

Seaside Holidays Then and Now

Holidays by the Sea



Have you ever been on a seaside holiday in Britain?



Today many people in Britain go to other countries for their summer holiday. Some people go to places in the Mediterranean such as **Spain**,

What can you see in these pictures?

Cyprus

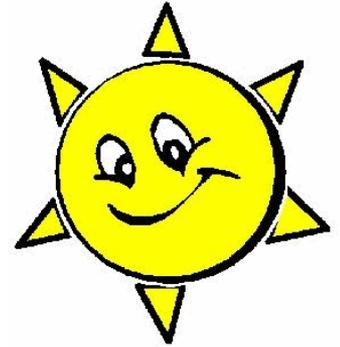


Greece



A postcard from the early 1900s

Why do we go to the beach?



Families went to the seaside because the bracing air was believed to be healthy. Nobody went to sunbathe, this was not fashionable and in Victorian times most people went to the beach fully clothed.

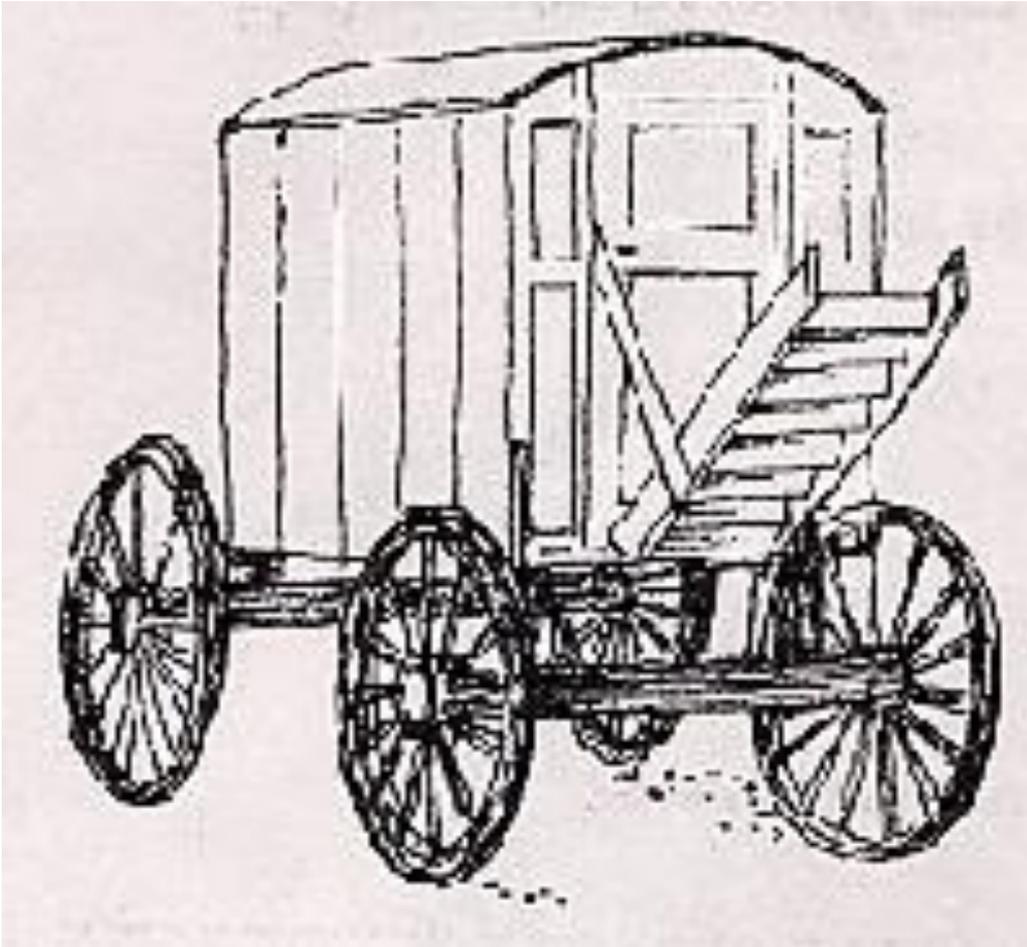
Sea - bathing!!

What do you wear when you go swimming?

During the Victorian period sea-bathing was believed to be good for you. The Victorian people were very modest and were fully clothed at all times. To overcome this some beaches were divided up so that men went to one beach and women another.



Bathing Machines.



Bathing machines like the one shown here were used and allowed a person to get into a bathing costume and be led by a horse into the water, from there they could lower themselves into the sea without being seen.



Children at the beach.



Children have always enjoyed playing in the sand and building sandcastles and eating traditional seaside foods such as fish and chips and ice cream.

What things could you find at the beach?

<http://home.freeuk.com/elloughton13/cafes.htm>



Then and Now

- What can you remember?
Use the pictures to help you.

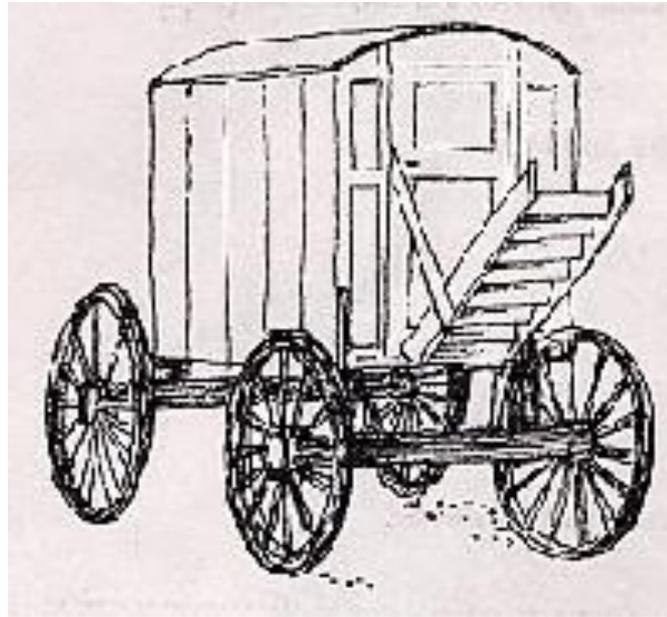
Victorian seaside



Pictures to help you.



sea-bathing



bathing machines

building
sandcastles



Now and Then -
At the beach.

fully clothed

Key Questions:

- **What are the people wearing in the photographs?**
- **How do you think these Victorian Children travelled to the seaside?** (by train, in horse-drawn vehicles, on foot)
- **What do you like doing at the beach?** (Swimming, building sandcastles, eating ice-creams etc.)
- **What do the children in Victorian times do at the beach?** (Paddle, play in the sand, ride donkeys)
- **Why do the huts have wheels and ladders? What are they for?** (bathing machines for people to change in and be wheeled to the sea)
- **Why are the children not swimming?** (possibly because of the modesty of the Victorian era - if they could not afford a beach hut to undress in and be transported into the sea, then they would have to paddle rather than swim)
- **Can you see any litter on the Victorian beach?** (no - there were no packaged sweets, ice-cream or crisps, and children had very little money to buy things with)