



FAVERSHAM

MARKET TOWN OF KINGS

GROUP VISITS GUIDE 2008



Great Days Out

in and around
Faversham, Kent

www.faversham.org

Visit Faversham for A Great Day Out!

One of southern England's most historic and charming towns, Faversham nestles between the rural delights of the gently sloping Downs and the stunning austerity of the north Kent marshes. Dating from pre-Roman times and mentioned in the Domesday Book, it is now a picturesque market town with over 475 listed buildings and an interesting range of independent shops.

The town's location just five minutes from the M2 makes it easily accessible

and this, combined with the area's outstanding collection of major attractions – all within a few minutes drive of each other – as well as plentiful eateries and fascinating shops, means Faversham is the ideal destination for groups.

Many of the attractions have teamed up to offer ready-made itineraries that allow your group to visit two venues for a Great Day Out!

1 Belmont House and Gardens

Belmont is an elegant 18th century house set in a 3,000 acre estate with views over the rolling Kentish North Downs. Its hidden gardens include a pinetum, a walled ornamental garden, herbaceous borders, rockery and kitchen garden. The house contains very special collections echoing its ownership by the Harris family since 1801 and including mementos of their travels and posts in India and Trinidad.

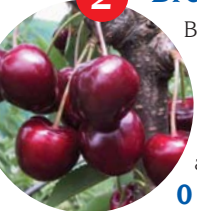
01795 890202 www.belmont-house.org



2 Brogdale Farm

Brogdale Farm is the home of the National Fruit Collections, the largest collection of fruit trees and plants in the world – with 4,000 varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries and smaller collections. There are guided walks of the 150 acres of beautiful Kentish orchards and refreshments in the Orchard Tearoom and a wide variety of local shops in the marketplace

01795 536250 www.brogdalecollections.co.uk



3 Doddington Place Gardens

Surrounded by wooded countryside in an area of outstanding natural beauty, the lovely landscaped gardens at Doddington Place cover ten acres. Highlights include a rock garden, constructed in Edwardian times using Kentish ragstone, featuring a series of descending pools. Recent-renovation has revealed many of the original rocks and it is possible to imagine how it looked in its early years. Groups can meet the Head Gardener by prior arrangement. Open Easter to 30th September.

01795 886101 www.doddington-place-gardens.co.uk



4 Farming World

Set within the Victorian gardens of Nash Court, award-winning Farming World has over 100 farm animals, including rare breeds, heavy horses and raptors. Tarmac paths around the farm allow easy access for all. Tractor & Trailer rides will accommodate two wheelchairs and groups can book a guided tour around the main farm, seeing modern methods of agriculture.

01227 751144 www.farming-world.com



5 Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre and Guided Town Walks

The Centre houses a Museum of Faversham history, with displays illustrating the early history of the town, its progress through Tudor to Victorian times, wartime life, sport (ever heard of goal running?) and shopping. Audio visual screens display the life of the town and the history of its gunpowder industry. Guided town walks start from the Centre every Saturday at 10.30 April to September. Group tours can be booked throughout the year.

01795 534542 www.faversham.org



6 Mount Ephraim Gardens

A ten acre Edwardian Garden, magically set to give fine views of sloping orchards and pasture to the Thames Estuary. Terraces of fragrant roses lead to a small lake and woodland area. There is a Japanese style rock garden, a water garden and arboretum as well as an unusual topiary, herbaceous border, Millennium Rose Garden and a grass maze based on an ancient medieval design.

01227 751496 www.mountephraimgardens.co.uk



7 Shepherd Neame Brewery Tours

Take a guided tour of Britain's oldest brewer. Start from the recently-refurbished Visitor Centre; see the traditional mash tuns; taste natural mineral water from the brewery's well; try some malted barley; smell locally-grown Kentish hops; see bygone delivery vehicles and step into a recreated cooper's workshop. Finally there's a fascinating tutored tasting of our Kentish ales and speciality lagers.

01795 542016 www.shepherdneame.co.uk



**Gardens at Belmont and Doddington
017950 890202**

Enjoy morning coffee and biscuits in the converted stables at Belmont, then roam around the magnificent gardens which include a large, walled Kitchen Garden, restored to a design by the renowned Lady Arabella Lennox-Boyd. It features a charming mix of lawn, fruit trees and shrubs, as well as a wide variety of vegetables and flowers. The garden is approached through a nuttery and provides a view through pergolas to a sundial, surrounded by a semi-circle of pleached pear trees. Visitors can also wander through the impressive Victorian greenhouse.



Relax over a ploughman's lunch in the Orangery before moving on to Doddington Place Gardens. Here, there is a notable woodland garden – spectacular in May and June – which includes many different varieties of rhododendrons and azaleas; also a recently-renovated rock garden with pools and a flint and brick folly.

This tour is available daily from April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

Inclusive price for a morning coffee, ploughman's lunch at Belmont and admission to the gardens at Belmont and Doddington Place £13.00 per person

Brewery Tour & Brogdale Farm



Take a morning tour of the Shepherd Neame Brewery and go behind the scenes to see how the beer is brewed. Discover the company's 300-year heritage, taste the finished product and pick up a souvenir

in the Brewery Shop. Then enjoy a delicious, home-cooked lunch in the Visitor Centre bar.

In the afternoon, rejoin your coach for the short road journey to Brogdale Farm, for a tour of the National Fruit Collections. The 150-acre site houses the largest collection of fruit trees in the world



including over 2,300 varieties of apple, 550 of pear and 350 of plum. Relax afterwards in the Orchard Tearoom or shop for local produce in the Brogdale marketplace

This tour is available daily from April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

**Inclusive price for a Brewery Tour and two-course lunch at Shepherd Neame, and orchard tour at Brogdale Farm:
Adult £22.50 Senior Citizen £21.75**

**Mount Ephraim Gardens and Farming World
01227 751496**

Spend the morning strolling around the ten acres of landscaped gardens at Mount Ephraim and soak up the peaceful atmosphere. Admire the spectacular herbaceous border – a wealth of colour whatever the season – walk down the gentle slope to the lake, passing rose terraces and yew hedges.



Rejoin your coach for the short road journey to Farming World – perhaps taking in the White Horse Inn for lunch (pre-booking essential for groups – tel 01227 751343). Alternatively, lunch can be arranged at Mount Ephraim.

The farm is home to a fascinating collection of animals from horses to hens, pigs to pygmy goats and bees to barn owls. Take an afternoon tractor and trailer ride around the farm then relax and watch the falconry display. Round off your day with cream tea in the restaurant.

This tour is available daily from April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

**Inclusive price for admission to Mount Ephraim Gardens and Farming World with cream tea:
Adult £15.00 Senior Citizen £14.00**

**Discover Faversham – Market Town of Kings
01795 542016**

With a natural supply of pure water and surrounded by fields ideal for growing hops, it is hardly surprising that Faversham is famous for beer and home to Britain's oldest brewer. But there's a lot more to the town than beer, as you will discover on this day out which



combines a visit to the Shepherd Neame Brewery with a guided tour of historic Faversham.

Arrive at the Shepherd Neame Visitor Centre for morning coffee and meet your guide from the Faversham Society for a town walk lasting approximately 1 1/2 hours. See Abbey Street – Kent's finest mediaeval road – and the Guildhall with its delightful cupola and Tudor pillars. Other gems include the Art Deco cinema and the chemist's shop – with a 13th Century pestle & mortar sign.

Return to the Visitor Centre for lunch and then enjoy an afternoon tour of the Brewery complete with tutored tasting.

This tour is available Mondays-Fridays and on selected weekends for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

**Inclusive price for morning coffee, Town Tour, two-course lunch, Brewery Tour and Beer Tasting:
Adult £19.70 Senior Citizen £18.75**



**Farm and Fruit
01795 536250**

Enjoy a guided tour of the National Fruit Collections at Brogdale Farm. Your guide will lead you through beautiful orchards to see thousands of varieties of apples, pears, cherries and plums that you never knew existed. After your tour there's time to

browse around the Brogdale marketplace before enjoying a delicious two-course luncheon with a complementary glass of apple juice before making the short road journey to Farming World.

Here you can see rare breeds and heavy horses as you stroll around the



farmyard and paddocks. If you prefer to "take it easy", climb aboard the trailer ride for a trip around this working farm – find out about modern farming methods and the farm's history from your on-board guide. Don't miss the afternoon flying display from the resident Birds of Prey. A farmhouse cream tea completes the day.

This tour is available daily April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

**Inclusive price for orchard tour and lunch at Brogdale and afternoon visit to Farming World with cream tea:
Adult £27.50 Senior Citizen £26.50**

**Rural Splendour – Mount Ephraim and Doddington Gardens
01227 751496**

Take a leisurely stroll through the beautiful and tranquil gardens set around the Victorian mansion at Mount Ephraim. The grass maze features a dozen varieties of tall grass interspersed with herbaceous plants and is a wonderful new addition to the garden. If you visit in Summer don't miss the intoxicating colours and scents of the Millennium Rose Garden – a vast profusion of roses enhanced by an arbour and arches of wrought iron.



Your itinerary allows time for a lunchtime visit to Faversham – take lunch in one of the charming pubs, bustling cafés or varied restaurants in the town centre. Then continue to Doddington Place and explore the splendid gardens which have featured in numerous magazine and newspaper articles and twice on TV in Country Ways. It has also been the scene of episodes in the television series Perfect Scoundrels (with Peter Bowles) and Great Houses Cookery (with Michael Barry). Part of the film Waterland, starring Jeremy Irons and Natasha Richardson, was filmed here.



This tour is available Mondays-Thursdays and selected weekends from April to September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

**Inclusive price for entry to the gardens at Mount Ephraim and Doddington:
£7.50 per person**

Fruity Walk & Doddington Place
01795 536250



Begin your day with a guided tour of Brogdale Farm where knowledgeable and experienced guides will take you to the most attractive and interesting areas of the orchards. Soak up the history and legends of the different fruits and enjoy plenty of tastings. When you return, a delicious homemade lunch will be waiting in the tearoom which overlooks the courtyard. There's time to browse around the on-site shops before your coach takes you on to Doddington Place Gardens. The woodland gardens, Edwardian rock garden, formal sunken garden and impressive clipped yew hedges will leave you feeling inspired!

This tour is available daily April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

Inclusive price for orchard tour and lunch at Brogdale and admission to Doddington Place Gardens:
£20.00 per person

Twin Garden Delights – Mount Ephraim and Belmont
01795 890202



Take the morning to explore the ten acres of landscaped gardens at Mount Ephraim – there is

something for all seasons here with Spring bulbs and blossom, rhododendrons and azaleas and Summer floral delights, as well as many beautiful mature trees.

Rejoin your coach for the short road journey to Belmont and enjoy a ploughman's lunch in the Orangery. Spend the afternoon in the gardens at Belmont – an elegant 18th century house set in a 3,000 acre estate. See the pinetum, ornamental garden with pond, herbaceous borders, rockery and walled kitchen garden with Victorian greenhouse and a yew lined walk, planted to celebrate the Coronation of Edward VII.

This tour is available daily April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

Inclusive price for admission to the gardens at Mount Ephraim and Belmont plus a ploughman's lunch:
£12.50 per person

Shepherd Neame Brewery and Farming World
01795 542016

See how beer is made from barley to bottle and hop to hand-pump on a morning tour of the Shepherd Neame brewery in Faversham town centre. Then try some of the products during a fascinating tutored tasting and



take lunch in the Visitor Centre bar.

In the afternoon head for Farming World, just three miles away. See the rare breeds, lawn mower museum, watch honey bees at work in Bee World and take a tractor and trailer ride around the farm. Don't miss the impressive afternoon flying display from the farm's resident birds of prey.

This tour is available daily April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

Inclusive price for Brewery Tour and two-course lunch at Shepherd Neame and admission to Farming World:
Adult £23.00 Senior Citizen £22.25

Delicious Beer – Delightful Gardens
01795 542016

Beer has been produced in Faversham for over 850 years and on this tour you will visit the Shepherd Neame Brewery and learn a little about this proudly independent family company and its wide range of award winning beers. The tour includes the chance to sample some acclaimed ales and legendary lagers.



After your tour, relax over a traditional two-course lunch in the Visitor Centre bar before heading on to the tranquil surroundings of Mount Ephraim Gardens. Explore the ten acres of landscaped gardens that surround a splendid Victorian mansion. Admire the unusual topiary, wander through the rock garden with its delightful Japanese stone bridge and be amazed by the grass maze – 8 different plant associations have been

used to create a Catherine Wheel of colour. Relax in the tranquil atmosphere and drink in the views of the Swale and Thames estuary.

This tour is available for groups of 12 or more persons on Mondays-Fridays and selected weekends from April to September.

Inclusive price for Brewery Tour, Beer Tasting and two-course lunch at Shepherd Neame Visitor Centre plus admission to Mount Ephraim Gardens:
Adult £21.00 Senior Citizen £20.25

Faversham – Past and Present
01795 534542



Learn about the rich historic past of Faversham Market Town of Kings with a visit to the heritage centre, lunch in one of the town's fine eating places and then discover the delights of this market town with a guided walk.

The museum, housed in an attractive fifteenth century building in the centre of Faversham, gives a marvellous insight into the life and character of the town over many hundreds of years. It was re-opened in November 2002 following a complete redevelopment of the site and the provision of new facilities.

The town walk lasts for approximately 1 1/2 hours and your guide will tell you about many of the Medieval houses which have been wonderfully restored and some with beautiful Restoration, Georgian, Regency, Victorian and 20th Century embellishments. Faversham boasts of over 475 listed properties many of which are in Kent's finest medieval road, Abbey Street.

This tour is available Mondays to Saturdays throughout the year for pre-booked groups. Sunday guided town tours only can also be arranged.

Inclusive price for Museum visit and Town Tour:
Adult £5.00 Senior Citizen £4.50
Child (10-15) £4.00

This leaflet features the most popular visit-combinations, if you would like an itinerary with a different combination of attractions, the please telephone for details and prices.

Please note: with all itineraries shown, you are responsible for arranging transport to and from Faversham and between attractions.



Belmont Gardens & Orchard Walk
01795 536250

Spend the morning with a relaxing stroll around Belmont Gardens. Enjoy morning coffee in the tearoom, then explore the hidden gardens which range from a pinetum



complete with grotto to a walled ornamental garden with pond, herbaceous borders and rockery. Don't miss the two-and-a-quarter acre walled kitchen garden with Victorian greenhouse.

Rejoin your coach for the short trip to Brogdale Farm for lunch and a chance to shop before a guided tour of the National Fruit Collections set in 150 acres of beautiful Kentish orchards.

This tour is available daily April until September for pre-booked groups of 12 or more persons.

Inclusive price for morning coffee and admission to the gardens at Belmont, lunch and orchard tour at Brogdale Farm:
£23.50 per person

Short Breaks

With so much to see and do in and around Faversham, the town is an excellent destination for a relaxing but stimulating break. Surrounded by stunning Kentish countryside and within easy reach of Canterbury, Rochester, Leeds Castle and Dover, Faversham is near some of the most notable attractions in the UK. The austere beauty of the estuary marshes on its doorstep and the seaside appeal of Whitstable a few miles along the coast complete the picture.

The White Horse, Boughton ◆◆◆◆

01227 751343

whitehorse@shepherdneame.co.uk



This delightful 15th century coaching inn is in the picturesque village of Boughton, just off the A2 and close to Faversham. Complete with lime-washed beams and inglenook fireplaces, the White Horse has 13 en-suite bedrooms. The menu features many regional specialities and ever-changing specials – all of which are freshly prepared. The restaurant can seat up to 50 for morning coffee, lunch or dinner – advance booking essential for groups.

The Sun Inn, Faversham ◆◆◆

01795 535098

thesun@shepherdneame.co.uk



This traditional ale house is situated in the conservation area at the heart of Faversham. The Sun has a wealth of old beams and a huge inglenook fireplace and has been the meeting place for the town's gentry for centuries. There are 8 en-suite bedrooms, a superb family beer garden, restaurant and bar.

With traditional fayre served in the restaurant and bar, the Sun is a relaxing place to sample Shepherd Neame's prize-winning Kentish ales and lagers. Up to 35 diners can be accommodated in the restaurant for dinner and the pub is also an excellent venue for morning coffee on arrival in Faversham and can cater for groups of up to 50. Advance booking essential for groups.



www.faversham.org

Visit the award-winning Faversham Website to find out all you need to know about Faversham and the surrounding area including: What's On, What to See & Do; Where to Stay and Places to Eat and Drink

Faversham Group Guide