

Avon Beach: *The History*

The Avon Beach Café has been run by the Derham family for over 75 years, but the business owes a lot to one spontaneous chance encounter. In 1912 George and Annie Derham were living on a houseboat anchored off Mudeford Sandbanks when four thirsty hikers knocked on their door to ask if they could have a glass of water. Annie Derham did better than that. Not only did she give them water but she also provided tea and Homemade Rock Cakes. The hikers left happy and full, little realising that their small request had helped launch the enduring and successful catering business the Avon Beach Café is today. Although the journey has not been without struggle.



In 1934, George and Annie Derham bought the Avon Beach Café. With hard work the business prospered and by now the Derham seniors had been joined by the next generation. In 1935 a lucky Irish Sweepstake win of £600 enabled, George's son, Ken, to build a bungalow near the beach (where the cabin is now.) Unfortunately, such good fortune was short-lived. World War Two was looming. The Derham family was given 72 hours notice to evacuate the beach and all property. They tried to salvage as many of the beach huts as they could but with so little time available most ended up getting torched by the Green Howards. The military couldn't risk an invading force using them for cover if they attempted a beach landing. Ken's newly built bungalow was destroyed because it was in the way of gun sights. With the rationing of building materials after the war, it was a long haul to recovery, as it was for many businesses.

Throughout history Avon Beach has had another adversary to consider. Mother Nature has been a formidable force. Over decades of storms, the lawns of the 1920s and '30s gradually disappeared, but it was the storm of February 1950 that came close to literally destroying the business. The seas very nearly washed out the Café's foundations. Were it not for the fortitude and tireless campaigning of Ken Derham the Avon Beach Café, and perhaps much of the beach, would not be here today. The lengthy programme of sea defence work that followed eventually managed to push the tide back and allow the Derham family tradition to continue.



Avon Beach Cafe Menu



Breakfast

<i>Mega Breakfast</i>	£8.60
2 Sausages, 2 eggs, 3 rashers bacon, tomato, potato waffle, mushrooms, fried bread, baked beans, 2 slices of toast with a pot of tea or a large coffee	
<i>Full Breakfast</i>	£7.30
2 Sausages, egg, 2 rashers bacon, tomato, mushrooms, fried bread, saute potatoes, 1 slice of toast with a pot of tea or a large coffee	
<i>Vegetarian Breakfast (V)</i>	£7.30
2 Veg sausages, 2 eggs, tomato, mushrooms, fried bread, baked beans, waffles and 1 slice of toast with a pot of tea or a large coffee	
<i>Beach Breakfast</i>	£6.30
2 Rashers bacon, egg, baked beans, mushrooms, potato waffles and 1 slice of toast	
<i>All day Breakfast</i>	£6.30
2 Rashers bacon, egg, 2 sausages, tomato, fried bread and 1 slice of toast	
<i>Pebble Breakfast (V)</i>	£6.30
2 Veg sausages, egg, baked beans, mushrooms, saute potatoes and slice of toast	
<i>Special Breakfast</i>	£6.30
2 Sausages, egg, 2 rashers bacon, mushrooms, potato waffles and 1 slice of toast	
<i>Surfer's Breakfast</i>	£6.30
2 Sausages, egg, 2 rashers bacon, baked beans and saute potatoes	
<i>Small Breakfast</i>	£3.95
2 Rashers bacon, egg and 1 slice of toast	
<i>Kid's Breakfast</i>	£4.75
1 Rasher bacon, egg, baked beans, waffles and 1 sausage	

Toast: 2 slices of brown or white bread	£1.25
Toasted tea cake	£1.45

Beverages

Pot Of Tea Per Person	£1.55
Speciality Teas Per Pot	£1.65
Coffee Small	£1.50
Coffee Large	£1.75
Cappuccino	£2.35
Latte	£2.35
Mocha	£2.35
Espresso	£1.65
Decaffeinated Coffee add an extra	10p
Hot Chocolate	£2.40
Turkish Delight Chocolate with Turkish Delight on the side	£2.70
Mint Chocolate with a Mint	£2.70
Hot Chocolate with Cream	£2.70
Posh Chocolate with Cream, Chocolate and a 99 flake	£3.15
Horlicks	£2.40
Butterscotch Hot Milk	£2.30
Fruit Smoothie	£2.60
Milk Large Glass	£1.30
Assorted bottles of soft drink available in the fridge cabinets along counter.	

Please be aware we are unable to change items on the set breakfasts. Additional items can be added at extra cost.

Main Meals

Fish & Chips Large battered fish fillet served with chips and Tartar sauce	£7.90
Plaice & Chips Breaded plaice served with chips and tartar sauce	£7.90
Fish cakes 2 fish cakes served with chips and a sweet chilli dip	£6.90
Scampi & Chips Breaded whole tail scampi served with chips and tartar sauce	£7.90
Curry of the day Homemade curry, poppadom and mango chutney served with rice or chips	£7.90
Wiltshire Ham and 2 free range eggs Hand carved Wiltshire ham with 2 eggs and chips	£7.95
2 free range eggs & chips (V) 2 free range eggs served with chips	£5.90
Vegetarian Sausage & chips (V) 3 vegetarian sausages served with chips with a free range egg	£6.30 £6.35
Sausage & chips 3 handmade sausages served with chips with a free range egg	£6.30 £6.35
Aberdeen Angus 6oz Beefburger & chips 6oz Aberdeen beefburger in a seeded bap with lettuce, tomatoes and onion served with chips and optional cheese	£7.30
Vegetable Burger & chips (V) A bread crumbed vegetable burger in a seeded bap with lettuce, tomatoes and onion Served with chips and optional cheese	£7.30
Chilli Con Carne Homemade Chilli Con Carne served with a pot of cheese and either chips or rice	£6.50

Jacket Potatoes

Jacket Potatoes (V) Choose 2 of the following fillings: Cheese, bacon, baked beans, mushrooms, red onion (raw), coleslaw, sweetcorn, 2 sausages or tuna mayonnaise	£6.30
Jacket Potatoes Choose 1 of the following fillings: Chilli con carne with a pot of grated cheese Chicken and ham with mustard mayonnaise. Prawn cocktail	£6.50

Please see our specials boards for more meal options

Salads

Fresh salads (V) A plate of fresh salad served with chips or a warmed white or brown roll. Mayonnaise or vinegarette. dressing. Choose from:	£7.30
Wiltshire Ham Cheddar cheese Tuna mayonnaise Ham & Chicken with mustard mayonnaise Prawn cocktail Chicken	

Baguettes

Baguettes (V) Bacon Bacon & Cheese Sausage Vegetarian sausage Cheese, Tomatoe & onion Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato Chicken & Ham with mustard mayonnaise & lettuce Prawn cocktail with lettuce Tuna mayonnaise	£5.20
The above with chips or curly fries	£1.30 extra

Thick Cut Sandwiches

Thick Cut Sandwiches with Farmhouse Granary Bread Served with salad garnish and crisps (V)	£5.05
Bacon Bacon & Cheese Bacon & egg Vegetarian sausage Vegetarian sausage & egg Sausage Sausage & egg Bacon Lettuce & Tomato Chicken & Ham with mustard mayonnaise & lettuce Prawn cocktail with lettuce Tuna mayonnaise with lettuce	
The above with chips or curly fries	£1.30 extra

Homemade Soup

Homemade soup (V) For our soup of the day please see our chalk boards. Served with a warmed white, brown or ciabatta roll. Topped with herbs and croutons.	£5.30
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Side Portions

Small bowl of chips	£2.65
Large bowl of chips	£3.25
Large bowl of curly fries	£3.55
8 battered onion rings	£1.65
Mixed side salad	£3.35
Bread & butter	£1.25
White baguette roll	£1.55
Brown wholemeal roll	£1.55

(V) Suitable for vegetarians. All weights are approximate before cooking. We cannot guarantee our dishes are free from nuts or derivatives. If you have allergies or other requirements please speak to one of the counter staff. All menu items are subject to availability. Prices include VAT. Alcohol served to persons 21 and over.

Smaller Appetites

2 hand made sausages	£4.30
Fishstars	£4.30
Fish cake	£5.60
Egg, free range (V)	£3.90
Beefburger 4oz	£4.60
Chicken nuggets	£4.60
Small scampi	£6.05
Small fish & chips	£6.05
Small Ham & egg	£6.05

The above served with chips, mashed potato or salad

Soft Serve Ice-Cream

Thick shakes	£2.95
Chocolate, Strawberry or Banana	
Thick shake with a syrup flavour	£2.95
Different flavours including Caramel, Toffee Nut, Mint, Vanilla, Butterscotch among others please ask.	
Ice-Cream Sundaes	£3.75
With chocolate, Toffee, or strawberry sauce	

Alcoholic Drinks

San Miguel 330ml	£3.15
Peroni 330ml	£3.15
Magners 568ml	£3.65
Old Speckled Hen 355ml	£3.15
187ml Bottle Red Wine	£3.20
187ml Bottle Rose Wine	£3.20
187ml Bottle White Wine	£3.20
Draught Lager	
1/2 pint	£1.70
Pint	£3.35