

# SITUATIONS

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## SOME TIPS ON TAKING PART IN *FOLKESTONE DIGS*

### **Q. Where is Folkestone Digs taking place?**

The beach is located inside the harbour wall, an area of Folkestone Beach just past The Stade. It is a private beach which is open to the public. The gold has been buried across a wide expanse of beach, but nothing was buried near boats or other hazards. Metal washers have also been buried, so those with metal detectors won't have an advantage! There are 30 pieces of gold in total. The beach is only uncovered at low tide.

### **Q. How much gold has been found?**

Successful finders are under no obligation to tell us if they have found a piece of gold. Everyone who finds a gold bar has their own story to tell, which you can read about at [www.situations.org.uk](http://www.situations.org.uk). At 3<sup>rd</sup> September, we knew that at least 6 gold pieces have been found, but who can say? Perhaps more has been discovered!

### **Q. What do the gold pieces look like?**

The gold pieces are between 1 inch and 2 inches long. They are thin and rectangular – like a dog tag. There are two different sizes: 10g worth just over £250 and 20g worth just over £500. The total value is just over £10,000. The pieces are not buried that deep – no more than a couple of feet.

### **Q. Can anyone dig for the gold?**

Yes. Anyone and everyone are welcome to dig for the gold. All ages are welcome. Children should be accompanied by an adult. This was once a working harbour and there are hazards in the area – please be vigilant. If you find a piece of gold, you can keep it.

### **Q. What do I need to bring?**

People should dress for the British weather and for digging! We would suggest comfortable clothes, waterproof shoes/wellies, sun cream, snacks and water and they will need to bring a spade for digging!

### **Q. When will the site be open for people to dig?**

It's only possible to discover gold at low tide. If visitors attempt to dig at high tide, they'll find that the sand becomes heavy and waterlogged and, aside from being mucky and unpleasant, it is dangerous to remain on the beach when the tide is rising. Please check tide times on:

<http://www.tides4fishing.com/uk/england/folkestone>

### **Q. Where is the nearest car park?**

The nearest car park is the Tram Road car park, which is pay and display. For more information on car parks and directions, please visit:

<http://www.folkestonetouristinformation.co.uk/Folkestone-Tourist-Information/Parking-in-Folkestone.html>

**Q. Where can I find out more?**

Folkestone Triennial Visitor Centre is open 10am to 5pm daily and is located at 3 – 7 Tontine Street. Here you can find out about the 21 artworks that have been commissioned for the Folkestone Triennial.

**Q. How long do you think people will dig for?**

It might be that people are still searching for this buried treasure in 50 years time! The Folkestone Triennial runs from 28 August through to 2 November.

**Q. Is the beach accessible?**

There is a steep step down to the sandy beach which makes accessing the beach difficult for wheelchair users.

**Q. Won't this work cause damage to digging the site and the local environment?**

The tide comes in and out every day, washing over the beach and smoothing out the site. The pieces are not buried very deep, so it won't disturb local flora and fauna any more than a sandcastle competition.

**Q. Is there anything else I should know?**

Please note participation in any activity on this beach is at your own risk.

Visitors to the beach are asked to act responsibly when on the beach. Climbing of any kind is strictly prohibited. Please do not attempt to access the beach by any other route than the main entrance, to do so could result in injury. Please keep this beach beautiful. We ask you to take away any litter with you. Please be aware that photography and filming may be taking place on the beach.

If you'd like to get in touch with the producers of *Folkestone Digs*, please contact Situations at 0117 930 4282 or email [info@situations.org.uk](mailto:info@situations.org.uk)

Join the conversation and upload your photos at [#folkestonegold](https://twitter.com/folkestonegold)

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