



## Nearby Caister-on-Sea

**Caister** has quite a surprising history. The first Romans arrived in the town in the 1st Century AD easily making it one of the oldest settlements in Norfolk. The remains of what they left behind including part of a defensive wall, a gateway and buildings along a main street - have been preserved and are free to view.

The remains of Caister castle, a moated castle with a 100-foot tower built in 1432 - are also worth a visit. The castle was built on the side of an earlier fortified manor house where Sir John Fastolff was born.

The castle today holds the largest private collection of motor vehicles in the country, stretching from 1893 to the present day. Models on show include a 1893 Panhard et Lavassor, Christine Keeler's Cadillac Eldorado and the first Ford Fiesta.

Of course, there are also long stretches of sandy beach to enjoy, and you might even catch a launch of Caister Lifeboat. The boat lost its RNLi status in the 1960s but is now one of the most successful independent operations in the country.

There is an 18 hole golf course as well as a pitch`n`put course.

There are a number of pizza, kebab, traditional fish n chip and Chinese restaurants dotted along the main road through the village, all of which provide decent snacks at reasonable prices. If you are looking for something more formal both the Old Hall and The Grange do a good range of food along with the newly opened Castle pub/restaurant.

## California & Scratby

A few minutes walk away in the village of **California** is the lovely Pub, the "California Tavern", where good food and entertainment is available.



California also offers two swimming pools and club entertainments to keep the children occupied during the day and for those late nights for the adults. There is also a beach shop, fish n chip shop and a very nice Chinese take-away open during the main season.

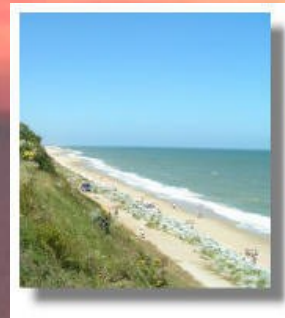
Eating out options include the "Wheelstop Diner" restaurant, the "First and Last" pub and the

"Grange Hotel" which are a short distance away.

In the village of **Scratby**, just a few minutes walk, there is a local mini market, post office, garden centre, antique clocks centre, village bakers and the very popular "Moments" restaurant, which are open all year. Also available in the main season are "Abigails Bistro", and a hire store for deckchairs and windbreaks on the lovely golden sandy beach.



On May 11th, 1848 a quantity of sixteenth century gold coins were found at the foot of the cliffs near Scratby by



local beachmen. At the same time the California gold rush in America was much in the news. The beachmen decided that their new village needed a name – and California, Norfolk came into being. By 1851 houses were being built there. By 1861 when the next population census was taking place the population of this new hamlet had risen to almost two hundred. By 1870 over forty houses had been built, plus the original California Tavern.

The Broads National Park lies just a short distance inland from Beachside Holidays. It is Britain's largest protected wetland and third largest inland waterway, it's also home to some of the rarest plants and animals in the UK. The Broads is a fascinating area with a rich history, reflected in the many wonderful places to visit and the unique wildlife. There are restored windmills, medieval churches, beautiful gardens and great places for family visits. If you enjoy walking or cycling, there are also many routes to choose from. The rivers and broads are excellent for fishing, boating & sailing and there are many pleasure trips available and day boats for hire, not to mention the many riverside pubs and restaurants.

