd,
Swanage BH19 1LB
Tel: (01929) 766018
www.visitswanageandpurbeck.co.uk
mail@swanage.gov.uk

Discover Purbeck Information Centre
The Library, South Street
Wareham BH20 4LR
Tel: (01929) 552740
www.purbeck.gov.uk
tic@purbeck-dc.gov.uk

Wimborne TIC
29 High Street,
Wimborne Minster, BH21 1HR
Tel: (01202) 886116
www.wimborne.gov.uk
eastdorsett@priest-house.co.uk



Money Saving Discounts

Cut out and present one of the vouchers below to receive your discount. There maybe other discounts online. See individual entries for details of discounts offered.

Please Note attractions not showing the symbol do not accept these vouchers.



BEST OF DORSET ATTRACTIONS 2018 DISCOUNT VOUCHER

Not applicable with any other offer. See individual entry for offers. Valid for 2018 season.

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Abbotsbury Swannery
T: 01305 871858 abbotsburyswannery.co.uk
Dorset's World Famous Sanctuary. See over 600 free flying friendly swans, cygnet hatching mid-May to June end. Mass feeding 12 noon and 4pm daily.
The Giant Swan Maze (opens May half term). Snacks, lunches and teas served in the licensed Swannery Café by the swinging nest children's play area.
OPEN: Daily 17/3 - 28/10/18, daily 10am - 5pm last admission 4pm
On the B3157 coast road between Weymouth & Bridport.
Swannery discount £2 per adult to a max of 4
Cannot be used with any other offer/group rate/Passport/less vouchers. Valid to 28/10/18.

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Save up to 33% - 1 FREE entry with every 2 full paying entrants.

Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion.
Valid 24th Mar to 5th Sept 2018.

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Athelhampton House & Gardens
T: 01305 848363 athelhampton.co.uk
Visit one of the finest manor houses in England, dating from the 15th Century. Explore the Grade 1 gardens, containing the world famous topiary pyramids, fountains, the River Piddle and newly opened kitchen garden. Coach House restaurant serving morning coffee, lunches and cream teas.
OPEN: Open Mar - end of Oct, Sun - Thurs 10.00am until 5.00pm. Closed Fri & Sat. Open Nov until end of Feb, Sundays only, 10.00am until dusk.
Open Good Friday 10.00am until 5.00pm.
Valid from January to December 2018.

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Bennetts Water Gardens
Tel: 01305 785150 bennettswatergardens.com
Renowned for its replica Monet Bridge and National Plant Collection of Water Lilies flowering through the summer with 8 acres of lakeside walks and garden trails for children. Tropical House, Heritage Museum, Gift Shop & Plant Centre. Licensed Café Monet serves lunches, homemade cakes and cream teas. Under 5s Free.
OPEN: 25th March to 28th Sept inclusive, 10am to 4pm daily, closed Saturdays.
One child free with every full paying adult
Not applicable with any other offer. Valid for 2018 Season

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City Cruises Poole
Tel: 020 77 400 400 citycruisepoole.com
Sailing from Poole Quay and Swanage Pier. We offer a range of cruises including Harbour Cruises, Swanage and Poole Day Trips, Sea Train Adventure, Birdwatching, Fireworks plus much more. Our vessels have a fully stocked licensed bar and live commentary on every cruise.
OPEN: 29th March 2018 - 28th October 2018, 9am to 5.30pm Daily
See website for winter sailings.
20% Off Valid from 29/3/18 to 30/3/19.

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The Dinosaur Museum
T: 01305 269880 thedinosaurmuseum.com
The Dinosaur Museum is all about having a roaring good time! It's unique, devoted solely to dinos with skeletons, fossils, life-size dinosaur reconstructions and a few scaly surprises! Take a walk on the prehistoric side in this award-winning museum, it's packed with fun for kids with lots of hands on and interactive elements, puzzles and a chance to make your own dinosaur discoveries in the excavation pit. It's great family fun!
Open: Daily all year 10am - 5pm (4pm in winter). Closed 13-26 Dec.
Icen Way, Dorchester DT1 1EW

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Dorset County Museum
T: 01305 756827 dorsetcountymuseum.org
Discover 200 million years of Dorset's past in this award-winning museum. Housing a wide variety of fascinating treasures, exhibitions and plenty of children's activities, there is something here for all the family. Come and see fine art, archaeology, geology, fossils, dinosaurs, Thomas Hardy's recreated study and much more.
OPEN: Apr to Oct 10am to 5pm. Now to Mar 10am to 4pm. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day. Concessions and value family tickets available.
£1 off all adult admissions
Not applicable with any other offer. Valid Jan 2018 to Dec 2018.

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New for 2018 WW1 exhibit - Travel around the trenches!

Dorset Heavy Horse Farm Park
Edmondsham Road BH21 5RJ
T: 01202 824040 heavy-horse-centre.co.uk
As featured on BBC TV this Award Winning Park entertains every age with a sererate timetable for Adults & Children. Heavy Horse Carriage/Tractor Trailer rides "Drive" a real tractor! Intriguing Talks and Tours. Interact with Heavy Horses and friendly farm animals. Exhibits from days gone by. Childrens rides, go-carts, various play areas. Western café. Unbeatable value, guaranteed great day out!
OPEN: 10-4pm 30 March - 27th October closed Monday outside school holidays, open Bank Holiday Mondays. October open Thurs - Sun & half term closed in very bad weather, if unsure please call.

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Farmer Palmer's Farm Park
T: 01202 622222 farmerpalmers.co.uk
Dorset's Winning, Great Value, attraction for children 8 years & under. Offering a jam-packed, full day out, rain or shine! A successful blend of interactive animal events; indoor & outdoor play; tractor rides & Farmer Palmer's real cow milking demo! Amazing staff who are focussed on your family entertainment!
OPEN: From 10am Sat 20th Jan 2018 - Sun 23rd Dec 2018
www.farmerpalmers.co.uk Tel: 01202 622222
email: shop@farmerpalmers.co.uk
Wareham Road, Organford, Poole, Dorset BH16 6EU

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Forde Abbey & Gardens
T: 01460 221290 fordeabbey.co.uk
The Kennard Family welcomes you to their unique 850 year old house and 30 acres of award-winning gardens, with topiary lined avenues, England's tallest powered fountain, walled kitchen garden and renowned Mortlake tapestries. Visit the gift shop, plant nursery, enjoy lunch or homemade cakes in our vaulted tea rooms.
OPEN: Gardens open daily throughout the year from 10.00am - 4.30pm. House open 27 Mar - 31 Oct (except Mon & Sat) & Bank Holiday Mondays 12.00 - 4.00pm
£1 off per person up to a max of 4 adults per group
Valid 1/3/2018 to 31/10/2018. Not valid with any other offer or at special events.

10

GO APE - Moors Valley
T: 0845 094 8556 goape.co.uk
Live life adventurously at Go Ape Moors Valley! Enjoy award-winning outdoor adventure activities for all the family in the beautiful New Forest. Unleash your inner tarzan on our Tree Top Adventure & Tree Top Junior, or explore the forest floor on our all-terrain Segways.
OPEN: All year-round but opening times vary - Please check website for details www.goape.co.uk/moors-valley or call 0845 094 8556.
The Tree Top Junior course will be staying open all year, whereas Tree Top Adventure and Segways will be Feb-Nov.
Online Discount available at www.dorsetattractions.co.uk

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£1.00 off adult admission max 4 per voucher
Valid Easter - Dec 2018

Lulworth Castle & Park
Tel: 01929 400352 lulworth.com
Welcome to the most beautiful castle in the south, set in the heart of the privately owned Lulworth Estate. This magnificent C17th building is steeped in history. Climb the tower for spectacular panoramic views of countryside and coast, enjoy a picnic or a light bite in the Castle Tearoom. Children's playground and ancient woodlands to explore. Visit the C18th Roman Catholic Chapel and the C15th Church.
OPEN: Easter - December. Typically Sunday to Friday. Summer (BST) 10.30am - 5pm. Winter (GMT) 10.30am - 4pm. Last admission one hour before closing. Please check website or call before visiting.

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Mapperton House & Gardens
T: 01308 862645 mapperton.com
Voted 'Nation's Finest Manor House' by Country Life and location of the 2015 film 'Far from the Madding Crowd'. Glorious Jacobean manor with Earl of Sandwich collection overlooking the 15 acre garden with orangery, topiary and borders, descending to ponds and arboretum. Outstanding views of Dorset hills and woodlands.
OPEN: House open 1 Apr - 31 Oct, Sun - Thurs (closed Fri & Sat), 12pm - 4pm (guided tours only, at noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm) Gardens open 1 Mar - 31 Oct, Sun - Thurs (closed Fri & Sat), 11am - 5pm
Café open 1 Apr - 31 Oct, Sun - Thurs (closed Fri & Sat), 11am - 5pm

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National Trust in Dorset
A year of adventure
nationaltrust.org.uk/dorset
Discover a world of wonders: Corfe Castle, shaped by warfare over a thousand years. Brownsea Island, peaceful and a haven for wildlife. Kingston Lacy, an elegant mansion with beautiful gardens and parkland. Thomas Hardy's cottage and Lawrence of Arabia's rural retreat. Studland Beach, with miles of sandy coastline and stunning views.
OPEN: Varies across properties, check online.

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RockReef & Pierzip - Bournemouth Pier
T: 01202 983983 rockreef.co.uk
RockReef is an indoor all year, all weather activity attraction located on Bournemouth Pier consisting of 28 individually themed climbing walls, a aerial highLine obstacle course, a pier cave, Vertical Slide and leap of faith challenge. Outside is the awesome PierZip, the world's first pier to shore zip wire!
OPEN: Daily all year round (Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day) Times vary, see website.
Discount: 10% Off Clip 'n' Climb or PierZip using code BOD10.
Not applicable with any other offer or voucher. Valid from Jan 2018 to Dec 2018.

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Adults MUST bring ID
One Child Free with every paying adult

Valid Jan 1st 2018 to Dec 31st 2018

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Splashdown
T: 01202 716000 splashdownwaterparks.co.uk
Tower Park, Poole, Dorset BH12 4NY
Experience some of the UK's most exciting water flumes at the South's favourite waterpark. Complete with sun terraces and café. Whether it's high speeds, twisting tubs, a spin around Infinity or splashing about in our under 8's Splashzone or toddler pool, it's flumin' good fun!
OPEN: Opening hours vary by season. Please visit our website or call us on 01202 716000.

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Swanage Railway
T: 01929 425800 swanagerailway.co.uk
The Swanage Railway is the picture postcard branch line to the seaside. Steam trains run for six miles weaving their way through the beautiful Purbeck countryside, from Norden past the magnificent ruins of Corfe Castle to the sandy beach of Swanage. Council Car Parks at Swanage (BH19 1AP) and Norden (BH20 5DW).
OPEN: Trains run daily April to October and at weekends and school holidays throughout the year.

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The Blue Pool & Wareham Bears
Tel: 01929 551408 bluepooluk.com
A truly delightful family attraction since 1935, this Magical Pool is surrounded by tranquil woods and heathland with sandy paths. Why not take an imaginative stroll and enjoy becoming a 'Searcher and Finder' looking for squirrels, fairy doors and much more. The Tea-house will welcome you with coffee, light lunches and delicious Cream Teas with Homemade Scones. Then visit the unique Gift Shop before entering the fascinating world of the Wareham Bears.
OPEN: Grounds from 1st March to 30th November. Tea-house, Shops, Museum & Wareham Bears Easter until end of October. Dogs on leads are welcome.

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The Etches Collection - Kimmeridge
T: 01929 270000 theetchescollection.org
Our Museum of Jurassic Marine Life in Kimmeridge is the finest collection of Late Jurassic age fossils in Britain. Watch sea monsters swimming above whilst the exceptionally preserved and prepared fossils provide an insight into how these marine creatures lived and died. Family friendly activities, fully accessible, gift shop.
OPEN: Daily all year round 10am - 5pm (Last admission 4.15pm). Closed 24/25/26 December 2018.

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The Tank Museum
Tel: 01929 405096 tankmuseum.org
The Tank Museum brings history to life with the world's best collection of tanks, plus explosive live 'Tanks in Action' displays. Come face-to-face with over 300 huge military machines and hear amazing true stories as you explore our 10 powerful and awe-inspiring exhibitions - covering a century of history.
Gift Aid It! - Free annual pass included in your entry fee. T & C's apply - see our website.
Open 7 days a week, 10am - 5pm.
Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day.

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The Tutankhamun Exhibition
T: 01305 269571 tutankhamun-exhibition.co.uk
You too can experience the magnificence and wonder of the world's greatest discovery of ancient treasure at The Tutankhamun Exhibition. Tutankhamun's tomb, treasures, and mummy have been faithfully reproduced and recreated, producing an amazing experience praised by Egyptologists, museum professionals, and the public for its exciting use of innovative techniques and attention to detail. Featured in many major documentaries for national television, it is not to be missed.
Open: Daily all year 10am - 5pm (4pm in winter). Closed 13-26 Dec.
High West Street, Dorchester DT1 1UW
Not applicable with any other offer. Valid until 28/2/2019.

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SEA LIFE
sealifefreyemouth.com
Info & Bookings: 0871 423 2110
Take a fascinating journey from the Jurassic Coast to the ocean depths through 14 themed zones. Get up close to over 1,000 amazing creatures including Penguins, Sharks and Seals. Book online to save up to 40% off at sealifefreyemouth.com
OPEN: Open every day except Christmas Day
Weymouth SEA LIFE Adventure Park, Lodmoor Country Park, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 7SX

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TOURISM SOUTH EAST
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