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## THE SOBO GUIDE TO BRIGHTON & HOVE

As local experts on Brighton & Hove and due to numerous requests for such a guide from our guests, we have put together a quick overview of what we see Brighton and Hove is all about so you can make the most out of your stay with us. We couldn't possibly fit everything into to such a guide so please feel free to delve further into this wonderful city and enjoy everything that this vibrant location has to offer.

Information about SoBo

Things to See & Do

Shopping

Eating Out

Going for a drink

Nightlife

Travelling to SoBo

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Parking

## WHY STAY AT SoBo

Sobo Brighton is convenient, it is clean, it is affordable and it provides you with access to all the different things to see and do in Brighton. At SoBo you can visit us for the weekend – or you can stay with us as long as you want. It's simple just book on line, refer to this guide for all the information you need to know and we will do the rest.



What is SoBo:

- An almost beach front property, located 2 minutes from the seafront
- FREE wi-fi internet, garden, washing machine and tumble dryer
- Large self catering facility with adjoining common room and 40 inch TV screens
- An affordable choice of private, mixed or female-only rooms
- Practical dormer style larger rooms – great for groups or individuals
- An all-inclusive price with no hidden extras
- Multilingual helpful staff and fully secure lodgings
- 24 hour managers and round the clock access
- Great for families and groups
- We are in Hove Actually! People connected to Hove have noted that it is frequently described as "Brighton – well, Hove, actually" to outsiders unfamiliar with the distinction, and also because local residents wish to distinguish themselves from their less genteel neighbour.



## SOBO – RECOMMENDED THINGS TO SEE AND DO



## THE ORIGINS OF BRIGHTON

**Brighton** is a charming city (population 2010 – 257,000) and famous seaside resort in on the south coast of England, in the county of East Sussex and almost immediately due south of the capital city London (47 miles / 76 km). In 2000, the two neighbouring communities of Brighton and Hove joined together to form the unitary authority of the **City of Brighton and Hove**.

Brighton was a sleepy little fishing village, then known as *Brighthelmstone*, until Dr Richard Russell of Lewes began to prescribe the use of seawater for his patients. He advocated the drinking of seawater and sea bathing in 1750. In 1753 he erected a large house near the beach for himself and for his patients. A further factor in Brighton's growth came in the early 19th Century when the Prince of Wales built the Royal Pavilion, an extravagant Regency building by John Nash. But it was only with the development of the railways, around 1840, that Brighton truly started to boom.

The city is convenient for London, and increasingly popular with media and music types who don't want to live in the capital. It is sometimes called "London-by-the-Sea" for this reason. Brighton is probably the gay capital of Britain. There is a significant gay district in Kemp Town, which adds to the Bohemian atmosphere of the city. It is home to two universities, the University of Sussex (situated on the edge of the city at Falmer) and the University of Brighton

**Brighton Pier** aka the Palace Pier has all the usual seafront arcade attractions. There is also the wreck of **West Pier**, which was derelict for some time before finally burning down recently. Brighton Pier is all owned by the same company, so there's no real point shopping around for bargains on it (unlike other UK piers); but this does mean it has forced off threats to close it.



- **Brighton Beach.** In the summer, the pebble beach is covered in tourists and Brightonians alike. Poi twirlers strike a beautiful image against the sunsets. To the east of Brighton there is a designated nudist beach. The pebble beach gives way to a flat sandy seabed just below mid tide line so time your swimming to the low tide and avoid the painful feet.
- **The North Laine.** A wild nest of alternativism, The North Laine area is walked by dreadlocked hippies, bright colours, punks, Goths and oddballs. The shops sell everything from bongos to magic potions, from giant wooden hands to fairy wings and from bagels to fire staffs.
- **The Lanes** -an adjacent area of small shops, the tumbled street plan reflecting the layout of the original fishing village of Brighton, which was located here. The merchandise is more mainstream, although the Lanes are known for their wide selection of antique shops.
- **Sea Life Centre.** An aquarium with walkthrough underwater tunnel, adjacent to Brighton Pier. This is the oldest working Aquarium left in the world.
- The **Royal Pavilion** open daily October-March 10am-5.15pm (last tickets 4.30pm), April-September 9.30am-5.45pm (last tickets 5.00pm), closed from 2.30pm 24 December and all day on 25-26 December, admission £8.80 adults, £5.10 children, other concessions available, tel 01273 290900 - An interesting architectural attraction, transformed between 1815 and 1823 by the architect John Nash, at the direction of the then Prince Regent (later King George IV), into a sumptuous pleasure palace by the sea. The exterior has an Indian theme, whilst the interior was decorated with Chinese decor. Guided tours available and well worthwhile.
- **Kemptown** Brighton's gay village that owes the city the title of 'Gay Capital of Britain' is a short walk east of the city centre, not only does it cater to the LGBT community but also is home to a wealth of restaurants and cafes.
- **Theatre Royal, Pavilion Theatre, Corn Exchange Theatre, Dome Concert Hall** Theatre and music venues all located in the 'Cultural Quarter' that encompasses New Road, Jubilee Street and parts of North Laine.

- **Brighton Museum and Art Gallery** An interesting Museum and history, culture and art to do with Brighton and beyond. An excellent permanent collection as well as brilliant exhibitions from international artists.
- **Toy and Model Museum** A little, unknown museum hiding under the viaduct of Brighton Station.



- **Komedia** Major comedy club in North Laine.
- **Brighton Marina** with boats, pubs, restaurants, a supermarket and even a hotel.
- **Volks Railway** The first public electric railway in the world, opened in 1883, runs from the Aquarium at Brighton Pier to Black Rock near the Marina (operates April to September).
- **Fabrica**,. Contemporary art gallery that specialises in new commissioned site-specific work. As an artist led space this is a unique venue in the southeast that shows important new works by international artists. Fabrica is not a selling gallery but a place that offers access to exciting large-scale work and media installations. It is housed in a renovated church on the corner of Ship St and Duke St in the City centre, entrance is free.
- **Lighthouse** Another contemporary art gallery located in Kensington Street, North Laine. Like Fabrica it has no permanent collection and is purely artist led. The gallery itself is at a site of a disused warehouse.
- **Grand Parade** An art gallery located in Brighton's most central university campus. The gallery often has exhibitions of student's work as well as a wealth of international artists. It is located near St. Peter's Church just north of the Old Steine.
- **Phoenix** Another art gallery housing works from artists from all over the world. The gallery is in quite a central part of the city and is right next to Grand Parade.
- **Ink D** A small but trendy little space that exhibits obscure artists works as well as design. It is located at the bottom of North Road, North Laine.
- **Jubilee Square** A modern redevelopment in the heart of Brighton's North Laine. As well as the location of the magnificent Jubilee Library, the square also offers upmarket restaurants and cafe culture.
- **University of Sussex.** Spacious campus with notable architecture by Sir Basil Spence. (Three stops from Brighton Station on the line to Lewes).

- **St Bartholomew's Church**, Ann Street, Brighton, 10.00-13.00 14.30-16.00. One of Europe's tallest churches (from floor to ceiling). Towering over Brighton, this extra-ordinary church is not exactly the prettiest church in the world, however its gigantic structure and incredible decoration makes this church a must-see attraction. A real gem in Brighton's history, which needs tourism and donations as it, has recently been under threat from closure.
- The **Brighton Festival**, in May each year is the second biggest arts festival in Great Britain (coming closely behind Edinburgh). Music (all sorts), art exhibitions, book debates, and much, much more.



- the **Brighton Festival Fringe**. At the same time as the main Brighton Festival, has many additional arts (and other) events. These include "open houses" (local artists exhibiting in their own homes) and tours (haunted pubs, Regency Brighton, churches, cemeteries, sewers etc.).
- **Brighton Pride**, Considered by many to be the biggest and the best Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Pride Festival in the UK, attracting more than 100,000 people annually to Brighton for the week-long festival in

late July-early August. In 2009, Brighton Pride Festival starts Saturday 25th July - the Parade starts Saturday 1st August, 11am at the sea front near the Palace Pier on Madeira Drive.

- the **London to Brighton Bike Ride** a 58-mile charity ride held each June to benefit the British Heart Foundation. The Ride has raised over £26 million for heart research since its inception in 1980, from the efforts of over 550,000 riders. Suitable for all levels of riders, the route passes through glorious countryside on the approach to Brighton.
- **Tourist Tracks**, Offers a set of three short walks in downloadable MP3 format, plus a map to help you find your way. Pre-loaded MP3 players are also available for hire from the Tourist Information Centre. The Brighton MP3 walking tour pack can be downloaded for just £5.
- **Brighton Theatres**, Brighton is a great place to see a theatres show or even a gig. There are many many theatres and venues in and around Brighton.
- **Shop until you drop**. Calling into many of the quirky shops in the Laines looking for that elusive deleted LP/ leather bound book/ one-off party dress/ organic beer, can be a highlight and a chance to uncover hidden gems.

## WHAT TO BUY IN BRIGHTON AND WHERE TO BUY IT

Shopping is one of the main reasons to visit Brighton. But don't get stuck in the mainstream shopping area around Western Road. There are a huge array of shops catering for all tastes but the impressive assortment of independent shops and boutiques is something that differentiates Brighton from many other British cities.

The atmosphere in the North Laine and in The Lanes is one of the intangible aspects of the city that leaves many wanting to return time and time again. Brighton is especially good for Music, Books and independent clothes shops.

- **North Laine** contains heaps of shops and market stalls to tempt everyone's quirky or vintage fancies. There is a flea market with numerous stalls in **Kensington Gardens**. Shops tend to get less mainstream, the further north into the North Laine area you go.
- **The Lanes** are famous for their independent shops, especially antique shops and jewellers. **The Lanes Armoury** is World famous for selling antique war memorabilia and weapons.
- **Churchill Square Shopping Centre** and the surrounding area offer more mainstream goods, but are invaluable if that's what you're looking for.
- **London Road** is an older "High Street" type shopping area but is worth a visit for the **Open Market**.
- **Brighton Marina** contains more up-market shops.



## EATING OUT

Brighton has excellent food, especially for vegetarians. The most famous vegetarian restaurant (and, after a recent buy out, now fairly expensive) is Food for Friends situated in The Lanes. On the other end of the scale, there are many **takeaways in Brighton** catering for different kinds of tastes (pizza, Chinese, Mexican, Indian food). Prices are usually fairly cheap and most are open until late.

- **Bills Produce Store and Café**, The Depot, 100 North Road, tel +44 (0)1273 692 894, fax +44 (0)1273 692 387, M-Sa 8am-8pm, Su 10am-4pm. - consistently highly rated and reviewed, the café at Bills specialises in organic munchies of the best type.
- **The George** pub, on Trafalgar Street near the train station, serves only the finest vegetarian meals and snacks. Wifi available.
- **La Cave a Fromage**, 34-35 Western Rd, Hove, tel +01273 725500, Amazing wine and cheese platters that are constantly changing and very unique. Great service.
- **English's**, 29-30-31 East Street, tel +44 01273 327 980. Known as the best seafood restaurant in the city, this place is not cheap at around £20 for a main course. Very good food though the decor is dated and clientele mostly mature.
- **Terre à Terre**, 71 East Street, tel +44 01273 729 051. Wonderful vegetarian fare at a fair price, lively crowd and bright décor - voted 2nd best British restaurant in the Observer Food Monthly 2004.



- **Due South**, 139 Kings Road Arches, tel 01273 821 218, Great food and location. This is one of the top Brighton restaurants almost opposite the famous West Pier.
- **Burger Off**, 52 Brunswick Street West, tel 01273 326655, Best Burgers you will ever taste. Family run with a Five Star Health inspectorate Rating, well worth a visit.



- **The Eagle**, 125 Gloucester Rd., tel 01273 607765. Great vegan, vegetarian and carnivorous food
- **The Greys**, 105 Southover Street, tel 01273 680734. 11th best pub in the UK in 2004. Famous for its food, and chef "Spats" (no child licence.)
- **The Open House**, 146 Springfield Road, tel 01273 880102. 20th best pub in UK in 2004. Large, child-friendly pub next to London Road train station. Good food and drink.
- **Pablo's**, 36 Ship Street Brighton and Hove, tel 01273 20812. Serves great Italian food, with pizzas and pasta dishes starting at £2.50. It is popular in the evening so expect to wait for a table unless you make a reservation, getting a table during the day is usually no problem.
- **China China**, 74 Preston Street, tel 0871 2071847. Very good value (around six pounds per person) Chinese restaurant, with lots of seating, five minutes from the beach; you'll find several other low-cost restaurants on the same street.
- **The Regency Fish Bar/ restaurant**, Kings Road (on the seafront almost opposite the collapsing West Pier), Good value fish and seafood restaurant that won't break the bank.
- **Bardsley's Fish & Chip Shop**, 22-23a Baker Street (Just off London Road, near the level park), ☎ 01273 681 256, [41]. 11.30-14.30 & 16.00-20.30. Fine fish and chip restaurants serving delicious fish and chips as well as some really excellent specials (Roy's shark steaks are amazing). The family run restaurant has fantastic reviews. It is very popular with locals.

## WHERE TO GO FOR A DRINK

There are many, many pubs and bars catering for all tastes. Any list of reasonable length will be far from complete; if there's a street in central Brighton there is likely to be a pub on it.

- **The Evening Star**, 55-56 Surrey Street (200m from railway station). If you enjoy real ales this is a must. Voted by CAMRA for many years, the best pub for real ales in Brighton & Hove. They have a wide selection of tap ales & ciders and bottled Headbangers too! Best of all, it's really cheap!
- **Regency Tavern**, 32-34 Russell Square. Very welcoming pub, maybe a little on the pricey side for a normal pub, but it has some unique decor. Certainly not to be missed during the Christmas season.
- **Basketmakers Arms**, 12 Gloucester Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 4AD, ☎ 01273 689006. Great traditional backstreet pub located on a side street in the North Laine area. Excellent choice of English ales and excellent good value food. Often busy so arrive early to bag a seat

- **The Royal Pavilion Tavern**, 7 Castle Square. A cheap pub colloquially known as the 'Pav Tav'. Expect to see just about any type of person in here from Indie Kids and Goths to Old Men and Chavs who somehow all manage to co-exist harmoniously. There is also a nightclub above the pub.



- **The King and Queen**, 13-17 Marlborough Place. A faux traditional old pub that never loses its popularity! The decor is in a fake-medieval style, but the place is fun if you like a studenty atmosphere. Especially popular with students from the language school called St.Giles close to the pub always hang out here. It is a meeting point for them. As the name of the pub shows, there are portraits of former English kings and queens. The pub has a high ceiling and the space is large. Various forms of entertainment, which include karaoke, televised sport and occasional live music.
- **The Ranelagh**, St.James Street/High St. Intimate Blues music venue at night, with garden for watching the world pass by. Wifi available.
- **Gin Gin**, 74 St.James Street. No food, but probably the best cocktails in Brighton.
- **Audio / Above Audio**, 10 Marine Parade. Audio is medium capacity nightclub catering for fairly specialist musical tastes through a particularly large sound system. Above Audio is an award winning (National Theme Bar and Restaurant Awards) late night bar serving great cocktails and (when offered) good food. Wifi available

The **Hanover** area of Brighton(north of **Kemp Town**) has numerous excellent pubs in close proximity to each other and is well worth the 15-minute walk from the city centre. The atmosphere is more relaxed than the centre and the historic Victorian terraced streets with their brightly coloured houses are also notable. Climb the steep Southover Street and you will find the Geese, Greys, Dover Castle, Sir Charles Napier and Pub With No Name, all of which are worth a visit. Islingword Road runs parallel to Southover Street and there you will find the Constant Service, Horse & Groom, London Unity and Cornerstone. This is a great area for a pub-crawl!

# BRIGHTON NIGHTLIFE – THE ESSENTIAL CLUB GUIDE

We just did not know what to do with ourselves with this section because where do you begin? Here is the A-Z guide of Brighton and it's nightlife. Each venue listed provides you with a link to their website so you can check it out yourself along with their telephone number.



<a href="#">Audio Club</a>	Old Steine, Brighton	(01273) 606906
<a href="#">Arc</a>	160 Kings Road Arches, Brighton	(01273) 770505
<a href="#">Babylon Lounge</a>	The Kingsway, Brighton	(01273) 207100
<a href="#">Bar &amp; Club 7 Seven</a>	1b Boardwalk, Brighton Marina,	(01273) 675 007
<a href="#">Barracuda</a>	Kings Road Arches, Brighton	(01273) 513660
<a href="#">Beach</a>	171-181 Kings Road Arches, Brighton	(01273) 722272
<a href="#">Brighton Coalition</a>	171-181 Kings Road Arches, Brighton	(01273) 550000
<a href="#">Casablanca</a>	3 Middle Street, Brighton	(01273) 321817
<a href="#">Club Mango</a>	1 Preston Street, Brighton	(01273) 323161
<a href="#">Club New York</a>	1 Dyke Road, Brighton	(01273) 208678
<a href="#">Concorde 2</a>	Madeira Drive, Brighton,	(01273) 606460
<a href="#">Creation</a>	78 West Street, Brighton	(01273) 321628
<a href="#">Digital Club Brighton</a>	187 Kings Road Arches, Brighton	01273) 227767
<a href="#">Engine Room</a>	Old Steine, Brighton	(01273) 606906
<a href="#">Enigma</a>	10 Ship Street, Brighton	(01273) 328439
<a href="#">Entourage</a>	1 Middle Street, Brighton	07535 299889
<a href="#">Escape</a>	10 Marine Parade, Brighton	(01273) 606906
<a href="#">Event 2</a>	Kingswest, West Street, Brighton	(01273) 732627
<a href="#">Gloucester</a>	27 Gloucester Place, Brighton	(01273) 688011
<a href="#">Grace Of Brighton</a>	51-52 North Street, Brighton	07900668099
<a href="#">Funky Buddha</a>	Kings Road Arches, Brighton	(01273) 725541
<a href="#">Funky Fish Club</a>	New Madeira Hotel, Marine Parade, Brighton	07887946158
<a href="#">Hanbury Ballroom</a>	83 St Georges Rd, Brighton	01273 605789
<a href="#">Havana Club</a>	5 Regency Square, Brighton	
<a href="#">Honey Club</a>	214 Kings Road, Brighton	(01273) 202807
<a href="#">Koba Bar/Club</a>	135 Western Road, Brighton	(01273) 720059
<a href="#">Kool Club</a>	10 Pool Valley, Brighton	(01273) 323 201
<a href="#">Kulture Club</a>	77 West Street, Brighton	(01273) 227592
<a href="#">Liquid Brighton</a>	78 West Street, Brighton	(01273) 321628
<a href="#">Oceana</a>	West Street, Brighton	08452 968590

<a href="#">Ocean Rooms</a>	1 Morley Street, Brighton(	01273) 699069
<a href="#">Po Na Na</a>	75-79 East Street, Brighton	0872 1486484
<a href="#">Pool Club</a>	8-9 Marine Parade, Brighton	(01273) 604409
<a href="#">Pussy Cat Club (Adult)</a>	75 Grand Parade, Brighton, BN2 9JA	(01273) 689503



<a href="#">Revenge</a>	32-34 Old Steine, .Brighton	(01273) 606064
<a href="#">Spearmint Rhino Rouge</a>	75-79 East Street, Brighton	(01273) 205206
<a href="#">Tru Club Brighton</a>	West Street, Brighton	(01273) 321628

## **TRAVEL - GETTING TO BRIGHTON:-**

### **BY TRAIN**

Trains to Brighton run from Victoria and London Bridge stations in London, taking about an hour (faster for the Brighton Express services from Victoria, although expect to add another 20 minutes if travelling during peak commuting times). Trains also run along the coast from Hastings and Lewes in the east, and Portsmouth and Chichester in the west. Brighton is on a direct line to Gatwick and Luton airports (Gatwick is much closer, being to the south of London).

Southern tickets to London and some other destinations can be purchased from as little as £3 (£2 with rail cards) one way, if purchased online from their website. The tickets can then be collected from the automated machines at your departure station.

### **BY CAR**

Brighton is a congested city, and not easy to drive or park in. The principal route from London and Gatwick Airport is the A23. The A27 runs along the coast, and is dual carriageway from the M27 at Portsmouth in the west to Lewes in the east. There are several car parks in central Brighton - expect to pay about £1.50 per hour, even on Sundays. Alternatively, parking is available at Worthing or Lewes stations, about 20 minutes by train from the city centre. Another alternative is to use the city's Park and Ride service, information can be found at The National Park and Ride Directory. Finally, Parkopedia.com [8] provides a free service that allows users to search and compare parking rates and locations for commercial and private parking facilities in Brighton.

There are particular days in the year when it is **very** inadvisable to drive into Brighton:

- The children's parade day at the start of Brighton Festival. Usually the first Saturday in May. Many roads in the centre of Brighton are closed.
- The day of the annual London to Brighton Bike Ride. This is on a Sunday in June - tens of thousands of cyclists plus their support vehicles are in the city, so many roads will be blocked or difficult to get across.
- The parade day of the Brighton and Hove gay pride week. Around first Saturday of August. Many roads in the centre of Brighton are closed.
- The first Sunday of November when the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run is held (unless, of course, you own a veteran car!)
- Any summer's day when the sun is shining and the whole of London decides to head to the Brighton beach.



## **BY BUS**

National Express provides coach services to London (coach tends to be slow and takes around 2 hours) and various other cities from Pool Valley coach station, between Old Steine and the seafront.

Stagecoach bus services run to Brighton from Portsmouth, via Worthing, on service 700. It costs £6.30 for one day's unlimited travel on this route. See Stagecoach for times.

Brighton and Hove Buses bus services run to Brighton from Eastbourne in the east and Tunbridge Wells in the north. Travel on Brighton & Hove Buses cost £2.00 per journey or £3.60 a day for Travel within Brighton (Southwick - Newhaven - Lewes - this is called a City Saver). There is also a Supersaver ticket for travel within Southwick to Eastbourne, for £5.00 a day. There are many discount fares ("Centre Fares", online tickets) and tickets, which cost more (Night buses - ranging from £2 for N7 and N25 to £5 for the N69). Children only receive a discount with a BusID. See Brighton and Hove Bus Company for details.

## BY PLANE

The city's proximity to London means Brighton is well served by airports. Brighton can be reached from Gatwick by train in as little as 25 minutes. Shoreham's airport (also known as Brighton City Airport) is located 5 miles to the west of Brighton. It is the nearest airport for light aircraft and also offers sightseeing flights. It is the oldest licensed airport in the UK.

## GETTING AROUND IN BRIGHTON



### BY BIKE

Cycling is a growing form of transport in Brighton and the city is one of **Cycling England's** "Cycling Demonstration Towns". More details on cycling, including a map of routes, can be found at the cycling section of the city council's website. We have storage areas for cycles if you are travelling to SoBo via cycle.

### BY BUS

There is an extensive bus network in Brighton and Hove. In the city centre, services are very frequent and many stops have 'real-time' bus information.

The majority of buses are run by one company, **Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Company**. The service isn't cheap with a flat fare of £2.00 for single journeys or £3.60 for an all day ticket (City Saver). Children travel at half price there is no child saver ticket (or 20p with a free Bus ID card when accompanied by an adult) and pensioners with an East Sussex County Card travel for free after 9am.

All day tickets can be bought on the bus, or in advance on the company website.

Here are the bus numbers that serve close by to SoBo:

### **George Street Hove and Brighton City Centre:**

1, 1A, 2, 2A, 5, 5A, 5B, 6, 7, 20, 25A, 46, 49, 49A, 81, 81C, N7, N25, N98

Weekly Bus Passes can be purchased from selected off-licenses and One Stop Travel Stop

Day Tickets £1.80 (One Trip) or Day Saver is £3.60 (Unlimited)

Many places around the city (particularly between the City Centre and the Universities) are now also served by a bus company called "The Big Lemon". These buses are bright yellow and the stops that they operate from are indicated by signposts that have a logo of a lemon on wheels and a bus schedule. These buses do not operate on Saturday or Sunday but are relatively cheap in comparison, costing just £1.50 for a single and £2 for an all day pass. Additionally, they run entirely on waste cooking oil and invest profits locally.

They will stop at any stop along the buses route at request. Please be aware that as these buses mainly serve Brighton's many University students, they do not operate during the summer when university is not in session (Late June to Mid-September) and operate in limited service (once an hour) during School Holidays (Mid December to early January and late March to early April). Still, these buses make a cheap alternative for the more experienced Brighton traveller.

On a small number of days a year, buses are disrupted by parades etc. - the same days as in the Many of Brighton & Hove Bus's vehicles are named after celebrities (some living, some deceased) and individuals who have made a contribution to Brighton & Hove city life in some significant manner.

## **BY TRAIN**

Brighton Station is one of the most important rail terminals in the South East and from here the city of Brighton has a small suburban rail network with trains serving areas of Hove, Preston Park and also to the main campuses of the universities (Moulsecoomb, Falmer) which run around every 15 minutes and take about 10 minutes. Trains also run along the coast to Ashford in the east (connecting to cross-channel services) and Portsmouth in the west. Brighton has excellent rail connections to London with the capital in reach under an hour.

Note that Southern and First Capital Connect services do **not** carry bicycles during peak hours (7-10am and 4-7pm).

## **BY TAXI**

There are vast numbers of taxis in Brighton. They are however more expensive than most other towns and cities in England. It is worth noting that on Friday and Saturday after midnight, the hire charge for a taxi is £4.10 before the journey starts.

The main taxi ranks are at Brighton train station and at East Street (near the Lanes). (Smaller ranks dotted around include: Queen Square (opposite Churchill Square), the north side of St. Peter's Church and the bottom of Montpelier Road.)

## TOP TIPS FOR GETTING TO SOBO

### GETTING TO SOBO FROM BRIGHTON STATION

**Bus:** You can catch the N°7 bus from Brighton station – then get off at the George Street bus stop in Hove. Ask your bus driver to let you know when you are at George Street. For Brighton bus timetables and details see buses.co.uk.

**Taxi** You may also get a Taxi from Brighton station to SoBo

### FROM POOLE VALLEY BUS STOP

**Bus:** You can get a N°7 bus from the bus stop close to Poole Valley (on The Steine), then get off in Hove at the George Street bus stop and walk to SoBo. Ask your bus driver to let you know when you have arrived at the George Street bus stop. You may also get the N°49 bus to Church Road in Hove and then walk to SoBo. For more information see buses.co.uk.

**Taxi:** You may also get a Taxi from Pool Valley/Brighton Center to SoBo



### FROM GATWICK AIRPORT

**Bus:** From Gatwick airport you can get a National Express bus to Poole Valley in Brighton. The bus takes approximately 1 hour.

**Train:** You can also get a direct train from Gatwick to Brighton train station. The train takes approximately 45 minutes. See train information here

**Taxi** You can get a taxi from Gatwick airport to Brighton – see Google for a taxi search and to get a price quotation.

### FROM HEATHROW AIRPORT

**Bus:** From Heathrow airport you can get a National Express bus to Poole Valley in Brighton. See bus information here

**\*Train:\***you can also get a train from Heathrow to Brighton train station. See train information here

**Taxi** You can get a taxi from Heathrow airport to

Brighton – see Google for a taxi search and to get a price quotation.

## STAYING SAFE IN BRIGHTON

Although Brighton is generally a safe place, like every other big city it has its share of problems. Visitors should be advised that the city centre can get quite rowdy at weekends, and West Street is best avoided after midnight. The sheer volume of people on weekends combined with alcohol consumption make Friday and Saturday nights on this street potentially volatile. Brighton attracts quite a large number of homeless people, although most of these individuals are harmless. They



will likely only ask you for money and, if you refuse, will simply go on to the next person. Junkies often gather around London Road and the Level, although these places are perfectly safe before dark. Areas such as Whitehawk and Moulsecomb have a bad reputation, but most tourists will have little reason to visit these places anyway.



#### INTERNET

There are plenty of Internet cafes around, prices are usually about £1/hour.

## GETTING OUT AND ABOUT FROM BRIGHTON

- **Dieppe**, France is around 5 hours away from by Ferry from Newhaven Harbour, services are 3 daily and cost from £15 return for foot passengers. The service is operated by Transmanche Ferries [67]
- **Rottingdean**. Just east of Brighton, with memories of Kipling, Burne-Jones and several other artists.
- **London** is just an hour away via train or 2 hours via coach.
- The gorgeous medieval town **Lewes** has a castle and is just 20 minutes away by train.
- **Worthing** There is no reason you wouldn't want to visit this lovely town. Short journey via train from Brighton Station.
- **Glyndebourne Opera House**, [68]. Eleven miles from Brighton, one of the most famous opera houses in the world, set in beautiful grounds where opera goes eat gourmet picnics at interval which can be brought in or ordered from their own catering service.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### ***Q How much does it cost to stay at SoBo***

Cost varies depending on type of room and number of occupants – the average rent is approximately £12 per person per night

### ***Q What does the price include?***

The price includes covers most things but excludes linen, locker fees and laundry facilities

### ***Q Do you have a kitchen?***

Yes we do – including cupboards, fridges, oven, toaster, microwave and much more. You can also enjoy our communal lounge area connected to the kitchen. From the kitchen you can access our back garden area. We also offer a coin operated washing machine and tumble dryer.

### ***Q Do I have to bring my own bedding/sleeping bag?***

You can do so if you like, but we do offer bedding/linen at a small charge.

### ***Q Can I pay daily or weekly ?***

Both methods of payment would be acceptable but weekly payments offers better value

### ***Q Do you accept traveller's cheques, foreign currency, Euro's or credit cards?***

Unfortunately no, payment can only be in UK pounds only. This allows us to keep our prices low for you.

### ***Q Will I need to pay a deposit?***

The amount of deposit will vary depending on the number of people staying in the room – the average deposit amount is just £50

### ***Q Is there a curfew?***

No, access to the property is 24/7, but we do ask that you respect the neighbours right to privacy and acceptable noise levels

### ***Q What about security?***

All rooms have digital combination coded locks and main entrance has computer controlled fob keys – codes are changed from time to time to maintain the high security – there are also security cameras located both inside and outside the property

## **OTHER BRIGHTON WEBSITES YOU MAY FIND USEFUL**

[www.visitbrighton.com](http://www.visitbrighton.com)

[www.mybrighton.biz](http://www.mybrighton.biz)

[www.buses.co.uk](http://www.buses.co.uk)

[www.brighton.co.uk](http://www.brighton.co.uk)

[www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com)

# **THANKYOU**

We hope you have found our downloadable guide to Brighton of great use and we welcome any feedback and additions you may have for our next version. In the meantime we hope you have a great trip to Brighton and we look forward to seeing you at SoBo Brighton very soon.

**The SoBo team.**

## **Disclaimer.**

**Please note that at the time of going to print all the information featured in this document is as accurate as it can be. Information is derived through personal experience, Brighton websites, town maps and other useful sources. Please note we cannot be responsible in any way for poor experiences at any of the highlighted venues or attractions.**

**The Terms and Conditions for SoBo are featured on the next few pages. These will be agreed by each individual/ or party on arrival.**

## **Terms & Conditions**

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### **Weekly Rates, Special Packages (Monthly discounts) and Offers**

Weekly Rates. Special packages (Monthly Offers) and offers are all 100% non-refundable and non-transferable so please ensure you wish to stay for the full period before booking

### **Payment**

Payment can be accepted by either cash or credit card (5% surcharge applies) or via our website using a debit / credit card

### **What to Bring With You**

Linen is provided free of charge Towels are available for hire at a £1.00 charge plus a £5 deposit – damage to linen or towels will be deducted from your deposit

### **On check in**

Guests will be required to produce photo ID, signing to confirm agreement to terms and conditions of stay and make payment in full

### **Responsibilities during Your Stay**

We will endeavor to do all that is reasonable to ensure that you, your party and their belongings are safe and secure during your stay, but we cannot accept any liability for any accidents beyond our control or for any loss of your property. We provide lockers at a cost of £1.50 per day plus a £5 key deposit. You will be liable for any loss or damage to our property caused by you or any members of your party and any incurred costs will be paid for by you and/or your group

### **Access**

There are no restrictions on your movement, however, should you arrive home very late then you should be mindful that others may be resting and that your noise should be minimal. For some larger dorm rooms we do charge £5 for a key deposit

### **Catering facilities**

The kitchens are to be kept clean at all times. You must clean your dishes after cooking and clean any appliance you have used during food preparation properly. Note that power to our hobs and ovens automatically switch off at 21:00 and back on at approximately 08:00

### **Coin operated Laundry**

Charges will vary - You are required to purchase your own washing powder and conditioner

### **Bathrooms**

The bathrooms are to be kept clean at all times. You are expected to purchase all your toiletry items. Please keep your showers to a maximum of 10 minutes

## Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere within the premises. Any guest found smoking within the building will be asked to leave the premises immediately and will not be offered a refund. A smoking area and ashtrays are provided outside in the rear garden area for guests who wish to smoke

## Guest Telephone

Phone is programmed to allow incoming calls only but allow emergency, operator and free phone calls - We recommend that you purchase a phone card

## Guest Behaviour

The comfort, safety and security of our guests is of paramount importance. Any guest(s) who, in the opinion of our staff, compromise the comfort, safety or security of other guests, staff or local residents will be requested to leave the hostel premises and will not be offered a refund. Guests are expected to respect other guests, staff, local residents and property. In the case of groups, the group leaders must ensure that all members of their group behave in an acceptable manner. Failure of any individual group member to do so will result in the expulsion of the whole group

## Children aged under 18

Children aged under 18 will not be accommodated at **SoBo Brighton** unless accompanied by an adult, who will be responsible for the conduct and personal safety of these children at all times

## Theft or malicious damage to property or persons

Police involvement will be swift and immediate. CCTV cameras operating 24/7 and recordings will be provided to Police to assist prosecution

## Miscellaneous

- Upon arrival, we require every individual / member of the group are to sign in, recording their name and address, and show one of the following types of photo identification: passport, drivers licence, student card or National Insurance card. **SoBo Brighton** reserves the right to refuse accommodation if inadequate identification is provided and retain deposits paid
- We reserve the right to refuse any booking(s) without specifying a reason and retain deposits paid
- Guests arriving under the influence of alcohol or evidence of drug use will not be permitted to stay and deposits paid are non refundable
- When an enquiry is made, any information we give out regarding availability is correct at the time of the enquiry. Availability may change and **SoBo Brighton** can only guarantee bookings on receipt of a deposit subject to availability at the time of that payment. If we are unable to honour a reservation any monies paid will be refunded to the individual or group with no further liability on our part

## Payment

In order to secure your booking you must pay us the appropriate deposit depending on the length of your stay. This deposit is refundable upon leaving if your room is in the same condition upon arrival, no missing items, no damage to the property has been caused and all payments are up to date. Upon arrival you will have to pay for your whole stay in advance. Please note that there is a 5% surcharge on all card payments

## Check In and Check out times

**Check in time is after 3:00pm**

**Check out time is 10:00am**

Early check maybe possible and a fee will be agreed upon check in

You may stay longer if your room is not booked at a charge of £2.50 per person per hour or part hour- We reserve the right to recover fees using card details held or from deposits for late check out

**Reception opening hours: Mon > Sun: 10:00 - 22:00**

**Staff are available on site 24/7**

## Upon Departure

On the day of departure, the room will be inspected again for damage

Damage includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- Broken furniture such as bunks, beds, cupboards, tables and chairs
- Broken windows
- Damaged light fittings and globes
- Graffiti or defacing of walls, beds, etc.
- Fire extinguishers being tampered with or used unnecessarily will result in £75.00 deduction per unit discharged
- Your deposit will be returned in full so long as there is no damage and the room is left clean and rubbish free
- We reserve the right to recover fees using card details held or from deposits held for late checkout / damage and / or cleaning – Full details will be held in the form of photos / videos/ invoices for repairs / replacement items / cleaning costs and can be made available upon request
- We may consider legal action to recover our full costs for any damage that is caused to our property / fixtures and fittings

## Tariffs and Refund Summary

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## Weekly Rates, Special Packages and Offers

Weekly Rates are **100% non-refundable** and non-transferable so please ensure you wish to stay for the full 7/14/21/28/35 days before paying or consider paying by the day

## Payment for your stay

Payment can be accepted by either cash or credit card (5% surcharge applies) or via our website using a debit / credit card. We can only accept UK pounds and no other currency

## Linen / Towel charge

Linen is provided free of charge– damage to linen will be deducted from your deposit

## Lockers / Office storage

We provide Lockers / Storage at a cost of £1.50 per day - Items are left at owners risk and we except no responsibility for any loss from lockers. Storage is for a maximum of four weeks after which we reserve the right to dispose of any unclaimed items or sell them to pay for outstanding storage fees – Deposits rates are posted in main office. Upon checkout bags maybe left with us for collection later at a rate of £1 per bag / case

## Your Deposit

This deposit is refundable upon leaving if your room is in good condition, no missing items, no damage to the property has been caused and all payments are up to date. Deposit return time 7 > 10 days

## Cancellations, No-Shows and Changes to your booking

**Bookings by Internet** - All cancellations must be made in writing or by email directly

**Cancellation Policy** - 48 hours notice prior to 10am on the day of arrival is required - there is no refund of deposit for group bookings of four people or more - **A 10% administration fee will be deducted from all cancelled bookings**

**Bookings made by Hostelworld / Hostelbookers** - In the event of a no-show without cancellation , we reserve the right to charge your credit card for the first night's stay plus a 10% admin fee

**Reception N°** (01273) 323097 / 207089

Emergency 24 hour Mobile telephone N° 07773 309145

Guest Landline Telephone for Incoming Calls N° (01273) 731066

**E mail:** [info@roomsinbrighton.co.uk](mailto:info@roomsinbrighton.co.uk)

**Web:** [www.roomsinbrighton.co.uk](http://www.roomsinbrighton.co.uk)

## Acceptance of the Terms & Conditions

You will be asked to sign that you have read and agree to our terms and conditions upon check in

## **Parking information**

Parking outside S0B0 Brighton is for permit-holders only during the daytime. You may, however, park during the evenings (from 8pm – 8am).

### **Alternative parking options:**

A. Tesco Super Store– minimum spend of £5 required for free parking.

Directions

(see [http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s\\_d&saddr=50.82831,-0.175846&daddr=11+Seafield+Road,+Brighton&hl=en&geocode=&mra=dme&mrcr=0&mrsp=0&sz=17&sll2,-0.17335&sspn=0.004791,0.009624&ie=UTF8&z=17](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s_d&saddr=50.82831,-0.175846&daddr=11+Seafield+Road,+Brighton&hl=en&geocode=&mra=dme&mrcr=0&mrsp=0&sz=17&sll2,-0.17335&sspn=0.004791,0.009624&ie=UTF8&z=17) )

B. Parking bays along the seafront:

### **Kingsway**

Directions

(see [http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s\\_d&saddr=11+Seafield+Road&daddr=50.825999,-0.185094&hl=en&geocode=&mra=dme&mrcr=0&mrsp=1&sz=15&sll=50.828846,-0.184793&sspn=0.019165,0.038495&ie=UTF8&z=15](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s_d&saddr=11+Seafield+Road&daddr=50.825999,-0.185094&hl=en&geocode=&mra=dme&mrcr=0&mrsp=1&sz=15&sll=50.828846,-0.184793&sspn=0.019165,0.038495&ie=UTF8&z=15) )

<b>1 hour</b>	£1.00
<b>2 hours</b>	£2.00
<b>3 hours</b>	£3.00
<b>4 hours</b>	£4.00
<b>6 hours</b>	£6.00
<b>9 hours</b>	£9.00

### **King Alfred**

Directions

(see [http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?f=d&source=s\\_d&saddr=11+Seafield+Road,+Brighton&daddr=King+sway+Hove,+BN3+2WW+\(The+King+Alfred\)&hl=en&geocode=%3BCRcBUB-IKc6MFSyIBwMdgkX9\\_yHsoYvyE5j\\_cg&mra=pe&mrcr=0&sll=50.825742,-0.177498&sspn=0.009583,0.019248&ie=UTF8&z=17](http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?f=d&source=s_d&saddr=11+Seafield+Road,+Brighton&daddr=King+sway+Hove,+BN3+2WW+(The+King+Alfred)&hl=en&geocode=%3BCRcBUB-IKc6MFSyIBwMdgkX9_yHsoYvyE5j_cg&mra=pe&mrcr=0&sll=50.825742,-0.177498&sspn=0.009583,0.019248&ie=UTF8&z=17) )



<b>1 hour</b>	£0.50
<b>2 hours</b>	£1.10
<b>3 hours</b>	£1.30
<b>4 hours</b>	£1.60

C. NCP Parking— These car parks are located in Church Street, Churchill Square, North Road and Russell Road. [www.ncp.co.uk](http://www.ncp.co.uk)

D. Unrestricted parking begins on Glendor Road Hove – directions below

(see

[http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?f=d&source=s\\_d&saddr=bn3+2tn&daddr=Unknown+road+to:Glendor+Rd,+Hove,+East+Sussex+BN3,+UK&geocode=%3BFXmOBwMdZwX9\\_w%3BFUCWBwMd2QT9\\_w&hl=en&q=uk&mra=ls&via=1&dirflg=w&sll=50.828625,-0.18495&sspn=0.006614,0.027509&ie=UTF8&ll=50.827057,-0.185781&spn=0.006614,0.027509&z=15](http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?f=d&source=s_d&saddr=bn3+2tn&daddr=Unknown+road+to:Glendor+Rd,+Hove,+East+Sussex+BN3,+UK&geocode=%3BFXmOBwMdZwX9_w%3BFUCWBwMd2QT9_w&hl=en&q=uk&mra=ls&via=1&dirflg=w&sll=50.828625,-0.18495&sspn=0.006614,0.027509&ie=UTF8&ll=50.827057,-0.185781&spn=0.006614,0.027509&z=15) )

For more information see, <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=b1000033>