



A house has most likely been on the site of what is now known as the Almonry since 1090 when the town was first laid out. Despite its name it never was an Almonry. It probably got its name as it was built on land set aside for the use of the Almoner of the Abbey. The present building is a good example of the type of oak framed timber house built after the years of decline following the Black Death and was originally a 5 bay hall house built in the 15th century. It has since been partially rebuilt, added to and some parts even demolished over the centuries. Most of these changes, including the addition of chimneys, took place in the 16th and 17th centuries. An unusual feature of the building is an internal courtyard which also has a well. It is set within delightful gardens. The once bustling cattle market behind the Almonry has been redeveloped and is now the Market Square.

Take the pedestrian crossing and return south down the High Street, passing several attractive buildings then turning left into Mount Street. The first **14** of the group of buildings immediately on your left was originally used by a Blacksmith. Even though an industrial building, it was designed with care, as shown by the 3 arches. This row is mainly 17th Century with recent shop fronts. The composition is attractive with varying roof heights

and contrasting gables. Look down the side passages for half-timber work. Further along this part of Mount Street is the late 19th Century Roman Catholic Church **15**, which has interesting textured brickwork. The Presbytery is 18th Century and has a pediment over its front door. Just beyond, the Zion Chapel building, built before 1820, is a complete contrast to the brick.

Follow Mount Street into Caldbec Hill where, at the top and to the left, is a windmill on the site where Harold supposedly assembled his army before the Battle of Hastings. Head back towards the High Street, passing a row of cottages **16** with interesting features including a massive chimney stack dating from the 16th century. Turn left through the new development at Old Ladies Court emerging into the High Street and again turn left where you will see a former chapel **17** built about 1881-5, with intricate work on the doorway and arches. Continuing back along the High Street a wrought iron archway **18** indicates where the Newbery Jam factory once stood. The factory started in the latter part of the 19th century but was recently demolished to make way for new development in Abbey Court. Beyond the next row of shops is Langton Hall **19** started in the 16th century as a 2 storey half-timbered building. Another storey was added about 1700 and a new front in the 18th century.

Finally, it was extended, and the shop fronts with interlacing 'Gothic' glazing bars added in the 20th century. In appearance it is an unusual form of Georgian with tile hanging, a balcony and rather informal composition. Of particular interest is the double doorway with its use of the Ionic border. The distinguishing feature is the volute in the capital at the top of the pilaster.

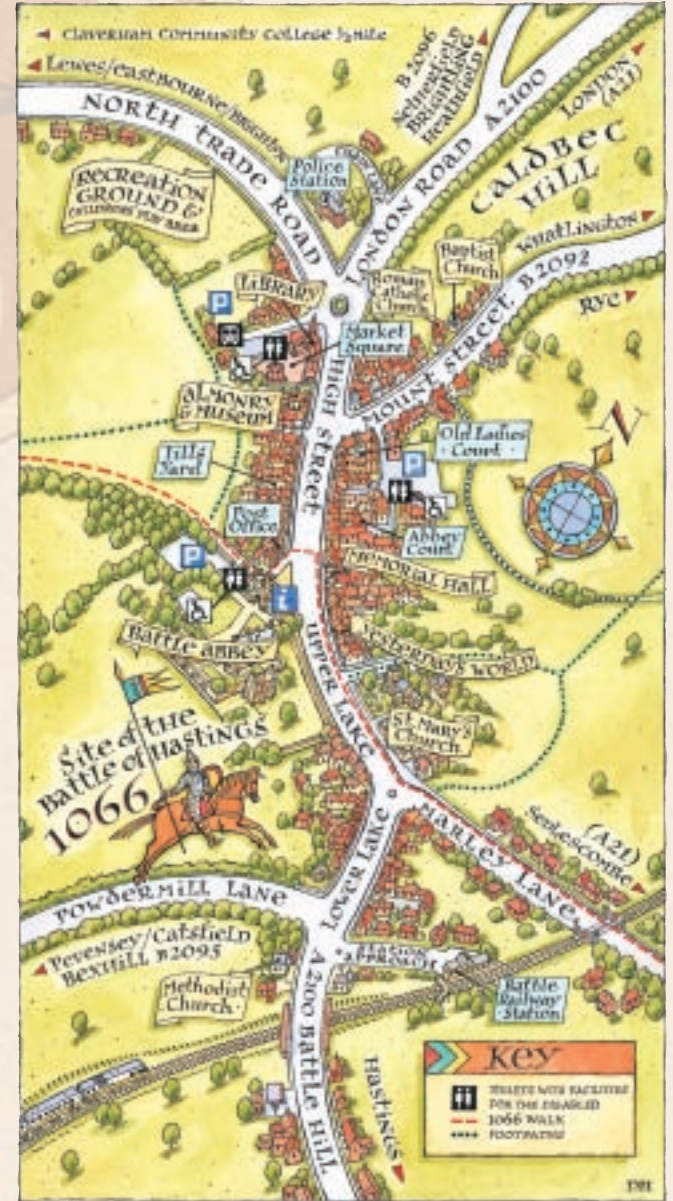
Continuing on past the Abbey Hotel is a group of early 19th Century houses with stucco facades, and a 16th Century building **20** with a 17th Century façade. In the recess of Senlac House **21** there are two fine Doric columns tucked in between shop windows. Further on is St Mary's Church **22**, which, like most Medieval churches, grew from its Norman nave with alterations in later centuries including its 15th Century tower. Past the garage is Priors Well **23** built as part of the Battle Abbey estate including clear evidence of 12th century work. The house is believed to have been occupied in 1538 by the last Abbot, John Hammond, immediately after the Dissolution.

Battle Railway Station **24** is a further 600 yards. Look out for the WWII air raid shelter in the garden of the corner property as you turn into Station Approach. The Railway Station is a good example of mid 19th Century Victorian 'Gothic'.

Returning from the station, walk back up towards the High Street with buildings on your left. The Auction Gallery **25** marks the end of the medieval town. The present building was built in 1936 as a cinema. Part of the site was the former House of Correction and the hall of the cinema was built on the exercise yard and the cells, 4 double for women and 4 double for men. A row of cottages **26** follows, all of which were built in the 19th century for Battle Abbey Estate workers.

By the mini-roundabout, you will see the Chequers **27**, which may be a medieval building though there is little evidence earlier than 16th century. Next door is Pyke House **28**, part of a 19 bay range of 15th Century Wealden houses built by the Abbey Estate as a speculative venture. Cleveland Lodge **29** was built in the 19th century as the estate office for the Duke of Cleveland, then the owner of the Abbey estate. Rents were paid at the lower door to the right of the front door. The route then takes you along a stretch of the Abbey precinct wall **30** built at the same time as the Great Gatehouse around 1338. The sandstone wall is full of colour and texture and worth a close look before you return to the Abbey Gatehouse.

We hope you have enjoyed exploring this delightful town.



Battle Tourist Information Centre

Battle Abbey Gatehouse,
High Street, Battle TN33 0AD
01424 773721
battle@rother.gov.uk

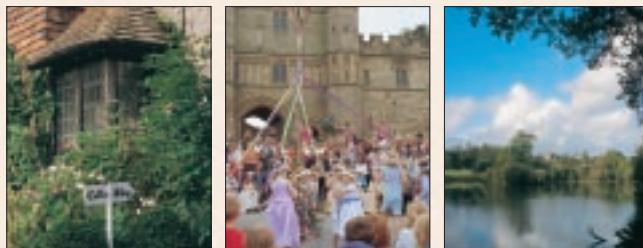
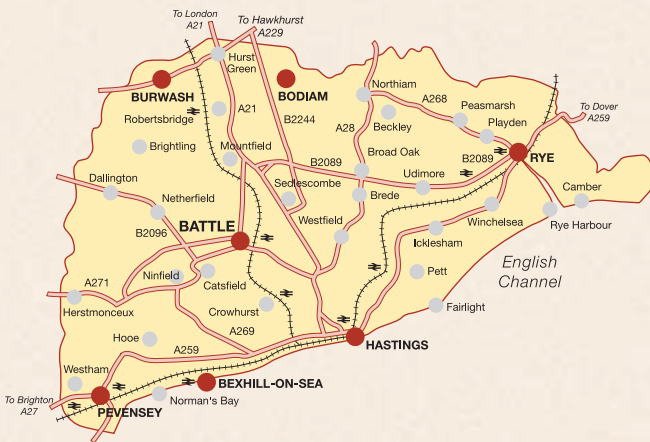
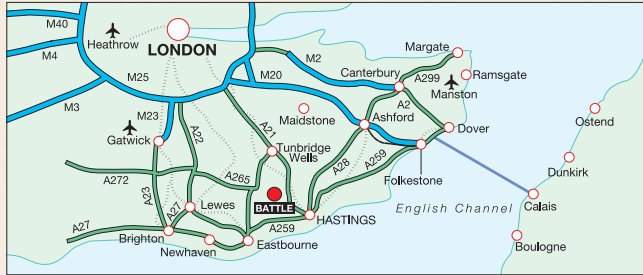


- Local accommodation
- Local information
- Bus and train timetables
- Maps and souvenirs
- Theatre and concert tickets

LOCATION & DIRECTIONS

Battle is 66 miles from London (A21/A2100) with trains twice an hour from Charing Cross. It is 54 miles from the Port of Dover, 45 miles from the Channel Tunnel (Folkestone) and 30 miles from the Port of Newhaven. London Gatwick Airport, approximately 56 miles by road, is linked directly by train from Bexhill (8 miles).

A Daily National Express Bus service runs from London.



Whilst every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in the production of this guide, no liability for any error, omission or inaccuracy can be accepted. Produced by Brooker and How for Battle Town Council, Battle Partnership and Battle Chamber of Commerce and supported by Rother District Council. Photographs supplied by Battle Tourist Information Centre, Chris Parker Photography, English Heritage Photographic Library, Hastings Borough Council, Hastings Museum, Judges Postcards, Paul Highnam, Rother District Council, Skyscan Balloon Photography and The Battle Museum. Battle Town map by David Hobbs. 10279/Designed and produced by www.brookerandhow.co.uk



1066 BATTLE OF HASTINGS, ABBEY AND BATTLEFIELD PEVENSEY CASTLE

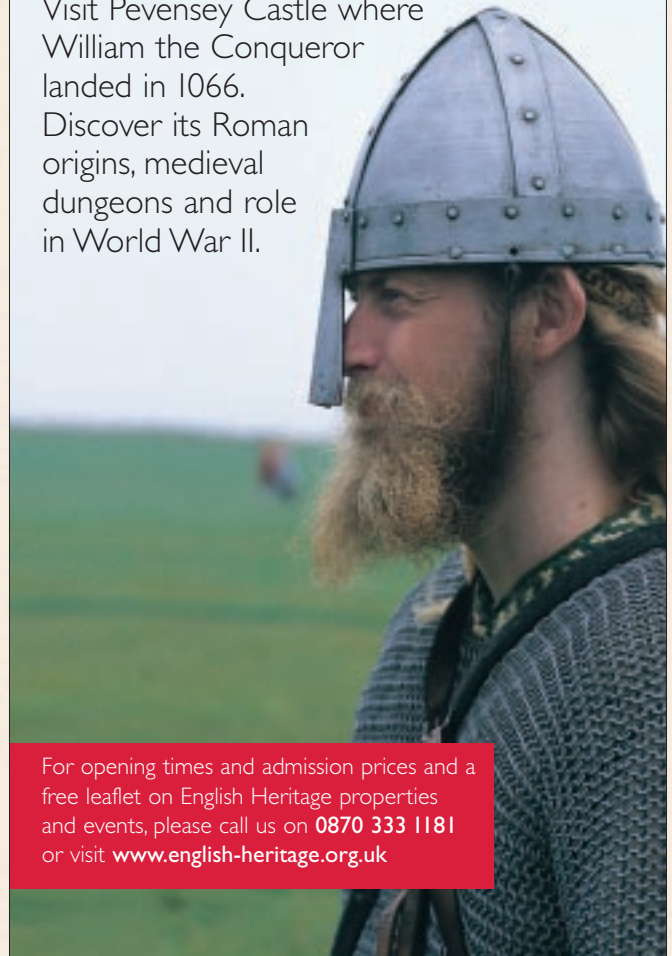
Invasion!



ENGLISH HERITAGE

Discover the site of the 1066 Battle of Hastings and find out what really happened on the most famous date in English history. Take the inclusive audio tour of the battlefield and atmospheric abbey ruins.

Visit Pevensey Castle where William the Conqueror landed in 1066. Discover its Roman origins, medieval dungeons and role in World War II.



For opening times and admission prices and a free leaflet on English Heritage properties and events, please call us on **0870 333 1181** or visit www.english-heritage.org.uk