When Pevensey was on the coast



Pevensey Court House Museum

In 1216, when St Nicolas Church first opened its doors, Pevensey was a strategically important seaport. By charter of King John, the town had gained membership of England's powerful group of Cinque Ports.

Hence, this fine example of Early English church architecture was built as an imposing reminder of Pevensey's new found status.

By visiting the church you can rediscover the hidden maritime heritage of Pevensey and explore the fascinating story of a community, centred on its place of worship.

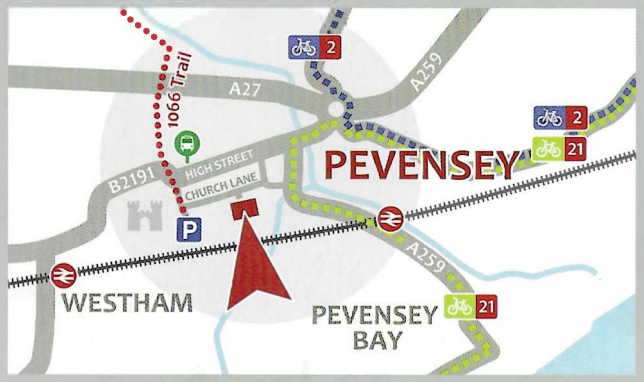
Sanctuary amid a world of change

The shifting coastline is one aspect of far-reaching change here over the past eight centuries. Just as St Nicolas, patron saint of seafarers, guides those at sea through stormy waters, this church provides a constant sanctuary amid a sometimes unsettling world.

On your visit you can learn more about the fluctuating fortunes of Pevensey and its church. From prestigious seaport to silted-up backwater. From smugglers' haunt to regional revival. From the tragedy of conflict to tranquillity and hope.

How to get here

St Nicolas Church, Church Lane, Pevensey, BN24 5LD



Train: Pevensey Bay 0.4 miles / 0.6km
Pevensey and Westham 0.7 miles / 1.1km

Bus: Stagecoach Eastbourne 8 and 99

traveline public transport info www.traveline.info 0871 200 22 33

Cycle: National Cycle Routes 2 and 21

Walk: The 1066 Country Walk trail

Car: Reach Pevensey via A27 from West or A259 from East. Follow signs to Pevensey Castle. Park in the Cattle Market car park.

When to visit

The church is open every day from 9am to dusk.

Church services

Holy Communion is celebrated at 1130am each Sunday, using the Book of Common Prayer.

Please join us and stay for coffee afterwards!

www.stnicolaspevensey.org.uk

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Devised and written by Ivor Coleman
Designed and illustrated by David Goodman

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St Nicolas Church Pevensey

1066 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN · SUSSEX ·

Discover the enduring heart of historic Pevensey



Ivor Coleman

Explore the lost seaport where William the Conqueror landed

Inspiring the community for 800 years

Explore Medieval Pevensey

In St Nicolas Church an impressive illustrated reconstruction of Pevensey will take you back to the 13th century, when the town stood on a coastal peninsula. You'll gain a tangible sense of this important medieval seaport and the pivotal position of its church.

Pilgrimage, prayer, peace

For 800 years people have found succour and inspiration in this uplifting place of worship.

St Nicolas Church continues to be a welcoming port of call for all visitors and parishioners alike, a much-loved source of reflection and renewal.

St Nicolas Church in 13th century Pevensey

by artist David Goodman



Bayeux tapestry

Find out where 1066 began

The Bayeux tapestry famously illustrates that William the Conqueror sailed to Pevensey in 1066, to launch his Norman invasion. In the church you can discover where he and his fleet may have landed.