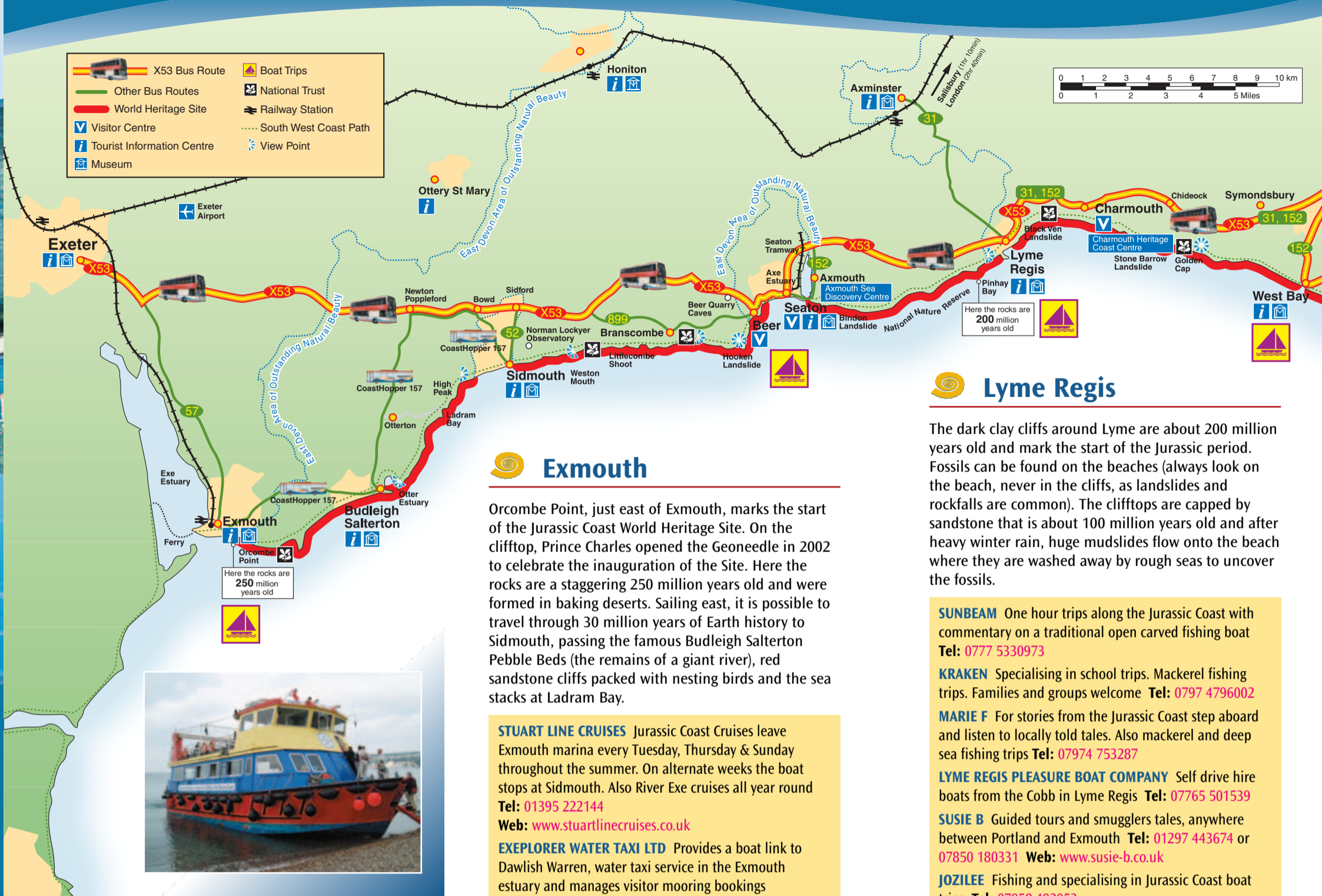




JURASSIC COAST
by boat



Exmouth

Orcombe Point, just east of Exmouth, marks the start of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site. On the clifftop, Prince Charles opened the Geoneedle in 2002 to celebrate the inauguration of the Site. Here the rocks are a staggering 250 million years old and were formed in baking deserts. Sailing east, it is possible to travel through 30 million years of Earth history to Sidmouth, passing the famous Budleigh Salterton Pebble Beds (the remains of a giant river), red sandstone cliffs packed with nesting birds and the sea stacks at Ladram Bay.

- STUART LINE CRUISES** Jurassic Coast Cruises leave Exmouth marina every Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday throughout the summer. On alternate weeks the boat stops at Sidmouth. Also River Exe cruises all year round
Tel: 01395 222144
Web: www.stuartlinecruises.co.uk
- EXPLORER WATER TAXI LTD** Provides a boat link to Dawlish Warren, water taxi service in the Exmouth estuary and manages visitor mooring bookings
Tel: 07970 918418

Beer and Seaton

The Chalk cliffs at Beer are 'only' 90 million years old and would appear to be in the wrong place, but leaving the sheltered bay, the underlying Triassic rocks (220 million years old) soon reappear. The combination of impermeable clays and porous sandstone and chalk gives rise to landslides. The Hooken Landslide at Beer Head and the Undercliff between Axmouth and Lyme Regis are fine examples and their huge scale can be appreciated from the sea. The great Bindon Landslide of 1839, just east of Axmouth was the subject of the first scientific description of such an event and created great interest. Even Queen Victoria viewed this spectacle from the Royal Yacht.

- LOY BOY** Mackerel trips and coastal trips from Seaton
Tel: 01297 23311
- SAMBE** Pleasure trips along the coast from Beer to Lyme Regis with commentary. Maximum of 11 passengers
Tel: 01297 21955 or 07989 631321
- BRANSCOMBE PEARL II** Mackerel trips and short coastal cruises from Branscombe Beach. Maximum of 10 passengers. Trips subject to weather conditions
Tel: 01297 680369 or 07971 519163

Lyme Regis

The dark clay cliffs around Lyme are about 200 million years old and mark the start of the Jurassic period. Fossils can be found on the beaches (always look on the beach, never in the cliffs, as landslides and rockfalls are common). The clifftops are capped by sandstone that is about 100 million years old and after heavy winter rain, huge mudslides flow onto the beach where they are washed away by rough seas to uncover the fossils.

- SUNBEAM** One hour trips along the Jurassic Coast with commentary on a traditional open carved fishing boat
Tel: 0777 5330973
- KRAKEN** Specialising in school trips. Mackerel fishing trips. Families and groups welcome
Tel: 0797 4796002
- MARIE F** For stories from the Jurassic Coast step aboard and listen to locally told tales. Also mackerel and deep sea fishing trips
Tel: 07974 753287
- LYME REGIS PLEASURE BOAT COMPANY** Self drive hire boats from the Cobb in Lyme Regis
Tel: 07765 501539
- SUSIE B** Guided tours and smugglers tales, anywhere between Portland and Exmouth
Tel: 01297 443674 or 07850 180331
Web: www.susie-b.co.uk
- JOZILEE** Fishing and specialising in Jurassic Coast boat trips
Tel: 07958 492953
- JOINT VENTURE** Jurassic Coast tours and three – six hour deep sea trips. One hour scenic or mackerel trips
Tel: 01297 442656 or 07720 900235
- FRANCES JANE BOAT TRIPS** Specialising in evening trips for private parties, fishing or scenic tours. Also one-hour mackerel fishing trips
Tel: 07890 739625

West Bay

The striking sandstone cliffs of West Bay and Burton Bradstock are about 180 million years old. From the sea they are dramatic, especially in the evening sun. Great faults or fractures in the rocks are best seen from a boat. To the east, the huge bank of Chesil Beach runs for 28km to the Isle of Portland. The beach is composed of 100 million tonnes of pebbles and even contains Budleigh Salterton pebbles from Devon, showing that the sea has carried the shingle to the east.

- HUNTRESS II** Specialising in dive and SCUBA charters and chartered trips round the bay for groups with prior booking.
Tel: 07720 328251
- LYME BAY RIB CHARTER** Water taxi between West Bay and Lyme Regis. 15 minute fast trips from West Bay
Tel: 07971 258515
Web: www.lymebayribcharter.co.uk

Viewing England's only Natural World Heritage Site from the sea

The Jurassic Coast between Exmouth in Devon and Studland Bay in Dorset has been recognised as a unique and special place. The cliffs record 185 million years of the Earth's history in just 95 miles because the rocks tilt or 'dip' down under the sea to the east. Therefore the oldest rocks, at 250 million years in age, are found in the west and younger rocks form the cliffs to the east. This makes a journey along the Jurassic Coast like 'a journey through time' and the constantly changing coast contains a wealth of different interests in different places and from different times.

Boat trips offer one of the best ways to explore this spectacular coastline, so step aboard and enjoy the Jurassic Coast from the sea.



The Jurassic Coast is England's first and only natural World Heritage Site. The 95 mile (155 km) stretch of coast was designated by UNESCO in 2001. It is a World Heritage Site because it offers a unique insight into the Earth Sciences - the rocks which make up the Site record 185 million years of the Earth's history. The rocks have been tilted to the east which means that the oldest rocks are found in the west and the youngest rocks in the east. This means that you can literally 'walk through time' along the coast - 185 million years in 95 miles! This story is explained in much more detail in the Jurassic Coast Mini Guide and the Jurassic Coast Official Guide, both available from Tourist Information and Visitor Centres.



www.jurassiccoast.com

Jurassic Coast World Heritage Team.
Tel: 01305 225101. Email: jurassiccoast@dorsetcc.gov.uk
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While every effort has been made to provide accurate information, the World Heritage Team can accept no responsibility for any inaccuracies. Safety at sea is the responsibility of the individual operators under the regulations of the Maritime Coastguard Agency. Certification to this effect and details of insurance should be displayed on board all vessels. All trips depend on the weather. Most boats only operate in the spring, summer and early autumn. Large boats operate from Exmouth and Poole/Bournemouth and can carry over 100 passengers. All other boats are limited to 10 or 12 passengers.

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Weymouth & Portland

Portland is an 'island of stone' - composed of the world famous 140 million year old Portland Limestone. The rocks dip gently below the sea at Portland Bill and passing this point by boat is a must if the weather is calm enough. Along the East Weares, the Great Southwell Landslide of 1734 is one of the largest recorded landslide events and it created Church Ope Cove in the process. The calm waters of the Fleet Lagoon are internationally important for marine life and wildfowl.

- FERRY STEP CRUISES** One-hour cruise around Portland Harbour and the breakwaters **Tel: 01305 789761/777521 or 07773 299383**
- WEYMOUTH WHITEWATER** Fast one or two hour scenic rides with close up views around Portland or along the coast to Durdle Door, Lulworth Cove and Worbarrow Bay. From Weymouth Harbour **Tel: 01305 781146 or 07899 892317**
Web: www.weymouth-whitewater.co.uk
- THE FLEET OBSERVER** A glass bottomed boat specifically built to explore the Fleet Lagoon and Portland Harbour. The hour-long trips sail daily **Tel: 07778 286892**
Web: www.thefleetobserver.co.uk
- MY FREEDOM** The boat is specifically equipped for the disabled. Trips are usually along the coast toward Lulworth Cove, Portland Harbour and Portland Bill **Tel: 07976 528054 or 01305 826199**
Web: www.myfreedom.co.uk
- DISCOVERER** Glass bottomed boat trips exploring the shallow waters around Weymouth and Portland **Tel: 07780 600233**
Web: www.underseaworld.co.uk email: info@underseaworld.co.uk
- WHITE MOTOR BOATS LTD** Daily ferry service to Portland and Lulworth Cove from Weymouth Harbour and cruises along the Jurassic Coast. Also available for private charters **Tel: 07749 732428 or 01305 785000/814225**
Web: www.whitemotorboat.freeuk.com
- UK SEA SAFARI** Adventures to suit all ages including Jurassic Coast explorations and educational trips **Tel: 01935 477585**
Web: www.ukseasafaris.co.uk email: mike@ukseasafaris.co.uk
- JURASSIC KAYAK TOURS** Supervised kayaking with qualified instructors **Tel: 01305 835301**
Web: www.second-wind.co.uk/jurassic_coast_kayaks
email: jkt@second-wind.co.uk

Lulworth Cove

The spectacular coast around Lulworth is famous because here the rocks have been tilted into a nearly vertical orientation. This is part of the Chalk ridge that runs from Lulworth through to Corfe Castle and beyond. The 140 million year old Portland Limestone forms a barrier to the sea but once breached softer rocks behind are rapidly eroded away to create a classic coastline of bays and headlines in every stage of their evolution. The famous arch at Durdle Door is a remnant of the Portland Limestone. The view from the sea is quite different from the land and avoids the steep sections of the coast path!

LULWORTH MARINE Fast rib rides to Durdle Door and longer trips by arrangement **Tel: 01929 400560**

Swanage

The hard banks of limestone here form headlands while softer clays have been eroded into bays. Boat trips offer a fabulous view of the 80 million year old Chalk stacks of Old Harry Rocks, the most easterly end of the Jurassic Coast. At Ballard Down the Chalk ridge appears and the almost vertical layers of the Chalk can only really be appreciated from the sea. At one time the ridge ran right across to the Needles on the Isle of Wight. West of Durlston Head, the Portland Limestone has been quarried along the cliff edges while the ledges provide a perfect nesting habitat for sea birds.

MARSH'S BOATS Family run boat trips exploring the local history, wildlife and geology of the Purbeck Cliffs
Tel: 01929 427659 or 01929 427309
Web: www.marshsboats.co.uk

Wareham

BRENSCOMBE RIB CHARTER Charter trips to Poole Harbour, along the Jurassic Coast, Yarmouth, Lymington and Swanage Bay. Also offer 'fast blasts', water skiing, wake boarding and other activities **Tel: 01929 481222**
Web: www.brenscombeoutdoor.co.uk
email: info@brenscombeoutdoor.co.uk

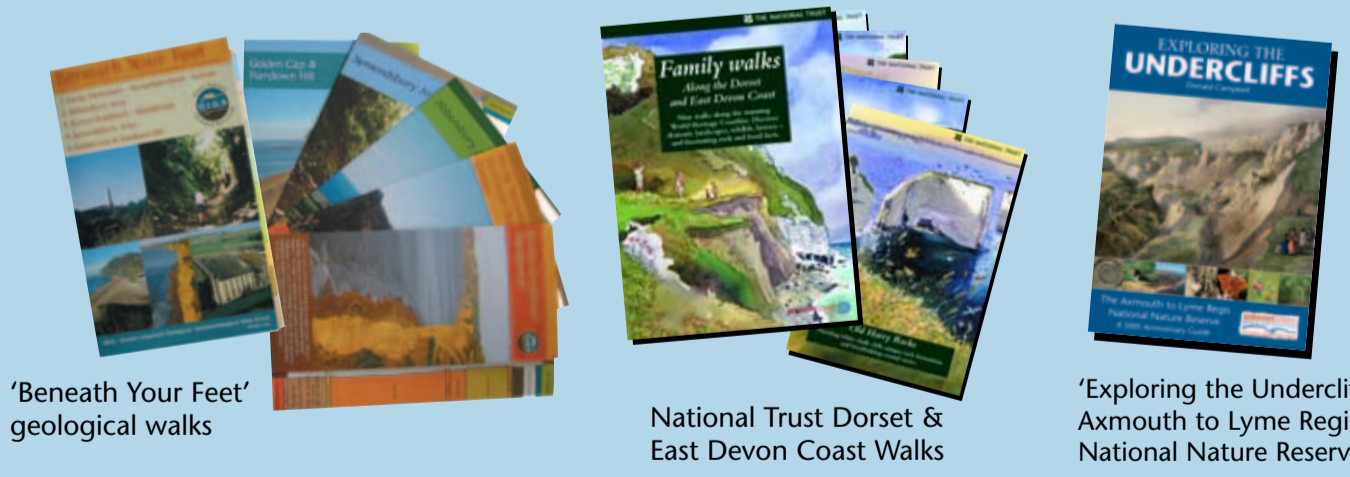
PEQUOD Relaxing 40-minute boat trips on the River Frome from Wareham Quay **Tel: 0779 2334879**

Poole & Bournemouth

The low cliffs around Poole Harbour and east to Hengistbury Head lie outside the World Heritage Site. The rocks here are about 40 million years old and consist of clays, sands and gravels giving rise to the distinctive heathland character of East Dorset.

- THE DORSET BELLES** Trips from Bournemouth, Poole and Swanage Pier from April to October. Evening cruises to Dancing Ledge to view the puffin colony **Tel: 01202 558550** **Web: www.dorsetcruises.co.uk**
email: info@dorsetcruises.co.uk
- BLUE LINE CRUISES LTD** Trips from Poole Quay to Old Harry Rocks or to Swanage on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays **Freephone: 0800 0960695**
Web: www.bluelinecruises.co.uk
email: info@bluelinecruises.co.uk
- BROWNSEA ISLAND FERRIES LTD** Trips around Poole Harbour. Find us at the yellow kiosk on Poole Quay **Tel: 01929 462383** **Web: www.brownseaislandferries.com**
- GREENSLADES FERRY SERVICE** to Brownsea Island, as well as trips around Poole Harbour **Tel: 01202 669955 or 631828**
- DOLPHIN III** Free trips for the disabled within Poole Harbour **Tel: 01929 550006**
- WAVERLEY** Steam in style aboard the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world. Cruising from many piers along the Jurassic Coast during September **Tel: 0845 130 4647** **Web: www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk**

Walks packs available



'Beneath Your Feet' geological walks

National Trust Dorset & East Devon Coast Walks

'Exploring the Undercliff' Axmouth to Lyme Regis National Nature Reserve

More information

For more information pop into a Tourist Information Centre or Visitor Centre and pick up one of these publications.



Lulworth Cove



Durdle Door



Durlston Head