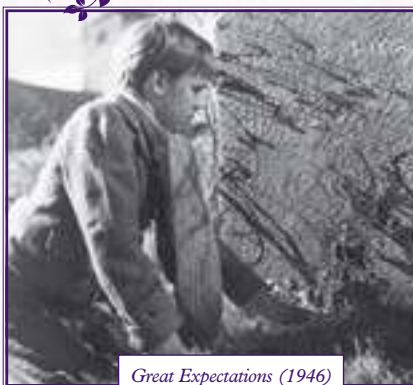


Our Mutual Friend (1998)



©BBC Photo Library



Great Expectations (1946)

©BFI

*If you've enjoyed the Dickens Movie Trail, why not try one of our other themed trails?*

*Visit [www.kent.gov.uk/filmooffice](http://www.kent.gov.uk/filmooffice) for the latest set-jetting offers!*



DICKENS 2012

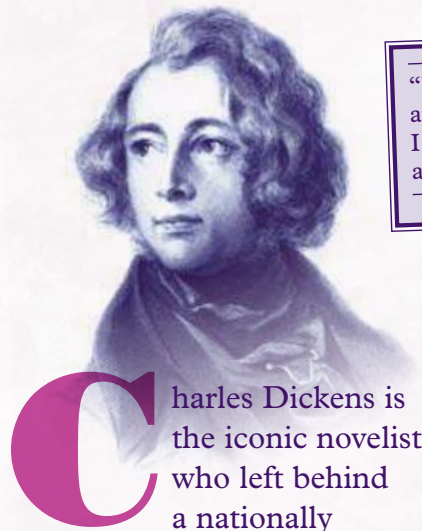
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# Dickens Trail

*Follow in Dickens' footsteps to bring his great works to life.*







"I have **happy memories** connected to Kent and am scarcely less interested in it than if I had been a **Kentish man** bred and born, and had resided in the county all my life."

Charles Dickens • 1840

**C**harles Dickens is the iconic novelist who left behind a nationally important literary legacy. To this day, many of his works are adapted into much loved film and TV adaptations. Many of his novels and the characters in them were inspired by the county of Kent and its people.

We would like to invite you to step onto the Dickens Trail to celebrate the man that loved Kent. Follow in Dickens' footsteps and visit the many varied and beautiful places in the county that inspired him and the filmmakers who subsequently strove to bring his great works to life.

*Dickens was born in Portsmouth on 7th February 1812. At the age of five, he and his family moved to Kent where his father was stationed in The Royal Navy pay office at the Chatham Historic Dockyard.*



Front Cover Image: *Oliver Twist* (2007)  
©BBC Photo Library

Dickens spent his early years living in Chatham and receiving his first experience of the rich and varied landscapes of Kent when he and his father took long walks together exploring Medway, Gravesham and Maidstone.

It was on one of these walks that Charles Dickens first saw Gad's Hill Place and vowed that he would one day return and buy this residence.



Chatham Historic Dockyard

During his childhood in Chatham, Dickens also met the good folk of Kent, many of whom left lasting impressions on the young boy. Much like the dramatic landscapes of the county, many of its colourful residents found their way into his novels.

His family was to spend only six years in Kent, when, due to financial difficulties, they had to move to London and Dickens was taken out of school to work at a factory to help provide for the family.



**Dickens was a dedicated walker. 12 miles was his average daily walk. He would walk in all weathers, turning ideas over in his mind.**

The walk we have chosen for you covers 6.6 miles and includes places and landmarks that Dickens knew well.

To download the leaflet and for more information about walking in Kent please visit [www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent](http://www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent)

Walk produced in partnership with Kent Libraries and Archives.





Great Expectations (1999)

©BBC Photo Library

#### 47) HOUSE OF AGNES

71 St Dunstons Street, Canterbury  
CT2 8BN

Tel: 01227 472185

www.houseofagnes.co.uk

Following the High Street beyond Westgate, a little further on the left, is the historic three gabled House of Agnes. It has an interesting history: built on the original site of a Roman pottery kiln, it has been an inn for travellers since the 13th century. In Dickens' novel 'David Copperfield' it was reputedly the home of Mr Wickfield, lawyer to David's aunt Betsy Trotwood. Here David stayed while he went to King's School Canterbury on the other side of the city. Mr Wickfield's daughter, Agnes, eventually became David's second wife following the death of his first wife Dora. Now a hotel, which has recently been lovingly refurbished, the property benefits from the largest walled garden in the city.

#### 48) THE KING'S SCHOOL

Canterbury CT1 2ES

Tel: 01227 595501

www.kings-school.co.uk

The King's School is said to be the model Dickens used for Dr Strong's School in Canterbury to which David was sent by his aunt Betsy in 'David Copperfield'.

#### 49) NUMBER 1

Lady Wootton's Green, Canterbury

Reputedly the model Dickens used for Dr. Strong's house in 'David Copperfield', this elegant stucco fronted Georgian house dominates the square adjacent to the main entrance to The King's School in Canterbury. It is not open to the public and is now part of Canterbury Christ Church University.

#### 50) PEGWELL BAY HOTEL

81 Pegwell Road, Ramsgate CT11 0Nf

Tel: 01843 599590

www.pegwellbayhotel.co.uk

Located two miles west of Ramsgate is the Pegwell Bay Hotel and the Sir Stanley Grey pub, the lunch spot suggested by the bogus Captain Waters to the Tugges's family in Sketches by Boz 'The Tugges's at Ramsgate'.

#### 51) THE DICKENS CORNER RESTAURANT

7 Market Square, Dover CT16 1LZ

Tel: 01304 206692

It was on the steps that the fictional David Copperfield rested after numerous fruitless attempts to locate his Aunt Betsy Trotwood's house in the town, when he finally hailed a carriage driver who had dropped a horsecloth and received the intelligence that led them to be re-united. Once Igglesden and Graves' Dovorian Restaurant, it is known simply as Dickens Corner.

Great Expectations (1946)



These experiences of London, too, found their way into his great works, providing the darker elements that make his novels so rich and his characters so memorable. Who hasn't heard of Oliver, Fagin and The Artful Dodger, David Copperfield or Pip, Magwitch and Miss Havisham?

However, his time in London was not the end of Dickens' love affair with Kent. As a grown man he visited the county on many occasions, including on his honeymoon with Catherine Hogarth in 1836 and for long summer stays in Broadstairs before making good on his promise to buy Gad's Hill Place. It is evident in many of Dickens' novels that Kent was his muse.



Great Expectations (1999)

Initially, Dickens visited Broadstairs, where, from 1837-1859 he spent every summer breathing in the fresh sea air and writing his legendary stories. While in residence at Fort House, Dickens wrote 'Nickolas Nickleby', 'The Old Curiosity Shop', 'Barnaby Rudge' and 'Oliver Twist'. During a stay in the nearby Royal Albion Hotel, which overlooks Viking Bay, Dickens put the final touches to 'David Copperfield'.



Timothy Spall  
playing 'Fagin'  
Oliver Twist (2007)  
©BBC Photo Library

Dickens had ten children with Catherine Hogarth, but after many happy years together, their relationship deteriorated until in 1857, Dickens met Rochester actress Ellen Ternan and decided to separate from his wife the following year, which coincided with the completion of renovations at Gad's Hill Place.



True to his word, Dickens had bought his dream home as a country retreat where he could write undisturbed. 'Great Expectations', 'Our Mutual Friend' and 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood' were all written at Gad's Hill and Dickens received many illustrious guests at his house, including Hans Christian Anderson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Wilkie Collins, John Leech, William Powell Frith and Charles Fechter.



The Mystery of Edwin Drood (2012)

©BBC Photo Library

©BBC Photo Library





©BFI

*Great Expectations (1946)*

The nearby station in Higham village allowed Dickens to travel much of Kent and brought his beloved Swiss Chalet all the way from France in 58 boxes. It was on a return from another visit to France accompanied by his mistress, Ellen Ternan and her mother, that Charles Dickens was involved in a terrible train crash just outside the village of Staplehurst. Having helped the survivors off the train, Dickens was in great shock and it is said that he never quite got over this tragic experience.

Charles Dickens died of a stroke at Gad's Hill Place on 9th June 1870.

Not only have his literary works remained in the hearts of those who read them, but his writing has inspired numerous TV and film adaptations and will continue to live on.



**Dickens Trail**

©Terry Curran



*Bleak House (2005)*

### 43) THE SHIP AND LOBSTER

Mark Lane, Gravesend DA12 2QB

Tel: 01474 324571

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

This pub, familiar to Dickens from his walks on the North Kent Marshes, is thought to be the most likely model for The Ship, one of the 'lone public houses' in the 'long reaches below Gravesend', chosen for an overnight resting place for Pip and Herbert during their attempt to get the convict Magwitch out of the country in 'Great Expectations'.

### 44) MAIDSTONE

Visitor Information Centre, Maidstone

Museum, St Faith's St, Maidstone

ME14 1LH

Tel: 01622 602169

[www.visitmaidstone.com](http://www.visitmaidstone.com)

Dickens called the town Muggleton and described it as 'a corporate town' in 'The Pickwick Papers'. Like Maidstone, Muggleton had a jail: Maidstone Jail is Grade I listed and has an illustrious TV career, appearing both in 'Porridge' and 'Birds of a Feather'. Most memorable is the hilarious cricket match between All Muggleton and Dingley Dell in Chapter 7 of 'The Pickwick Papers'. Today the sport is played at The Mote, which was established in 1857 but in Dickens' time it was most likely staged on Penenden Heath, which is on the way to Cobtree, the fictional Dingley Dell, but nearby West Malling, where the first recorded cricket match in Kent was played at the ground in Norman Road in 1705, also stakes a claim to be the venue for this match.

### 45) TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Visitor Information Centre, The Corn Exchange, The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells TN2 5TE

Tel: 01892 515675

[www.visittunbridgewells.com](http://www.visittunbridgewells.com)

The Kentish spa town where the iron rich Chalybeate Spring was discovered in 1606, and later patronised by royalty, was the setting of Miss Twingleton's early romance with foolish Mr Porters in Dickens' unfinished novel 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood' and one of Mr Finching's many proposals to Flora in 'Little Dorrit'.

### 46) CANTERBURY

Visitor Information Centre, 18 High St, Canterbury CT1 2RA

Tel: 01227 862162

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

The historic city of Canterbury is most closely associated with 'David Copperfield'. First published in 1850, a young David walks through the town on his long way from London to Dover. David later returns to Canterbury and is sent to the King's School by his aunt Betsy.



*Oliver Twist (2007)*

©BBC Photo Library



### 37) TOPES RESTAURANT

60 High Street, Rochester ME1 1JY

Tel: 01634 845270

[www.topesrestaurant.com](http://www.topesrestaurant.com)

Now a restaurant holding an AA rosette for fine dining, Dickens featured this property as the house of Mr Tope, Chief Verger and Showman of Cloisterham and lodging for Mr Datchery in 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood'. Mr Tope was thought to be based on William Miles, Cathedral Head Verger in Dickens time, who held office for 35 years.

### 38) THE VINES

Vines Lane, Rochester, Kent ME1 1RQ

[www.medway.gov.uk/leisurecultureandsport/parksandplayareas/parksgardensandreserves/thevines.aspx](http://www.medway.gov.uk/leisurecultureandsport/parksandplayareas/parksgardensandreserves/thevines.aspx)

Now a tranquil city centre park, these Grade II listed gardens used to be the vineyard of St Andrews Priory. They feature an avenue of plane trees, and to this day you can still imagine Pip walking along the lane to visit Miss Havisham at Restoration House.

### 39) THE GUILDHALL MUSEUM

High Street, Rochester ME1 1PY

Tel: 01634 332900

[www.medway.gov.uk/leisurecultureandsport/localhistoryandarchives/museums/guildhallmuseum.aspx](http://www.medway.gov.uk/leisurecultureandsport/localhistoryandarchives/museums/guildhallmuseum.aspx)

Situated in the historic town of Rochester, The Guildhall was the place where Pip started his apprenticeship in 'Great Expectations'. It is now a local history museum and includes many rooms dedicated to the author.

### 40) WATTS CHARITY

High Street Rochester ME1 1SE

Tel: 01634 842194

[www.richardwatts.org.uk](http://www.richardwatts.org.uk)

The house and charity were immortalised in Charles Dickens' Christmas short story, 'The Seven Poor Travellers', in which Dickens himself, as narrator, became the seventh traveller and transported a Christmas Eve meal from the Bull Hotel down the High Street to the travellers at the Watts Charity House. This event is recreated each December on the last evening of the Dickensian Christmas Festival in Rochester.

### 41) ELIZABETH'S OF EASTGATE

154 High Street, Rochester ME1 1ER

Tel: 01634 843472

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

Dickens used this timber framed house as the inspiration behind the homes of Uncle Pumblechook in 'Great Expectations' and Mr Sapsea from 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood'. They are now three separate private premises along the historic high street of Rochester.

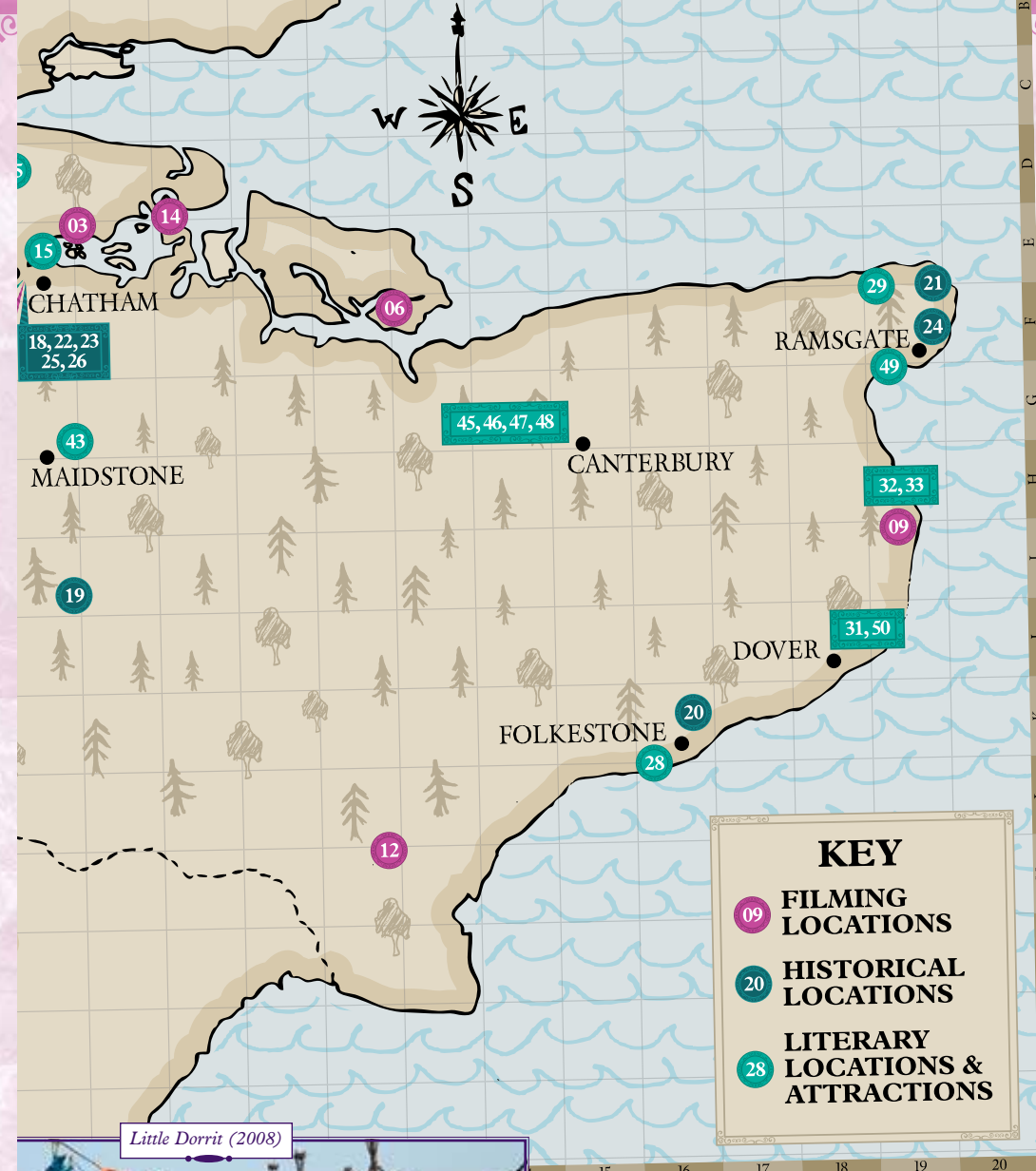
### 42) ST PETER AND ST PAUL CHURCH

The Vicarage, Butchers Hill, Shorne Gravesend DA12 3EB

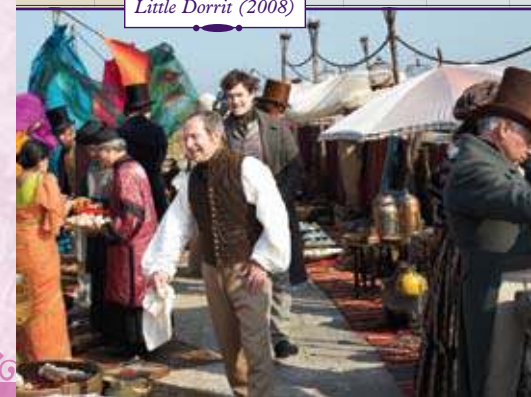
Tel: 01474 822239

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

Only a mile or so from Chalk Church, which stands on an exposed hilltop, the church at Shorne benefits from its sheltered position nestling in a hollow in the downs as was described so beautifully by Dickens in 'The Pickwick Papers' (1836). It has a particularly striking font, carved in Bethersden Marble.



Little Dorrit (2008)



©BBC Photo Library

**W**hy not join us and experience Dickens' Kent for yourself and begin your own love affair with the county?



Little Dorrit (2008)

©BBC Photo Library



## 01) ROCHESTER

Visitor Information Centre  
95 High Street Rochester ME1 1LX  
Tél: 01634 338141

[www.visitmedway.org/destination-guide/rochester](http://www.visitmedway.org/destination-guide/rochester)

**Great Expectations 1989** - Rochester High Street became the departure point for Pip on his venture to London. It was here that Pip, on a return visit to Miss Havisham, learns that Mr. Drummle intends to marry Estella. *The Mystery of Edwin Drood 2011/2012* (BBC) - Many locations within the city surrounding the cathedral and featuring the castle were used in the filming of this latest version of the unfinished last work of Dickens.

## 02) EASTGATE HOUSE

High Street, Rochester ME1 1ER  
Tél: 01634 333333

[www.visitmedway.org/places-of-interest/eastgate-house](http://www.visitmedway.org/places-of-interest/eastgate-house)

*The Mystery of Edwin Drood 2011/2012* (BBC) - Jasper's Gatehouse interior was filmed at Eastgate House in Rochester High Street.

## 03) ST MARY'S MARSHES

Medway

**Great Expectations 1946** - St Mary's Marshes were used for the opening sequences showing Pip and Herbert on the row boat 'Ivy'.

## 04) RESTORATION HOUSE

17-19 Crow Lane, Rochester ME1 1RF  
Tél: 01634 848520

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

**Great Expectations 1946** - The House was used as the Satis House, the home of Miss Havisham. Probably known for being one of the most iconic scenes in Dickens' literature, Restoration House is the real life inspiration for Miss Havisham's home in 'Great Expectations'. This connection made it perfect as the home of Miss Havisham in the 1946 feature production of 'Great Expectations' starring John Mills. Approach it via Vines Park and take in the awe-inspiring structure and gardens in the same way as Pip. The house and gardens are open certain days of the year, for further details please check the Restoration House website.



## 05) THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD

Chatham ME4 4TY  
Tél: 01634 823800  
[www.thedockyard.co.uk](http://www.thedockyard.co.uk)

**Great Expectations 1989** - The Historic Dockyard doubles for Little Britain within this adaptation of 'Great Expectations'. If you look carefully you will also see the Chatham Dockyard Seal as Magwitch is taken to back to jail after receiving his death sentence at the hands of the judge.

## 06) ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Harty Ferry Road, Eastchurch, Sheerness ME12 4BQ  
Tél: 01795 880205

**Great Expectations 1989** - The Church set the scene for young orphan Phillip (Pip) Pirrup: on a visit to the graves of his parents he meets the sinister escaped convict Abel Magwitch. Harty Church was used many times within the TV adaptation, including the funeral of Mrs Joe and the wedding of Bidly and Mr Gargery.

## 07) COBHAM HALL AND PARK

Cobham DA12 3BL  
Tél: 01474 823371  
[www.cobhamhall.com](http://www.cobhamhall.com)

**Bleak House** - The exterior of the Dedlock's country house, Chesney Wold, was represented by Cobham Hall in Kent, which is currently a girls' boarding school and is occasionally open to the public. They also used the exterior of Balls Park as Boythorne's House. "When he was living in Kent, Dickens used to walk to a pub in Cobham through the very grounds of Cobham Hall where we filmed," says Nigel Stafford-Clark, producer.

## 08) MINOR CANON ROW

Rochester ME1 1ST

*The Mystery of Edwin Drood 1993* - Minor Cannon Row features as the street where Mr Crisparkle lives and in the scene where Stoney pays a young boy to throw stones at him.

## 32) DOVER

Visitor Information Centre, Old Town Goal, Biggin Street Dover CT16 1DL  
Tél: 01304 201066  
[www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk](http://www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk)

There is no record of Dickens staying overnight in Dover until 1852, two years after he had introduced it to his readers in 'The Personal History of David Copperfield' and later in 'Little Dorrit' (1855) 'A Tale of Two Cities' (1859) and 'The Uncommercial Traveller' (1860). He was known to have stayed at The Ship Hotel on Commercial Quay, which was later demolished to make way for The Lord Warden Hotel. Dickens borrowed the name of the Royal George (also now demolished) from Folkestone, and relocated it in Dover. In the novel, 'David Copperfield' makes his way on foot from a life of grinding poverty in London, to Dover, where he attempts to find his long lost aunt Betsey Trotwood, initially without success. The actual house of Betsey Trotwood, located on the 'the heights' in Dover, was, in fact, based on a seafront property in Broadstairs, now called Dickens House.

## 33) DEAL

Deal Visitor Information Centre, Town Hall, High St, Deal Kent CT14 6TR  
Tél: 01304 369576  
[www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk](http://www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk)

Dickens 'enjoyed visiting Deal. It was a walk of 10 miles' from his summer home in Broadstairs. In the novel 'Bleak House' the town's marine barracks were the home to Richard Carstone, who was visited there by Esther Summerson, his sister's guardian. The Royal Hotel on Beach Street is the most likely model for the inn where Esther stayed on her visit.



Our Mutual Friend (1998)

©BBC Photo Library

## 34) THE ROYAL HOTEL

Beach Street, Deal, CT14 6JD  
Tél: 01304 375555  
[www.theroyalhotel.com](http://www.theroyalhotel.com)

Deal's principal inn was the place where Esther stayed when visiting Richard Carstone in 'Bleak House': 'we got into a warm room in an excellent hotel...Deal began to look more cheerful. Our little room was like a ship's cabin'. In real life it was also visited by Sir William and Lady Hamilton and Nelson's sister, when Nelson and his fleet lay off Deal in 1801. The hotel is also likely to have been the model for the 'Admiral Benbow' in Dickens' essay 'Out of Season' from the collection 'Reprinted Pieces'.

## 35) CHERTSEY'S GATE

High Street, Rochester

Over the arch is the gatehouse home of Mr Jasper in 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood'. This is a private residence.

## 36) CHURCHYARD OF ST JAMES CHURCH

Main Road, Cooling, Rochester ME3 8DG  
[www.coolingchurch.org.uk](http://www.coolingchurch.org.uk)

The 13 lozenge shaped graves of the Comport family in the churchyard here were set for tragic child victims of marsh fever, Malaria, which was once endemic in the North Kent Marshes. In the opening chapter of Dickens' novel 'Great Expectations', we read of just 5 lozenge shaped graves where Pip's brothers were buried. While visiting his parents graves Pip encounters the convict Magwitch for the first time.



## 27) THE ROYAL VICTORIA & BULL HOTEL

16-18 High Street, Rochester ME1 1PX  
Tel: 01634 819245  
[www.rvbhotel.com](http://www.rvbhotel.com)

The inn was one of the major coaching inns of the area, deriving its importance from its position by the bridge across the Medway at a travelling junction. The grand staircase remains as Dickens knew it and so does the ballroom, with its 'elevated den' for musicians, which was recreated on a grander scale in the studio for the 1954 movie starring John Hayter as Pickwick. In Dickens' works the hotel is a 'good house' with 'nice beds' according to Mr Jingle, and although it retains its name in 'The Pickwick Papers', it masquerades as the Blue Boar in 'Great Expectations' and the Winglebury Arms in 'The Great Winglebury Duel'. The great feast described in the 'Seven Poor Travellers' was prepared here and moved to the Watts Charity House. This is annually re-enacted on the last evening of the Dickensian Christmas festival each December.



Great Expectations (1999)

©BBC Photo Library

## 28) THE LEATHER BOTTLE

54-56 The Street, Cobham DA12 3BZ  
Tel: 01474 814327  
[www.theleatherbottle.pub/index](http://www.theleatherbottle.pub/index)

The Leather Bottle, although restored since Dickens' time, is a homage to Dickensian characters, while outside you will notice the wheel-stone at the front corner of the building, where you can still find the inscription that intrigued the fictional Mr Pickwick: 'Bill Stumps his mark'. More information about The Leather Bottle can be found on the website.

## 29) FOLKESTONE

20 Bouverie Pl, Folkestone CT20 1WB  
Tel: 01303 258594  
[www.visitkent.co.uk/destinations/folkestone-hythe-and-romney-marsh/6438](http://www.visitkent.co.uk/destinations/folkestone-hythe-and-romney-marsh/6438)

Dickens first stayed in Folkestone in 1853 at the Pavilion Hotel while he was writing 'A Child's History of England'. The Pavilion Hotel was demolished soon after and The Grand Burstin Hotel now stands on the site. During Dickens' time in Folkestone, he gave one of his earliest readings from 'A Christmas Carol' in a local builder's saw mill on Dover Road and in 1855, he rented 3 Albion Villas, Folkestone, where he wrote 'Little Dorrit'.

## 30) BROADSTAIRS

Thanet Visitor Information Centre, Droit House, The Pier Margate CT9 1JD  
Tel: 01843 577577  
[www.visitthanet.co.uk/destinations/broadstairs/10538?microSiteId=210](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk/destinations/broadstairs/10538?microSiteId=210)

During 1837-1859 Dickens spent every summer holidaying in Broadstairs. He spent his time breathing in the fresh air and writing his legendary stories. While in Broadstairs, Dickens wrote 'Oliver Twist', 'Nicholas Nickleby', 'The Old Curiosity Shop' and 'Barnaby Rudge'. During a stay in the Royal Albion Hotel, which overlooks Viking Bay, Dickens finished the 'David Copperfield' novel. More information on Broadstairs can be found on the website.

## 31) ROCHESTER CASTLE

The Keep, Rochester ME1 1SW  
Tel: 01634 335882  
[www.visitmedway.org/places-of-interest/rochester-castle-0](http://www.visitmedway.org/places-of-interest/rochester-castle-0)

Rochester Castle features within Dickens' 'The Pickwick Papers' and 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood'. Dickens' ghost is said to haunt the castle moat where he wished to be buried. The spot is marked with a plaque commemorating his wish. Dickens' final resting place is within Westminster Abbey in London.

## 09) DEAL CASTLE

Marine Road, Kent CT14 7BA  
Tel: 01304 372762  
[www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/deal-castle](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/deal-castle)

*Little Dorrit* - Filming took place at Deal Castle to stage scenes set in Marseilles. Locals were greeted by the strange sight of a French flag flying high over the Tudor fortress and inside the castle itself, a traditional Moroccan market, complete with aromatic spices, bright cloths and exotic birds in elaborate Victorian cages.

## 10) ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, DEDICATED TO CHRIST AND THE VIRGIN MARY

Rochester ME1 1SX  
Tel: 01634 843366  
[www.rochestercathedral.org](http://www.rochestercathedral.org)

*The Mystery of Edwin Drood* 1993 - The cathedral features as a key location and is used in many scenes. *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* 2011/2012 (BBC) - The cathedral grounds and cathedral exterior feature extensively in the series. In particular, the exterior of Jasper's Gatehouse was filmed at the Cathedral Gate in Minor Cannon Row.

## 11) PADDLE STEAMER KINGSWEAR CASTLE

The Historic Dockyard, Chatham ME4 4TQ  
Tel: 01634 827648  
[www.pskc.freemove.co.uk](http://www.pskc.freemove.co.uk)

The paddlesteamer Kingswear Castle is now based in Devon, but whilst at The Historic Dockyard Chatham, it was for the scenes where Magwitch attempts to escape with the help of Pip and Herbert. A fight ensues and Magwitch falls into the water.

## 12) ST THOMAS A BECKET

Fairfield

*Great Expectations* 2011 - The church was used in the opening scenes of the series as the resting place for Pip's deceased parents. It is here that he first meets the prisoner Magwitch.

## 13) CHATHAM DOCKS

Chatham ME4 4SW  
Tel: 01634 814936  
[www.medwayports.com](http://www.medwayports.com)

*Great Expectations* 1999 (BBC) - Pip and Herbert Pocket arrange to meet Magwitch and help him escape at Chatham Docks where Slip 8 was used for the scene as well as exterior shots of the prison hulk ships.

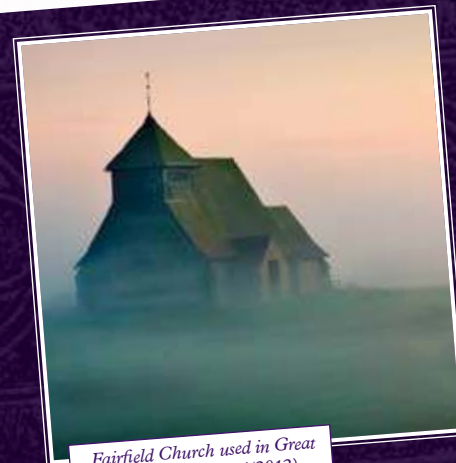
## 14) RIVER MEDWAY

[www.visitmedway.org/places-of-interest/attractions/river](http://www.visitmedway.org/places-of-interest/attractions/river)

*Great Expectations* 1946 - The river appears in the scenes where Pip and Herbert try to get Magwitch onto a paddlesteamer. *Great Expectations* 1999 (BBC) - Stangate Creek on the River Medway was used for shots of the paddlesteamer on the Thames Estuary in the scene where Pip and Herbert attempt to help Magwitch escape.

## 15) UPNOR VILLAGE

Upnor, Rochester, Medway ME2 4XG  
*Great Expectations* 1989 - Upnor village provides the home of Herbert Pockets' fiancée Clara's house. Locals to the area will notice the Upnor Lighthouse as Pip docks.



Fairfield Church used in *Great Expectations* (2011/2012)

© Vince Winter [www.vincewinterphotography.co.uk](http://www.vincewinterphotography.co.uk)





## 16) DICKENS WORLD

*Dickens World, Leviathan Way,  
Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4LL*  
Tel: 01634 890421  
[www.dickensworld.co.uk](http://www.dickensworld.co.uk)

Step into the world of Dickens at this purpose built attraction. Dickens World, offers visitors the opportunity to jump on board the Great Expectations Boat Trip, experience a real Victorian school or theatre and visit The Haunted House of 1859 if you dare.

## 17) CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

*Church Lane, Chalk DA12 2NL*  
Tel: 01474 567906 (Vicar)  
[www.chalkchurch.org.uk](http://www.chalkchurch.org.uk)

Over the doorway of the porch it is just possible to make out the fourteenth century carving of a monk, or possibly a tumbler, doing the splits with his head between his legs. Beneath is another carving of the same period of another man holding a large jar of liquor, looking upwards. Dickens was fascinated by the carvings. His friend and biographer, Forster, records one of Dickens' favourite walks: 'he would walk through the marshes to Gravesend, return by Chalk church, and stop always to have greeting with a comical old monk, who for some incomprehensible reason, sits, carved in stone, cross legged, with a jovial pot, over the porch of that sacred edifice'.



*Little Dorrit (2008)*

©BBC Photo Library

## 18) GAD'S HILL PLACE

*Higham, Rochester ME3 7PA*  
Tel: 01474 822366  
[www.gadshill.org](http://www.gadshill.org)

Now a school, Gad's Hill Place was once the Kentish home of Charles Dickens. Purchased in 1856, Dickens entertained many celebrity friends there, including Hans Christian Andersen and Wilkie Collins. In 1864 Charles Fechter gave Dickens a prefabricated two-storey Swiss Chalet as a Christmas present, Dickens had it assembled on land he owned on the opposite side of the Rochester High Road. Later, he had a brick-lined tunnel dug between his front lawn and the chalet. During the spring and summer months Dickens worked on many of his later works in his study on the top floor of this Swiss Chalet, which now stands in the grounds of Eastgate House in Rochester. The school is not currently open to the public.

## 19) DICKENS SWISS CHALET

*(now in the grounds of Eastgate House,  
Rochester High Street ME1 1ER)*  
[www.rochesterdickensfestival.org.uk/swiss\\_chalet.htm](http://www.rochesterdickensfestival.org.uk/swiss_chalet.htm)

Formerly located within Gad's Hill Place, the Swiss Chalet is now situated within the grounds of Eastgate House, Rochester. Given to Charles Dickens as a gift in 1864 by friend, French actor Charles Fechter, the chalet arrived at Higham Station packed in 58 boxes. While access inside the chalet is not permitted, visitors can explore the exterior while enjoying the gardens of Eastgate House.

## 20) STAPLEHURST

*Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent TN12*  
[www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk](http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk)

On June 9th 1865, Dickens, along with his mistress, Ellen Ternan and her mother, were returning from France when they were involved in a horrific rail crash. Aged 53 at the time, Dickens helped the survivors to escape from the wreckage and it is said that the shock of the crash shortened his life, as he died 5 years later.



*Bleak House (2005)*

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## 21) 3 ALBION VILLAS

*Folkestone CT20 1RP*

Dickens rented this house from July to September 1855 and described it as 'a very pleasant little house overlooking the sea'. In an attic room he wrote, 'sticking at it day after day', for the serialisation of 'Little Dorrit' and articles for 'Household Words', his monthly publication.

## 22) BLEAK HOUSE

*Fort Road, Broadstairs CT10 1EY*  
Tel: 01843 865338

On the very south coast of Kent, you can visit Dickens' favoured holiday retreat. Bleak House known as Fort House during Dickens' lifetime, is situated in Broadstairs and has brilliant views over Viking Bay. During his residency, Dickens wrote 'David Copperfield' among other works.



## 23) THE CRISPIN AND CRISPANUS PUB

*8 London Road, Strood, Rochester ME2 3HT*

The pub was a favoured stopping off place for Dickens when journeying on foot from his home at Gad's Hill Place to Rochester, or vice versa. J.A. Nicklen writing in 'Dickens Land' describes Dickens as 'the master of Gadshill, his lithe, upright figure, clad in loose fitting garments and rather dilapidated shoes...a familiar sight to all his country neighbours, as he swung along the shady lanes...Often he would call at the old fashioned 'Crispin and Crispianus' for a glass of ale, or a little cold brandy and water, and sit in the corner of the settle opposite the fireplace, looking at

nothing but seeing everything'. Sadly the pub was destroyed by fire in early 2011 and is now awaiting its uncertain fate.

## 24) 11 ORDNANCE TERRACE

*11 Ordnance Terrace, Chatham,  
Medway ME4 6PT*

This private residence, once known as number 2, was the childhood home of Charles Dickens from the age of 5 till almost 11. His time here inspired many of his literary characters, particularly for the novel 'David Copperfield'. Dickens' nurse Mary Weller became the inspiration for Clara Pegotty, while his neighbour George Stroughill became the model for Copperfield's friend, Steerforth. This is a private residence and is not open to the public.

## 25) DICKENS HOUSE MUSEUM & INFORMATION POINT

*2 Victoria Parade, Broadstairs CT10 1QS*  
Tel: 01843 861232  
[www.thanet.gov.uk/the-thanet-magazine/campaigns/dickens-house-museum](http://www.thanet.gov.uk/the-thanet-magazine/campaigns/dickens-house-museum)

Once the home of Miss Mary Pearson Strong, most Dickens fans would know her better as Miss Betsey Trotwood from 'David Copperfield'. Now a museum, it features memorabilia prints, costumes, Dickens' portable writing slope and a rare image of the 1865 Staplehurst rail crash.

## 26) ST MARY'S PLACE

For a few months in 1821, due to financial difficulties, the Dickens family moved from 11 Ordnance Terrace to a smaller house, number 18. It was demolished in 1941.