



MEDIA BRIEFING FACT SHEET

ENGLISH RIVIERA GLOBAL GEOPARK

The Geopark

In 2007 the English Riviera was designated a Global Geopark and is one of just 7 sites in the UK and Ireland to hold this special status. There are loads of opportunities to explore the stunning scenery of the Geopark - kayaking, diving, coasteering, sea-fishing and more - plus walking this beautiful stretch of the South West Coast Path is a must. Local food is really important here too, and you'll find more of this at the Occombe Farm Cookery School and Brixham Fish Market is world-renowned.

www.englishriviera.co.uk/things-to-do/global-geopark-torquay-p1298733

The English Riviera has won the bid to host the 7th UNESCO International conference on Global Geoparks in September 2016 which is a major achievement. More than 600 delegates from all around the globe are expected to take part in the event.

Geopark Gateway Sites

For an in-depth understanding and appreciation of just what the Geopark is all about, visitors can go to one of the four key gateway sites.

Kents Cavern

Devon's most ancient secret! One of the most important Stone Age cave sites in Europe and the Ice Age home of Britain's earliest humans.

www.englishriviera.co.uk/things-to-do/kents-cavern-p140003

The Seashore Centre

Explore the underwater world of the English Riviera Global Geopark at the fascinating Seashore Centre in Goodrington where entrance is FREE. Interactive technology brings the marine environment to life, and you'll discover a whole host of native marine creatures, including the very adorable tompot blennys.

www.englishriviera.co.uk/things-to-do/seashore-centre-p204983

Berry Head National Nature Reserve

An internationally acclaimed heritage site, home to a fascinating array of wildlife and history.

www.berryhead.org.uk

Other Sites of Interest

There are a number of other key sites linked with the Geopark: Occombe Farm, Cockington Court, Torquay Museum, and Brixham Heritage Museum.

Brixham Fish Market Tours

Vitally important in the life of the English Riviera Global Geopark, Brixham Fish Market is acclaimed throughout Europe and has the highest value catch in the country. You'll see over 40 different types of fish at the exciting early-morning auctions. More than £25 million of fish is landed, bought and sold in Brixham and then delivered to many of the top restaurants across the nation and indeed abroad to our European neighbours. Come along and see the auctions in action, as featured in the recent Sky Atlantic series 'Fish Town'. You will be guided around by Rick Smith, head of Brixham Trawler Agents, who has decades of experience in the fish trade.

2015 Diary Dates

From 23rd – 31st May the English Riviera hosts the Geopark Festival, a celebration of all things Geopark.

www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/geopark-festival-2015-p1692563

English Riviera Tourism Company Welcomes Journalists

We host a number of familiarisation visits throughout the year and tailor each itinerary to suit your perfect story! We are always happy to welcome journalists to the English Riviera, if you are interested in visiting please contact;

Louise Smith/Holly Hollis e-mail: marketing@englishriviera.co.uk

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Launched in October 2010 the ERTC is a new private sector led public/private tourism partnership leading on the official promotion of the English Riviera as a leading UK resort and overseeing the effective delivery of the 2010-2015 Turning the Tide for Tourism in Torbay Strategy. To download a copy of the strategy please visit:

www.englishriviera.co.uk/ertc