



SOUTHEND  
CITY  
BID

# CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

**JOIN US**

in Southend High Street  
to celebrate this festive season!

[visitsouthend.co.uk](http://visitsouthend.co.uk)

Sponsored by:

**TOYS 'N' TUCK**

 **Better Start  
Southend**

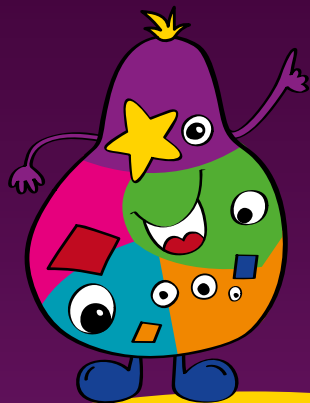


# A Better Start Southend

our children  
our community  
our future

**A Better Start Southend (ABSS)** is a 10 year National Lottery Community Fund Programme supporting people in Southend on Sea who are having a baby and parents and families of children from 0 to 3.

We have services in **West Shoebury, Shoeburyness, Kursaal, Victoria, Milton and Westborough wards.** We design and deliver services focused on child development, family support and community development.



**LOOK US UP TO  
FIND OUT MORE!**



 @abssouthend

 @abetterstartsouthend

01702 880370



## CHRISTMAS MARKETS

There are a range of markets coming to Southend this Christmas that will run alongside the wide range of city centre venues offering gifting ideas and Christmas delicacies from mince pies and gingerbread to hot dogs and mulled wine.

**18, 26 NOVEMBER &  
3, 10, 17 DECEMBER**

### Artisan Market on Southend High Street

Enjoy live music and local creatives selling art, clothing, and much more near the railway bridge.

**16 DECEMBER, 11AM - 4PM**

### Big Up Southend Market at the Victoria Shopping Centre

Head up to the first floor of the Victoria to browse amazing small businesses, and grab something locally sourced or even handmade for your Christmas gifts this year.

**9 DECEMBER, 10AM - 3PM**

### Craft and Gift Fayre at The Forum

Drop by for a wide selection of crafts, gifts, cakes, cards, and stocking fillers.

**11 - 24 DECEMBER**

### General Market on Southend High Street

Pick up your essentials and gifts at the general market which will be running every day in the two weeks before Christmas.



## FESTIVE EVENTS

**Fun family friendly events taking place this festive season in and around Southend.** Contact the venues to find out more and book ahead.

**18 NOVEMBER – 21 DECEMBER**

### **Teddy Bear Trail**

Find the teddies around the city centre to spell out a Christmas word. More details on the following pages.

**18 NOVEMBER – 24 DECEMBER**

### **Christmas Rides in Southend High Street**

Keep the kids entertained whilst out for a day at the shops with rides to enjoy near the bridge for the Switch On day and then in Victoria Circus on select dates in the period.

**18 NOVEMBER – 16 DECEMBER**

### **Winter Trail at the Victoria Shopping Centre**

Visitors will be able to venture through the centre to unveil a hidden code and be entered into a prize draw to win a luxurious Christmas Hamper.

**26 NOVEMBER & 10 DECEMBER**

### **Carols by the Tree in Victoria Circus**

Get in the festive spirit with hearty renditions of Christmas carols. Don't miss out on these sing a longs with choirs around the Christmas tree.

**2 DECEMBER AT 11AM**

### **Fifty Choir at Royals Shopping Centre**

Performing popular Christmas carols in the centre. Not to be missed!



## FESTIVE EVENTS

**2 & 17 DECEMBER**

### **Christmas Characters across the High Street**

Deck the halls this December and enjoy some Christmas magic with roaming Christmas characters to interact with on the High Street.



**9 DECEMBER AT 6PM**

### **A Tudor Christmas at The IronWorks**

You are invited to the court of Queen Elizabeth as she and her courtiers celebrate Yuletide. Experience a Tudor Christmas in this multi-sensory interactive experience.

**9 – 31 DECEMBER**

### **Peter Pan Pantomime at Cliffs Pavilion**

Starring Joe Pasquale as Smee and Rob Rinder as Captain Hook, join Peter Pan and the characters you know and love this Christmas in this swashbuckling adventure.

**17 DECEMBER AT 5PM**

### **Christmas Magic Spectacular at The IronWorks**

Join Magic Dave and friends for a show you'll never forget as they bring you world class magic and fun this Christmas.

**21, 22, 27, 28, 29 DECEMBER FROM 10AM – 12PM**

### **Festive Drop-off Sessions at Indirock**

Kids aged 6-13 can be dropped with an Indirock instructor to enjoy two hours of fun climbing, with squash breaks included. Get two hours to yourself to shop or dine in the city.

Head to: [visitsouthend.co.uk](https://visitsouthend.co.uk)  
for more details on the above and other Christmas events.

## MARKET

9am – 6.30pm | High Street

Kick off the day with our artisan market located near the railway bridge with live music, art, clothing and lots more to pick up as treats or gifts. Have a go on some of the rides whilst here or head up the High Street to browse more from the general market.

## BUSKING SPOTS

11am – 4pm | Various location

From acoustic acts to bands and magicians, watch some great entertainers at our spots by the old Debenhams and under the railway bridge.

## STORYTIME BUS

12pm – 4pm | Lloyds Bank

Jump on the Visit Southend bus to enjoy arts, crafts, and stories throughout the day.

## SPREAD THE CHEER, BECOME A REINDEER

12pm-4pm | Various venues

Get crafty and transform yourself into a reindeer on this fun trail. Visit The Royals, The IronWorks, Caffe Nero, and Laurence Matthews before heading to the Victoria Shopping Centre for the final station and your chance to meet Father Christmas!

## MAIN STAGE

12pm-6pm | Victoria Circus

Hosted by BBC Essex, watch an amazing line up of acts including local choirs, bands, solo acts, entertainers, and dancers. Soak in the excitement from vibrant performances as we build up to the **Switch On at 6pm.**

## FIREWORKS FINALE

7.30pm | Seafront

End the celebrations with a bang by making your way down to the seafront for this year's fireworks finale.



Join in the festive fun at the **Christmas Light Switch On in Southend.** We have a full day of entertainment across the High Street that the whole family will love!

# BIG SWITCH ON



**DON'T MISS THE LIGHTS SWITCH ON AT 6PM!**





THE VICTORIA CENTRE SOUTHEND

# THE CENTRE FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS

Join us throughout the festive period for our Christmas community events for all

### Christmas Switch-On Celebrations

Saturday 18th November - 12pm until 4pm (ahead of Big Switch-On at 6pm)

WITH A SURPRISE GUEST

### Carols for Christmas: Live Choral Performances

Selected dates throughout December

### The Victoria Winter Trail

Saturday 18th November until Saturday 16th December



Download your free trail map and take part for your chance to win A CHRISTMAS HAMPER WORTH £500

SCAN TO PLAY

victoriasc.co.uk

f /thevictoriasc @victoria\_southend

## TEDDY BEAR TRAIL

Journeying through the city centre, uncover hidden letters held by our Christmas teddy bears in venues around Southend. Once all the letters have been found, spell out the Christmas word at the end!

The trail runs from 18 November - 21 December, after which the teddies will be gifted to Little Havens.

Sponsored by:

TOYS 'N' TUCK



1. IndiRock, Victoria Shopping Centre
2. Toys N Tuck, Queens Road
3. Maxwell's, Queens Road
4. River Island, High Street
5. Renall's Jewellers, Clifftown Road
6. The Board Game Hut, Clarence Street
7. Primark, High Street
8. Taylor's Hairdressers, Alexandra Street
9. Utopia, Heygate Avenue
10. TK Maxx, Royals Shopping Centre

**Tales from Acorn Wood at Christmas**  
Based on the favourite stories by JULIA DONALDSON & AXEL SCHEFFLER

LIVE ON STAGE

including Squirrel's Snowman a real festive treat

FEATURING:  
Rabbit's Nap Fox's Socks Hide-and-Seek Pig Postman Bear

# Thu 21 - Sun 31 December

0343 310 0030  
palacetheatresouthend.co.uk

**PALACE THEATRE**  
SOUTHEND



Based on the Tales from Acorn Wood stories © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 2000 and 2021, published by Macmillan Children's Books



## VISITS WITH SANTA

**Santa Claus is making some special time in his diary for us in Southend!** Avoid disappointment and make sure you book ahead with the venues if you'd like to visit.

**25 NOVEMBER – 24 DECEMBER**

### Christmas Grotto at The Royals Shopping Centre

Experience the magic of Christmas with a memorable visit to see Father Christmas in his charming grotto. A truly wonderful experience that enhances the festive spirit for you and your loved ones. Tickets include a special gift!



**2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 DECEMBER**

### Christmas Experience at Caddies

See Father Christmas magically appear from the fireplace at the one of a kind Christmas Experience in the heart of Southend. Immersive festive show at the North Pole, fun and games with the elves, private meet and greet with Santa, gift included!

**SELECTED DATES BETWEEN 2 – 24 DECEMBER**

### Santa's Grotto at The IronWorks

Santa is ready and waiting to meet you all! Enjoy an Elf Workshop, writing letters to Santa and creating Christmas decorations.



CROSSROADS PANTOMIMES PRESENTS

# JOE PASQUALE ROB RINDER



## Peter Pan

THE HIGH-FLYING PANTO ADVENTURE

Based on the original by J M Barrie

**DAVID ROBBINS**  
**MICHELLE FRANCIS**  
**CIARA FORD**

**SAT 9 DEC - SUN 31 DEC 2023**

Visual Special Effects **The Twins FX**

**CLIFFS PAVILION** [thecliffspavilion.co.uk](http://thecliffspavilion.co.uk)  
SOUTHEND

# TOYS 'N' TUCK

Independent Family Owned Toy Shop



**SAVE £5 WHEN YOU  
SPEND £50 OR MORE**

Cut out this voucher & bring into store to receive £5 off your shop when you spend £50 or more. Only one voucher per transaction per household.

Voucher valid until end of Friday 24th November 2023 ONLY

Any Vouchers after this time will not be taken

Voucher cannot be used on Savings Club Payments

Magic MIXIES

THE FRIENDS

TOYS 'N' TUCK

BOBBS

GABBY DOLLHOUSE

schleich



SUPPORT

INDEPENDENT

BUSINESS

[www.toysntuck.co.uk](http://www.toysntuck.co.uk)

Free Click & Collect Same Day!

Find Us At 1 Queens Road, Southend, SS11LT  
Next To The Highstreet 01702 346234