



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

United Kingdom - Isle of Wight

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** London
- ✓ **Language:** English
- ✓ **Population:** ± 141,500
- ✓ **Sq. km:** ± 380
- ✓ **Currency:** Pounds (GBP - £)
- ✓ **Country code:** +44 (01983)
- ✓ **Visa:** Yes, not part of EU. Info [here](#).
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 999
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** None



History Recap Over 1 Drink

1801: UK formed. '15: Role in defeating Napoleon: Britain imperial power. 40s: Industrial Revolution, peak in 2nd half 19th Century. 80s: Irish separatist movement. 1906: Liberal government, welfare state. '14-'18: WWI, against Germany. '21: Foundation Irish Free State after 3 years war of independence – North still UK. '29: World stock market crash. '31: Economic crisis. '39: Germany invades Poland, UK declares war. '40: Churchill. Battle of Britain. German bombings. '44: Allied invade France on D-Day (6/6). '45: Germany surrenders. UK: UN Security Council. '47: Colony India independent. '48: National Health Service. '49: Founder member Nato. '56: Intervenes in Suez Canal Zone, US makes them withdraw. '61: UK application EEC vetoed by French president Charles de Gaulle → '73: joins. '79: Thatcher prime minister, free market policies, privatization state-run industries. '82: Falkland war Argentina. '93: Downstreet Declaration N-Ireland. '97: Blair - Labour Party. Diana dies. '99: UK takes part in war against Yugoslavia. 2000: Intervene in Sierra Leone. 01: UK supports US. '05: London bombings. IRA (Ireland) ends armed campaign. '07: Scottish independence parties. Blair. '08: Financial crisis. '10: Cameron. '11: Intervention Libya. '13: Anti-EU ideas start. '17: "Islamist" attacks. '20: Brexit.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 241m (*highest point*). Climate: Oceanic Climate (Cfb).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Hiking & Nature:** [Isle of Wight Coastal Footpaths](#) (several days), [Tennyson Down](#), [Hersey Nature Reserve](#), [Red Squirrel Trail](#), [Bembridge Trail](#). More hikes on [Outdoor Active](#) & [National Trust](#) & [GPS Routes](#).
- ☺ **Sights:** [The Needles](#), Culver Battery, [Appuldurcombe House](#) (haunted), St. Catherine's Lighthouse & [Oratory](#), [Quarr Abbey](#) & many churches.
- ☺ **Museums:** [Bus & Coach Museum](#), [Sir Max Aitken](#).
- ☺ **Beach:** Shanklin, Yaverland, Appley, Ventnor & more.
- ☺ **Cities:** Yarmouth, Ryde, Freshwater, Newport, Sandown, Ventnor, Shanklin, Totland, East Cowes.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Museums & sights:** [Dimbola Museum](#), [Dinosaur Isle](#), [County Museum](#), [Osborne House](#), [Museum of Island History](#), [Shipwreck Centre & Maritime Museum](#), [Brading Roman Villa](#), [Military & Heritage Museum](#), [Postal Museum](#), [Bembridge Fort](#), [Ryde District Heritage Centre](#), [Quay Arts Centre](#), [Lilliput Museum of Antique Dolls & Toys](#)... many castles & [more!](#)
- 👍 **Other:** [Alverstone](#) & [Newtown National Nature Reserve](#), [Solent Forts](#) (No Man's Land / Spitbank / Horse Sand), [Shanklin Chine](#), [Blackgang Chine](#), [Goodleaf Tree Climbing](#), The Needles Breezer (bus), [Isle of Wight Steam Railway](#), [Isle of Wight Distillery](#), [Godshill Model Village](#), [Arreton Barns](#), [Robin Hill Country Park](#), [Rosemary](#) & [Adgestone Vineyard](#).

Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Sainsbury's, Iceland Foods, Aldi, Waitrose, Morrisons.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Newport Friday Market, Ryde Saturday Market, Brading Market (*last Saturday of the month*), I Love Wight Food Market.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Fish and Chips (*deep-fried*), Bangers and Mash (*sausages and mashed potatoes*), Black Pudding (*blood and pork fat pudding*), Shepherd's / Cottage Pie (*lamb / beef pie*), Steak and Kidney Pie, Beef Wellington (*pasty steak*), Cornish Pasty (*meat and vegetable pastry*), Full English Breakfast (*incl. bacon-beans-sausages*), Sunday Roast, Toad in the Hole (*sausages in gravy*), Scotch Egg (*boiled eggs wrapped in sausage meat, then deep-fried*), Haggis (*minced sheep's heart, liver and lungs*), Scones, Eton Mess (*meringue and cream*), Eccles Cake (*pastry*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe. Local vegan dishes: Laverbread (*boiled and pureed seaweed*), Bubble and Squeak (*fried mashed potato with cabbage*), Pease Pudding (*with split peas*), Water-based Porridge. Check vegan-friendly restaurants here: [Happy Cow – Isle of Wight](#). Also check out the by-now-basically-local Indian

Mama Said

- ☠ Europe in general, and also Isle of Wight, is very safe... but use your common sense like everywhere.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable.
- ☠ If you consider yourself an animal lover, avoid companies such as Isle of Wight Zoo, Monkey Haven, Amazon World Zoo Park and Reptilium, where animals are imprisoned out of their natural habitat.

Next?

- ➔ **In the UK:** Portsmouth, Southampton, Bournemouth, Worthing, Brighton, Eastbourne, Winchester, Salisbury.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** (*Wales, Ireland, Scotland*), France, Belgium, The Netherlands.

The Earth Becomes My Throne

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very expensive in the UK. (*Wild*) Camping is officially illegal, but you can get away with it if you're discrete.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)). Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

Festivals

- ☼ Isle of Wight Walking Festival: May.
 - ☼ [Isle of Wight Festival](#): June.
 - ☼ Isle of Wight Mardi Grass: June.
- More festivals [here](#).

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife areas:** Ryde, Newport, Ventnor, Cowes, Shanklin, Yarmouth & other bigger towns.
- ◆ **Theatres:** Shanklin Theatre, Apollo Theatre, Medina Theatre, Trinity Theatre.

Free-Riding?

- Walking is an excellent option to see the fantastic nature and greenery of the Isle of Wight.
- Biking is another fun way to explore. Bike rental is widely available.
- The island is connected with a reliable bus system. You can pay the driver, but 1-, 2- and 7-day passes are cheaper and the [Clickit2Ride app](#) even more so. The Needles Breezer is a fun open-roof bus. Find a bus-route map in the blog. A train operates from Ryde Pierhead to Shanklin.
- There are several ferry services, [Red Funnel](#) (*from Southampton*) & [Wightlink](#) (*from Portsmouth*) are the cheapest (*and slowest - Portsmouth to Fishbourne or Lymington to Yarmouth → Portsmouth Harbour to Ryde Pier Head is more expensive*). [Hover travel](#) is faster but more expensive. Your car can go along on the ferry, which is more expensive.
- Airports: Southampton Airport (SOU), Bournemouth Airport (BOH), London Gatwick (LGW), London Heathrow (LHR).
- Hitchhiking is relatively safe and quite easy here. You can also use apps like [Blablacar](#) for a cheap ride.