YARMOUTH CASTLE

ENGLISH HERITAGE
YARMOUTH CASTLE

Education Destination

FAST FACTS

"An artillery fort built in Tudor times by Henry VIII to protect Yarmouth harbour from French attack"

1 - 2 Hours

FREE

Picnic Space

Snack Bar
Shops nearby

Parking Nearby
Pay & Display

No Resources

ENQUIRE / BOOK

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Tudor Coastal Artillery Fort

Yarmouth Castle is a small artillery fort built in Tudor times by Henry VIII to protect Yarmouth Harbour from the threat of French attack.

Just 30m across, this 1547 square castle was initially equipped with 15 artillery guns and a garrison of 20 men. It featured an Italianate "arrow-head" bastion on its landward side, very different in style from the circular bastions more popularly built at the time.

History

During the 16th and 17th centuries the castle continued to be maintained and fortified - for example, the seaward side of the castle was turned into a solid gun platform and additional accommodation was built for the gunners.

Following the Restoration, the castle was re-fortified by Charles II in the 1670s.

Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries the fortification remained in use with a smaller garrison and fewer guns, falling into disuse by 1885.

However, the castle again saw military use during World War I and World War II.

Nowadays English Heritage operates the castle as a tourist attraction.

In the meantime the town of Yarmouth has grown around the castle and it now sits immediately adjacent to a vehicle ferry terminal.

FUN 50%

LEARNING 70%

KS1 KS2 KS3 KS4 KS5 Adult