

## A Historic holiday to Great Yarmouth

Bathing and beach life were at the heart of a Great Yarmouth holiday. Photographs of Victorian and Edwardian beach life suggest that most people dressed up rather than down. Women kept themselves covered, partly to avoid contact with the sun. Bathing was a different matter. By the 1870s, women wore tent-like swimming costumes, while men commonly wore one-piece swimming shorts. For a few pence, tourists could hire a machine with a swimming costume and towel, change in it, wait for it to be dragged into the sea by a horse, then hop into the sea while shielded from others by a canvas awning.

### Swimming/bathing costumes



What is different about these bathing/swimming costumes to what we wear now?

How are they different?

Are there any similarities?

Why did people of this era wear costumes that covered their bodies?

### Bathing machines



Why did they use bathing machines?

Why do we not use them now?

What were they made from?

## Bucket and Spades



What are the differences between then and now?

What were the designs on them? What can you see in this photo?

What were they made from? How is that different to what they are made from now?

## Souvenirs



If you could buy one of these souvenirs in the picture, what would you choose and why?

Are they different to souvenirs you have bought when you have visited the seaside or been on holiday?

Why are souvenirs bought?