

We hope you enjoy this painting from the Pannett Art Gallery

Sands at Whitby, c1910

We don't know who painted this view of Whitby beach, but the artist shows us a fascinating glimpse of social history. It was painted in about 1910 and shows families enjoying the beach just as they still do over 100 years later; couples strolling, children playing with buckets and spades, an artist painting, people paddling or preparing to swim and groups sitting around chatting. The main differences from a beach scene today are the clothing, (these early visitors are wearing far more clothes than we would consider appropriate for a day by the sea), and all the bathing machines in the background. These were changing rooms on wheels designed to maintain modesty and respectability for swimmers.



Sands at Whitby, Unknown Artist

Can you imagine a day out at the beach wearing such elaborate clothing?