

CASE FILE 45



SEAVIEW MIRAGE



Mythical Classification:

Shifting Coastal Apparition



F.O.L.L.I.E.S Ref: **SVM-10W-45**



Restricted - pass holders only!



F.O.L.L.I.E.S = Federation of Legendary Lore
Investigation and Evidence Specialists

Page 1 of 10

WHAT IS THE SEAVIEW MIRAGE?



Location: Seaview,
near Ryde, Isle of Wight

Travellers whisper about Mirage,
a place that flickers in and out
of existence.

Some call it a café. Others insist
it is a gift shop.

A few say it is both at once,
which is not especially helpful.



A mirage is
usually a trick
of light. This one
seems to have
ideas of its own.



QUICK CLUES

- ★ Appears on the seafront
- ★ Shimmers like warm air
- ★ Changes what it looks like
- ★ Vanishes in seconds



CASE FILE 45: SEAVIEW MIRAGE



Strange Sightings

No two witnesses tell the same story.
That, of course, is what makes this
case gloriously awkward.



No two
sightings match
exactly.



I went in for
a postcard and
came out holding
a peppermint.

— Mrs Bell



It looked like
a café until I
blinked. Then it
was a gift shop
with no door.

— Sam, age 10



I heard a bell,
but when I
turned around,
the building
had gone.

— A seafront
walker



A cosy café...



A bright gift shop...



...or nothing
at all?

Some people see it in daylight.
Others at dusk. A few only when
they're not really looking.

Is Mirage trying to be found—or
trying not to be seen?





Café, Gift Shop... or Something Else?



Witnesses cannot agree on what Mirage really is.
That is suspicious. Buildings are usually
better at making up their minds.



Café



Gift Shop



Tea Room



Nowhere at all!



What never changes?

- ★ The name Mirage
- ★ The strange shimmer
- ★ The sudden silence
- ★ A little black disk nearby



Mirage changes
its look to suit
whoever finds it.



USUAL HAUNT: SEAVIEW

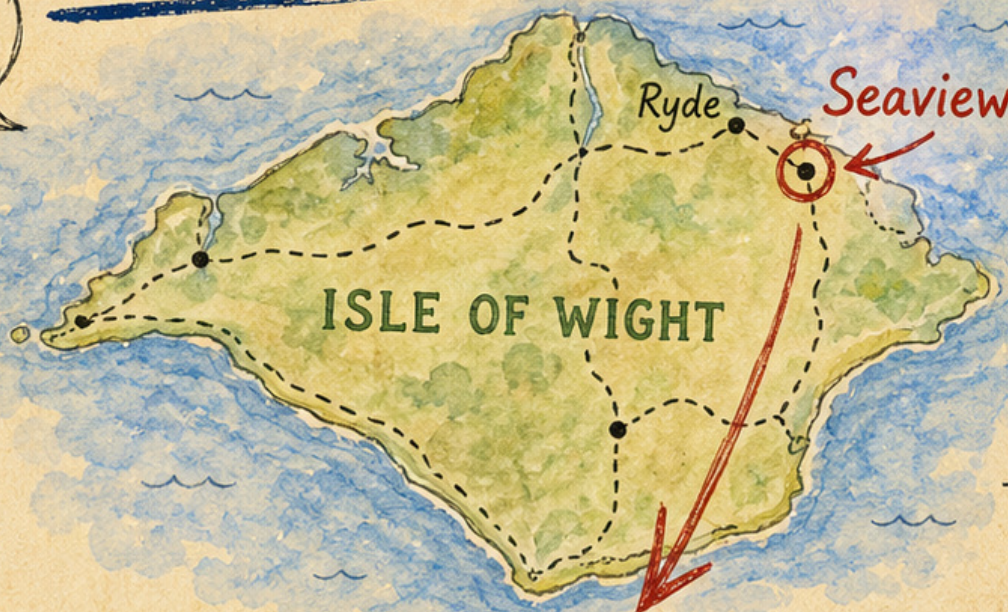


Mirage has been reported all over the island, but Seaview is its favourite stop.



CLUE:

The MIRAGE emblem is often found near the sea...



SEAVIEW

Sea wall

Car park

Regular haunt



Where the sea meets the story...



SCIENCE OR SORCERY?

THE SCIENCE BIT



Real mirages happen when layers of warm and cool air bend light.

Distant things can appear closer, taller, or stranger than they really are.



THE MYSTERY BIT ?

Ordinary mirages do not ring little bells, change into gift shops, or leave clues behind.

That is where this case becomes deliciously odd.



Mirage may be part weather, part wonder.





WHAT HUNTERS FOUND



Those who claim to have hunted Mirage say all that remained was a small black disk, fixed to a wall or post.

Most were too cautious to scan it with their phones, spooked by the thought of what might happen next.



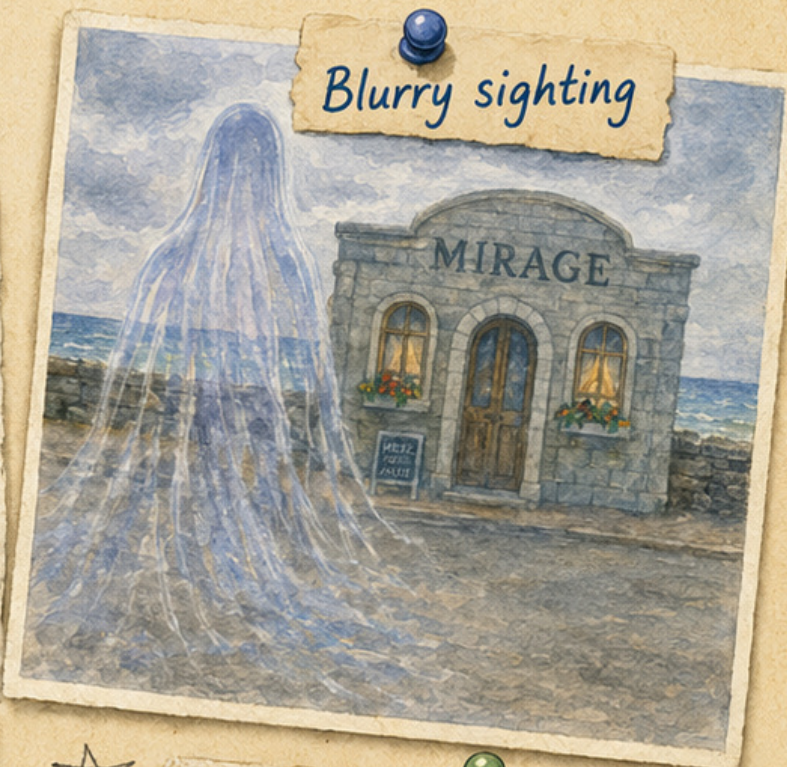
Black disk on a wall



No footprints



Blurry sighting



Sound of a bell



Please do not poke mysterious objects with sandwiches.



Artist's Renditions of **MIRAGE**



Because Mirage never keeps
the same shape for long,
F.O.L.L.I.E.S artists painted
what witnesses described.



1. The Shoreline Spirit



2. The Seaside Café



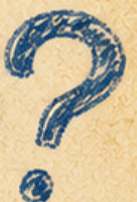
3. The Gift Shop



4. The Mirage Emblem



Which version
would you trust
least?



Professor Follies' Field Notes



Favourite weather:
sea mist,
still air,
odd gleams

A sensible investigator keeps one eye on the sea and the other on the impossible.

Favourite disguise:
café,
gift shop,
tea room



Best clue:
a plain
black disk
fixed to a
wall or post



Warning:
do not
chase Mirage
into the road



My theory:
it feeds on
curiosity and
leaves clues
behind



Seaview Mirage



Look for the sign of the Mirage...

- ★ along the seafront
- ★ on quiet, misty days
- ★ where roads meet the impossible



QUESTIONS

for

YOUNG DETECTIVES



1 If you found Mirage, would you step inside?



2 Why do different people see different things?



3 Is Mirage tricking the eye, or testing the brave?



4 What might the little black disk do?



5 If Mirage travels the island, where might it appear next?



Public file ends here. Keep watching the shoreline.

