

Prova 4

PART 1 • READING

The Isle of Man

“Hello, fairies,” came the soft voice of the recorded announcement as I bounced over Fairy Bridge on the 10.30 bus to the small town of Port St Mary. The simple stone bridge was covered in a colourful collection of messages and ribbons and, according to local superstition, it’s considered bad luck not to greet the bridge’s fabled residents.

5 The narrow country road was lined by an arch of rain-soaked trees, adding to the feel of an enchanted world. It was a moment that perfectly encapsulated the Isle of Man: charming; mysterious; a little different.

For all its proximity to mainland Britain, the Isle of Man and its roughly 85,000 residents seem to fly under the radar. It receives relatively few visitors: just more

10 than 300,000 in 2018. That’s certainly not a number to be sniffed at, but it pales in comparison to the approximately 2.4 million who visited the Isle of Wight, which is two-thirds its size.

Unsurprisingly, considering its geographical location, the Isle of Man feels like a patchwork of the British Isles. Gentle fields of southern England meet misty Irish

15 hills around the village of Kirk Michael, while craggy Welsh coastlines merge with the drama of the Scottish Highlands.

But although the island feels British, it’s in a cosy, old-fashioned way you only occasionally find in the UK today. The classic red telephone boxes, many with a Yellow Pages telephone directory inside, are scattered throughout the island. A walk along

20 the capital’s seafront promenade, with its grandiose Gaiety Theatre and neatly kept Edwardian-era guest houses, adds to the air of British familiarity – but feels closer to 1919 than to 2019.

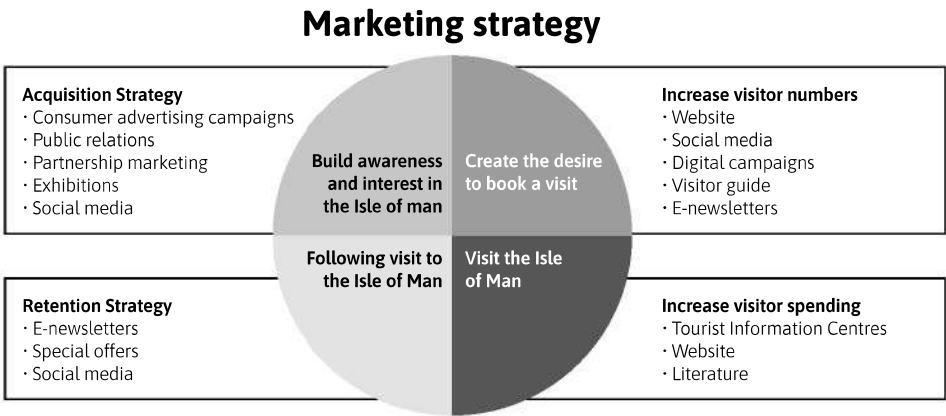
On the day I left, impenetrable fog and a biting cold had me checking my calendar to make sure it was still August. As I stood on the stern of the ferry, the island

25 shimmered slightly on the horizon then disappeared altogether. Invaders have come and gone, but it doesn’t take long to realise that what makes this little island so special is because of those who stayed.

Plus, it’s the only place in the world where a bus will remind you to greet the fairies.

(358 words)

Adapted from <http://www.bbc.com/travel>



Choose the answer which fits best according to the text. Circle one letter.

- 1 The writer heard a soft voice saying "Hello fairies". Where?
 - a ☐ On the ferryboat to get to the Isle of Man.
 - b ☐ At St Mary's port.
 - c ☐ On a bus.
 - d ☐ Under the Fairy Bridge.
- 2 What does the author mean with the sentence: "the Island... seem to fly under the radar." (line 9)?
 - a ☐ It often disappears from the sights of the air control tower.
 - b ☐ There are not many tourists visiting the Island.
 - c ☐ There is no airport to fly to.
 - d ☐ It's a very small island, smaller than the Isle of Wight.
- 3 What is the Isle of Man like nowadays?
 - a ☐ It's contemporary and modern.
 - b ☐ It still has an old-fashioned Edwardian atmosphere.
 - c ☐ It feels like a compromise between a 20th and 21st century Britain.
 - d ☐ It's dull, boring and conservative.

Answer the question by referring to the Marketing strategy diagram.

- 4 Comment on the marketing strategies used to promote tourism on the Island.

Answer the question. Use complete sentences and your own words.

- 5 According to the writer, what makes this little island so special?

PART 2 • WRITING

Choose one of the following tasks.

- 1 UNESCO has designated the entire island a Biosphere Reserve, celebrating and protecting the breadth and range of its biodiversity. UNESCO says it is a "special place for people and nature". Choose a UNESCO site you have studied or visited and write a promotional page for a visit... .com website, giving a short catchy description of the place and suggesting various itineraries and tours.
- 2 Write an article for a travelers blog where you report about an unforgettable journey you had in a foreign country, which was unexpected and surprising. (300 words)