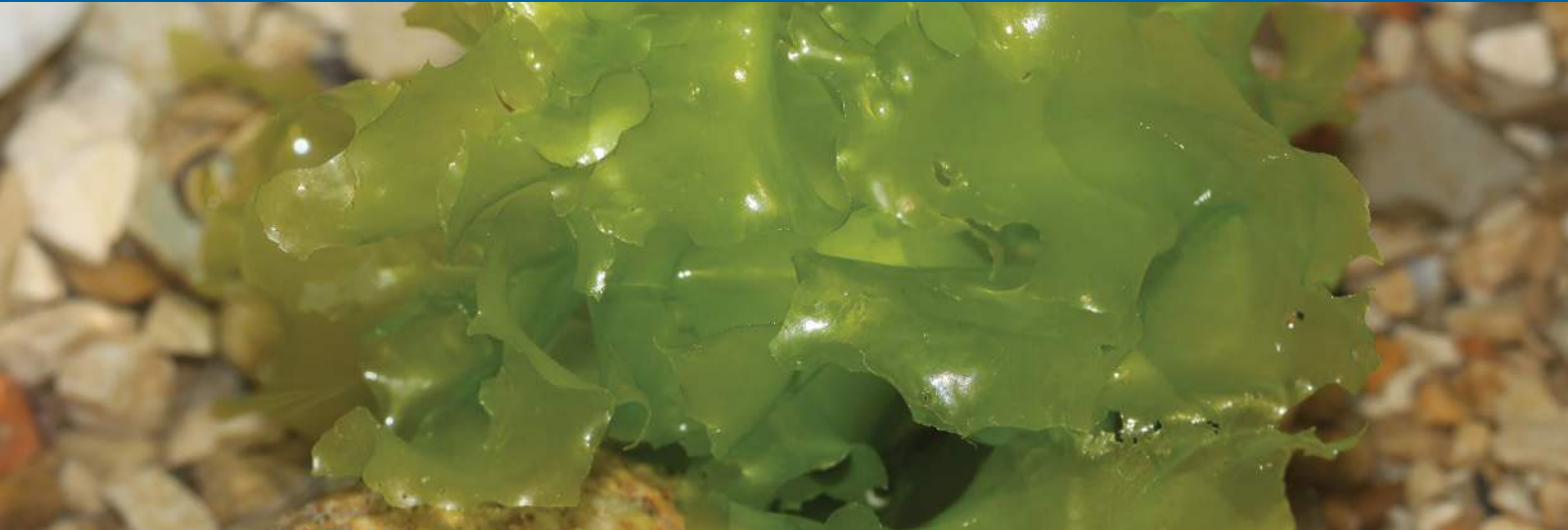




# Seaweed



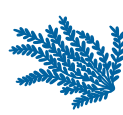
**See if you can draw or take photos of each variety of seaweed as you discover them. Remember to look carefully and tread gently to protect nature.**

Seaweed is not technically a plant - it is an algae! Instead of growing roots, they anchor themselves to rocks or stones with a holdfast, to protect themselves against the action of the water, and take in food (nutrients) from the water, not the ground.

If the sea has been very rough you might find seaweed washed up on the beaches - this is called drift seaweed. It is ideal for collecting to put on your garden but if you

want to eat seaweed then it is best to cut it fresh from the rocks (leaving at least a third of it attached to allow for re-growth).

**How many different frond shapes can you find?**



[Discover more over the page >](#)

Find out more about seaweed using our spotters guide below.



**Bladderwrack**



**Channel Wrack**



**Giant Kelp**



**Irish Moss**



**Pepper Dulse**



**Sea Lettuce**



**Serrated Wrack**



**Thongweed**

## Did you know?

At a guess, the number of different types of seaweed in Guernsey is around 750, although the definite number is unknown.

You'll find plenty of seaweed on the rocks around the Bathing Pools. Around the slipway you'll find the delicate brown seaweed 'Channel Wrack' as well as 'Bladderwrack'. A little further down will be 'Serrated/Toothed Wrack' and perhaps the bright green 'Sea Lettuce', and beyond these you start to see some of the red seaweeds like 'Pepper Dulse' and 'Irish Moss'. When the tide is very low you'll also be able to find 'Sea Spaghetti/Thongweed' and 'Kelp/Oarweed'.

Seaweeds are seasonal with some preferring the

sunshine and warmer sea temperatures and others growing better when it is colder.

## Herm Island

From this area you can see across the water to Herm Island. Fisherman's Beach is in front of us and at low tide you'll be able to see the oyster tables - bags of growing oysters are attached to these metal tables allowing them to spend a certain amount of time out of the water with each tide, depending on how mature they are.

We find certain types of seaweed grow really well in this area - the oysters are feeding on the seaweed and their poo is a brilliant fertiliser for the seaweed - a perfect ecosystem!