

Cambridge & East Anglia

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Why Go?

Unfurling gently eastwards to the sea, the vast flatlands of East Anglia are a rich web of lush farmland, melancholy fens and sparkling rivers. The area is justly famous for its sweeping sandy beaches, big skies and the bucolic landscape that once inspired Constable and Gainsborough.

It's not all rural idyll, though: rising out of the fens is the world-famous university town of Cambridge, with its stunning classical architecture and earnest attitude, and to the east is the cosmopolitan city of Norwich. Around them magnificent cathedral cities, pretty market towns and implausibly picturesque villages are testament to the enormous wealth amassed here during medieval times, when the wool and weaving industries flourished.

Meanwhile, the meandering coastline is peppered with pretty fishing villages and traditional bucket-and-spade resorts, while inland is the languid, hypnotic charm of the Norfolk Broads, an ideal location for serious relaxation.

When to Go

Aldeburgh swings into action with its classical music festival in June. You can chill out and tune in at the Latitude Festival in Southwold in July. On 24 December the King's College Chapel is at its best at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

Cambridge & East Anglia Highlights

• Dreaming of your student days as you **punt** past Cambridge's historic colleges (p359)

2 Soaking up the medieval atmosphere in topsy-turvy **Lavenham** (p368)

3 Marvelling at the exquisite rib vaulting at **Norwich Cathedral** (p375)

Walking the prom, dining on sublime food and just chilling out in understated **Aldeburgh** (p372)

5 Wallowing in the heavenly sounds of Evensong at **King's College Chapel** (p353)

Canoeing your way through the tranquil waterways of the **Norfolk Broads** (p381)

 Wandering aimlessly along the pristine sands of
Holkham beach (p386)

