

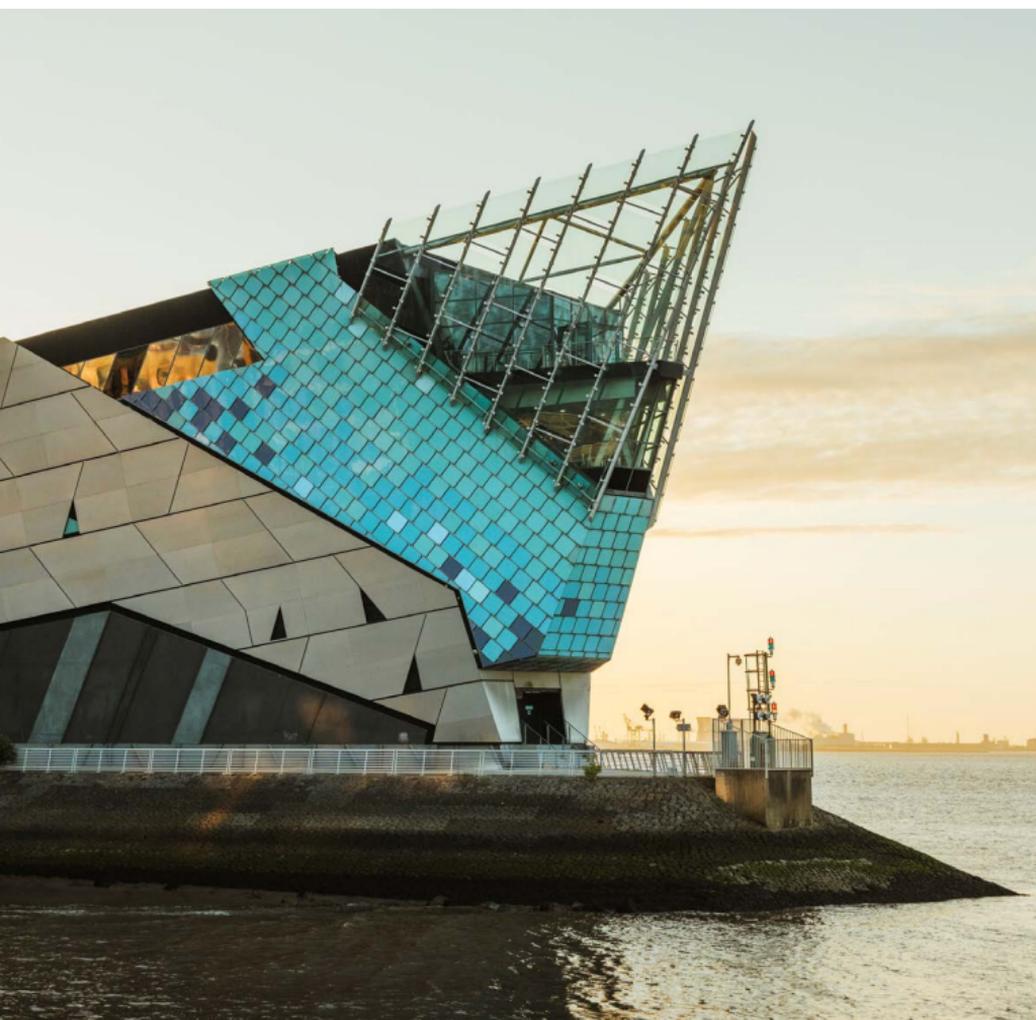


POCKET **ROUGH GUIDE**

HULL

written and researched by
AUSTIN CLARK

Visit Hull and East Yorkshire / Jack Gray Photography



Hull

Historic Hull – officially Kingston upon Hull – maintains a firm grip on its maritime heritage with a number of superb visitor attractions, including the excellent Museums Quarter in the Old Town. The city's stint as UK City of Culture in 2017 saw a massive investment in arts and culture across the city; its revitalization is particularly noticeable in the burgeoning Fruit Market district between the Marina and river, where a number of new galleries and cool cafés have opened. This compact city is easily explored on foot and there are regular **TransPennine Express** services into Hull from Liverpool, Manchester and Yorkshire.

Hull Old Town

Hull HU1 visithull.org. Free

Hull Old Town is a treasure trove of history, with cobbled streets, historic pubs and hidden alleys that transport visitors back in time.

The area is home to many of the city's top attractions, including the Museums Quarter and the impressive Hull Minster. Visitors can explore quaint independent shops, enjoy a drink in one of the city's oldest pubs, or follow in the footsteps of the maritime merchants who once thrived here. With its mix of medieval, Georgian and Victorian architecture and distinctive heritage, Hull Old Town is a must-visit for history lovers.

Free Museums

Hull HU1 hcandl.co.uk/museums. Free

Hull's impressive collection of free museums offers something for everyone. The Streetlife Museum showcases the history of transport through interactive exhibits and vintage vehicles. Wilberforce House, the birthplace of abolitionist William Wilberforce, explores the backstory of the transatlantic slave trade, and Hull's role in its abolition. The Hull and East Riding Museum, meanwhile, takes visitors back to prehistoric times with fascinating displays of Roman

mosaics and Viking artefacts – plus a life-size woolly mammoth. Together, these museums take you on an insightful journey through Hull's diverse and significant past.

Ferens Art Gallery

Queen Victoria Square, HU1 3RA

hcandl.co.uk/museums. Free

When it reopened in April 2017 after a multi-million-pound refurbishment, Ferens Art Gallery attracted more than 10,000 visitors in its first weekend. This world-class gallery is a proper gem, holding a permanent collection of paintings and sculpture with works by Frans Hals, David Hockney and Antonio Canaletto. Visiting exhibitions have included SKIN – major works by Lucian Freud, Ron Mueck and Spencer Tunick – and the prestigious Turner Prize.

Hull Marina and Maritime City

Hull HU1 visithull.org. Free

The vibrant Hull Marina is a waterfront destination filled with restaurants, cafés and bars offering scenic views of the River Humber. A centrepiece of Hull's ambitious Maritime City Project, the city is set to welcome refurbished museums and new maritime attractions once completed. Visitors will be able to



stroll along the waterfront, watch the boats, or explore the nearby Humber Street, a lively area known for its independent shops and art galleries. From enjoying a meal by the water to learning about Hull's seafaring legacy, the marina is a focal point of the city's transformation.

The Deep

Tower St, HU1 4DP thedeep.co.uk. **Charge**
Protruding from a promontory overlooking the River Humber, Hull's splendid aquarium, The Deep, is just ten minutes' walk from the old town. Its educational displays and videos wrap around an immense 30ft-deep, 2.3-million-gallon viewing tank filled with sharks, rays and octopuses. There's an underwater tunnel along the bottom of the tank, together with a magical glass lift in which you can ascend or descend through the water.

The Maritime Museum

Queen Victoria Square, HU1 3DX
maritimehull.co.uk. **Free**
Hull's maritime legacy is comprehensively covered in the Maritime Museum, housed in the Neoclassical headquarters of the former Town Docks Offices. With displays on fishing, whaling and sailing, this provides a valuable record of centuries of skill and expertise, not to mention courage and fortitude, now fading into the past. The museum is currently under renovation as part of the Maritime City Project and once reopened will house new displays showcasing the city's rich maritime history, alongside an awesome 40ft North Atlantic right whale skeleton.

Hull Minster

South Church Side, Hull, HU1 1RR
hullminster.org. **Free**
Dating back to the thirteenth century, Hull Minster is the largest parish church in England and a stunning example of medieval architecture. Inside, visitors can

admire its intricate stained-glass windows, historic tombs and soaring vaulted ceilings. The Minster regularly hosts concerts, exhibitions and community events, making it a lively hub in Hull's cultural scene. Its central location in the Old Town also means it's surrounded by the area's rich heritage, with charming streets and historic pubs just a stone's throw away.

Fruit Market

Humber St, Hull, HU1 visithull.org. **Free**
The Fruit Market district has undergone a major transformation, evolving into one of Hull's most creative quarters. Once a hub for the city's fruit trade, it's now home to independent boutiques, quirky cafés, art galleries and live music venues. The area is also known for its vibrant street art and cultural events, drawing in the artists and entrepreneurs who contribute to Hull's dynamic energy. Whether grabbing a coffee at a local roastery or browsing unique handmade goods, the Fruit Market is the place to head to make the most of Hull's thriving independent scene.

The Fruit Market district
Ian Francis/Shutterstock





Ye Olde White Harte
David Hallam-Jones

Restaurants, food markets & cafés

Ambiente Tapas

5 Humber St HU1 1TG

📍 ambiente-tapas.co.uk

Set in the vibrant Fruit Market district, *Ambiente* brings a taste of Spain to Hull's waterfront. The open kitchen turns out sizzling tapas favourites alongside more inventive seasonal dishes, all designed for sharing. Outdoor seating is in high demand when the sun shines.

Pave Café-Bar

16–20 Princes Ave, HU5 3QA

📍 facebook.com/pavebar

Nice laidback atmosphere with lots going on – live jazz/blues and comedy nights and readings by the likes of Alexei Sayle, Will Self and Simon Armitage – and a comprehensive menu of home-cooked food served till 7pm.

Nibble

The Dock, HU1 1UU

📍 nibblehull.co.uk

A café with a real community feel, *Nibble* serves up excellent coffee alongside a creative menu of breakfasts, brunches and freshly made sweet treats. Expect colourful plates packed with flavour, from avocado toast loaded with toppings to generously filled sandwiches and indulgent cakes. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are plentiful.

Trinity Market

Trinity House Lane, HU1 2JH

📍 trinitymarkethull.co.uk

Once a traditional covered market, this attractive city-centre space has been reimagined as a lively street food hub. You'll find everything from Thai noodles and Neapolitan pizza to vegan bakes and Caribbean curries, all served with a side of local charm.

Thieving Harry's

73 Humber St, HU1 1UD

📍 thievingharrys.co.uk

A cornerstone of the Fruit Market regeneration, quirky *Thieving Harry's* "food + stuff" has mismatched chairs, gorgeous views and tasty food. The down-to-earth vibe makes it an ideal place to linger with friends while enjoying good coffee and a craft beer or two. The breakfasts are highly recommended.

Ye Olde White Harte

25 Silver St, HU1 1JG

📍 yeoldewhiteharte.co.uk

Hidden down a narrow alleyway in the city's Old Town, *Ye Olde White Harte* dates back to the sixteenth century. This historic pub is famous for its oak-panelled interiors, roaring fireplaces and the legendary "Plotting Parlour", where it's said the English Civil War was planned. The drink selection leans heavily towards well-kept local ales, plus some excellent malt whiskies.