

## The Island's Finest Landscapes

The Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is part of a national family of protected landscapes. AONB's have the same level of protection as National Parks.

## Purpose of AONB Designation

The primary purpose of the designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape.

Natural Beauty encompasses everything 'natural' and human that makes an area distinctive; geology, climate, soil, plants, animals, communities, archaeology, buildings and the people who live in it, past and present and the perceptions of those who visit it.

These are described in terms of landscape character. The Isle of Wight AONB has 11 landscape types.

## Managing Change

The relationship between people and place is critical to the future health of the AONB designation. Living landscapes need sustainable vibrant communities, where the relationship between people and place results in a balance between the social and economic needs of communities and the protection of the environment.

## Working Together

The management of the Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is overseen by the Isle of Wight AONB Partnership. This is an independent organisation made up of key stakeholders with a direct management role or interest in the AONB.

This is jointly funded by Natural England and the Isle of Wight Council.

## Our Role

A significant role of the AONB Partnership is to promote awareness of sense of place afforded by landscape character; and encourage stakeholder and community responsibility for the future of the AONB.

### Our core functions are to:

- ▶ Produce and review an AONB Management Plan
- ▶ Raise awareness and appreciation of the AONB
- ▶ Encourage people to consider the AONB in carrying out their daily activities
- ▶ Monitor and report on the management of the AONB

For further information on the work of the AONB Partnership please contact:

### Isle of Wight AONB Unit

Innovation Centre, St Cross Business Park  
Monks Brook, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 5WB

Tel: 01983 823855 Fax: 01983 550368

e-mail: [unit@wightaonb.org.uk](mailto:unit@wightaonb.org.uk)

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



The Isle of Wight AONB Partnership is jointly supported by Natural England and the Isle of Wight Council



# Isle of Wight



# Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



## The Isle of Wight AONB

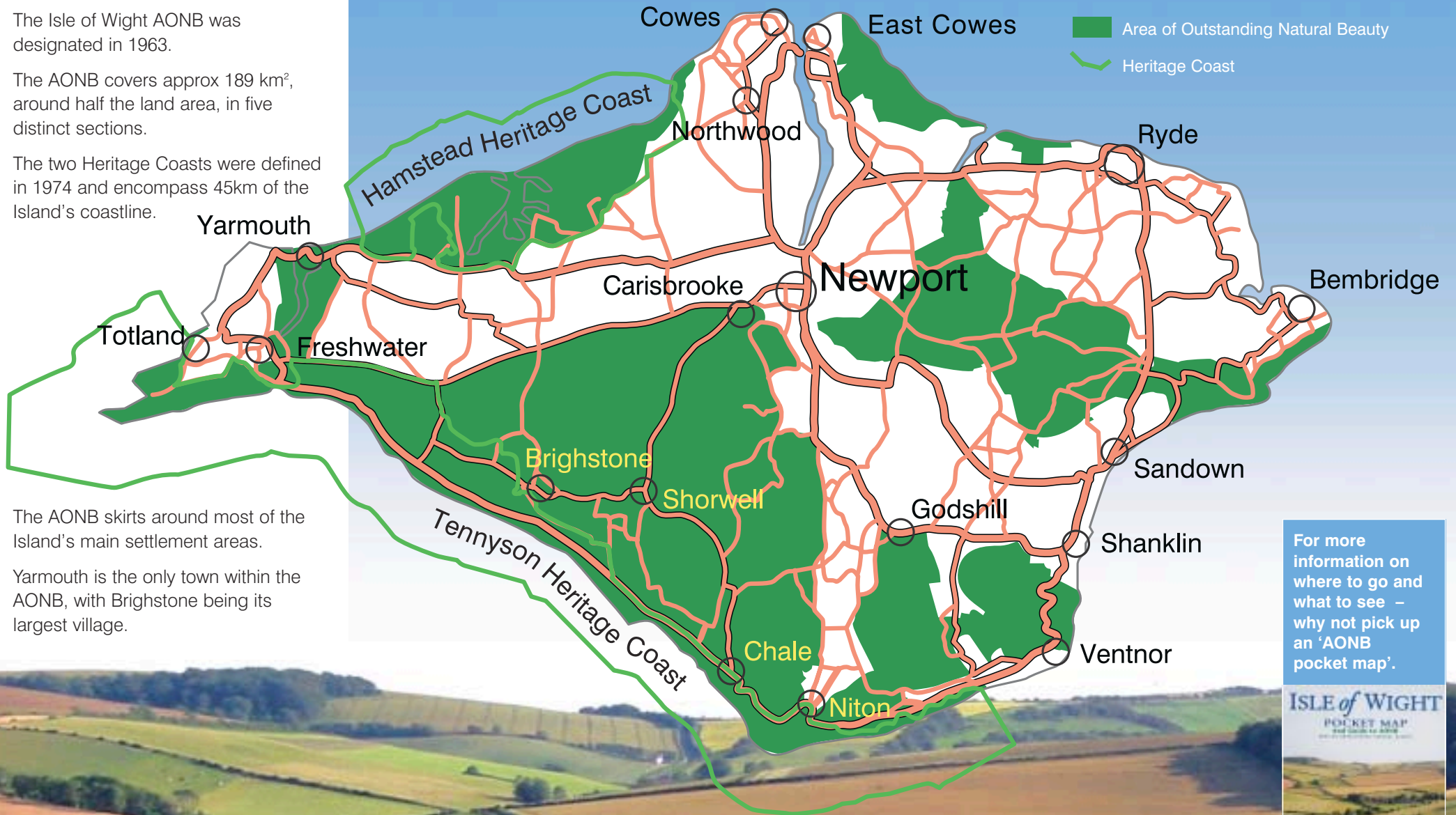
The Isle of Wight AONB was designated in 1963.

The AONB covers approx 189 km<sup>2</sup>, around half the land area, in five distinct sections.

The two Heritage Coasts were defined in 1974 and encompass 45km of the Island's coastline.

The AONB skirts around most of the Island's main settlement areas.

Yarmouth is the only town within the AONB, with Brighstone being its largest village.



For more information on where to go and what to see – why not pick up an 'AONB pocket map'.

ISLE of WIGHT  
POCKET MAP  
THE ISLE OF WIGHT AONB

