

# North Norfolk

## Local area guide for families

You will never be short of things to do when visiting north Norfolk with your family. North Norfolk has miles of unspoilt coastline, breath-taking countryside and plenty of family-friendly attractions and activities.

Here's our pick of family-friendly things to do in north Norfolk.

### **Blakeney Point, seal trips**

If you love to experience nature then visiting the seals is a must! [Blakeney Point](#) has one of the largest colonies of common and grey seals in England, with around 2500 pups. The seals certainly aren't camera shy, they are very inquisitive and often pop up and swim around the boats giving you the perfect opportunity to take pictures. Trips go from Blakeney Harbour and [Morston Quay](#). The trips usually last around an hour, allowing you to get excitingly close to the seals.



*Grey seal at Blakeney Point*

## Hunstanton SEA LIFE Sanctuary

[Hunstanton SEA LIFE Sanctuary](#) is Norfolk's only seal sanctuary open to visitors and is home to over 2,000 creatures, from tiny shrimps to Amazonian Piranhas! Boasting a state of the art marine aquarium taking visitors on a memorable undersea odyssey filled with amazing close encounters with sea creatures of astonishing variety in spectacular 'high-tech' displays. Don't miss their dedicated seal rescue hospital where they rescue, rehabilitate and release to the wild more than 40 orphaned or sickly Grey & Common seal pups every year. Visitors can see the "new arrivals", juveniles in the nursery ward, a spacious outdoor pool with underwater viewing area. Other highlights include the otterly adorable family of Asian Short Clawed Otters, Colony of Humboldt Penguins and a whole host of spectacular marine creatures. Get a fantastic and closer look of the sharks and Green Sea Turtle via the underwater walkthrough tunnel. Their newest feature is the Rainforest Ranger! Their team of friendly Rainforest Rangers are ready to show you some of their jungle beasties. If you've ever wanted to hold a snake, lizard or a giant creepy crawly from the deepest depths of the jungle visit Hunstanton SEA LIFE to meet their new Rainforest Rangers and all of their friends.



*Hunstanton SEA LIFE Sanctuary, Hunstanton*

## North Norfolk Railway

When visiting North Norfolk, taking a trip on one of the heritage steam railways is a must. The [North Norfolk Railway](#), also known as The Poppy Line, is one of the UK's most scenic heritage railways, between coastal Sheringham and Georgian Holt. The 10.5 mile round trip will give you the opportunity to enjoy a journey back in time and see Norfolk's stunning coast and countryside. The North Norfolk Railway is much more than just a train ride. There

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are historic stations and a museum of the railway's history for you to explore, there is also a children's activity carriage.

## **Princess Theatre**

[The Princess Theatre](#) showcases quality live performances, top acts, films and live theatre screenings providing entertainment to the whole family all year round. The Princess Theatre is a 472 seat venue and is known as one of the friendliest theatres in the country by artists who have performed there. The Theatre overlooks the Wash and green of Hunstanton and be sure to look out for stunning sunsets to be seen from the Box Office foyer and bar terrace of the theatre.

## **Snettisham Park**

[Snettisham Park](#) is a 326 acre working farm where adults and children can get up close and personal with their favourite farmyard animals. There are a lot of opportunity to see various animals, enjoy a deer safari, bottle feed lambs, ride ponies, take a walk on one of the three wonderful nature trails and enjoy the adventure playground.



*Safari trailer at Snettisham Park*

## **Pensthorpe Natural Park**

[Pensthorpe Natural Park](#) is the perfect family day out, with over 7,000 acres there is plenty to explore. Take part on a bug walk through the woodlands and along the riverbed, or perhaps spy on the all the wonderful wildlife. Pensthorpe Natural Park is home to grey-crowned cranes, red squirrels and Hootz the owl. There are also four stunning gardens for

you to enjoy. Children can let out their inner adventurer at the WildRootz outdoor adventure playground, or explore the award-winning indoor Hootz House play area.

## **Alive Oasis**

[Alive Oasis swimming pool and leisure centre](#) is a great active family day out. [Alive oasis swimming pool](#) is a perfect place to keep fit, relax or keep the kids amused with the exciting water slide. The swimming pool also offers family fun sessions on a Monday, Thursday and Saturday. Not only will you find swimming here, but also [roller skating](#) and an [indoor adventure play area](#). Roller skating is great entertainment for the whole family no matter what level of skater you are, activity leaders are on hand to provide assistance and guidance. Please be aware that the skating rink is outdoors and therefore weather dependent. The indoor play area 'Alive Adventures' provides hours of action packed fun for children. The four-storey play frame features, mini adventurers such as a 450-degree spiral slide surrounded by cargo nets, a ball cannon arena and a thrilling sky glide ride with splat landing pad, climbing frames and much more.

## **Beaches**

North Norfolk is home to 45 miles of unspoilt coastline rich with nature and wildlife and there is a number of stunning beaches. Some of our favourites are:

### **Old Hunstanton**

Hunstanton is the only west-facing resort on the east coast of England meaning you can see some stunning sunsets here, it is also the perfect family day with a fairground and arcades. Old Hunstanton is perfect for a leisurely stroll with miles of unspoilt sand back by the famous striped cliffs.



*Old Hunstanton*

### **Brancaster**

Brancaster beach has miles of golden sand, a great place for building sand castles, having a paddle in the sea or fly a kite.

### **Wells-next-the-Sea**

Wells beach is famous for its row of almost 100 candy-coloured higgled-piggled beach huts situated on the beautiful sandy beach. Wells beach is the perfect place to collect shells, or enjoy a relaxing walk along the golden sands.



*Wells-next-the-Sea*

## **BlackBeards Adventure Golf**

[BlackBeards Adventure Golf](#) is an 18-hole miniature golf course in Hunstanton with a Pirate and Aztec theme and provides entertainment for the whole family.

## **Holkham Hall & Woodland Play Area**

Stately [Holkham Hall](#) impresses with its gardens and large estate. It is one of the finest Palladian houses and offers a wonderful day out for the family with plenty of activities and a number of events throughout the year. Follow the trails to explore the scenic parkland, choose to do this on foot or maybe hire a bike or maybe take to the water on a canoe or kayak around Holkham Lake. Children will enjoy the Woodland Adventure Play Area where they can play in the tree house, high-level walkways and zip wire, with a special area just for toddlers.