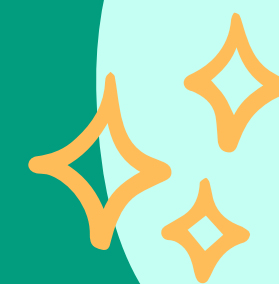


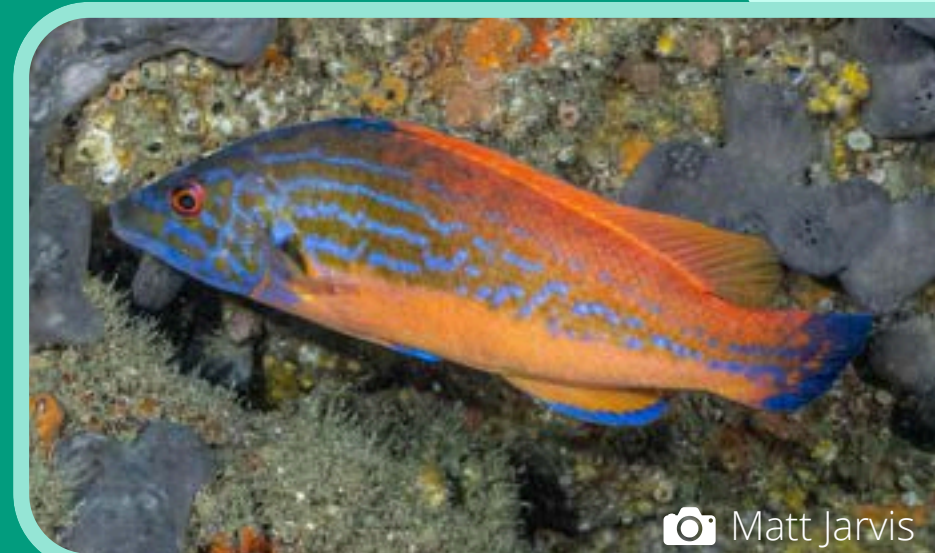


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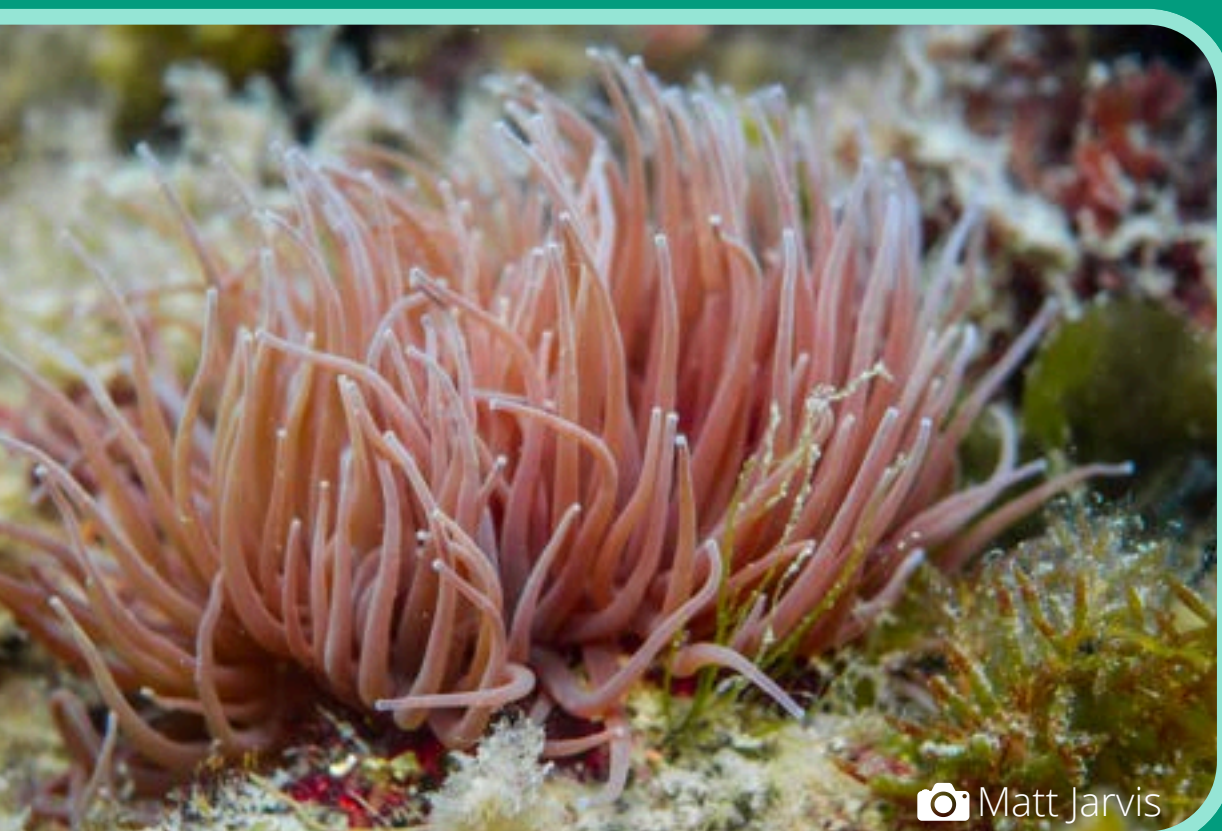


JERSEY SNORKEL TRAILS

Snorkelling is an enjoyable way to discover nature and explore Jersey's beautiful sea. There are two snorkel trails here called **Snorkel Portelet** and **Snorkel Bouley**. Hopefully there will be more snorkel trails around the Island in the future to create a network of sea exploration among Jersey's special snorkelling spots.



© Matt Jarvis



© Matt Jarvis

Beneath the waves you can find incredible **marine life** with many different species living around rocky reefs and sandy seabeds, as well as in seaweeds and kelps. These form magnificent underwater forests. While snorkelling you can spot mesmerising anemones, secretive rays and a variety of fish- from large colourful wrasse to small vibrant blennies.

At Portelet Bay and Bouley Bay there are **information signs** that tell you everything you need to know before you go snorkelling on the trails- including some of the magnificent species you might see when snorkelling. Make sure you read the **snorkel safety information** before you jump into the water, which can also be found at the end of this factfile!

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© Grace Bailey

DID YOU KNOW?

Jersey has one of the biggest tidal ranges in the world? The tidal range is the difference in height between high tide and low tide, and Jersey's is a whopping **12 metres!** [Click here](#) to find the latest tide times for Jersey. Make sure you snorkel when the tide is going out towards low tide. This is the safest tide and when you will see the most marine life!

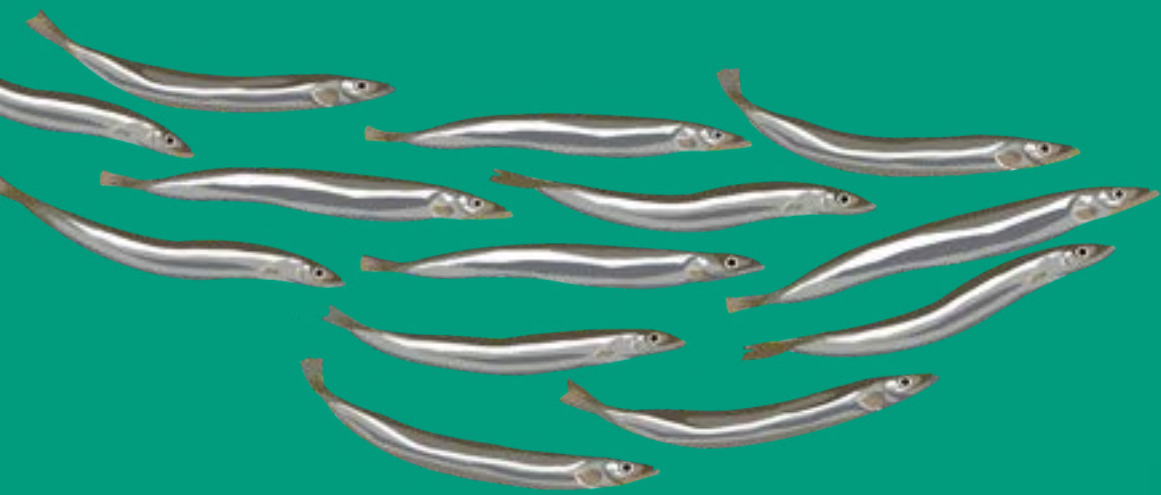


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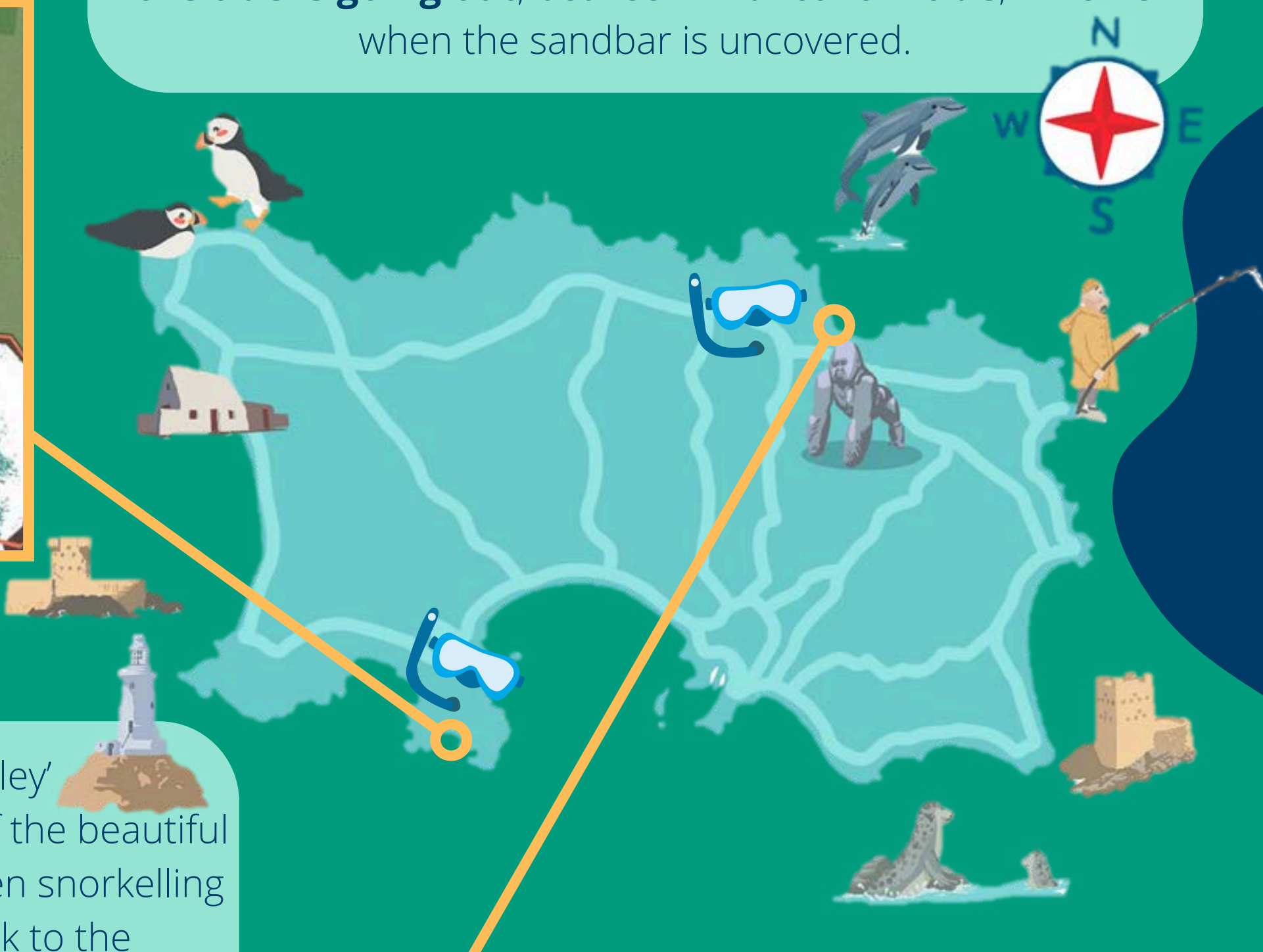


SNORKEL PORTELET

Portelet Bay is Jersey's first **No-Take Zone (NTZ)**, which means you can't take anything natural out of the water or from the beach. That means no fishing, no collecting shells or rocks, and no touching any life that lives there. This is to create a safe sanctuary for marine life to grow and reproduce without being disturbed. This will hopefully mean we will start seeing more marine life here!



At **Portelet Bay**, there are four routes to snorkel, which are shaded on the map (to the left). These are named after some of the beautiful anemone species you can find here like the strawberry anemone whose patterns look just like a strawberry! These four routes should be snorkelled **when the tide is going out**, between **mid- to low-tide**, which is when the sandbar is uncovered.



SNORKEL BOULEY

The snorkelling trail 'Snorkel Bouley' includes three routes named after some of the beautiful fish you might spot here. If you haven't been snorkelling much before then make sure you stick to the **'Seahorse'** and **'Cuttlefish'** beginner routes. If you and the adult you are snorkelling with are experienced with snorkelling then you can try the **'Wrasse'** route around L'Islet (the rocky island in the photo to the right)- but make sure you follow the safety rules.



At **Bouley Bay** the snorkel trail is great for first-time snorkellers because there are minimal currents and swells which makes it even safer to snorkel here. This means you can snorkel here at higher tides too but you wouldn't see as much marine life from the surface. Between **mid- to low-tide** is still best, just like Snorkel Portelet.



ARE YOU READY TO SNORKEL?



When you go snorkelling you need a **wetsuit** (to keep you warm and give you an extra layer of protection), a **snorkel and mask** (to see and breath underwater) and **fins** (to help you swim). You can hire or buy **snorkelling equipment** at the dive centre at Bouley Bay or you can often find all of this equipment in a charity shop which saves on cost but is also great for the environment!



TOP TIP!

Take care that your fins aren't hitting anything below you. This ensures that you don't damage any marine life. Remember- we are in their home!



Charlotte Hotton Slater



Beckie Scaife

BECOME A SCIENTIST!

If you want to help scientists **observe the biodiversity** at Portelet Bay and Bouley Bay you can scan the QR code (left) to download an app called '**Epicollect**'. In the app you can write what marine species you find during your snorkel and upload any photos (if you have an underwater camera!). Hopefully we will see lots more marine life in Jersey's sea especially in Portelet Bay due to the bay being made a No-take Zone (NTZ)!



Scan me

If you want a **snorkel lesson and tour** of one of the Jersey Snorkel Trails ask your parent or guardian to head to Bouley Bay Dive Centre. Here they can book a session with their incredibly friendly and experienced staff. You can also ask about the sea and weather conditions there to check if they are good for snorkelling on the day.



FUN FACT!

Did you know? There are around **3,200** marine species living in Jersey's sea!


What did you see on your snorkel? Share your photos with us by tagging **#SnorkelPortelet** or **#SnorkelBouley** on Instagram. Don't forget to upload them to the Epicollect app too!



Safe Snorkelling



Check the weather forecast – don't snorkel in bad weather or big waves.




Be aware of moving vessels.

Check the tides and currents – strong currents can be very dangerous.

Always tell someone else where and when you are going snorkelling.

Stay close to the shore.

Never snorkel alone – always snorkel with an adult if you are under 16.



Make sure you have the correct equipment and that it fits properly (wetsuit, mask, snorkel and fins).

Protect yourself from the sun with a wetsuit or rash vest and ocean-friendly sunscreen.

Don't snorkel if you feel unwell.

Only snorkel if you are a strong swimmer.

Wear bright colours if possible.

Leave your valuables somewhere safe.

Try and collect three pieces of litter and put them in a bin.

Don't touch any animals and leave shells and rocks in the sea.

If in doubt, don't go!