TEN THINGS ABOUT DORSET

History

Ancient Artefacts
Prehistoric peoples were active on the chalk uplands of Dorset. There are abundant monuments from the Neolithic Period, Bronze Age, and Iron Age.

Railway
A railroad was created in the 1800’s and that inhibited many other people to move to Dorset making the area even more popular.

Sculpture
There are many ancient sites throughout Dorset, including ancient monuments and the famous 180 ft high male figure carved from chalk in the hills of Cerne Abbas. It is thought to be an ancient symbol of fertility.

Establishment
The region now considered Dorset, was settled around 8000 BC giving this area an extremely rich history. The local museums highlight accomplishments of the area as well as preserving images of the region throughout its development.

Expansion
During the 1970’s the political boundaries changed in Dorset, acquiring an area that included Bournemouth and Christchurch.
**Jurassic Coast**
The Jurassic Coasts is the coastal region of Dorset where the ocean has brought about significant natural erosion. The region is also known for the fossils that can be found near the coast.

**Attraction**
Bournemouth has been known as a holiday resort since 1879, and Weymouth and Portland annually attract large numbers of tourists as well.

**Agriculture**
Agriculture was and remains the major use of land in Dorset, though not the major employer of labour.

**Scouts**
Brownsea Island, near the town of Poole and its harbour, is the birthplace of Robert Baden-Powell’s scouting movement.

**World War II**
During the Second World War, Dorset’s maritime position made it front line territory in the struggle with Nazi Germany, whose forces lay just across the English Channel in occupied France.