

time
for us

48 hours in...

...Medway

Medway is a vibrant tourist destination steeped in history, with its maritime heritage, splendid monuments and great future as a prospective World Heritage Site.

Whether you are interested in exploring the places Charles Dickens loved and wrote about, visiting heritage and family attractions, or attending one of our fabulous festivals – you will find an area packed with excitement, variety and unique experiences.

Getting to Medway by car

Medway can easily be reached by car. Located in North Kent, Historic Rochester and Chatham can easily be reached by the major motorways from north, south and west via the M25/A2 and M2.

Once here you will find ample town centre parking all reasonably priced. A full list of town centre car parking and tariffs can be found on Medway Council's website www.medway.gov.uk

Top 5 must see places

Rochester Cathedral

Rochester Cathedral was founded in 604 and is the second oldest in England.
www.rochester-cathedral.org

Rochester Castle

One of the best-preserved and tallest castles of its kind. The story of one of England's bloodiest sieges in history has been retold in the latest movie 'Ironclad'.
www.visitmedway.org

Guildhall Museum

2,000 years of local history with two galleries dedicated to the area's connections with Charles Dickens.
www.visitmedway.org

The Historic Dockyard Chatham

A fascinating maritime heritage destination with over 400 years of shipbuilding history.
www.thedockyard.co.uk

Dickens World

An exciting themed attraction based on the life, books and times of one of Britain's novelist, Charles Dickens.
www.dickensworld.co.uk

the Beautiful South

Day one

Historic Rochester

In 2012, Medway will be celebrating the bi-centenary of the birth of Charles Dickens. Dickens' most impressionable childhood days were spent in Medway. The historic city of Rochester inspired the author so much that he featured it in his work more than any city, other than London.

Visitors can follow in Dickens footsteps on a costumed guided walking tour of Rochester. This exciting 90-minute walking tour takes in the beautiful buildings the author immortalised in his books.

After the tour, why not take time to visit the heritage attractions that can be found on the historic High Street. Explore Rochester Cathedral, take in the spectacular views from the top of Rochester Castle and finish with a visit to the Guildhall Museum and discover the area's connections with Charles Dickens.

Make the most of your visit by stopping for lunch in one of the many fine restaurants located on the High Street.

Rochester hosts a full calendar of colourful and lively events throughout the year. These include the traditional Sweeps festival, open-air concerts in the castle gardens and the famous twice-yearly Dickens Festivals.

Day two

Chatham Maritime

Start your day with a visit to The Historic Dockyard Chatham. Discover over 400 years of maritime history in one of the world's most complete dockyards of the Age of Sail and meet characters from the past.

Set in 80 acres, the maritime galleries and attractions will excite and entertain you – whatever your age. Make your own rope on the Victorian ropery tour, be gripped by stories of life aboard the three historic warships and visit No.1 Smithery the exciting new cultural centre featuring world-class maritime models, arts and objects from two national museums and a contemporary exhibition space.

From the dockyard, it's the briefest of journeys to the exciting Dickens World at Chatham Maritime. Dickens World takes visitors on a fascinating journey through Dickens' lifetime as they step back into Dickensian England and are immersed in the urban streets, sounds and smells of the 19th century.

Several restaurants are located within the Dickens World visitor complex to stop for lunch.



Where to Stay...

Officers Hill B&B
Luxury five star B&B located in The Historic Dockyard Chatham.
www.chathambandb.com
01634 828436

Salisbury House B&B
Four star B&B within walking distance of Historic Rochester.
01634 400182

Bridgewood Manor Hotel
Four star premier hotel with

2AA Rosette restaurant.
www.qhotels.co.uk
01634 201333

Ramada Encore Chatham
Stylish, vibrant and contemporary three star hotel.
www.encorechatham.co.uk
01634 891677

Premier Inn Rochester
A stylish new hotel located on the River Medway.
www.premierinn.com
0871 527 8938

Where to Eat...

Atrium Restaurant
Situated in the heart of historic Rochester serving British Mediterranean cuisine.
[www.atrium-restaurant.com](http://www atrium-restaurant.com)
01634 847776

Topes Restaurant
Modern European restaurant located in an building that featured in the work of Charles Dickens.
www.topesrestaurant.com
01634 845270

Zippers
An exciting new spacious restaurant located in Chatham Maritime.
www.zippers-chatham.co.uk
01634 893726

Elizabeth's of Eastgate
European food in authentic English surroundings.
www.elizabethsofeastgate.co.uk
01634 843472