



1 Scotch Piper
situated on the A5147 (Southport Road), adjacent to St Catherine's Chapel, L31 4HD
Built around an Oak tree in the 14th Century, the Scotch Piper was originally known as 'The Royal Oak'. Sections of the trunk are still visible today from the pub's tap room. The name change occurred, as legend has it, in 1745 when an injured highland piper took refuge at the inn. He went on to marry the innkeeper's daughter and so the name change came about. The Scotch Piper is recognised as the oldest pub in the historic county of Lancashire (most of Lydiat is now part of Merseyside) and is a Grade II listed building and still retains a thatched roof.

These Lydiat sites can all be experienced on 'The Lydiat Loop' walk, details of which can be found in the Sefton's Natural Coast Walking & Cycling Guide or at www.seftonsnaturalcoast.com

2 St Catherine's Chapel
situated on the A5147 (Southport Road), adjacent to the Scotch Piper, L31 4HD
Also known locally as 'Lydiat Abbey', St Catherine's Chapel was built circa 1500 for the private worship of the Ireland family who held the Lordship of Lydiat during this time. Its use as a private chapel however probably ceased 50 years or so later following Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. The Chapel now survives as a ruin and is a Grade II listed building and a scheduled monument.

3 Lydiat Hall
situated on the A5147 (Southport Road), L31 4HD
The Ireland family that worshipped at St Catherine's Chapel lived here after Lawrence Ireland built the Hall circa 1470 and his initials can be seen carved into the doorway, from the hall. Now only medieval remains exist after the eastern part of the Hall was destroyed in about 1780 and then abandoned completely by the late 1800s. By 1940 it was a complete ruin and the old barn and outbuildings now house a farm shop, The Hay Loft Coffee Shop and duck pond.

4 Jubilee Woods
found in Sefton Meadows, near Maghull, L31 8BX
In 2003 a project was carried out on the area now known as Jubilee Woods, a former landfill site, to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The Jubilee Woods Trust worked closely with the local community on the scheme and as part of the project they commissioned a 15 foot sculpture of a giant owl. The owl was created by a local artist, from regionally quarried stone and can still be found off one of the footpaths in the woods. It is also said that the wood's pathways form the shape of an owl in flight, when seen from above.

5 St Andrew's Church
Damfield Lane, Maghull, L31 6DD
The Ancient Chapel of Maghull is situated in the churchyard behind the church, it is now known as the Unsworth Chapel as members of the family are buried there. The chapel is a Grade II listed building and remains the oldest ecclesiastical building in use in Merseyside and West Lancashire. Frank Hornby the founder of Meccano also has a family grave in the grounds of St Andrews which was cleaned and renovated in the 1990's - paid for by the Hornby Railway Collectors Association.

6 Frank Hornby's House
'The Hollies', Station Road, Maghull, L31 3DB
Frank Hornby was well known as an English inventor, businessman and politician and was the founder and creator of Meccano, Hornby Model Railways and Dinky Toys. He lived in Maghull at 'The Hollies' on Station Road, which was the first building outside London to be awarded a blue plaque. Blue plaques are awarded to buildings to commemorate the home / birth place of famous men or women, but can still remain private dwellings, as 'The Hollies' does. Hornby and his family then moved to a much larger house in Maghull known as 'Quarry Brook' which was his last residence before he died in 1936 and is now the Convent of Mercy in Hall Lane. This building now forms part of Maricourt High School.

Shopping
There are plenty of great places to shop right across the borough, from the north in Southport to the south in Bootle. In Southport there's plenty of retail therapy to be had at Lord Street, Chapel Street and a number of arcades and retail parks. The Strand Shopping Centre in Bootle is great for diverse shopping and is home to over 100 retailers, all undercover. Formby, Crosby, Waterloo and Birkdale's town centres are well worth a visit too and are home to a variety of different shops, bars and restaurants.

7 St Helen's Church
(also known as Sefton Parish Church)
Bridges Lane, Sefton, L29 7WG
The church is the only Grade I listed building in the Sefton borough and dates back to 1170 when the chapel was built. The present tower was added in 1320 and it was completed in its present form in the early 1500s. The church still remains an active place of worship today. Originally it was a private chapel for the Molyneux family - figures and brass monuments of family members still remain at the church. The Molyneux family became known as the Earls of Sefton in 1770, the second Earl of the family was the founder of The Grand National Steeplechase. Their family crest can also be seen here. In 1974 the crest was adopted as the coat of arms of the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton when the borough adopted the name of the village of Sefton as its title.

8 'Another Place' by Antony Gormley
Mariners Road, Crosby Beach, Liverpool, L23 6SX
Spread out along Crosby beach are 100 cast iron, life size figures known as 'Another Place', created by artist Antony Gormley. The figures stretch along the foreshore for three kilometres and out to sea for another kilometre. The figures each weigh 650 kilos and are made from casts of the artist's body. Prior to coming to Crosby the installation had appeared in Cruxhaven in Germany, Stavanger in Norway and De Panne in Belgium. Initially it was anticipated that the 'Gormleys' would next move to New York but in March 2007 permission was granted for the installation to stay permanently in Crosby. The statues are said to represent the ebb and flow of the tide and exploring man's relationship with nature.

9 Plaza Cinema
13 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 0LD
The cinema originally opened in September 1939 but had to immediately close again the very same day, due to regulations introduced following the outbreak of the war. Originally the cinema had 1450 seats which remained this way until 1976 and then it changed to three separate auditoria that are still there today. In 1995 Apollo offered the site for redevelopment but a campaign was immediately started by a local schoolboy to save the cinema. A committee was formed to fight the redevelopment proposals and proved successful in 1997 when the cinema was acquired by Plaza Community Cinema, a registered charity that fundraises to ensure the cinema's survival.

10 Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre
Crosby Coastal Park, Off Cambridge Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 7RR
The centre which opened in 2009 is one of the UK's premier, fully accessible venues for water sports and provides a range of learning and recreational facilities. Located within the Crosby Coastal Park near to Antony Gormley's 'Another Place' on the Mersey Estuary, this £10 million centre offers a range of water sports. This includes sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing, dragon boating, orienteering and climbing. You can also relax and enjoy a drink and bite to eat in the Lakeside Bistro & Bar whilst appreciating the fantastic panoramic views. Also on site is a fitness suite and studio as well as classrooms, conference and meeting facilities and residential accommodation for anyone wishing to stay the night.

11 Merseyside Fire Service Museum
The Heritage Centre, Crosby Fire Station, Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 0LA
Visits can be made by pre booked appointments only to the Merseyside Fire Service Museum (call 0151 287 3752). It was established in the 1970's when a group of firemen needed an exhibit for the open day at Heswall Fire Station. From here it grew and as a result made a number of moves so that the various exhibits could be housed. It was in 2000 that the Museum came to Crosby Fire Station's workshops which are not required by the brigade. The museum is a charity based organisation which is funded by volunteers and donations.

12 Derby Park
Worcester Road (north bound), Bootle, Liverpool, L20 9AB
This historic park was built in 1895 and still remains an outstanding example of an urban Victorian park. It's an important cultural asset to the area and this has been recognised by making it part of a designated conservation area as well as being on the national register for historic parks and gardens. As well as the park's historic monuments (which include a Victorian bandstand and a fountain, originally commissioned by Bootle Health Committee in 1893) there's also a children's play area plus a bowling green, zip wire and two ball courts.

13 Aintree Racecourse
Ormskirk Road, Aintree, Liverpool, L9 5AS
Aintree Racecourse is host to the world famous John Smith's Grand National. With over two miles of luscious green racetrack and where horse racing's biggest stars tackle its testing fences, racing here is always a sight to behold. Aintree has six additional race days as well as the Grand National meeting - including music nights where top acts perform live.

14 Leeds Liverpool Canal
The total length of the canal (including branches) is 141 miles with 91 locks on its main route. All the country's canals were nationalised in 1948 and the Leeds Liverpool canal continued to be used for trade purposes up until the 1980s. The canal is now maintained by the British Waterways Board. One of the most famous parts of the canal is in Sefton where the canal passes Aintree racecourse and gives the name to the course's Canal Turn.

15 Trans Pennine Trail
Parts of the trail that can be found in Sefton are the Liverpool Loop Line and Cheshire Line. The beginning of the trail starts at the sea mark sculpture in Southport, found on Marine Drive. The trail then forms a 350 mile national route and runs coast to coast, linking the towns and cities across the north of England. The whole trail is for walkers and cyclists with many sections having easy access for people with disabilities - many miles are available for horse riders too. It was formally launched in 1989 with a walk and cycle ride between Southport and York.

16 Stocks and Sundial
Green Lane, Thornton, Liverpool, L23 1TJ
Set on the opposite side of Green Lane, between two public houses (the Nag's Head and The Grapes) are a set of stocks that are believed to date back to 1791, made of cast iron with a wooden seat. These stocks actually replaced an earlier set that continued to be used until 1863. Alongside the stocks is a sundial which dates back to before 1720, therefore making it the oldest in the historic county of Lancashire. During this time sundials were a very common feature in the area. Both the stocks and sundial are now protected by iron railings as in the blackout during World War II a motor vehicle crashed into and damaged them.

17 National Trust site
Victoria Road, Formby, L37 1LJ
The Northern part of Formby Point is managed by the National Trust and it is an extremely popular part of Sefton's Natural Coast. It is still possible to catch a glimpse of the rare red squirrel in the Pinewoods. Walks along the Sefton Coastal Path lead to tranquil havens where it is possible to enjoy nature at its best. Rare species also make their homes in the surrounding dunes including the Natterjack Toad and Dune Tiger Beetle. This is a truly great spot to unwind and get close to nature.

18 British Lawnmower Museum
106-114 Shakespear Street, Southport, PR8 5AJ
Known as one of the most quintessentially English attractions in the country, the award-winning British Lawnmower Museum is home to over 300 restored exhibits of garden machinery. See vintage machinery from the past 200 years as well as exhibits that once belonged to Prince Charles and Princess Diana. The collection also includes the world's fastest, smallest and the world's first solar powered robot mowers. The Museum has now become one of the world's leading authorities on lawnmowers. It's open all year round and offers a tribute to the garden machine industry, a true unique experience.

19 Southport Pier
Promenade, Southport, PR8 1QX
It's the second longest and oldest pier in the UK, dating back to 1860. In 2002 this Grade II listed structure was refurbished with support from the European Objective One and Heritage Lottery Funds. The Pier stands at 3650 feet in length and is open every day apart from Christmas day. The Pier has its own 'one of a kind' tram which runs the Pier's full length from the Pier forecourt to the Pavilion, on the hour and every half hour. The Pier's Pavilion is home to a number of traditional 'penny in the slot' arcade machines, ideal for a spot of nostalgic indulgence. In the Pavilion there's also a licensed café and an interactive display on local wildlife and the nearby coastline. A colourful entrance to the Pier is formed by Silcock's Funland, the biggest family amusement centre in Southport and home to all the latest games and videos.

20 Lord Street
Southport Town Centre, PR8 1NT
For style and sophisticated look no further than Southport's premier shopping street. This famous tree-lined boulevard is home to unique boutiques, designer names and high street brands - ideal for a spot of retail therapy. On Lord Street you'll also find Wayfarers Arcade which boasts one of the finest Victorian glass domed roofs in the country. The arcade opened in 1898 and oozes a chic elegance and contains an array of distinctive stores. The Royal Arcade is another well known and much loved arcade on Lord Street. Bursting with antiques and collectables it's the perfect place for bargain hunters.

21 Dunes Splash World
The Esplanade, Southport, PR8 1RX
Visit Southport's very own water park for a fun day out of watery thrills and spills. Experience fast flumes, twisty tube slides and a lazy river ride plus a relaxing bubble spa. No matter what the weather outside, Splash World always maintains a balmy 84 degrees Fahrenheit inside making it an ideal family day out. There's also a café serving a choice of tasty and healthy treats, so after working up an appetite in the water you can 'refuel' poolside.

22 Botanic Gardens
Bankfield Lane, Churchtown, Southport, PR9 7NB
Originally opened in 1874 these classic Victorian gardens are rich in history and beauty. The gardens are packed with floral displays and wildlife and boast a winding lake the length of the park. There's also a museum, café, aviary and gift shop. The Botanic Gardens are set in the tranquil, historic village of Churchtown, which dates back to the Domesday Book. Churchtown is a designated conservation area with pretty thatched roof cottages that you'll notice as soon as you arrive. There are a number of specialist shops in the village that are well worth a browse as well as a choice of places to stop for a bite to eat.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT • HISTORY AND HERITAGE LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS • PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE

FOLLOW THE SEFTON TRAIL

Sefton's Natural Coast
Sefton's Natural Coast is the perfect setting for those who want to get away from it all and explore. Stretching out over 22 miles this unique and tranquil coastline comprises beautiful beaches, sand dunes, woodland and farmland and is a haven for flora and fauna. Coastal activities range from walking and cycling to a variety of events which reflect the 'specialness' of the coast and countryside sites in one way or another. More information about what there is to see and do on Sefton's Natural Coast can be found at www.seftonsnaturalcoast.com or pick up a copy of the Walking & Cycling Guide or SNC Event's leaflet to find out more about what's going on.

Here's a list of websites that you may find useful while discovering Sefton's Trail:

- www.aintree.co.uk (Aintree Racecourse)
- www.crosbylakeside.co.uk (Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre)
- www.englishgolf.co.uk (England's Golf Coast)
- www.golftravel.com (Merseyside Travel Wises)
- www.lawmoworld.co.uk (British Lawmower Museum)
- www.merseyrail.org (MerseyRail)
- www.mtm.org.uk (Merseyside Fire Service Museum)
- www.nationaltrust.org.uk (National Trust)
- www.pleasachinema.org.uk (The Plaza Cinema)
- www.sefton.gov.uk (Sefton MBC)
- www.seftonatrail.co.uk (Sefton's Natural Coast)
- www.southport.gov.uk (Southport Eco Visitor Centre)
- www.southport.gov.uk (Southport Cycle Town)
- www.splashworld.co.uk (Splash World)
- www.transpennine.co.uk (Trans Pennine Trail)
- www.visitsefton.com (Official Southport Tourism Website)

help make your journey an easy one. A whole range of maps are available too, to help plan your cycle route. New themed cycle routes are available in Southport so look out for both the Shrimp and Maram routes with more themed routes to follow. The Sefton cycle maps can also help you choose the best route from the stations to the attractions in and around Sefton. If you don't have your own bike, why not hire one from the cycle hire centre at the Southport train station or Southport Eco Visitor Centre? For details of any of Southport Cycle Town's initiatives, cycle hire or to download any maps, please see the website www.southport.gov.uk



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT HISTORY AND HERITAGE LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE

FOLLOW THE SEFTON



- BOOTLE • SEAFORTH
- LITHERLAND • WATERLOO
- CROSBY • THORNTON
- NETHERTON • AINTREE
- MAGHULL • LYDIATE
- MELLING • INCES BLUNDELL
- HIGHTOWN • FORMBY
- AINSDALE • BIRKDALE
- HILLSIDE • SOUTHPORT

Welcome to the Sefton Trail

It's a fun and informative look at the borough and its choice of great places to visit. There's a map on one side of the leaflet with information about many of the areas of interest in Sefton. There's also a brief history about all the towns and villages that make up the borough. We hope the trail highlights just how much there is to see and do in Sefton and so encourages you to seek out parts you might not have visited before – or revisit those areas you'd forgotten about.

Happy sightseeing!



Ainsdale beach



Frank Hornby's house



Mersey docks



Red squirrel



Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre



Leeds Liverpool canal



Aintree Racecourse



Jubilee Woods owl statue



Scotch Piper pub

Netherton Anciently a township associated with the parish of Sefton, Netherton became an independent civil parish in 1866. Today the main part of Netherton is centred around Marian Square and consists mainly of buildings that were built in the 1950s and 1960s. This was to alleviate the housing shortage in Bootle after the heavy bombing the town suffered in World War II.

Clustered around the green now known as Netherton Village, are the oldest houses which date back to the old hamlet of Netherton. The old Catholic church of St Benet nearby was built in 1793. Unusually it appears as an ordinary house from the road with the church backing onto what was once open fields. A modern church was built over the road in the 1970s. The Leeds Liverpool Canal also passes through Netherton as well as the area being situated close to the main motorway interchange at Switch Island.

Aintree is probably most well known as being home to the world famous John Smith's Grand National at Aintree Racecourse. During the 1950s and 1960s there was a three-mile long motor racing circuit on the site which used the same grandstands as the horse race. A shorter form of the circuit is still used today for a variety of motoring events. The name Aintree possibly means 'one tree', coming from Saxon origin. Local legend has it that a tree on Bull Bridge Lane, one of the oldest parts of Aintree was the 'one tree'. Unfortunately it had to be cut down in 2004 after it became diseased.

The Molyneux family, Earls of Sefton, came to own most of the land in Aintree; it is generally thought to have been granted to them by royal favour. However, they still owned the land up to the 1930s, when the plot was purchased by Sefton Building Company to begin the building of Aintree Village. During the 19th Century, the family became noted for its sporting interests, including coursing and steeplechasing. The second Earl of Sefton, known as Lord Dashalou, (because of his fondness for driving a carriage and four), was a keen sportsman and gambler who sold off land to the Waterloo Hotel at Maghull to found a steeplechase course. The rest is history.

In Aintree today there are two main shopping villages at the Old Roan and Altway. A retail park including a number of well known brand names can be found on the former industrial land on Ormskirk Road



Southport sea



Sefton meadow



Crosby village



Churchtown



Lord Street



Cycling in Sefton



Marine Way Bridge

Maghull is almost entirely a 20th century settlement of semi detached and detached housing, serving as a dormitory town for Liverpool, although it is an ancient settlement. The building of the town progressed in several stages; the original part was probably on a ridge of high ground that can most clearly be seen at the Red Lion Bridge. The ridge marks the edge of the flood plain at the River Alt, providing protection from flooding and access to the fertile pasture of the plain. The Trans Pennine Trail also crosses Maghull, following the line of the old Cheshire Lines railway.

Maghull is also famous for being the home of Meccano creator Frank Hornby and where his family grave is at St Andrew's Church.

Lydiate Located just north of Maghull, falls into split boundaries with the majority being in Sefton but from Greens Lane forming part of West Lancashire. Lydiate is another part of Sefton that is referred to in the Domesday Book as having a "wood a mile long", there is evidence of the existence of extensive forests in the area at that time.

Many of the town's sights are historical in nature such as Lydiate Hall and St Catherine's Chapel as well as being home to the Scotch Piper, reputed to be the oldest inn in the historical county of Lancashire. Lydiate is also well known for two pubs; The Weld Blundell and The Running Horses, the latter sits right alongside the Leeds Liverpool Canal.

Melling The area of Melling was first settled by the Maella family in the 6th century. The village was also recorded in the Domesday Book as 'Melinge'. The Leeds Liverpool Canal passes the village, and during the years of the Industrial Revolution the village flourished through passing trade. Points of interest in Melling include the Parish Church of St Thomas. Here the burial ground predates recorded history and includes gravestones that date back at least 700 years. Opposite the church is The Delph, a beautiful wild flower meadow which was formerly a quarry. On Tithebam Lane is Melling Tithebam, which was used as a coach house in the early 19th century. The Titherbam is now home to the Melling Titherbam Arts Association and is the venue for regular music events.

Ince Blundell Situated just to the east of Hightown is Ince Blundell village. It was in the 14th century when John Blundell and his family owned most of the land there, that he added their surname to Ince. This was to distinguish the village from two nearby Inces (in Cheshire and near Wigan).

The Blundells lived in Ince Blundell Hall which was built in 1720 – the family later became known as the Weld Blundells. The hall is now a nursing home. At the Hall there was a collection of marble statues from Ancient Rome and Greece that were collected by Henry Blundell and housed in the purpose built Garden Temple, built c1790 and Pantheon built c1802. These statues can now be seen in Liverpool's Museum and the Liverpool Walker Art Gallery. Ince Blundell is a village with a past very much rooted in farming, there was a time when almost every family was dependent upon it in some way. Today Ince Blundell still has a thriving farming community but now also boasts many other forms of business such as the West Lancashire Microlight School and two pubs; The Red Squirrel and the Weld Blundell (not to be confused with another pub of the same name in Lydiate).

Hightown is located on the coast near the boundary of the Mersey Estuary and Liverpool Bay, the River Alt also joins the sea at this point and forms an estuary. Hightown's beach is the former site of a wartime military base Fort Crosby. The fort was midway between Hall Road and Hightown and housed a number of German and Italian prisoners of war during World War II. After its decommission at the end of the war, a small cinema screen was set up and used within the complex by local residents but the camp was finally demolished in the mid 1960s. However, remains of the many buildings and fences can still be seen today. On the Hightown bends you'll find The Pheasant, a traditional village pub.

Seaforth was established in 1813 after Sir John Gladstone (later to become father of British Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone) built a house on the shore of the Litherland Marsh area. Gladstone Road and Ewart Road can be found in Seaforth in commemoration of the town's famous ex resident. Seaforth's name comes from Sir John Gladstone's newly built house which he called 'Seaforth House', this was demolished in 1881. The well known public park Potter's Barn in Seaforth is named after William Potter, a merchant from Everton who bought 20 acres of land to also build a new home. However due to an economic crisis, Potter could never complete his building and now the archway of the old barn stands at the park's entrance. Seaforth grew slowly to become a residential area, but by 1857 there were a great number of houses in the area. Seaforth dock opened in 1972 and remains the largest dock on the River Mersey. Residentially, Seaforth remains predominantly a town filled with Victorian terraced housing.

Bootle Probably most well known in recent years for the Port of Liverpool, Bootle's economy has been centred on the docks and its associated industries for decades. Originally Bootle was a small hamlet built near the dunes of the Mersey's estuary but then began to grow in the early 19th century. It became popular as a bathing resort for the wealthy residents of Liverpool where large villa houses were built to accommodate such residents, many of which still remain today. Once the railway arrived in 1850, the area experienced rapid growth. By the end of the 19th century docks had been constructed along the whole of the river front and so the town became heavily industrialised. During this time Bootle's population also grew, boosted by Irish immigration and the plentiful work that the docks provided. Due to the docks, Bootle was a prime target for the German Luftwaffe during the Second World War, approximately 80% of the town was damaged. After the post-war boom the town centre was redeveloped and the Strand Shopping Centre was built in the 1960s and is still there today. Bootle now has its own Leisure Centre located in the North Park area plus there are a number of restaurants, bars and pubs as well as the Victorian Derby Park.

Litherland Mentioned in the Domesday Book as 'Liderlant', the area of Litherland was referred to as early as 1086 despite there being no mention of Liverpool. The first manor of Litherland consisted of 'one half and two quarters', the areas being Litherland including what is now Seaforth (the half) and present day Orrell and Ford (the other two quarters). Litherland remained a poor area until the arrival of the Leeds Liverpool Canal in 1774, this brought the area into the 'modern world', originally providing a safe route through Lancashire from Liverpool to Wigan. The route became very busy, primarily for trade and later for the transportation of passengers. All this activity was to bring prosperous businessmen from Liverpool to the countryside, where they had a desire to live. The Beatles were known to have played some of their earliest gigs in Litherland Town Hall in 1961 – the building today is open as a health centre. Litherland today remains a residential suburb of Sefton.

Waterloo The town was once part of Crosby and known as Crosby Seabank; consisting mainly of sandhills and fields. The area grew in popularity because of the era's fashion for sea bathing, its fine sandy beaches attracting many visitors. To cater for these tourists, one of the first buildings of note in the area was the Royal Waterloo Hotel opened on 18 June 1816 (the first anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo) and therefore named in the battle's honour. As the population of the area grew, the town became known as Waterloo. Since then however, the hotel has dropped Waterloo from its title and remains today as The Royal Hotel. Many Waterloo street names also commemorate the Battle of Waterloo: Wellington Street and Duke Street (for the Duke of Wellington) and Blucher Street (for the Prussian General who helped the British defeat the French). Waterloo's residential status grew slowly to begin with. In the 1880s it was still just a village, St John's Road only had houses on its south side, its north side was still just fields with developments not beginning until 1895. Likewise the area east of Crosby Road was still countryside in the 1880s. Waterloo today is home to a number of places of interest such as the The Plaza community cinema, newly opened Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre and South Road where there is a hub of great bars, pubs and restaurants as well as a variety of shops.

Crosby was also mentioned in the 1086 Domesday Book as 'Crosebi' and has Viking roots too as 'Krossabyr', in Old Norse, meaning 'village with the cross'. In 1625 Great Crosby was sold by King Charles I to Sir Richard Molyneux of Sefton for £12,000 as the King needed to raise money to fight the in the English Civil War. In 1798 the Molyneux family sold Great Crosby to the Blundell family of Little Crosby and so the two manors of the area belonged to the same family. A lot of residential development took place in Crosby between 1830 and 1870 in particular after the arrival of the railway in 1850. It was a popular place to live amongst Liverpool merchants. Some leading Liverpool figures lived in Blundellsands such as William Forwood, who was Mayor of Liverpool in 1881. Blundellsands was developed as a residential area by Colonel Nicholas Blundell in the second half of the 19th century and today still forms part of Crosby. Little Crosby is also part of Crosby, after it was annexed to the Great Crosby urban district in 1932. Little Crosby is well known for maintaining its rural character, examples include the village not having any street lights. There are many places of interest in the town including Little Crosby's own museum, Crosby Hall Education Trust (CHET), the shopping village of Crosby and Antony Gormley's art installation 'Another Place' on Crosby Beach.

Thornton Mainly a residential area consisting of a number of semi-detached and detached houses from the 1930's, Thornton may seem like one of the 'newer' suburbs of the borough but is mentioned in the Domesday Book as 'Torentun' as a settlement. Part of Thornton was annexed to the Crosby borough in 1937, but Thornton still however retains its own Parish Council status and therefore preserves its separate identity within modern Sefton. As well as the historical stocks and sundial that can be found near to Thornton's two pubs (The Nag's Head and The Grapes) there is another Grade II listed monument located in Back Lane called Brooms Cross. This is a wayside cross which lies on what was the old bridleway that ran from Hightown and Ince Blundell to Sefton Parish Church, also known as St. Helens. It was here that funeral processions would come to rest and have refreshments before continuing to the church.

Information contained in this guide is produced in good faith and deemed correct at the time of going to print. Sefton MBC accepts no liability for inaccuracies or subsequent changes to information. The businesses and organisations listed on this leaflet are not intended as an exhaustive list and are intended to be indicative only. Sefton MBC does not include those named by recommendation or otherwise and their inclusion or omission should not be taken as an endorsement by the council as to the services offered by them.