

Family fun like no other on the Southend open topper!

Buses run approximately every 15 minutes

Ensign bus

This is a whirlwind bus ride along the Essex Estuary, combining seaside japery with good old-fashioned pleasures of yesteryear - sandcastles, shellfish and soaking up the sun with a pint or two! A day that starts with funfair frolics and ends with a peruse of a barnstorming pier, the 68 really is the gateway to a fun, unforgettable experience!

Arrive at the amazing Adventure Island, beside Southend Pier

40 fabulous rides are awaiting you on Adventure Island, ranging from The Screatre (an orbiter!) through to Rage, Axis and City Wheel. There's some traditional helter-skelter style rides, a carousel and crazy golf, but also amazing, hell and hair raising experiences.

Get on-board the fab open topper 68 bus to Leigh-on-Sea Marine Parade

12:25 Arrive at Leigh-on-Sea Marine Parade

Soak up the classic coastal Essex ambience in this delightful town, enjoy a refreshing drink at one of the many great pubs and some authentic cockles and mussels from the shellfish stands or some of the country's best fish and chips. Take a wander round the old town with its cobbled streets.

13:25 Back on board the 68 to Chalkwell Shelter

Take a stroll down the beach and enjoy a paddle, swim or build some sandcastles on the lovely beach with great views out to the Thames Estuary.

14:39 Board the 68 again at Chalkwell Shelter for Westcliff

Arrive at Westcliff Plameria Arches

There's some lovely cafes for a bite to eat and then a peruse of the independent shops. Check out The Estuary in Palmeira Parade with its stunning views out onto the sea whilst trying its delightful, skewers, squid and skate!

Back on board the 68 at Westcliff Palmeria Arches to Southend Pier

Take a trip on the train down Southend Pier

It's the longest Pier railway in the world - 1.25 miles! The views are fabulous at the end and with the sun-beating down or a late afternoon chill, there's a sense of romance and occasion, gazing out to sea and the Kent Coast opposite. Make sure you check out the tea room and cafe, as well as the Pier Museum, which preserves the history of this iconic structure!

The Pier is Southend's most famous landmark and appears in films, books and on television - it is also home to the Southend Lifeboat Station. There are also Jetstream and Estuary boat tours from the Pier to great destinations across Essex and Kent and even as far as The Tower of London. These are the ideal sightseeing experience to go with a great scenic sojourn on the 68 bus!

Places to visit if you are staying longer in Southend:



Get close and personal with the meerkats and penguins and find out more about subterranean life at Sealife Centre!



Two great shopping centres - The Royals and Victoria, combined with lovely independent shops, make Southend a retail haven!



Head down to Old Leigh for a stroll along the cobbled streets of this once busy fishing port. Take your pick from the selection of pubs and fish restaurants or stop at the authentic cockle sheds for a bite to eat. To get to Old Leigh, alight at the "Leigh, The Ship" stop and walk over the railway bridge.

For further details, be sure to go to:

