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Where to go in the Solent

Friday night in Haslar Marina:

There are a number of options:

Eat and drink on board (see what to bring page)

Haslar Marina has 2 restaurants – **Hardy's** 02392 588810 and **The Lightship** 02392 503387

Gosport has the **Castle Tavern** which is easily accessed by the ferry end of the marina (not the car park end), and has a good selection of beers and pub food – although check the latest time for food orders by phoning 02392 583991.

Gunwharf Quays in Portsmouth offers a more lively evening out and is easy to get to, by using the Green Gosport ferry. The last green ferry is at midnight, but there should be another ferry until the early hours.

Where to sail to - 2 day trips:

Cowes is an obvious choice.

West Cowes (Cowes Yacht Haven and Shephards Wharf) provides numerous establishments for lively nights out. One of our favourite restaurants is **Murrays** Fish restaurant www.murrays.uk.com. There are great shops for all your sailing clothing needs.

East Cowes Marina is quieter and a cheaper overnight mooring. Mention that our home berth is Haslar, and you will be given a discount. The **Lifeboat** restaurant is very welcoming and serves fresh local produce. You can book by calling 01983 292711

The **Folly Inn** is an old favourite with its famous dancing on tables and party atmosphere. It is advisable to book a walk ashore pontoon in advance (07884 400046) alternatively you may be given a river pontoon and use the water taxi to get ashore. Keep an eye on the depth!

Southampton and the Hamble River

There are 5 main marinas in the River Hamble, and numerous restaurants and pubs. The **Boomerang** restaurant is lively and has a late license. At **Bursledon** there is the **Jolly Sailor** pub (of Howards Way fame), and **Ocean Village** in Southampton offers a wide choice of pubs and clubs.

Yarmouth

For a longer sail and a quieter venue, Yarmouth is a very pretty harbour. You will need to book in advance if you want a finger pontoon, alternatively you will be rafted up on pontoons, <http://www.yarmouth-harbour.co.uk/> Our favourite eatery in Yarmouth is the **Kings Head** – you can book a table in advance by calling 01983 760351.

Yarmouth is a useful port of call, when sailing west out of the Solent to Poole and beyond. An overnight stay here enables you to be fresh and ready for the tides to take you through the Needles or North Channels.

Beaulieu River

This is a pretty and tranquil destination. You will need to check your tides to get in and out of the entrance. The **Master Builder's** pub has been revamped and is worth a visit. www.themasterbuilders.co.uk

Lymington

Lymington is a bustling town with many pubs and restaurants. You can moor up on the **Town Quay** if you want to be in the middle of it all, or there are 2 other marinas, **Berthon** and **Lymington Yacht Haven**. Take care with your approach, stray out of the channel and you will go aground!