

East and South East



Heritage Matters: Engagement and Enhancement

Summary Report
The RSA Heritage Index (2020)



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Summary

A series of reports on the state of the Historic Environment for East Anglia (Norfolk and Suffolk), Essex and Kent has been prepared by Professor David Gill and Peter Matthews. These highlight the importance of heritage for the area covered by Eastern ARC. The reports are based on the analysis of data derived from the RSA Heritage Index (2020). They present the heritage rankings for local authorities in the regions, and then explore the main themes of the Index: Historic Built Environment; Museums, Archives and Artefacts; Industrial Heritage; Parks and Open Spaces; Landscapes and Natural Heritage; Culture and Memories. There are additional sections on Participation in Heritage, National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Grants, and Heritage and the Tourism Economy. Links to open source data are provided.

Sixteen authorities in the area are ranked in the top 100 for England:

- **Norwich** (3), **North Norfolk** (25), **Great Yarmouth** (38), **King's Lynn and West Norfolk** (54).
- **Ipswich** (87), and **East Suffolk** (98).
- **Southend-on-Sea** (19), **Maldon** (37), **Rochford** (40), and **Castle Point** (52).
- **Tunbridge Wells** (36), **Dover** (49), **Swale** (61), **Thanet** (63), **Canterbury** (67), and **Medway** (90).

The key rankings within the following themes are:

Historic Built Environment

- **Norwich** (3), **North Norfolk** (33), **King's Lynn and West Norfolk** (39), **Breckland** (41), **Broadland** (56), **South Norfolk** (63), **Great Yarmouth** (85).
- **Babergh** (37), **Mid Suffolk** (59), **Ipswich** (71), **East Suffolk** (93).
- **Maldon** (48), **Harlow** (53), **Uttlesford** (68), **Colchester** (80).
- **Dover** (49), **Canterbury** (72).

Museums, Archives and Artefacts

- **Norwich** (7).
- **Ipswich** (26).
- **Harlow** (44), **Southend-on-Sea** (54).
- **Tunbridge Wells** (74), **Canterbury** (86), **Dover** (91).

Industrial Heritage

- **Great Yarmouth** (22), **Norwich** (31).
- **Ipswich** (11).
- **Maldon** (9), **Castle Point** (12), **Rochford** (21), **Southend-on-Sea** (24), **Tendring** (36), **Harlow** (86).
- **Thanet** (10), **Medway** (30), **Dover** (41), **Swale** (57).

Landscapes and Natural Heritage

- **North Norfolk** (22), **King's Lynn and West Norfolk** (42), **Breckland** (54), **Great Yarmouth** (70).
- **East Suffolk** (38), **West Suffolk** (72).
- **Southend-on-Sea** (2), **Rochford** (4), **Maldon** (10), **Castle Point** (20), **Tendring** (30), **Colchester** (66), **Brentwood** (94), **Epping Forest** (95).
- **Medway** (15), **Swale** (26), **Canterbury** (35), **Shepway** (41), **Thanet** (82), **Dover** (83), **Sevenoaks** (88), **Ashford** (93), **Tunbridge Wells** (98).

Parks and Open Spaces

- **Norwich** (28), **Great Yarmouth** (56).
- **Ipswich** (90).
- **Castle Point** (16), **Brentwood** (25), **Epping Forest** (75).
- **Tunbridge Wells** (15), **Tonbridge and Malling** (24), **Swale** (27), **Maidstone** (45), **Sevenoaks** (79), **Dover** (89).

Culture and Memories

- **Norwich** (2), **King's Lynn and West Norfolk** (32), **North Norfolk** (75).
- **West Suffolk** (69), **Ipswich** (90).
- **Canterbury** (12), **Tunbridge Wells** (13), **Dover** (26), **Thanet** (74), **Swale** (91).

The heritage sector in the East of England and the South East generated £8 bn in 2019 through direct, indirect and induced income; this represents approximate 20 per cent of the GVA through heritage in England. The sector also accounted for 140,000 jobs for the two regions in 2019.

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