Eastbourne has a huge variety of entertainment and events to suit all ages and tastes. From West End Shows to local drama groups, from pop art to military history and from international tennis to an RAF air show, Eastbourne truly has something for everyone.

Eastbourne’s seafront consists largely of Victorian hotels, a pier and a Napoleonic era fort and military museum, Eastbourne was developed at the direction of the Duke of Devonshire from 1859 from four separate hamlets. It has a growing population, a broad economic base and is home to companies in a wide range of industries.

Though Eastbourne is a relatively new town, there is evidence of human occupation in the area from the Stone Age. The town grew as a fashionable tourist resort largely thanks to prominent landowner, William Cavendish, later to become the Duke of Devonshire. Cavendish appointed architect Henry Currey to design a street plan for the town, but not before sending him to Europe to draw inspiration. The resulting mix of architecture is typically Victorian and remains a key feature of Eastbourne.

Eastbourne is a town and seaside resort and immediately to the east of Beachy Head, the highest chalk sea cliff in Britain and part of the larger Eastbourne Downland Estate. 

Eastbourne’s colourful Sea Front

Eastbourne Bandstand offers a variety of live musical entertainment with over 140 events each year; from Tribute Shows to 1812 Firework concerts. For many years the Bandstand has played host to a full programme of concerts and has survived as a musical entertainment venue because of its ever changing programme, introducing new audiences and new entertainments without forgetting the more popular traditional concerts.

The Devonshire Park Theatre is a Grade II listed building designed by Henry Currey, built in 1884, and further improved by celebrated Architect Frank Matcham in 1903. It is one of the best examples of small Victorian Theatre in the country.

The Royal Hippodrome Theatre dates back to 1883 making it the oldest theatre in Eastbourne. It was designed and built for the theatre manager and impresario George Beaumont Loveday by the eminent theatre architect C J Phipps.

https://www.queensu.ca/bisc/current-students/getting-around
How far?

40 minutes’ ride. Drop off and pick up point is the roadside coach park beside the railway station in Ashford Road.

What’s there?

Eastbourne is the nearest large town for most things you’ll need. Check out: http://www.visiteastbourne.com/


All the major banks and a post office; all kinds of large and small shops; hair dressers/barbers, coffee shops, restaurants, pubs and nightclubs.

The Curzon Cinema showing the latest movies http://www.eastbournecurzon.net/

The pier—FREE to walk along out over the sea—buy an ice cream, afternoon tea or fish 'n' chips ...

Art gallery – the Towner which has fantastic and regularly changing exhibitions. Entrance is free to most exhibitions. http://www.townereastbourne.org.uk/

Sovereign Leisure Centre – at the eastern end of town, with swimming pool, wave pool and flume, exercise classes, etc. http://www.eastbourneleisurecentres.com/sovereign_centre

When can I go there?

Several times a week. Trips on Monday through Thursday are often shorter, for banking etc. Longer trips for leisurely shopping or evenings out on Friday through Sunday.

You can jump on a minibus going to Polegate and catch the train. Please remember the minibus may not be at Polegate when you come back, so you might need to allow for taxi fare back to the Castle.

Public buses 98, 51 and 51X go to Herstmonceux village, Hailsham and Sovereign Harbour respectively.

Who do I ask if I want a special trip?

E-mail: minibus@bisc.queensu.ac.uk

Eastbourne Pier

Take a leisurely stroll along Eastbourne pier.

Walk or run the 4.1 mile length of Eastbourne's seafront.

Eastbourne Borough Market is held every Wednesday and Sunday all year round 9.30am to 4pm selling lovely local produce including: cheeses, organic dairy produce, artisan breads, fruit and vegetables, pies, cakes and pastries, clothes, jewellery, crafts, home ware, flowers, children’s toys, plants, books, gifts and more...

Dining Out

There are a huge range of restaurants and cafes to choose from when it comes to eating out in Eastbourne. From the home of the Banoffi Pie to ice cream parlours, Victorian tea rooms, bistros and more, find plenty to satisfy your palate or thirst.

Discover a wide range of Eastbourne shops from high street shops at the Eastbourne Arndale Centre to the quaint Victorian shopping streets of Little Chelsea and the boutiques in the Enterprise Centre. Browse designer shops at the harbour, visit local markets and pick up souvenirs from Eastbourne Tourist Information Centre.

The Locked Room in Eastbourne offers the ultimate team challenge in which your team will face mysteries, solve riddles and crack physical and mental puzzles while being locked in a room against a 60 minute countdown.

You will have to search high and low for clues and work together if you want to escape.

http://thelockedroom.co.uk/