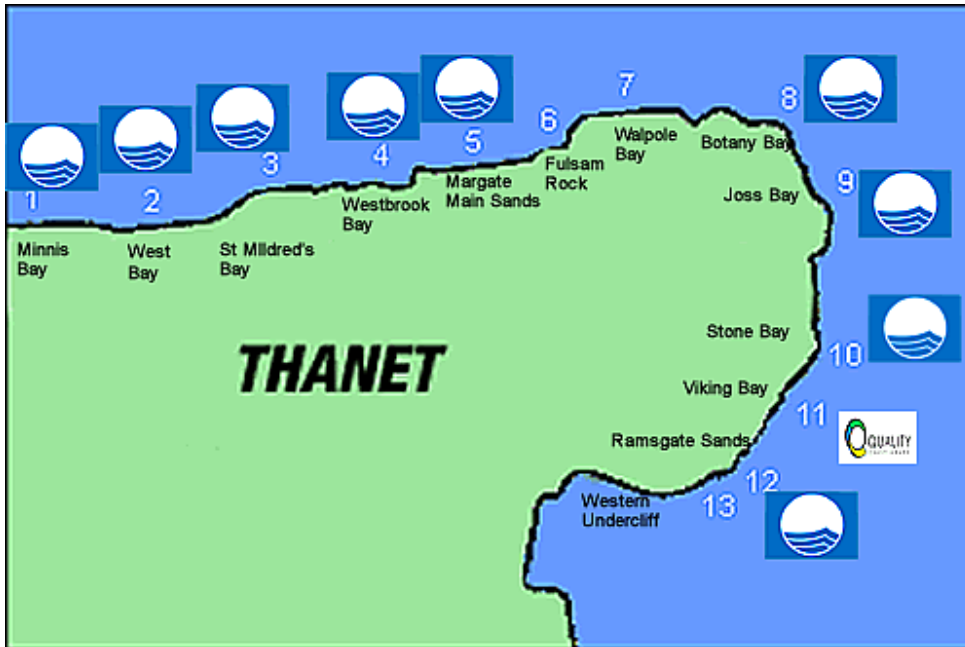


## Designated Bathing Waters in the Thanet Area

The following bays around the coastline of Thanet have been designated as 'Bathing Waters' and are independently tested weekly from May to September by the Environment Agency:-



- |                     |                |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Minnis Bay       | 5. Margate Bay | 9. Joss Bay                      |
| 2. West Bay         | 6. Fulsam Rock | 10. Stone Bay                    |
| 3. St Mildred's Bay | 7. Walpole Bay | 11. Viking Bay                   |
| 4. Westbrook Bay    | 8. Botany Bay  | 12. Ramsgate Sands               |
|                     |                | 13. Ramsgate, Western Undercliff |



Blue Flag Award



Quality Coast Award

### European Blue Flag Awards - 2010

The prestigious European Blue Flag will be flying at nine beaches in Thanet this Summer, with one of the beaches achieving Quality Coast Awards.

Minnis Bay, St. Mildred's Bay and West Bay in Westgate, Westbrook Bay, Margate Main Sands, Botany Bay, Joss Bay and Stone Bay in Broadstairs and Ramsgate Main Sands have all been awarded the accolade. It only goes to those beaches which have achieved the highest quality in water, facilities, safety, environmental education and management.

The Blue Flag is awarded in 29 countries for resort beaches with high standards of environmental management. Beaches must also meet the guideline standards of bathing water under EC legislation. Blue Flag beach criteria include beach cleanliness, dog control, wheel chair access, provision of facilities and provision of life saving equipment. For more information please visit [The Blue Flag campaign website](#)

## Quality Coast Awards - 2010

Viking Bay received the Quality Coast Award for the fourth year running. The Award rewards high beach management, safety and cleanliness, including clean sands, free of litter and dog fouling, good access with good facilities and water that complies with EC bathing water standards (mandatory).

## Sea Water Quality Testing

Seawater at Thanet's beaches is tested independently for bacteria on a weekly basis by the Environment Agency. Sampling takes place at each of the designated bathing waters for 20 weeks from May to September each year. Water quality results are compared with standards laid down by the European Union (EU).

Where water quality consistently fails to meet EU standards, there may be an increased risk of contracting a minor infection.

- [Sea Water Quality Testing](#)
- [Weekly 2010 results](#)
- [Overall annual 1993-2009 results](#)

For general information on Thanet's beaches see [Tourism website](#).

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