

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE | SOUTHPORT AIR SHOW
29 - 30 AUGUST 2026

SOUTHPORT AIR SHOW



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Accessibility Guide Introduction

The **Southport Air Show** is one of the North West's premier aviation events, bringing together thrilling flying displays, interactive ground attractions and family-friendly entertainment along Southport's seafront. The event attracts visitors from across the UK and showcases a wide range of military, civilian and historic aircraft. The Air Show has been a key part of Southport's events programme since 1991 and regularly welcomes well over 60,000 visitors across the weekend.

This guide aims to provide clear and practical information to help you plan your visit and make the most of your day at the event.

Estimated Audience Attendance: Approximately 40,000 – 60,000 visitors across the weekend.

- **Location:** Southport Seafront, Marine Drive, Southport, PR8 1RY
- **Dates:** Saturday 29th August – Sunday 30th August 2026
- **Opening Times:**
 - Saturday: 10:00 – 17:00
 - Sunday: 10:00 – 17:00
 - (car parks open at 9am)*
- **Flying Display Programme:** Approximately 12:00 – 17:00 daily (subject to operational changes and weather conditions).
- **Entry:** Ticketed event.

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)

The Air Show features:

- Military aircraft displays
- Aerobatic flying teams and civilian performers
- Historic and heritage aircraft
- Static aircraft and military exhibits
- Flight simulators and interactive aviation experiences
- Family-friendly activities and entertainment
- Food and drink concessions
- Trade and exhibition stands

The event takes place across Southport's seafront and beach frontage, with visitor facilities and exhibition areas located on the promenade and surrounding event zones. Much of the site is outdoors and visitors should be aware that ground conditions can vary depending on weather, tides and beach conditions.

Please check our [website](#) and Visit Southport social media channels for the latest event communications, timings, changes and display schedules – as these may change due to operational or weather-related conditions.

Travel to Southport

Visitors are encouraged to use public transport where possible due to the high number of attendees and traffic restrictions around the event site.

- ***By Rail***

Southport has excellent rail connections from Liverpool and Manchester.

Southport Station is approximately a 10-15-minute walk to the Air Show site on the seafront and promenade.

The station provides step-free access, lifts, and accessible toilets (Radar key required).

More info: [National Rail Southport Station Accessibility](#).

Journey planner: [National Rail Journey Planner](#)

- ***By Bus***

Local services operated by Arriva and Stagecoach are wheelchair accessible.

Plan your journey: [Merseytravel Journey Planner](#).

More Info: [Accessibility via Merseytravel](#).

- ***By Road***

The main event postcode is **PR8 1RY**. Due to the popularity of the Air Show, visitors should allow extra travel time and follow event signage on approach to Southport rather than relying solely on satellite navigation. Some temporary traffic management measures and road closures will be in place during the event.

There are two principal routes into Southport from the motorway network:

- **From the North:** Leave the M6 at Junction 31 and follow the A59 via Preston towards Southport.
- **From the South:** Leave the M6 at Junction 26, join the M58, then follow the A570 towards Southport.
- **From the East:** Southport can also be accessed via the M62 or M65, connecting to local routes into the town.

Car Parking

Please plan your journey ahead and visit our [website](#) for the latest information.

Parking is available on Marine Drive and off the promenade in Princes Park, the Esplanade car park, and Victoria Park, only 5 minutes' walk from the seafront.

Coaches will be directed to the Esplanade car park.

Accessible hard-standing parking spaces are available, located at the Esplanade and Marine Drive car parks.

Accessible parking is also available in Princes Park and Victoria Park but please be aware that these spaces are on grass.

Upon arrival to Southport, please make event staff aware that you would like an accessible parking space so they can direct you to the correct car park.

The accessible parking spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis on presentation of an official blue disability badge. These spaces will be available at the normal car parking rate.

Car parks open at 9:00am.

Visitors are encouraged to consider travelling by rail or bus wherever possible to help reduce congestion and improve accessibility for all attendees.

Official Event Parking:

The Eco Centre – PR8 1RX

Payment: Pay & Display, cards, cash, contactless

Marine Drive – PR8 1RY

Payment: Pay & Display, cards, cash, contactless

Princes Park – PR8 1SB

Payment: cards, cash, contactless.

Victoria Park - PR8 1RX

Payment: Pay & Display, cards, cash, contactless

Price: £10 per car, per day. Payable on arrival.

Other Parking:

There are many other private car parks throughout Southport Town Centre which may be suitable for your visit.

Please check individual car park closing times.

Blue Badge holders: Additional free parking is available in Pay & Display bays throughout the town centre and dedicated accessible spaces marked as disabled. Blue Badge holders can also use parking places on the street where waiting is free but time

limited – for example ‘free parking for one hour’ - badge holders don’t have to leave they can stay all day.

More info: [Sefton Council Parking](#).

Locate Blue Badge Spaces: [Blue Badge Parking](#).

**** Please note, the Blue Badge Parking website is an independent website and not operated by the council so we cannot guarantee the content.***

- Most council car parks have disabled bays, level access, and accept contactless payment. If you park in a private car park, please refer to the specific disabled parking T&Cs as they are not always free.

- ***By Taxi***

Wheelchair-accessible taxis are available via local taxi firms, **we always recommend ringing and booking ahead** as many are booking only. On the day availability is not always available.

- Alpha Taxis – 01704 537777
- Central Cabs – 01704 544414
- One Call Taxis - 01704 547000

Where to Stay

Southport offers a range of fully accessible and partially accessible accommodation options. We always recommend ringing ahead; to discuss your needs in detail so that the hotel can make direct recommendations and accommodations. The below list is not exhaustive:

Hotel Name	Rating	Accessible Rooms
Waterfront Southport Hotel	4★	Accessible rooms with interconnecting options, roll-in showers, emergency pull cords: The Waterfront Hotel - Accessibility Tel: 01704 516220
Premier Inn Southport Central	3★	Accessible rooms with wet rooms or lowered baths; all on ground floor: Premier Inn Tel: 0333 0919 817
Travelodge Southport	3★	Wheelchair-accessible rooms with adapted bathrooms; lifts available: Travelodge Tel: 08715 591862
Lord Street Hotel	4★	Fully accessible room available with wet room, shower seat, rails and lift access. May not be fully suitable for wheelchair users due to heights of facilities: Lord Street Hotel - Accessibility Tel: 01704 829027
The Vincent Hotel	4★	Fully accessible room available with additional rooms with walk-in showers: The Vincent Hotel - Accessibility Tel: 01704 883 800

There is also a wide range of B&Bs, Air BnBs and private accommodations across Southport - available to view and gain more information on via the internet: [Google](#), [Air BnB](#), [Booking.com](#). We recommend checking out other hotels and their facilities directly or contacting them individually based on your specific needs – as there may be many other fantastic options available for your stay.

Changing Places Facilities & Accessible Toilets



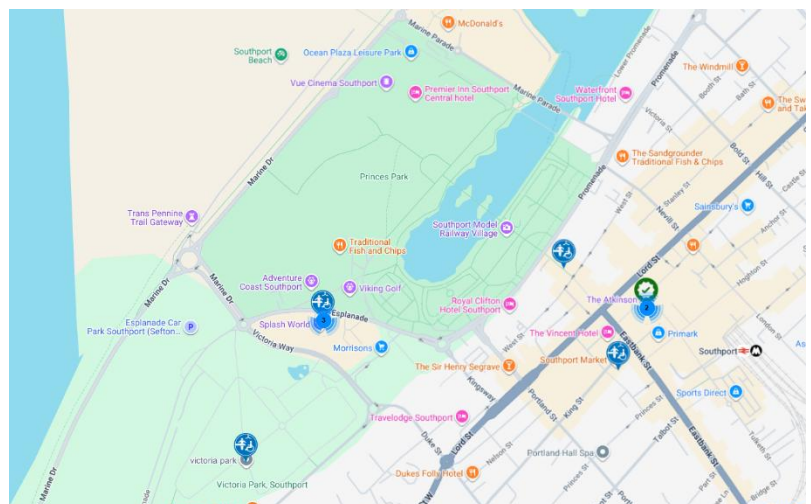
A Changing Places toilet is a larger, fully equipped accessible toilet with a hoist and adult-sized changing bench for people with complex disabilities. There are standard Accessible Toilets located within the event site, but not a Changing Places/High-Dependency Toilet on site.

If you need to access one of the Changing Places facilities during the event, you will be given a 'pass-out' stamp so you can return to the event.

For more information on Changing Places toilet facilities in Southport, and for specific location details: ['Find a Changing Places Toilet'](#)

Victoria Park (The Esplanade)

Day	Opening Hours
Monday	10:00 – 18:00
Tuesday	10:00 – 18:00
Wednesday	10:00 – 18:00
Thursday	10:00 – 18:00
Friday	10:00 – 18:00
Saturday	10:00 – 18:00
Sunday	10:00 – 18:00



Dunes Splashworld (The Esplanade)

Day	Opening Hours
Monday	07:00 – 22:00
Tuesday	07:00 – 22:00
Wednesday	07:00 – 22:00
Thursday	07:00 – 22:00
Friday	07:00 – 22:00
Saturday	09:00 – 16:00
Sunday	09:00 – 16:00

Southport Market (Market Street)

Day	Opening Hours
Wednesday	10:00 – 22:00
Thursday	10:00 – 22:00
Friday	10:00 – 23:00
Saturday	10:00 – 23:00
Sunday	10:00 – 18:30

The Life Rooms (Scarisbrick Avenue)

Day	Opening Hours
Monday	09:00 – 16:30
Tuesday	09:00 – 16:30
Wednesday	09:00 – 16:30
Thursday	09:00 – 16:30
Friday	09:00 – 16:30

The Atkinson (Lord Street)

Day	Opening Hours
Monday	10:00 – 16:00
Tuesday	10:00 – 16:00
Wednesday	10:00 – 16:00
Thursday	10:00 – 16:00
Friday	10:00 – 16:00
Saturday	10:00 – 16:00

Overview of Event Site

Southport Air Show takes place along **Southport Seafront, Marine Drive and the adjoining beach frontage**, creating a large-scale outdoor event environment. The event is one of the largest aviation events in the North West, attracting in excess of **60,000 visitors across the weekend**.

If you have a disability that **necessitates a carer***, your carer will be welcomed free of charge on the day. A carers ticket will be issued at the box office following the production of one of the documents below. Free carers tickets are for general admission only.

**One example of supporting documentation for Carers Allowance, Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance must be produced on the day. Without documentation, carers will need to purchase a ticket on the gate.*

Accessible viewing areas are available - one is located on the seawall (close to the fish wind display) and the other one is on the seawall close to the Pier. These areas will be fenced off, have dedicated accessible toilet facilities and, are on a hard-standing surface with an unimpeded view. It will be the responsibility for anybody with accessibility requirements to make their own way to these enclosures. Stewards will be present to ensure that viewing is accessible at all times.

The event site includes:

- Extensive promenade areas with step-free, ramp pedestrian access.
- Wide routes along the seafront suitable for wheelchair users and mobility aids.
- Designated event zones including viewing areas, exhibitor stands, military and aviation displays, food and drink concessions, and family activities.
- Temporary event infrastructure positioned with accessibility considerations in mind.
- Stewarded entrances, event staff and security personnel located throughout the site to aid assistance where required.
- During busy periods, some areas may become congested and at times difficult to navigate.

Ground Conditions:

As the Air Show is a seafront event, visitors may encounter a variety of ground surfaces, including:

- Tarmac promenades.
- Concrete footpaths.
- Stoned areas.
- Paved public spaces.
- Grassed areas.
- Beach and sand surfaces in some locations.

Ground conditions may vary depending on weather conditions and tides. Some viewing areas and event attractions may be situated on grass or uneven ground. Visitors using wheelchairs, mobility scooters or walking aids should take this into account when planning their visit.

Sensory Considerations:

The Southport Air Show is a large-scale aviation event and can involve significant sensory stimulation throughout the day. Visitors should be aware:

- Aircraft displays generate **very high noise levels**, particularly military jet displays and aerobatic performances.
- Aircraft may perform fast manoeuvres directly over or adjacent to the display area, resulting in sudden increases in sound levels.
- Public address systems, commentary and announcements operate throughout the event.
- Large crowds are present across the site, particularly during peak flying display times.
- Food and catering areas may generate strong cooking aromas.
- Flight simulators, military exhibits and family attractions may include additional audio and visual effects. Visitors who are sensitive to noise may wish to consider bringing ear defenders or noise-cancelling headphones. Ear protection is strongly recommended for young children during aircraft displays.

Busy Periods:

The event site can become extremely busy, particularly:

- Late morning through to the end of the flying programme.
- During headline flying displays.
- Around catering, exhibition and family activity areas.
- During arrival and departure periods.

Visitors seeking a quieter experience may wish to arrive early when gates open, before the main flying programme begins.

Seating:

Very limited public seating is available throughout the event site and surrounding promenade areas.

Visitors are welcome to bring portable seating, provided it does not obstruct pedestrian routes, accessibility facilities or the view of other attendees.

Assistance

Stewards and event staff will be positioned throughout the event site and can provide information and assistance where required.

If you have specific questions relating to accessibility, viewing areas, sound levels, site layout or event facilities, please contact:

Tourism@sefton.gov.uk

Need Additional Help?

- For more information, please visit our [website](#).
- Stewards will be present at the event and access points.
- Staff will assist with accessibility needs if necessary.
- Radios and air horns will be used for communication and emergency alerts.