

Peel (Manx Gaelic: Purt ny Hinshey)

Peel is a lovely seaside town and small fishing port on the west coast of the Isle of Man, with a population of just over 5,000. It's known on the Island as 'sunset city', and for good reason!

Peel has a beautiful sandstone castle, the home of Viking King Magnus Barelegs in the 11th century, but some say originally the home of the Celtic god of the Island, Manannan. It is open to visitors as a [tourist attraction](#) between spring and autumn.

The town also plays host to a museum called the [House of Manannan](#), as well as Moore's Smokehouse, if you are partial to a traditionally smoked kipper or two! It also boasts two beaches – one shingle, one sand – and some lovely hill walks, as well as pubs and eateries.

[Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering](#) is largely based in Peel, with many of the events taking place at Peel Centenary Centre and other local venues.

Peel is accessible by bus from Douglas and Ramsey. You can find bus timetables via the [Isle of Man bus and rail website](#).



Peel Castle and Fenella Beach (Culture Vannin)



The Royal Chapel & Slieau Whallian, St. John's (Visit Isle of Man)

St Johns (Manx Gaelic: Balley Keeill Eoin)

Fewer than 3 miles away from the town of Peel is the little village of St. John's. Most well-known for hosting Tynwald Day celebrations on 5th July, St. John's is also the home of [Culture Vannin](#), and the only Manx language medium school in the world: the Bunscoil Ghaelgagh.

Though it is only a small place, St. John's has really good amenities, including a lovely [pub](#), [Greens café](#), church, and even a small [shopping centre](#). It also has many beautiful walks right on its doorstep, from the tranquil and leafy arboretum through to more strenuous hill walks up Slieau Whallian and the surrounding countryside.

St. John's is connected by bus to Peel, Douglas and Ramsey, and there is a walk and cycle route along an old, disused steam railway line, which connects St. John's to Peel and Douglas. This is a lovely route to take between Peel and St. John's, if you're feeling more energetic! You can find bus timetables via the [Isle of Man bus and rail website](#).