

# Geography - Southport

## Location:

Southport lies on the Irish Sea coast and is fringed to the north by the Ribble estuary. The town is 16.7 miles (26.9 km) north of Liverpool and 14.8 miles (23.8 km) southwest of Preston. Southport has a population of 90,336 (2011).



## In the past:

Historically part of Lancashire, the town was founded in 1792 when William Sutton built a bathing house. At that time, the area was sparsely populated and dominated by sand dunes. At the turn of the 19th century, the area became popular with tourists due to the easy access from the nearby canal. The rapid growth of Southport largely coincided with the Industrial Revolution and the Victorian era. Town attractions include Southport Pier with its Southport Pier Tramway, the second longest seaside pleasure pier in the British Isles and Lord Street, an elegant tree-lined shopping street, once home of Napoleon III of France.



## Today:

Southport today is still one of the most popular seaside resorts in the UK. It hosts various events, including an annual air show on and over the beach, the largest independent flower show in the UK (in Victoria Park) and the British Musical Fireworks Championship. The town is at the centre of England's Golf Coast and has hosted the Open Championship at the Royal Birkdale Golf Club.

<b>Fieldwork</b>	involves formulating an enquiry question, gathering data, analysing the results and reaching conclusions. Fieldwork is often written up as a report.
<b>Industrial city/town</b>	is a city or town where the economic system is based on the industry, such as a mining town. An area where workers of a large industry live within walking-distance of their places of work.
<b>Coastal</b>	of or near a coast/sea.
<b>Impact</b>	to have a strong effect on something.
<b>Sustainability</b>	that a process or state can be maintained at a certain level for as long as is wanted
<b>Consequences</b>	a result or effect of something (typically a decision).
<b>Sand Dunes</b>	Dunes are large masses of wind-blown sand.
<b>Industrial Revolution</b>	a period of major changes in the way products are made. ... During the Industrial Revolution, many factories were built.

# Geography - St Helens

## History and growth

*St Helens is a large town in Merseyside, England with a population of 102,629. It is located 6 miles (10km) north of the River Mersey. The nearest cities to St Helens are Liverpool (11 miles) and Manchester (23 miles). The borough shares borders with the towns or boroughs of Prescot in Knowsley, Skelmersdale, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan. The St Helens Borough covers roughly 30 km<sup>2</sup> (12 sq miles) of soft rolling hills used primarily for farming purposes.*



## Today in St Helens

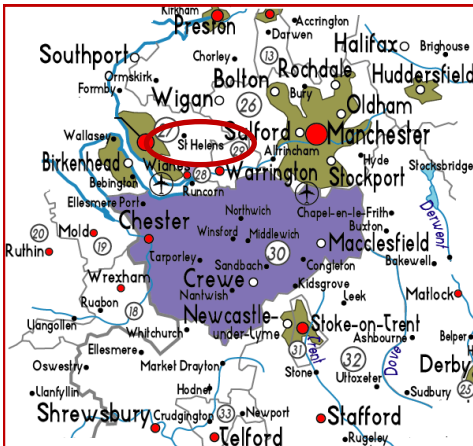
*The glass industry is no longer the major employer it once was; however, it still employs over a thousand people in the town. The large Pilkington Brothers works, founded in 1826, dominates the town's industrial quarter and still produces all the UK's output of flat glass.*

*Carr Mill Dam is situated north of St Helens town centre, on the A571 (Carr Mill Road), in Merseyside. It is the county's largest body of inland water, and offers picturesque lakeside trails and walks, as well as national competitive powerboating and angling events.*

*Sherdley Park is a 336 acre urban park in Sutton, St Helens*

*The area developed rapidly in the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries into a significant centre for coal mining and glassmaking. It was also home to a cotton and linen industry (notably sail making) that lasted until the mid-19th century as well as salt, lime and alkali pits, copper smelting, and brewing.*

*Until the mid-18th century, the local industry was almost entirely based on small-scale home-based initiatives such as linen weaving. It is the coal to which the town owes its both its initial growth and development and the subsequent development of the coal-dependent industries of copper smelting and glass. Because of its' location, St Helens was able to send raw goods to places that weren't as well located such as: Liverpool and Chester. The development of the Sankey Canal, that was linked St Helens to the river Mersey, meant that it was a lot easier to transport coal from the pits in Ravenhead, Haydock and Parr to Liverpool, and for raw materials to be shipped to St Helens.*



*Dream is a 2009 sculpture and a piece of public art by Jaume Plensa in St Helens. Costing approximately £1.8m, it was funded through The Big Art Project in coordination with the Arts Council England, The Art Fund and Channel 4.*

*Formed in 1873, St Helens are one of the 22 original members of the Northern Rugby Football Union and have been league champions on 14 occasions.*