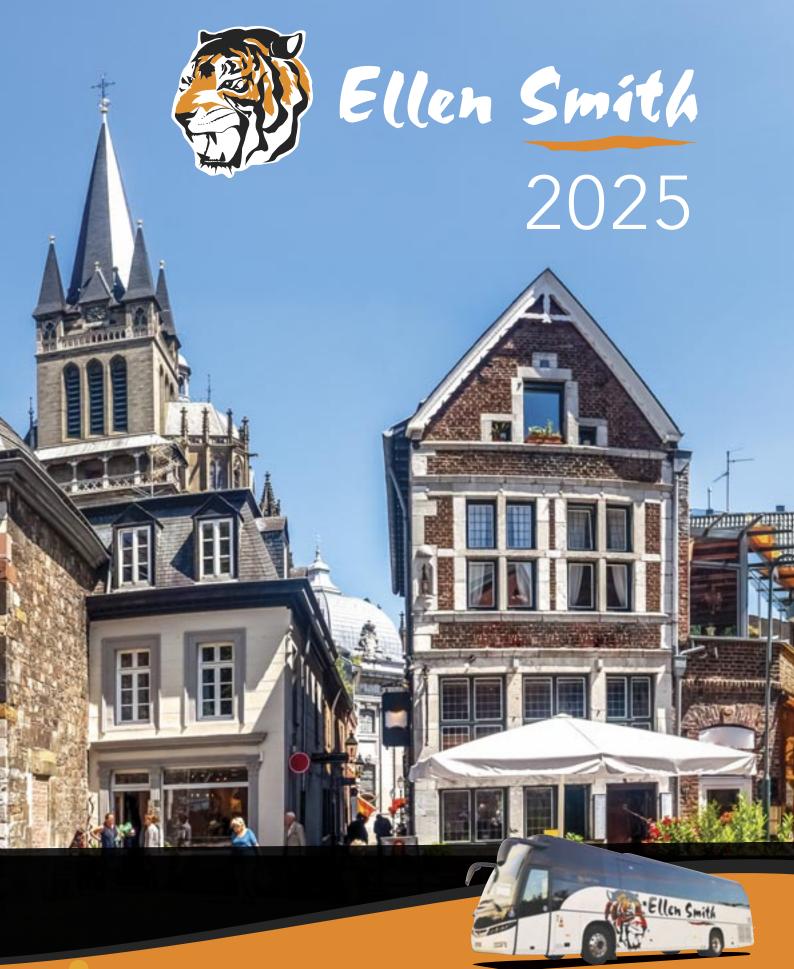
# DOOR TO DOOR COACH TOURS



www.ellensmith.co.uk



# INTRODUCTION & CONTENTS

# WELCOME

Welcome to our 2025 'Door to Door' holiday brochure.

We are pleased to report that during 2024 we have experienced record bookings for our tours.

We do listen to our customers, and drivers, and as such our brochure changes each year to reflect this. Some hotels and locations aren't featured, and our Tours Manager has been diligently seeking out new locations, hotels and attractions for your delight.

We've again increased our continental offering with a super trip to the Dolomites included. Other new tours to watch out for are The Isles of Scilly, even more Warners, the Titanic Belfast and as ever, even more 'Mature Singles' holidays.

Here seems a perfect place to thank our partners Grayway Coaches, Rothwell Coaches, Viking Coaches and Town Taxis who along with our superb staff ensure that on every holiday you receive the full 'Ellen Smith' treatment which, in turn, ensures you trust us as your Coach holiday operator of choice.

Happy holidays,

Paul Targett **Managing Director** 

# **Travel Insurance?**



- Fully-flexible, comprehensive insurance
- Pre-existing medical conditions covers (for travel in the UK)
- Specialist cover for coach tours
- No upper age limit in the UK

Please ask our staff for more details (for summary of cover and premiums, please refer to page 151 of this brochure.

PERIOD	UK inc. Isle of Man	Channel Islands & R.O.I.
Up to 3 Days	£27	£58
Up to 5 Days	£29	£61
Up to 10 Days	£35	£72

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# **Financial Security Statement**



The combination of travel services offered ABTOT 🔐 to you is a package within the meaning of the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018.

Therefore, you will benefit from all rights applying to packages; Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd will be fully responsible for the proper performance of the package as a whole.

Additionally, as required by law, Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd have protection in place to refund your payments and, where transport is included in the package, to ensure your repatriation in the event that they become insolvent. Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd are members of the Bonded Coach Holiday Group, overseen by The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited. This is a government approved consumer protection scheme. This ensures that in relation to the coach package holidays described in this brochure (or website) that a Bond, which may be called upon in the unlikely event of the member's insolvency, protects the clients' monies. Clients are recommended to inspect the current membership certificate at our registered office or alternatively go to https://www.abtot.com/bchabtot-members-directory/ or telephone 0207 7065 5316 to confirm current membership.

Your attention is also drawn to the Bonded Coach Holiday Group Trading Charter that will apply to these coach package holidays. Details of the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 can be found at The Package Travel and Linked Travel Regulations 2018 (legislation.gov.uk)

# Ellen Smith Tours – Price Promise

Peace of mind when you book an Ellen Smith Tours Coach Holiday.

- The price advertised in the brochure is the total amount you will pay for your holiday
- We will not impose any surcharge for fuel price increases
- In the case of currency fluctuation, we will absorb any additional costs
- We will not advertise or issue any general 'Money Off' vouchers
- Any supplement imposed by the hotel for extra single rooms will be the exact amount we charge our passengers
- We will not reduce the price of any tour to encourage bookings prior to the holiday departing. The first person to book will pay the same as the last one

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# **Coach Seating Plan**

**Please Note:** 

Due to the hiring in of coaches, we cannot guarantee that this will be the exact seating plan of the coach you will travel on.



# OUR TEAM/DRIVERS

# We have a small but perfectly formed Team here at Ellen Smith's, meet them below:





Hi, I'm Paul and I'm the MD. My main duties revolve around the overall operation of the business with particular emphasis and the website, marketing, and looking after the pennies! When not constantly checking my work's laptop, I do find time for a diverse range of interests from sailing & skiing to walking, swimming, and playing guitar. My family is my primary focus, especially my four grandchildren, Grave, James, Max & Isabel who most definitely keep me on my toes!

# Pam

Hiya, I'm Pam and it's my job to put together our Tour Programme to keep you, our lovely customers travelling with us. I am always looking for new hotels & destinations for you to try, there's plenty in this brochure. I also look after the many Private Group Organisers who put their trust in us each year to look after their members, coming up with ideas and itineraries for their future trips. I have 2 children and 3 beautiful grandchildren, Raeyn, Miller & Dixie, who are my main focus when I'm not in work. They're always popping in for something or other as they live next door!

# Zoe

Hello, I'm Zoe. My job is to look after the office, day excursion programme and holiday bookings admin. In my spare time I love spending time with family & friends, and with the arrival of Granddaughters Miya and Jorgie my focus is that of daft Nannie. In September I am reducing to a 4-day week primarily to help out with childcare, but I feel some serious pottering about coming on.

# Julie

Hi Everyone, My name's Julie. I've been with Ellen Smith for 33 years. How time flies when you're having fun! In my spare time I love walking with my Miniature Schnauzer Derek & my Hubby Andy, socialising with friends & family and squeezing in as many holidays here & abroad as I can.

# Mark

Hello, I'm Mark and it's my job to look after the transport side of the business. This is my second time and 14th year working for the company and I'm very proud to be part of such an amazing team. I enjoy spending time with my family, going to the theatre, walking with our little dog Charlie, and travelling both here and abroad.

# Carole

Hello everyone, I'm Carole and I'm new to Ellen Smith, starting here in June'24. I worked previously as a travel agent for the same company for 38 years but retired in June'22. I recently became a Nana to Bobby for the first time and I'm loving it. I have a huge passion for travel, having travelled to many parts of the world with my favourite being the Maldives. I am also a huge football fan with my team being Newcastle United (please don't judge).

Below, meet some of your Tour Drivers, always helpful, professional, and most of all friendly.





Richard



Carl



Graham



Brent

# A BRIEF HISTORY...

Back in the 1890's Ellen Gilson would never have believed that her married name would adorn coach sides throughout the UK in 2025, with an accompanying tiger!







The story goes back to the elopement of Ellen and Lund to a farm in Littleborough. As an aside to their farming, they began to operate a haulage business using horse drawn vehicles that, in time, diversified into a passenger carrying operation around Rochdale. Following Lund Smith's death their children Miles, Fred, and Perry, along with Ellen, took control of the business. A son Harry died young and another, Lewis, was badly affected by shell shock following the Great War. Two daughters Gertie and Cissie were also involved.

Motorised vehicles were introduced in 1915, these were often multifunctional, haulage during the week and passengers at weekend.

Up to the outbreak of war in 1939 both sides of the business prospered, and Charabanc holidays were added into the mix. It is believed that Gracie Fields was a passenger on one of them.

During the war the company was contracted to transport POWs to their places of work, and many coaches were commandeered by the war department, some never to be seen again.

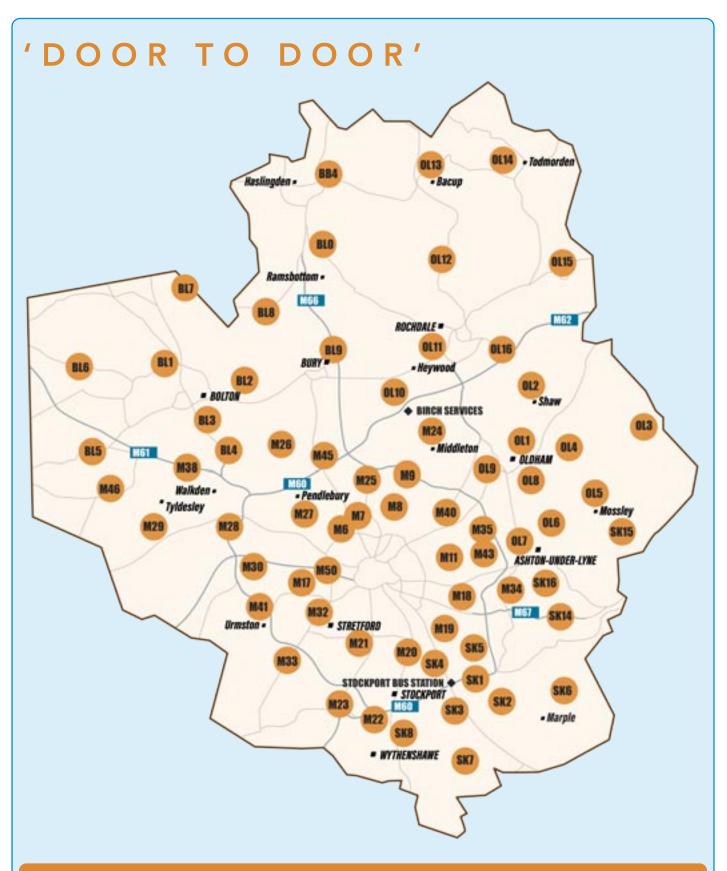
In 1946 the company took up where it left off, with more vehicle purchases and more diversity in the type of work undertaken. During this time the business was ably managed by Harry Smith, son of Miles, his wife Majorie, and Eric, son of Fred, alongside some dedicated and long serving drivers and mechanics. The standards they espoused, and their reputation amongst their rivals were exemplary, so, of course, passenger numbers grew! The Tiger, an amalgam of Leyland Vehicles and a cigarette card, designed by Jack Mills, vehicle painter, first appeared.



In 1988 Harry passed away, he had been actively involved for over 60 years. In 1991 the Smith family decided to sell the business and it was duly sold to Council owned Rossendale Transport Ltd in 1991.

Ellen Smith Tours Ltd operated as a subsidiary of Rossendale Transport and work was further diversified with continental tours to Europe, UK based tours, day excursions, works contracts and schools work, at one time the fleet size was 35 full sized coaches. However in 2002 the Council appointed non-executive directors of Rossendale Transport agreed to a management buyout of the tours element of the business to Paul Targett and John White, both Directors of Rossendale Transport Ltd.

Over the past 20 years there has been an ongoing rationalisation of the company's operations, gone are the five retail outlets to be replaced with an emphasis on telephone sales and a strong on-line presence. John retired from the business in 2008. Our small administrative team now operate from our Rochdale base, with customer satisfaction at our heart. Along with our business partners Grayways, Rothwells, Viking Coaches and Town Taxis, and our superb drivers, we believe we offer a service that is second to none.



All of the holidays in this brochure include our **FREE 'DOOR TO DOOR' SERVICE**. This means that you will be picked up, by a taxi or mini-bus, from your home address on the morning of departure. You will then be transferred to meet your holiday coach.

On the return journey, following your holiday, a taxi or mini-bus will meet you at the coach and transport you back to your home address. This applies to all passengers who live within our pick-up area, see map above.

\*If you live outside our pick-up area, please contact a member of staff who will advise you if it is possible to pick you up from home, however, there will be an additional cost for this.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# Everything you need to know about booking a holiday with us – and some things you didn't know that you needed to know!

### How can I book a holiday with you?

There are three methods. You can call our office on 01706 648126 Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. You can also book via our website; this will result in a saving of  $\pounds 10$  per passenger. Finally, you can visit one of our agents based in various towns within our pickup area.

### What Deposit will I have to pay?

A deposit of £75 per person needs to be paid at the time of booking for coach holidays to secure the holiday. For Jersey flight holidays the deposit is £150.

### Is my coach seat reserved?

Yes. However, we do reserve the right to move you under certain circumstances. For example, to allow a couple to sit together. This rarely happens and you will be informed prior to travelling. Please note that the wearing of seatbelts is mandatory.

### What's included in the price.

Our 'Door to Door' service, Dinner, Bed and Breakfast and all attractions as noted in the itinerary, unless mentioned otherwise.

**Can I, and should I, take out travel insurance?** For holidays inside the UK, insurance is optional. Remember though, most claims are for cancellation of holidays prior to travel, so please ensure you have appropriate cover for monetary losses as well as medical. For travel outside the UK, you must have some form of travel insurance in place. We offer holiday insurance via Wrightsure, who provide our customers with an age-appropriate, fit to travel based policy. There are no exclusions for pre-existing medical conditions when travelling in the UK, however you should make sure that you read and can agree with the 'criteria' for all trips taken.

# Can I travel with you if I live outside your defined pick-up area?

Yes, you can. There are two options. You can make your own way to one of our pickup hubs at an agreed time and we will give a discount for this option. The second option is for us to arrange to pick you up, but you will have to pay a supplement dependent on the distances involved.

### Can I bring my wheelchair?

We accept folding wheelchairs and folding walkers. We do restrict the number of folding wheelchairs to two per coach for luggage space reasons. You must inform us at the time of booking if you intend to bring either of the aforementioned. We do not allow any form of motorised mobility aid to be carried.

# Do I have to pay a Single Supplement if I travel alone?

For each tour we are allocated a number of single rooms. Some don't carry a supplement, others do. This is entirely dependent upon the policy of each individual hotel. Prior to the holiday some hotels, upon request, allow double or twins to be used as singles – but with a supplement. We will advise you of any additional costs at the time of booking. We don't add any additional costs to the supplement charged by the hotel.

# Can I make special requests for my hotel stay?

Any special requests made at the time of booking will be passed on to the hotel prior to the coach's arrival. However, we will note that 'Any requests cannot be guaranteed' on your confirmation document. If your request needs to be guaranteed, then it is your responsibility to liaise with us to ensure this is the case.

### What paperwork will I receive?

You will receive a booking confirmation detailing all aspects of your holiday booking. This needs to be carefully checked to ensure all is correct. Any amendments made later will incur an administrative charge. If you've taken insurance, you will also receive your policy documents.

### When does my final balance become due?

Eight weeks prior to travel, earlier for Jersey flights. The balance due date is noted on your holiday confirmation document. You can either call us to pay your balance (we don't keep details of your Credit or Debit cards) or, if you booked online, you can pay your balance via your account on our website.

### Are your holidays financially secure?

Yes. All our tours are covered by the British Coach Holidays (BCH) Bond. Please see details on Page 2.

### What happens if I cancel my holiday?

We will issue you with a Cancellation Invoice in accordance with our industry recognised terms and conditions. We will then refund you any sums due and you can use the invoice to submit a claim to your insurance company.

# What happens if we cancel the holiday?

We review each tour on a weekly basis to ensure we have enough passengers booked on to make it viable, we do this as early as possible. If we decide to cancel the holiday, we will contact you and either offer you a full refund of all monies paid or offer you another appropriate tour and give you a £20 discount per person to transfer.

# When will I need a passport or an identity document.

For travel to Ireland or the Channel Islands travellers need either a passport with 6 months validity or some form of photographic ID. This could be a current driving licence or a Bus Pass. For travel to the EU a full passport with 6 months validity is required.

### When will I receive my Travel Documents?

About 8 to 10 days prior to travel. The envelope will contain a note of your collection time on the day of travel, an itinerary booklet giving day by day information for the duration of the tour and luggage labels.

# Do you sell your holidays cheaper to fill rooms close to the departure date?

No. We believe that every customer on the coach should pay the same amount.

### Do I need to leave Next of Kin (NOK) details?

Totally optional. We take the care of our passengers to an extra level. If you are taken ill whilst away on holiday with us, we will make contact with the designated NOK and advise them of your situation. We will then assist in any way possible.

### What size suitcase should I bring?

For coach holidays each passenger should bring one suitcase weighing no more than 18 kgs (40lbs). If the tour has an overnight stop, it is advisable to bring an overnight bag to avoid unpacking and re-packing. The allowance will be different for our flight holidays, please see information on your Travel Documents. Any important medications should be kept in personal hand luggage.

### Where are your coach/taxi meeting hubs?

We have two coach meeting places Birch Services West and Viaduct Street in Stockport.

# How does your 'Door to Door' service work?

We have been operating our 'Door to Door' service for many years now – suffice it to say that we're very good at it. Every customer is given a time that they will be picked up at on the first day of their holiday. A licensed taxi or minibus will turn up at the allotted time. We have an emergency telephone number in case of traffic delays or similar. The taxi / minibus then picks up other passengers en-route to the coach meeting point.

# Are all your coaches the same?

All our coaches are modern executive coaches with all 'mod cons' including an onboard toilet. However, they are different makes and models and as such will have different window alignments and, as such, we cannot guarantee a 'full window' seat.

### What about your drivers?

Our drivers are mature professional individuals with many years of experience. They are customer focused and will tend to your requirements whilst on holiday.

### How often do you stop en-route?

Because we don't have long pickup routes, we can take a more leisurely approach on the outward journey. The driver will decide where to stop for lunch and comfort breaks ensuring an appropriate hotel arrival time.

# Are there any additional costs whilst on holiday?

The only extra costs that you should incur are your lunches and drinks from the bar, and other personal purchases.

### Is porterage included?

Yes – you should not need to touch your suitcase from your front door to your hotel bedroom. If for any reason general Porterage is not available at your hotel, and you are unable to manage your own case, please make your Driver or a member of hotel staff aware, and they will assist you.

### Are breakfast and dinner always included?

On 99% of tours they are. On some more specialised tours, for example involving Ferries, there will be different arrangements – these will always be clearly stated on your itinerary.

### What happens on the return day?

You will make your way home with suitable stops. For shorter distance holidays, your coach will come straight home after breakfast. The driver will arrange to have the taxis and minibuses waiting for you. Your luggage will be put into your taxi and you will be called off the coach to be taken home.

### Will I want to travel with you again?

We like to think so. We have hundreds of customers who travel with us time and time again. Their returning business and recommendations are the best forms of advertising we have.

We look forward to seeing you on one of our tours.

# South West England



# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.

# **Beautiful South Downs – Drinks Package**

One of the UK's most diverse counties, West Sussex covers both coast and the South Downs National Park, encompassing hills, harbours, farmland, and market towns. From stately homes to breath-taking beaches, the area is full of gems to discover.



# **Belgrave Sands Hotel**

The Belgrave Sands has been totally transformed from top to bottom into a modern hotel with all new fixtures and fittings. En-suite bedrooms have a light and airy feel and all feature TV, mini-fridge, fresh milk, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel offers a fine-dining experience followed by entertainment. The hotel has a lift, bar, lounge, indoor swimming pool, sauna, and steam room.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Brixham & Paignton Cream Tea
- Teignmouth & Newton Abbot

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions - from the life-size pirate ship museum, the Golden Hind, that sits in the middle of the harbour, to the stunning views from the old Napoleon fort at Berry Head. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! On our way back to Torquay, we make a stop at Paignton for a delicious Cream Tea at the Palace Hotel.
- Teignmouth, where the river beach is full of boats, has a charming atmosphere making it the perfect spot for a gentle stroll. Teignmouth has several beautiful Georgian style buildings, and the high street is lovely for a spot of retail therapy. We also visit Newton Abbot, a historic market town surrounded by beautiful south Devon countryside. The town is home to a large range of shops including a popular indoor Pannier Market, restaurants, and open spaces.

# **The Beachcroft Hotel**

This renovated hotel is proudly located on the beach front, in the seaside resort of Bognor Regis. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, beach terrace, and swimming pool. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request. The hotel offers a 50% Bar on draught beer, draught soft drinks, and house wine each evening between 18:00 and 22:00.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Portsmouth & Spinnaker Tower
- Arundel
- 2 nights' Live Entertainment
- ◆ 50% Bar on Draught Beer/Draught Soft Drinks/House Wine

- Portsmouth is the Great Waterfront City packed with world-class attractions and fantastic things to do. Portsmouth is a compact city with many things mere metres from one another. This, twinned with the flat profile makes it easy to walk wherever you want to go. One of Portsmouth's most notable characteristics is its independent streak. From shops and restaurants to art and culture, not forgetting the rich and well documented history, there's much to learn. Whist here, we include a visit to Spinnaker Tower, the iconic landmark of the waterfront skyline of Portsmouth. You haven't seen the surrounding coast, country or city until you've seen if from The Tower. The viewing decks, with their floor to ceiling glass walls, offer views stretching up to 23 miles on a clear day.
- Arundel captures the essence of heritage, urban chic, and country pursuits. Experience this market town and you will discover more than you'd expect. Most of all it is a place to return to and tell others about. Combining one thousand years of history with independent shops, contemporary art galleries, restaurants, cafes, delightful drinking spots, and great attractions, there is something for everyone. Storm the battlements of Arundel Castle keep, soak up the local history at Arundel Museum, or be inspired by Arundel Cathedral's soaring architecture.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 6th January 2025	5 Days	<b>£389</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 10th February 2025	5 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	£44	£29

# **Cornish Winter Warmer**

Cornwall is in the far west of Great Britain on a peninsula tumbling into the vast Atlantic Ocean, almost completely surrounded by the sea. Cornwall is loved for its dramatic coastline, captivating fishing harbours, and of course, its pasties and cream teas!

# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.



# **The Rosemundy House Hotel**

This elegant hotel is set in over 4 acres of secluded gardens and woodlands, and yet only 100 yards from the main street in the quaint village of St Agnes. The Queen Ann style hotel is family run and has been tastefully extended and converted. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, lounge, bar, and some evening entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Falmouth
- St Ives & Porthleven
- Padstow & Bodmin Jail
- Sherry Reception, 1 Afternoon Cream Tea, Glass of Wine with Dinner on Last Evening

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- St Ives the dazzling jewel in Cornwall's crown is a picturesque fishing harbour and seaside town. Wander through the maze of narrow cobbled streets, browse independent shops, and discover fishermen's cottages in the heart of St Ives. St Ives has been attracting artists for decades and is a seemingly subtropical oasis where the beaches are golden, the vegetation is lush and the light piercingly bright. Later, we visit Porthleven, the most southerly working port in the UK, boasting a picturesque harbour, with some interesting old buildings. Porthleven retains the character of an unspoilt fishing village with its granite harbour and pier, and famous clock tower.
- Falmouth is based around a thriving harbour and is the gateway to the beautiful Fal River. Falmouth's maritime heritage and coastal culture is a huge part of its charm. The bustling town centre has a wide range of shops and some superb cafes and restaurants with access to top quality, fresh, local produce.
- Discover Cornwall's most haunting and dark history in the worldclass immersive experience at Bodmin Jail. Delve into the depths of the jail's state-of-the-art 'Dark Walk' where your perceptions between the past and present will be blurred and provoked. Take 90-minutes to walk in the footsteps of the condemned! Later, we visit Padstow, a working harbour, surrounded by glorious beaches. In the town you'll find boutique shops and galleries at every twist and turn, showcasing the very best of Cornwall's makers & shakers! You'll always be led back to the harbour, at the very heart of this coastal town.

### **Belgrave Sands Hotel**

The Belgrave Sands has been totally transformed from top to bottom into a modern hotel with all new fixtures and fittings. En-suite bedrooms have a light and airy feel and all feature TV, mini-fridge, fresh milk, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel offers a fine-dining experience followed by entertainment. The hotel has a lift, bar, lounge, indoor swimming pool, sauna, and steam room.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Brixham & Dartmouth
- Teignmouth & Dawlish

- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions - from the life-size pirate ship museum, the Golden Hind, that sits in the middle of the harbour, to the stunning views from the old Napoleon fort at Berry Head. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! We also visit the beautiful town of Dartmouth situated on the banks of the picturesque River Dart. There's an eclectic mix of specialist shops in a charming and historic setting.
- Teignmouth, where the river beach is full of boats, has a charming atmosphere making it the perfect spot for a gentle stroll. Teignmouth has several beautiful Georgian style buildings, and the high street is lovely for a spot of retail therapy. We also visit Dawlish, a traditional seaside town with a wonderful golden sands beach on its doorstep.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 17th February 2025	5 Days	<b>£379</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 10th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Isle of Wight – Mock Cruise

Boasting award-winning beaches, unspoilt and spectacular scenery, and a rich, historical heritage, the Isle of Wight has something for everyone to enjoy. Discover pictures que villages, spectacular cliffs, and sandy beaches. This break offers you the opportunity to sail the high seas and travel the world without leaving the comfort of the hotel.



# **The Trouville Hotel**

Situated centrally on Sandown's seafront, opposite the golden beach, and with views over the sweep of Sandown & Shanklin Bay, is the Trouville Hotel. Well-appointed, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, ballroom, function room, and some entertainment during your stay.





# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

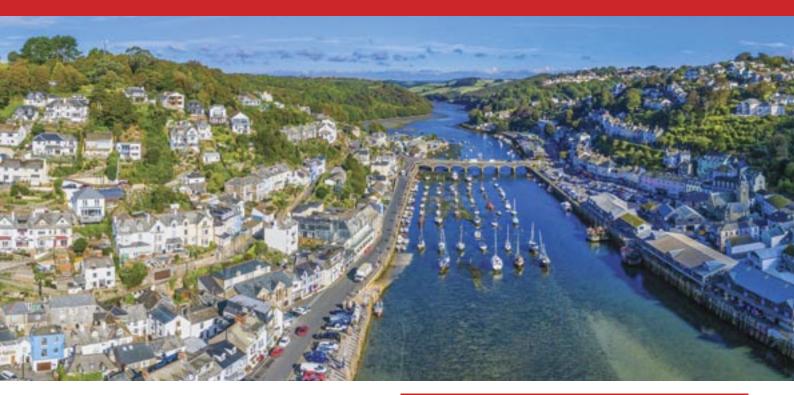
- Ryde & East Cowes
- Godshill, Alum Bay & The Needles
- Mock Cruise Theme (Destinations to be confirmed)
- Cabaret Entertainment
- Daily Activities 'On Deck'
- Formal Evening with Meet the Captain Drinks Reception
- Daily Drinks Specials
- Quizzes & Bingo

- We visit Ryde. Paul McCartney recently confirmed what the town already 'knew' .... The Beatles hit Ticket to Ride was inspired by a trip to Ryde made by Macca and John Lennon in the early sixties! It's a fantastic place that combines shopping centres, golden sands, and creative hearts. We also visit East Cowes, home to the oldest and biggest sailing regatta in the world. Stroll through the vibrant town and enjoy independent shops and well-known yachting clothing stores, sit at a pavement café, or have lunch and people watch.
- Godshill is the quintessential English village and boasts some of the oldest architecture on the Isle of Wight. With its delightful medieval church and main street lined with traditional tea rooms, Godshill is as picturesque as it is popular. We also visit Alum Bay for views of The Needles, one of the most photographed groups of rocks in the world.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 10th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£449</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Looe & The Cornish Coast

Cornwall is in a beautiful peninsula tumbling into the vast Atlantic Ocean, almost completely surrounded by the sea. Cornwall is loved for its dramatic coastlines, captivating fishing harbours, and of course, its pasties and cream teas!



# **The Hannafore Point Hotel**

The Hannafore Point Hotel in Looe is a unique town-house style hotel with panoramic coastal views overlooking Looe and the Cornish coast. The hotel has a lift and there are steps around the hotel. There is a restaurant, bar, indoor swimming pool, gym, and sauna. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.





# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Stunning Headland Location
- Fowey, St Austell and Mevagissey
- Padstow & The Camel Estuary
- Admission to Bodmin Jail

- Travel along the coast to the lovely town of Fowey with its narrow streets and gorgeous harbour views. Get an overview of the beautiful harbour with a stroll along the Esplanade, passing the grand parade of Edwardian and Victorian houses, or browse small, independent shops selling unusual gifts, art, clothing, and books. Cafes and pubs vie for your attention and small alleys offer glimpses of the river every now & then. Later, we continue to St Austell for a short stop before ending the day at Mevagissey, with its fishing harbour highly popular with artists. Its narrow streets and terraced houses lead down to the centre of Old Mevagissey where the distinctive twin harbour provides a safe haven for the many fishing boats that land their daily catch. In typical picture-postcard style, pubs, cafes, galleries, and shops cluster around the harbour walls and line the pretty streets,
- We head across Cornwall via Liskeard and Wadebridge to the Atlantic Coast and the thriving fishing port of Padstow, best known for Rick Stein's fish restaurant. The town stands on the west bank of the Camel Estuary. There are many places for a drink and a bite to eat. On our way back to the hotel, we make a stop at Bodmin Jail. Built in 1779, this historical site showcases the rich and darkly fascinating legacy of Georgian and Victorian crime punishment. From the crimes to the courthouse and gallows to the grave, Bodmin Jail provides a unique opportunity to get up close to the Georgians and the Victorians. Our self-guided entry allows you to explore the attraction at your own pace.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 31st March 2025	5 Days	<b>£459</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Bournemouth

With seven miles of golden sands and sparkling sea, the vibrant cosmopolitan town of Bournemouth has it all - a vast variety of shops and restaurants, endless countryside offering peace and relaxation, and beautiful, award-winning gardens.

# **Delightful North Devon**

North Devon & Exmoor is full of charming market towns and quaint villages, with Barnstaple being the oldest and largest town in the region. Our base of Ilfracombe has a reputation as the culinary and cultural hub of North Devon. Not just a haven for foodies, the town is home to a host of famous attractions.

# **The Dilkhusa Grand Hotel**

# **The Marsham Court Hotel**

The Marsham Court Hotel offers high-quality accommodation in a wonderful location edging the beautiful Dorset coastline and sparkling sea at Bournemouth. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, iron, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and swimming pool.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Salisbury & Shaftesbury
- Exbury Gardens & Lymington

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- More than 100 years in the making, Exbury Gardens & Steam Railway is a spectacular collection of landscaped woodland, herbaceous, contemporary, formal and wildflower gardens, in a unique riverside location. Experience the sights and sounds of a working narrowgauge steam railway as our journey takes us through a tunnel, over a bridge, round the Dragonfly Pond, and round the Summer Lane Garden. Later, we visit the historic town of Lymington, with its Georgian and Victorian architecture, and pretty, cobbled streets in the old town leading down to the Quay.
- We visit Salisbury, the Cathedral City of ageless beauty and captivating history, welcoming travellers since 1227. Gathered around the Cathedral is a modern medieval city, full of buildings crafted with the care of another age. The historic Charter Market takes place every Tuesday in the heart of bustling Marketplace. Later, we head to Shaftesbury, home to Gold Hill made famous by the 'Hovis' advert.

Dilkhusa Grand Hotel takes pride in providing a comfortable and memorable stay. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- RHS Garden Rosemoor & Barnstaple
- Lynton & Barnstaple Railway

- Barnstaple is a wonderful town featuring a range of great bars, restaurants, and high street shops. Alongside the Pannier Market, you'll find Butcher's Row, a terrace of 10 shops under an iron roof, the name comes from the fact that it used to only house butchers, but these days you'll find a whole host of interesting independent stores. Later, we travel to RHS Garden Rosemoor. As a visitor you will experience the newest areas first, beginning with the multi-faceted Formal Garden and then the Stream Field and Lake to the north. These in turn lead towards the Southwest and Devon Orchards and the very popular Fruit & Vegetable Garden. Walking through the Underpass you discover the contrasting original garden of Lady Anne Berry, which consists of many garden 'rooms' that blend seamlessly into one. Rosemoor is an enchanting place to visit and blends formal and informal planting to magical effect. The garden has expanded over the years and there are now more than 65 acres of garden to explore.
- The Lynton & Barnstaple Railway is the only steam railway in the UK where passengers travel in Victorian railway carriages designed in the 1890's. We enjoy a 2-mile return journey through rolling countryside with views out to wild moorland and the rugged coastline. Later, we visit Lynton. Find great cafes, restaurants and shops in Queen Street & Market Street. They're tucked away in the winding streets of Lynton's Old Town. These charming old streets are hiding some wonderful secrets - pubs with beer gardens, cafes with outdoor seating, local shops and artisan treats, and even a gym & a library!

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 7th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£469</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 14th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£60	£29

# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.

# Sidmouth

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.





# The Derwent Hotel

Situated close to the seafront, The Derwent Hotel offers easy access to the town centre via the promenade. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. As part of the Torquay Leisure Hotel Group, guests at The Derwent can take advantage of a range of leisure facilities. The hotel has a lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Brixham & Paignton Cream Tea
- Teignmouth & Newton Abbot

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ◆ Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions - from the life-size pirate ship museum, the Golden Hind, that sits in the middle of the harbour, to the stunning views from the old Napoleon fort at Berry Head. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! On our way back to Torquay, we make a stop at Paignton for a delicious Cream Tea at the Palace Hotel.
- Teignmouth, where the river beach is full of boats, has a charming atmosphere making it the perfect spot for a gentle stroll. Teignmouth has several beautiful Georgian style buildings, and the high street is lovely for a spot of retail therapy. We also visit Newton Abbot, a historic market town surrounded by beautiful south Devon countryside. The town is home to a large range of shops including a popular indoor Pannier Market, restaurants, and open spaces.

### **The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel**

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Budleigh Salterton & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Exeter

- We drive through the Otter Valley to Budleigh Salterton, a charming resort, overlooked by high cliffs known as The Floors. Budleigh Salterton remains one of Devon's most unspoilt and charming towns containing many interesting shops and other attractions. We continue to Exmouth – one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise on the River Exe before returning to the hotel.
- We visit Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, with over 64 acres to explore. Spanning nearly 300 years of gardening history, the park is home to many rare and beautiful species, collected from around the world. Later, we continue to Exeter, a small city that packs a big punch! Predating the arrival of the Romans in AD50, Exeter's history is rich and long, and this is reflected is its visitor attractions, which include its unique Underground Passages, free Red Coat Guided Tours, magnificent Cathedral, imposing Roman wall and beautiful Quayside.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 21st April 2025	5 Days	<b>£369</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 2nd May 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	NIL	£29

# The Isle of Portland & Dorset

Portland is a part of Dorset like no other; wild, natural and ruggedly beautiful. This unique, tied island marks the southernmost point on the Jurassic Coast and is joined to the mainland by Chesil Beach. Its isolated location, quaint villages, and rocky, coastal scenery give the island its own special atmosphere.

# **Cornish Delights**

Cornwall is in the far west of Great Britain on a peninsula tumbling into the vast Atlantic Ocean, almost completely surrounded by the sea. Cornwall is loved for its dramatic coastline, captivating fishing harbours, and of course, its pasties and cream teas!



# **The Heights Hotel**

The Heights Hotel is set at the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage Coastline on the summit of the Isle of Portland, Dorset. There are stunning panoramic views over Chesil Beach, Lyme Bay and Portland Harbour from the Bar & Bistro. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, radio, and tea/coffee making facilities.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Weymouth & 'Portland Bill'
- Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens & West Bay
- Durdle Door & Lulworth Cove
- Tank Museum with Cream Tea

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We stop at 'Portland Bill' Lighthouse Visitor Centre. The former lighthouse keepers' dwellings feature fun and informative maritime displays and interactives. The rest of the day is at leisure in nearby Weymouth, with its beautiful golden beaches and a pretty harbour. The world was introduced to the Georgian grandeur of Weymouth during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Weymouth's fine seafront provided an impressive backdrop to the sailing events and captured the hearts of many.
- Start the day with a visit to Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens a mixture of formal and informal flowers, world-famous for its Camellia groves and magnolias. It is also noted in Dorset for its Rhododendron and Hydrangea collections and the charming Victorian Garden. Later, we visit West Bay, 'Broadchurch' in the TV drama. With delightful beaches and a wonderful selection of places to eat around the Harbour, West Bay is a favourite destination for visitors.
- We take in the famous Jurassic Coast with a visit to East and West Lulworth, where the scenery is stunning, boasting some of the most dramatic geological features including Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door. Later, we enjoy an unforgettable visit at the world's most historically significant collection of armoured vehicles. The museum houses 300 military machines, representing the key battles of every major conflict since the First World War. The awe-inspiring exhibitions tell the story of this British invention; from the mud of the Somme to the beaches of Normandy and the deserts of Iraq – featuring powerful stories from the people that fought in them.



# The Rosemundy House Hotel

This elegant hotel is set in over 4 acres of secluded gardens and woodlands, and yet only 100 yards from the main street in the quaint village of St Agnes. The Queen Ann style hotel is family run and has been tastefully extended and converted. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, lounge, bar, and some evening entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Falmouth
- St Ives & Porthleven
- Lost Gardens of Heligan & Mevagissey
- Looe & Polperro

- St Ives the dazzling jewel in Cornwall's crown is a picturesque fishing harbour and seaside town. Wander through the maze of narrow cobbled streets, independent shops, and fishermen's cottages in the heart of St Ives. St Ives has been attracting artists for decades and is a seemingly subtropical oasis where the beaches are golden, the vegetation is lush and the light piercingly bright. Later, we visit Porthleven, the most southerly working port in the UK, boasting a picturesque harbour, with some interesting old buildings. Porthleven retains the character of an unspoilt fishing village with its granite harbour and pier, and famous clock tower.
- Falmouth is based around a thriving harbour and is the gateway to the beautiful Fal River. Falmouth's maritime heritage and coastal culture is a huge part of its charm. The bustling town centre has a wide range of shops and some superb cafes and restaurants with access to top quality, fresh, local produce.
- Looe is a picturesque fishing harbour, famous for its day-caught fish and wide, sandy beach. Looe has a rich history such as the famous bridge that joins the East and West towns, and hidden treasures including beautiful woodland, and cobbled streets lined with independent boutiques and delicious restaurants. Later, we visit Polperro, with narrow winding streets and lanes with great views of the picturesque harbour and village at every turn. Browse the eclectic mixture of quirky and fascinating shops, and enjoy the selection of great pubs, cafes, and restaurants.
- At the Lost Gardens of Heligan, discover 200-acres of garden history, mystery & romance. Years ago, Heligan's historic gardens were unknown and unseen, lost under a tangle of weeds. It was only the chance discovery of a door in the ruins that led to the restoration of this once great estate. We also visit Mevagissey, a distinct twin harbour town, where pubs, cafes, galleries, and shops cluster around the harbour walls and line the pretty streets in a typical, picturepostcard style.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 5th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£140	£29	Saturday 10th May 2025	6 Days	<b>£589</b> pp	NIL	£35

# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.

# Beautiful South Downs & West Sussex

One of the UK's most diverse counties, West Sussex covers both coast and the South Downs National Park, encompassing hills, harbours, farmland, and market towns. From stately homes to breath-taking beaches, the area is full of gems to discover.



# The Headland Hotel

An elegant hotel, the Headland sits majestically on the headland, looking out to sea, with 2 acres of lovely grounds and stunning views across Torbay. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift to most floors, a lounge, bar, restaurant, and entertainment. The Headland Hotel offers a complimentary 'taxi' service into town on your free day.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dartmouth, Cruise & Totnes
- Exmouth & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Topsham
- Brixham & Paignton Cream Tea
- 2 x Free Days in Torquay

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Dartmouth is a beautiful historic town situated on the west bank of the stunning River Dart in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Whilst here, we enjoy a circular cruise, sailing the lower part of the River Dart viewing the castles at the estuary, Britannia Royal Naval College, and towards Agatha Christie's Greenway Estate. We also visit Totnes, dating back to 970AD, a unique and charming town with an excellent range of small independent shops and many historic buildings lining the streets.
- Exmouth is one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. We include a cruise on the River Exe, during which our skipper will give a live commentary on the history of the area, the beautiful sights and the resident and visiting wildlife.
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens are set over 64 acres to explore and is home to many rare and beautiful species collected from around the world. Later, we visit the quaint historic estuary port of Topsham, with its cosmopolitan atmosphere and eclectic cluster of specialist shops and fine restaurants.
- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! On our way back to Torquay, we make a stop at Paignton for a delicious Cream Tea at the Palace Hotel.



# **The Beachcroft Hotel**

This renovated hotel is proudly located on the beach front, in the seaside resort of Bognor Regis. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, beach terrace, and swimming pool. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- St Mary's House & Gardens with Tea & Cake and Worthing
- Petworth House & Park and Midhurst

- St Mary's is an enchanting historic pilgrim inn, c1450 in the downland village of Bramber, West Sussex. Still a lived-in home, the fine panelled rooms include the unique Elizabethan trompe l'oeil Painted Room, and intriguing literary connections with Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest, and the Sherlock Holmes story The Musgrave Ritual. The five acres of beautiful gardens include an exceptional example of the prehistoric Ginkgo Biloba 'living fossil' tree, amusing animal topiary, and the 'Secret' Garden with original Victorian fruit wall and pineapple pits, beautiful rose garden, terracotta garden, King's Garden, unusual circular English Poetry Garden, Landscape Water Garden, and Rural Museum. We enjoy a guided tour of the house & tea/coffee and cake whilst here. We also visit the lively seaside resort of Worthing with its flat, wide promenade, eclectic mix of quirky open studios and galleries, and pier.
- Inspired by Baroque palaces of Europe, the 17th Century Petworth House displays one of the finest collections in the care of the National Trust. See the state rooms featuring paintings and sculpture, including artwork by Van Dyck, Turner, Reynolds, and Gainsborough. Petworth House's history has been created by one family over 900 years, with the collection highlighting a journey through history including the Gunpowder Plot and Napoleonic Wars. Collection highlights include the earliest English globe in existence, dating to 1592, and carvings by Grinling Gibbons. The Servant's Quarters, including the historic kitchens, show a glimpse into the life of the people who worked here. Outside, the Pleasure Garden features formal borders, woodland walks, and architectural features, such as the iconic Rotunda. We also visit Midhurst in the heart of the South Downs National Park for a bit of retail therapy and array of places to eat.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 12th May 2025	8 Days	<b>£759</b> pp	NIL	£35	Monday 12th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£95	£29

# Winchester, Austen & **The Watercress Line**

The Hampshire area of the South Downs National Park has a diverse and inspirational landscape with breath-taking views and a rich culture. Escape to the countryside which inspired novelist Jane Austen and delve into the world of this famous writer.

# **Isle of Wight**

Boasting award-winning beaches, unspoilt and spectacular scenery, and a rich, historical heritage, the Isle of Wight has something for everyone to enjoy. Discover picturesque villages, spectacular cliffs, and sandy beaches. Our base is Sandown, a traditional seaside resort with long stretches of beach and a Victorian pier.



# The Norton Park Hotel, Spa & Manor House

Set peacefully among 54 acres of serene Hampshire countryside, The Norton Park Hotel offers a best-of-both-worlds retreat which combines the modern comforts of the contemporary main venue with the quaint historic charm of the separate 16th Century Manor House. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and health club with swimming pool, sauna, and steam room. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, laptop safe, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Journey on the Watercress Line
- Jane Austen's House
- Chawton House
- Sir Harold Hillier Gardens

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We head to Winchester where the morning is free to explore the city. With Iron Age forts, Civil War sites, and a world-famous Cathedral, Winchester certainly boasts an impressive array of historical attractions. The Cathedral boasts the longest medieval nave in Europe and contains numerous ancient monarchs of Wessex and Winchester. This afternoon, we visit Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, an arboretum covering 180 acres and accommodating over 42,000 trees and shrubs - most notably an almost unparalleled collection of oaks, camellia, magnolia, and rhododendron.
- We head to Jane Austen's House, the picturesque cottage where Jane's genius flourished and where she wrote, revised, and had published all her novels, including the timeless Pride and Prejudice. Later, we head to Chawton House, the 'Great House' referred to in Jane Austen's letters. Here, you'll learn how the estate has evolved over the years, was saved from Cromwell's destruction by a toddler, and in the following centuries provided a secure home for Jane Austen in one of its cottages. Discover the many captivating secrets of the 'Great House', spot the superstitious anti-witch marks on the 16th Century fireplace, uncover a message in a bottle from a Victorian squire, search a painting for hidden Regency graffiti, and explore a fascinating collection of women's writing in the library.
- Alresford is our destination today for our return journey on the Watercress Line. Experience the nostalgic sights, sounds and smells of steam as you travel through 10 miles of beautiful Hampshire countryside, adjacent to the South Downs National Park. Alresford station is where the watercress that gave the line its name was sent all over the country by train from the goods platform you can still see behind the signal box. There will also be free time to explore the town with its handsome Georgian colour-washed houses, riverside walks, specialist shops, and fine selection of old-fashioned pubs, smart bistros, and traditional tea rooms.

### **The Trouville Hotel**

Situated centrally on Sandown's seafront, opposite the golden beach, and with views over the sweep of Sandown & Shanklin Bay, is the Trouville Hotel. Well-appointed, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, ballroom, function room, and some entertainment during your stay.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Osborne House & East Cowes
- Alum Bay & The Needles and Yarmouth
- Ventnor Botanic Garden & Shanklin
- Ryde & Bembridge Cream Tea

- We visit Ryde. Paul McCartney recently confirmed what the town already 'knew' .... The Beatles hit Ticket to Ride was inspired by a trip to Ryde made by Macca and John Lennon in the early sixties! It's a fantastic place that combines shopping centres, golden sands, and creative hearts. On our way back to Sandown, we make a stop at Bembridge where we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea.
- 'It is impossible to imagine a prettier spot' said Queen Victoria of Osborne House, her palatial holiday home. Visit Victoria & Albert's private apartments, their bathing beach and children's play cottage for an intimate glimpse of royal family life. Stroll through the garden terraces where the stunning views across the Solent reminded Prince Albert of the Bay of Naples. We also visit East Cowes, home to the oldest and biggest sailing regatta in the world. Stroll through the vibrant town and enjoy independent shops and well-known yachting clothing stores, sit at a pavement café, or have lunch and people watch.
- Ventnor Botanic Garden is a great place to visit. When the sun is shining you can walk the Gardens and enjoy the colourful flowers in bloom. In inclement weather, you can spend time looking at the regular displays and exhibitions taking place in the Garden Gallery or step into the Temperate House. Later, we visit Shanklin which has all the charm of a proper seaside town and set against the dramatic sandstone cliffs, the beach is one of the most stunning walks to take on the island. The Old Village has independent shops, restaurants, and pubs.
- We visit Alum Bay for views of The Needles, one of the most photographed groups of rocks in the world. We continue to Yarmouth with its lovely harbour, ancient church and picturesque pier. There are some great pubs, cafes and restaurants to sit and relax awhile.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 26th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£569</b> pp	NIL	£29	Thursday 5th June 2025	7 Days	<b>£639</b> pp	NIL	£35

# Dorset & A Steam Train Adventure

Escape the hurley burley of modern life and let loose in Dorset – where memories are made! Holidays in Dorset will open your eyes to a county of contrasts, offering the best countryside, coastline, and ancient ruins.

# Sidmouth

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.



# **The Marsham Court Hotel**

The Marsham Court Hotel offers high-quality accommodation in a wonderful location edging the beautiful Dorset coastline and sparkling sea at Bournemouth. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, iron, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and swimming pool.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Return Cruise Poole Harbour to Swanage
- Swanage Railway Swanage to Corfe Castle and Return
- Bucklers Hard with River Cruise
- Salisbury & Shaftesbury
- Lymington & Lyndhurst

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ◆ The highlight of our tour our coach will take us to Poole for our cruise through Poole Harbour, down the Jurassic Coast to the Victorian Pier and town of Swanage. Walk through the beautiful town of Swanage to the train station in time to catch the steam train on the Swanage Railway, taking us through picturesque Purbeck and on to the idyllic village of Corfe. Enjoy a little free time before we take the train back to Swanage, then the boat to Poole Harbour where we re-join our coach.
- We visit Salisbury, the Cathedral City of ageless beauty and captivating history, welcoming travellers since 1227. Gathered around the Cathedral is a modern medieval city, full of buildings crafted with the care of another age. The historic Charter Market takes place every Tuesday in the heart of the bustling Marketplace. Later, we head to Shaftesbury, home to Gold Hill made famous by the 'Hovis' advert.
- Lymington is a colourful coastal town with an ancient seaport and a rich maritime history. Later, we visit Lyndhurst, known as the 'capital of the New Forest'. Along the High Street you will find a variety of independent shops, many offering souvenirs or local crafts.
- On the banks of the Beaulieu River, in the heart of the new Forest, you will find the unspoilt haven of Buckler's Hard which remains untouched by the passage of time. From the wide high street to the woodland trail, explore the peaceful haven of Buckler's Hard Village. Visit the Museum and discover the role Buckler's Hard played in Britain's shipbuilding history and learn about the vessels built here for Nelson's Navy. Step through the door of the shipwright's cottage to see how the shipwright and their family lived in the 18th Century. Weather permitting, we also take a tranquil boat trip down the beautiful Beaulieu River as fascinating commentary reveals its history.



# The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Budleigh Salterton & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Exeter
- Seaton Tramway & Honiton

- We drive through the Otter Valley to Budleigh Salterton, a charming resort, overlooked by high cliffs known as The Floors. Budleigh Salterton remains one of Devon's most unspoilt and charming towns containing many interesting shops and other attractions. We continue to Exmouth – one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise on the River Exe before returning to the hotel.
- We visit Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, with over 64 acres to explore. Spanning nearly 300 years of gardening history, the park is home to many rare and beautiful species, collected from around the world. Later, we continue to Exeter, a small city that packs a big punch! Predating the arrival of the Romans in AD50, Exeter's history is rich and long, and this is reflected is its visitor attractions, which include its unique Underground Passages, free Red Coat Guided Tours, magnificent Cathedral, imposing Roman wall and beautiful Quayside.
- First stop today is the attractive town of Honiton, famous worldwide for its intricate finely crafted bobbin lace, traditionally used in royal items such as Queen Victoria's wedding dress. Almost equally famous, Honiton Pottery with beautiful, stylised designs is no longer made in the town, but collectable pieces can be found in the plethora of antique shops. We continue to Seaton for a ride on the Seaton Tramway. The three-mile route runs through East Devon's glorious Axe Valley between the coastal resort of Seaton, the small village of Colyford and the ancient town of Colyton.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 8th June 2025	8 Days	<b>£839</b> pp	NIL	£35	Sunday 15th June 2025	6 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	NIL	£35

# Isle of Wight – The Diamond Isle

Situated just 4 miles from the mainland across the Solent, the Isle of Wight is often described as 'The Garden Isle', the wonderful scenery and attractive resorts make it the perfect place for a relaxing holiday. Enjoying an unreasonable amount of warmth and sunshine, more than half the Isle of Wight has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with 50% of the coastline honoured by the title 'Heritage Coast', an award only given to the finest beaches in the country. Queen Victoria fell in love with the Island and after her first visit to Osborne House pronounced: 'It is impossible to find a prettier spot'.

# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.



# **The Channel View Hotel**

The Channel View Hotel overlooks Shanklin Bay and offers a warm welcome, good service, and tasty food. Hotel facilities include a lift to most floors, restaurant, bar, some evening entertainment, indoor swimming pool and sauna. All En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Needles
- Isle of Wight Steam Railway
- Picturesque Godshill Village
- Osborne House- Queen Victoria's Summer Retreat
- Entertainment on One Evening

### EXCURSIONS INCLUDED

- We travel to Godshill, one of the most photographed and prettiest villages on the island. There are plenty of cafes, pubs, tearooms, and many beautiful sights. Later, we visit the 'capital' of the Isle of Wight, Newport. This historic town centres on two elegant squares with Georgian and Victorian architecture surrounding them.
- First stop today is Cowes, best known as the world's premier yachting centre and the island's main port with a natural harbour. From here, we travel to Osborne House, Queen Victoria's palace by the sea. Osborne was built as a family home and as you walk through the Queen's bedroom, the nursery rooms, and even royal bathrooms, you get an intimate glimpse into royal family life. There are acres of grounds and gardens to relax in, horse and carriage rides to take, and a delightful restaurant and café.
- Experience the Isle of Wight Steam Railway on a return journey through pretty countryside. Step back to a bygone era when steam was the order of the day, thrill to the sight and sound of powerful majestic steam engines and breathe in the evocative smells of a real steam railway. Later, we visit the seaside resort of Ryde with time for lunch and to explore.
- Enjoy a scenic drive across the island to Yarmouth, an historic port town which sits at the mouth of the River Yar and is home to some of the oldest architecture on the Isle of Wight, including a 16th Century castle. Later, we visit The Needles, one of the Isle of Wight's most iconic sights with chalk stacks leading out to sea and the lighthouse.

## The Derwent Hotel

Situated close to the seafront, The Derwent Hotel offers easy access to the town centre via the promenade. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. As part of the Torquay Leisure Hotel Group, guests at The Derwent can take advantage of a range of leisure facilities. The hotel has a lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dartmouth, Cruise & Totnes
- Exmouth & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Topsham
- Brixham & Paignton Cream Tea
- 2 x Free Days in Torquay

- Dartmouth is a beautiful historic town situated on the west bank of the stunning River Dart in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Whilst here, we enjoy a circular cruise, sailing the lower part of the River Dart viewing the castles at the estuary, Britannia Royal Naval College, and towards Agatha Christie's Greenway Estate. We also visit Totnes, dating back to 970AD, a unique and charming town with an excellent range of small independent shops and many historic buildings lining the streets.
- Exmouth is one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. We include a cruise on the River Exe, during which our skipper will give a live commentary on the history of the area, the beautiful sights and the resident and visiting wildlife.
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens are set over 64 acres to explore and is home to many rare and beautiful species collected from around the world. Later, we visit the quaint historic estuary port of Topsham, with its cosmopolitan atmosphere and eclectic cluster of specialist shops and fine restaurants.
- ♦ Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! On our way back to Torquay, we make a stop at Paignton for a delicious Cream Tea at the Palace Hotel.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Saturday 21st June 2025	8 Days	<b>£899</b> pp	NIL	£35	Sunday 22nd June 2025	8 Days	<b>£619</b> pp	NIL	£35

# The Isles of Scilly

Just 28 miles off the Cornish Coast, the Isles of Scilly are a unique, sub-tropical haven for a variety of wildlife and our itinerary allows plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

The Isles of Scilly are outstandingly beautiful and unspoilt. Consequently, you will find that the destination does not offer the same facilities as on the mainland, such as large supermarkets and banks, and guests will need a level of mobility to access the ferry and enjoy the islands. Guests will need to appreciate that they will encounter gradients and rough terrain.



# Overnight Hotel Holiday Inn Express Bodmin

A modern hotel, ideal for our overnight stays to & from our tour.

# **The Bell Rock Hotel**

This small hotel has been welcoming guests for over 100 years and is situated in Hugh Town, the capital of St. Mary's. It has a relaxed, informal atmosphere and enjoys a high level of repeat business thanks to the personal, attentive service. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

This is a historical building built over 100 years ago with eight steps leading into the entrance of the hotel. Due to its age, guests will encounter steps throughout, including the few ground floor bedrooms and access to the bar and restaurant. The hotel does have a limited number of rooms with a separate step-in shower, which would be on a request basis, but again, gaining access to these rooms will involve steps. We do arrange transfers for luggage to and from the hotel, however, please do bear in mind that the coach does not travel with us to the Island and the harbour is approximately 10 minutes' walk from the hotel.



# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Full Escorted by an Experienced Tour Guided
- Overnight Accommodation
- Return Ferry Crossings
- Return Crossings to Tresco & Admission to Abbey Gardens

- We travel to Bodmin for dinner and our overnight stay.
- After breakfast, we travel to Penzance for the morning sailing to St Mary's. The Bell Rock is just a few minutes' walk from St Mary's Harbour. A luggage transfer will be provided by a local operator.
- St Mary's is the largest of the Isles of Scillies islands with 1,800 inhabitants. We have included a gentle introductory tour the route we have chosen is fairly easy but there is a steep hill at the start of it, and there is a bit of uneven walking as you go round the Garrison. We take it nice and slowly, as there is no rush, and make stops to look at things along the way. The rest of the day is free to explore Hugh Town, the Island's capital. It is situated between two beaches and is home to a variety of shops, art and craft galleries and restaurants.
- Today, we hop across the tiny archipelago to further explore this glorious destination. Included is a boat trip to the island of Tresco and admission to the gem that is Tresco Abbey Gardens. With a population of just 152 people in the 2021 census, Tresco's main inhabitants are the migratory birds who make The Great Pool their home in the Summer. The glorious 19th Century Garden, home to 20,000 plants from more than 80 countries is built around the ruins of a Benedictine Abbey.
- A day at leisure to enjoy the nature trails and coastal paths of St Mary's or further enjoying the hotel's pool and St Mary's beaches.
- Sadly, it is time to leave the tranquillity of the island and return to the mainland on the afternoon ferry back to Penzance. We re-join our coach for the journey to Bodmin and our overnight hotel. A light supper of soup & sandwiches will be served on our arrival.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Wednesday 25th June 2025	7 Days	<b>£1999</b> pp	£39	£35

# **Cornish Delights**

Cornwall is in the far west of Great Britain on a peninsula tumbling into the vast Atlantic Ocean, almost completely surrounded by the sea. Cornwall is loved for its dramatic coastline, captivating fishing harbours, and of course, its pasties and cream teas!

# Sidmouth

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.



# The Rosemundy House Hotel

This elegant hotel is set in over 4 acres of secluded gardens and woodlands, and yet only 100 yards from the main street in the quaint village of St Agnes. The Queen Ann style hotel is family run and has been tastefully extended and converted. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, lounge, bar, and some evening entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Falmouth
- St Ives & Porthleven
- Lost Gardens of Heligan & Mevagissey
- Looe & Polperro
- Free Day in St Agnes

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- St Ives the dazzling jewel in Cornwall's crown is a picturesque fishing harbour and seaside town. Wander through the maze of narrow cobbled streets, independent shops, and fishermen's cottages in the heart of St Ives. St Ives has been attracting artists for decades and is a seemingly subtropical oasis where the beaches are golden, the vegetation is lush and the light piercingly bright. Later, we visit Porthleven, the most southerly working port in the UK, boasting a picturesque harbour, with some interesting old buildings. Porthleven retains the character of an unspoilt fishing village with its granite harbour and pier, and famous clock tower.
- Falmouth is based around a thriving harbour and is the gateway to the beautiful Fal River. Falmouth's maritime heritage and coastal culture is a huge part of its charm. The bustling town centre has a wide range of shops and some superb cafes and restaurants with access to top quality, fresh, local produce.
- Looe is a picturesque fishing harbour, famous for its day-caught fish and wide, sandy beach. Looe has a rich history with the famous bridge that joins the East and West towns, and hidden treasures including beautiful woodland, and cobbled streets lined with independent boutiques and delicious restaurants. Later, we visit Polperro, with narrow winding streets and lanes with great views of the picturesque harbour and village at every turn. Browse the eclectic mixture of quirky and fascinating shops, and enjoy the selection of great pubs, cafes, and restaurants.
- At the Lost Gardens of Heligan, discover 200-acres of garden history, mystery & romance. Years ago, Heligan's historic gardens were unknown and unseen, lost under a tangle of weeds. It was only the chance discovery of a door in the ruins that led to the restoration of this once great estate. We also visit Mevagissey, a distinct twin harbour town, where pubs, cafes, galleries, and shops cluster around the harbour walls and line the pretty streets in a typical, picturepostcard style.



# The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Budleigh Salterton & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Exeter
- Seaton Tramway & Honiton

- We drive through the Otter Valley to Budleigh Salterton, a charming resort, overlooked by high cliffs known as The Floors. Budleigh Salterton remains one of Devon's most unspoilt and charming towns containing many interesting shops and other attractions. We continue to Exmouth – one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise on the River Exe before returning to the hotel.
- We visit Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, with over 64 acres to explore. Spanning nearly 300 years of gardening history, the park is home to many rare and beautiful species, collected from around the world. Later, we continue to Exeter, a small city that packs a big punch! Predating the arrival of the Romans in AD50, Exeter's history is rich and long, and this is reflected is its visitor attractions, which include its unique Underground Passages, free Red Coat Guided Tours, magnificent Cathedral, imposing Roman wall and beautiful Quayside.
- First stop today is the attractive town of Honiton, famous worldwide for its intricate finely crafted bobbin lace, traditionally used in royal items such as Queen Victoria's wedding dress. Almost equally famous, Honiton Pottery with beautiful, stylised designs is no longer made in the town, but collectable pieces can be found in the plethora of antique shops. We continue to Seaton for a ride on the Seaton Tramway. The three-mile route runs through East Devon's glorious Axe Valley between the coastal resort of Seaton, the small village of Colyford and the ancient town of Colyton.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Wednesday 9th July 2025	7 Days	<b>£689</b> pp	NIL	£35	Friday 18th July 2025	6 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	NIL	£35

# **Delightful North Devon**

North Devon & Exmoor is full of charming market towns and quaint villages, with Barnstaple being the oldest and largest town in the region. Our base of Ilfracombe has a reputation as the culinary and cultural hub of North Devon. Not just a haven for foodies, the town is home to a host of famous attractions.

# Dorset & A Steam Train Adventure

Escape the hurley burley of modern life and let loose in Dorset – where memories are made! Holidays in Dorset will open your eyes to a county of contrasts, offering the best countryside, coastline, and ancient ruins.



# **The Dilkhusa Grand Hotel**

Dilkhusa Grand Hotel takes pride in providing a comfortable and memorable stay. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- RHS Garden Rosemoor & Barnstaple
- Lynton & Barnstaple Railway

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Barnstaple is a wonderful town featuring a range of great bars, restaurants, and high street shops. Alongside the Pannier Market, you'll find Butcher's Row, a terrace of 10 shops under an iron roof, the name comes from the fact that it used to only house butchers, but these days you'll find a whole host of interesting independent stores. Later, we travel to RHS Garden Rosemoor. As a visitor you will experience the newest areas first, beginning with the multi-faceted Formal Garden and then the Stream Field and Lake to the north. These in turn lead towards the Southwest and Devon Orchards and the very popular Fruit & Vegetable Garden. Walking through the Underpass you discover the contrasting original garden of Lady Anne Berry, which consists of many garden 'rooms' that blend seamlessly into one. Rosemoor is an enchanting place to visit and blends formal and informal planting to magical effect. The garden has expanded over the years and there are now more than 65 acres of garden to explore.
- The Lynton & Barnstaple Railway is the only steam railway in the UK where passengers travel in Victorian railway carriages designed in the 1890's. We enjoy a 2-mile return journey through rolling countryside with views out to wild moorland and the rugged coastline. Later, we visit Lynton. Find great cafes, restaurants and shops in Queen Street & Market Street. They're tucked away in the winding streets of Lynton's Old Town. These charming old streets are hiding some wonderful secrets pubs with beer gardens, cafes with outdoor seating, local shops and artisan treats, and even a gym & a library!

# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Return Cruise Poole Harbour to Swanage
   Swanage Railway Swanage to Corfe Castle and Return
- Bucklers Hard with River Cruise
- Salisbury & Shaftesbury
- Lymington & Lyndhurst

- The highlight of our tour our coach will take us to Poole for our cruise through Poole Harbour, down the Jurassic Coast to the Victorian Pier and town of Swanage. Walk through the beautiful town of Swanage to the train station in time to catch the steam train on the Swanage Railway, taking us through picturesque Purbeck and on to the idyllic village of Corfe. Enjoy a little free time before we take the train back to Swanage, then the boat to Poole Harbour where we re-join our coach.
- We visit Salisbury, the Cathedral City of ageless beauty and captivating history, welcoming travellers since 1227. Gathered around the Cathedral is a modern medieval city, full of buildings crafted with the care of another age. The historic Charter Market takes place every Tuesday in the heart of the bustling Marketplace. Later, we head to Shaftesbury, home to Gold Hill made famous by the 'Hovis' advert.
- Lymington is a colourful coastal town with an ancient seaport and a rich maritime history. Later, we visit Lyndhurst, known as the 'capital of the New Forest'. Along the High Street you will find a variety of independent shops, many offering souvenirs or local crafts.
- On the banks of the Beaulieu River, in the heart of the new Forest, you will find the unspoilt haven of Buckler's Hard which remains untouched by the passage of time. From the wide high street to the woodland trail, explore the peaceful haven of Buckler's Hard Village. Visit the Museum and discover the role Buckler's Hard played in Britain's shipbuilding history and learn about the vessels built here for Nelson's Navy. Step through the door of the shipwright's cottage to see how the shipwright and their family lived in the 18th Century. Weather permitting, we also take a tranquil boat trip down the beautiful Beaulieu River as fascinating commentary reveals its history.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 21st July 2025	5 Days	<b>£429</b> pp	£60	£29	Friday 1st August 2025	8 Days	<b>£869</b> pp	NIL	£35

# A Week on the English Riviera

The warmest of welcomes awaits you on the English Riviera, South Devon's beautiful coastline. One of the brightest jewels in the English Riviera's crown, you are met in Paignton with the welcoming sights of its long stretch of beautiful and easily accessible beachfront and traditional pier.



# The Queens Hotel

Part of the prestigious Duchy Hotels Group, the comfortable family-run Queens Hotel stands around 200 yards from Paignton's seafront, an ideal base for this tour. The hotel has a lift, fine restaurant, cosy lounge, and heated indoor swimming pool. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.





# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Dartmouth Steam Railway
- Kingswear Ferry
- River Dart Cruise
- Buckfast Abbey
- Entertainment Most Evenings

- We travel to nearby Torquay where the day is at leisure to explore. With its iconic palm trees, busy harbour, international marina, sandy beach, and wonderful array of continental style cafés, restaurants, and cocktail bars, you're sure to find something to suite every taste and budget.
- A superb day out with a 'Steam & Cruise' theme. In Paignton, we join the Dartmouth Steam Railway for a delightful and nostalgic ride along the coast and across the scenic Dart Valley to Kingswear. Here, we take the ferry across the harbour to historic Dartmouth. There will be a little time for lunch before we enjoy a 1-hour cruise along the beautiful River Dart before taking the ferry to Kingswear and join the train for the ride back to Paignton.
- Today, we visit the historic maritime city of Plymouth. The city has a great naval history, stretching back to the time of Sir Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada to today's ultra-modern navy dockyards. Explore the Hoe, see the famous Mayflower Steps, visit the town centre, and enjoy some lunch.
- ♦ We journey to Buckfast Abbey, home to a community of Roman Catholic Benedictine Monks who live their lives of prayer, work, and study according to the ancient rule of St Benedict. We take in the peaceful atmosphere and explore the beautiful abbey church and tranquil gardens. Later, we enjoy a scenic drive through the beautiful Dartmoor National Park. Keep an eye out for the wild Dartmoor ponies as we make our way to Tavistock, the historic market town and birthplace of Sir Francis Drake. We return across Dartmoor, and time permitting, we make a stop in Princetown, a tiny moorland outpost, home to the infamous Dartmoor Prison and the Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centre.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 15th August 2025	8 Days	<b>£819</b> pp	NIL	£35

# Isle of Wight

Boasting award-winning beaches, unspoilt and spectacular scenery, and a rich, historical heritage, the Isle of Wight has something for everyone to enjoy. Discover picturesque villages, spectacular cliffs, and sandy beaches. Our base is Sandown, a traditional seaside resort with long stretches of beach and a Victorian pier.

# Wells, Bristol & Delights of Dorset

Wells in Somerset has an historic centre, magnificent Cathedral and unique moated Bishop's Palace. Be inspired by the locally sourced cuisine offered by unique cafes and cosy pubs or browse a wonderful range of independent shops positioned in and around its historic High Street.



# **The Trouville Hotel**

Situated centrally on Sandown's seafront, opposite the golden beach, and with views over the sweep of Sandown & Shanklin Bay, is the Trouville Hotel. Well-appointed, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, ballroom, function room, and some entertainment during your stay.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Osborne House & East Cowes
- Alum Bay & The Needles and Yarmouth
- Ventnor Botanic Garden & Shanklin
- Ryde & Bembridge Cream Tea

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We visit Ryde. Paul McCartney recently confirmed what the town already 'knew' .... The Beatles hit Ticket to Ride was inspired by a trip to Ryde made by Macca and John Lennon in the early sixties! It's a fantastic place that combines shopping centres, golden sands, and creative hearts. On our way back to Sandown, we make a stop at Bembridge where we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea.
- It is impossible to imagine a prettier spot' said Queen Victoria of Osborne House, her palatial holiday home. Visit Victoria & Albert's private apartments, their bathing beach and children's play cottage for an intimate glimpse of royal family life. Stroll through the garden terraces where the stunning views across the Solent reminded Prince Albert of the Bay of Naples. We also visit East Cowes, home to the oldest and biggest sailing regatta in the world. Stroll through the vibrant town and enjoy independent shops and well-known yachting clothing stores, sit at a pavement café, or have lunch and people watch.
- Ventnor Botanic Garden is a great place to visit. When the sun is shining you can walk the Gardens and enjoy the colourful flowers in bloom. In inclement weather, you can spend time looking at the regular displays and exhibitions taking place in the Garden Gallery or step into the Temperate House. Later, we visit Shanklin which has all the charm of a proper seaside town and set against the dramatic sandstone cliffs, the beach is one of the most stunning walks to take on the island. The Old Village has independent shops, restaurants, and pubs.
- We visit Alum Bay for views of The Needles, one of the most photographed groups of rocks in the world. We continue to Yarmouth with its lovely harbour, ancient church and picturesque pier. There are some great pubs, cafes and restaurants to sit and relax awhile.



# **The Swan Hotel**

The Swan Hotel is centrally located in the Somerset city of Wells, directly opposite the Cathedral. An historic hotel with some parts dating back to 1422. Over the years, the hotel has been sympathetically refurbished and extended, offering modern amenities in a beautiful setting. All bedrooms are furnished in an elegant, traditional style and feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. Owing to the historic nature of the hotel, there is no lift. There is an outside terrace that offers unrestricted panoramic views over Cathedral Green and Wells Cathedral.

# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- City Centre Hotel
- Bristol's Harbourside with Harbour Cruise
- Sherborne & Shaftesbury

- Bristol City's Harbourside was once a run-down docks area but has been transformed into a world-class venue with many attractions. Stroll around the water's edge and you will find Millennium Square acting as a fantastic central hub, with its fountains and big screen, as well as world-class attractions such as SS Great Britain, We the Curious, Bristol Aquarium and M Shed. You can even see a couple of Banksy artworks around the harbourside, including The Girl with the Pierced Eardrum by Bristol Marina or The Grim Reaper on display at M Shed. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise around the fascinating harbour and have time for lunch. The afternoon is free to explore the city and maybe enjoy some retail therapy.
- We have a free day to explore our base of Wells. Perhaps visit the historic cathedral opposite our hotel, famous for being one of the first Gothic-styled cathedrals in Britain and home to a large collection of stained glass. Take a stroll down Vicar's Close, believed to be England's only complete Medieval Street left intact. There is also the Bishop's Palace and Gardens, home to the Bishops of Bath and Wells for over 800 years.
- Sherborne is without doubt one of England's most beautiful towns with an abundance of medieval buildings, a superb Abbey, Almshouse, and two castles to explore. Later, we visit Shaftesbury, an ancient hilltop town famous as the home of the cobbled Gold Hill, featured in the Hovis adverts.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 15th August 2025	7 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	NIL	£35	Monday 1st September 2025	5 Days	<b>£619</b> pp	£120	£29

# **Cornish Delights**

Cornwall is in the far west of Great Britain on a peninsula tumbling into the vast Atlantic Ocean, almost completely surrounded by the sea. Cornwall is loved for its dramatic coastline, captivating fishing harbours, and of course, its pasties and cream teas!

# **Delightful North Devon**

North Devon & Exmoor is full of charming market towns and quaint villages, with Barnstaple being the oldest and largest town in the region. Our base of Ilfracombe has a reputation as the culinary and cultural hub of North Devon. Not just a haven for foodies, the town is home to a host of famous attractions.



# **The Rosemundy House Hotel**

This elegant hotel is set in over 4 acres of secluded gardens and woodlands, and yet only 100 yards from the main street in the quaint village of St Agnes. The Queen Ann style hotel is family run and has been tastefully extended and converted. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, lounge, bar, and some evening entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Lost Gardens of Heligan & Mevagissey
- Looe & Polperro
- Eden Project

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- St Ives the dazzling jewel in Cornwall's crown is a picturesque fishing harbour and seaside town. Wander through the maze of narrow cobbled streets, independent shops, and fishermen's cottages in the heart of St Ives. Later, we visit Porthleven, the most southerly working port in the UK, boasting a picturesque harbour, with some interesting old buildings. Porthleven retains the character of an unspoilt fishing village with its granite harbour and pier, and famous clock tower.
- Falmouth is based around a thriving harbour and is the gateway to the beautiful Fal River. Falmouth's maritime heritage and coastal culture is a huge part of its charm. The bustling town centre has a wide range of shops and some superb cafes and restaurants with access to top quality, fresh, local produce.
- Looe is a picturesque fishing harbour, famous for its day-caught fish and wide, sandy beach. Looe has a rich history with the famous bridge that joins the East and West towns, and hidden treasures including beautiful woodland, and cobbled streets lined with independent boutiques and delicious restaurants. Later, we visit Polperro, with narrow winding streets and lanes with great views of the picturesque harbour and village at every turn.
- At the Lost Gardens of Heligan, discover 200-acres of garden history, mystery & romance. We also visit Mevagissey, a distinct twin harbour town, where pubs, cafes, galleries, and shops cluster around the harbour walls and line the pretty streets in a typical, picture-postcard style.
- Eden Project is a feast for the senses that can be experienced in many different ways. Explore the Biomes – Rainforest and Mediterranean – and stroll through the vast outdoor gardens, home to over 20 plantbased exhibits, colourful seasonal borders, and art installations.



# **The Dilkhusa Grand Hotel**

Dilkhusa Grand Hotel takes pride in providing a comfortable and memorable stay. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- RHS Garden Rosemoor & Barnstaple
- Lynton & Barnstaple Railway

- Barnstaple is a wonderful town featuring a range of great bars, restaurants, and high street shops. Alongside the Pannier Market, you'll find Butcher's Row, a terrace of 10 shops under an iron roof, the name comes from the fact that it used to only house butchers, but these days you'll find a whole host of interesting independent stores. Later, we travel to RHS Garden Rosemoor. As a visitor you will experience the newest areas first, beginning with the multi-faceted Formal Garden and then the Stream Field and Lake to the north. These in turn lead towards the Southwest and Devon Orchards and the very popular Fruit & Vegetable Garden. Walking through the Underpass you discover the contrasting original garden of Lady Anne Berry, which consists of many garden 'rooms' that blend seamlessly into one. Rosemoor is an enchanting place to visit and blends formal and informal planting to magical effect. The garden has expanded over the years and there are now more than 65 acres of garden to explore.
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DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Saturday 6th September 2025	8 Days	<b>£799</b> pp	NIL	£35	Monday 15th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£439</b> pp	£60	£29

# Sidmouth

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.

# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.



# The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Budleigh Salterton & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Exeter
- Seaton Tramway & Honiton

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We drive through the Otter Valley to Budleigh Salterton, a charming resort, overlooked by high cliffs known as The Floors. Budleigh Salterton remains one of Devon's most unspoilt and charming towns containing many interesting shops and other attractions. We continue to Exmouth – one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise on the River Exe before returning to the hotel.
- We visit Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, with over 64 acres to explore. Spanning nearly 300 years of gardening history, the park is home to many rare and beautiful species, collected from around the world. Later, we continue to Exeter, a small city that packs a big punch! Predating the arrival of the Romans in AD50, Exeter's history is rich and long, and this is reflected is its visitor attractions, which include its unique Underground Passages, free Red Coat Guided Tours, magnificent Cathedral, imposing Roman wall and beautiful Quayside.
- First stop today is the attractive town of Honiton, famous worldwide for its intricate finely crafted bobbin lace, traditionally used in royal items such as Queen Victoria's wedding dress. Almost equally famous, Honiton Pottery with beautiful, stylised designs is no longer made in the town, but collectable pieces can be found in the plethora of antique shops. We continue to Seaton for a ride on the Seaton Tramway. The three-mile route runs through East Devon's glorious Axe Valley between the coastal resort of Seaton, the small village of Colyford and the ancient town of Colyton.

An elegant hotel, the Headland sits majestically on the headland, looking out to sea, with 2 acres of lovely grounds and stunning views across Torbay. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift to most floors, a lounge, bar, restaurant, and entertainment. The Headland Hotel offers a complimentary 'taxi' service into town on your free day.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dartmouth, Cruise & Totnes
- Exmouth & River Exe Cruise
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens & Topsham
- Brixham & Paignton Cream Tea
- 2 x Free Days in Torquay

- Dartmouth is a beautiful historic town situated on the west bank of the stunning River Dart in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Whilst here, we enjoy a circular cruise, sailing the lower part of the River Dart viewing the castles at the estuary, Britannia Royal Naval College, and towards Agatha Christie's Greenway Estate. We also visit Totnes, dating back to 970AD, a unique and charming town with an excellent range of small independent shops and many historic buildings lining the streets.
- Exmouth is one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. We include a cruise on the River Exe, during which our skipper will give a live commentary on the history of the area, the beautiful sights and the resident and visiting wildlife.
- Bicton Park Botanical Gardens are set over 64 acres to explore and is home to many rare and beautiful species collected from around the world. Later, we visit the quaint historic estuary port of Topsham, with its cosmopolitan atmosphere and eclectic cluster of specialist shops and fine restaurants.
- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! On our way back to Torquay, we make a stop at Paignton for a delicious Cream Tea at the Palace Hotel.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 19th September 2025	6 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	NIL	£35	Monday 22nd September 2025	8 Days	<b>£829</b> pp	NIL	£35

# The Isle of Portland & Dorset

Portland is a part of Dorset like no other; wild, natural and ruggedly beautiful. This unique, tied island marks the southernmost point on the Jurassic Coast and is joined to the mainland by Chesil Beach. Its isolated location, quaint villages, and rocky, coastal scenery give the island its own special atmosphere.

# Bournemouth

With seven miles of golden sands and sparkling sea, the vibrant cosmopolitan town of Bournemouth has it all – a vast variety of shops and restaurants, endless countryside offering peace and relaxation, and beautiful, award-winning gardens.



# **The Heights Hotel**

The Heights Hotel is set at the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage Coastline on the summit of the Isle of Portland, Dorset. There are stunning panoramic views over Chesil Beach, Lyme Bay and Portland Harbour from the Bar & Bistro. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, radio, and tea/coffee making facilities.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Weymouth & 'Portland Bill'
- Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens & West Bay
- Durdle Door & Lulworth Cove
- Tank Museum with Cream Tea

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We stop at 'Portland Bill' Lighthouse Visitor Centre. The former lighthouse keepers' dwellings feature fun and informative maritime displays and interactives. The rest of the day is at leisure in nearby Weymouth, with its beautiful golden beaches and a pretty harbour. The world was introduced to the Georgian grandeur of Weymouth during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Weymouth's fine seafront provided an impressive backdrop to the sailing events and captured the hearts of many.
- Start the day with a visit to Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens a mixture of formal and informal flowers, world-famous for its Camellia groves and magnolias. It is also noted in Dorset for its Rhododendron and Hydrangea collections and the charming Victorian Garden. Later, we visit West Bay, 'Broadchurch' in the TV drama. With delightful beaches and a wonderful selection of places to eat around the Harbour, West Bay is a favourite destination for visitors.
- We take in the famous Jurassic Coast with a visit to East and West Lulworth, where the scenery is stunning, boasting some of the most dramatic geological features including Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door. Later, we enjoy an unforgettable visit at the world's most historically significant collection of armoured vehicles. The museum houses 300 military machines, representing the key battles of every major conflict since the First World War. The awe-inspiring exhibitions tell the story of this British invention; from the mud of the Somme to the beaches of Normandy and the deserts of Iraq – featuring powerful stories from the people that fought in them.

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# **The Marsham Court Hotel**

The Marsham Court Hotel offers high-quality accommodation in a wonderful location edging the beautiful Dorset coastline and sparkling sea at Bournemouth. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, iron, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and swimming pool.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Salisbury & Shaftesbury
- Exbury Gardens & Lymington

- More than 100 years in the making, Exbury Gardens & Steam Railway is a spectacular collection of landscaped woodland, herbaceous, contemporary, formal and wildflower gardens, in a unique riverside location. Experience the sights and sounds of a working narrowgauge steam railway as our journey takes us through a tunnel, over a bridge, round the Dragonfly Pond, and round the Summer Lane Garden. Later, we visit the historic town of Lymington, with its Georgian and Victorian architecture, and pretty, cobbled streets in the old town leading down to the Quay.
- We visit Salisbury, the Cathedral City of ageless beauty and captivating history, welcoming travellers since 1227. Gathered around the Cathedral is a modern medieval city, full of buildings crafted with the care of another age. The historic Charter Market takes place every Tuesday in the heart of bustling Marketplace. Later, we head to Shaftesbury, home to Gold Hill made famous by the 'Hovis' advert.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 5th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£140	£29	Monday 6th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£449</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Isle of Wight

Boasting award-winning beaches, unspoilt and spectacular scenery, and a rich, historical heritage, the Isle of Wight has something for everyone to enjoy. Discover picturesque villages, spectacular cliffs, and sandy beaches. Our base is Sandown, a traditional seaside resort with long stretches of beach and a Victorian pier.

# Torquay & The English Riviera

An award-winning resort where elegant Victorian villas, a bustling harbour, and palm-fringed beaches give the Riviera its well-earned name.

# Visited Wignace The Trouville Hotel

Situated centrally on Sandown's seafront, opposite the golden beach, and with views over the sweep of Sandown & Shanklin Bay, is the Trouville Hotel. Well-appointed, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, ballroom, function room, and some entertainment during your stay.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Ryde & East Cowes
- Godshill, Alum Bay & The Needles



# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We visit Ryde. Paul McCartney recently confirmed what the town already 'knew' .... The Beatles hit Ticket to Ride was inspired by a trip to Ryde made by Macca and John Lennon in the early sixties! It's a fantastic place that combines shopping centres, golden sands, and creative hearts. We also visit East Cowes, home to the oldest and biggest sailing regatta in the world. Stroll through the vibrant town and enjoy independent shops and well-known yachting clothing stores, sit at a pavement café, or have lunch and people watch.
- Godshill is the quintessential English village and boasts some of the oldest architecture on the Isle of Wight. With its delightful medieval church and main street lined with traditional tea rooms, Godshill is as picturesque as it is popular. We also visit Alum Bay for views of The Needles, one of the most photographed groups of rocks in the world.

# **Belgrave Sands Hotel**

The Belgrave Sands has been totally transformed from top to bottom into a modern hotel with all new fixtures and fittings. En-suite bedrooms have a light and airy feel and all feature TV, mini-fridge, fresh milk, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel offers a fine-dining experience followed by entertainment. The hotel has a lift, bar, lounge, indoor swimming pool, sauna, and steam room.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Brixham & Dartmouth
- Teignmouth & Dawlish

- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town, but it isn't just about fishing. It is still one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK and is a working town, but it is also a place where you can discover a range of arts and culture, excellent local food, and some unique attractions - from the life-size pirate ship museum, the Golden Hind, that sits in the middle of the harbour, to the stunning views from the old Napoleon fort at Berry Head. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map and the Leaning Tower of Pisa? With over 10 beautiful and huge murals to find throughout the town, it will keep you busy! We also visit the beautiful town of Dartmouth situated on the banks of the picturesque River Dart. There's an eclectic mix of specialist shops in a charming and historic setting.
- Teignmouth, where the river beach is full of boats, has a charming atmosphere making it the perfect spot for a gentle stroll. Teignmouth has several beautiful Georgian style buildings, and the high street is lovely for a spot of retail therapy. We also visit Dawlish, a traditional seaside town with a wonderful golden sands beach on its doorstep.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 20th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£409</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 20th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£439</b> pp	NIL	£29

# South East England

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# Eastbourne

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# **The Haddon Hall Hotel**

The Haddon Hall Hotel is enviably situated at the seafront end of Devonshire Place, a broad tree—lined avenue which links the main promenade with the town centre. The Bandstand is located across the road from the hotel. Well-furnished, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, spacious lounge, ballroom, cocktail bar, and some entertainment.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Battle & Rye
- Bluebell Railway & Lewes

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Battle is the site of the most famous battle in English history. The beautiful town is built around the abbey, which was erected on the site of the battle in 1066. Later, we visit the Cinque Port of Rye, a medieval citadel huddled against invaders and the sea, with cobbled streets, historical buildings, and lovely independent shops. The town of Rye was, in its past, involved with smuggling, was a shipyard and dockyard, and was once an island! The Mermaid Inn was built in 1156 and is thought to be connected by a secret passageway to the Olde Bell Inn.
- Step back into history and experience the magic of vintage steam trains on the Bluebell Railway. Nestled in the heart of the Sussex countryside this hidden gem is filled with treasures to fascinate both enthusiasts and the curious. We join at Sheffield Park Station with time to visit the Museum, Engine Shed, Steamworks!, and Gift Shop, before our journey to East Grinstead. We travel through 11 miles of glorious Sussex scenery behind a steam engine, passing stations preserved in different periods of history, including Victorian, 1930's, and 1950's. We re-join our coach and travel to Lewes, a small town with a big heart. Lewes is a great place to shop with many independent, antique, and quirky shops. It's also the perfect place to stop for a bite to eat in one of the historic pubs.



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# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- 'Must See' Village of Alfriston
- Battle & Rye
- Bluebell Railway & Lewes
- Hever Castle

- We visit the 'must see' village of Alfriston, on the banks of the Cuckmere River, at the foot of the beautiful South Downs. There is much to admire – the medieval narrow, twisting high street has a surprising wealth and variety of shops. We also visit vibrant, colourful & creative Brighton, with its Pier, Royal Pavilion, and The Lanes – with narrow alleyways, hidden squares and eclectic shops.
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DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 16th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£419</b> pp	NIL	£29	Saturday 7th June 2025	8 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	NIL	£35

# The Cream of the Crop – Seaside Southend

Combine the seaside charms of Southend-on-Sea with the history and natural beauty of Essex on this tour. Staying at Southend's seafront Park Inn by Radisson Palace, we enjoy free time in this beloved resort, home to the world's longest pleasure pier, plus memorable seaside trips. Stroll around RHS Garden Hyde Hall, taste wines at Clayhill Vineyard, visit the Tiptree Visitor Centre, and delve into Colchester's Roman roots.



# The Park Inn by Radisson Palace Hotel

Occupying a prime position just above Southend-on-Sea promenade and commanding fabulous seafront views, the Park in by Radisson Palace is perfectly positioned for enjoying this vibrant seaside resort. Just a stroll from famous Southend Pier, the world's longest pleasure pier, and the beach, seafront amusement park and Sea Life Adventure, the hotel has much to keep guests happy. The stately-looking exterior opens to a modern and glossy lobby, together with a welcoming, open-plan restaurant-bar. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, safe, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.



# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- RHS Garden Hyde Hall with Cream Tea
- Tour & Tasting at Clayhill Vineyard
- Tiptree Shop & Jam Museum

- We visit RHS Garden Hyde Hall. Regarded as one of East England's finest gardens, this glorious creation delights visitors with everything from a magnificent, drought-resistant Dry Garden and ornamental Hilltop Garden to meadows, woodlands, and ponds, all of which are free to explore before savouring a delicious Cream Tea. Later, we travel to the Clayhill Vineyard for a Tour and Tasting. Overlook the River Crouch, this picturesque winery produces excellent wines which we can sample after strolling around its lush vines and winemaking facilities.
- Enjoy a morning free in Colchester, Britain's first city and England's first Roman capital, which boasts a 2,000-year history. Perhaps explore Colchester Castle and its Castle Museum, which houses stunning Roman finds, or explore the Roman ruins, Firstsite art gallery, and shops. Later, we visit Tiptree Visitor Centre and Tearoom. The Wilkin family have been farming at Tiptree since 1757 and making quality preserves and spreads there since 1885. They grow a wide range of traditional English fruits and use them to make conserves, condiments, and other treats in the factory by the farm.
- We have a day at leisure in Southend-on-Sea, allowing us to either simply relax and enjoy the facilities at the Park Inn Hotel or take in the many attractions of this popular resort. Walk or catch the train along the 1.33-mile-long pier to visit its shops and museum, view the sharks, turtles, and penguins at Sea Life Adventure, browse the town's museums and shops, and stroll the seafront for souvenirs and fish & chips!

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 19th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£439</b> pp	£120	£29

# **Surprising London**

We explore some of our Capital City's most iconic attractions. We visit probably the most famous Botanic Garden in the UK and enjoy some magnificent sightseeing during a cruise on the iconic River Thames.

# Eastbourne

Eastbourne is a town with grace and elegance that has something for everyone – a landscaped, pedestrianised town centre bordered by a large range of shops, a clean, well-managed beach and seafront renowned for its three-tier flower decked promenade.



# The Delta by Marriott Heathrow-Windsor

The Delta by Marriott Hotel in newly renovated and is ideally located for our tour. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and state-of-the-art fitness centre. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Buckingham Palace
- St Paul's Cathedral Guided Tour
- Houses of Parliament Tour
- Kew Gardens
- River Thames Boat Trip

### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Buckingham Palace is the official London residence of the King and serves both as a home and as an office. Visit the magnificent State Rooms, lavishly furnished with some of the greatest treasures from the Royal Collection. There are 19 State Rooms at Buckingham Palace, designed to be on public view and used by the Royal Family when welcoming guests on official State and ceremonial visits. Paintings by the grand masters and acclaimed artists adorn the walls, as well as sculpture and furniture by the finest craftsmen in the world are all available to view and admire.
- We visit the Houses of Parliament for a fun and informative guided tour of the Palace of Westminster, the Chamber of the House of Lords, the House of Commons, and Westminster Hall.
- Enjoy a delightful 90-minute cruise on the River Thames from Westminster Pier to Kew Gardens, where we spend the afternoon. From the vast Arboretum to an Alpine rock garden there's something to see around every corner. Discover the world of science behind the botanical collections, with over 50,000 living plants to be found across this UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- We have a fascinating guided tour of historic St Paul's Cathedral, standing at the heart of the City of London – and of the British Nation. Created in the 17th Century by Sir Christopher Wren, the Cathedral is a landmark the world over, a place of celebration as well as remembrance.

The Haddon Hall Hotel is enviably situated at the seafront end of Devonshire Place, a broad tree—lined avenue which links the main promenade with the town centre. The Bandstand is located across the road from the hotel. Well-furnished, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, spacious lounge, ballroom, cocktail bar, and some entertainment.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Battle & Rye
- Bluebell Railway & Lewes
- Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens

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- Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens opened its doors after a closure of 10 years. This magnificent Grade I listed garden was nearly lost forever and has been the subject of the largest garden restoration in England. These spectacular and ancient gardens are once again open for the public to enjoy. The Gardens are famed for outstanding displays of Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Camellias, Magnolias, Bluebells and the beautiful ornamental rock garden.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 4th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	£120	£29	Wednesday 6th August 2025	6 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	NIL	£35

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# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

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- Battle & Rye
- Bluebell Railway & Lewes
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DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 18th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	£120	£29	Saturday 6th September 2025	8 Days	<b>£649</b> pp	NIL	£35

# Surrey's Secrets

Surrey is a beautiful, exciting and diverse place to visit that's full of surprises. With vibrant towns surrounded by spectacular countryside, including the scenic Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there's plenty waiting to explore.



# **The Wotton House Hotel**

For 400 years, Wotton House has done things differently. From the 17th Century Italian Gardens – the first in England – to the pillared library, you'll discover something unexpected and delightful at every turn. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and leisure club with heated swimming pool, steam room, and sauna. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.





# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Oxted & Denbies Wine Estate
- The Sculpture Park & Farnham
- Brooklands Museum & Dorking

- Oxted is a vibrant, pretty and friendly town situated at the foot of the North Downs in the east of Surrey. The town's unique setting means that its lucky visitors can enjoy all the advantages of the rural location, whilst benefitting from an enviable selection of highly rated and well-known cafes, pubs, boutiques, and shops. Later, we continue to Denbies Wine Estate for our Indoor Wine Tasting Experience which begins with a short film in Denbies cinema. Following the film, take a short walk of the winery, then head down to the atmospheric cellars to try a selection of Denbies wine.
- The Sculpture Park has possibly the most extensive outdoor display of sculpture in the world. The collection is set within an enchanting arboretum and wildlife inhabited water garden which creates the perfect haven for immersing yourself in art. There are two miles of trail and 10 acres of park to explore. Later, we visit Farnham, known for its Georgian streets, historic buildings, craft heritage, and wealth of independent and quirky shops.
- At Brooklands Museum, discover the stories of the legends of land and air, the men and women that raced, flew and built at Brooklands. There is so much to see and learn here, highlights include the Brooklands Aircraft Factory, an immersive environment, harking back to the Hangar's original use as a manufacturing building, the Brooklands Concorde Experience & Museum, and McLaren Driven by Design, a behind-the-scenes exhibition exploring the development of one of the ultimate supercars. We return to the hotel via Dorking, a quintessential market town with a thriving cultural and independent shopping scene.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 24th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	£140	£29

# West Sussex & Weald

One of the UK's most diverse counties, West Sussex covers both coast and the South Downs National Park, encompassing hills, harbours, farmland, and market towns. There's so much to explore, from the picturesque coastline to rolling hills and beautiful countryside, to bustling towns and a Cathedral city.



# **The Avisford Park Hotel**

The Avisford Park Hotel is a stunning Georgian manor house set in 89 acres of beautiful Sussex parkland, conveniently located between historic Chichester and picturesque Arundel. The hotel has a classic dining room, relaxed lounge, terrace, and bar. Charming, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities. Sorry, there is no lift.





# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Weald & Downland Museum & Chichester
- Arundel Castle & Historic Arundel
- Brighton

- The Weald & Downland Living Museum, home of the BBC's Repair Shop, is a hidden gem. Be part of something historic and discover Sussex rural history through the seasons, in the heart of the picturesque South Downs. See what rural living was like with over 1,000 years of history to explore, and over 50 relocated historic houses covering the 40-acre site. Later, we visit the Roman cathedral city of Chichester. It has a plethora of grade II listed buildings, and the city is mostly pedestrianised making it a safe and spacious shopping experience.
- Arundel Castle's story begins in 1067 and continues to the present day. Many of the original features such as the Norman Keep, Medieval Gatehouse and Barbican survive. Learn from friendly guides about the finely preserved interior with its fascinating furniture, tapestries, and rare collection of paintings by renowned artists, including Van Dyck, Gainsborough, and Canaletto. Stroll through the tranquil grounds where you will discover glorious gardens to explore – beautiful award-winning Tropical & English Gardens, the quirky Stumpery, and the abundant Kitchen Garden. Discover warm Glasshouses with chillies, grapes and lemons, immerse yourself in the fragrance of the Rose Garden and enjoy the tranquillity of the Fitzalan Chapel's White Garden. Once your visit is complete, explore Arundel's historic town centre, with its museum, galleries, shops, and restaurants – just 500m from the main entrance.
- Ever since royal party animal George IV fell in love with Brighton back in the 18th Century, the city has been a magnet for visitors in search of fun, frolics and fresh sea air. With its majestic Regency squares and crescents, iconic Royal Pavilion and famous piers, today Brighton is as well-known for being a welcoming and diverse city with a passion for culture, creativity, and sustainability as it is for its historic landmarks.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 8th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	£80	£29

# A Tale of Two Counties

Hampshire is the perfect blend of city, coast, and country, blessed with the natural beauty of two National Parks and thriving culture with history & heritage at its heart. Surrey offers vibrant towns surrounded by spectacular countryside including the scenic Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

# **Picture Book Kent**

Known as the Garden of England, Kent boasts beautiful beaches, stunning castles, exciting culture, and delicious food and drink. There are so many beautiful villages, towns, cities, and seaside to explore, we are spoilt for choice, but we think our itinerary will showcase some of the very best that Kent has to offer.



# **The Lismoyne Hotel**

The Lismoyne Hotel is a privately owned hotel in the heart of Fleet on the Hampshire, Surrey borders. Delicious food and fine wine, coupled with friendly and efficient service, help make the Lismoyne experience one you will want to have again and again. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant and bar. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Guildford & Denbies Wine Estate
- Army Flying Museum & Andover
- Mottisfont

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Guildford is a riverside town in the heart of Surrey, with a stunning high street with historic setts and beautiful architecture. We also visit Denbies Wine Estate for an Indoor Wine Tasting Tour. We begin with a short film in Denbies Cinema. 'The vineyard through the seasons' film shows a fascinating insight into the workings of the vineyard and English wine production. Learn about the history of the estate and experience the changes in the vineyard through the seasons. Following the film, take a short walk of the winery, then head down to the atmospheric cellars to try a selection of Denbies wines.
- We discover the story of British Army flying at the Army Flying Museum. The Museum holds an extensive collection charting over 100 years of the British Army in the air. With over 35 fixed wing and rotary aircraft on display, the Museum is the perfect place to explore the fascinating history of army aviation. The picturesque market town of Andover in the Test Valley, with its attractive high street and narrow walkways, dates to Saxon times. Most of the town's buildings are from the 18th Century when it was an important stop over destination for coaches on their way to London.
- Mottisfont ancient trees, bubbling brooks, and rolling lawns frame this 18th Century house with a medieval priory at its heart. Maud Russell made Mottisfont her home in the 1930's, bringing artists here to relax and create works inspired by Mottisfont's past, including extraordinary drawing-room painted by Rex Whistler. These artistic traditions continue today with a permanent 20th-Century art collection in the top floor gallery. Outside, winding paths meander through stately trees, with the sound of water never far away.

### **Bridgewood Manor Hotel & Spa**

This charming hotel is renowned for its fine food and service. The hotel has a lift, Squires Restaurant, open plan lounge and relaxing bar. Spa facilities include gym, swimming pool, and sauna. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, trouser press, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Historic Canterbury
- Walmer Castle & Gardens
- Chatham Historic Dockyard
- Leeds Castle

- Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before we depart to Canterbury. This medieval yet modern city is dominated by the magnificent cathedral, now a World Heritage Site, and the compact city centre is best explored on foot. There is a maze of intriguing side streets with a rich variety of specialist shops and welcoming cafes and pubs in which to relax. Later, we visit Leeds Castle, set on two islands on the River Len and home to generations of lords and ladies for over 1,000 years. Be transported through around 900 years of the castle's history in a sumptuous mix of period architecture, impressive interiors, and family treasures.
- Chatham Historic Dockyard has 400 years of heritage and 80 acres to explore. Return to the 'Age of Sail' when the Dockyard built mighty ships that toured the world's oceans. Test your sea legs on HMS Ocelot, a Cold War Submarine, explore HMS Cavalier, a Second World War Destroyer, and walk the deck of HMS Gannet, a Victorian Sloop. Watch Master Ropemakers at work using centuries old techniques on the iconic Ropewalk and explore brand new Ropery Gallery. Later, we visit the town of Rochester with its magnificent Cathedral and historic Castle. Take a walk along the High Street and explore the old town and cobbled streets.
- ◆ Today, we travel to Walmer Castle & Gardens. Built on the order of King Henry VII to defend England's southern shores, the castle later became home to the Duke of Wellington and the Queen Mother. Learn about the history and stories of the castle and stroll through tranquil gardens. Later, we visit the seaside town of Deal which has an excellent range of independent shops, 2 castles, wonderful architecture, a pier, and 3 small museums all within walking distance!

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 22nd September 2025	5 Days	<b>£469</b> pp	£120	£29	Thursday 2nd October 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	£100	£29

# **Eastbourne**

Eastbourne is a town with grace and elegance that has something for everyone – a landscaped, pedestrianised town centre bordered by a large range of shops, a clean, well-managed beach and seafront renowned for its attractive three-tier flower-decked level promenade.

# Weekend in Berkshire

Royal Berkshire - The County was given the title of 'Royal County' by the Queen in 1958 in recognition of Berkshire's royal links. Windsor is probably the most popular attraction for visitors while locals appear to prefer the River Thames, Chilterns, and Downs.



# **The Langham Hotel**

The Langham Hotel is situated along the Royal Parade on Eastbourne's magnificent seafront with spectacular views across the bay and towards the pier. The restaurant has fantastic sea views, and the bar is the perfect place to relax and unwind. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Kent & East Sussex Railway
- Tenterden & Hastings
- Regency Brighton & Alfriston

# **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Our day starts with a ride through the pleasant Sussex countryside to the village of Bodiam. Here we join the Kent & East Sussex Railway for a delightful steam train ride to Tenterden, across the 'border' in Kent. Our journey will take around 50-minutes. Our destination is a lovely little town with tea rooms, an ideal spot for lunch. Later, we head for the south coast where we visit historic Hastings. Perhaps enjoy a walk through the Warrior Square Gardens, along the seafront, or maybe visit Hastings Pier.
- We start the day with a visit to the pretty downland village of Alfriston, a must-see village on the banks of the Cuckmere River. There is much to admire - the medieval narrow, twisting High Street has a surprising wealth and variety of shops. Later, we continue through the Sussex countryside, passing near Lewes before arriving in Brighton. Regency Brighton is renowned for its cosmopolitan outlook and quirky shops in the famous 'lanes'. There's no shortage of iconic landmarks in Brighton. The Royal Pavilion is a palace like no other, brimming with decadence and Eastern inspiration, and rich with stories of its former occupant, the party-loving Prince Regent. Right next door is Brighton Museum & Art Gallery, and between the two are the Pavilion Gardens, a perfect place to sit. Along the seafront you can find Sea Life Brighton, Brighton Palace Pier and the haunting skeleton of West Pier, and the sky-piercing Brighton i360, where you can admire panoramic views while sipping a glass of Sussex fizz

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 6th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **The Hilton Hotel Reading**

The Hilton Hotel Reading has a contemporary style and provides an ideal base for this weekend break. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, indoor swimming pool, and fitness centre. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

## **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Henley-on-Thames
- Milestones Museum
- Winchester
- Royal Windsor

- We visit the historic city of Winchester, with its magnificent Cathedral. Winchester is England's ancient capital and former seat of King Alfred the Great. Today, Winchester combines the best of city life with the freshness of the surrounding countryside. Leading examples of sculpture can be found across the city, including a statue portraying Licoricia, a prominent member of Winchester's medieval Jewish community. Popular for its bustling shopping streets, Winchester is also known for the Great Hall which for over 700 years has housed the mysterious King Arthur's Round Table! Later we head to Milestones - a living history museum where you wander down cobbled streets, chat with staff in period costume and explore the shops and factories to experience everyday life from 1810 to 1950.
- We have a short drive taking in some of the beautiful Berkshire countryside as we head for Henley-on-Thames, famous for its annual regatta. We have a short time to explore the town before we board our boat for a 1-hour river cruise along the Thames. Later, we visit Royal Windsor where we spend the rest of the day. Perhaps visit the famous Windsor Castle, grab a bite to eat in one of the many eateries, or enjoy some retail therapy in the many independent stores.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 6th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 10th October 2025	4 Days	<b>£409</b> pp	£135	£29

# East England

11

### Codebreakers & Cambridge

Cambridge is a vibrant, modern city with a colourful history that attracts visitors from around the world. Combined with our visit to Bletchley Park, home of the Codebreakers, you're sure to learn something new on this Cambridgeshire long weekend.

### **Lincolnshire Delights**

From rolling countryside with historic market towns and villages, to an award-winning coastline and Britain's Best Small City, there is so much to see and do in this county of contrasts.



#### **The Cambridge Belfry Hotel**

The Cambridge Belfry Hotel & Spa is just 7 miles from the picture-postcard city of Cambridge, effortlessly blending relaxation and adventurous spirit of the countryside. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and health club with fitness suite, heated pool, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi, and relaxation room. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Bletchley Park
- Guided Tour of Cambridge

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Discover the incredible achievements of Britain's World War II Codebreakers in the place where it happened, Bletchley Park. Once the top-secret home of WW2 Codebreakers, Bletchley Park is now a vibrant heritage attraction. Immersive films, interactive displays, museum collections and faithfully recreated WW2 rooms will guide you on a journey to discover the past Bletchley Park. Exhibitions, set within beautifully restored historic buildings, tell the story of this topsecret operation. Find out more about the brilliant minds and complex machines that made this vital work possible and discover the global impact Bletchley Park had on the outcome of WW2.
- We join our guide this morning for a tour on our coach of Cambridge. Our route takes in a good number of famous sights, Queen's College and its Mathematical Bridge, Darwin College, Pembroke College, Emmanuel College, the River Cam, Jesus Green, and the University's Botanic Garden. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore the picturesque city, known for its rich history, punts and university. Away from the museums and beautiful green spaces, the city has a booming shopping scene with plenty of independent stores, alongside familiar brands. Pop into St Mary's Passage to browse the range of traditional-style satchels at Cambridge Satchel Company, visit the Cambridge Distillery, or go punting along the River Cam.

#### The Barn Hotel & Spa

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The Barn Hotel Grantham is a delightful, tranquil retreat set in beautiful Lincolnshire countryside, close to the village of Marston. The hotel – a member of 'Tastes of Lincolnshire' – takes pride in the quality of its food. Ensuite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and health club with indoor swimming pool, sauna and spa.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Belvoir Castle & Melton Mowbray
- Burghley House & Historic Stamford
- International Bomber Command Centre & Lincoln

- Belvoir Castle's history dates to the 11th century. It is the ancestral home of the Duke of Rutland, where the family have lived in an unbroken line for almost a thousand years. Crowning a hill, the Castle's turrets and towers rise over the Vale of Belvoir like an illustration in a romantic fairy-tale. Walk around the Castle and marvel at the opulent State Rooms and walk through the Japanese Woodland and the Duchess Garden. Later, we visit Melton Mowbray, known worldwide for Pork Pies and Stilton Cheese. Discover quirky shops including Ye Old Pork Pie Shop and The Cheese Shop.
- We visit the beautiful town of Stamford, a bustling market town with quaint streets and delicious food. Stamford has a unique blend of history, niche shopping and stunning Georgian architecture. Later, we visit Burghley House, a 13,000-acre working Lincolnshire estate on the outskirts of Stamford. Discover Burghley's history, extensive collections, and grandest state rooms during our visit. In the Gardens, discover a wonderful gallery of contemporary sculpture sitting amongst hidden trails, herbaceous planting areas and undulating landscapes in the Sculpture Garden.
- The International Bomber Command Centre is a world-class site that provides a space for recognition, remembrance, reflection, and education about the Bomber Command Unit. Immerse yourself in interactive exhibits telling stories of those involved on all sides, discover recordings, documents, and the sacrifices of those who united their efforts to protect the freedom we enjoy today. Later, we visit Lincoln, a beautiful historic city full of heritage and culture. Wander along the picturesque, cobbled streets and take in the spectacular sights of Lincoln's magnificent historic architecture.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 11th April 2025	4 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	£105	£29	Monday 26th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£439</b> pp	£100	£29

### **Scenic Suffolk & Constable Country**

Charming Suffolk is home to rural villages, lush green meadows, and sandy heathlands depicted by the famous painters Constable and Gainsborough. On this tour, we enjoy a Constable-inspired guided tour, visit historic Bury St Edmunds with its connections to Dickens, and enjoy a relaxing cruise on the River Deben.



#### **Best Western Priory Hotel**

Best Western Priory Hotel is a privately owned and run hotel where the welcome is warm and personal, the standards high, and the hospitality unique. The hotel has the Garden Room Restaurant and Terrace Bar. Ensuite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.





#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Guided Tour of Constable Country
- River Deben Cruise with Tea/ Coffee & Scones
- Historic Bury St Edmunds & Ickworth House

- Today, we discover the idyllic villages of Constable Country on a guided tour. This includes East Bergholt, the birthplace of the famous painter himself – an unspoilt village with many fine old houses and cottages. We also visit Dedham where Constable used to attend school, and the little hamlet of Flatford Mill. All these places were favoured subjects in his paintings with one of his works being named after the mill.
- We make the short journey to the historic town of Bury St Edmunds, famous for its Abbey Gardens and the Angel Hotel where Dickens had Mrs Pickwick stay. Today is Market Day so enjoy free time to browse the market and explore the town. This afternoon, we visit lckworth House, an Italianate Palace in the heart of Suffolk. The Rotunda, museum accredited, forms the centrepiece of the lckworth estate and showcases an internationally renowned art and silver collection. The Italianate Garden encircles the Rotunda, a mix of classical Italy and a touch of drama with a Gothic-style stumpery.
- We journey east to Waldringfield to enjoy a relaxing 2-hour cruise on the River Deben, one of the most beautiful spots on the East Coast. The tidal Deben Estuary is a Special Protection Area and within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The onboard commentary will tell of its rich wildlife and history. Tea/coffee & delicious, freshly baked scones will be served on board. Later, we visit Woodbridge, a charming small town on the banks of the River Deben. Perhaps visit the famous tide mill or browse the shops on the high street.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 9th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	£40	£29

### **Great Yarmouth**

Based in Norfolk's premier seaside resort, this is a holiday of many contrasts, from the hustle and bustle of a busy seaside resort to the relaxing calm of The Broads, to the historic City of Norwich and the quieter resorts and towns on the region.

### Norfolk's Natural Havens

Navigate Norfolk's natural havens of conservation, evolving estates and serene rail-sail vistas. Don your explorer hat for a Norfolk safari, capture quintessential Norfolk charm at Blickling Estate, and embark on a scenic voyage on the Southern Comfort Mississippi-style paddle cruises, purpose built for the Norfolk Broads.



#### The Palm Court Hotel

The family owned and run Palm Court Hotel stands in a quiet location on Great Yarmouth's seafront, overlooking the sea. All en-suite bedrooms are pleasantly decorated and feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, 2 bars, a good range of seating areas and an indoor swimming pool. There will be some evening entertainment during your stay.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cathedral City of Norwich
- Norfolk Broads Cruise
- Timeless Southwold
- Bressingham Gardens
- Blickling Estate
- Hotel Entertainment on 3 Evenings

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We begin the day with a visit to Wroxham and the charming Norfolk Broads for a cruise around the picturesque Broads. A full commentary from the Skipper will ensure that you don't miss a thing, explaining the origins of the Broads, identifying points of interest along the way, and showing you the abundance of local water birds as they come into view. Later, we head west into Norwich. A visit to the Cathedral is a must, also cobbled Elm Hill and the Castle Mall shopping complex.
- Today's excursion takes us first down the coast and into Suffolk to the timeless and delightful resort of Southwold, little changed since Victorian times. Later, we head inland to Diss and Blooms of Bressingham Garden Centre. Whilst here, we visit nearby Bressingham Gardens and Steam Museum. The Gardens are renowned the world over for their excellence.
- Our first visit today is Blickling Estate, one of England's great Jacobean houses. It is famed for its spectacular Long Gallery and collections of furniture, pictures, books, and tapestries. The gardens are full of colour throughout the year and the extensive parkland has a lake with beautiful woodland and lakeside walks. We continue to the coastal resort of Cromer for a leisurely afternoon by the sea.
- We drive south to Oulton Broad and Lowestoft, with chance to explore and get lunch before returning to Great Yarmouth for the rest of the day at leisure.

#### The Knight's Hill Hotel & Spa

With the ambiance of a traditional country inn, set in 11 acres of its own grounds, Knights Hill Hotel & Spa is a charming spot for guests to enjoy the Norfolk countryside. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and leisure club with indoor swimming pool and gym. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Bure Valley Railway
- Mississippi Paddle Boat
- Blickling Estate
- Watatunga Safari

- Welcome to Watatunga: an ethos of conservation today for wildlife tomorrow. Settle into your electric buggies to get up close and personal with the UK's largest collection of endangered deer and antelope, free to roam, on an expert guided tour. Journey through breath-taking woodland, grassland, and lakes, and keep your eyes peeled for the majestic ungulates of Africa, elusive rare pheasants, and the extraordinary Great Bustards. Concluded your thrilling exploration with delightful refreshments served with a side of spectacular scenery.
- Take a breath-taking glimpse of the Jacobean masterpiece Blickling Estate, emerging amongst 4,600 acres of magnificent Norfolk countryside, renowned for its award-winning conservation efforts. Uncover the life of Philip Kerr, the estate's last private owner, who was pivotal in shaping the National Trust, and the estate's storied past as a WWII RAF base and Anne Boleyn's birthplace.
- Sailing and steaming across 'Britain's Magical Waterland' the Norfolk Broads, navigate a landscape of serene natural beauty. Delight in a nostalgic steam train journey through the picturesque Bure Valley from Aylsham to Wroxham, on Norfolk's longest narrow-gauge railway, rumbling through unspoilt countryside and idyllic villages. Cruise aboard a Mississippi Paddle Steamer, winding your way under 17 bridges, alongside charming, thatched cottages, timeless windmills, and forgotten churches, with reed beds rich in local wildlife enhancing your journey.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 6th July 2025	7 Days	<b>£739</b> pp	NIL	£35	Monday 28th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£619</b> pp	£100	£29

### **Come Racing** in Newmarket

Racing is the 'Sport of Kings' and you will experience the thrill of the races and a unique insight behind the scenes on this special break for lovers of horses and beautiful countryside alike. Rave reviews from last year meant we simply had to repeat this tour. Book early, you don't want to miss out!

### **Little Boats & Trains** of Norfolk

North Norfolk is renowned for its spectacular coastline, fantastic wildlife, miles of glorious beaches, seaside communities, and a beautiful hinterland of rolling countryside and picturesque market towns and villages.



#### **The Best Western Priory Hotel**

Situated close to the town centre of Bury St Edmunds, nestled behind the historic walls of an old priory, our hotel is the perfect base for our tour. The hotel has a restaurant and bar. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Afternoon Tea at the Races
- Race Day at Newmarket
- Visits to The National Stud, The Gallops, and a Racing Royalty Tour

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

• We head for Newmarket, home of horse racing. Our guide will take us first to The Gallops. Listen to the beat of the hoofs as you watch the horses on their morning exercise on over 2,500 acres of Jockey Club land. You'll see the variety in gallops - hills, surface, and length, and learn lots of interesting facts from our knowledgeable guide. From here, we return to the coach for our Racing Royalty Tour. Our guide will point out all the local studs and tell us more about their Royal connections. Next stop is the National Stud – a fascinating and informative visit, even for those not interested in horse racing. We learn how a horse progresses from training field to racetrack. We also get up close and personal with the horses with a chance to see top stallions, mares and foals taking their first steps to becoming a racehorse. From here, we are off to Newmarket Racecourse for Race Day. Enjoy the exciting atmosphere as you cheer your favourite towards the winning post. During our visit, we have included Afternoon Tea at the Races. Later, we return to the hotel - hopefully to celebrate a successful day!

#### **The Mercure Norwich Hotel**

This smart, friendly hotel is an ideal base for our tour. Classic bedrooms are en-suite and feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Wroxham Broads Cruise
- Bure Valley Railway
- North Norfolk Railway
- Houghton Hall
- Cromer & Sheringham

- Today we combine a nostalgic steam train ride with a cruise on the Norfolk Broads. We begin at Aylsham where we join the Bure Valley Railway for the 9-mile ride to Wroxham. Our journey runs through the pretty Bure Valley countryside following the meandering River Bure through meadowland and ancient pasture. Along the line are wayside halts serving the picturesque Broadland villages of Brampton, Buxton, and Coltishall. At Wroxham, we join the boat for a cruise around the Broads, taking in some of the delightful Broad's villages, such as Woodbastwick, with its diminutive green and thatched cottages.
- We travel to the resort of Cromer, on the northeast coast of Norfolk. A short break here before we continue to Sheringham to enjoy some sea air and another train ride. This time, it is a steam train on the Poppy Line from Sheringham to Holt - a pretty, Georgian market town with lots of little alleyways to explore.
- Today, we visit Houghton Hall & Gardens. Built for Britain's first Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole, in the 1720's, Houghton Hall is now home to the 7th Marquess of Cholmondeley - a descendant of Sir Robert, and his family. The Hall is set in extensive parkland, with its famous white, fallow deer, an award-winning Walled Garden, the Model Soldier Museum (the world's largest private collection of model soldiers), a café, and a gift shop.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 1st August 2025	3 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£27	Thursday 21st August 2025	5 Days	<b>£529</b> pp	£100	£29

### Codebreakers & Cambridge

Cambridge is a vibrant, modern city with a colourful history that attracts visitors from around the world. Combined with our visit to Bletchley Park, home of the Codebreakers, you're sure to learn something new on this Cambridgeshire long weekend.

### Norfolk Broads, Holkham & Historic Railways

Big skies, sweeping sands, and the Norfolk Broads help make picturesque Norfolk a great destination. Our gently paced tour to this enchanting county reveals them all and more, with two steam train journeys, a cruise on The Broads, and visits to Great Yarmouth and historic Holkham Hall.



#### **The Cambridge Belfry Hotel**

The Cambridge Belfry Hotel & Spa is just 7 miles from the picture-postcard city of Cambridge, effortlessly blending relaxation and adventurous spirit of the countryside. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and health club with fitness suite, heated pool, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi, and relaxation room. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Bletchley Park
- Guided Tour of Cambridge

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Discover the incredible achievements of Britain's World War II Codebreakers in the place where it happened, Bletchley Park. Once the top-secret home of WW2 Codebreakers, Bletchley Park is now a vibrant heritage attraction. Immersive films, interactive displays, museum collections and faithfully recreated WW2 rooms will guide you on a journey to discover the past Bletchley Park. Exhibitions, set within beautifully restored historic buildings, tell the story of this topsecret operation. Find out more about the brilliant minds and complex machines that made this vital work possible and discover the global impact Bletchley Park had on the outcome of WW2.
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#### The Wensum Valley Hotel

Wensum Valley Hotel Golf & Country Club is situated in the village of Taverham on the outskirts of Norwich. En-suite bedrooms are traditionally furnished and feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. There is no lift but plenty of ground-floor rooms are available on request. The Valley Restaurant is blessed with lovely views, while the lounge and bar are comfortable spots to relax. There is a pleasant patio area overlooking the Wensum Valley, and guests enjoy complimentary use of the leisure facilities, which include an indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room, spa bath, and gym.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Single Journey on the Bure Valley Railway
- 90-minute Circular Cruise of the Norfolk Broads
- One-way Journey on the North Norfolk Railway
- Entrance to Holkham Hall

- Our day starts with a visit to the Bure Valley Railway and a 45-minute journey by steam train through the picturesque Norfolk countryside to Wroxham. On arrival, we disembark and take a leisurely, 15-minute stroll to Wroxham Bridge where we enjoy time for lunch. Later, we enjoy the next stage of our journey, a 90-minute circular cruise on the Norfolk Broads.
- We have free time this morning to enjoy Norfolk's classic seaside town of Great Yarmouth, famed for its sandy beach. Aside from the Pleasure Beach amusement park, we can visit the Time & Tide Museum to chronicle local history, or the Nelson Museum, which charts the life of Admiral Lord Nelson. If the weather allows, we can also stroll around the miniature Merrivale Model Village. Next, we travel to Norwich where we can have lunch before exploring. This lovely medieval city has plenty of interest, from its ornately cloistered cathedral and medieval city gates leading to its Saxon-era marketplace to the Museum of Norwich and some fabulous shopping.
- Today, we journey to the Victorian seaside resort of Sheringham to board the North Norfolk Railway for a one-way 5.5-mile journey to the Georgian town of Holt. Sit back and absorb the views as our steam train chugs through the county's stunning scenery. After arriving in Holt, we make our way north for our visit to Holkham Hall, set like a jewel in one of England's greatest agricultural estates. This imposing, 18th Century Palladian house is home to the Earls of Leicester, and consists of a glorious Marble Hall, state rooms, and art galleries. We spend time exploring the house and its gorgeous walled garden, which houses a greenhouse, vineries, and kitchen garden.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 26th September 2025	4 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	£105	£29	Monday 13th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£579</b> pp	£123	£29

# Middle England

1

### Bodleian, Blenheim & Bekonscot

Oxfordshire is a wonderful place to visit, with amazing architecture and history, beautiful villages, traditional market towns, and hidden treasures. It is home to famous literary figures, unique traditions, and the city is famous for its dreaming spires skyline.

### **Charming Cotswolds**

The Cotswolds covers a huge area – almost 800 square miles – and runs through five counties. One of the delights of visiting the Cotswolds is exploring the different areas, each with its own identity, yet all with those defining Cotswold features – golden stones and rolling hills, the 'wolds'.



#### **Doubletree by Hilton Oxford Belfry**

The Oxford Belfry Hotel sits within 17 acres of landscaped gardens and offers a spa escape within reach of Oxford. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and Spa with swimming pool and sauna.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Guided Tour of Bodleian Library
- Entrance to Blenheim Palace
- Entrance to Bekonscot Model Village & Railway
- Visits to Oxford & Thame

#### EXCURSIONS INCLUDED

- Bekonscot Model Village & Railway is the world's oldest original model village, opening for the first time in 1929. With over 90 years of history, a huge model railway, 1.5 acres of well-kept gardens and finely detailed model buildings, Bekonscot offers a great visit. Whilst here, we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea. Later, we visit the market town of Thame, most famous for being the most used filming location for the popular ITV series Midsomer Murders. The town has a rich history deriving from Anglo-Saxon roots, where ancient medieval buildings mingle with those dating from the Tudor, Georgian and Victorian eras.
- The Bodleian has shaped some of the brightest minds for 600 years and is home to the oldest teaching room in the University: the Divinity School. Convocation House played home to Charles I's parliament in the 1600's, and it was the same king who had his own private reading space in the Duke Humfrey's library after having his request to remove a book from library declined by Bodley's librarian at the time. 'The Bod' has also been a filming location for many TV programmes and films. Our Guide will share the rich and varied history of the library with us, offering a sneak peek behind the scenes and into some of the most stunning spaces in Oxford. Later, we enjoy free time in the University City of Oxford, 'the City of Dreaming Spires'.
- Blenheim Palace is the historic home of the Dukes of Marlborough and boasts stunning gardens, exhibitions, and is best known as being the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Enter the Palace and explore gilded State Rooms with their priceless collections of portraits, tapestries and furniture. Glimpse into the lives of Palace staff over the centuries on the 'Downstairs' Tour. The historic Churchill Exhibition features a mix of historic artefacts and new technology documenting key aspects of the adventurous life of Sir Winston Churchill. Discover the unique history of the Formal Gardens, reflecting the journey through the styles of the ages. Later, time permitting, we make a stop at Bicester Village, a designer outlet with over 150 stores and cool cafes.



#### **Delta by Marriott Cheltenham Chase Hotel**

This contemporary hotel sits on the edge of the stunning Cotswolds, surrounded by rolling countryside with a backdrop of the Cotswold Hills. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and leisure club with indoor pool, fitness centre, and spa. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, safe, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

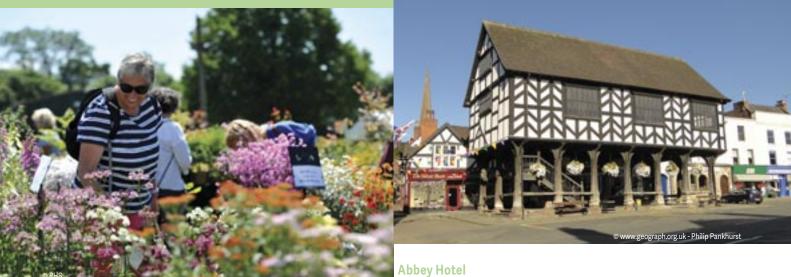
- Sudeley Castle & Broadway
- Cirencester & Stow-on-the-Wold

- At Sudeley Castle & Gardens, discover 1,000 years of English Royalty, romance, ruin and revival. Follow in the footsteps of Kings, Queens, the good, the great, and the controversial. Explore ten exquisite, award-winning gardens, romantic ruins, adventure playground and sculpture safari trail. Acquaint yourself with the lives and treasures of Sudeley's illustrious past. Later, we visit Broadway. Often referred to as the 'Jewel of the Cotswolds', Broadway village lies beneath Fish Hill on the western Cotswold escarpment. The pretty high street is lined with horse chestnut trees and includes a mixture of period houses & picturesque honey-coloured Cotswold stone cottages which have lured visitors for centuries. There's a great choice of eateries from fine dining to coffee & cake and they are all lovely, and a great selection of independent shops and art galleries.
- Nestled in the heart of Gloucestershire, Stow-on-the-Wold is perched upon a hill and is the highest of the Cotswold towns. The Market Square is large and impressive and is surrounded by town houses, independent shops, antique centres, cosy cafes, and inns all built in the mellow local stone, and it has been the focus of town life over many centuries, with the medieval market stocks at one end, the ancient market cross at the other, and the impressive St Edwards Hall standing in the centre. We also visit Cirencester, 'Capital of the Cotswolds'. This is a charming town with ancient honey coloured stone buildings in picturesque narrow streets.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 31st March 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£140	£29	Friday 25th April 2025	4 Days	<b>£349</b> pp	£120	£29

# RHS Malvern Spring Festival

### **Heart of England**



#### The Mercure Birmingham West Hotel

The Mercure Birmingham West Hotel is ideally located as our base. This stylish, modern hotel boasts a swimming pool, gym, spa, lift, restaurant, and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, safe, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

Tickets to the RHS Malvern Spring Festival

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

• We travel to the Malvern Spring Festival. This is the perfect opportunity to prepare for the gardening season. You'll find stunning show gardens and a variety of stalls selling an array of food and crafts. You can also enjoy one of many talks and demonstrations offering many hints and tips. Along with delicious street food, there will be numerous artisan food producers exhibiting some of the best home-made, artisan and local speciality products across the showground, complemented with mouth-watering international delicacies. RHS Malvern Spring Festival welcomes designers of all abilities and encourages creative freedom in garden design by giving an open brief. This means the gardens come in many shapes or forms and are based on different themes - classical, contemporary, or conceptual. This results in a varied and eye-catching range of stunning gardens each year at this prestigious event.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 8th May 2025	3 Days	<b>£269</b> pp	£50	£27

The setting of the Abbey Hotel is by far one of the most perfect in the country, situated right in the heart of the countryside at the foot of the Malvern Hills. The hotel has a lift, Priory View Restaurant, 1848 Lounge Bar, and Courtyard Café. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, ironing centre, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

- Guided Tour of the Black & White Villages
- City of Gloucester, National Waterways Museum & Cruise
- Ledbury, Monmouth & Cruise on the River Wye

- First stop today is Ledbury with historic streets lined with brilliant independent shops, plus plenty places to refuel. We continue to Monmouth, well-known for its iconic 13th Century gatehouse bridge and famous past with connections to Henry V. Time here for lunch as Monmouth has restaurants to suit all tastes and plenty of opportunities for a coffee in a quiet courtyard. Later, we enjoy a cruise on the River Wye, famous for its scenery as the river winds its way through the Symonds Yat Gorge and village.
- We meet our Guide for a tour on our coach of the Black & White Villages of Northwest Herefordshire and the market towns of Leominster and Kington, containing hundreds of timber-framed buildings, many of great age. Their churches too, remind us of the long history of this area.
- The City of Gloucester is a cathedral city located on the River Severn. The most inland port in the UK, Gloucester has a proud industrial past intertwined with a rich history that dates to Roman times. Combine this with an ever-changing and developing city, and Gloucester offers the perfect mix of old & new. Set in a stunning waterside location in the heart of Gloucester Docks, just a short walk from the city centre, a visit to Gloucester Quays is always time well spent. Housed in the old Llanthony Warehouse in the heart of what once was the bustling Gloucester Docks, the National Waterways Museum will take you on a whole new journey, charting the 200-year history of the docks and the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal. From here, we take a trip on the historic pleasure cruiser and Dunkirk Little Ship, Queen Boadicea II (subject to weather conditions).

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 25th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£80	£29

### **Somerset Splendour**

Somerset boasts five areas of outstanding natural beauty and the Exmoor National Park, along with a varied coastline with long sandy beaches, rugged cliffs, and traditional harbours. Hidden gems are waiting to be found, and we hope you enjoy our pick of the best.

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#### **Mercure Bridgewater Hotel**

The Mercure Bridgewater Hotel is conveniently set in the heart of Bridgewater town, an ideal base for our tour. The hotel has a lift, restaurant and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- West Somerset Railway & Minehead
- Forde Abbey & Gardens and Taunton
- Wells

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We travel to Bishop's Lydeard where we join the West Somerset Railway for our journey to Minehead. The line covers 20 miles of heritage railway through stunning Somerset countryside and coast. The railway, a true country branch line of the old Great Western Railway, is full of fascination whether you are looking for a nostalgic ride back in time through lovely countryside or to study the railway and industrial heritage which the line preserves. On arrival in Minehead, there will be free time to have lunch. Minehead boasts a wonderful long flat sandy beach, a charming harbour, and a bustling town with independent shops and cafes.
- Forde Abbey & Gardens is set within 30 acres of award-winning gardens, you'll find something of interest all year round. The garden continues to evolve with sustainability very much at the heart of its aesthetic. An Asian woodland and prairie garden are just a few of the new designs turning the page on the next chapter of the garden. The House is home to the stunning Mortlake Tapestries, woven from the internationally famous Raphael cartoons, now housed in the V&A. The Abbey has a rich and varied history spanning 900 years. Walk in the footsteps of the monks, and explore the exquisite interior featured in the latest Hollywood adaptation of 'Far from the Madding Crowd'. We also visit Taunton, a bustling town with a good selection of independent and high street shops, distinctive restaurants, cafes and wealth of history.
- Wells has an historic centre, magnificent cathedral, and unique moated Bishop's Palace. Wells makes for the perfect shopping destination with a wonderful range of independent shops positioned in and around its historic high street. It may be the smallest city in England but there's nothing small about the amount of history and culture on offer. Wells Cathedral has been inspiring pilgrims and visitors for over 850 years and provides the backdrop for much of the city. Adjoining the cathedral is the picturesque, cobbled Vicar's Close, which is thought to be Europe's oldest inhabited street. Just a stone's throw away from Wells Cathedral, visitors can cross a flagstone drawbridge, walk under the portcullis and experience the stunning medieval Bishop's Palace, home to the Bishops of Bath and Wells for over 800 years.

### Blenheim, Sezincote & The Kennet & Avon Canal

A lovely tour for the summer as we enjoy a visit to unique Sezincote, a 200-year-old Mogul Indian Palace, set in a romantic landscape of temples, waterfalls, grottoes, and canals. Spend a day exploring Blenheim Palace and relax with a horse-drawn barge trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal.



#### **Blunsdon House Hotel**

Set in 30 acres of beautiful Wiltshire countryside, this family owned and run hotel has extensive leisure facilities including indoor swimming pool and gym, two restaurants, and three, comfortable bars. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Blenheim Palace Park & Gardens
- Sezincote House & Gardens
- Horse-Drawn Barge with Coffee & Cake

- We journey through the picturesque Cotswolds on our way to Sezincote House & Gardens, reminiscent of the Taj Mahal with its weathered-copper onion dome and classical Greek Revival interior. The garden is blessed with a series of spring-fed pools, with gurgling water, waterfalls, temples, and grottoes. Later, we visit the stunning medieval small town of Burford, with its breath-taking architecture, fantastic array of independent shops, tea rooms and inns.
- Kintbury is the joining point for our barge for a relaxing, 2-hour horsedrawn barge trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal. A sublimely English & nostalgic journey awaits, as you relax and unwind as the beautiful Berkshire countryside unfolds before you. The barges are painted in the traditional 'roses and castles' traditional style, which became fashionable in the mid-1800's. Adults and children alike adore the cross-Shire horses, Monty and Drummer, who provide the horsepower for the journey. During our Cruise we enjoy coffee & cake. Later, we visit Marlborough, Wiltshire's most vibrant market town. Arcades, alleyways, coaching inns, half-timbered cottages, and a church at each end of the high street ensure Marlborough retains much of its original rustic charm.
- Blenheim Palace is home to the 12th Duke of Marlborough and his family, and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. The Palace is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, boasting a long and diverse history, and is a unique example of English Baroque architecture. Enter the Palace and explore gilded State Rooms with their priceless collections of portraits, tapestries and furniture. Listen to an audio tour of some of the most magnificent rooms and artifacts, hearing from experts on their fascinating history. The Churchill Exhibition features a mix of historic artefacts and new technology, documenting key aspects of the adventurous life of Sir Winston Churchill, the famous wartime leader and writer. With photographs, letters, artefacts, and excerpts from his most famous speeches, you'll gain a real sense of our 'Greatest Briton'.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 5th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	£80	£29	Thursday 12th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	£124	£29

### Wye Valley & The Royal Forest of Dean

Experience this magical borderland on a scenic river cruise, a relaxing train ride, and visits to historic towns. This is a place where you can recharge your batteries, get off the beaten track, and escape the everyday.

### Summertime in Shropshire

Shropshire is especially rich in historic sites and charming market towns. You can be assured of a warm welcome, an abundance of real food and real ales, independent shops and eateries and plenty of great walks.



#### **The Bells Hotel & Country Club**

The Bells Hotel & Country Club make up the largest leisure complex in the Forest of Dean. Bells Hotel is a place to relax & unwind and enjoy the pleasant surroundings. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and some evening entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. **Please note:** The bedroom block is an approximate 25 yard outside walk away from the clubhouse, which is home to all public areas including the bar, lounge, and restaurant.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- River Wye Cruise
- Dean Forest Railway
- Dean Heritage Centre with Coffee & Cake

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We cross the border into Wales to the Georgian market town of Monmouth, famous for its unique 13th Century Monmow Bridge. Monmouth is also renowned for its independent shops – don't miss Bees for Development, Fingal Rock, Atelier Gilmar, and Salt & Pepper. It has restaurants to suit all tastes and plenty of opportunities for a coffee in a café in a quiet courtyard. We return to England for a relaxing cruise along the River Wye from Symonds Yat West, which has long been one of the most spectacular stretches of the Wye Valley.
- ◆ Follow the twists and turns of the Wye Valley, passing the magnificent ruins of Tintern Abbey before continuing to the historic walled border town of Chepstow, which is dominated by the oldest surviving stone castle in Britain, on the banks of the River Wye. Later, we return to the delightful Royal Forest of Dean for a relaxing round trip on the Dean Forest Railway. This 4½ mile line runs through beautiful woodland and countryside offering a chance to experience the gentle pace of a typical country branch line.
- Travel to the Dean Heritage Centre, with 5 acres of forest to explore and something for everyone to explore. Wander through 5 modern galleries, explore several historical outdoor displays, marvel at the exciting arts & crafts demonstrations, or head out on one of the heritage trails. Whilst here, we enjoy home-made cakes with tea/coffee. Later, we visit Newent, one of the most picturesque towns in the Forest of Dean.

#### The Feathers Hotel

The Feathers Hotel is centrally located in the medieval town of Ludlow. Originally built in 1619, this half-timbered, grade 1 listed building has recently undergone refurbishment to offer a contemporary style within an historic property. The hotel has a lift, a highly acclaimed restaurant, popular lounge, cocktail bar, and quintessential English tearoom. All ensuite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Shrewsbury
- Medieval Town of Ludlow
- Cruise on the River Severn
- Guided Tour on our Coach of the Black & White Villages

- We journey north to Shrewsbury, a town packed full of timber-framed black and white buildings among narrow alleyways, all surrounded by the River Severn. Explore higgledy-piggledy streets with names you want to say out loud, tastebud tingling eateries and bars, and endless independent shops. Whilst here we take a cruise along the River Severn, passing Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury Castle, Quantum Leap, and St Chads along the way.
- A free day today to explore our base of Ludlow. From its ancient Castle to its peaceful back streets, exploring Ludlow is a real pleasure. A lively friendly feel combines with over 900 years of history, with many cafes, bars, shops, beautiful & fascinating architecture, and greenery all around, you will not be disappointed. Today is also Market Day.
- Today we are joined by our Guide for a tour on our coach of the Black & White Villages. North Herefordshire's Black and White Villages are an absolute delight. The timber-framed architecture is brimming with character and the villages peppered with cosy pubs and tea rooms, art galleries and village shops. We end our day in Hereford with its golden-stone cathedral, quirky High Street, and independent shops.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 16th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£469</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 16th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£609</b> pp	£200	£29

### Bath, Bubbles & Blenheim

This is a tour for those who enjoy the finer things in life. Built for pleasure and relaxation, beautiful Bath has been a wellbeing destination since Roman times. We are perfectly located for time in Bath itself with a visit to the famous Roman Baths included. No bath would be the same without some bubble at a local winery. Finally, the icing on the cake is a visit to Blenheim Palace, the UK's only non-royal country house in England with Palace status.

### Cotswolds Summer Gardens

The Cotswolds covers a huge area -almost 800 square miles – and runs through five counties. One of the delights of visiting the Cotswolds is exploring the different areas, each with its own identity, yet all with those defining Cotswold features: golden stone and rolling hills – the 'wolds'. We visit some exquisite gardens on this glorious British summertime tour.



#### **The Limpley Stoke Hotel**

The Limpley Stoke Hotel occupies a delightful village setting in an area of outstanding natural beauty, overlooking the spectacular Limpley Stoke Valley. The superbly appointed lounges, open log fires, and comfortable bedrooms ensure peace & quiet are ever present. The hotel has a lift, bar, and restaurant. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, ironing facilities, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Entrance to Blenheim Palace
- Admission to the Roman Baths
- Bluestone Vineyard Tour & Tasting

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- As the UK's only city designated UNESCO World Heritage Site, the waters of Bath are still as big a draw today than they were in Roman times. Stroll around the baths themselves and witness how settlers liked to unwind back in the day. Enjoy free time to wander through the pages of one of Austen's classic novels as you stroll past mellow architectural masterpieces like the Royal Crescent and the Circus.
- Enjoy a leisurely morning before travelling south through the north Wessex countryside via Aylesbury where you may catch a glimpse of Stonehenge before arriving in Salisbury. Bluestone Vineyard, once a rare breed's farm goes back many years. In the 2000's an educational archaeological dig took place which subsequently resulted in soil samples being analysed and the result shared with a wine expert. After marvelling at the results, Bluestone began producing its very own sparkling wine. Enjoy a vineyard tour, tasting, and charcuterie board lunch on site and perhaps purchase some bubbles to take home. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon in the medieval cathedral city of Salisbury itself. Steeped in ancient history there are thousands of years of historic sites to see.
- Explore the awe=inspiring Blenheim Palace, a Baroque masterpiece and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Delve into the rich history as you wander through gilded State rooms and priceless collections set against striking stonework. Experience the grandeur of this Grade I Listed building before venturing to the renowned University City of Oxford, known as the 'City of Dreaming Spires' with its 38 colleges.

#### **The Charlecote Pheasant Hotel**

The Charlecote Pheasant Hotel is a beautiful country house located in the village of Charlecote, with a wealth of delightful features and quiet corners to discover. The hotel has a restaurant and bar. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hidcote Manor Garden
- Sudeley Castle & Gardens
- Painswick Rococo Garden
- Historic Stratford-upon-Avon
- Stow-on-the-Wold & Cheltenham

- We visit the fantastic Sudeley Castle & Gardens, located in the heart of the Cotswolds. The castle plays host to exhibits of fascinating treasures – from ancient Roman times to the present day. Outside, the castle is surrounded by a breath-taking 1,200-acre estate and ten, award-winning gardens. The centre piece is the Queen's Garden – a must-see on this excursion. Later, we visit the spa town of Cheltenham. Walk down the promenade, considered one of the most beautiful in the country, with its tree-lined avenue flanked by smart shops and cafes.
- After breakfast, we head for Hidcote Manor Garden, an Arts and Crafts garden in the north Cotswolds, just a stone's throw from Stratford-upon-Avon. Explore the maze of narrow paved pathways and discover secret gardens, magnificent vistas, and plants that burst with colour. Later, we travel to Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of Shakespeare. We have plenty of time to wander the streets looking for a bargain in an independent store, or maybe visit Shakespeare's birthplace to learn more about the man himself.
- Painswick Rococo Garden is the only surviving garden of the Rococo period open to the public. Instead of an orderly flower garden, this is a haven of peace and tranquility to explore, with quirky features sprinkled around to tickle your fancy. We then travel to Stow-on-the-Wold, the highest of the Cotswolds towns. The Market Square is large and impressive and is surrounded by independent shops, antique centres cost cafes and inns, all built in the mellow local stone.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 14th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£579</b> pp	£160	£29	Monday 4th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£100	£29

### Warwickshire & 'Shakespeare's England'

Warwickshire, 'Shakespeare's England, comes with a story to tell, vibrant towns, surrounded by charming countryside, it has its own unmistakable identity.

### Bletchley Park, Althorp House & Rutland Water

The counties of the East Midlands are home to some of the most beautiful countryside in England. Stately homes and ancestral seats, including that of the Spencer family at Althorp, are all part of the local heritage. In and around the main market towns there are great shops and eateries to enjoy.



#### The Chesford Grange Hotel

The Chesford Grange Hotel is located near the banks of the River Avon, with great links to the surrounding areas. Hotel facilities include a health club, indoor swimming pool, spa, River Room Restaurant, Manor & Terrace Bar, and lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Stratford-Upon-Avon with River Cruise
- Cotswolds Stow-on-the-Wold & Cirencester
- Kenilworth & Packwood Tudor House

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Our day takes us into the beautiful Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, stopping in the delightful market town of Stow-onthe-Wold, perhaps the best known of the small Cotswolds town. Later, we visit Cirencester, Capital of the Cotswolds, a lovely market town with a fascinating history. It became a prosperous wool town in the medieval period, which is the basis for the charming town with ancient honey-coloured stone buildings in the picturesque narrow streets you can visit today.
- Stratford-upon-Avon is a market town with more than 800 years of history, well known as the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Stratford contains not only many buildings that survive today and would have been familiar to Shakespeare, but also a thriving community. Whilst here, we join Bancroft Cruises for a cruise on the River Avon. Enjoy the charm and beauty of Stratford-upon-Avon from a different perspective with your live tour guide.
- Kenilworth is a place definitely worth your time. Spend the morning uncovering rich threads of history, browse intriguing shops or simply kick back and relax over some fabulous food & drink. Later, we visit Packwood Tudor House, Park & Garden with its fine collection of 16th Century textiles and furniture. The culmination of a lifetime of dreams: salvaged objects and exotic pieces come together in a Jacobean meets Edwardian style. Beautiful, homely, warm and welcoming. The Gardens have renowned herbaceous borders and a famous collection of yews.

#### **Kettering Park Hotel**

The Kettering Park Hotel & Spa is ideally located on the edge of Kettering, within easy reach of the visits on our tour. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and leisure club with indoor swimming pool, gym, and spa. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Bletchley Park
- Althorp House Family home of Princess Diana
- Melton Mowbray, Oakham & Northampton
- Rutland Water Cruise

- Bletchley Park is home of the secret WWII Enigma decoding machine, and the birthplace of the modern computer. There is lots to see here and we hear tales of spies and strategic deception. The ornate Victorian mansion was headquarters of British Intelligence staff during the war and the outstanding Churchill Collection is not to be missed. There are permanent exhibitions to explore which help tell the story of Bletchley Park and its important role in changing the course of the Second World War, saving millions of lives in the process.
- Althorp House is the family home of the Spencer family and the childhood home of the late Princess Diana of Wales. Charles, Ninth Earl of Spencer has been in charge for 29 of the House's 500-year history but has striven in that time to make a positive difference. Showcasing one of Europe's finest private collections of furniture, paintings and ceramics, each intriguing room of this magnificent family home has a fascinating story of its own. Later, we visit Northampton, one of the greenest towns in the county, with a wealth of history and heritage. Perhaps visit 78 Derngate, the only English house remodelled by architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh.
- We have the morning at leisure in the old English town of Melton Mowbray. Maybe enjoy one of the famous pork pies from 'Ye Olde Pork Pie Shoppe' or sample some local cheeses at the Melton Cheeseboard. Later, we head to Oakham, County town of Rutland, England's smallest county. We have time to look around the lovely little shops and boutiques. We round off the day with a visit to Rutland Water to enjoy a relaxing cruise on the 'Rutland Belle' to round off the day.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	
Sunday 10th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£389</b> pp	£120	£29	Monday 11th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£609</b> pp	£160	£29

### The County of Shropshire

Shropshire is especially rich in historic sites, charming market towns, and is a wonderful county for eating and drinking. On our tour, we hope you agree, we have chosen some of the very best the county has to offer.

### **Heart of England**

The Heart of England is a place steeped in history, art, and culture. Based in Great Malvern with the beautiful Malvern Hills overlooking the town, we take you on a lovely sightseeing holiday, showcasing some of the very best the region has to offer.



#### **The Mercure Telford Hotel**

The Mercure Telford is centrally located and an ideal base for this tour. After a busy day, guests have complimentary access to onsite leisure facilities which include a gym and indoor swimming pool. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. All en-suite bedrooms are stylish and spacious, boasting fresh, vibrant colours and fabrics and have TV, ironing facilities, complimentary Wi-Fi, laptop safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Shrewsbury & River Severn Cruise
- Severn Valley Railway
- Blists Hill Victorian Town
- Stokesay Castle

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We take a ride south to Stokesay Castle. Stokesay is the best fortified manor house in Britain. It is a survivor of 700 years of border and civil wars, and its buildings are complete and breath-taking. Leaving here, we head for historic Ludlow, a medieval town with an imposing castle at the top of the town square. Ludlow has a reputation for the quality of its food and drink with many excellent restaurants and cafes encouraged by the area's abundance of quality food and drink producers.
- This morning it's Shrewsbury that catches our attention packed with timber framed black and white buildings amongst narrow alleyways, surrounded by the River Severn. Explore higgledy-piggledy streets with names you want to say out loud, endless independents, and tastebud tingling eateries and bars all set in a picturesque market town with over 1,000 years of history. Whilst here, we also enjoy a cruise aboard Sabrina Boat on the River Severn. Later, we travel to the impressive Ironbridge Gorge where the world's first iron bridge forms the centre of this World Heritage Site. Here, we go back in time at Blists Hill Victorian Town, an open-air museum recreating life in a Victorian town, with Victorian characters in costume going about their daily lives.
- This morning, we head south to Bridgnorth where we join the famous Severn Valley Railway for a delightful ride along the beautiful Severn Valley, passing through lovingly restored stations on the way to Kidderminster. Enjoy some free time to explore this large market town, once a key location to make speeches with a young Winston Churchill, Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, explorer Ernest Shackleton, and women's rights campaigner Emmeline Pankhurst, all having spoken at the famous town hall. After time spent here, we have a short ride to the lovely Georgian Severn side town of Bewdley for a look around before returning to the hotel.



#### **Abbey Hotel**

The setting of the Abbey Hotel is by far one of the most perfect in the country, situated right in the heart of the countryside at the foot of the Malvern Hills. The hotel has a lift, Priory View Restaurant, 1848 Lounge Bar, and Courtyard Café. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, ironing centre, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided Tour of the Black & White Villages
- City of Gloucester, National Waterways Museum & Cruise
- Ledbury, Monmouth & Cruise on the River Wye

- First stop today is Ledbury with historic streets lined with brilliant independent shops, plus plenty places to refuel. We continue to Monmouth, well-known for its iconic 13th Century gatehouse bridge and famous past with connections to Henry V. Time here for lunch as Monmouth has restaurants to suit all tastes and plenty of opportunities for a coffee in a quiet courtyard. Later, we enjoy a cruise on the River Wye, famous for its scenery as the river winds its way through the Symonds Yat Gorge and village.
- We meet our Guide for a tour on our coach of the Black & White Villages of Northwest Herefordshire and the market towns of Leominster and Kington, containing hundreds of timber-framed buildings, many of great age. Their churches too, remind us of the long history of this area.
- The City of Gloucester is a cathedral city located on the River Severn. The most inland port in the UK, Gloucester has a proud industrial past intertwined with a rich history that dates to Roman times. Combine this with an ever-changing and developing city, and Gloucester offers the perfect mix of old & new. Set in a stunning waterside location in the heart of Gloucester Docks, just a short walk from the city centre, a visit to Gloucester Quays is always time well spent. Housed in the old Llanthony Warehouse in the heart of what once was the bustling Gloucester Docks, the National Waterways Museum will take you on a whole new journey, charting the 200-year history of the docks and the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal. From here, we take a trip on the historic pleasure cruiser and Dunkirk Little Ship, Queen Boadicea II (subject to weather conditions).

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 1st September 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	£128	£29	Monday 15th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£80	£29

### Somerset Splendour

Somerset boasts five areas of outstanding natural beauty and the Exmoor National Park, along with a varied coastline with long sandy beaches, rugged cliffs, and traditional harbours. Hidden gems are waiting to be found, and we hope you enjoy our pick of the best.

### Blenheim, Sezincote & The Kennet & Avon Canal

A lovely tour for the summer as we enjoy a visit to unique Sezincote, a 200-year-old Mogul Indian Palace, set in a romantic landscape of temples, waterfalls, grottoes, and canals. Spend a day exploring Blenheim Palace and relax with a horse-drawn barge trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal.



#### **Mercure Bridgewater Hotel**

The Mercure Bridgewater Hotel is conveniently set in the heart of Bridgewater town, an ideal base for our tour. The hotel has a lift, restaurant and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- West Somerset Railway & Minehead
- Forde Abbey & Gardens and Taunton
- Wells

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We travel to Bishop's Lydeard where we join the West Somerset Railway for our journey to Minehead. The line covers 20 miles of heritage railway through stunning Somerset countryside and coast. The railway, a true country branch line of the old Great Western Railway, is full of fascination whether you are looking for a nostalgic ride back in time through lovely countryside or to study the railway and industrial heritage which the line preserves. On arrival in Minehead, there will be free time to have lunch. Minehead boasts a wonderful long flat sandy beach, a charming harbour, and a bustling town with independent shops and cafes.
- Forde Abbey & Gardens is set within 30 acres of award-winning gardens, you'll find something of interest all year round. The garden continues to evolve with sustainability very much at the heart of its aesthetic. An Asian woodland and prairie garden are just a few of the new designs turning the page on the next chapter of the garden. The House is home to the stunning Mortlake Tapestries, woven from the internationally famous Raphael cartoons, now housed in the V&A. The Abbey has a rich and varied history spanning 900 years. Walk in the footsteps of the monks, and explore the exquisite interior featured in the latest Hollywood adaptation of 'Far from the Madding Crowd'. We also visit Taunton, a bustling town with a good selection of independent and high street shops, distinctive restaurants, cafes and wealth of history.
- Wells has an historic centre, magnificent cathedral, and unique moated Bishop's Palace. Wells makes for the perfect shopping destination with a wonderful range of independent shops positioned in and around its historic high street. It may be the smallest city in England but there's nothing small about the amount of history and culture on offer. Wells Cathedral has been inspiring pilgrims and visitors for over 850 years and provides the backdrop for much of the city. Adjoining the cathedral is the picturesque, cobbled Vicar's Close, which is thought to be Europe's oldest inhabited street. Just a stone's throw away from Wells Cathedral, visitors can cross a flagstone drawbridge, walk under the portcullis and experience the stunning medieval Bishop's Palace, home to the Bishops of Bath and Wells for over 800 years.



#### **Blunsdon House Hotel**

Set in 30 acres of beautiful Wiltshire countryside, this family owned and run hotel has extensive leisure facilities including indoor swimming pool and gym, two restaurants, and three, comfortable bars. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Blenheim Palace Park & Gardens
- Sezincote House & Gardens
- Horse-Drawn Barge with Coffee & Cake

- We journey through the picturesque Cotswolds on our way to Sezincote House & Gardens, reminiscent of the Taj Mahal with its weathered-copper onion dome and classical Greek Revival interior. The garden is blessed with a series of spring-fed pools, with gurgling water, waterfalls, temples, and grottoes. Later, we visit the stunning medieval small town of Burford, with its breath-taking architecture, fantastic array of independent shops, tea rooms and inns.
- Kintbury is the joining point for our barge for a relaxing, 2-hour horsedrawn barge trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal. A sublimely English & nostalgic journey awaits, as you relax and unwind as the beautiful Berkshire countryside unfolds before you. The barges are painted in the traditional 'roses and castles' traditional style, which became fashionable in the mid-1800's. Adults and children alike adore the cross-Shire horses, Monty and Drummer, who provide the horsepower for the journey. During our Cruise we enjoy coffee & cake. Later, we visit Marlborough, Wiltshire's most vibrant market town. Arcades, alleyways, coaching inns, half-timbered cottages, and a church at each end of the high street ensure Marlborough retains much of its original rustic charm.
- Blenheim Palace is home to the 12th Duke of Marlborough and his family, and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. The Palace is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, boasting a long and diverse history, and is a unique example of English Baroque architecture. Enter the Palace and explore gilded State Rooms with their priceless collections of portraits, tapestries and furniture. Listen to an audio tour of some of the most magnificent rooms and artifacts, hearing from experts on their fascinating history. The Churchill Exhibition features a mix of historic artefacts and new technology, documenting key aspects of the adventurous life of Sir Winston Churchill, the famous wartime leader and writer. With photographs, letters, artefacts, and excerpts from his most famous speeches, you'll gain a real sense of our 'Greatest Briton'.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 18th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	£80	£29	Thursday 25th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	£124	£29

### Bodleian, Blenheim & Bekonscot

Oxfordshire is a wonderful place to visit, with amazing architecture and history, beautiful villages, traditional market towns, and hidden treasures. It is home to famous literary figures, unique traditions, and the city is famous for its dreaming spires skyline.

### A Royal City Weekend Break in Leicester

Leicester is a unique city and a wonderful place to visit, with a superb range of visitor attractions and shopping that is second to none. It is a city that combines the finest English traditions with multicultural activities and the cosmopolitan buzz of city life. The heart of the city is the shopping core – from the 800-year-old market to the independent boutiques, arcades and eateries of The Lanes.

#### **Doubletree by Hilton Oxford Belfry**

The Oxford Belfry Hotel sits within 17 acres of landscaped gardens and offers a spa escape within reach of Oxford. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and Spa with swimming pool and sauna.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided Tour of Bodleian Library
- Entrance to Blenheim Palace
- Entrance to Bekonscot Model Village & Railway
- Visits to Oxford & Thame

#### EXCURSIONS INCLUDED

- Bekonscot Model Village & Railway is the world's oldest original model village, opening for the first time in 1929. With over 90 years of history, a huge model railway, 1.5 acres of well-kept gardens and finely detailed model buildings, Bekonscot offers a great visit. Whilst here, we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea. Later, we visit the market town of Thame, most famous for being the most used filming location for the popular ITV series Midsomer Murders. The town has a rich history deriving from Anglo-Saxon roots, where ancient medieval buildings mingle with those dating from the Tudor, Georgian and Victorian eras.
- The Bodleian has shaped some of the brightest minds for 600 years and is home to the oldest teaching room in the University: the Divinity School. Convocation House played home to Charles I's parliament in the 1600's, and it was the same king who had his own private reading space in the Duke Humfrey's library after having his request to remove a book from library declined by Bodley's librarian at the time. 'The Bod' has also been a filming location for many TV programmes and films. Our Guide will share the rich and varied history of the library with us, offering a sneak peek behind the scenes and into some of the most stunning spaces in Oxford. Later, we enjoy free time in the University City of Oxford, 'the City of Dreaming Spires'.
- Blenheim Palace is the historic home of the Dukes of Marlborough and boasts stunning gardens, exhibitions, and is best known as being the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Enter the Palace and explore gilded State Rooms with their priceless collections of portraits, tapestries and furniture. Glimpse into the lives of Palace staff over the centuries on the 'Downstairs' Tour. The historic Churchill Exhibition features a mix of historic artefacts and new technology documenting key aspects of the adventurous life of Sir Winston Churchill. Discover the unique history of the Formal Gardens, reflecting the journey through the styles of the ages. Later, time permitting, we make a stop at Bicester Village, a designer outlet with over 150 stores and cool cafes.



#### **The Holiday Inn Leicester Hotel**

Conveniently located in the centre of Leicester and recently benefitted from a refurbishment to the public areas, the Holiday Inn Leicester is a short walk into the city centre and its attractions. The hotel has a lift, bar, and restaurant. Spacious, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Entrance to King Richard III Visitor Centre
- Visit to Leicester Guildhall
- Afternoon Tea at Wymondham Windmill

- This morning, we make our way to the fascinating King Richard III Visitor Centre which charts the story of the King's life. Learn about one of the greatest archaeological detective stories ever told; we fast forward over 500 years to a car park here in Leicester, where an excavation by the University of Leicester discovered the long-lost remains of King Richard, ending many years of speculation. Later, we have the rest of the day free to explore the city of Leicester, a city bursting with culture and heritage, from the 900-year-old Cathedral, where King Richard's remains were reinterred and the Guildhall, the city's oldest working building, to the Highcross shopping centre, National Space Centre, and Leicester Museum & Art Gallery.
- Today is mostly about food! We start our day in Melton Mowbray, the historical market town famous for its pork pies and Stilton cheese. We have plenty of time to be tempted by these tasty treats, so be sure to have a light breakfast! Known locally as the 'food capital', we can seek out fresh bread, chutneys, and other edible goodies. We then pop into Rutland to the family-run tearoom at Wymondham Windmill where we trade lunch for an afternoon Cream Tea with a glass of Prosecco. An original five storey flour mill, the new tearooms are vintage designed and serve up homemade cakes, scones, and finger sandwiches. After tea, we have time to explore this lovely rural site, perhaps wander the wild wood then browse the selection of boutique shops.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 13th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£140	£29	Friday 17th October 2025	4 Days	<b>£379</b> pp	£90	£29

## Northern England & Yorkshire

### Morecambe

along Morecambe's award-winning promenade with an ice cream e visiting the Eric Morecambe Statue, and the Tern Project, a series plic art installations inspired by the birdlife of Morecambe Bay

### **St Annes on Sea**

St Annes on Sea, on the Fylde Coast, offers a gentle and peaceful way of life. St Annes boasts a beautifully restored Victorian Pier, promenade with views across to North Wales, multi award-winning beach huts, a wideopen sandy beach, plenty of places to eat, and wonderful seaside charm.



© Lancaster City Council

#### **Auckland Hotel**

Having been a family-run hotel for nearly 40 years, the Auckland Hotel understands the needs of holidaymakers, from great food to a good nights' sleep as they strive to make sure your stay is as good as possible. Located in the heart of Morecambe and close to shops and restaurants, the hotel offers spectacular views over the Bay to the Lake District Hills. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and some evening entertainment.

Following breakfast on the last day of your holiday we make our way straight home.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Islands Cruise on Lake Windermere
- Garstang & Bayview Garden Centre

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Kendal is often seen as the southern gateway to the Lake District and is home to a multitude of historically exciting buildings. The town has narrow yards and lanes branching from the main street and the centre has been mostly pedestrianised. Later, we continue to Bowness-on-Windermere with time for lunch before we embark on our Circular Cruise, with fantastic views of the many islands, Lakeland mountains, wooded shorelines and bays. Our cruise includes a fascinating commentary on the history, attractions, and points of interest around Bowness and the central part of the lake.
- Garstang is a true countryside gem and is known locally for its tasty home-grown produce including Garstang blue cheese! The town prides itself on being home to a variety of specialist shops where you can pick up treats galore that you won't find on your average supermarket shelf, ranging from local foods to fashion. Later, we make a stop at Bayview Garden Centre, a family-owned garden centre & restaurant situated overlooking the shores of beautiful Morecambe Bay, renowned for its stunning scenery and diverse wildlife. Browse an extensive range of plants, garden furniture, pots, garden sundries, home & gift items. The modern, air-conditioned restaurant has panoramic views across Morecambe Bay and offers a delicious menu.



#### **The St Ives Hotel**

A warm welcome awaits you at the St Ives Hotel, which is located close to the beach and the pier. All the tastefully decorated bedrooms are en-suite with TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, and some evening entertainment during your stay.

Following breakfast on the last day of your holiday we make our way straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cleveleys & Fleetwood Market
- Southport with Cream Tea

- We spend the day at the Victorian seaside town of Southport. Leave the big city and high street stores behind and explore the boulevards and arcades. Explore Lord Street, and the wrought iron canopies – this tree-lined boulevard evokes a sense of space, and the relaxed atmosphere makes shopping a pleasure. Perhaps visit The Atkinson and view their collections of fine art, history, and Egyptology. Better still, enjoy alfresco dining or stop for a refreshing break in one of the cafes and bars that line Lord Street. Later, we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea whilst looking out over the bay at the Waterfront Hotel.
- A busy traditional coastal market offering a great seaside shopping experience, Fleetwood Market has over 150 stalls within three indoor halls and a selection of outdoor stalls. A true shopper's paradise you'll find a variety of offerings including jewellery, clothing and household goods, all at great prices. Later, we continue to the friendly seaside resort of Cleveleys. With great access, public artworks, clean beaches and public facilities, Cleveleys Seafront is well worth a visit.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 24th February 2025	5 Days	<b>£339</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 10th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£339</b> pp	NIL	£29

### Scarborough

Scarborough enjoys an unrivalled position as one of Britain's premier coastal resorts, yet also lies tantalisingly close to North Yorkshire's rugged national park. You can enjoy golden beaches, superb parks and gardens, and a wide range of leisure amenities, which have given Scarborough its justifiable reputation.

### **Summer in Blackpool**

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or may it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it.



#### **The Park Manor Hotel**

A lovely hotel situated in one of Scarborough's areas of natural beauty overlooking Peasholm Park. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, bubbling spa, and steam room.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Castle Howard & Thirsk
- Whitby

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

Sunday 23rd March 2025

- Castle Howard is a place like no other. Castle Howard's friendly and knowledgeable guides are on hand to share stories with you as you tour the house at your own pace exploring a treasure trove of inspiring architecture and interiors, as well as world-renowned collections. Whatever the weather, the Castle Howard landscape brings out the colour and drama of the season. With 1,000 acres of parkland to explore, Castle Howard is a haven of peace and tranquillity with extensive woodland walks, temples, lakes, and fountains. The monumental landscape offers breath-taking views at every turn, taking in countryside of the Howardian Hills. Later, we visit the traditional market town of Thirsk, nestled between the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors. Explore the historic streets, visit the World of James Herriot Museum, and enjoy the charm of cobbled squares, all surrounded by stunning landscapes.
- Whitby is steeped in history with many visitor attractions that are connected to the town's fascinating past. Perhaps visit the Captain Cook Memorial Museum, where you can learn about the famous explorer's life in the port town. Or be guided through the story and connection to the town of Dracula at the Dracula Experience. A trip to Whitby wouldn't be the same without climbing the 199 steps to Whitby Abbey, counting as you go, and exploring the beautiful ruins which tower over the town.

5 Days

£459 pp

NIL

£29

#### The Doric Hotel

Situated on the Queen's Promenade, with breath-taking views over the Irish Sea, Morecambe Bay, and the Isle of Man, The Doric is a firm favourite. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, poolside bar, and incredible entertainment every night. A pool of highly professional entertainers awaits you at The Doric. A full allyear-round entertainment programme with tribute acts, performances and fabulous vocal talent all waiting in the spotlight to entertain you.

Please note our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour so there will be no excursions included.

After breakfast on the last day of your holiday we travel straight home.



#### **UPGRADES AVAILABLE**

- Drinks Inclusive £10.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm.
- All Inclusive £16.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm, local Travel Pass, Packed Lunch, Six Bingo Books per adult.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 7th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£349</b> pp	NIL	£29

### **Yummy Yorkshire**

The people of Yorkshire are immensely proud of their county and especially of their food and drink. Today, some of the best meat, cheese, beer, and baked goods can be found in Yorkshire and there's no better way to enjoy them than on this culinary adventure based in York.

### Isle of Man

This beautiful island, 32 miles long and 14 miles wide, lies in the Irish Sea, approximately equidistant from Britain and Ireland. It is dominated by Snaefell Mountain, rising to over 3,000ft. The island is well away from it all yet so close to home and it's where life is simple and undemanding, the pace easy and relaxed, a fabulous destination to enjoy that welldeserved break.



#### **The Burn Hall Hotel**

Nestling in glorious Yorkshire countryside, this Victorian manor house is packed full of personality, with well-furnished bedrooms. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Black Sheep Brewery Tour & Tasting
- Wensleydale Creamery
- York Chocolate House
- Yorkshire Afternoon Tea
- Single Train Journey
- Whitby Fish Tea

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Travel to Ripon and the Black Sheep Brewery. First opened in 1992 the tour will tell you the tales of how the brewery started to the present day, visit the Brewhouse and sample a range of delicious beers. Next up, journey into the heart of the Yorkshire Dales to Wensleydale Creamery. The centre takes you on the journey of the art of cheese making through the years. Travel back through Settle and Skipton, 'The Gateway to the Dales'.
- From Rowntree's to Terry's some of the most famous names in confectionary were founded in York. York Chocolate House, established in 2011, tells the story of York chocolate and what it has become today. Have a go at making the sweet stuff yourself and enjoy the all-important taste test. Afterwards, afternoon tea will showcase some of Yorkshire's best produce before we enjoy free time to explore.
- First stop is Pickering before hopping aboard the Yorkshire Moors Railway for a relaxing journey to Whitby. Pickering Station is a mustsee 1930's themed station that will transport you back in time to the steam era. A highlight is the magnificent roof structure which was recently re-instated to the same design of the original, built in 1847 by GT Andrews. The station itself is a great place to pick up a souvenir. Overlooking the North Sea, the ruined gothic Whitby Abbey was Bram Stoker's inspiration for 'Dracula'. Steeped in history Whitby is also known for its quirky narrow streets and bustling harbour. No visit to Whitby would be complete without trying its famous fish & chips.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 14th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£80	£29

#### **The Ramsey Park Hotel**

This luxurious, contemporary hotel is set in one of the most scenic parts of the Isle of Man. Situated beside Mooragh Lake, and with views over the sea towards Cumbria, Ramsey Park makes a stunning setting for your stay on the Island. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Manx Electric Railway & Snaefell Mountain Railway
- Isle of Man Steam Railway Douglas to Port Erin
- Cregneash Folk Park

- We have a little free time in the small town of Ramsey before we join the Manx Electric Railway for our train journey to the pretty village of Laxey. Upon arrival in Laxey, we climb aboard the Snaefell Mountain Railway and journey up to the summit of Snaefell Mountain for stunning views of the island, before making the journey back down.
- In a scenic location, on a plateau overlooking the Calf of Man, Cregneash is the oldest open-air folk museum in Britain. Cregneash Village was one of the last strongholds of the Manx language and today you can step back in time to see how crofters used to live and work in a farming community on the island. Inside traditional Manx cottages, you will experience some of the stories, skills and craft demonstrations and outside, you can explore the farm, gardens and country walks in stunning scenery and natural surroundings.
- We travel to Douglas where we join the Isle of Man Steam Railway for our train journey to Port Erin. This is the longest narrow gauge steam line in Britain that still uses its original locomotives and carriages. We journey along the beautiful Manx countryside. The rest of the day is at leisure in Port Erin – the village grew up along the shore of the lovely horseshoe shaped bay which looks out to the Mountains of Mourne in Northern Ireland.
- Enjoy a free day in the Capital of Man, Douglas. Take a walk along Douglas Promenade and discover its fascinating history, from the Victorian era through to the present day. From one of the finest examples of a Victorian theatre still in existence to the only horse tram service still in use in the northern hemisphere, there's lots to discover.

′S	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
ys	<b>£479</b> pp	£80	£29	Sunday 27th April 2025	6 Days	<b>£629</b> pp	£125	£35

### Scarborough

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#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Castle Howard & Thirsk
- Whitby

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

Sunday 27th April 2025

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#### **UPGRADES AVAILABLE**

- Drinks Inclusive £10.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm.
- All Inclusive £16.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm, local Travel Pass, Packed Lunch, Six Bingo Books per adult.

DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRIC
5 Days	<b>£469</b> pp	NIL	£29	Sunday 11th May 2025	8 Days	£429

NIL

£35

### **Cumbrian Cavalcade**

Most people think of the Lake District when you mention Cumbria but there is life away from the Lakes. Some of the earliest stone circles in Britain, the remains of the Roman Empire, abbeys and priories, ancient churches, castles, and peel towers, as well as spectacular scenery, can all be found in this beautiful part of the country.

### **St Annes on Sea**

St Annes on Sea, on the Fylde Coast, offers a gentle and peaceful way of life. St Annes boasts a beautifully restored Victorian Pier, promenade with views across to North Wales, multi award-winning beach huts, a wideopen sandy beach, plenty of places to eat, and wonderful seaside charm.



#### **The Crown & Mitre Hotel**

The Crown & Mitre Hotel stands in the centre of Carlisle and offers the perfect mix of Edwardian grandeur and beautiful original features, including an elegant sweeping staircase, and all the modern comforts of home to create a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Hotel facilities include a lift, swimming pool, jacuzzi, bar, and restaurant. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Cumbrian Coastal Line
- Settle to Carlisle Railway
- Spectacular Yorkshire Dales Scenery
- Kielder Water & Forest National Park
- Hexham & Hadrian's Wall

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We head for Longtown and drive along Liddesdale as we make our way to picturesque Kielder Water & Forest Park. We take a break at the Visitor Centre before continuing to Bellingham and Hexham, dominated by the Abbey overlooking the market square. Stunning architecture, picturesque parks, and a bloody history are all waiting to be explored in Hexham. Immerse yourself in stories about The Vikings, historical criminal families or 'Border Reivers', and the Anglo Saxon Abbey. Later, we return along the path of Hadrian's Wall, which stretches some 76 miles from the Tyne to the Solway.
- This morning, we start our first train journey of the day in Carlisle. The line follows the Cumbrian coastline through Maryport and Whitehaven and the stunning sea views stay with us until Ravenglass. Here we join the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway – known as L'al Ratty steam train – running from the coast to the foothills of England's highest mountains. Seven miles of steam in the Lake District National Park!
- We travel into the Yorkshire Dales to Kirby Lonsdale, where we find the weekly market in full swing. We travel on, past the immense Ribblehead Viaduct, through charming Horton-in-Ribblesdale to Settle. In the afternoon, we take in the most spectacular train journey on a mainline railway in the whole of England – the famous Settle to Carlisle Line. Towering viaducts, bridges, long deep tunnels and lovingly kept station gardens all help to make this one of the best-loved lines in the country. We travel along the whole line through majestic scenery back to our base of Carlisle.



#### **The St Ives Hotel**

A warm welcome awaits you at the St Ives Hotel, which is located close to the beach and the pier. All the tastefully decorated bedrooms are en-suite with TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, and some evening entertainment during your stay.

Following breakfast on the last day of your holiday we make our way straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cleveleys & Fleetwood Market
- Southport with Cream Tea

- We spend the day at the Victorian seaside town of Southport. Leave the big city and high street stores behind and explore the boulevards and arcades. Explore Lord Street, and the wrought iron canopies – this tree-lined boulevard evokes a sense of space, and the relaxed atmosphere makes shopping a pleasure. Perhaps visit The Atkinson and view their collections of fine art, history, and Egyptology. Better still, enjoy alfresco dining or stop for a refreshing break in one of the cafes and bars that line Lord Street. Later, we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea whilst looking out over the bay at the Waterfront Hotel.
- A busy traditional coastal market offering a great seaside shopping experience, Fleetwood Market has over 150 stalls within three indoor halls and a selection of outdoor stalls. A true shopper's paradise you'll find a variety of offerings including jewellery, clothing and household goods, all at great prices. Later, we continue to the friendly seaside resort of Cleveleys. With great access, public artworks, clean beaches and public facilities, Cleveleys Seafront is well worth a visit.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 19th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£589</b> pp	£60	£29	Monday 23rd June 2025	5 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	NIL	£29

### A Touch of Class in the **Lake District**

### **Hidden Corners** of Yorkshire

also feature a ride on the Wensleydale Railway, which re-opened after



#### **The Skiddaw Hotel**

Based in the picturesque Lakes market town of Keswick, the newly refurbished Skiddaw Hotel provides the ideal base for exploring the Lake District. The hotel has a lift, brasserie, bar, and conservatory. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

- Ullswater, Derwentwater & Windermere
- Kendal Home of the Mint Cake
- Ambleside & Grasmere
- Cruise on Derwentwater

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- This morning, we enjoy a 50-minute cruise on Derwentwater. Experience the beauty of Derwentwater with breathtaking views of the surrounding fells. Enjoy special views of Skiddaw, England's fourth highest mountain, Catbells, and the 'Jaws of Borrowdale'. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore Keswick independently. Perhaps visit the Keswick Museum or even the Keswick Brewing Company. If shopping is your thing, the town offers plenty of boutique shopping.
- After breakfast today we travel south, first making a stop in Grasmere, a well-known Lakeland village, famous for its Gingerbread. Next, we visit Bowness-on-Windermere, a bustling tourist hotspot with independent shops, the Beatrix Potter Museum & plenty of places to eat and drink. Later, we visit Kendal, home of the 'mint cake'. Kendal boasts a fine selection of shopping arcades, two castles, museums, a host of historical buildings, and stunning views.
- Leaving the hotel, we head towards Penrith where there is a chance to look around the town before we travel along Ullswater - regarded by many as the most beautiful of all the lakes. We reach the small village of Glenridding where we will stop for a break before we then continue over rugged Kirkstone Pass to Ambleside. After a stop here, we return to the hotel along Lake Thirlmere.

The hotel is nestled in wooded parkland in Darlington, located between the North Yorkshire Moors and the Pennines. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, heated indoor swimming pool, spa, and sauna. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, radio, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

- North Yorkshire Moors Railway
- Wensleydale Railway
- Teesside Princess River Cruise
- 'Little Switzerland' Beautiful Bilsdale

- We travel over the moors, across Blakey Ridge, through picturesque Hutton-le-Hole to Pickering. Here, we join the North Yorkshire Moors Railway for a steam train journey through rugged moorland to Whitby, passing through Goathland (featured as 'Aidensfield' in TV's Heartbeat). The rest of the day is at leisure to explore the maritime town of Whitby. Wander the alleyways and narrow streets or climb the steps up to Whitby Abbey.
- We begin with a drive to historic Richmond, on the River Swale. Here you will find a castle, The Green Howards Museum, and the Richmondshire Museum housing the set from 'All Creatures Great and Small'. Leaving Richmond, we head for the Wensleydale Railway for a nostalgic ride through rural scenery from Leyburn to Leeming Bar. We re-join the coach and make our way to Thirsk, home of James Herriot, for time to explore before returning to the hotel.
- Our first visit today is to Preston Park and Hall Museum. Set in attractive parkland, the museum houses a delightful collection of memorabilia from times gone by. Take a walk back in time through the cobbled Victorian street and imagine life as it was in times past. At Preston Hall, we join the 'Teesside Princess' and take a gentle cruise on the River Tees through beautiful countryside to the cobbled town of Yarm, famous for its location within a horseshoe bend on the river and the awe-inspiring railway viaduct. Later, we drive through Bilsdale, known as 'Little Switzerland, past the Sun Inn, which has had the same landlord for 200 years! We then pass Rievaulx Abbey and drop into Helmsley with its 12th Century castle. On our way back to the hotel we journey over the spectacular Sutton Bank, giving you fantastic views of the moors and the Vale of York.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 23rd June 2025	5 Days	<b>£629</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 30th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	NIL	£29

### **Fantastic Beasts & Seaside Treats**

Go wild for The Hex Hotel, located within Yorkshire Wildlife Park. We make the most of our base on this new tour with a full day spent at the on-site Yorkshire Wildlife Park – home to England's only polar bears – and time to browse the complex's numerous independent shops and boutique stores. We also enjoy a visit to Lincoln Cathedral, a canal cruise and a journey on one of Britain's oldest seaside miniature railways complete with Fish & Chips for lunch!



#### **The Hex Hotel**

The Hex Hotel is uniquely located in The Yorkshire Hive, a shopping, dining, and entertainment complex which also includes Yorkshire Wildlife Park. All en-suite bedrooms are decorated to a superb standard with most offering walk-in showers. All feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. Meals are served in the main Brasserie & Bar area. Please note, due to the unique set-up of this complex, the reception, bedrooms, brasserie, and bar are in separate buildings within the Yorkshire Hive and are a few minutes' walk from one another. The hotel has a lift.



#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We make the most of our unique location with a visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park. As the UK's number one walkthrough wildlife experience, we're in for a 'roarsome' day out with around 475 animals to meet! Among the 60 different species, highlights include Project Polar, home to the only polar bears in England; magnificent African Lions in the seven-acre Lion Country; a family of Californian sea lions in the largest purpose-built habitat of its kind in the world; and the 300-meter raised walkway above Land of the Tigers. Other critters to look out for include rhinos, giraffes, red pandas, leopards, monkeys, lemurs, zebras, and many more.
- We visit magnificent Lincoln Cathedral. One of Europe's finest Gothic buildings, dating back to the 11th Century, our visit includes a 1-hour Floor Tour where an expert guide takes us on a journey revealing hundreds of years of history. We have free time for lunch and time to explore the city at leisure in the afternoon.
- We hop on the Cleethorpes Coast Light Railway for a 45-minute journey along the picturesque Humberside Coast. The journey takes you on a 2-mile return journey around Cleethorpes Boating Lake, joining the seafront path with views of the picturesque Lincolnshire Coast before winding in-land over the splendid viaduct. The trip includes a delicious lunch of Fish & Chips plus a visit to the smallest pub on the planet, the Signal Box Inn! We also enjoy some time at leisure to relax in the Victorian seaside resort of Cleethorpes.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Entrance to Lincoln Cathedral with Guided Tour
- Entrance to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
- Return Journey on Cleethorpes Coast Light Railway with Fish & Chips

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 30th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	£70	£29

# Sailing, Steaming & Dreaming in the Lake District

The sheer beauty of the Lake District has inspired poets and artists for centuries and on this holiday, we will paint a picture that will last in your memory for years to come.

### Isle of Man

This beautiful island, 32 miles long and 14 miles wide, lies in the Irish Sea, approximately equidistant from Britain and Ireland. It is dominated by Snaefell Mountain, rising to over 3,000ft. The island is well away from it all yet so close to home and it's where life is simple and undemanding, the pace easy and relaxed, a fabulous destination to enjoy that welldeserved break.

#### **The Shap Wells Hotel**

The Shap Wells Hotel is set in tranquil surroundings amongst the Lakeland Fells and is an ideal base from which to explore this beautiful corner of England. Set in 20 acres of grounds, the hotel offers a lift, well-stocked bar, lounges, and spacious restaurant. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- North Lakes and Fells by Mountain Goat
- Keswick
- Thirlmere & Grasmere
- Ambleside & Lake Windermere Cruise
- Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway
- Ullswater Cruise
- Kirkstone Pass & Windermere Village

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We head to Glenridding where we enjoy a sail on board the Ullswater Steamer's Lake 'steamer' along the lake to Pooley Bridge. Afterwards, we head over the rugged Kirkstone Pass, with the lonely inn at the summit, before continuing to Windermere village with its little shops and wide selection of eateries to suit every taste and budget. Later, we head to Kendal with its indulgent shopping, and incredible food & drink.
- Today, we ride via St John's Vale and Lake Thirlmere to the lovely village of Grasmere where we take a break. Grasmere was the home of William Wordsworth and his family, along with other artists. Perhaps sample the famous gingerbread from the local shop before we head for Ambleside for a delightful cruise along Lake Windermere to Lakeside. Here, we join the Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway for a nostalgic steam train ride to round off the day.
- We head west to Keswick, the heart of which is the Market Square, ringed round with shops and hotels. There are no cars in the pedestrianised area which makes for a very pleasant shopping experience. This afternoon, we have an adventure with The Mountain Goat! The Mountain Goat minibuses take us where larger coaches cannot go. We start with a scenic journey along the shore of Derwentwater to Ashness Bridge and Borrowdale, continuing over Honister Pass to Buttermere Village. After a break, we pass Crummock Water and Loweswater on our way to the Whinlatter Pass Visitor Centre for a break before heading back to Keswick where we re-join our coach.

#### **The Ramsey Park Hotel**

This luxurious, contemporary hotel is set in one of the most scenic parts of the Isle of Man. Situated beside Mooragh Lake, and with views over the sea towards Cumbria, Ramsey Park makes a stunning setting for your stay on the Island. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

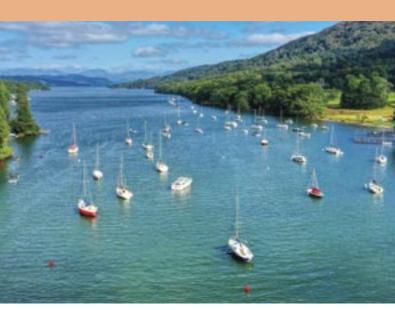
- Manx Electric Railway & Snaefell Mountain Railway
- Isle of Man Steam Railway Douglas to Port Erin
- Cregneash Folk Park

- We have a little free time in the small town of Ramsey before we join the Manx Electric Railway for our train journey to the pretty village of Laxey. Upon arrival in Laxey, we climb aboard the Snaefell Mountain Railway and journey up to the summit of Snaefell Mountain for stunning views of the island, before making the journey back down.
- In a scenic location, on a plateau overlooking the Calf of Man, Cregneash is the oldest open-air folk museum in Britain. Cregneash Village was one of the last strongholds of the Manx language and today you can step back in time to see how crofters used to live and work in a farming community on the island. Inside traditional Manx cottages, you will experience some of the stories, skills and craft demonstrations and outside, you can explore the farm, gardens and country walks in stunning scenery and natural surroundings.
- We travel to Douglas where we join the Isle of Man Steam Railway for our train journey to Port Erin. This is the longest narrow gauge steam line in Britain that still uses its original locomotives and carriages. We journey along the beautiful Manx countryside. The rest of the day is at leisure in Port Erin – the village grew up along the shore of the lovely horseshoe shaped bay which looks out to the Mountains of Mourne in Northern Ireland.
- Enjoy a free day in the Capital of Man, Douglas. Take a walk along Douglas Promenade and discover its fascinating history, from the Victorian era through to the present day. From one of the finest examples of a Victorian theatre still in existence to the only horse tram service still in use in the northern hemisphere, there's lots to discover.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 7th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£529</b> pp	NIL	£29	Sunday 13th July 2025	6 Days	<b>£669</b> pp	£125	£35

### Morecambe

Stroll along Morecambe's award-winning promenade with an ice cream before visiting the Eric Morecambe Statue, and the Tern Project, a series of public art installations inspired by the birdlife of Morecambe Bay.



### Harrogate & The Yorkshire Dales

The Yorkshire Dales has many moods; it can be wild and windswept or quietly tranquil. Stone built villages sit amongst traditional farming landscapes of field barns, drystone walls and flower-rich hay meadows. Harrogate is a Victorian spa town with a reputation for exquisite retail opportunities and fine, independent eateries.



#### **Auckland Hotel**

Having been a family-run hotel for nearly 40 years, the Auckland Hotel understands the needs of holidaymakers, from great food to a good nights' sleep as they strive to make sure your stay is as good as possible. Located in the heart of Morecambe and close to shops and restaurants, the hotel offers spectacular views over the Bay to the Lake District Hills. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and some evening entertainment.

Following breakfast on the last day of your holiday we make our way straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Islands Cruise on Lake Windermere
- Garstang & Bayview Garden Centre

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Kendal is often seen as the southern gateway to the Lake District and is home to a multitude of historically exciting buildings. The town has narrow yards and lanes branching from the main street and the centre has been mostly pedestrianised. Later, we continue to Bowness-on-Windermere with time for lunch before we embark on our Circular Cruise, with fantastic views of the many islands, Lakeland mountains, wooded shorelines and bays. Our cruise includes a fascinating commentary on the history, attractions, and points of interest around Bowness and the central part of the lake.
- Garstang is a true countryside gem and is known locally for its tasty home-grown produce including Garstang blue cheese! The town prides itself on being home to a variety of specialist shops where you can pick up treats galore that you won't find on your average supermarket shelf, ranging from local foods to fashion. Later, we make a stop at Bayview Garden Centre, a family-owned garden centre & restaurant situated overlooking the shores of beautiful Morecambe Bay, renowned for its stunning scenery and diverse wildlife. Browse an extensive range of plants, garden furniture, pots, garden sundries, home & gift items. The modern, air-conditioned restaurant has panoramic views across Morecambe Bay and offers a delicious menu.

#### **The Old Swan Hotel**

The Old Swan stands in the centre of the lovely town of Harrogate, in Yorkshire, and is famed as being Agatha Christie's hiding place during her disappearance in 1926. Bedrooms are stylishly furnished, and the public areas include the Library Restaurant, the Wedgewood Room, and the Lounge Bar. The hotel has a lift, and en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ripon & Newby Hall & Gardens
- Leyburn & The Dales

- Ripon is one of the smallest cities in the country and is known for its stunning cathedral, which dates to the 7th Century. It is also known for its beautiful Georgian architecture and its charming market square. Ripon has a number of excellent restaurants serving a variety of cuisines. Later, we visit Newby Hall, one of Britain's finest Adam Houses, family home of Mr & Mrs Richard Compton. Explore the Entrance Hall with its exquisite plasterwork, the Dining Room, the Circular Room, and the Statue Gallery. Newby's award-winning gardens, mostly created in the early 1920's, have evolved over the years, and include Sylvia's Garden, National Cornus Collection, East Rock Garden, and Water Garden.
- The Yorkshire Dales have been carved through outstanding scenery by sparkling rivers, with unspoilt villages of stone houses dotted through stunning valleys. The distinctive stone walls and field barns surround hay meadows with colourful wildflowers, overlooked by ancient fortresses steeped in history. We enjoy a scenic drive ending in Leyburn, at the heart of Wensleydale. With spectacular views of the surrounding countryside, unusual local shops and cafes, and traditional pubs, it's an ideal spot for our stop.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 4th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£419</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 11th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	£116	£29

### Yorkshire's Colourful Coast & Gardens

Join us for a relaxing tour of discovery through Yorkshire's North and East Riding areas to experience the rural beauty, bustling towns, and dramatic coastline. See spectacular historic houses and colourful gardens in magnificent settings and enjoy visits to the pretty harbour port of Bridlington and much-loved coastal resort of Scarborough. Steeped in history, we learn more of the region's fascinating heritage as we enjoy the lovely landscapes.



#### **The Expanse Hotel**

Opened in 1937, the family-run Expanse Hotel is situated on Bridlington's seafront, around 10 minutes' walk from the town centre with its numerous shops, cafes, bars, and restaurants. En-suite bedrooms are tastefully decorated and feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The restaurant, Wilkxys by the Sea, is open plan with art deco features and original parquet maple floor and overlooks Bridlington's North Bay. The Marine Bar offers panoramic views of North Bay overlooking Flamborough Head and the fishing harbour. The hotel has a lift.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Entrance to Sewerby Hall & Gardens
- Return Journey on Scarborough North Bay Railway Fish & Chips Train
- Entrance to Burnby Hall Gardens

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 31st August 2025	5 Days	<b>£569</b> pp	NIL	£29

- This morning, we relive history with a visit to Sewerby Hall & Gardens, a delightful Grade I house in a spectacular clifftop setting. A mix of stunning Georgian and Edwardian architectural design, we can admire impressive artifacts from the V&A Museum before taking a stroll through beautiful and elegantly designed gardens. Later, we have free time to explore the popular seaside town of Bridlington. See fishermen busy at work on traditional fishing boats at the picturesque harbour side or stroll through the charming narrow streets of the historic Old Town with local galleries, antique shops, and cafes.
- We visit the Yorkshire Coast's impressive town of Scarborough with free time to explore its bustling streets lined with shops, eateries, museums, and galleries. Perhaps hop on the Victorian Central Tramway funicular, which links the town centre with South Bay and treat yourself to an ice cream. This afternoon, we enjoy an invigorating return journey on the Scarborough North Bay Railway from Peasholme Station to Scalby Mills and are treated to fish 'n' chips at the station.
- We head to Pocklington for a visit to Burnby Hall & Gardens, often referred to as 'a jewel in Yorkshire's crown', home to a national collection of over 80 water lilies across both upper and lower lakes. The walled garden project was completed here in 2022. We have time afterwards in Pocklington itself, a delightful town with two art galleries, an acclaimed arts centre and a host of independent shops. On our way back to our hotel, we stop off in Beverley for the afternoon. A traditional thriving town with a 13th Century Minster standing tall above the rooftops, we find a bustling marketplace, boutique shops, and historic pubs which are sure to make for a lovely afternoon.



### Hidden Corners of Yorkshire

This tour covers a splendid variety of magnificent scenery and contrasting countryside, with quaint Yorkshire towns and villages. We also feature a ride on the Wensleydale Railway, which re-opened after 50 years. Re-live rural railway travel as it used to be all those years ago!

### **St Annes on Sea**

St Annes on Sea, on the Fylde Coast, offers a gentle and peaceful way of life. St Annes boasts a beautifully restored Victorian Pier, promenade with views across to North Wales, multi award-winning beach huts, a wideopen sandy beach, plenty of places to eat, and wonderful seaside charm.



#### **The Blackwell Grange Hotel**

The Blackwell Grange Hotel is a stunning 17th Century mansion, which enjoys an enviable setting in the beautiful County Durham countryside.

The hotel is nestled in wooded parkland in Darlington, located between the North Yorkshire Moors and the Pennines. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, heated indoor swimming pool, spa, and sauna. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, radio, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- North Yorkshire Moors Railway
- Wensleydale Railway
- Teesside Princess River Cruise
- 'Little Switzerland' Beautiful Bilsdale

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We travel over the moors, across Blakey Ridge, through picturesque Hutton-le-Hole to Pickering. Here, we join the North Yorkshire Moors Railway for a steam train journey through rugged moorland to Whitby, passing through Goathland (featured as 'Aidensfield' in TV's Heartbeat). The rest of the day is at leisure to explore the maritime town of Whitby. Wander the alleyways and narrow streets or climb the steps up to Whitby Abbey.
- We begin with a drive to historic Richmond, on the River Swale. Here you will find a castle, The Green Howards Museum, and the Richmondshire Museum housing the set from 'All Creatures Great and Small'. Leaving Richmond, we head for the Wensleydale Railway for a nostalgic ride through rural scenery from Leyburn to Leeming Bar. We re-join the coach and make our way to Thirsk, home of James Herriot, for time to explore before returning to the hotel.
- Our first visit today is to Preston Park and Hall Museum. Set in attractive parkland, the museum houses a delightful collection of memorabilia from times gone by. Take a walk back in time through the cobbled Victorian street and imagine life as it was in times past. At Preston Hall, we join the 'Teesside Princess' and take a gentle cruise on the River Tees through beautiful countryside to the cobbled town of Yarm, famous for its location within a horseshoe bend on the river and the awe-inspiring railway viaduct. Later, we drive through Bilsdale, known as 'Little Switzerland, past the Sun Inn, which has had the same landlord for 200 years! We then pass Rievaulx Abbey and drop into Helmsley with its 12th Century castle. On our way back to the hotel we journey over the spectacular Sutton Bank, giving you fantastic views of the moors and the Vale of York.



#### The St Ives Hotel

A warm welcome awaits you at the St Ives Hotel, which is located close to the beach and the pier. All the tastefully decorated bedrooms are en-suite with TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, and some evening entertainment during your stay.

Following breakfast on the last day of your holiday we make our way straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cleveleys & Fleetwood Market
- Southport with Cream Tea

- We spend the day at the Victorian seaside town of Southport. Leave the big city and high street stores behind and explore the boulevards and arcades. Explore Lord Street, and the wrought iron canopies – this tree-lined boulevard evokes a sense of space, and the relaxed atmosphere makes shopping a pleasure. Perhaps visit The Atkinson and view their collections of fine art, history, and Egyptology. Better still, enjoy alfresco dining or stop for a refreshing break in one of the cafes and bars that line Lord Street. Later, we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea whilst looking out over the bay at the Waterfront Hotel.
- A busy traditional coastal market offering a great seaside shopping experience, Fleetwood Market has over 150 stalls within three indoor halls and a selection of outdoor stalls. A true shopper's paradise you'll find a variety of offerings including jewellery, clothing and household goods, all at great prices. Later, we continue to the friendly seaside resort of Cleveleys. With great access, public artworks, clean beaches and public facilities, Cleveleys Seafront is well worth a visit.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 1st September 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 15th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	NIL	£29

### Blackpool & Illuminations

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or may it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it.

# Sailing, Steaming & Dreaming in the Lake District

The sheer beauty of the Lake District has inspired poets and artists for centuries and on this holiday, we will paint a picture that will last in your memory for years to come.



#### **The Doric Hotel**

Situated on the Queen's Promenade, with breath-taking views over the Irish Sea, Morecambe Bay, and the Isle of Man, The Doric is a firm favourite. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, poolside bar, and incredible entertainment every night. A pool of highly professional entertainers awaits you at The Doric. A full all-year-round entertainment programme with tribute acts, performances and fabulous vocal talent all waiting in the spotlight to entertain you.

Please note our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour. On one day, our coach will return to take you on a half-day excursion and then, after dinner, will take you on a drive through Blackpool's famous Illuminations. No other excursions are included.

#### After breakfast on the last day of your holiday we travel straight home

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Blackpool Illuminations

#### **UPGRADES AVAILABLE**

- Drinks Inclusive £10.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm.
- All Inclusive £16.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm, local Travel Pass, Packed Lunch, Six Bingo Books per adult.

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#### The Shap Wells Hotel

The Shap Wells Hotel is set in tranquil surroundings amongst the Lakeland Fells and is an ideal base from which to explore this beautiful corner of England. Set in 20 acres of grounds, the hotel offers a lift, well-stocked bar, lounges, and spacious restaurant. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- North Lakes and Fells by Mountain Goat
- Keswick
- Thirlmere & Grasmere
- Ambleside & Lake Windermere Cruise
- Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway
- Ullswater Cruise
- Kirkstone Pass & Windermere Village

- We head to Glenridding where we enjoy a sail on board the Ullswater Steamer's Lake 'steamer' along the lake to Pooley Bridge. Afterwards, we head over the rugged Kirkstone Pass, with the lonely inn at the summit, before continuing to Windermere village with its little shops and wide selection of eateries to suit every taste and budget. Later, we head to Kendal with its indulgent shopping, and incredible food & drink.
- Today, we ride via St John's Vale and Lake Thirlmere to the lovely village of Grasmere where we take a break. Grasmere was the home of William Wordsworth and his family, along with other artists. Perhaps sample the famous gingerbread from the local shop before we head for Ambleside for a delightful cruise along Lake Windermere to Lakeside. Here, we join the Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway for a nostalgic steam train ride to round off the day.
- We head west to Keswick, the heart of which is the Market Square, ringed round with shops and hotels. There are no cars in the pedestrianised area which makes for a very pleasant shopping experience. This afternoon, we have an adventure with The Mountain Goat! The Mountain Goat minibuses take us where larger coaches cannot go. We start with a scenic journey along the shore of Derwentwater to Ashness Bridge and Borrowdale, continuing over Honister Pass to Buttermere Village. After a break, we pass Crummock Water and Loweswater on our way to the Whinlatter Pass Visitor Centre for a break before heading back to Keswick where we re-join our coach.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 15th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£379</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 29th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£529</b> pp	NIL	£29

### Isle of Man

This beautiful island, 32 miles long and 14 miles wide, lies in the Irish Sea approximately equidistant from Britain and Ireland. It is dominated by Snaefell Mountain, rising to over 3,000ft. The island is well away from it all yet so close to home and it's where life is simple and undemanding, the pace easy and relaxed, a fabulous destination to enjoy that welldeserved break.

### Scarborough

Scarborough enjoys an unrivalled position as one of Britain's premier coastal resorts, yet also lies tantalisingly close to North Yorkshire's rugged national park. You can enjoy golden beaches, superb parks and gardens, and a wide range of leisure amenities, which have given Scarborough its justifiable reputation.



#### **The Ramsey Park Hotel**

This luxurious, contemporary hotel is set in one of the most scenic parts of the Isle of Man. Situated beside Mooragh Lake, and with views over the sea towards Cumbria, Ramsey Park makes a stunning setting for your stay on the Island. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Manx Electric Railway & Snaefell Mountain Railway
- Isle of Man Steam Railway Douglas to Port Erin
- Cregneash Folk Park

#### EXCURSIONS INCLUDED

- We have a little free time in the small town of Ramsey before we join the Manx Electric Railway for our train journey to the pretty village of Laxey. Upon arrival in Laxey, we climb aboard the Snaefell Mountain Railway and journey up to the summit of Snaefell Mountain for stunning views of the island, before making the journey back down.
- In a scenic location, on a plateau overlooking the Calf of Man, Cregneash is the oldest open-air folk museum in Britain. Cregneash Village was one of the last strongholds of the Manx language and today you can step back in time to see how crofters used to live and work in a farming community on the island. Inside traditional Manx cottages, you will experience some of the stories, skills and craft demonstrations and outside, you can explore the farm, gardens and country walks in stunning scenery and natural surroundings.
- We travel to Douglas where we join the Isle of Man Steam Railway for our train journey to Port Erin. This is the longest narrow gauge steam line in Britain that still uses its original locomotives and carriages. We journey along the beautiful Manx countryside. The rest of the day is at leisure in Port Erin – the village grew up along the shore of the lovely horseshoe shaped bay which looks out to the Mountains of Mourne in Northern Ireland.
- Enjoy a free day in the Capital of Man, Douglas. Take a walk along Douglas Promenade and discover its fascinating history, from the Victorian era through to the present day. From one of the finest examples of a Victorian theatre still in existence to the only horse tram service still in use in the northern hemisphere, there's lots to discover.



#### The Park Manor Hotel

A lovely hotel situated in one of Scarborough's areas of natural beauty overlooking Peasholm Park. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, bubbling spa, and steam room.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Castle Howard & Thirsk
- Whitby

- Castle Howard is a place like no other. Castle Howard's friendly and knowledgeable guides are on hand to share stories with you as you tour the house at your own pace exploring a treasure trove of inspiring architecture and interiors, as well as world-renowned collections. Whatever the weather, the Castle Howard landscape brings out the colour and drama of the season. With 1,000 acres of parkland to explore, Castle Howard is a haven of peace and tranquillity with extensive woodland walks, temples, lakes, and fountains. The monumental landscape offers breath-taking views at every turn, taking in countryside of the Howardian Hills. Later, we visit the traditional market town of Thirsk, nestled between the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors. Explore the historic streets, visit the World of James Herriot Museum, and enjoy the charm of cobbled squares, all surrounded by stunning landscapes.
- Whitby is steeped in history with many visitor attractions that are connected to the town's fascinating past. Perhaps visit the Captain Cook Memorial Museum, where you can learn about the famous explorer's life in the port town. Or be guided through the story and connection to the town of Dracula at the Dracula Experience. A trip to Whitby wouldn't be the same without climbing the 199 steps to Whitby Abbey, counting as you go, and exploring the beautiful ruins which tower over the town.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 5th October 2025	6 Days	<b>£649</b> pp	£125	£35	Sunday 12th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	NIL	£29

### Blackpool & Illuminations

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or may it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it.

### Morecambe

Stroll along Morecambe's award-winning promenade with an ice cream before visiting the Eric Morecambe Statue, and the Tern Project, a series of public art installations inspired by the birdlife of Morecambe Bay.



#### **The Doric Hotel**

Situated on the Queen's Promenade, with breath-taking views over the Irish Sea, Morecambe Bay, and the Isle of Man, The Doric is a firm favourite. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, poolside bar, and incredible entertainment every night. A pool of highly professional entertainers awaits you at The Doric. A full all-year-round entertainment programme with tribute acts, performances and fabulous vocal talent all waiting in the spotlight to entertain you.

Please note our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour. On one day, our coach will return to take you on a half-day excursion and then, after dinner, will take you on a drive through Blackpool's famous Illuminations. No other excursions are included.

#### After breakfast on the last day of your holiday we travel straight home

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Blackpool Illuminations

#### **UPGRADES AVAILABLE**

- Drinks Inclusive £10.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm.
- All Inclusive £16.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm, local Travel Pass, Packed Lunch, Six Bingo Books per adult.



#### **Auckland Hotel**

Having been a family-run hotel for nearly 40 years, the Auckland Hotel understands the needs of holidaymakers, from great food to a good nights' sleep as they strive to make sure your stay is as good as possible. Located in the heart of Morecambe and close to shops and restaurants, the hotel offers spectacular views over the Bay to the Lake District Hills. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and some evening entertainment.

Following breakfast on the last day of your holiday we make our way straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

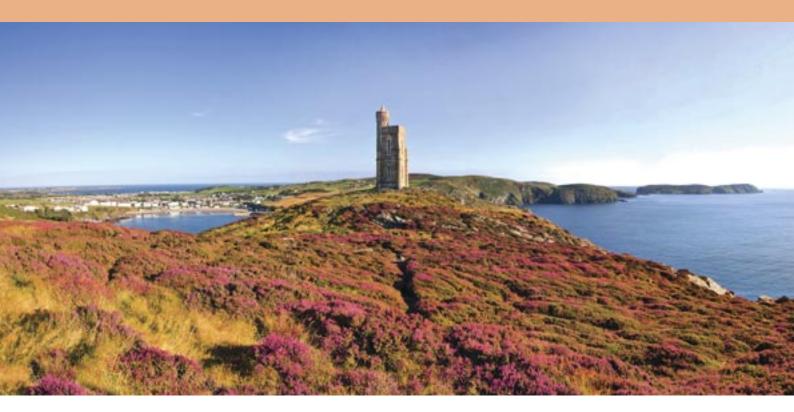
- Islands Cruise on Lake Windermere
- Garstang & Bayview Garden Centre

- Kendal is often seen as the southern gateway to the Lake District and is home to a multitude of historically exciting buildings. The town has narrow yards and lanes branching from the main street and the centre has been mostly pedestrianised. Later, we continue to Bowness-on-Windermere with time for lunch before we embark on our Circular Cruise, with fantastic views of the many islands, Lakeland mountains, wooded shorelines and bays. Our cruise includes a fascinating commentary on the history, attractions, and points of interest around Bowness and the central part of the lake.
- Garstang is a true countryside gem and is known locally for its tasty home-grown produce including Garstang blue cheese! The town prides itself on being home to a variety of specialist shops where you can pick up treats galore that you won't find on your average supermarket shelf, ranging from local foods to fashion. Later, we make a stop at Bayview Garden Centre, a family-owned garden centre & restaurant situated overlooking the shores of beautiful Morecambe Bay, renowned for its stunning scenery and diverse wildlife. Browse an extensive range of plants, garden furniture, pots, garden sundries, home & gift items. The modern, air-conditioned restaurant has panoramic views across Morecambe Bay and offers a delicious menu.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 13th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£369</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 20th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£389</b> pp	NIL	£29

### **Isle of Man**

This beautiful island, 32 miles long and 14 miles wide, lies in the Irish Sea, approximately equidistant from Britain and Ireland. It is dominated by Snaefell Mountain, rising to over 3,000ft. The island is well away from it all yet so close to home and it's where life is simple and undemanding, the pace easy and relaxed, a fabulous destination to enjoy that well-deserved break.



#### **The Rutland Hotel**

The Rutland is located on the seafront of Douglas, close to the quiet Queens Promenade, a pleasant walk to the many local bars, restaurants, and retail area. The hotel has a lift, restaurant and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Manx Electric Railway & Snaefell Mountain Railway
- Isle of Man Steam Railway Douglas to Port Erin
- Cregneash Folk Park

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Saturday 18th October 2025	6 Days	<b>£599</b> pp	£80	£35

- We have a little free time in the small town of Ramsey before we join the Manx Electric Railway for our train journey to the pretty village of Laxey. Upon arrival in Laxey, we climb aboard the Snaefell Mountain Railway and journey up to the summit of Snaefell Mountain for stunning views of the island, before making the journey back down.
- In a scenic location, on a plateau overlooking the Calf of Man, Cregneash is the oldest open-air folk museum in Britain. Cregneash Village was one of the last strongholds of the Manx language and today you can step back in time to see how crofters used to live and work in a farming community on the island. Inside traditional Manx cottages, you will experience some of the stories, skills and craft demonstrations and outside, you can explore the farm, gardens and country walks in stunning scenery and natural surroundings.
- We join the Isle of Man Steam Railway for our train journey from Douglas to Port Erin. This is the longest narrow gauge steam line in Britain that still uses its original locomotives and carriages. We journey along the beautiful Manx countryside. The rest of the day is at leisure in Port Erin – the village grew up along the shore of the lovely horseshoe shaped bay which looks out to the mountains of Mourne in Northern Ireland.



### York's Chocolate Story & Ryedale Vineyard

The people of Yorkshire are immensely proud of their county and especially of their food and drink. From the undulating hills and valleys of the Yorkshire Wolds to the bracing sea air of the heritage coast, East Yorkshire has a mixture of everything you could want from a holiday.



#### **The Mercure Hull Grange Park Hotel**

The Mercure Hull Grange Park Hotel is a 19th-Century manor house nestled in 12 acres of landscaped gardens. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and Feel Good Health Club with gym, indoor heated swimming pool and steam room. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

Ryedale Vineyard Tour & Tasting

- York's 'Chocolate Story'
- 'The Deep'

- We visit the seaside resort of Scarborough for free time to explore at leisure. Scarborough really does have it all – dramatic cliffs and castle headland, award-winning beaches, historic harbour, booming town centre, and a warm Yorkshire Welcome to match. There'll be time to get some lunch whilst here, Fish & Chips by the seaside is just one perfect option. Later, we visit Ryedale Vineyard – an awardwinning winery at the foot of the Yorkshire Wolds. Enjoy a tour of the winery, learning how much dedication goes into producing their wines. All aspects of the wine production, from pruning and harvesting, to pressing and fermenting, to bottling and labelling, are carried out by hand on-site. Our tour will end with a tasting.
- After a leisurely breakfast, we travel the short distance to the historic city of York. We begin with a visit to 'The Chocolate Story' and embark on a guided journey through the history of chocolate making in York, including the Rowntree's Factory which opened in 1890. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore this fascinating city. There are lots of attractions to keep you busy, such as the National Railway Museum, Jorvik Centre, the City Walls, the little streets and alleyways in the centre, not forgetting of course, York Minster itself.
- This morning, we make the short journey into Hull for our visit to 'The Deep' aquarium, home to over 3,000 aquatic creatures including sharks, turtles, and even Gentoo penguins! The underwater viewing tunnel provides an enthralling experience. The rest of the day is free to explore Hull's city centre. Perhaps browse the shops on the hight street or visit Hull Street Life Museum.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 20th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£120	£29

# North East England

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### Weekend in Northumbria

This tour covers a variety of splendid scenery, contrasting countryside, historic towns, rugged coastlines, rolling hills, and quaint northern villages. The ancient Kingdom of Northumbria offers some of the most striking unspoilt beauty in England.

### Easter in Beamish & Newcastle

The vibrant city of Newcastle is our base for this Easter break, with its electric atmosphere, buzzing city vibes, stunning quayside setting and large host of unique bars and restaurants.



Set in the heart of the historic market town of Alnwick, the White Swan is a charming, 300-year-old coaching inn that blends its unique heritage with superb accommodation. The hotel is probably best known for its Olympic Dining Suite which features the magnificent panelling, mirrors, and stained-glass windows from The Titanic's sister ship. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel does not have a lift but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Holy Island & Lindisfarne
- Beautiful Bamburgh
- Seahouses
- The Alnwick Garden

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

Today's excursion takes us to the north of Northumberland, across the Causeway to Holy Island where the mysterious Lindisfarne Castle teeters on the coastline. Expect to find charming cafes and an ancient Priory. Words cannot describe the magic of The Holy Island of Lindisfarne, particularly as you cross the Causeway, admiring staggering views as you go, and feel as though you are entering a secret world as you approach the island. Later, we make a stop in Bamburgh with its mighty castle on the beach.

After dinner this evening, there will be Bingo or Quiz entertainment.

**Please note:** The crossing of the Causeway to Holy Island is governed by tide times. It may be necessary to amend this excursion.

After a leisurely breakfast we journey along the Northumberland coast making our first stop in the pretty harbour town of Seahouses. A long history of fishing makes the popular village of Seahouses both fascinating and beautiful. Experience local wildlife, gorgeous beaches, enjoy fresh fish & chips or a scenic stroll along the harbour. We return to Alnwick for our included visit of The Alnwick Garden. Built to be unconventional, The Alnwick Garden is a unique contemporary garden. Lose yourself in the mysterious Bamboo Labyrinth, explore the perils of the Poison Garden or gaze upon the Grand Cascade. Transformed across seasons, no two days in The Garden are ever the same. The Garden's history is still honoured through the traditional Ornamental Garden and mesmerising Rose Garden.

Before dinner this evening, we enjoy a Gin Tasting in the hotel.

### DATEDAYSPRICESRSINSFriday 14th March 20254 Days£399 ppNIL£29

#### The Millennium Copthorne Hotel

Located in Newcastle's Quayside, right in the heart of this vibrant city, Millennium Copthorne Newcastle is the perfect base from which to explore. As the only hotel in Newcastle City with all rooms overlooking the River Tyne, there's nowhere better in the city to stay. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

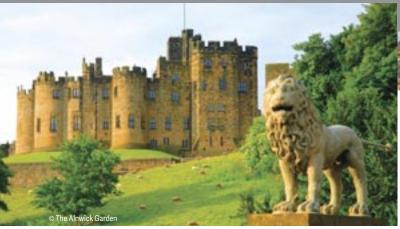
- Beamish Living Museum of the North
- City of Newcastle

- Today is free to explore Newcastle-Upon-Tyne at leisure from our centrally located hotel. With a city centre boasting some of England's finest Georgian architecture, Newcastle is a hub for shopping, from the independent stores and quirky shops of Grainger Town to the latest big brand names of Eldon Square. Take a moment to visit an award-winning museum, admire the modern architecture of the iconic bridges crossing the River Tyne, discover the charm of Chinatown and the historic Newcastle Castle – from which the city takes its name – located in the centre of town.
- Today we visit the famous Beamish North of England Open-Air Museum, capturing the spirit of the Northeast in the 1800's and 1900's. Explore the 1900's Town and see how families lived and worked in the years leading up to the First World War, explore the 1950's Town and find out about life in the mid-20th Century, see what's cooking in the pit cottages, practise your handwriting in the school and visit the chapel. Don't forget to say hello to the pit ponies in their stables! Discover how life was on the Home Front during the Second World War at the 1940's Farm, or visit Pockerley Old Hall's new and old houses, enjoy the magnificent gardens and wander through the glorious Georgian landscape. Enjoy traditional tasty treats, delicious snacks, cakes, and drinks. Take home a unique reminder of your visit, shop Edwardian-style in The Town, or look in the Museum Shop at the Entrance. A fabulous day out for everyone.

5	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
)	Friday 18th April 2025	4 Days	<b>£459</b> pp	£135	£29

### Alnwick & Beautiful Northumberland

Northumberland is a land of big adventures, breath-taking beauty and unlimited possibilities. Discover romantically ruinous castles, barely visited beaches, bunting-strewn market towns, and enjoy endless experiences.



#### The White Swan Hotel

Set in the heart of the historic market town of Alnwick, the White Swan Hotel is a charming 300-year-old coaching inn that blends unique heritage and superb accommodation. The hotel is probably best known for the Olympic Dining Suite which features the magnificent panelling, mirrors, and stained-glass windows from the Titanic's sister ship. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel does not have a lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Bamburgh & Holy Island
- Alnwick Castle & Alnwick Gardens
- Northumberland Coast & Tynemouth

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We cross the causeway to Holy Island, a pint-sized island that holds pubs & cafes a plenty. Admire staggering views as you go and feel as though you are entering a secret world as you approach the Island. We also visit the beautiful coastal town of Bamburgh, famous for its castle perched high on the cliff, overlooking the beach and town.
- Alnwick Castle has over 950 years of history to discover, and the origins of the Castle date to the Norman period. Since 1309 its story has been intertwined with that of the Percy family, a family with a history as illustrious as the castle's own. The second largest inhabited castle in the UK, Alnwick has served as a military outpost, a teaching college, a refuge for evacuees, a film set, and not least a family home. Delve deeper into this extraordinary history and travel through the centuries of this living, evolving castle. We also visit Alnwick Garden. Built to be unconventional, The Alnwick Garden is a unique, contemporary garden in the heart of Northumberland. Lose yourself in the mysterious Bamboo Labyrinth, explore the perils of the Poison Garden, or gaze upon the Sage Wealth Management Grand Cascade.
- We travel south to the charming coastal town of Tynemouth. The dramatic Priory & Castle dominates the headland and a short stroll in and around the village reveals some interesting buildings, many with Blue Plaques. There are some truly breath-taking walks to take around Tynemouth, the walk along the seafront is stunning and is rewarded with views of golden sandy beaches. The promenade takes you to the historic North Shields Fish Quay.

### A 'Tyne' For Adventure

A 'Tyne' for adventure on this colourful voyage through the North East! Step into the best-preserved medieval castle in the UK, as your costumed guide recounts tales of Bolton Castle's famous prisoners, zoom through fascinating periods of change at the living, breathing museum, Beamish, and take a 'propa lush' coach journey through Newcastle's rich history, stunning coastlines, and architectural wonders in the heart of the North East.

#### The Delta Hotels by Marriott Durham Royal County Opening its doors in 1815, the centrally located Delta Hotel by Marriott Durham Royal County is within walking distance of the consequential Durham Cathedral and Durham Castle and rests on the banks of the elegant

Durham Cathedral and Durham Castle and rests on the banks of the elegant River Wear. Relish delicious dishes, craft beers, and creative cocktails in the Cast Iron Bar & Grill, or visit Paddy & Scott's Coffee Shop, where you can savour sustainable artisan coffee. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Beamish the Living Museum of the North
- Bolton Castle
- Newcastle Panorama & Coastal Coach Tour with Guide
- Seaton Delaval Hall

- Enter a world-famous and award-winning open-air museum, affectionately known as the living museum of the north. Get up close to a recreated northeast history from 1820 all the way to the 1950's. Meet knowledgeable volunteers and staff who are decked out in exceptional historical costume. Travel by tram or old-fashioned bus from the Edwardian Town and Pit Village, complete with original drift mine to Home Farm and Pockerley Old Hall. You'll find many a unique item in the open stores – donated by the public to best reflect their stories and experiences. Why not have a quick tipple at the Sun Inn Pub or try some traditional sweets at the Jubilee Sweet Shop?
- Cross the realm back in time and enter one of the best-preserved medieval structures in the UK. Meet your costumed guide, and (exclusively) enter through Bolton Castle's traditional portcullis gate. Handle the collection with the experts and even try your hand at Archery (weather permitting). With a colourful history, including once holding Mary Queen of Scots prisoner, the castle has featured in acclaimed films 'Ivanhoe' and 'Elizabeth'. Step across the centuries in the castle's gardens, which have been carefully restored to their 15th-century design, complete with a vineyard and a maze, offering a glimpse into medieval horticulture.
- We begin our journey at the iconic Angel of the North, a proud symbol of the region with a wingspan larger than the Statue of Liberty. We continue to the architectural gem Gateshead Quays, explore the Baltic Art gallery for its stunning Tyneside views and marvel at the award-winning Millennium Bridge and the Sage Gateshead. Discover the Geordie jewels with a panoramic tour of the city, featuring the commanding castle, the imposing cathedral, and the hallowed grounds of St. James' Park Stadium. Down the coast, breathe in the fresh sea air in Tynemouth, famed for its spectacular views over the North Sea, on to Cullercoats – muse for 19th century painters – up to Whitley Bay's golden sandy beach and striking view of St Mary's Lighthouse. Finally, uncover the fabulous history of the 'Gay Delavals' at Seaton Delaval Hall, a masterpiece by Sir John Vanbrugh.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 11th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	£180	£29	Friday 30th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	£130	£29

## North East Coast History, Heritage & Wildlife

On this tour to the Northeast, we take in the history, heritage, and wildlife of the region. We include a visit to the seaside town of Seaham, a guided tour of the Washington Wetland Centre and get a chance to learn about the maritime history of Hartlepool.

## Delightful Durham & Beamish

Durham is an amazing county in Northeast England, with breath-taking scenery and award-winning attractions. Seek out hidden gems, relax and enjoy peaceful tranquillity, and refuel in award-winning eateries serving delicious local produce.



#### **The Best Western Grand Hotel**

The Best Western Grand Hotel Hartlepool has recently undergone refurbishment which has added a contemporary style to this historic property. The hotel has a recently installed lift, restaurant, bar, and complimentary Wi-Fi throughout. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Washington Wetland Centre
- Hartlepool's Maritime Experience
- Auckland Project All Access Pass
- Cream Tea at the Hotel

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We journey along the coastline to the seaside town of Seaham for a stop and a look around. The beach is famous for its colourful sea glass. We continue to the Washington Wetland Centre where a friendly warden will greet us and take us on a guided tour of the site. It's a chance to see a wide variety of wildlife species that make the River Wear their home and as a special bonus, there are resident flamingos and otters. Time permitting later, we visit the historic city of Durham, acclaimed as a World Heritage Site, and dominated by the magnificent Norman Cathedral sitting high above the river.
- After a leisurely breakfast, we visit Hartlepool's Historic Quay a faithful reproduction of an 18th Century seaport portraying the exciting experience of life in the times of Nelson and Trafalgar. The centrepiece is the HMS Trincomalee – Europe's oldest floating warship. You'll also find the Museum of Hartlepool & PSS Wingfield Castle, all included in your Maritime Experience ticket. Later at the hotel we enjoy a Cram Tea and time to relax before dinner.
- We make the journey west to Bishop Auckland and Auckland Castle. This proud home of the Bishops of Durham stands as one of the bestpreserved Bishop's Palaces in Europe. Enjoy time at leisure to explore the Castle where staterooms are designed to tell the history and story of the bishops that lived here. In the grounds of the Castle, you can explore the 17th Century walled garden which often provides fresh produce for the café menu. This afternoon we have included an all-access pass to the other attractions in the town centre managed by The Auckland Project. Choose from the Mining Art Gallery, the Spanish Art Gallery, the Faith Museum, and Auckland Tower providing 360-degree views of the Castle, Bishop Auckland, and the surrounding rural area. The choice is yours.

#### The Redworth Hall Hotel

Redworth Hall is a stunning 17th Century Jacobean Manor House, situated in the blissful tranquillity of its own 26 acres of landscaped grounds. Ensuite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and Retreat Spa with swimming pool, gym, and treatment rooms.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Raby Castle & Barnard Castle
- Beamish Living Museum of the North
- Durham with River Cruise

- Raby Castle is one of England's finest medieval castles. The Castle has a powerful exterior with a superb collection of art and artefacts. The 18th Century Walled Garden has been recently remodelled and is now a stunning 5-acre vision. The Vinery proudly presents handcrafted dishes and treats inspired or sourced from the beautiful Raby Estate. Later, we visit the historic market town of Barnard Castle which takes its name from the castle around which it grew. A haven for discerning shoppers and treasure seekers, the town's many antique shops and independent retailers provide a charming shopping experience. The restaurants, cafes and pubs serve good quality home-made food with local produce at the forefront of their menus.
- Beamish is a world-famous open-air museum, telling the story of life in North East England in the 1800's & 1900's. Explore the 1900's Town and see how families lived and worked in the years leading up to the First World War. See what's cooking in the pit cottages, practise your handwriting in the school and visit the chapel. Don't forget to say hello to the pit ponies in their stables! Discover how life was on the Home Front during the Second World War – look out for the Land Girls and the Home Guard! Enjoy traditional tasty treats, delicious snacks, cakes and drinks. Take home a unique reminder of your visit, shops Edwardian-style in The Town, or take a look in the Museum Shop at the entrance.
- Durham is a captivating city with winding cobbled streets and a prominent peninsula crowned with the dramatic Cathedral & Castle UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take some time out with a relaxing riverside walk or soak up the atmosphere with superb cafes, artisan workshops, boutiques, galleries and museums. Whilst here, we enjoy a Prince Bishop River Cruise offering spectacular views of historic Durham City, Cathedral, Castle and Bridges.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	INS DATE		PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 23rd June 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£40	£29	Monday 7th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£140	£29

## Kynren – An Epic Tale of England

This action-packed, live blockbuster performed by a cast and crew of 1,000, takes you on an amazing journey through 2,000 years of history, myth, and legend. Kynren is a world class show brought to life with magnificent sets, combat, stunts, horsemanship, stunning pyrotechnics, and amazing special effects, set to a thrilling original soundtrack. A truly captivating experience for all and must be seen to be believed.

# e Eeven Arches

#### The Millennium Copthorne Hotel

Located in Newcastle's Quayside, right in the heart of this vibrant city, Millennium Copthorne Newcastle is the perfect base from which to explore. As the only hotel in Newcastle City with all rooms overlooking the River Tyne, there's nowhere better in the city to stay. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Kynren Live Action Show
- Cathedral City of Durham
- Newcastle-Upon-Tyne

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Today is free to explore Newcastle-Upon-Tyne at leisure from our centrally located hotel. With a city centre boasting some of England's finest Georgian architecture, Newcastle is a hub for shopping, from the independent stores and quirky shops of Grainger Town to the latest big brand names of Eldon Square. Take a moment to visit an award-winning museum, admire the modern architecture of the iconic bridges crossing the River Tyne, discover the charm of Chinatown and the historic Newcastle Castle - from which the city takes its name - located in the centre of town. Return to the hotel for an early dinner before heading to Bishop Auckland for Kynren -An Epic Tale of England. Taking place on a vast landscaped stage with a huge lake at its centre hiding a host of surprises, you'll meet many of the characters and events that have shaped England. With 29 scenes encompassing the Roman occupation to World War Two, history will unfold in front of your eyes, thanks to a cast and crew of almost 1,500 performing on this vast open-air stage. Spectacular sets appear as if by magic, mass choreography and fierce battles are illuminated with dazzling special effects, effervescent lighting, and pyrotechnics, set to a spine-tingling score which you'll experience in movie-like surround sound.
- We visit the Cathedral City of Durham where no visit is complete without exploring the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the World Heritage Visitor Centre, discover fascinating exhibitions inside the historic libraries at Place Green, take a guided tour of Durham Castle, and be amazed at the Romanesque architecture of Durham Cathedral.

Please note: Kynren is an outdoor show, so it is important that passengers bring appropriate clothing for the weather. This show may not be suitable for passengers with mobility issues.

## South Shields & The Durham Coast

The North East of England is a region rich in contemporary culture, historic sights, and dramatic landscapes, all within easy reach of our base in the traditional seaside resort of South Shields.



#### **The Little Haven Hotel**

The Little Haven Hotel is uniquely situated in South Shields at the gateway to the River Tyne and boasts extensive views of the busy Tyne & Little Haven beach. The hotel has a lift, and the Boardwalk Restaurant is fashionably set in the conservatory overlooking Little Haven beach and the lively waterfront. Ensuite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Tynemouth & Newcastle Upon Tyne
- South Shields & Durham
- Hexham & Hadrian's Wall

- Enjoy the morning at leisure exploring the traditional resort of South Shields, home of the late Catherine Cookson. Later, we continue along the coast road on our way south, passing Marsden Bay, Whitburn, and Seaburn, before turning inland across to the ancient and historic city of Durham, acclaimed as a World Heritage Site, and dominated by the magnificent Norman Cathedral and Castle, high above the River Wear.
- We head inland via Jarrow, and Hebburn, to Gateshead, Blaydon, and Prudhoe, as we make our way to Hexham and its historic Abbey. Clustered around its marketplace and medieval Abbey, Hexham features glorious Victorian buildings overlooking the park and historic buildings dotted around the town, home to art galleries, pubs, and much more. This afternoon, a short drive takes us to Wall from where we follow the path of Hadrian's Wall to Vindolanda, and then continue past the Gateshead Metro Centre and back south to South Shields.
- A ride through the Tyne Tunnel takes us out to the coast and Tynemouth. We have a break with time to stroll along the shore and have a look around before we continue our journey to Newcastle for the afternoon at leisure. In the centre, Roman, medieval, Jacobean, Georgian, and Victorian buildings sit comfortably alongside colourful Chinatown and the Eldon Square complex. It is a happy jumble which gives the city a true cosmopolitan air.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 22nd August 2025	4 Days	<b>£469</b> pp	£120	£29	Monday 1st September 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	£96	£29

## **Alnwick & Beautiful** Northumberland

Northumberland is a land of big adventures, breath-taking beauty and unlimited possibilities. Discover romantically ruinous castles, barely visited beaches, bunting-strewn market towns, and enjoy endless experiences.

## **Delightful Durham** & Beamish

Durham is an amazing county in Northeast England, with breath-taking scenery and award-winning attractions. Seek out hidden gems, relax and enjoy peaceful tranquillity, and refuel in award-winning eateries serving delicious local produce.



#### The White Swan Hotel

Set in the heart of the historic market town of Alnwick, the White Swan Hotel is a charming 300-year-old coaching inn that blends unique heritage and superb accommodation. The hotel is probably best known for the Olympic Dining Suite which features the magnificent panelling, mirrors, and stained-glass windows from the Titanic's sister ship. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel does not have a lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Bamburgh & Holy Island
- Alnwick Castle & Alnwick Gardens
- Northumberland Coast & Tynemouth

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We cross the causeway to Holy Island, a pint-sized island that holds pubs & cafes a plenty. Admire staggering views as you go and feel as though you are entering a secret world as you approach the Island. We also visit the beautiful coastal town of Bamburgh, famous for its castle perched high on the cliff, overlooking the beach and town.
- Alnwick Castle has over 950 years of history to discover, and the origins of the Castle date to the Norman period. Since 1309 its story has been intertwined with that of the Percy family, a family with a history as illustrious as the castle's own. The second largest inhabited castle in the UK, Alnwick has served as a military outpost, a teaching college, a refuge for evacuees, a film set, and not least a family home. Delve deeper into this extraordinary history and travel through the centuries of this living, evolving castle. We also visit Alnwick Garden. Built to be unconventional, The Alnwick Garden is a unique, contemporary garden in the heart of Northumberland. Lose yourself in the mysterious Bamboo Labyrinth, explore the perils of the Poison Garden, or gaze upon the Sage Wealth Management Grand Cascade.
- We travel south to the charming coastal town of Tynemouth. The dramatic Priory & Castle dominates the headland and a short stroll in and around the village reveals some interesting buildings, many with Blue Plaques. There are some truly breath-taking walks to take around Tynemouth, the walk along the seafront is stunning and is rewarded with views of golden sandy beaches. The promenade takes you to the historic North Shields Fish Quay.

Redworth Hall is a stunning 17th Century Jacobean Manor House, situated in the blissful tranquillity of its own 26 acres of landscaped grounds. Ensuite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and Retreat Spa with swimming pool, gym, and treatment rooms.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Raby Castle & Barnard Castle
- Beamish Living Museum of the North
- Durham with River Cruise

- Raby Castle is one of England's finest medieval castles. The Castle has a powerful exterior with a superb collection of art and artefacts. The 18th Century Walled Garden has been recently remodelled and is now a stunning 5-acre vision. The Vinery proudly presents handcrafted dishes and treats inspired or sourced from the beautiful Raby Estate. Later, we visit the historic market town of Barnard Castle which takes its name from the castle around which it grew. A haven for discerning shoppers and treasure seekers, the town's many antique shops and independent retailers provide a charming shopping experience. The restaurants, cafes and pubs serve good quality home-made food with local produce at the forefront of their menus.
- Beamish is a world-famous open-air museum, telling the story of life in North East England in the 1800's & 1900's. Explore the 1900's Town and see how families lived and worked in the years leading up to the First World War. See what's cooking in the pit cottages, practise your handwriting in the school and visit the chapel. Don't forget to say hello to the pit ponies in their stables! Discover how life was on the Home Front during the Second World War - look out for the Land Girls and the Home Guard! Enjoy traditional tasty treats, delicious snacks, cakes and drinks. Take home a unique reminder of your visit, shops Edwardian-style in The Town, or take a look in the Museum Shop at the entrance.
- Durham is a captivating city with winding cobbled streets and a prominent peninsula crowned with the dramatic Cathedral & Castle UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take some time out with a relaxing riverside walk or soak up the atmosphere with superb cafes, artisan workshops, boutiques, galleries and museums. Whilst here, we enjoy a Prince Bishop River Cruise offering spectacular views of historic Durham City, Cathedral, Castle and Bridges.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	INS DATE		PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 7th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£579</b> pp	£180	£29	Monday 29th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£140	£29

# Mature Singles

## Mature Singles -Llandudno

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.

## Mature Singles -Sidmouth

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.



#### **The Marlborough Hotel**

A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Conwy
- Caernarfon & Cream Tea

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We enjoy a half-day trip to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well-preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings. The Walls radiate from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere, and still has the power to dominate.
- Caernarfon is a picturesque town nestled in the heart of Snowdonia, with a rich history and stunning landscapes. Mighty Caernarfon Castle commands the lion's share of attention, but the town's narrow streets and stylishly redeveloped waterfront also merit a visit. Whilst here, we visit the lovely Celtic Royal Hotel for a delicious Cream Tea before returning to Llandudno.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 10th February 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£29

#### **The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel**

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Budleigh Salterton & River Exe Cruise
- Torquay & Paignton Cream Tea

- We drive through the Otter Valley to Budleigh Salterton, a charming resort, overlooked by high cliffs known as The Floors. Budleigh Salterton remains one of Devon's most unspoilt and charming towns containing many interesting shops and other attractions. We continue to Exmouth – one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise on the River Exe before returning to the hotel.
- Torquay is a traditional yet thriving seaside town with iconic palm trees, a busy harbour, an international marina, and wonderful array of continental-style cafes, restaurants, and cocktail bars. Take a leisurely stroll along the historic Torquay pier and palm tree-lined promenade and enjoy the sea views and watch the comings and goings in the adjacent marina. Later, we travel to nearby Paignton where we enjoy a delicious Cream Tea.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 20th February 2025	5 Days	<b>£419</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Mature Singles - Exploring Mature Singles -the Scottish Highlands Eastbourne

You can lose yourself within the stunning scenery of The Highlands, with its majestic mountains, and mysterious lochs, as we journey through

renowned for its attractive three-tiered flower-decked promenade.



#### **Highlander Hotel**

Set in the stunning location of the Cairngorm National Park, the Highlander Hotel is the ideal place to stay whether you're an outdoor enthusiast or just want to enjoy the spectacular scenery in the area. Based in the village of Newtonmore, the Highlander Hotel offers a warm welcome and true highland hospitality. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and some entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

- Cairngorm Mountain Railway & Aviemore
- Fort William & Ben Nevis Distillery
- Loch Ness Cruise & Inverness

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We enjoy a breath-taking trip on the Cairngorm Mountain Railway, Scotland's only funicular railway - the highest in the UK reaching the Ptarmigan building at over 1,097m above sea level. The 2km funicular takes passengers to the top of the slopes in around 5-8 minutes and once at the top, you can enjoy a unique visitor experience Ptarmigan Restaurant with panoramic views, Cairngorm Gin Bar, viewing terrace, 270 degrees immersive exhibition, and the Shop at the Top serving a wide range of gifts, clothing, and local products. Later, we visit the village of Aviemore, with its great selection of shops, restaurants, cafes and bars, and beautiful scenery.
- Fort William is the largest town in The Highlands, located on the shores of beautiful Loch Linnhe. The pedestrianised main street is packed with independent shops and places to eat. We also visit the Ben Nevis Distillery, one of the oldest licensed distilleries in Scotland and home to The Legend of the Dew of Ben Nevis Visitor Centre. Established in 1825 and situated at the foot of Britain's highest mountain Ben Nevis, Ben Nevis Distillery is an impressive and historic place. In a specially commissioned audiovisual presentation, we will meet Hector McDram, a mythical giant who will reveal the secret Legend of the Dew of Ben Nevis.
- We cruise the Loch and view the castle on our 50-minute voyage across the deepest, mysterious waters of Loch Ness. From here, treat those peepers - and your camera - to the breath-taking sight of historic Urquhart Castle. An onboard audio is bursting with lots of facts and legends to tune into as you sail, and don't forget to look out for Nessie, with a little help from the onboard sonar! Later, we visit Inverness, the capital of The Highlands, a perfect mix of a small city scene with an escape to the surrounding natural beauty of the small area within minutes!



#### Haddon Hall Hotel

The Haddon Hall Hotel is enviably situated at the seafront end of Devonshire Place, a broad, tree-lined avenue that links the main promenade with the town centre. The Bandstand is located across the road from the hotel. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, spacious lounge, ballroom, cocktail bar, and some evening entertainment. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities.

- Brighton Pavilion
- 'Must-see' Village of Alfriston
- Battle & Rye
- 1/2 Day Lewes

- We visit the 'must-see' village of Alfriston, on the banks of Cuckmere River, at the foot of the beautiful South Downs. There is so much to admire – the medieval narrow, twisting High Street has a surprising wealth and variety of shops. We continue to vibrant Brighton for our included visit to Brighton Pavilion. Experience a fantasy palace fit for a king and bask in Regency splendour, inside and out. See the Great Kitchen - a king's kitchen with the latest technology, Banqueting Room - luxury dining George IV style, Saloon - restored to its brilliant glory, and Music Room - a place for music, dancing and plenty of dragons!
- Battle is the site of the most famous battle in English history. The beautiful town is built around the abbey which was erected on the site of the battle in 1066. Later, we visit the picturesque town of Rye, with cobbled streets, historical buildings and lovely independent shops making it easy to while away the hours wandering the streets. The Mermaid Inn was built in 1156 and is thought to be connected by a secret passageway to the Olde Bell Inn. Mermaid Street, a beautiful, cobbled street, is one of Rye's most photographed streets and is definitely worth a visit.
- Lewes boasts medieval streets, old English churches and tiny twittens (a Sussex word for alleyway) allowing visitors a glimpse into the true essence of bygone Lewes. This lovely market town has small, specialist, independent retailers. Bookshops, boutiques and antique centres sit alongside individual craft workshops, and the restaurants, cafes, and pubs offer delicious choices all year round with real emphasis on local produce.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 17th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£429</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 4th April 2025	6 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	NIL	£35

## Mature Singles -Beautiful Kent

Known as 'The Garden of England', this corner of England boasts beautiful beaches, stunning castles, exciting culture, and delicious food and drink. There are so many beautiful villages, towns, cities, and seasides to explore, we are spoilt for choice, but we think our itinerary will showcase the very best Kent has to offer.

## Mature Singles - Coventry & The Jewellery Quarter

Get ready to be charmed by an amazing city centre, from stunning architecture and creativity to fascinating stories of days gone by. A city like no other, Coventry is home to a wealth of things to discover.



#### The Ashford International Hotel & Spa

A comfy bed, a soothing spa, and a tasty menu – it's all waiting for you at the Ashford International Hotel. The hotel has a lift, two stylish restaurants, and a spa with swimming pool, steam room, and jacuzzi. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dover Castle & Deal
- Whitstable & Canterbury
- Chapel Down Winery & Tenterden

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Rising above the famous White Cliffs, high above the Channel, Dover Castle is an icon of England. Built soon after 1066, this mighty fortress has been the site of royal intrigue and epic sieges and was at the centre of the crucial effort to evacuate hundreds of thousands of allied troops from the beach at Dunkirk. Discover the story of Dunkirk in an immersive exhibition in the Secret Wartime Tunnels, relive the tensions as medics try to save an injured pilot on a tour of the Underground Hospital, or roam 80 acres of castle grounds with mighty battlements, a Roman Lighthouse, and Saxon Church. Later, we visit Deal, quaint, quirky and one of the most charming coastal towns in Kent.
- In Whitstable, you'll spot people strolling along the shingle beach, enjoying the freshest seafood, incredible views and taking a dip in the sea all year round. The town is also home to many independent shops, and you can delight in the high street's bohemian charm. Later, we visit Canterbury – this medieval walled city has been hosting visitors for more than 1,000 years, so a warm welcome from any 'pilgrim' is guaranteed. Wind your way around cobbled streets and historic sights, shop at a huge mix of independent retailers, and relax in award-winning restaurants, breweries, and cosy cafes.
- Tenterden, known as the 'Jewel of the Weald', has a fascinating history, a wealth of architecture, and excellent shopping. At its centre are tree-lined greens that distance you from the world going by. Georgian buildings share the streets with tall Victorian houses and tiny cottages, and unique shops blend with the usual. This afternoon, we visit Chapel Down Winery for a guided tour of the vineyards & winery before a tutored tasting of their award-winning range of sparkling and still wines.

for you at the taurants, and e bedrooms	
king facilities.	The Holiday Inn Coventry
	The Holiday Inn Coventry is a contemporary hotel close to the city centre of Coventry. The hotel has a lift, restaurant and bar. En-suite bedrooms
	feature ${ m TV}$ , safe, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Coventry & St Mary's Guildhall with Afternoon Tea
- The Coffin Works & Birmingham's Jewelry Quarter

- Coventry is our focus today with a visit to St Mary's Guildhall. Discover 700 years of Power, propaganda, and partying. This is an undiscovered gem in a unique historical setting in the heart of Coventry's Cathedral Quarter. Following our guided tour, we visit the Tales of Tea Restaurant for a delicious Afternoon Tea. The rest of the day is at leisure to discover all that Coventry, City of Culture 2021, has to offer. Perhaps be inspired by Coventry Cathedral, or say hello to Dippy, the nation's favourite dinosaur, the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, or discover the history of the British motor industry at the Coventry Transport Museum.
- We visit The Coffin Works and explore this historic coffin furniture manufactory, brought back to life in this unique time-capsule museum. The shelves and workbenches at Newman Brothers are full of original stock and tools of the trade. With the original machinery working again you can truly experience how this old Jewellery Quarter firm once operated on a day-to-day basis, producing some of the world's finest coffin furniture, including the fittings for the funerals of Winston Churchill, Princess Diana and the Queen Mother. Following our visit, there will be free time in the Jewellery Quarter, a special place, and has been described as a 'national treasure'. Shopping for gifts and presents here is a must. Browse through over a hundred shops for classic pieces, contemporary designs, beautiful, handcrafted jewellery and bargains galore. In between the bargain hunting you can enjoy a refreshing break in one of the many pubs, cafes, bars, and restaurants, as well as art galleries, museums, and antique shops.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 18th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 6th June 2025	4 Days	<b>£409</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Mature Singles -Summer in Blackpool

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or maybe it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it.

## Mature Singles -Wonderful Warwickshire

A county of literary greats, of culinary brilliance and iconic heritage. Warwickshire is a captivating mix of the famous and the yet-to-be discovered in beautiful countryside threaded by rivers and canals. Scattered between and around are historic market towns and villages full of allure just waiting to be discovered.





Situated on Blackpool's glorious seafront, a stay at The Imperial Hotel means waking up to the waves lapping the shore outside. It means peaceful post-breakfast strolls along the Promenade as the Heritage Trams sail by. Cocktails on the terrace during the most spectacular sunsets in the northwest are a must. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

### Please note: Our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour so there will be no excursions included.

After breakfast on the last day of your holiday, we travel straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Inclusive Drinks 5:30-10pm Each Evening including Draft beer, lager, cider, range of non-alcoholic soft drinks, wine by the glass, selected spirits, selected vermouth, and sherry, plus regular tea & coffee.
- Entertainment Each Evening



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE
Monday 30th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	NIL	£29	Sunday 20th July

#### Chesford Grange Hotel

Make yourself at home at Chesford Grange designed for you to relax and unwind. First-class hospitality is top of the menu at this Warwickshire hotel, all set amongst the serenity of the quaint countryside and nearby River Avon. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and health club with swimming pool, steam room, and gym. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, safe, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Forge Needle Museum & Alcester
- Kenilworth Castle
- St Mary's Guildhall with Afternoon Tea

- Forge Mill Needle Museum is an unusual and fascinating place to visit. This historic site illustrates the rich heritage of the needle industry. Learn how needles were once made and how this area once produced 90% of the world's needles. Later, we visit Alcester, set amidst the gently rolling hills of Shakespeare's England. Meander down the streets and soak up the authentic atmosphere of delightfully preserved buildings, lanes and tueries that provide a superb backdrop to the vibrant bustle of a picturesque market town steeped in history. Discover its past, take tea, and browse the shops.
- Discover stories of epic sieges and royal scandals at mighty Kenilworth Castle. Once one of the country's most formidable medieval fortresses, the castle was later transformed into a spectacular Elizabethan palace by Robert Dudley in an effort to impress his queen. Today, you can explore the mighty medieval keep, climb up the Tudor towers, wander through a unique Elizabethan Garden and get hands on with the history in the exhibition. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore Kenilworth. Uncover the rich threads of history, browse intriguing shops or simply kick back over some fabulous food & drink.
- Coventry is our focus today with a visit to St Mary's Guildhall. Discover 700 years of Power, propaganda, and partying. This is an undiscovered gem in a unique historical setting in the heart of Coventry's Cathedral Quarter. Following our guided tour, we visit the Tales of Tea Restaurant for a delicious Afternoon Tea. The rest of the day is at leisure to discover all that Coventry, City of Culture 2021, has to offer. Perhaps be inspired by Coventry Cathedral, or say hello to Dippy, the nation's favourite dinosaur, the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, or discover the history of the British motor industry at the Coventry Transport Museum.

5	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
)	Sunday 20th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£619</b> pp	NIL	£29

## **Mature Singles - Somerset Splendour**

Somerset boasts five areas of outstanding natural beauty and the Exmoor National Park, along with a varied coastline including long sandy beaches, rugged cliffs, and traditional harbours. Hidden gems are waiting to be found, and we hope you enjoy our pick of the best.



#### **The Mercure Bridgewater Hotel**

The Mercure Bridgewater Hotel is conveniently set in the heart of the historic town, making it easy for guests to get around. The hotel is complemented by a Marco Pierre White Steakhouse, using only the finest quality ingredients guests can expect a mouth-watering menu, a lively atmosphere, and refreshing cocktails. The hotel has a lift and a bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron, safe, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- West Somerset Railway
- East Lambrook Manor Gardens
- Glastonbury & Wells

- We join the West Somerset Railway at Bishop's Lydeard for our journey along 20 miles of heritage railway through stunning Somerset countryside and coast to Minehead. The remainder of the day is free in Minehead to explore. There are beaches to explore, a fishing quarter and an historic harbour. There's a 14th Century church on the hill and the much-photographed historic church steps. Take a walk down the tree-lined Avenue and visit the selection of tea rooms, pubs, and independent shops in the town centre.
- East Lambrook Manor Gardens is the iconic and quintessentially English cottage garden created by the celebrated 20th-Century plants woman and gardening writer Margery Fish. It was here that she developed her own style of gardening, combining old-fashioned and contemporary plants in a relaxed and informal manner to create a garden of immense beauty and charm. Later, we visit Taunton, the county town of Somerset. Taunton is a bustling, forward thinking town with a good selection of independent shops, distinctive restaurants, cafes and attractions, and a wealth of history, all whilst being surrounded by picturesque countryside.
- Glastonbury is possible the quirkiest town in England, steeped in history, myth, and the smell of incense. We enjoy a little time here to explore before we continue to Wells, England's smallest city. Perhaps best known for its famous Cathedral, Wells offers a charming day out full of rich heritage and tradition. Why not visit one of many tea rooms or country pubs or perhaps visit the Wells and Mendip Museum. Wells also has some great independent shops and art galleries.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 3rd July 2025	5 Days	<b>£629</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Mature Singles -West Sussex & Weald & Downland Museum

One of the UK's most diverse counties, West Sussex covers both coast and the South Downs National Park, encompassing hills, harbours, farmland, and market towns. There's so much to explore, from the picturesque coastline to rolling hills and beautiful countryside, to bustling towns and a Cathedral city.



#### **Avisford Park Hotel**

A stunning Georgian manor house set in 89 acres of beautiful Sussex parkland, conveniently located between historic Chichester and picturesque Arundel. The hotel has a classic dining room, relaxed lounge, terrace, and bar. Charming, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities. Sorry, there is no lift.



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS** 

- Weald & Downland Living Museum & Chichester
- Arundel Castle & Historic Arundel

- The Weald & Downland Living Museum, home of the BBC's Repair Shop, is a hidden gem. Be part of something historic and discover Sussex rural history through the seasons, in the heart of the picturesque South Downs. See what rural living was like with over 1,000 years of history to explore, and over 50 relocated historic houses covering the 40-acre site. Later, we visit the Roman cathedral city of Chichester. It has a plethora of grade II listed buildings, and the city is mostly pedestrianised making it a safe and spacious shopping experience.
- Arundel Castle's story begins in 1067 and continues to the present day. Many of the original features such as the Norman Keep, Medieval Gatehouse and Barbican survive. Learn from friendly guides about the finely preserved interior with its fascinating furniture, tapestries, and rare collection of paintings by renowned artists, including Van Dyck, Gainsborough, and Canaletto. Stroll through the tranquil grounds where you will discover glorious gardens to explore – beautiful award-winning Tropical & English Gardens, the quirky Stumpery, and the abundant Kitchen Garden. Discover warm Glasshouses with chillies, grapes and lemons, and immerse yourself in the fragrance of the Rose Garden and enjoy the tranquillity of the Fitzalan Chapel's White Garden. Once your visit is complete, visit Arundel's historic town centre, with its museum, galleries, shops, and restaurants – just 500m from the main entrance.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 15th August 2025	4 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Mature Singles -Discovering Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire boasts a host of exciting things to do, from rolling countryside with historic market towns and villages, to an awardwinning coastline and Britain's Best Small City, there is so much to see and do in this county of contrasts.

## Mature Singles - Lapping Up Northamptonshire: Motors, Manors & Wines

Forming the heartland of England, rural Northamptonshire is home to charming market towns, stately houses, glorious gardens and Silverstone, the Formula 1 motor racing circuit – all of which we lap up on this tour.



#### The Northampton Town Centre Hotel by Accor

This is a modern, and spacious hotel conveniently situated around a 5-minute walk from Northampton's town centre, and an easy drive from our included attractions. All en-suite bedrooms are served by a lift and benefit from fresh and sleek décor, and have TV, climate control, hairdryer, safe, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The contemporary bar/lounge is a comfortable place to relax, while the smart restaurant serves well-presented buffet breakfasts and international cuisine.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Holdenby House Guided Tour
- Fleur Fields Vineyard Guided Tour & Tasting
- Entrance to Stowe
- Entrance to Silverstone Interactive Museum
- Delapre Abbey Guided Tour, Tea & Biscuits

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Today begins with a visit to Holdenby House, once the largest private house in Elizabethan England and a prison of King Charles I. We enjoy a guided tour of this beautiful manor, admiring the hall, ballroom, library, and other rooms and hear about Charles' imprisonment here in 1647. We then have time at leisure to stroll the gardens, which include Charles' favourite walk during his captivity. This afternoon, we make our way to Fleur Fields Vineyard, a familyrun winery in the Northamptonshire hills for a guided tour & tasting.
- This morning, we visit the Silverstone Race Circuit and the Silverstone Interactive Museum. The exhibition features state-ofthe-art interactive displays telling the fascinating stories of human endeavour, great sporting rivalries, and engineering innovation. Our visit will end with the thrill of speeding around Silverstone, alongside racing heroes in an immersive show 'The Ultimate Lap of Silverstone', with commentary by Murray Walker. Later, we head to the beautiful gardens of Stowe, the scale and beauty of which have attracted visitors for over 300 years. Picture-perfect views, winding paths, lakeside walks, and temples create a timeless landscape reflecting the changing seasons.
- We have the morning at leisure in Market Harborough, an 800-yearold market town famous for its traditional markets, vibrant shops, and restaurants. Highlights include its 17th Century, half-timbered Old Grammar School built on stilts to shelter butter traders below, the finely steepled parish church, and Harborough Museum, which houses the Hallaton Treasure – a hoard of Iron Age artifacts unearthed in nearby fields. Later, we visit Delapre Abbey, a neoclassical mansion and parkland incorporating the remains of a 900-year-old nunnery, where we enjoy a guided tour, tea & biscuits.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 8th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£579</b> pp	NIL	£29	Thursday 9th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£589</b> pp	NIL	£29

#### The Barn Hotel & Spa

The Barn Hotel & Spa, Grantham, is a delightful tranquil retreat set in beautiful Lincolnshire countryside near the village of Marston. The hotel – a member of 'Tastes of Lincolnshire' – prides itself on the quality of its food. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and health club and spa with indoor swimming pool, sauna, and spa. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Lincoln Cathedral Guided Tour
- Guided Tour of Lincoln
- Belton House
- Historic Stamford
- Burghley House

- We drive to the historic city of Lincoln with its magnificent cathedral, and next to it the Norman castle. First, we meet our guide for a familiarisation tour of the city on our coach, and later in the day, we enjoy a guided tour of the cathedral itself. The old town is a labyrinth of little alleyways and interesting shops to explore with plenty of tea rooms to satisfy your taste buds.
- This morning, we call at the beautiful town of Stamford. There will be time to explore the town, packed full of art and craft shops and lots of choice for lunch. Later, we visit Burghley House, a 13,000-acre working Lincolnshire estate on the outskirts of Stamford. Built between 1555 and 1587, this is a wonderful example of the great Elizabethan 'prodigy' houses built to honour the Queen. Explore the stunning state rooms filled with awe-inspiring works of art and priceless treasures. Find hidden trails, imaginative planting, and Elizabethan trickery in the beautiful gardens. There's also an orangery restaurant, shop, and café to visit.
- Our day begins with a drive to Spalding where we visit Springfields Garden Centre with time to explore. Later, we visit Belton House, near Grantham. This perfect example of an English country house is set in its own deer park. Belton was built in the 17th Century and offers delightful gardens, orangery, and lakeside walks. The house featured in BBC TV's adaptation of Pride & Prejudice starring Colin Firth.

## **Mature Singles - A Corner of Wales**

The natural beauty of the Pembrokeshire coast and the Gower Peninsula are famed all over the world. Glorious sandy beaches and seemingly endless rugged coastline give way to the Preseli Hills, historic towns and little villages – a delightful corner of Wales.



#### The Ivy Bush Royal Hotel

The Ivy Bush Royal Hotel is within easy walking distance of Carmarthen town centre and was once a favourite retreat for Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton. Sympathetically modernised, the hotel retains its old-world charm blended with modern-day facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Tenby & Saundersfoot
- St David's & St Bride's Bay
- Mumbles & The Gower Peninsula

- This morning, we travel west to the popular small seaside resort of Saundersfoot, where we stay awhile with time to explore the little harbour before continuing to nearby Tenby. With old town walls, interesting little side streets and alleyways, and two superb beaches to explore, Tenby is Southwest Wales's main holiday resort. Always a pleasant and friendly place to visit. Our return takes us via Pendine Sands and Laugharne, the former home of Dyland Thomas
- Enjoy the beautiful, unspoilt scenery of the Gower Peninsula, designated an 'Area of outstanding natural beauty'. We visit the picture-postcard resort of Mumbles, with good coffee, independent shops, and classic piers-and-promenade seaside fun, view the nature reserve of Worms Head, and Rhossili Bay, where the 250ft cliff drops steeply to the beach below.
- We drive through St Bride's Bay and Newgale Sands to the magical place of St Davids, birthplace of the patron saint of Wales. St Davids' beautiful cathedral is the smallest in Great Britain and is well worth a visit. The streets are alive with excellent shops, galleries, pubs, and restaurants. From St Davids, we head around the Preseli Mountains back to Carmarthen.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 27th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£489</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Mature Singles - Chester, Llandudno & Llangollen

We are based in Mold, just over the Welsh border and not far from Chester, an ideal location for our contrasting visits on this tour. A visit to an amazing sculpture park and Llangollen, a day in historic Chester itself, and a day out to the seaside.

## Mature Singles -Stratford-upon-Avon

Stratford-upon-Avon introduces you to a market town with more than 800 years of history, containing not only many buildings that survive today and would have been familiar to Shakespeare, but also a thriving community offering a wide variety of leisure and shopping experiences.



#### **Beaufort Park Hotel**

Peacefully positioned on the Welsh Border, the Beaufort Park Hotel, Mold, is a friendly and relaxing place to stay, within easy reach of North Wales's attractions. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant and bar. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Roman City of Chester with Guided Tour
- Shropshire Sculpture Park & Llangollen
- Victorian Seaside Resort of Llandudno

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- A drive through pleasant countryside brings us to the Roman City of Chester. Here, we meet our guide for a tour on our coach to see the highlights before we have the rest of the day at leisure to explore independently. This historic city offers lots to see and do. Perhaps explore the unique 'Rows' – two-tiered timber-framed galleries which are home to some of the quirkiest independent shops, restaurants and bars. Perhaps take a stroll around the City Walls – the oldest, longest and most complete in Britain, parts of which are almost 2,000 years old. Or meander down to the River Dee and enjoy lunch in a riverside pub.
- In a nutshell, everyone loves Llandudno. Who could possibly argue with that while strolling along Llandudno's elegant promenade past pastel-coloured hotels and impeccably authentic seafront architecture just like the Victorians did? Llandudno's appearance is down to the fact that, unlike most other resorts, it has remained largely unchanged for over a century. There's a pier, the longest is Wales, and canopied shopping streets just behind the prom. Put simply, Llandudno is a classic of its kind.
- We are off to Oswestry where we visit the Shropshire Sculpture Park & British Ironworks Centre, home to the UK's largest collection of decorative metalwork, national projects, and beautiful finds from all over the world. Explore two fabulous showrooms, each filled with an eclectic array of wonderful and fascinating items crafted from beautiful metals and materials. Discover over 100 sculptures on display, as well as a fabulous collection of art. Forge Café serves an array of delicious and mouth-watering goodies. Later, we visit Llangollen. A small town with a wealth of independent shops and an astonishing range of cafes and bars. We return to Mold across the spectacular Horseshoe Pass (weather permitting).



#### **Crowne Plaza Stratford-upon-Avon Hotel**

A stunning riverside hotel set amid landscaped gardens beside the River Avon and just a short walk from the town centre. The hotel has a lift, Riverside Restaurant, Terrace Bar & Lounge, indoor swimming pool and fitness centre. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **FOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Stratford-upon-Avon
- Blenheim Palace at Christmas

- Blenheim Palace at Christmas is a magical experience. Themed differently each year, the Palace is decorated for Christmas with trees, lights, baubles and everything festive. This is a place where new memories are made as a multitude of glowing lights and Christmassy sounds fill the air with festive fun. Shoppers and Foodies can escape the bustle of the High Street and stock-up on festive goodies at the celebrated Christmas Market in the Great Court. The seasonal village of wooden chalets offers everything from inspired Christmas gift ideas to tasty treats, and if you have worked up an appetite, there is a tempting selection of street food stalls to share.
- Whatever takes your fancy, Stratford-upon-Avon offers a wide range of attractions and activities to suit any kind of visit. You'll be spoilt for choice by Stratford's diverse array of shops. Whether you're treating yourself to something new or buying a gift for someone special, you can be sure to find it here. From Afternoon Tea to the finest restaurants, Stratford caters for every taste and budget with a wealth of eating places throughout the town. Every visit to Stratford would not be complete without finding out more about the English poet and playwright that makes it famous, there are lots of options including Shakespeare's Birthplace allowing you to visit the house where the world's most famous playwright was born and grew up.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 3rd November 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 14th November 2025	4 Days	<b>£439</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Ireland

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## **Titanic Tastes of Northern Ireland**

This tour is absolute foodie heaven! On the menu are samples of Shorthorn Beef and Organic Salmon at Glenarm Castle and a tasting and lunch including apple tart at Armagh Cider Company – what a treat! Another highlight is the recently reimagined Titanic Belfast Exhibition with four new themed galleries. A visit to the brilliant Ulster Folk Museum and a beautiful Antrim coastal drive complete this great tour.



#### **The Dunadry Hotel & Gardens**

Part of the McKeever Hotel Group, this stunning 4\* hotel is built on the site of an ancient fort and, subsequently, a paper mill, and is set within beautiful gardens alongside the Six Mile Water trout river. All spacious bedrooms are elegantly furnished and have TV, hairdryer and tea/coffee making facilities. The restaurant provides a relaxed and modern dining experience while the bar has a cosy fireplace and embodies many of the old paper mill's original features. Extensive leisure and spa facilities include an indoor swimming pool, spa pool, steam room, beauty salon, and gym. The hotel has a lift.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Entrance to Titanic Belfast
- Glenarm Castle Farm & Tasting Tour
- Armagh Cider Company Tour & Tasting & Lunch
- Entrance to Ulster Folk Museum

- We visit the world-famous Titanic Belfast, which tells the Titanic story through a series of spectacular interactive galleries housed in its iconic building. We roam the shipyard and journey to the depths of the ocean while we immerse ourselves in all things Titanic. The attraction underwent a multi-million-pound transformation in 2023, so we experience the newly introduced theme, 'The Pursuit of Dreams', designed to engage visitors with the dreams and stories of those linked to the luxury ship. The rest of the day is at leisure in Belfast, exploring some of the city's most famous and historic sites and significant points of interest.
- We enjoy a scenic journey along the spectacular Antrim Coast en route to one of Northern Ireland's oldest and most beautiful estates, Glenarm Castle, where we enjoy a Farm & Tasting Tour. During our informative guided tour of the great deer park, we go behind the scenes with the Estate Manager, getting a unique insight into how the estate has innovated and diversified over the centuries to the modern day. We then enjoy a sample of the famous, award-winning Glenarm Shorthorn Beef and Glenarm Organic Salmon.
- We visit Armagh Cider Company for a tour and tasting at the familyrun farm, which produces an artisan range of cider and pure apple juices. Taste buds tingling, we tuck into lunch during our visit, with soup & artisan breads on the menu as well as a delicious apple tart & cream with tea/coffee. Later, we make our way to the Ulster Folk Museum. As we wander through the pretty parkland, we step back in time to experience life in Ulster more than a century ago, encountering costumed locals demonstrating traditional crafts along the way.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 23rd March 2025	5 Days	<b>£699</b> pp	£118	£29

## Wexford's Timeless Treasures

Join us on a sparkling journey through Co. Wexford's hidden and iconic gems. Get the VIP treatment at Huntington Castle with an owner led experience, be mesmerised at the iconic House of Waterford Crystal, and enter a re-created world depicting 9,000 years of unforgettable Irish culture as we journey through the stories, sights and sounds that shaped the country.



#### **The Riverside Park Hotel**

The Riverside Park is nestled on the banks of the River Slaney in the picturesque town of Enniscorthy. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and leisure centre with swimming pool. All ensuite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, ironing facilities, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- House of Waterford Crystal
- Huntington Castle & Gardens
- The Irish National Heritage Park

- We drive to Holyhead for our morning ferry to Dublin. On arrival, we make our way to Enniscorthy and the Riverside Park Hotel arriving in time to settle in before dinner this evening.
- Journey through 9,000 years of Irish culture at The Irish National Heritage Park, the cornerstone of 'Ireland's Ancient East'. Set off on a guided tour of the calming and varied 40-acre site, taking in the ecological homestead sites, and exploring Waterford's culturally influential heyday. Later, we have a little time in the Viking town of Wexford with its historic streets oozing with character.
- Go behind the scenes with a tour of the House of Waterford factory, as skilled staff expertly bring their masterpieces to life before your eyes – heating, blowing, and cutting each piece of crystal to delicate perfection. From dazzling chandeliers and luxurious stemware to intricate vases and decorative gifts, every piece of Waterford crystal is meticulously handcrafted by skilled artisans, using traditional techniques passed down through generations. Later, there will be free time in Waterford – the oldest city in Ireland offering the perfect blend of ancient and modern.
- Uncover the enchanted piece of one of Ireland's top 20 hidden gems during a Private Tour of Huntington Castle, the ancestral seat of the influential Esmonde family (now the Durdin-Robertsons). Hear tales of this 17th century castle's long line of eccentric occupants while meandering through passages to the living quarters, formal rooms & even the dungeons!
- After breakfast this morning we make the journey to Dublin in time for our afternoon ferry back to Holyhead and home.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 12th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£629</b> pp	£100	£61

## **Belfast & The Giant's Causeway**

Belfast is a giant city of buzzing culture and industrial prowess. Whether you're exploring the restaurants of the Cathedral Quarter or visiting the birthplace of the world's most famous ship, Titanic, there is something for everyone in Northern Ireland's dynamic capital city.



#### **The Stormont Hotel**

The beautiful Stormont Hotel is located just minutes from Belfast City centre, adjacent to Stormont Estate, overlooking the immaculately maintained wooded landscape. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Giant's Causeway Visitor Centre
- Titanic Experience & Belfast
- Hillsborough Castle

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 26th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£669</b> pp	£180	£29

- We drive to Cairnryan for our ferry crossing to Belfast. Upon arrival, we make our way to the Stormont Hotel for dinner and the first of our 4-nights' stay.
- A scenic day today as we travel along the Causeway Coast Road making a short stop at Ballycastle, a small town nestled in Antrim County. Ballycastle offers excellent views of the Mull of Kintyre and Rathlin Island just off the shore. We continue to the Giant's Causeway. Flanked by the wild Atlantic Ocean and a landscape of dramatic cliffs, for centuries the Giant's Causeway has inspired artists and captured imaginations. Discover all about the fascinating myths surrounding the causeway including local history and legends. Spend time in the visitor centre to learn more about this special place or take a walk and experience the natural environment of the coastal landscape.
- We enjoy the morning at leisure in the city of Belfast before our visit to the Titanic Quarter. Located beside the Titanic Slipways, the Harland & Wolff Drawing Offices and Hamilton Graving Dock – the very place where Titanic was designed, built and launched, Titanic Belfast tells the story of Titanic from her conception, through her construction and launch, to her maiden voyage and subsequent place in history. The self-guided tour extends over nine interactive galleries where you discover the sights, sounds, smells and stories of the ship, as well as the people and city that made her. Later, explore the Maritime Mile – there's plenty to explore from the historic giants dominating the city skyline and public art dotted along the waterfront, to heritage attractions and top-notch eateries.
- Explore Northern Ireland's Royal Residence where worlds and minds meet. Relax in 100 acres of picturesque gardens explore the State Rooms still used today and indulge in delicious food and drink in the café. Discover stories of celebration, entertainment, diplomacy, and negotiation as you explore Hillsborough Castle's fascinating history and stunning State Rooms. Access is to the State Rooms that make up this elegant Georgian home including the grand Throne Room, relaxing State Drawing Room, Lady Grey's Study, State Dining Room, Red Room, and Stair Hall. Expert Castle Hosts will be on hand to share details of the historic rooms.
- After our final breakfast this morning, we make our way to Belfast Port in time for our ferry back to Cairnryan and journey home.

## **Dublin's Black Beauty**

Dublin is the vibrant capital city bursting with a variety of surprising experiences, where city living thrives side by side with natural outdoors. Historic cathedrals and galleries sit proudly amid a thriving metropolitan food and drinks scene beloved for an authentic Guinness and outstanding seafood.



#### The Talbot Hotel Stillorgan

An extensive refurbishment programme has completely transformed the Talbot Hotel Sillorgan into a cosmopolitan and vibrant hotel. All the en-suite bedrooms are fully air-conditioned and feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Guinness Storehouse
- Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 18th July 2025	4 Days	<b>£569</b> pp	£110	£61

- We travel to Holyhead to join our ferry to Dublin. On arrival, we continue to The Talbot Hotel Stillorgan where dinner will be served.
- We enjoy breakfast in the hotel this morning before meeting our guide for a tour on our coach of Dublin - a UNESCO City of Literature a historic powerhouse and a super-cool capital that has been named Europe's friendliest city twice by TripAdvisor! Dublin is a city that's as intimate as a village and as friendly as an Irish pub. Framed by mountains, centred on a river, and edged by a beautiful bay, the city's streets and alleys are filled with vibrant art and historic buildings, hip cafes and traditional 'old man' pubs. We make a stop at the Guinness Storehouse where we enjoy a Guided Tour. Home to Ireland's most iconic beer, the Storehouse contains seven unforgettable floors of sights, sounds, and sensations in a building that has been brewing beer for over 250 years. Following our visit there will be some free time to further explore the city.
- This morning, we make our way to the Irish National Stud & Gardens for our included visit. Journey through the history of horse racing, brought to life like never before. The Irish Racehorse Experience takes you on a journey through the rich history and heritage of the Irish thoroughbred sector, from the world's very first steeplechase in Cork. The Gardens are renowned throughout the world and are more than simply a treat for the eye. The gardens were laid out by Japanese master horticulturalist Tassa Eida and his son Minoru. Their aim was through, trees, plants, flowers, lawns, rocks, and water, to symbolise the 'Life of Man'. Later, we return to the hotel taking the scenic route through the Wicklow National Park.
- An early farewell to our hotel this morning as we return to Dublin Port for our ferry crossing to Holyhead. Breakfast will be served on board.

## **Killarney & The Ring of Kerry**

A bustling town, full of character, Killarney is Ireland's oldest and most popular tourist destination. The Ring of Kerry is a trail, a route, a road ... but no ordinary road. It's a road that takes you through 10,000 years of dramatic history, from crystal streams to the crashing waters of the Wild Atlantic, through rugged and majestic landscapes.



#### Overnight Hotel – Outbound – Talbot Hotel Stillorgan

The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, ironing & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### Main Stay - The Killarney Towers Hotel

A superbly appointed hotel with a great reputation, occupying a prime position in Killarney town. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and indoor swimming pool. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, safe, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **Overnight – Return – The Wilton Hotel**

The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Jaunting Car Ride
- Cruise on Lough Leane
- Spectacular Ring of Kerry

- We journey to Holyhead for our ferry crossing to Dublin. On arrival, we continue to our hotel for dinner and overnight stay.
- After breakfast, we continue our journey to the south-west of Ireland and on to the lively town of Killarney for our 3 nights' stay at the Killarney Towers Hotel.
- We enjoy a cruise on serene Lough Leane in our modern, glasscovered Lake Cruiser. Learn about the flora and fauna of the area as well as the history of its most famous landmarks from your Captain. Drift by the 6th Century Innisfallen Monastery, founded by Augustinian Monks, and capture magnificent scenery of the Killarney lakes and mountains. We then join our traditional Jaunting Car for a ramble through the tree-lined avenues of Killarney National Park. Learn about the history, legends, and folklore of the area from your local Jarvey Guide and catch a glimpse of the Park's unique wildlife, including the Red Deer, the last native herd in Ireland. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore the delightful town of Killarney.
- We meet our Guide for a full day enjoying Ireland's most scenic drive around the Ring of Kerry. Varied and spectacular scenery awaits, from mountains, lakes, and peat bogs to magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean.
- We leave Killarney after breakfast and make our way to Bray and on to the Wilton Hotel for dinner and our overnight stay.
- Due to an early start this morning, there will only be a 'Grab & Go' breakfast at the hotel before we make our way to Dublin Port for our ferry crossing to Holyhead. There will be breakfast included on board the ferry. Upon arrival in Holyhead, we continue our journey home.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 14th August 2025	6 Days	<b>£739</b> pp	£188	£72

## **Dublin & Wicklow – River & Rail**

Dublin is a city that's as intimate as a village and as friendly as an Irish pub. Framed by mountains, centred on a river and edged by a beautiful bay, the city's streets and alleys are filled with vibrant art and historic buildings, hip cafes, and traditional 'old man' pubs, as Dubliners call them. Add to this Wicklow in Ireland's Ancient East, a tranquil and beautiful land of rolling green hills, charming towns and quiet waters, and you've got the recipe for a fabulous holiday.



#### **The Summerhill House Hotel**

The Summerhill House Hotel is where glamour and the countryside blend in one of Ireland's prettiest villages. Its location in the cosy village of Enniskerry is a gloriously refreshing antidote to city living or stressful lives. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. Please note the hotel is in a rural location but the town of Bray can be reached by a short taxi ride.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Coastal Rail Journey
- Wicklow Coast Tour Guide & Morning Tea & Scones
- River Liffey Cruise
- Wicklow National Park & Glendalough
- Admission to Powerscourt House & Gardens

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 24th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£639</b> pp	£146	£61

- We journey to Holyhead for our ferry crossing to Dublin and onwards to the Summerhill House Hotel, our base for the next 4 nights. Dinner will be served in the hotel this evening.
- Our coach will take us to Dublin North Quay in time for our scenic cruise on the timeless River Liffey, which includes an informative commentary revealing the past and present of this vibrant city. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore Dublin's landmarks, galleries, and museums, and maybe the buskers & bustle of Temple Bar. If you prefer a little retail therapy, from Irish design and craft brands to unique local markets and vintage stores, Dublin's shopping scene has something for every kind of shopper.
- Today, we board Ireland's oldest railway for a train journey along the beautiful coastline between Bray and Dublin. Accompanied by a local Tour Guide, we enjoy a panorama of city, coast and countryside as the DART train carries us from Bray to the seaside resort of Malahide, where Tea & Scones will be served. Malahide is one of Ireland's most beautiful and well-known towns and has won many prestigious awards. Situated along a stretch of Dublin Bay's scenic coastline, Malahide boasts a heritage village, castle, marina, worldclass restaurants, cafes, and famous pubs. We have free time in this popular seaside town before re-joining our coach for the road journey back to the hotel.
- This morning, we visit Powerscourt House & Gardens, a glorious estate set beneath the Wicklow Mountains. Step inside and explore magnificent 47-acre gardens, voted 3rd Best Garden in the World. Marvel at the sublime blend of formal gardens, sweeping terraces, statues and ornamental lakes, secret hollows, and rambling walks. Enjoy a coffee or a bite to eat at the Avoca Café, which must have one of the best views in Ireland! Experience the best of Irish shopping with a range of stores specialising in homewares, giftware, clothing, furniture, and plants. Later, we continue through Wicklow National Park to Glendalough, with its monastic ruins standing in a peaceful woodland setting.
- Due to an early start this morning, there will be a 'grab & go' breakfast at the hotel. We make our way to Dublin Port in time for our ferry crossing to Holyhead where a full breakfast is available. Upon arrival at Holyhead, we continue our journey homeward.

## **Festive Dublin**

Dublin is a city that's as intimate as a village and as friendly as an Irish pub. Framed by mountains, centred on a river, and edged by a beautiful bay, the city's streets and alleyways are filled with vibrant art and historic buildings, hip cafes and traditional 'old man' pubs, as Dubliners call them. Walk the streets and you'll feel the energy of over 1,000 years of history, as echoes of the Vikings mix with buzzing boutiques and cobbled streets reverberate with the sounds of buskers.



#### **The Bonnington Hotel**

The Bonnington Hotel & Leisure Centre is ideally located just 3km north of Dublin City Centre. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and leisure centre with swimming pool and gym. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, safe, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Entrance to the Irish Rock & Roll Museum
- Dublin Zoo Wild Lights Experience
- Pearse Lyons Distillery Tour & Tasting
- EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 17th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£689</b> pp	£132	£61

- We make our way to Holyhead for our ferry crossing to Dublin. On arrival, we continue to The Bonnington Hotel, our base for the next 4 nights.
- The Irish Rock & Roll Museum is the most unique rock experience rooted in the heart of Dublin. The experience encompasses all things related to the vibrant Irish music industry over the past 30 years. Tracing Irish Rock and the Irish music scene, from the 1870's to the present day the experience features stories revolving around an eclectic range of both Irish and international artists such as The Pogues, The Frames, U2, Thin Lizzy, and Sinead O'Connor. After a little time to explore independently, we return to the hotel for an early dinner before we visit Dublin Zoo for the Wild Lights Experience. Discover the secret life of Dublin Zoo at night by choosing one of three pathways to follow first. All three bring you into this world of mystery, magic, and dreams! Keep your eyes open for the nocturnal gnome keepers, guardians of the Zoo and the magical and mysterious life visible here only at night!
- At Pearse Lyons Distillery discover the rich distilling heritage of Dublin's Golden Triangle while exploring the restoration journey of St James' Church to the now, award-winning distillery. During our tour we delve into 800 years of history in the making, witness the art of distilling and sample the award-winning whiskeys. The rest of the day is at leisure to further explore the vibrant city of Dublin at your leisure.
- You won't find leprechauns or pots of gold at Epic The Irish Emigration Museum but you will discover that what it means to be Irish expands far beyond the borders of Ireland through the stories of Irish emigrants who became scientists, politicians, poets, artists, and even outlaws, all over the world. Discover Ireland from the outside in and find out why saying 'I'm Irish' is one of the biggest conversation starters, no matter where you are. More free time following for some last-minute Christmas shopping.
- Due to our early departure, a 'grab & go' breakfast will be served in the hotel before we depart for Dublin Port for our ferry crossing to Holyhead with breakfast on board.

## Scotland

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## Scottish Highlands Diamond All Inclusive

If you've not been before you'll find the Inverness Palace Hotel & Spa in the perfect location on the banks of the River Ness, opposite Inverness Castle. The Palace is perfectly positioned with lots to do within walking distance of the hotel plus lovely evening walks by the river.

## Tartan Taster

Staying in Fort William, and surrounded by spectacular Scottish scenery, this tour showcases some of the most scenic parts of the West Highlands.



#### **Inverness Palace Hotel & Spa**

Dating back to the 1890's, and beautifully situated opposite Inverness Castle and alongside the bonnie banks of the River Ness, the Inverness Palace Hotel offers a warm welcome and combines the best of the past with the contemporary style of the present with elegant interiors, lovely bedrooms, and luxury Leisure Club & Spa. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, brasserie & bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Tour & Tasting at Blair Athol Distillery
- Cruise on Loch Ness
- Diamond All Inclusive Package
- Welcome Cocktail Reception

Free Bar from 7-10pm Each Evening

Entertainment on 2 Nights

Packed Lunch each day

Tea & Cream Scones

Free Tea & Coffee any time of the day – Just Like Home Superb Leisure Club with Sauna, Bubbling Spa, Steam Room & 50ft Swimming Pool – Heated to 86 degrees!

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Don't forget your included packed lunch as we make our way along the shores of Loch Ness for a cruise on the loch. Departing from the southern end of the Loch, you'll soon be treated to the breath-taking vista of the Loch in all its natural wonder. Experience the sights, wildlife, and history of the Loch as you sit back and relax as we cruise. Later, we visit Fort William, a bustling resort set at the foot of Ben Nevis, overlooking tranquil Loch Linnhe.
- Travel through the Cairngorms National Park on our way to picturesque Pitlochry. Explore the centre of town which is dotted with delightful shops, charming cafes, and welcoming pubs. Pitlochry is a walker's paradise, so why not enjoy an easy circular route taking in the woods and forests. We make a stop at Blair Athol Distillery on the way for a tour and tasting at this iconic distillery.

#### Alexandra Hotel

Part of the very fabric of Fort William since 1876, the Alexandra Hotel provides traditional Scottish hospitality at every turn. Located in a great spot, within walking distance of the town centre. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Fort Augustus, Aviemore, & Spean Bridge
- Seil Island & The Bridge Over the Atlantic
- Oban
- Glenfinnan Monument & Visitor Centre
- 2 Nights' Entertainment
- Scottish Themed Dinner with Singing & Dancing

- ◆ Lying on the impressive 60-mile long Caledonian Canal, Fort Augustus offers spectacular views down Loch Ness. Sit and watch the boats navigating the locks or explore the Clansman Centre where appropriately attired guides demonstrate 17th Century clan weaponry. Later, we take the scenic route back to Fort William via the resort of Aviemore and Spean Bridge.
- ♦ We take a scenic drive to Seil Island, crossing the 'Bridge over the Atlantic', making our way to the pretty village of Easdale, with its whitewashed cottages looking out over the water. We continue to the charming seaside town of Oban. As you approach you glimpse this bustling port from the top of the 'Bealach-an-Righ'. As you sweep down the hill towards the expanse of the bay, the view opens before you and you begin to appreciate why Oban has developed into Scotland's most popular west-coast holiday town.
- We hug the shores of Loch Eil on our way to the Glenfinnan Monument & Visitor Centre. This is a moving tribute to those who died fighting for the Jacobite cause, framed by dramatic Highland scenery. Discover the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the 1745 Jacobite Rising in an informative visitor centre and find out about the clans that supported him. Later, we return to Fort William where the rest of the day is at leisure.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 16th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£589</b> pp	£104	£29	Monday 24th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£64	£29

## **Ayrshire & Dumfries House - REUNION**

Get ready to explore the breath-taking landscapes and fascinating heritage of South West Scotland on our exciting Reunion Tour. Fully escorted by Pam & Zoe, and driven by Richard & Brent, there'll be prize quizzes on the coach, evening entertainment, and a Prize Raffle during our stay.



#### **Riverside Lodge Hotel**

Located on the outskirts of Irvine in beautiful Ayrshire, The Riverside Lodge Hotel is the ideal base for our tour. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, ironing facilities, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and lounge. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Riverside Transport Museum
- Afternoon Tea at The Mackintosh at the Willow
- Cruise on Loch Lomond
- Dumfries House with Lunch



- ◆ Located at the junction of the rivers Kelvin and Clyde, the Riverside Museum hosts the city of Glasgow's fabulous transport and technology collections, which have been gathered over the centuries and which reflect the important part Glasgow has played in the world through its contributions to heavy industries like shipbuilding, train manufacturing and engineering. Later, we enjoy Afternoon Tea at the Mackintosh at the Willow. This A-Listed building was designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and is his last surviving tea rooms, originally opened in 1903.
- We head north for our delightful Cruise on Loch Lomond. Enjoy views of the magnificent Ben Lomond and pass a number of Loch Lomond's stately homes and castle along the shoreline. Later, we visit the traditional holiday resort of Largs, complete with Victorian promenade and a choice of ice-cream parlours and shops.
- Dumfries House is part of the Prince's Foundation. Set in 2,000 acres, the stunning Estate and 18th Century house with its unrivalled collection of Chippendale furniture has something for everyone. Highlights of our visit include the Blue Drawing Room, the Pewter Corridor, the Picture Gallery, the Family Bedroom, and the Tapestry Room. Whilst here, we enjoy a delicious lunch.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 17th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£439</b> pp	£100	£29

## Scotland's Bonny Lochs & Waterways

Scotland boasts an abundance of renowned historical sites, with none more impactful than the Firths of Forth and Clyde – an area that undeniably influenced Britain's heritage and played a crucial role in shaping the modern world. This tour presents genuine treasures, from being lifted 35 metres by the Falkirk Wheel to marvelling at the impressive engineering feats of the three bridges during a Forth River Cruise.

## Summer in the Scottish Highlands

The Scottish Highlands is the Scotland of your imagination and the perfect backdrop for your next adventure. It's no wonder that it was named as one of National Geographic's 'Best of the World' destinations in 2023. Explore the mysterious Loch Ness, pass through the striking Cairngorms National Park, and discover the rugged coastline of Caithness.



#### The Rob Roy Hotel

The Rob Roy Hotel is wonderfully situated in idyllic countryside at the gateway to the glorious Trossachs and is set within Scotland's first National Park. Named after the legendary local folk hero Rob Roy MacGregor, the Rob Roy offers excellent food, friendly staff, and good old-fashioned value for money. The hotel has a lift, bar, restaurant, and ballroom. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cruise on Loch Katrine
- Falkirk Wheel & Boat Lift
- Maid of the Forth Cruise

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Explore the magnificent Trossachs, then cruise on Loch Katrine. Ease into the experience, unwind, and let a crew member regale you with the captivating tales and legends of the loch. The day unfolds through the landscapes of Rob Roy MacGregor to Callendar and culminates in the historically rich city of Stirling, boasting its renowned castle.
- Our journey takes us to two of Scotland's premier attractions The Kelpies and the adjacent, award-winning Falkirk Wheel. Experience a unique boat ride as you are lifted 35 metres in the world's sole rotating boatlift. Following this, we continue to Queensferry for an enchanting cruise beneath the iconic trio of bridges, showcasing nearly 140 years of Scottish engineering prowess. Notably, the most recent bridge, inaugurated in 2017, holds the distinction of being the world's longest three-tower cable-stayed bridge.
- ◆ A captivating day of sightseeing today, starting with the scenic beauty of Loch Lomond and a journey across the picturesque Arrochar Alps and Loch Long. Traverse the renowned 'Rest and be Thankful' pass, enjoy free time in the ancient town of Inveraray on Loch Fyne, where its castle dominates the skyline. Following time for lunch, we go north into the Highlands, with a photo-stop at Kilburn Castle on Loch Awe. Then, turning south into Perthshire, travel along the shores of Loch Earn, pausing in the characterful town of Crieff.

#### The Carrbridge Hotel

Originally established in 1803 as an Inn for weary travellers, the Watt family have owned and managed the Carrbridge Hotel for the last four decades. In that time the hotel has been extensively refurbished and extended to provide modern accommodation whilst retaining the hotel's character. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Ballindalloch Castle & Gardens and Lossiemouth
- Fort Augustus & Loch Ness Cruise
- Strathspey Steam Railway & Aviemore

- Explore Ballindalloch Castle & Gardens and enjoy almost 500 years of Highland history, acres of formal gardens, woodlands, and riverside walks, Courtyard Café, Gift Shop, and some award-winning loos! Highlights of the Castle include The Dining Room, entered by a wide staircase from the Hallway and flanked by large oak balustrades, the Drawing Room, pride of place being taken by an oval Sheraton table and beautiful gilt mirror which date from the 1750's, and The Library, home to the Macpherson-Grant's private collection of original 18th and 19th Century European Literature. The Gardens are the pride and joy of the Laird's mother, Clare Russell, and the Head Gardener. Later, we continue to Lossiemouth pause for a second, take in the views, and breathe in the fresh coastal air.
- ◆ Lying on the impressive 60 mile long Caledonian Canal, halfway between Inverness and Fort William, Fort Augustus offers spectacular views down Loch Ness and is a paradise with many beautiful walks. Visit the Caledonian Canal Heritage Centre which details the history of the canal, sit and watch the boast navigating the locks, or explore the Clansmen Centre, where appropriately attired guides demonstrate 17th Century clan weaponry. Whilst here, we take a scenic cruise on Loch Ness. Sit back, relax, and take it all in – enjoy the beauty of Loch Ness in all its wonder.
- We take a nostalgic trip on the Strathspey Steam Railway through unspoilt Highland scenery from Aviemore to Boat of Garten. The railway is the most northerly steam hauled preserved line in the British Isles, kept running by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Hop on the steam train on this restored, 10-mile stretch of the original Highland Main Line. We also enjoy some free time in picturesque Aviemore with its stunning scenery, selection of cafes, bars, and eateries, and specialist shops.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 7th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£389</b> pp	£80	£29	Thursday 1st May 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£120	£29

## Solway Coast, Dumfries & Galloway

The Solway Coast is a stunning place to visit with miles of open coastline, spectacular rocky cliffs, rolling grassy dunes, and sandy beaches. The scenery of Dumfries & Galloway mirrors that of the Solway Coast so be prepared to take in the true beauty of this area of Scotland as we explore on this tour.



#### The Holiday Inn Dumfries Hotel

The Holiday Inn Dumfries is located on the edge of Dumfries, nestled in the picturesque Crichton Estate, offering an idyllic backdrop for your stay. The restaurant and bar offer views overlooking the Crichton Estate. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Drumlanrig Castle
- Threave House & Garden
- The Devil's Porridge Museum with Tea/Coffee & Home-made Scones
- Dumfries & The Solway Coast

- This morning, we drive to Drumlanrig Castle & Country Estate home to the Duke of Buccleuch and his ancestors for over 400 years. With 120 rooms, 17 turrets, and 4 towers, a royal welcome awaits you at Drumlanrig. We enjoy a guided tour of the grand reception rooms, magnificent staircases, ornate period features and cosy parlours whilst here. We also have time to explore the 40 acres of historic gardens – a horticultural heaven. Later, we return to Dumfries with time at leisure. Dumfries is an historic market town that more than lives up to its local nickname, the Queen of the South. Connected by lovely russet-hued sandstone bridges, which straddle the banks of the river Nith, this former royal burgh has an interesting history and special connection to Scotland's National Bard.
- We have a short ride into the historic border city of Carlisle where we spend the morning. The city has lots to offer including Carlisle Cathedral, Carlisle Castle, museums, and an excellent pedestrianised centre for those in search of a little retail therapy. Later, we head to the Devil's Porridge Museum where an amazing exhibition tells the story of arguably the greatest munitions factory on earth where 30,000 women came together to produce explosives for the war effort during World War Two. Whilst here, we enjoy tea/coffee & scones.
- We head through the countryside, following the Solway Coast, passing the tiny villages of Kirkbean, Sandyhills and Barnbarroch en-route to Castle Douglas. We enjoy lunch and time to relax in this 18th Century market town. Later, we visit Threave Garden & House – a garden for all seasons which is both a landscaped beauty and a haven for wildlife. Take a stroll through the secret garden, rockery, and walled garden with the 19th Century Threave House as its backdrop.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 5th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£120	£29

## Ayrshire & Arran

Ayrshire & Arran, a land of natural contrasts. From spectacular coastlines with miles of sandy beaches, to beautiful rolling countryside, bustling towns to sleepy villages this stunning area provides endless opportunities for action-packed adventure or just to escape and unwind.

# Romantic Journeys of Scotland

This 'Romantic Journey' features two scenically superb train journeys, a journey into Highland Wildlife, and a cruise on Loch Ness. The Scottish Highlands is really the Scotland of your imagination and the perfect backdrop for this adventure. It's no wonder that it was named as one of National Geographic's'Best of the World' destinations for 2023.



#### The Riverside Lodge Hotel

Located on the outskirts of Irvine in beautiful Ayrshire, The Riverside Lodge Hotel is the ideal base for our tour. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, ironing facilities, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and lounge. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Isle of Arran & Brodick Castle
- Dumfries House
- Robert Burns Birthplace Museum

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ We catch the ferry to the Isle of Arran, one of Scotland's most accessible islands off the stunning west coast. Whilst here, we visit Brodick Castle, Garden & Country Park. Enjoy an interactive visitor experience in the castle, including a Victorian arcade, and discover a brilliant collection of period furniture, silverware, porcelain, paintings, and sporting trophies. Wander through the formal gardens on the Silver Garden Trail and Plant Hunters' Walk, or venture further to discover ponds, waterfalls, and woodland trails, where you can spot red squirrels. We also visit the Isle of Arran Heritage Museum, originally the site of a small school, the present group of buildings were a croft and smiddy, and include a farmhouse, cottage, bothy, milk house, laundry, stable, coach house and harness room.
- ◆ Dumfries House is part of the Prince's Foundation. Set in 2,000 acres, the stunning Estate and 18th Century house with its unrivalled collection of Chippendale furniture has something for everyone. Highlights of our visit include the Blue Drawing Room, the Pewter Corridor, the Picture Gallery, the Family Bedroom, and the Tapestry Room. Whilst here, we enjoy tea/coffee and shortbread. We also visit the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum. Birthplace of a genius, the museum is a celebration of the enduring legacy of Scotland's national poet.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE
Thursday 22nd May 2025	4 Days	<b>£339</b> pp	£75	£29	Sunday 1st June 2025

#### The Highlander Hotel

Our home for this tour is in the picturesque Highland village of Newtonmore at the Highlander Hotel. This is a delightful hotel where the restaurant, bar, and lounge are warm and welcoming and during our stay entertainment will be provided on one evening. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.

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#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Kyle Line Inverness to Kyle of Lochalsh
- West Highland Line Fort William to Mallaig
- 'Royal Scot' Cruise on Loch Ness
- Highland Wildlife Park

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We make our way to Aviemore where we take a break. Enjoy the spectacular local scenery and perhaps have a bite to eat in one of the many eateries on offer. Later, we head to the Highland Wildlife Park, home to the famous Scottish Wildcats, many other interesting animals, and its own Safari Drive.
- ♦ We travel north into the Highland capital, Inverness. Here we join the Scotrail train for one of the Great Railway Journeys of the World – the line to Kyle of Lochalsh. The route takes us across the Highlands in the shadows of mountains and forests, beside bright lochs, and wide-open moors. The Kyle Line draws a wide arc from Inverness to the shores of Loch Alsh, taking in spectacular Highland scenery – and finishing with magnificent views of Skye.
- Our excursion takes us southwest along the shore of Loch Laggan and through Glen Spean to Fort William. Here we have another train journey – this time on the celebrated West Highland Line to Mallaig. This spectacular line passes hidden lochs and inlets, silver sands, and crosses the magnificent Glenfinnan Viaduct on its way west. Mallaig is a major fishing port, and we have time to wander around the harbour and explore the town before we catch the train for the return journey to Fort William where we re-join our coach to return to the hotel.
- Loch Ness is our destination today. We travel through unspoilt scenery past Loch Mhor and along Stratherrick to Fort Augustus. Whilst here we have time to obtain lunch. We also enjoy a cruise, with commentary, on Loch Ness on board 'The Royal Scot' from the Caledonian Canal. Later, we leave Fort Augustus and head north overlooking the Loch towards Inverness before heading back to Newtonmore.

DAYS

6 Days

PRICE

**£659** pp

INS

£35

SRS

£125

## Fort William & The Jacobite Express

Staying in Fort William, and surrounded by spectacular Scottish scenery, this tour showcases some of the most scenic parts of the West Highlands. The highlight is a journey on the famous Jacobite Express Steam Train from Fort William to Mallaig.

## Royal Castle, Whisky & Great Scottish Cities

Combine the country's first UNESCO City of Design, the countryside that brought us Aberdeen Angus beef, Arbroath Smokies and Peter Pan, and you've got Dundee & Angus! This beautiful, historic and vibrant region is now well-known thanks to the brilliant V&A, but it is also home to glens, historic houses and delicious food and drink.



#### **Alexandra Hotel**

Part of the very fabric of Fort William since 1876, the Alexandra Hotel provides traditional Scottish hospitality at every turn, located in a great spot, within walking distance of the town centre. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Jacobite Steam Train from Fort William to Mallaig
- Fort Augustus, Inverness, Aviemore, & Spean Bridge
- Seil Island & The Bridge Over the Atlantic

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Lying on the impressive 60-mile long Caledonian Canal, Fort Augustus offers spectacular views down Loch Ness. Sit and watch the boats navigating the locks or explore the Clansman Centre where appropriately attired guides demonstrate 17th Century clan weaponry. Continue to Inverness, 'Capital of the Highlands' in time for lunch. Later, we take the scenic route back to Fort William via the resort of Aviemore and Spean Bridge.
- ♦ We take a scenic drive to Seil Island, crossing the 'Bridge over the Atlantic', making our way to the pretty village of Easdale, with its whitewashed cottages looking out over the water. We continue to the charming seaside town of Oban. As you approach you glimpse this bustling port from the top of the 'Bealach-an-Righ'. As you sweep down the hill towards the expanse of the bay, the view opens before you and you begin to appreciate why Oban has developed into Scotland's most popular west-coast holiday town.
- ♦ We walk the short distance from the hotel to Fort William Station where we board The Jacobite. Described as the greatest railway journey in the world, this 42-mile journey takes you past a list of impressive extremes. Starting near the highest mountain in Britain, Ben Nevis, it visits Britain's most westerly mainline railway station, Arisaig; passes close by the deepest freshwater loch in Britain, Loch Morar and the shortest river in Britain, River Morar, finally arriving next to the deepest seawater loch on Europe, Loch Nevis. We have a little free time in Mallaig before making the return journey back to Fort William by coach.

#### **Best Western Invercarse Hotel**

The Best Western Invercarse Hotel is situated in Dundee's West End with stunning views of the River Tay. Flanked by Californian redwood trees, the Redwood Restaurant and Lounge Bar are renowned for use of local produce in their dishes. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Glamis Castle
- Kingsbarns Whisky Distillery
- Maritime Dundee
- Picturesque Perth

- Our morning takes us to historic Perth, a vibrant, small city, with a palace, museums, art galleries, stunning gardens, all in a stunning riverside location. Later, we travel to Glamis Castle, one of the finest castles in Scotland and the former home of Princess Margaret. It is also the setting for Shakespeare's Macbeth. We have a tour of the historic castle and chance to soak up the beauty of the gardens before making our way back to the hotel for dinner.
- Our destination today is the former Kingdom of Fife. Heading inland via Cupar to the coast, we enjoy a lovely coastal drive through the villages of Elie, Pittenweem and Crail on the way to St. Andrews, the world-renowned home of golf. With its roots stretching back to medieval times, you won't be short of things to do with familyfriendly spots to historic wonders to explore. This afternoon we visit Kingsbarns Distillery for a guided tour and tasting of their whisky.
- ◆ This morning, we visit Discovery Point and board Captain Scott's ship RRS Discovery. Follow in the footsteps of the captain and his crew, see how they lived, what they ate, and witness their hardships and triumphs on their heroic exploration of Antarctica. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore the city of Dundee. Perhaps visit the V&A Museum of Design, enjoy a spot of retail therapy, or just sit in one of the many cafes or coffee shops and watch the world go by.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 9th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£649</b> pp	£64	£29	Monday 16th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	£112	£29

## **Cairngorms' Kilted Charm**

Wrap yourself in the tartan tales of The Cairngorms, where the Highlands sing! Kilt up for a caper: where royal retreats, Loch Ness legends, and Highland games make for a plaid-packed Scottish adventure. Take in colourful tartans and watch players 'toss the caber' at Braemar Highland Games Centre, set sail on the Jacobite Contemplation Cruise, and witness the 'shear' brilliance of border collies showcasing centuries-old sheep herding skills in the stunning Scottish Highlands.



#### **Grant Arms Hotel**

A warm Highland welcome awaits you at the recently refurbished, handsome and magnificent Grant Arms Hotel, home of the Bird Watching and Wildlife Club, where former visitors include both Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. Located in the fine Scottish county town of Grantownon-Spey, not far from the famous Spey River, where only the very best local produce is used. The hotel has a lift, restaurant and bar, and all en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Braemar Highland Games Centre Demonstration & Tour
- Balmoral Castle Guided Tour
- ◆ Jacobite Contemplation Cruise
- Leault Working Sheepdog Demonstration
- Highland Folk Museum

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 23rd June 2025	5 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	£130	£29



- Engross yourself in a private demonstration, welcomed by pipers as you get set and ready for the world famous, royally connected Braemar Gathering of Highland Games! With a rich history, dating back 900 years, hear unique stories of the games in an exhibition celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture with bagpipes, the finest pipe bands, highland dancers, the kilt, the caber toss, and a stunning setting surrounded by heather clad mountains. Later, Scottish baronial-style Balmoral castle will be brought to life on your guided tour revealing many stories of noble life. Start by viewing the game larder, iron ballroom and icehouse, before standing on the lawn to admire the view and glory of the granite giant's turreted clocktower.
- Gain a feel for the age-old artistry of sheep herding at Working Sheepdogs. Leault Farm is the home of a masterful pack of working border collies, renowned for gracefully herding sheep and employing techniques honed over centuries. Watch the productive pooches at work. Later, immerse yourself in the domestic and working lives of highland people through the ages at the 80-acre award-winning Highland Folk Museum, as it is brought to life by costumed actors among restored buildings and machinery, as they describe historic farm practices.
- ◆ Follow in the footsteps of Queen Victoria as you embark on a 2-hour long voyage through the legendary waters of Loch Ness. Setting sail from Dochgarroch, you'll gracefully glide past the panoramic views of Aldourie Castle, the enchanting Bona Lighthouse, and the majestic Urquhart Castle. Adorned with intriguing revelations about the site where a World War II Wellington Bomber met its fate and the fascinating theories behind the world's most elusive monster, you'll unveil the deep and colourful tapestry of Loch Ness's history!

## **Unique Orkney & Scotland's Answer to Route 66**

The highlight of this breath-taking tour is a visit to Orkney, one of Scotland's most accessible and popular islands. We take a full day guided tour to marvel at the wealth of the Neolithic remains and local culture. We then drive west across the famous North Coast Route, described as Scotland's Route 66, and spend some time in the pretty town of Strathpeffer.



#### Overnight - Outward - King Robert Hotel, Stirling

The hotel has a restaurant and bar. Sorry, there is no lift bur ground floor rooms are available on request. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### Main Stay – Castletown Hotel, Thurso

Located in the heart of the picturesque fishing village of Castletown, around 5 miles from Thurso, the family-run Castletown Hotel offers comfortable bedrooms which are traditionally furnished. The hotel has a restaurant and bar. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### Mainstay – The Ben Wyvis Hotel, Strathpeffer

Set in extensive manicured gardens and woodland grounds, this traditional Victorian manor house is replete with character and old-world charm. The bedrooms are furnished in rich warm colours in a contemporary style and feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has an elegant restaurant, bar, and a comfortable lounge where you can enjoy the impressive views over to Ben Wyvis. There is a lift but there are some period features that might make access difficult for anyone with limited mobility.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Full Step-on Guide for Tour of Orkney
- Entrance to Skara Brae
- Entrance to the Italian Chapel

- We journey to Stirling and the King Robert Hotel, arriving in time for dinner and overnight stay.
- After a hearty Scottish breakfast, we begin our drive through the stunning and scenic Cairngorms National Park, Britain's largest mountain range, on route to Inverness where we spend lunchtime at leisure. From here, we make our way to Thurso, our home for the next 2 nights, on the north coast.
- After an early start, we make our way to Scrabster for our morning ferry to Stromness on Orkney. On arrival, we meet our local guide who will be with us throughout our step-on tour of the island. We visit the ancient settlement of Skara Brae, uncovered by a storm in 1850. This ancient settlement is older than Stonehenge and the amazingly preserved rooms provide us with a unique insight into prehistoric human living. From here, we head to the mystical Ring of Brodgar to view the standing stones, reminiscent of those at Stonehenge and Avebury, constructed around 2500 - 2000 BC. We continue to Kirkwall to spend some free time for lunch. Later, we visit the Italian Chapel, the 'miracle of camp 60', which was built by Italian prisoners during WWII. We then travel past the Churchill Barriers, the construction of which was ordered by Winston Churchill after the tragic torpedoing of the battleship Royal Oak in Scapa Flow during 1939. Finally, we make our way back for our ferry crossing to the mainland.
- We travel west across the North Coast Route, Scotland's answer to Route 66. Following the main roads along the northerly coastal edges of Scotland, we marvel at the breath-taking views around every corner, stopping in Durness at lunchtime for a refreshment break. Later, we make our way south via wide single-track roads to Strathpeffer.
- We enjoy a day at leisure in picturesque, leafy Strathpeffer. Once a renowned Victorian spa town, it has recently restored its Pump Room where visitors would drink the water in search of health treatments and can still do so today, as well as in the small pavilion in the town's main square.
- Our final Scottish breakfast before we leave our hotel and begin our journey homeward.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 20th July 2025	6 Days	<b>£799</b> pp	£100	£35

## Castles and Gardens of Scotland's South-West

Discover some of the places that have shaped Scotland: walk where fierce battles once raged, where legendary kings and queens struck deals that forged a nation, and where great poets drew inspiration for the ballads we still sing. The southern lands have always been central to Scotland's narrative, and you can follow the thread that connects us to a tapestry that has been woven over centuries.

# VisitBritain - VisitScotland

#### The North West Castle Hotel

The North West Castle Hotel has been a family owned and run hotel for more than 50 years, 'The Castle' itself was formerly the home of Sir John Ross who was once a famous Arctic explorer. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, Alpine Bar & Lounge, and leisure facilities with swimming pool, spa bath, gym, and its very own indoor curling rink. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Threave Garden & Estate
- Culzean Castle & Country Park
- Castle Kennedy Gardens
- Robert Burns Birthplace Museum
- Harbour Town of Kirkcudbright
- Picture-postcard Harbour Village of Portpatrick

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Our morning takes us to Portpatrick, a pretty town of pastel-coloured houses with its own harbour and breath-taking views towards Ireland. Later, we visit the magnificent Castle Kennedy Gardens which are among the most famous in Scotland. The gardens host 75 acres of spectacularly designed loch-side landscape, a romantic garden paradise with quite literally something for everyone to enjoy.
- We travel along the eastern shore of Loch Ryan and the coast of Scotland to the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum. The museum is a celebration of the early life and the enduring legacy of Scotland's national poet, home to 5,000 Burns artefacts including his handwritten manuscripts. Later, we visit Culzean Castle & Country Park, with 40 buildings and secret follies in this rambling estate. There is a magnificent cliff-top castle to explore as well as the Swan Pond, flamboyant formal gardens, and fruit-filled glasshouses.
- We head east through Glenluce and Newton Stewart and along the coast to Gatehouse of Fleet. We have a break here where you can visit The Mill on the Fleet Visitor & Exhibition Centre. Discover the history of Gatehouse, enjoy the regional arts and crafts, or lose yourself in the amazing bookshop. You'll find refreshments in the café with views of the river. Then it's on to the Threave Garden & House a landscaped beauty of a garden in all seasons, and a haven for wildlife. Take a stroll through the secret garden, rockery, and walled garden with the 19th Century Threave House as its backdrop. Time permitting, we head for the harbour town of Kirkcudbright, once a magnet for Scottish artists in the late 19th Century, now known as the Artists' Town.

## Ayrshire & Arran

Ayrshire & Arran, a land of natural contrasts. From spectacular coastlines with miles of sandy beaches, to beautiful rolling countryside, bustling towns to sleepy villages this stunning area provides endless opportunities for action-packed adventure or just to escape and unwind.



#### **The Riverside Lodge Hotel**

Located on the outskirts of Irvine in beautiful Ayrshire, The Riverside Lodge Hotel is the ideal base for our tour. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, ironing facilities, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and lounge. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Isle of Arran & Brodick Castle
- Dumfries House
- Robert Burns Birthplace Museum

- ♦ We catch the ferry to the Isle of Arran, one of Scotland's most accessible islands off the stunning west coast. Whilst here, we visit Brodick Castle, Garden & Country Park. Enjoy an interactive visitor experience in the castle, including a Victorian arcade, and discover a brilliant collection of period furniture, silverware, porcelain, paintings, and sporting trophies. Wander through the formal gardens on the Silver Garden Trail and Plant Hunters' Walk, or venture further to discover ponds, waterfalls, and woodland trails, where you can spot red squirrels. We also visit the Isle of Arran Heritage Museum, originally the site of a small school, the present group of buildings were a croft and smiddy, and include a farmhouse, cottage, bothy, milk house, laundry, stable, coach house and harness room.
- ◆ Dumfries House is part of the Prince's Foundation. Set in 2,000 acres, the stunning Estate and 18th Century house with its unrivalled collection of Chippendale furniture has something for everyone. Highlights of our visit include the Blue Drawing Room, the Pewter Corridor, the Picture Gallery, the Family Bedroom, and the Tapestry Room. Whilst here, we enjoy tea/coffee and shortbread. We also visit the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum. Birthplace of a genius, the museum is a celebration of the enduring legacy of Scotland's national poet.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 21st July 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 1st August 2025	4 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	£90	£29

## **Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

Set against the backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, The Edinburgh Military Tattoo is a great international gathering. Every year, more than 100 million people around the world watch the Tattoo on TV – and more than 11 million people from over 100 countries have experienced the Tattoo live – and more than 40,000 performers from over 40 countries have taken part.



#### The Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow Westerwood Hotel

This welcoming hotel offers a tranquil escape, surrounded by countryside, yet not far from the bright city lights of Edinburgh. All the contemporary ensuite bedrooms have TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, fitness suite, swimming pool, sauna, and steam room.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Free time in Edinburgh
- Ticket to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

◆ After a late breakfast on the day of the Tattoo, we travel into Edinburgh for some time at leisure to explore independently. With an abundance of history, top-quality attractions, and beautiful architecture, Edinburgh is a city you won't forget in a hurry. Explore the medieval Old Town and the elegant Georgian New Town which sit side by side and visit unique attractions in the city centre. There is no evening meal included this evening so before you take your seats for the Edinburgh Tattoo, make sure you try one of Edinburgh's awardwinning restaurants, cafes, and bars, offering something to suit all tastes and budgets. Your coach will pick you up and transfer you to The Castle in time for the performance.

**Please note:** Our coach cannot drop off right outside the Castle during the Tattoo and access to the Castle is via Castle Hill which is quite a steep walk. Due to the location of our allocated seats for the Tattoo, this tour may not be suitable for passengers with disabilities.

# Summer in the Scottish Highlands

The Scottish Highlands is the Scotland of your imagination and the perfect backdrop for your next adventure. It's no wonder that it was named as one of National Geographic's 'Best of the World' destinations in 2023. Explore the mysterious Loch Ness, pass through the striking Cairngorms National Park, and discover the rugged coastline of Caithness.



#### **The Carrbridge Hotel**

Originally established in 1803 as an Inn for weary travellers, the Watt family have owned and managed the Carrbridge Hotel for the last four decades. In that time the hotel has been extensively refurbished and extended to provide modern accommodation whilst retaining the hotel's character. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Ballindalloch Castle & Gardens and Lossiemouth
- Fort Augustus & Loch Ness Cruise
- Strathspey Steam Railway & Aviemore

- Explore Ballindalloch Castle & Gardens and enjoy almost 500 years of Highland history, acres of formal gardens, woodlands, and riverside walks, Courtyard Café, Gift Shop, and some award-winning loos! Highlights of the Castle include The Dining Room, entered by a wide staircase from the Hallway and flanked by large oak balustrades, the Drawing Room, pride of place being taken by an oval Sheraton table and beautiful gilt mirror which date from the 1750's, and The Library, home to the Macpherson-Grant's private collection of original 18th and 19th Century European Literature. The Gardens are the pride and joy of the Laird's mother, Clare Russell, and the Head Gardener. Later, we continue to Lossiemouth pause for a second, take in the views, and breathe in the fresh coastal air.
- ◆ Lying on the impressive 60 mile long Caledonian Canal, halfway between Inverness and Fort William, Fort Augustus offers spectacular views down Loch Ness and is a paradise with many beautiful walks. Visit the Caledonian Canal Heritage Centre which details the history of the canal, sit and watch the boast navigating the locks, or explore the Clansmen Centre, where appropriately attired guides demonstrate 17th Century clan weaponry. Whilst here, we take a scenic cruise on Loch Ness. Sit back, relax, and take it all in – enjoy the beauty of Loch Ness in all its wonder.
- ♦ We take a nostalgic trip on the Strathspey Steam Railway through unspoilt Highland scenery from Aviemore to Boat of Garten. The railway is the most northerly steam hauled preserved line in the British Isles, kept running by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Hop on the steam train on this restored, 10-mile stretch of the original Highland Main Line. We also enjoy some free time in picturesque Aviemore with its stunning scenery, selection of cafes, bars, and eateries, and specialist shops.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 4th August 2025	3 Days	<b>£389</b> pp	£80	£27	Thursday 7th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	£120	£29

## **Royal Retreats**

Experience the splendour of a 5-day getaway to Dundee & Perthshire, where ancient castles and a renowned Royal ship await your discovery. Immerse yourself in the rich history of clan feuds, battles, and Jacobite uprisings in this storied region. Indulge in the area's finest exports at the Gin Bothy, complemented by a visit to one of Dundee's newest architectural marvels – the V&A Museum. From the historic to the contemporary, this tour promises a regal touch, fit for royalty.

## **The Enchanted Forest**

The celebration of autumn comes to life at the multi-award-winning Enchanted Forest, a dazzling display using the forest as a natural backdrop. The autumn theme continues with a visit to one of Scotland's grandest castles, finishing with the warm glow of some whiskey tasting. (Suitable footwear and warm clothing are recommended. All pathways are lit, walking graded easy but unsuitable for those with walking difficulties).



#### **The Woodlands Hotel**

The Best Western Woodlands Hotel is a warm and welcoming hotel surrounded by mature wooded gardens conveniently located close to Dundee city centre and a short walk to the bustling seaside town of Broughty Ferry. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and leisure facilities with a pool, steam room, and Jacuzzi. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Entry to the V&A Museum
- Admission to Scone Palace
- Admission to The Royal Yacht Britannia
- Gin Bothy Guided Tasting
- Admission to Glamis Castle

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Indulge in leisure time in Dundee, where admission to the iconic V&A Museum is reserved. Following the multimillion-pound revitalisation of the city's waterfront, the Royal's Museum stands as a symbol of this transformative project. Nearby lies Scone Palace, where the 'Stone of Scone' once crowned numerous Scottish Monarchs throughout history. Now known as the 'Coronation Stone', it was last utilised in 1953 for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation. Outside, more than 100 acres of breathtaking Perthshire countryside awaits.
- Venture south over the newest of the Forth Road Bridges and into Edinburgh. Enjoy free time to explore both the old and the new town, before heading to Leith and the Royal Yacht Britannia. The yacht was home to the Royal Family for over 40 years, sailing over 1,000,000 miles on official state visits. Follow in the footsteps of Royalty to discover the heart and soul of this regal ship with a fascinating selfguided tour.
- Regarded as Scotland's most beautiful castle, Glamis Castle is the childhood home of the Queen Mother, birthplace of Princess Margaret and the legendary setting of Shakespeare's Macbeth. Explore the Castle with its lavish rooms, each telling a different story of the castle's history. Stroll around the Italian Gardens and pathways throughout the estate. Later, enjoy an intimate guided gin tasting in one of Glamis most loved local gin producers. The quaint and quirky Gin Bothy has now become one of Scotland's best kept secrets: the proof is in the pudding.



#### **The Angus Hotel**

Situated in the heart of Perthshire the Angus Hotel Blairgowrie offers stylish rooms and a touch of Scottish hospitality. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, ballroom, and leisure club with pool, spa bath, steam room, and sauna. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Admission to Enchanted Forest & Light Show
- Admission to Glamis Castle
- Glenturret Whiskey Tour & Tasting

- The 'Fair City' of Perth sits on the banks of the River Tay in the east of Scotland and is nestled between two sprawling public parks, and has elegant Georgian townhouses, cobbled streets and medieval spires. Explore monuments, art galleries, museums, shops, and eateries. Later, we visit Glenturret Distillery, Scotland's oldest working Distillery for a Tour & Tasting. The Glenturret Single Malt is defined by its outstanding quality and exquisite taste.
- Pitlochry is one of Scotland's most beautiful and vibrant places to visit. In the heart of Scotland with real hospitality, clean sparkling air, beautiful scenery, rich clan history, fine food, and plenty of space.
   Pitlochry has a great range of shops to choose from, and a variety of pubs, cafes, and restaurants for a bite to eat.
- At Glamis Castle, marvel at the splendour within the castle walls and immerse yourself in six centuries of stories. Breathe in the spectacular gardens and be wowed by the Douglas firs soaring towards the skies. We return to the hotel for an early dinner before we depart for the highlight of our stay. The Enchanted Forest is a spectacular immersive art experience like no other. Perfect for all the family to enjoy and an outstanding evening out, it takes place in the beautiful Faskally Wood, near Pitlochry, and promises to be a kaleidoscopic outdoor experience, an unforgettable journey through a symphony of lights, music, and the natural beauty of the forest – a magical celebration of nature.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 25th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	£128	£29	Monday 27th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£100	£29



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## Landlubbers Cruise at the Tynedale Hotel

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.

## Llandudno

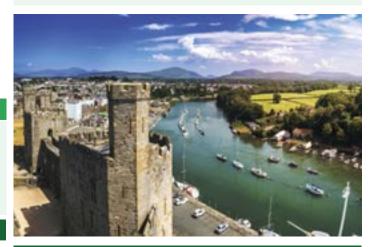
Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.



A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Conwy
- Caernarfon & Cream Tea
- Free Day in Llandudno



#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We enjoy a half-day trip to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well-preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings. The Walls radiate from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere, and still has the power to dominate.
- Caernarfon is a picturesque town nestled in the heart of Snowdonia, with a rich history and stunning landscapes. Mighty Caernarfon Castle commands the lion's share of attention, but the town's narrow streets and stylishly redeveloped waterfront also merit a visit. Whilst here, we visit the lovely Celtic Royal Hotel for a delicious Cream Tea before returning to Llandudno.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 6th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£389</b> pp	NIL	£29



Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Themed Dinner on 3 Evenings
- Captain's Dinner on Last Evening
- Special Cruise Breakfasts
- Entertainment Each Evening
- Late Night Finger Buffet Each Evening

- We enjoy a half-day trip out to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings, shops, pubs and cafes. The walls radiate out from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere – and still has the power to dominate.
- We enjoy a scenic drive through the Snowdonia National Park. We make a stop at popular Betws-y-Coed, gateway to Snowdonia. Browse independent shops retailing in crafts, clothing, gifts, and local homemade produce. Eat locally sourced and award-winning food and drink in the diverse range of cafes, bistros, restaurants and pub. We continue to Porthmadog, a busy harbour town with a good range of shops and attractions.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 3rd February 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Landlubbers Cruise at the Tynedale Hotel

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## Llandudno

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#### The Tynedale Hotel

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#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Themed Dinner on 3 Evenings
- Captain's Dinner on Last Evening
- Special Cruise Breakfasts
- Entertainment Each Evening
- Late Night Finger Buffet Each Evening

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

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- We enjoy a scenic drive through the Snowdonia National Park. We make a stop at popular Betws-y-Coed, gateway to Snowdonia. Browse independent shops retailing in crafts, clothing, gifts, and local homemade produce. Eat locally sourced and award-winning food and drink in the diverse range of cafes, bistros, restaurants and pub. We continue to Porthmadog, a busy harbour town with a good range of shops and attractions.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Wednesday 19th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	NIL	£29



#### The Marlborough Hotel

A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Conwy
- Caernarfon & Cream Tea
- Free Day in Llandudno

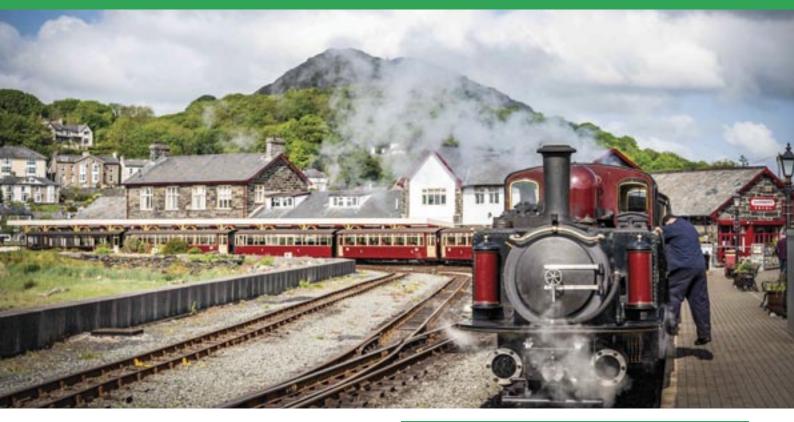


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- Caernarfon is a picturesque town nestled in the heart of Snowdonia, with a rich history and stunning landscapes. Mighty Caernarfon Castle commands the lion's share of attention, but the town's narrow streets and stylishly redeveloped waterfront also merit a visit. Whilst here, we visit the lovely Celtic Royal Hotel for a delicious Cream Tea before returning to Llandudno.

INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
£29	Monday 28th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **Romantic Journeys of North Wales**

Boasting dramatic landscapes and gorgeous countryside, North Wales makes for a stunning holiday. Combined with three train rides and a boat trip, this tour offers a delightful way to see some the best and most spectacular Welsh scenery.



#### **The Beaufort Park Hotel**

The Beaufort Park Hotel is situated near the market town of Mold and is an ideal base for our tour. You are assured of a warm and friendly welcome, and you will soon feel that you never want to leave! The Scandinavian style reception and mezzanine lounge provide an oasis of peace to relax, read or enjoy a drink. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.





#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ffestiniog Railway
- River Dee Cruise with Cream Tea
- Llangollen Railway
- Pontcysyllte Aqueduct Canal Trip
- Bala Lake Railway

- Leaving after breakfast, we travel along the coast to Abergele and then head to the Conwy Valley, Llanrwst and Betws-y-Coed, and over the Crimea Pass to Blaenau Ffestiniog. Here we join the famous Ffestiniog Railway for a spectacular ride over the mountains to Porthmadog. We have a short break with time for lunch before we make our way through the Snowdonia National Park to Lake Bala. Here, we have a ride along the lake shore on the delightful Bala Lake Railway.
- ♦ We visit the ancient and historic city of Chester with the morning free to explore the city at leisure. Stroll around the city walls, enjoy some refreshments in a riverside pub, or shop till you drop in the famous 'Rows' of two-tiered shops in the pedestrianised centre. In the afternoon, we have a 2-hour cruise along the River Dee with Chester Boats. Sit back, relax and watch rural Cheshire glide by as you enjoy a cream tea with delicious home-made scone served with clotted cream and jam on board. Keep your eyes peeled for swans, herons, moorhens, or even a kingfisher whilst the onboard commentary shares interesting facts and stories of the river and its surroundings.
- Today we head out through some lovely Welsh scenery, including the spectacular Horseshoe Pass, to the Dee Valley where we join the Llangollen Railway for a journey on a nostalgic train. We also take a ride on the 'Stream in the Sky' – the Llangollen Canal – gliding gently along over the country's biggest navigable viaduct.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 5th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£539</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Llandudno

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Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Bodrhyddan Hall & Rhos-on-Sea

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We enjoy a half-day trip out to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings, shops, pubs and cafes. The walls radiate out from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere – and still has the power to dominate.
- Bodrhyddan Hall is a Grade I listed property and one of North Wales's best kept secrets. Bodrhyddan Hall has been home to Lord Langford and his family for over 500 years. Our guided tour offers a unique glimpse into local history – explore the opulent Dean's Dining Room, elegant White Drawing Room, and other spaces that offer insights into the family's heritage. Later, we make a stop at Rhos-on-Sea – a beautiful village by the sea.



#### The Marlborough Hotel

A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Bodrhyddon Hall & Rhos-on-Sea
- Portmeirion
- Caernarfon & Cream Tea
- 2 Free Days in Llandudno

- We enjoy a half-day trip to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well-preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings. The Walls radiate from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere, and still has the power to dominate.
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- In addition to its archaeological heritage, its stunning setting, and sub-tropical gardens, Portmeirion has two stylish hotels, shops, a spa, cafes, and restaurants, and an authentic Italianate style gelateria. Portmeirion is well known as the location for the 1960's cult TV series The Prisoner.
- Caernarfon is a picturesque town nestled in the heart of Snowdonia, with a rich history and stunning landscapes. Mighty Caernarfon Castle commands the lion's share of attention, but the town's narrow streets and stylishly redeveloped waterfront also merit a visit. Whilst here, we visit the lovely Celtic Royal Hotel for a delicious Cream Tea before returning to Llandudno.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 9th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£539</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 13th June 2025	8 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	NIL	£35

# Swansea – The City by the Sea

A visit to Swansea is a must: Take in the sweeping waterfront of Swansea Bay leading to Mumbles and onto the beautiful Gower Peninsula. Not complete without trying one of the famous Welsh-Italian ice cream parlours!



#### **The Mercure Swansea Hotel**

Relax on the doorstep of stirring Welsh countryside at the Mercure Swansea Hotel. Set among landscaped gardens and tranquil lake views, the perfect base for our tour. All contemporary, en-suite bedrooms have TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and gym. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.





#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ We head to the Gower Heritage Centre to experience what life was like on The Gower. Highlights of the centre include The Water Wheel – the last intact working water wheel in Gower, The Corn Mill – still fully functional and powered by the water wheel, The Mill Cottage – a replica of living conditions from the 18th Century, and the Woollen Mill – featuring a Dob Cross Loom. We meet our guide here for a tour of The Gower on our coach. The Gower is popular for its amazing hidden beaches, sweeping hills, and natural beauty.
- We meet the Swansea Copper Jack for a gentle, 90-minute boat trip on the River Tawe. Sit back and relax to discover Swansea's historic, industrial heritage and how it became known as Copperopolis, while viewing the passing scenery and riverbank wildlife. Later, we travel across the city to the Penderyn Swansea Copperworks Distillery, the newest distillery in Wales, where we will experience a tour and a tasting.
- First stop this morning is The Royal Mint Experience where we journey through more than 1,100 years of history. Learn all about where UK coins are made and gain a fascinating insight into the history of the Royal Mint. Best of all, you will also be given the opportunity to strike your own coin. Later, we visit Barry Island, a traditional seaside resort, complete with pleasure park and amusements, gardens, and promenade.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Guided Tour of the Gower & Entry to the Gower Heritage Centre
- Entry & Tasting at the Penderyn Distillery
- Journey on the Swansea Copper Jack
- Royal Mint Experience & Barry Island

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 19th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£120	£29

# Llandudno

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# Picturesque Pembrokeshire

The natural beauty of the Pembrokeshire Coast is famed all over the world. Glorious sandy beaches and seemingly endless rugged coastlines give way to the Preseli Hills, historic towns, and little villages.



#### The Tynedale Hotel

Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Bodrhyddan Hall & Rhos-on-Sea

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

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**Diplomat Hotel** This is a family-run hotel, operated with charm, warmth, generous hospitality, and courteous, professional staff are on hand to help make your stay as enjoyable as possible. This iconic Llanelli hotel was built in 1810, and today its bedrooms feature stylish décor and modern features, TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and spa with swimming pool. A lift serves most rooms. Please note, there are several steps from the coach drop-off point to the main entrance of the hotel.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Beautiful Seaside Town of Tenby
- Picton Castle & Gardens and Saundersfoot
- Mumbles & The Gower Peninsula

- Tenby is probably the most iconic seaside town in Wales, rivalling places like Mevagissey and Polperro for quaintness and charm. Tenby Harbour has a thriving boating and fishing community as well as being the departure point for the Caldey Island boats. The centre of Tenby is a maze of narrow little streets. The roads are pedestrianised during the day in the Summer when bars and restaurants set up al fresco seating. There are plenty of interesting and quirky shops.
- Picton Castle & Gardens is Pembrokeshire's finest stately home, surrounded by 60 acres of some of the most beautiful woodland gardens and grounds in West Wales. Picton Castle is a most unusual ancient building being as it is a fully developed Medieval castle that was transformed into a stately home in the 18th Century. From the outside with its four symmetrically spaced half round towers and gatehouse entrance flanked by two narrower towers it is based upon patterns of Irish castles of the period and is the only one of this type in mainland UK. As you enter inside it is revealed not to have an inner courtyard and keep but rather a series of finely planned rooms typical of the grand country house that it is. In the Gardens discover rare trees and plant collections from around the world and enjoy the magnificent Rhododendrons, shady woodlands, an exotic jungle garden and colourful walled garden alongside living willow dens, family trails, and an engaging adventure playground. Later, we stop at Saundersfoot with its beautiful scenery. The village has an increasing reputation as a gourmet resort, thanks to the high-quality restaurants and cafes serving local Pembrokeshire produce.
- Heading south, we visit the picture-postcard resort of Mumbles, delightfully located on Swansea Bay. Later, we visit the Gower Heritage Centre, where we meet our guide for a tour of the Gower Peninsula, designated as Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. After the tour, we return to the Heritage Centre for a delicious Gower Cream Tea.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 19th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£549</b> pp	NIL	£29	Thursday 26th June 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£120	£29

# **Steam & Cruise in the Heart of Wales**

Mid-Wales is the green heart of Wales. The clear seas, bright harbours, and hidden coves of the Ceredigion coastline give way to Red Kite filled skies, busy market towns and dramatic hills.



#### **The Metropole Hotel**

Located in the heart of Llandrindod Wells, this hotel has been owned by the same family for over 100 years. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, spa facilities with indoor swimming pool, sauna & hot tub, garden and terrace.





#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We begin with a drive to the Elan Valley and the Dams Visitor Centre where a guide joins our coach for a 90-minute Ranger Guided Tour. The tour takes in the four dams through the Elan Valley with a running commentary on the history and nature of the area with stops to enjoy the scenery. On our return to the Visitor Centre, there is time to visit the exhibition or café. Later, we return to Llandrindod Wells to visit the National Cycle Museum where you can journey through the lanes of cycle history. See bicycles from 1818, such as the Hobby Horse, Boneshakers and Penny Farthings, up to the most modern carbon fibre machines of today.
- An early start as we have a full day excursion to Aberystwyth and the Vale of Rheidol Railway. We catch the morning train along the former Great Western line to Devil's Bridge. This was the last route to operate steam trains for British Rail before private ownership in 1989. A short walk from the terminus brings you to the spectacular Mynach Falls. We take a break at Devil's Bridge with time for refreshments before we catch the return train to Aberystwyth.
- We journey through the beautiful and diverse scenery of the Brecon Beacons National Park, with free time to explore medieval Brecon. Whilst here, we also enjoy a relaxing cruise on the historical Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Vale of Rheidol Railway
- Elan Valley Dam Visitor Centre
- Brecon Canal Cruise
- National Cycle Museum

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 6th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	£48	£29

# Llandudno

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.

# Picturesque Pembrokeshire

The natural beauty of the Pembrokeshire Coast is famed all over the world. Glorious sandy beaches and seemingly endless rugged coastlines give way to the Preseli Hills, historic towns, and little villages.



#### **The Tynedale Hotel**

Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Bodrhyddan Hall & Rhos-on-Sea

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We enjoy a half-day trip out to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings, shops, pubs and cafes. The walls radiate out from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere – and still has the power to dominate.
- Bodrhyddan Hall is a Grade I listed property and one of North Wales's best kept secrets. Bodrhyddan Hall has been home to Lord Langford and his family for over 500 years. Our guided tour offers a unique glimpse into local history – explore the opulent Dean's Dining Room, elegant White Drawing Room, and other spaces that offer insights into the family's heritage. Later, we make a stop at Rhos-on-Sea – a beautiful village by the sea.



#### **Diplomat Hotel**

This is a family-run hotel, operated with charm, warmth, generous hospitality, and courteous, professional staff are on hand to help make your stay as enjoyable as possible. This iconic Llanelli hotel was built in 1810, and today its bedrooms feature stylish décor and modern features, TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and spa with swimming pool. A lift serves most rooms. Please note, there are several steps from the coach drop-off point to the main entrance of the hotel.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Beautiful Seaside Town of Tenby
- Picton Castle & Gardens and Saundersfoot
- Mumbles & The Gower Peninsula

- Tenby is probably the most iconic seaside town in Wales, rivalling places like Mevagissey and Polperro for quaintness and charm. Tenby Harbour has a thriving boating and fishing community as well as being the departure point for the Caldey Island boats. The centre of Tenby is a maze of narrow little streets. The roads are pedestrianised during the day in the Summer when bars and restaurants set up al fresco seating. There are plenty of interesting and quirky shops.
- Picton Castle & Gardens is Pembrokeshire's finest stately home, surrounded by 60 acres of some of the most beautiful woodland gardens and grounds in West Wales. Picton Castle is a most unusual ancient building being as it is a fully developed Medieval castle that was transformed into a stately home in the 18th Century. From the outside with its four symmetrically spaced half round towers and gatehouse entrance flanked by two narrower towers it is based upon patterns of Irish castles of the period and is the only one of this type in mainland UK. As you enter inside it is revealed not to have an inner courtyard and keep but rather a series of finely planned rooms typical of the grand country house that it is. In the Gardens discover rare trees and plant collections from around the world and enjoy the magnificent Rhododendrons, shady woodlands, an exotic jungle garden and colourful walled garden alongside living willow dens, family trails, and an engaging adventure playground. Later, we stop at Saundersfoot with its beautiful scenery. The village has an increasing reputation as a gourmet resort, thanks to the high-quality restaurants and cafes serving local Pembrokeshire produce.
- Heading south, we visit the picture-postcard resort of Mumbles, delightfully located on Swansea Bay. Later, we visit the Gower Heritage Centre, where we meet our guide for a tour of the Gower Peninsula, designated as Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. After the tour, we return to the Heritage Centre for a delicious Gower Cream Tea.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 25th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	NIL	£29	Thursday 11th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£120	£29

# Cardiff & The Royal Mint – Coin, Coal & Cheers!

Home to Cardiff, the young and creative capital city South Wales is a hub of Welsh Culture. We have a trio of fantastic attractions included on our tour, something for everyone.



#### **The Heritage Park Hotel**

Situated at the heart of the Rhondda Valleys, Heritage Park Hotel sits beautifully within its historical surroundings. Recently refurbished, the hotel is a beautiful and modern venue that boasts elegance, comfort, and style throughout. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and gym. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms are available on request.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Welsh Mining Experience
- The Royal Mint Experience
- Hensol Castle Distillery

- Porthcawl promenade was built in 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee and has been a staple of countless seaside staycations for generations. Today the traditional amusements, cafes and ice cream parlours sit beside top-notch restaurants. Just behind the seafront Esplanade, you'll find an exciting range of independent shops and cafes. Later, we visit the Welsh Mining Experience where ex-coal miners guide you on the Black Gold Experience underground tour, a journey around the colliery site. Nobody knows the coal industry better than the guides, and you will marvel at their tales of life underground. Learn about the international story of Welsh coal and about Lewis Merthyr, the owner who wrote the first one-million-pound cheque, and of the mine's links with the RMS Titanic.
- ◆ The Royal Mint is a unique attraction taking visitors 'behind the scenes' of coin making. Exciting exhibitions, thrilling tours, and spellbinding storytelling. You'll never look at the coins in your packet the same again! Later, we continue to Cardiff, the Welsh capital city. The city is bursting with things to do from touring a gothic fantasy castle to zipping around a rafting course. Feast on delicious dishes in one of the many independent eateries or visit the Victorian and Edwardian arcades full of independent boutiques and cafes.
- With a golden beach, funky shops and restaurants, the pleasure park leafy gardens, and a gaggle of interesting museums and attractions, Barry Island is far more than just a backdrop to Gavin & Stacey – tidy! In the past it really was an island, but during the Victorian era the docks were built in between, connecting it back to the mainland. Later, we visit a gin distillery brewing nicely in the cellars of the 17th Century Hensol Castle. The combination of the historic Castle together with the modern vibes and fun nature of gin, creates a truly distinctive experience.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 14th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£569</b> pp	£40	£29

# Llandudno

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# Llandudno

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.



#### **The Tynedale Hotel**

Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Bodrhyddan Hall & Rhos-on-Sea

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We enjoy a half-day trip out to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings, shops, pubs and cafes. The walls radiate out from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere – and still has the power to dominate.
- Bodrhyddan Hall is a Grade I listed property and one of North Wales's best kept secrets. Bodrhyddan Hall has been home to Lord Langford and his family for over 500 years. Our guided tour offers a unique glimpse into local history – explore the opulent Dean's Dining Room, elegant White Drawing Room, and other spaces that offer insights into the family's heritage. Later, we make a stop at Rhos-on-Sea – a beautiful village by the sea.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 18th September 2025	5 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	NIL	£29

#### **The Marlborough Hotel**

A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Bodrhyddon Hall & Rhos-on-Sea
- Free Day in Llandudno

- We enjoy a half-day trip to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well-preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings. The Walls radiate from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere, and still has the power to dominate.
- Bodrhyddan Hall is a Grade I listed property and one of North Wales's best kept secrets. Bodrhyddan Hall has been home to Lord Langford and his family for over 500 years. Our guided tour offers a unique glimpse into local history – explore the opulent Dean's Dining Room, elegant White Drawing Room, and other spaces that offer insights into the family's heritage. Later, we make a stop at Rhos-on-Sea – a beautiful village by the sea.

INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
£29	Monday 22nd September 2025	5 Days	<b>£429</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **Steam & Cruise in the Heart of Wales**

Mid-Wales is the green heart of Wales. The clear seas, bright harbours, and hidden coves of the Ceredigion coastline give way to Red Kite filled skies, busy market towns and dramatic hills.



#### **The Metropole Hotel**

Located in the heart of Llandrindod Wells, this hotel has been owned by the same family for over 100 years. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, spa facilities with indoor swimming pool, sauna & hot tub, garden and terrace.





#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We begin with a drive to the Elan Valley and the Dams Visitor Centre where a guide joins our coach for a 90-minute Ranger Guided Tour. The tour takes in the four dams through the Elan Valley with a running commentary on the history and nature of the area with stops to enjoy the scenery. On our return to the Visitor Centre, there is time to visit the exhibition or café. Later, we return to Llandrindod Wells to visit the National Cycle Museum where you can journey through the lanes of cycle history. See bicycles from 1818, such as the Hobby Horse, Boneshakers and Penny Farthings, up to the most modern carbon fibre machines of today.
- ♦ An early start as we have a full day excursion to Aberystwyth and the Vale of Rheidol Railway. We catch the morning train along the former Great Western line to Devil's Bridge. This was the last route to operate steam trains for British Rail before private ownership in 1989. A short walk from the terminus brings you to the spectacular Mynach Falls. We take a break at Devil's Bridge with time for refreshments before we catch the return train to Aberystwyth.
- We journey through the beautiful and diverse scenery of the Brecon Beacons National Park, with free time to explore medieval Brecon. Whilst here, we also enjoy a relaxing cruise on the historical Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Vale of Rheidol Railway
- Elan Valley Dam Visitor Centre
- Brecon Canal Cruise
- National Cycle Museum

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 21st September 2025	5 Days	<b>£559</b> pp	£48	£29

# Warner Hotels

# Warner Hotels – The Runnymede

Surrey is a beautiful, exciting and diverse place to visit that's full of surprises. With vibrant towns surrounded by spectacular countryside including the scenic Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there's plenty waiting for you to explore.



#### The Runnymede

The Runnymede, Warner Hotel's newest addition, showcases everything that makes a Warner Hotel, and so much more, in a stunning riverside location that's full of British Heritage. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, safe, comfy chairs & reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities. Facilities at Runnymede include bars, lounges, heated indoor pool, sauna, fitness centre, relaxation room, outdoor terrace, and boats for hire.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Royal Windsor
- Kew Royal Botanic Gardens



- Crowned by Windsor Castle and linked by the River Thames, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has a rich mix of history, culture, heritage and fun. As you approach Windsor you can't fail to be impressed by the sheer size and scale of Windsor Castle standing majestically on the hill, punctuating the skyline. It's one of the official residences of The King and was Queen Elizabeth II's favourite weekend home. Or how about taking to the water and viewing Windsor from the peace and tranquility of the River Thames. Windsor boasts a wide range of restaurants, pubs, bars, and cafes to choose from that suit all tastes and budgets. Browse the pedestrianonly shopping centres and shop-lined streets offering a great mixture of high-street names and independent retailers.
- Discover the world of science behind the botanical collections, with over 50,000 living plants to be found across the UNESCO World Heritage site. Discover rare and threatened plants in the world's largest Victorian glasshouse, Temperate House. Curve your way across the Lake to admire the surrounding trees and wildlife. Take a mindful moment in the tranquil Japanese gardens, a delicately manicured landscape designed to complement the Chokushi-Mon (Japanese Gateway). Enjoy tasty seasonal food and drink at the cafes and restaurants and the shops are crammed with gorgeous homeware award-winning books, stationery and gift ideas.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 24th March 2025	5 Days	<b>£649</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Warner Hotels -Heythrop Park

The stunning Oxfordshire Cotswolds is the perfect location for a short break. As well as miles of unspoilt countryside to explore, the area is dotted with towns and villages of honey-coloured stone and great shopping at local, independent retailers, and a wonderful choice for food and drink.

# Warner Hotels -The Runnymede

Surrey is a beautiful, exciting and diverse place to visit that's full of surprises. With vibrant towns surrounded by spectacular countryside including the scenic Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there's plenty waiting for you to explore.



#### **Heythrop Park**

Heythrop Park has been a feature in the Cotswolds since 1710. Then, a lookat-me manor of forty arches and columns, it's now Grade II Listed, still with showmanship but stylishly refurbished. It has everything to elevate a country estate – golf, a spa, traditional sports and 440 acres of parkland. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, comfy chairs & reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities.

Please note that due to the size of this property, there may be long distances to walk to reach some public areas.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Cotswolds Burford & Cirencester
- Oxford & Bicester Village

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- The Cotswolds covers almost 800 square miles and one of the highlights of visiting is exploring the different areas, each with its own identity, yet all with those defining Cotswold features; golden stone and rolling hills, the 'Wolds'. We make stops at Burford, who's famous high street sweeps downhill towards the River Windrush, its three-arched medieval bridge and its impressive church, both sides of the street flanked by an unbroken line of ancient houses and shops, and Cirencester, known as the Capital of the Cotswolds, a lovely market town with a fascinating history with a warm welcome.
- Oxford, The City of Dreaming Spires is famous the world over for its university and place in history. For over 800 years, it has been home to royalty and scholars, and since the 9th Century an established town. Nowadays, the city is a bustling cosmopolitan town. Still with its ancient university, but home also to a growing high-tech community. With its mix of ancient and modern, there is plenty to do, whether its visiting one of the many historic buildings, colleges or museums, or shopping till you drop. Later, we make a stop at Bicester Village, a luxury shopping destination home to 150 boutiques offering year-round savings on the original retail price. You can also explore a superb selection of restaurants, cafes and pop-ups for a refreshment break.

#### **The Runnymede**

The Runnymede, Warner Hotel's newest addition, showcases everything that makes a Warner Hotel, and so much more, in a stunning riverside location that's full of British Heritage. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, safe, comfy chairs & reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities. Facilities at Runnymede include bars, lounges, heated indoor pool, sauna, fitness centre, relaxation room, outdoor terrace, and boats for hire.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Royal Windsor
- Kew Royal Botanic Gardens

- Crowned by Windsor Castle and linked by the River Thames, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has a rich mix of history, culture, heritage and fun. As you approach Windsor you can't fail to be impressed by the sheer size and scale of Windsor Castle standing majestically on the hill, punctuating the skyline. It's one of the official residences of The King and was Queen Elizabeth II's favourite weekend home. Or how about taking to the water and viewing Windsor from the peace and tranquillity of the River Thames. Windsor boasts a wide range of restaurants, pubs, bars, and cafes to choose from that suit all tastes and budgets. Browse the pedestrianonly shopping centres and shop-lined streets offering a great mixture of high-street names and independent retailers.
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DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 7th April 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 2nd June 2025	5 Days	<b>£729</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Warner Hotels – Studley Castle

Warwickshire is a county of literary greats, of culinary brilliance and iconic heritage. Discover a captivating mix of the famous and the yet-to-be-discovered in beautiful countryside threaded by rivers and canals.



#### **Studley Castle**

Studley Castle is a reinvented castle in the heart of Shakespeare's England. A Victorian spectacle with an utterly modern outlook and an award-winning spa. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, comfy chairs & reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities.

Please note that due to the size of this property, there may be distances to walk to reach some public areas from bedrooms.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

Alcester & Stratford-upon-Avon





- The ancient market town of Alcester is set amidst the gently rolling hills of Shakespeare's England, just seven miles west of Stratfordupon-Avon, home of the Bard. Alcester is a charming town with historic buildings, inviting pubs and cosy tea rooms and traditional independent shops where service matters. Meander down picturesque streets and soak up the authentic atmosphere of delightfully preserved buildings, lanes and passageways that provide a superb backdrop to the vibrant bustle of a modern-day market town. Later, we continue to Stratford-upon-Avon, a market town with more than 800 years of history, containing not only many buildings that survive today and would have been familiar to Shakespeare, but also a thriving community offering a wide variety of experiences.
- ◆ At The British Motor Museum explore the world's largest collection of historic British cars through exciting interactive exhibits. See concept cars that never made it into production or some iconic famous firsts that are now Britain's motoring icons. Whether you are young at heart or old, there is sure to be a car in the Museum's collection of over 400 that you will recognise, be it reminiscing over the first car you ever owned or the cars you aspire to. Later, we visit Royal Leamington Spa, well-known as a shopping destination, boasting dramatic Regency architecture. A beautiful and prosperous town, the town's popularity was largely due to the natural spa springs that were discovered and commercialised in the nineteenth century. True to its heritage as a fashionable spa resort in the late 18th century, Royal Leamington Spa is now a thriving town of culture, gastronomy and well-being, all elegantly combined with a distinctive shopping experience.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 19th May 2025	5 Days	<b>£599</b> pp	NIL	£29

## Warner Hotels -Holme Lacy House

Off the beaten track, under the radar, a hidden gem .... the chances are you haven't yet stumbled upon Herefordshire. Tucked against the Welsh border, hugged by the Malvern Hills and the Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons), Herefordshire is closer than you think. But the wild landscapes, relaxed market towns and fabulous local food will make you feel a world away.

# Warner Hotels - Lakeside

Hampshire is the perfect blend of city, coast and country, blessed with the natural beauty of two National Parks and thriving culture, with history & heritage at its heart.



#### Lakeside

Lakeside offers a traditional seaside escape on Hampshire's lively Hayling Island with a welcoming village atmosphere. Accommodation will be in ensuite chalets which feature TV, hairdryer, safe, comfy chairs and reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities.

Please note that due to the size of this property, there may be distances to walk to reach some public areas from bedrooms.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Portsmouth & Spinnaker Tower
- Chichester & Bognor Regis

#### EXCURSIONS INCLUDED

- The historic city of Portsmouth is home to the Royal Navy and is an action-packed city combining an irresistible mix of heritage, culture, shopping, and entertainment. A must-see is Portsmouth Historic Dockyard where you can walk aboard historic ships like Horatio Nelson's HMS Victory, HMS Warrior, and the breath-taking Mary Rose. You can take a rib ride or sailing boat out into the Solent, with stunning views of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight coastline. We have included a visit to Spinnaker Tower, the iconic landmark of the waterfront skyline of Portsmouth. You haven't seen the surrounding coast, country or city until you've seen it from the Tower. The viewing decks, with their floor to ceiling glass walls, offer views stretching up 23 miles on a clear day. It's these views, up to 23 magnificent miles of them, including some of the most spectacular sights in the British Isles, that make it a must-see attraction for visitors to the South coast.
- Chichester is a Roman cathedral city, and its historical evidence of Roman settlement can be found all over the city, including some Roman baths, a city wall, and an amphitheatre which is now a park. The city is mostly pedestrianised, so it makes shopping a pleasant experience. Later, we visit Bognor Regis, the UK's sunniest town, home of sea views and coastal panoramas. Perhaps take a ride on the land train, a great way to enjoy scenic views of the seaside town and its attractions. Maybe visit Bognor Regis Museum, a treasure trove of local and social history that showcases the fascinating past and present of this lovely seaside town. The town centre is beautifully compact, with everything located within a gentle 20-minute walk. There's a broad range of retail and dining experiences to enjoy, be sure to visit the covered Edwardian Arcade and take time to explore the many side streets that run from the main town centre.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 14th July 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 25th August 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	NIL	£29

#### Holme Lacy House

This Grade I listed mansion was completed in 1674 and was reportedly visited by Charles II, and William Pitt, 1st Earl of Chatham, who held cabinet meetings in the gardens. Set in 50 acres of gardens in the Wye Valley, Holme Lacy is one of Herefordshire's treasures. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, safe, comfy chairs and reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities.

Please note that due to the size of this property, there may be distances to walk to reach some public areas from bedrooms.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Hereford & Leominster
- Ross on Wye & Ledbury

- Leominster is an ancient market town on the River Lugg, which grew up around a Saxon monastery, founded about 660AD. In medieval times it was famous for its fine wool, produced from the local Ryeland sheep. The Priory Church, intricately carved Grange Court, the wealth of half-timbered and historic buildings, and the many antique shops makes Leominster well worth a visit. The rest of the day will be spent in the City of Hereford which sits right at the heart of the county, on a loop of the River Wye. The golden-stone cathedral, with its medieval Mappa Mundi and Chained Library, is a huge draw – but you can also wander among half-timbered houses and stroll along the Wye.
- We begin the day in Ledbury where historic streets are lined with brilliant independent shops plus plenty of places to refuel. The town is surrounded by woods, orchards, and hills, with footpaths winding up to the Malvern Hills. Literary luminaries, including Elizabeth Barrett Browning and John Masefield, were enamoured with this beautiful area. We also visit Ross-on-Wye, an inviting place to potter. Browse independent shops and saunter the historic streets. Many moons ago this region was dubbed Archenfield or 'Land of Hedgehogs' – peek into St Mary's Church to find examples of the town's icon dating from the 17th Century to the Second World War.

### Warner Hotels -Bodelwyddan Castle

From the borderlands of Wrexham and Llangollen in the east to the surffringed rocks of Anglesey and the Llyn Peninsula in the west, North Wales packs a lot in. You can travel from one end to the other in two hours – but why do that and miss so much.

# Warner Hotels -The Runnymede

Surrey is a beautiful, exciting and diverse place to visit that's full of surprises. With vibrant towns surrounded by spectacular countryside including the scenic Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there's plenty waiting for you to explore.



#### **Bodelwyddan Castle**

Bodelwyddan Castle is a prestigious castle getaway found in an enchanting Welsh folly. This Victorian building is set on the grounds of a romantic castle with views of the Clywydian Hills. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, safe, comfy chairs and reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Llandudno
- Betws-y-Coed & Caernarfon

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- In a nutshell, everyone loves Llandudno. Who would possibly argue with that while strolling along Llandudno's elegant promenade past pastel-coloured hotels with impeccably authentic seafront architecture just like the Victorians did? All that's needed to complete the picture is a frilly parasol and a straw boater. Llandudno's appearance is down to the fact that, unlike many other resorts, it has remained largely unchanged for over a century. There's a pier the longest in Wales Punch & Judy, and canopied shopping streets just behind the prom. Put simply, Llandudno is a classic of its kind.
- A scenic drive today as we make our way to Betws-y-Coed, the gateway to Snowdonia, for a short stop. Browse independent shops retailing in crafts, clothing, gifts, and local homemade produce. Visit a great collection of outdoor gear shops and art galleries displaying talented Welsh artists. Eat locally sourced produce in the diverse range of cafes, bistros, restaurants, and pubs. We continue to Caernarfon, home to Wales's most famous castle and an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Mighty Caernarfon Castle commands the lion's share of attention, but the town's narrow streets and stylishly redeveloped waterfront also merit a visit. The castle, built in the 13th Century by Edward I as a royal palace and military fortress, was at the core of a medieval walled town. The Romans left their mark too 1000 years earlier they constructed their fort of Segontium on the hill above.

#### **The Runnymede**

The Runnymede, Warner Hotel's newest addition, showcases everything that makes a Warner Hotel, and so much more, in a stunning riverside location that's full of British Heritage. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, safe, comfy chairs & reading lights, and tea/coffee making facilities. Facilities at Runnymede include bars, lounges, heated indoor pool, sauna, fitness centre, relaxation room, outdoor terrace, and boats for hire.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Royal Windsor
- Kew Royal Botanic Gardens

- Crowned by Windsor Castle and linked by the River Thames, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has a rich mix of history, culture, heritage and fun. As you approach Windsor you can't fail to be impressed by the sheer size and scale of Windsor Castle standing majestically on the hill, punctuating the skyline. It's one of the official residences of The King and was Queen Elizabeth II's favourite weekend home. Or how about taking to the water and viewing Windsor from the peace and tranquillity of the River Thames. Windsor boasts a wide range of restaurants, pubs, bars, and cafes to choose from that suit all tastes and budgets. Browse the pedestrianonly shopping centres and shop-lined streets offering a great mixture of high-street names and independent retailers.
- Discover the world of science behind the botanical collections, with over 50,000 living plants to be found across the UNESCO World Heritage site. Discover rare and threatened plants in the world's largest Victorian glasshouse, Temperate House. Curve your way across the Lake to admire the surrounding trees and wildlife. Take a mindful moment in the tranquil Japanese gardens, a delicately manicured landscape designed to complement the Chokushi-Mon (Japanese Gateway). Enjoy tasty seasonal food and drink at the cafes and restaurants and the shops are crammed with gorgeous homeware award-winning books, stationery and gift ideas.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 27th October 2025	5 Days	<b>£429</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 10th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£659</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Continental Holidays

# **Dutch Bulbfields Mini-Cruise**

Enjoy this perfect short-break getaway to Holland using the overnight ferry from Hull to Rotterdam. Enjoy many of the facilities that the cruise ferry has to offer, including en-suite accommodation, dinner and breakfast on board, bars, and some evening entertainment.



#### **P&O Ferry**

Arrive rested and refreshed in Rotterdam following a night in your en-suite cabin. Dinners & Breakfasts are included in your holiday as well as two cinema screens, a casino, and a number of bars with stunning sea views. Your cabin has a shower room, toiletries, bedding and towels.



#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Overnight Sea Crossing with Meals on Board
- Admission to Keukenhof Gardens



#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

♦ At this time of year, the Dutch Bulbfields are ablaze with flowering tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, and a host of other spring flowers. We visit the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens one of the world's finest bulbfields and flower parks. Each year the Dutch bulb growing industry stage their annual petal spectacular. Keukenhof Flower Gardens was once a modest kitchen and herb garden for the Dutch Royal House. Today, however, each year between March & May, seven million bulbs planted across the park's 70 acres burst into bloom. Enjoy a spectacular rainbow carpet of flowers and floral art with a different theme each year.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 28th April 2025	3 Days	<b>£329</b> pp	£37	£58

Passengers are responsible for ensuring they have the correct documentation to travel.

# **Three Countries Explorer**

Join us for an unforgettable experience on the Three Countries Explorer, where you'll stay in the charming town of Valkenburg. Valkenburg is a premier tourist spot in the Three Countries region, known for its castle, fascinating museums and enchanting marlstone caves. You'll also find a wonderful array of shops, street cafes, and restaurants, just a short walk from the hotel.



#### Walram Hotel Valkenburg

Ideally located in the historic centre of Valkenburg, the Hotel Walram has lots of stories to tell. The hotel rests on the ruins of the old city walls and the main entrance is set in an original 18th Century farmhouse. The building was first listed as a hotel in 1896. The hotel has an inviting Art Deco-style bar, cosy sitting area, complimentary Wi-Fi, and indoor pool. Each room is unique and embraces the quirks and history of the old buildings, and feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Overnight Sea Crossing with Meals on Board
- Valkenburg, Aachen, Liege

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We travel to Newcastle and join DFDS for our overnight crossing to Amsterdam, with dinner and breakfast served onboard.
- On arrival in the Netherlands, we disembark the ship and continue our journey to Valkenburg and the Hotel Walram, our base for the next 3 nights. Once checked-in, the rest of the afternoon is free to explore Valkenburg – a culturally and historically rich, magical town.
- We head to the Three-Border Region in Vaals, the place where Belgium, Germany, and the Netherlands meet. At a height of 323m, it is also the highest point of the Netherlands. Spend some time hopping between the three countries! Later, we cross into Germany to the delightful Aachen, with some free time to explore this little German city. Whilst here, we visit Aachener Tier Park, a lovely little zoo on the outskirts of the city. It is home to more than 700 animals representing 100 different species. From tiny exotic birds to huge Asian Camels and selected western European animals, the park has a colourful variety of interesting inhabitants.
- ◆ The Belgian city of Liege is nicknamed the 'Cite ardente' (Burning City) for its cultural abundance and its warm and festive atmosphere. Liege is the unmissable Walloon destination for a stay rich in discovery and emotion. History lovers will be delighted to discover the architectural heritage of seven ancient collegiate churches, the Palace of the Prince-Bishops, the Mirror City, etc., and no visit to Liege is complete without a trip to see the Meuse, or to sample some traditional Liege meatballs or Liege Waffles.
- We return to Amsterdam for our overnight ferry crossing to Newcastle, with dinner and breakfast served on board.

	DATE			DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
	Monday	29th Septem	ber 2025	6 Days	<b>£639</b> pp	NIL	£72

 $\label{eq:passengers} Passengers are responsible for ensuring they have the correct documentation to travel.$ 

# **Desirable Dolomites & Stunning South Tyrol**

The UNESCO listed Dolomite region is an Italian region bursting with natural beauty and diversity. Our wonderful, packaged itinerary not only includes a free bar at the hotel each evening, but you will also experience the best of the area with wine tastings, a typical Trentino dinner and a Grolla evening, plus, of course, the fantastic views and scenic drives! With stunning scenery, incredible inclusions and hospitality that is second to none, this will make for an unforgettable holiday which you will be talking about for years to come.



#### **The Hotel Paganella**

This intimate and friendly 3-star, family-run hotel is ideally located for touring this area. Fausto and his family ensure a warm welcome in this typically Austrian chalet-style hotel. Bedrooms are well-appointed and all have TV and hairdryer. There is a cosy bar, a traditional restaurant serving excellent homemade fayre, a comfortable lounge and seating areas, a lift, and leisure facilities including a sauna, Jacuzzi, and steam room.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Guided Walk of Fai and Picnic
- Tasting & Tour at Kettmeir
- Merano & South Tyrolean Wine Route
- Riva via Lake Molveno
- Unlimited Wine with Dinner
- Free Bar each night from 18:00-22:30hrs
- Quiz/games on 1 Night, Grolla Evening in the Bar, Wine Tasting, Farewell Trentino Dinner

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Wednesday 8th October 2025	10 Days	<b>£999</b> pp	£176	£72

#### EXCURSIONS INCLUDED

- We travel to Newcastle to join our overnight ferry to Amsterdam with dinner served on board.
- Enjoy breakfast on board before we disembark and make our way to Pforzheim for dinner and our overnight stay.
- Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before we continue our journey to Fai della Paganella, arriving at our hotel in time for dinner.
- Today, Fausto will play host and take us for a gentle walk around this friendly village. We enjoy a picnic with great company, food, and wine .... and start to get into the relaxed 'Paganella way of life' in the mountains.
- ♦ We arrive in one of Italy's best kept secrets stunning Merano. In true 'Sound of Music' fashion, this beautiful spa town sits nestled between the Dolomites. The town centre abounds with shops, restaurants, and cafes oozing with delicious strudel. For a bird's eye view of the city, take the chairlift up to the panoramic viewpoint. Try out some mouth-watering 'speck' in a local stube or tempt yourself with 'sachertorte' in one of the pastry shops. Later, we head to the historic winery of Kettmeir, nestled amongst the vineyards of Alto Adige, where we enjoy a tour and tasting of some top-quality wines – the South Tyrolean wines are so good they don't export much as they prefer to keep them for themselves!
- ◆ Today we drive north towards Moena, based in the heart of the Dolomites, and ascend towards the vibrant town of Canazei. From here it's just a short drive to get to the 'Sella Pass', an incredible viewing platform, from where we can enjoy lunch and appreciate the amazing 360-degree views across the Dolomites' spectacular jagged peaks. We continue down into the alluring Val Gardena, an historic valley known for its wood-making traditions and unique and ancient language, Ladin, which is only spoken here. Enjoy a break in the picturesque village of Ortisei and relax over a delicious plate of strudel, or perhaps shop for one of the other local specialities – handmade cuckoo clocks!
- Our route this morning takes us past the lesser known but incredibly scenic Lake Molveno, and from here we enjoy the relaxing route taking us through the back of Lake Garda. Riva offers a lakeside historic centre and is the most northerly point in Europe where olive trees grow! We have free time to explore Riva and perhaps enjoy a delicious lunch or drink in the main square.
- After breakfast this morning we bid a fond farewell to Hotel Paganella and make our way to Pforzheim for dinner and our overnight stay.
- We continue our journey to Amsterdam and board the ferry for our overnight sailing to Newcastle with dinner served on board.
- Breakfast on board the ferry before we disembark and continue our journey home.

Passengers are responsible for ensuring they have the correct documentation to travel.

# **Ostend Christmas Markets**

The lovely seaside resort of Ostend is the base for our festive tour and as a bonus, our hotel offers unlimited, selected drinks with dinner. We have time to explore this charming city's Christmas Markets, as well the historic city of Ghent.



#### **Ostend Hotel**

Located in the heart of the city within a short walk of the beach and shopping areas, this hotel has a lift, large modern reception, leading through into a further large bar and bright, open-plan restaurant. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer and safe.



#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Overnight Sea Crossing with Meals on Board
- Ostend Christmas Market
- Ghent Christmas Markets
- Complimentary Drinks with Dinner in the hotel (House Wine, Lager, Beer, Soft Drinks between 18:00 & 20:00)



#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We travel to Newcastle and join DFDS for our overnight crossing to Amsterdam, with dinner and breakfast served onboard.
- On arrival in the Netherlands, we disembark the ship and continue our journey to Ostend and the Ostend Hotel, our base for the next 2 nights.
- Ostend is Belgium's most popular seaside resort with its individual charm, characterful seafront and marina, bustling shops, and great restaurants. In Winter, Ostend transforms into a magical winter wonderland with a festive Christmas Market. Enjoy mulled wine, festive treats, and artisan products while strolling through the decorated streets. The ice rink on the Wapenplain is a popular attraction for young and old.
- We travel to Ghent for a stop at the Ghent Christmas Market. Wander among firs and pines, amble past stalls selling snacks and drinks, fancy trinkets and authentic crafts. The scent of pine resin and milled wine make the experience complete. Later, we return to Amsterdam for our overnight ferry crossing to Newcastle, with dinner and breakfast served on board.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Thursday 4th December 2025	5 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£66	£61

Passengers are responsible for ensuring they have the correct documentation to travel.

# Festive Breaks

# Llandudno Turkey & Tinsel

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.

# Turkey & Tinsel in Newquay

Perched on Cornwall's Atlantic Coast and bordered by several miles of golden beaches, it's no wonder Newquay is one of the nation's favourite seaside towns. The last few years have seen Newquay blossom as a destination for lovers of good food.



#### **The Marlborough Hotel**

A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Turkey & Tinsel Theme in the Hotel

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

We enjoy a half-day trip to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well-preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings. The Walls radiate from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere, and still has the power to dominate.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 31st October 2025	4 Days	<b>£309</b> pp	NIL	£29

#### **Esplanade Hotel**

The Esplanade Hotel stands overlooking the famous Fistral Beach in Newquay which is famed for its laid-back beach vibe. The hotel has a lift, Elements Cocktail Bar, Cove Restaurant, and heated indoor swimming pool. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, fridge, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Nightly Entertainment
- Complimentary Bar 6-9pm Each Evening
- Arrival Evening Pre-Dinner Sherry Drinks Reception
- Visits to Truro & Padstow

- Enjoy a scenic drive along the Cornish coast to the fishing village of Padstow, a charming Cornish fishing village, with colourful fishing boats, cobbled streets, and variety of shops. Padstow is also a popular foodie destination and is home to the fish restaurant of celebrity chef Rick Stein. It's not all fine dining, there's cafes, bistros, tapas bars, cosy tearooms, and a handful of welcoming pubs all dotted around the harbour. And there's always Cornish pasties and traditional fish and chips if you fancy a quick take-away – just watch out for the gulls!
- Today is free to explore the resort of Newquay or relax in the hotel facilities. Join us at 3:30pm in the hotel Cinema Room to watch a festive movie.
- ◆ Truro is a great little city filled with friendly pubs, funky restaurants, a great selection of shops, a museum, and iconic Cathedral which towers over the town. In its shadow a warren of back streets is home to dozens of independent traders selling all you need from funky fashions and cool surf wear to locally made bread and Cornish cheeses.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 3rd November 2025	5 Days	<b>£519</b> pp	£80	£29

# Thursford Christmas Spectacular

The Thursford Christmas Spectacular is the largest Christmas Show in the country! Set in the magical surroundings of mechanical organs and fairground carousels, with a cast of 130 professional singers, dancers, and musicians – many of whom are West End performers. The 3-hour performance delivers an extravaganza of non-stop singing, dancing, music, humour, and variety. It's a fast-moving celebration of the festive season, featuring an eclectic mix of both seasonal and year-round favourites, with famous and much-loved chart toppers being sung alongside traditional carols.



#### **The Mercure Norwich**

Located on the outskirts of Norwich, the Mercure Hotel is ideal as our base for this trip to Thursford. The hotel boasts a lift, restaurant, and bar. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Ticket for the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- 2 x Breakfasts
- 2 x Evening Meals OR 1 x Lunch & 1 x Evening Meal in the hotel (depending on the time of the show)

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

We travel into Norwich where we have the morning at leisure to explore the city, all trimmed up for the festive season. Pay a visit to the Cathedral, cobbled Elm Hill, or just enjoy some retail therapy. We return to the hotel in time to freshen up before leaving for Thursford and its Christmas Spectacular. This Norfolk Show is the largest Christmas production in England and is a celebration of Christmas with choirs, carols, and the best organs including the mighty Wurlitzer playing.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 7th November 2025	3 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£50	£27

# **Blackpool Turkey & Tinsel**

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or maybe it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it.



#### **The Doric Hotel**

Situated on the Queen's Promenade, with breath-taking views over the Irish Sea, Morecambe Bay, and the Isle of Man, The Doric is a firm favourite. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, poolside bar, and incredible entertainment every night. A pool of highly professional entertainers awaits you at The Doric. A full all-year-round entertainment programme with tribute acts, performances and fabulous vocal talent all waiting in the spotlight to entertain you.

Please note our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour and no excursions are included.

After breakfast on the last day of your holiday we travel straight home



#### UPGRADES AVAILABLE:

- Drinks Inclusive £10.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm.
- ◆ All Inclusive £16.00 per person per night supplement Inclusive selected drinks at the bar each full day of your stay from 12:00midday until 10:00pm, local Travel Pass, Packed Lunch, Six Bingo Books per adult.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 10th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£299</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Celtic Royal Winter Warmer

The epic landscapes of north Wales are alive with action, and a rich, distinctive culture. Find World Heritage, fascinating ancient culture, one of Europe's oldest living languages and thrilling mountain scenery.

# <image>

# Winter Warmer in Bonnie Scotland

The village of Crianlarich is in Glen Strathfillan to the north of The Trossachs and is an important staging post on various transport routes linking central and northwestern Scotland. We enjoy interesting and relaxing excursions during the day and return to the hotel each evening to enjoy live entertainment.

#### The Celtic Royal Hotel

The Celtic Royal Hotel is a venue steeped in history and fit for any princess visit - in 1832 Princess Victoria visited the original main building 5 years before she became Queen Victoria. The hotel is in the historic town of Caernarfon, the UNESCO Heritage Site of Caernarfon Castle is just a few hundred yards away, a magical site not to be missed, especially when the castle lights up in a splendour of colour under the night sky. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, sauna, bubble pool, and steam room.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Mulled Wine reception on Arrival
- ◆ Tea/coffee & Mince Pies One Afternoon
- 2 Nights' Live Entertainment
- ◆ 1 Night Bingo & Quiz
- Indoor Treasure Hunt Throughout the Stay
- Admission to Portmeirion Village

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ◆ In a nutshell, everyone loves Llandudno. Who could possibly argue with that while strolling along Llandudno's elegant promenade past pastel-coloured hotels and impeccably authentic seafront architecture just like the Victorians did? All that's needed to complete the picture is a frilly parasol (for the ladies) and a straw boater (for the gentlemen). Llandudno's appearance is down to the fact that, unlike most other resorts, it has remained largely unchanged for over a century. There's a pier (the longest in Wales), and canopied shopping streets just behind the prom. Put simply, Llandudno is a classic of its kind.
- Situated on a private peninsula overlooking stunning coastal scenery, the Italian Riviera meets rural Wales with a riot of colour and architectural styles at Portmeirion Village. The Village is well-known as the location for the 1960's cult TV series, The Prisoner. It comprises a cluster of colour-washed buildings around a central piazza, scenic surroundings and extensive woodlands, historic cottages, gift shops, cafes, and restaurants.

#### The Best Western Crianlarich Hotel

The Best Western Crianlarich Hotel stands in the village of the same name on the fringe of the beautiful Breadalbane region of Perthshire. Relax in the lounges with a drink from the well-stocked bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Fort William
- Stirling & Balloch
- Gateway Town of Oban
- Entertainment each evening

- This morning, we drive to Fort William for free time to browse the shops, enjoy a coffee, and marvel at the beautiful surroundings of the town. Later, we head south to Ballachulish Visitor Centre where we can stretch our legs and perhaps pick up a souvenir. Finally, we return over the rugged Rannoch Moor to Crianlarich.
- ♦ We travel through the National Park, past lochs, forests and mountains until we reach Stirling. We have included a visit to Stirling Castle where we enter a world of Scotland's Renaissance kings and queens and discover a world of colour, splendour and glorious craftsmanship. We learn of the castle's history, uncover its secrets, and be inspired by a gallery of photos and videos. Later, we head to Balloch at the very southern tip of Loch Lomond where we visit the 'Loch Lomond Shores' outlet. Enjoy some retail therapy, stretch your legs or enjoy a warming drink as you watch the world pass by.
- ♦ We head through more stunning Scottish countryside, following the River Awe for a time, as we wind our way to the west coast of Scotland and Oban, our stop for the day. There is a huge variety of independent stores, as well as the Oban Distillery and St Columba's Cathedral, both worth a visit. We return to the hotel via the Scottish hills for dinner and entertainment.

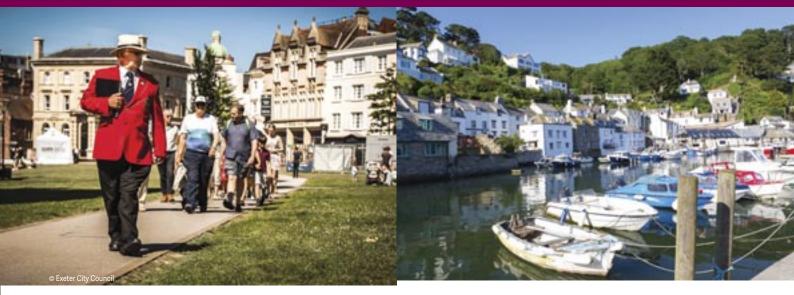
DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 10th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	£100	£29	Monday 10th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£429</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **Festive Sidmouth**

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.

# **Cornish Mistletoe & Wine**

Cornwall is in the far west of Great Britain on a peninsula tumbling into the vast Atlantic Ocean, almost completely surrounded by the sea. Cornwall is loved for its dramatic coastline, captivating fishing harbours, and of course, its pasties and cream teas!



#### The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Budleigh Salterton & River Exe Cruise
- Exeter
- Festive Theme in the Hotel

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ We drive through the Otter Valley to Budleigh Salterton, a charming resort, overlooked by high cliffs known as The Floors. Budleigh Salterton remains one of Devon's most unspoilt and charming towns containing many interesting shops and other attractions. We continue to Exmouth – one of the oldest and most picturesque seaside towns in Devon. Whilst here, we enjoy a cruise on the River Exe before returning to the hotel.
- ♦ We visit Exeter, a small city that packs a big punch! Pre-dating the arrival of the Romans in AD50, Exeter's history is rich and long, and this is reflected is its visitor attractions, which include its unique Underground Passages, free Red Coat Guided Tours, magnificent Cathedral, imposing Roman wall and beautiful Quayside.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Tuesday 11th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£449</b> pp	NIL	£29

#### **The Rosemundy House Hotel**

This elegant hotel is set in over 4 acres of secluded gardens and woodlands, and yet only 100 yards from the main street in the quaint village of St Agnes. The Queen Ann style hotel is family run and has been tastefully extended and converted. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a restaurant, lounge, bar, and some evening entertainment. Sorry, there is no lift.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Falmouth
- Looe & Polperro
- Bodmin Jail & Padstow
- Sherry Reception & Visit from Santa

- ◆ Falmouth is based around a thriving harbour and is the gateway to the beautiful Fal River. Falmouth's maritime heritage and coastal culture is a huge part of its charm. The bustling town centre has a wide range of shops and some superb cafes and restaurants with access to top quality, fresh, local produce.
- ◆ Looe is a picturesque fishing harbour, famous for its day-caught fish and wide, sandy beach. Looe has a rich history such as the famous bridge that joins the East and West towns, and hidden treasures including beautiful woodland, and cobbled streets lined with independent boutiques and delicious restaurants. Later, we visit Polperro, with narrow winding streets and lanes with great views of the picturesque harbour and village at every turn. Browse the eclectic mixture of quirky and fascinating shops, and enjoy the selection of great pubs, cafes, and restaurants.
- ◆ Discover Cornwall's most haunting and dark history in the world-class immersive experience at Bodmin Jail. Delve into the depths of the jail's state-of-the-art 'Dark Walk' where your perceptions between the past and present will be blurred and unprovoked. Take 90 minutes to walk in the footsteps of the condemned! Later, we visit Padstow, a working harbour, surrounded by glorious beaches. In the town you'll find boutique shops and galleries at every twist and turn, showcasing the very best of Cornwall's makers & shakers! You'll always be led back to the harbour, at the very heart of this coastal town.

INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
£29	Sunday 16th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£409</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Thursford Christmas Spectacular

The Thursford Christmas Spectacular is the largest Christmas Show in the country! Set in the magical surroundings of mechanical organs and fairground carousels, with a cast of 130 professional singers, dancers, and musicians – many of whom are West End performers. The 3-hour performance delivers an extravaganza of non-stop singing, dancing, music, humour, and variety. It's a fast-moving celebration of the festive season, featuring an eclectic mix of both seasonal and year-round favourites, with famous and much-loved chart toppers being sung alongside traditional carols.



#### **The Mercure Norwich**

Located on the outskirts of Norwich, the Mercure Hotel is ideal as our base for this trip to Thursford. The hotel boasts a lift, restaurant, and bar. All ensuite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Ticket for the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- 2 x Breakfasts
- 2 x Evening Meals OR 1 x Lunch & 1 x Evening Meal in the hotel (depending on the time of the show)

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

♦ We travel into Norwich where we have the morning at leisure to explore the city, all trimmed up for the festive season. Pay a visit to the Cathedral, cobbled Elm Hill, or just enjoy some retail therapy. We return to the hotel in time to freshen up before leaving for Thursford and its Christmas Spectacular. This Norfolk Show is the largest Christmas production in England and is a celebration of Christmas with choirs, carols, and the best organs including the mighty Wurlitzer playing.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DAT
Friday 21st November 2025	3 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£50	£27	Frida

# Lanterns at Longleat & Bristol Christmas Market

From our base in Chippenham, we are ideally placed for visiting two contrasting attractions with something to suit everyone.



#### The Best Western Plus Angel Hotel

Originally a 17th-Century coaching inn, the Best Western Plus Angel Hotel is set in the market town of Chippenham and overlooks the marketplace itself. Dating back to 1751, the hotel building has been refurbished to offer modern, contemporary bedrooms. The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and leisure facilities include an indoor, heated swimming pool and gym. All en-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. Sorry, there is no lift, but ground floor rooms may be available on request.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Festival of Light at Longleat House
- Bristol Christmas Market

- Today we head for the delightful, cathedral city of Wells with its historic centre, magnificent Cathedral and the unique moated Bishop's Palace. We have time to explore the town and perhaps get lunch. Later, we leave for Longleat House and the stunning Festival of Light. Europe's largest ever display of Chinese lanterns will transform Longleat into a glowing winter wonderland, with thousands of new lanterns. Don't miss the stunning Chinese Dragon Boat and the Terracotta Army features too. We return to the hotel in time for dinner.
- This morning, we head to Bristol and the traditional Christmas Market. Located in the very heart of Bristol City Centre, the Christmas market is home to over 50 unique stalls, all underneath a glittering Christmas Tree, adorned with an array of delightful decorations and spectacular lights, to welcome you and guide you throughout the magical market. There are lots of opportunities for lunch before we head for home in the afternoon.



NS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
27	Friday 21st November 2025	3 Days	<b>£359</b> pp	£40	£27

# Llandudno **Holly & Mistletoe**

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the guiet, sand-duned West Shore.

# The Joe Loss Orchestra in Harrogate

Harrogate is the definitive boutique spa town in the heart of Yorkshire. Its thriving streets buzz with busy Harrogate shops and eateries. Add to that a fantastic Band Night with music & dancing and you're set for a fantastic weekend.



#### The Tynedale Hotel

Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Tea & Hot Mince Pies on Arrival
- Entertainment & Late-Nigh Finger Buffet Each Evening
- Sherry, Brandy or Malt Happy Hour
- Fun & Games

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- 'Christmas Eve' Tea & Hot Mince Pies served on arrival, Sherry Reception & Canapes, 4-Course Dinner, Entertainment & Cabaret, Late Night Finger Buffet
- 'Christmas Day' Conwy is one of Britain's best-preserved medieval towns with narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings, shops, cafes & pubs. Back at the hotel, enjoy Christmas Carols and Tea this afternoon. Dinner this evening will be served with a complimentary glass of wine, Christmas Crackers, and a wonderful warm atmosphere. Entertainment till late and late-night finger buffet.
- 'Boxing Day' We enjoy a run out into the Snowdonia National Park, making a stop at Betws-y-Coed. At 6pm, the Fire & Ice Evening begins with an Ice Bar & Special drinks being served. The restaurant opens with an amazing tasting menu followed by entertainment & of course, late night finger buffet.
- 'New Year's Eve' The day is at leisure in Llandudno. At 4pm, afternoon tea/coffee is followed by a Haggis Rolling Competition. Your New Year's Eve Celebration Dinner is followed by a great evening of entertainment.

#### The Old Swan Hotel

The Old Swan Hotel stands in the centre of the lovely town of Harrogate and is famed as being Agatha Christie's hiding place during her disappearance in 1926. Bedrooms are stylishly furnished, and the public areas include the Library Restaurant, the Wedgewood Room, and the Lounge Bar. The hotel has a lift. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

the Joe Loss Orchestra

and Singing Stars

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Todd Miller & The Joe Loss Orchestra
- Harrogate

- Today is free for you to explore the pretty town of Harrogate. Enjoy a lovely stroll through beautiful Valley Gardens or explore the delightful Victoria arcades for some retail therapy. Have a relaxing lunch in one of the many restaurants, cafes, and bars - maybe even visit the famous Betty's Tearooms. Later, return to the hotel to get ready for our entertainment evening. This begins with a pre-dinner drink, followed by our Gala Dinner and tonight's extravaganza - the highlight of the weekend - an evening with the legendary Joe Loss Orchestra, now led by Todd Miller. Since 1930 the band has never disbanded or reformed. It has been in constant operation throughout the world with Britain's best musicians and singers performing totally live. The Big Band and Singers will perform hits from the 50's to the 80's. The Orchestra, led today by the very talented Todd Miller is now Britain's longest running live entertainment company of all time. 2025 will be their 90th year and Todd's 50th year with the orchestra. We're proud to present one of the UK's most versatile and successful dance and party orchestras you'll ever have the pleasure of seeing and listening to.
- After a leisurely breakfast, we head for home with fond memories and new friends we have made during our weekend in Harrogate.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 21st November 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	NIL	£29	Friday 21st November 2025	3 Days	<b>£299</b> pp	NIL	£27

# Bournemouth Alpine Christmas Markets

Bournemouth in the winter still has lots to offer the visitor. The seven miles of beaches offer beautiful winter walks along the shoreline. Add to this the Christmas Wonderland Festival and you're in for a magical festive treat.

# **Festive Torquay**

The winter season is full of cheer and magic, even at the seaside! While you might not think that being by the sea when the weather gets a bit wild but there's still plenty going on, as you can see from our Festive Itinerary.

#### **Best Western Carlton Hotel**

The Best Western Signature Collection Carlton Hotel is situated on Bournemouth's famous East Cliff offering spectacular sea views and a bright, modern interior. The hotel is just a few minutes' walk from the seven miles of golden beaches in Bournemouth, and a 10-minute walk from the town centre. The hotel has a lift to most bedrooms, bar, restaurant, and Waves Health & Leisure Club with indoor swimming pool, sauna, and gym. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Bournemouth Alpine Christmas Markets
- Poole Festive Cruise

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ We visit the wonderful Bournemouth Alpine Christmas Markets. Browse amongst the chalets of food, drink, and local craftspeople showcasing their festive goodies. The centre of the market is a delightful Alpine Bar where you can grab a festive mulled wine or hot chocolate and relax enjoying the atmosphere of the market. A Christmas Tree Wonderland of over 100 glittering trees and illuminations create a spectacular walk from the market down to the seafront. The rest of the day is free to explore some of the other delights of this seaside resort.
- We visit Athelhampton House which will be dressed for Christmas. With a wealth of history, literary connections, multiple owners, and more, this is a house for all seasons. When you appreciate Athelhampton's complex history of ownership and its changes in fortune, it is no wonder that Athelhampton is considered to be one of the most haunted houses in England!
- The nearby port of Poole has a busy harbour and famous pottery. Explore the treasures of Poole's historic quayside, delve deep into the heart of the Old Town where sea captains and pirates once stood and immerse yourself in Poole's fascinating history. Along the Quay enjoy a range of shops, cafes, and restaurants before we board a festive cruise around Poole Harbour. Enjoy mince pies and mulled wine as we enjoy a relaxing sail around the harbour with live commentary provided by our Captain ensuring we don't miss a key sight.

#### **The Headland Hotel**

An elegant hotel, The Headland sits majestically on the headland, looking out to sea, with 2 acres of lovely grounds with stunning views across Torbay. Tastefully decorated en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift to most floors, a lounge, bar, restaurant, and entertainment. The Headland Hotel offers a complimentary 'taxi' service into town on your free day.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Exeter Cathedral Christmas Markets
- Festive Cruise on the River Exe

- ◆ Take time out of the busy festive season to sit back, relax and enjoy Christmas in Devon on the calm and sheltered waters of the River Exe. The festively decorated boats have covered and heated lower decks, with cosy blankets, plenty of fresh air, and great views on the upper outside deck. You will have a warm welcome with a glass of home-made mulled wine and a tasty, warmed mince pie to enjoy as we sail. Later, make it a day out to remember at Exeter Cathedral Christmas Market. Discover over a hundred twinkling festive chalets, local gifts, and produce, themed bars, global street food, seasonal entertainment and free entry to the awesome Exeter Cathedral, including the Light of Hope Star installation by artist, Peter Walker.
- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town. The colourful houses that surround the harbour bowl are the first thing you notice, but the real stars are the fish! As one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK, Brixham has a long history of bringing in fresh seafood which can be found on menus all over town. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa?

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 24th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£449</b> pp	£100	£29	Monday 24th November 2025	5 Days	<b>£429</b> pp	NIL	£29

# Capital City Christmas Shopper

Enjoy the run-up to the festive period on this weekend in London's Kensington area. Explore the city, catch a show, or maybe visit the Natural History Museum – just minutes' walk away. We have left this break as Bed & Breakfast only so you can sample one of the many local restaurants.

# Isle of Wight -Taste of Christmas

Boasting award-winning beaches, unspoilt and spectacular scenery, and a rich, historical heritage, the Isle of Wight has something for everyone to enjoy. Discover picturesque villages, spectacular cliffs, and sandy beaches. Our base is in Sandown, a traditional seaside resort with long stretches of beach and a Victorian pier.

#### **Copthorne Tara Hotel**

Copthorne Tara Hotel is located in Kensington, a short distance from worldclass attractions, theatres, restaurants, and shopping galore. The ideal location from which to explore the capital. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Central London Hotel
- Fabulous Christmas shopping
- Bed & Breakfast
- Thames Dinner Cruise

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

Explore London at your own pace. Why not visit some of the famous attractions. Nearby, you'll find the Natural History Museum where you can travel through 4.6 billion years of our planet's history, or the Victoria & Albert Museum – with unmissable exhibitions and extraordinary collections, a global destination for art, design and performance. Or perhaps venture into the heart of the city to browse the stores on Oxford Street for extra special Christmas gifts. Later, don your glad rags before we depart for our fabulous London Dinner Cruise along the Thames. Glide along the River Thames and immerse yourself in the magic of London's skyline as it sparkles under the night sky. Indulge in a sumptuous four-course meal of traditional British flavours whilst enjoying uninterrupted views of London's most famous landmarks, including Tower Bridge, the Shard, and the Houses of Parliament.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Friday 28th November 2025	3 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£130	£27

#### **The Trouville Hotel**

Situated centrally on Sandown's seafront, opposite the golden beach, and with views over the sweep of Sandown & Shanklin Bay, is the Tourville Hotel. Well-appointed, en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, ballroom, function room, and some live entertainment during your stay.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Christmas Eve Arrival Tea/Coffee & Mince Pies, Evening of Music & Dancing
- Christmas Day Afternoon Tea/Coffee & Biscuits with a Christmas Quiz, Wine Reception, Traditional Christmas Dinner, Evening of Music & Dancing
- Boxing Day Afternoon Tea/Coffee & Cake with Bingo, Evening of Music & Dancing
- New Year's Eve Tea/Coffee & Stollen with General Knowledge Quiz, Farewell Dinner, Party Night with Dancing & Entertainment

- ♦ We visit Ryde. Paul McCartney recently confirmed what the town already 'knew' ... The Beatles hit Ticket to Ride was inspired by a trip to Ryde made by Macca and John Lennon in the early sixties! It's a fantastic place that combines shopping centres, golden sands and creative hearts. We also visit Cowes, home to the oldest and biggest sailing regatta in the world. Stroll through the vibrant town and enjoy independent shops and well-known yachting clothing stores, sit at a pavement café, or have lunch and people watch.
- Godshill is the quintessential English village and boasts some of the oldest architecture on the Isle of Wight. With its delightful medieval church and winding main street lined with traditional tea rooms, Godshill is as picturesque as it is popular. We also visit Alum Bay for views of The Needles, one of the most photographed groups of rocks in the world.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 1st December 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **St Annes Turkey & Tinsel**

St Annes on Sea on the Fylde Coast offers a gentle and peaceful way of life. St Annes boasts a beautifully restored Victorian pier, promenade with views across to North Wales, multi award-winning beach huts, a wideopen sandy beach, plenty of places to eat, and wonderful seaside charm.

# Llandudno Turkey & Tinsel

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.



#### **The St Ives Hotel**

A warm welcome awaits you at The St Ives Hotel, which is located close to the beach and the pier. Tastefully decorated en-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, and some evening entertainment during our stay.

After breakfast on our last day we return straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Leighton Hall Dressed for Christmas
- Bayview Garden Centre
- Fleetwood Market & Cleveleys
- Some Evening Entertainment

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ We visit Leighton Hall which has been a much-loved family home and the centre of an agricultural estate since medieval times. Enjoy the famous collection of Gillow furniture and objets d'art and the gardens (weather permitting). We enjoy coffee and mince pies, followed by a tour of the hall – dressed for Christmas. It's then a short journey to Bay View Garden Centre for free time in their Christmas Shop, plant area and restaurant, with stunning views over Morecambe Bay (Includes a £10 lunch voucher per person).
- ♦ A busy traditional coastal market offering a great seaside shopping experience, Fleetwood Market has over 150 stalls within three indoor halls, and a selection of outdoor stalls. A true shoppers paradise you'll find a variety of offerings, everything from jewellery and clothing to household goods, all at great prices. Later, we continue to the friendly seaside resort of Cleveleys. With great access, public artworks, clean beaches and public facilities, Cleveleys Seafront is worth a visit. The town centre is compact but has everything you need, plenty of cafes and places to meet.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 1st December 2025	5 Days	<b>£379</b> pp	NIL	£29

A family-run hotel where a warm welcome awaits, located on South Parade, just off the Promenade, opposite the Pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, and evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Conwy
- Caernarfon & Cream Tea
- Turkey & Tinsel Theme in the Hotel

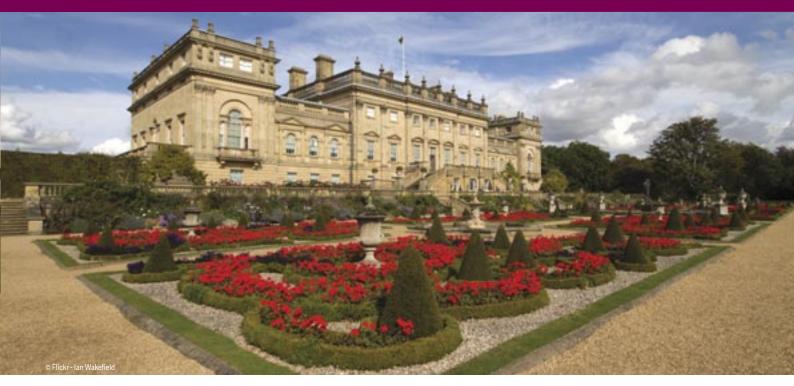
- We enjoy a half-day trip to Conwy, one of the best-preserved medieval towns. Well-preserved ancient walls enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings. The Walls radiate from a gritty, dark-stoned castle that, even after all these years, still preserves an authentic medieval atmosphere, and still has the power to dominate.
- Caernarfon is a picturesque town nestled in the heart of Snowdonia, with a rich history and stunning landscapes. Mighty Caernarfon Castle commands the lion's share of attention, but the town's narrow streets and stylishly redeveloped waterfront also merit a visit. Whilst here, we visit the lovely Celtic Royal Hotel for a delicious Cream Tea before returning to Llandudno.



INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
£29	Monday 1st December 2025	5 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **Yorkshire Winter Delights**

A Yorkshire-themed Christmas extravaganza in one of Britain's happiest places to live! Jingle and mingle in the festive cheer at Harrogate Christmas Fayre and enjoy evening entertainment and Yorkshire-themed dinners of locally sourced delights.



#### The Cedar Court Hotel, Harrogate

Located in the heart of historic Harrogate, The Cedar Court Hotel Harrogate offers amazing accommodation overlooking 200 acres of pristine parkland. While the property is an historic sight, dating to 1671 and sitting on the site of the town's first-ever hotel, this hotel is only a quick stroll away from Harrogate's must-see sights. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, complimentary Wi-Fi, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Christmas at Harewood House
- York Christmas Market St Nicholas Fair



- The majestically decorated Harewood House and grounds will send you on a wonderful Christmas experience. Explore Lord Whitney's fantastic 'Upon a Christmas Wish' installations, take a magical walk around the twinkling Lakeside Path, make a visit to All Saints' Church, or catch some last-minute shopping in the Courtyard and House for a luxury range of unique gifts and collectables. At the hotel this evening, enjoy a Yorkshire-themed Quiz Night with your Host.
- ◆ Today, we travel to York and the York Christmas Markets. With wooden alpine chalets selling gorgeous food, drinks and crafts spread across St Nicholas' Fair, it's no wonder York Christmas Market is so popular. The Market runs all the way along Parliament Street right down to St Sampson's Square, it's easy to follow and all within walking distance.
- Experience the joy of Christmas in the heart of Yorkshire at Harrogate's Christmas Market. Among the many stalls and entertainments will be arts and crafts from artisan creators, mouthwatering treats, festive decorations, and a range of unique gift ideas for you to choose from. In the afternoon, return to the hotel for a delicious Yorkshire-themed Afternoon Tea.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 1st December 2025	5 Days	<b>£499</b> pp	£100	£29

# Edinburgh Christmas Markets with Gin Tasting

This tour takes us to the Scottish Borders with a day at the vibrant Edinburgh Christmas Markets. Shop for gifts or just relax and enjoy a warm drink and festive treats. Follow this up with a more relaxing day to explore Peebles town, enjoy the hotel facilities and try their very own 1881 gin.

# Eastbourne Turkey & Tinsel

Eastbourne is a town with grace and elegance that has something for everyone – a landscaped, pedestrianised town centre bordered by a large range of shops, a clean, well-managed beach and seafront renowned for its attractive three-tiered flower-decked promenade.



#### **Peebles Hydro Hotel**

The Peebles Hydro Hotel was built in 1878 as a health spa with the original building being destroyed by fire and subsequently rebuilt in 1907. Today the hotel is part of the Crieff Hydro group and offers excellent facilities including a swimming pool, spa, restaurant, and all the modern-day luxuries you would expect from a hotel of this standard. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Edinburgh Christmas Markets
- Drink with Dinner Each Evening
- 1881 Gin Distillery Tour & Tasting

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- Nestled in the heart of Edinburgh's historic city centre, with stunning views of Edinburgh Castle, the Scott Monument, and the city's iconic skyline, East Princes Street Gardens hosts the traditional Christmas Market. Featuring around 70 stalls with some of the best local and international producers selling everything from hand-made gifts, bespoke products, to tasty treats and delicious drinks. If you've had your fill of shopping, there are plenty of other options to keep you busy. Explore the Old Town, walk down the Royal Mile, or head up to the Castle. The choice is yours.
- ◆ Today you have the chance to relax and recover from your busy day in Edinburgh. Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and then maybe stroll into Peebles and explore the lovely independent shops and galleries, take a walk by the river or cosy up over a warm drink in one of the town's cafes. Or maybe take advantage of the hotel leisure facilities, activities and gardens. Take a swim, book a treatment in the spa, or enjoy some fresh air in the beautiful grounds. This afternoon, we have a tour & tasting in the hotel's very own distillery. Start with a glass of G&T, discover the Hydro history and all things gin, see the famous copper distillery 'Felicity' still in action and taste a few of the 1881 Gins produced on site.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 7th December 2025	4 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£75	£29



#### Haddon Hall Hotel

The Haddon Hall Hotel is enviably situated at the seafront end of Devonshire Place, a broad, tree-lined avenue that links the main promenade with the town centre. The Bandstand is located across the road from the hotel. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, spacious lounge, ballroom, cocktail bar, and some evening entertainment. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Entertainment Each Evening
- Afternoon Fun & Games
- Brighton Christmas Festival
- Hever Castle Dressed for Christmas

- Brighton is a cosmopolitan town with its majestic Regency squares and crescents, iconic Royal Pavilion, and famous piers. There's an abundance of independent shops, boutiques, and award-winning restaurants. Our visit coincides with Brighton Christmas Festival featuring a large Christmas market, a 50m observation wheel, and a variety of festive events.
- At Hever Castle you will be met with beautiful traditionally decorated rooms, welcoming log fires and twinkling Christmas trees. In front of the Castle, ride the gallopers then head to the Big Wheel and have a go at 'hook a duck' (additional charges apply). Appreciate relaxed Christmas shopping in the Gift Shops, and feast on delicious seasonal food in the cafes and kiosks.



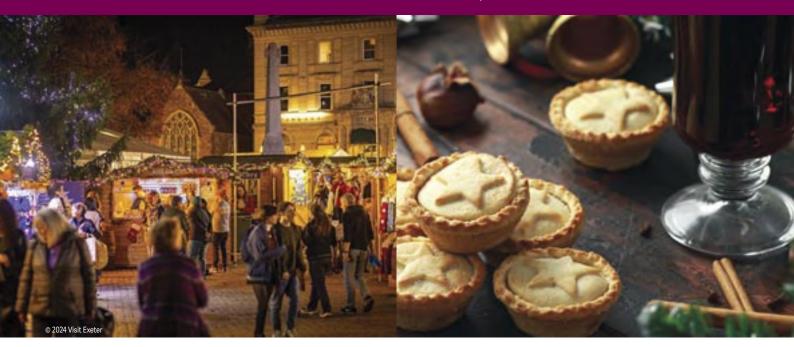
;	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
	£29	Monday 8th December 2025	5 Days	<b>£419</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **Festive Torquay**

The winter season is full of cheer and magic, even at the seaside! While you might not think that being by the sea when the weather gets a bit wild but there's still plenty going on, as you can see from our Festive Itinerary.

# Llandudno Holly & Mistletoe

Llandudno is Wales's largest resort, uniquely situated between the Great and Little Ormes with two wonderful beaches, the award-winning North Shore and the quiet, sand-duned West Shore.



#### **The TLH Victoria Hotel**

TLH Victoria Hotel is popular with dancers, having two magnificent ballrooms. Believed to be Torquay's first purpose-built hotel, you'll enjoy the relaxing atmosphere created by the many fine period features as well as impressive sea views. There's a wealth of daytime activities, outstanding Aztec Leisure facilities and top entertainment every night of the year. Ensuite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Exeter Cathedral Christmas Markets
- ◆ Festive Cruise on the River Exe

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ◆ Take time out of the busy festive season to sit back, relax and enjoy Christmas in Devon on the calm and sheltered waters of the River Exe. The festively decorated boats have covered and heated lower decks, with cosy blankets, plenty of fresh air, and great views on the upper outside deck. You will have a warm welcome with a glass of home-made mulled wine and a tasty, warmed mince pie to enjoy as we sail. Later, make it a day out to remember at Exeter Cathedral Christmas Market. Discover over a hundred twinkling festive chalets, local gifts, and produce, themed bars, global street food, seasonal entertainment and free entry to the awesome Exeter Cathedral, including the Light of Hope Star installation by artist, Peter Walker.
- Brixham is a quintessential English harbour town. The colourful houses that surround the harbour bowl are the first thing you notice, but the real stars are the fish! As one of the busiest fishing ports in the UK, Brixham has a long history of bringing in fresh seafood which can be found on menus all over town. Brixham is fast becoming a cultural hub of Devon, with fantastic art murals covering many of the buildings throughout the town. Can you find the angel wings, the pirate map, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa?

#### **The Tynedale Hotel**

Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Tea & Hot Mince Pies on Arrival
- Entertainment & Late-Nigh Finger Buffet Each Evening
- Sherry, Brandy or Malt Happy Hour
- ♦ Fun & Games

- 'Christmas Eve' Tea & Hot Mince Pies served on arrival, Sherry Reception & Canapes, 4-Course Dinner, Entertainment & Cabaret, Late Night Finger Buffet
- 'Christmas Day' Conwy is one of Britain's best-preserved medieval towns with narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies, chock-full of historic buildings, shops, cafes & pubs. Back at the hotel, enjoy Christmas Carols and Tea this afternoon. Dinner this evening will be served with a complimentary glass of wine, Christmas Crackers, and a wonderful warm atmosphere. Entertainment till late and late-night finger buffet.
- 'Boxing Day' We enjoy a run out into the Snowdonia National Park, making a stop at Betws-y-Coed. At 6pm, the Fire & Ice Evening begins with an Ice Bar & Special drinks being served. The restaurant opens with an amazing tasting menu followed by entertainment & of course, late night finger buffet.
- 'New Year's Eve' The day is at leisure in Llandudno. At 4pm, afternoon tea/coffee is followed by a Haggis Rolling Competition. Your New Year's Eve Celebration Dinner is followed by a great evening of entertainment.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Monday 8th December 2025	5 Days	<b>£369</b> pp	NIL	£29	Monday 15th December 2025	5 Days	<b>£509</b> pp	NIL	£29

# **Christmas in Durham & The Cleveland Hills**

Brought back by popular demand, a fabulous Christmas can be expected at The Blackwell Grange. Enjoy a superb mix of scenery ranging from extraordinary industrial landscapes to pretty villages and dramatic coastal cliffs. The hotel offers a fantastic Festive programme to guarantee a cracking good Christmas is had by all.



#### **The Blackwell Grange Hotel**

The Blackwell Grange Hotel is a stunning 17th Century mansion, which enjoys an enviable setting in the beautiful County Durham countryside. The hotel is nestled in wooded parkland in Darlington, located between the North Yorkshire Moors and the Pennines. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, heated indoor swimming pool, spa, and sauna. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, radio, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cathedral City of Durham
- Thirsk & Helmsley
- 'Little Switzerland' Bilsdale
- Festive Entertainment



- Christmas Eve This morning we drive through Bilsdale 'Little Switzerland' – on the way to Helmsley, with its huge market square, where we take a break for lunch. Afterwards, we descend spectacular Sutton Bank on our way to Thirsk, home of James Herriot, for a short break before returning to the hotel. Tonight, we enjoy some hotel entertainment. For those wishing to attend Midnight Mass, details of local church services will be available at Reception.
- Christmas Day Merry Christmas! Enjoy a relaxing morning, open your presents, maybe take a stroll to work up an appetite for Christmas Day Lunch with all the trimmings. This afternoon, listen to the King's Speech with a slice of Christmas Cake, maybe watch a movie, and get ready for tonight's Christmas Day Buffet followed by a Quiz and music from the resident DJ.
- ◆ Boxing Day This morning we travel to the ancient and historic city of Durham, acclaimed as a World Heritage Site and dominated by the magnificent Cathedral and Norman Castle nearby, high above the River Wear. We have chance to explore the historic city, maybe visit the Cathedral. There is a wide range of shops to explore and lots of opportunities for lunch. Away from the bustle you can stroll along wooded riverbanks offering a peaceful retreat below the peeling bells of the Cathedral. We have a final evening of entertainment after dinner.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Tuesday 23rd December 2025	5 Days	<b>£679</b> pp	£100	£29

# North East Coastal Christmas

The Old Town of Hartlepool was founded in the 7th Century, around the monastery of Hartlepool Abbey on a headland. As the village grew into a town in the Middle Ages, its harbour served as the County Palatine of Durham's official port.



#### **The Grand Hotel Hartlepool**

The Grand Hotel Hartlepool has recently undergone refurbishment to offer a contemporary style within an historic property. This grand, iconic building has a lift, onsite dining, hi spec lounge, and a stylish, fully stocked Bar 1899. All en-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Festive Entertainment
- Boxing Day Pantomime Performance
- Market Town of Yarm
- Hartlepool
- Some Evening Entertainment



- Christmas Eve We journey south crossing the River Tees with a chance to see the Transporter Bridge an historic landmark on the Middlesborough skyline. We make our way to the market town of Yarm, where there is free time to look around the festively decorated shops. Later, we journey back to the hotel for a light lunch of Soup & Sandwiches. This afternoon is at leisure to explore the town from our central location. Perhaps take a pre-dinner stroll to the Marina, explore the shopping centre, or simply relax in the hotel before dinner. After dinner this evening, there is live entertainment. For anyone attending Midnight Mass, hot chocolate and cookies will be offered on returning to the hotel.
- Christmas Day Merry Christmas to all! Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, glass of Bucks Fizz and open your presents. Have a relaxing morning in the hotel, a glass of Sherry will be served before our traditional Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings. Later, watch the King's Speech with tea/coffee and Christmas Cake. Following dinner tonight, we round off the day with a festive quiz and Bingo with lots of prizes.
- ◆ Boxing Day Enjoy a leisurely morning in Hartlepool with time for lunch, before we make our way to the Town Hall Theatre to enjoy a festive Pantomime. Cream Tea will be served on our return to the hotel and this evening's dinner will be followed by another night of live entertainment.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Tuesday 23rd December 2025	5 Days	<b>£669</b> pp	NIL	£29

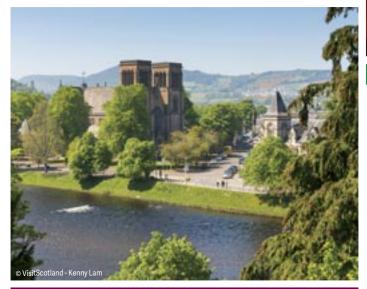
# **Christmas in the Scottish Highlands**

The Scottish Highlands is really the Scotland of your imagination and the perfect backdrop for your festive break. It's no wonder that it was named as one of National Geographic's 'Best of the World' destinations in 2023.



#### The Carrbridge Hotel

Originally established in 1803 as an Inn for weary travellers, the Watt family have owned and managed the Carrbridge Hotel for the last four decades. In that time the hotel has been extensively refurbished and extended to provide modern accommodation whilst retaining the hotel's character. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, and lounge. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Aviemore & Fort William
- Inverness
- Entertainment Every Night Including Ceilidh Band and Highland Dancers
- Bingo, Christmas Quizzes & Games



- Christmas Eve We enjoy a scenic drive through the Cairngorms National Park and make a stop in the popular holiday resort of Aviemore, with its really good selection of cafes and great shops. We continue our journey to Fort William where we spend a little free time. Fort William is world famous for the huge variety of outdoor activities and of course, having the highest mountain in the UK! It is also one of the most historic places in Scotland - the Jacobites, Glenfinnan and the Old Fort William and Inverlochy Castle ruin are just a few examples of the amazing history. Details of local Midnight Mass services can be found at the hotel.
- Christmas Day Merry Christmas! Spend the morning opening your presents before our traditional Christmas Dinner with all the Trimmings.
- Boxing Day We visit Inverness, Capital of the Highlands. There are a wide variety of shops, from large multi-national outlets through to small independent stores. The vibrant Inverness pubs have excellent pub grub. View this compact city from the top of Inverness Castle, marvel at the stunning St Andrew's Cathedral, or take a relaxing stroll along the banks of the River Ness.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Tuesday 23rd December 2025	5 Days	<b>£569</b> pp	£80	£29

# **Christmas in Blackpool**

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or maybe it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it. Spend the Christmas period in the fresh seaside air. With plenty of things to do, special added extras and a beautiful backdrop just waiting to be explored, your Christmas break is sure to be truly memorable.

## **Twixmas at The Palace**

If you've not been before you'll find the Inverness Palace Hotel & Spa in the perfect location on the banks of the River Ness, opposite Inverness Castle. The Palace is perfectly positioned with lots to do within walking distance of the hotel plus lovely evening walks by the river.



#### The Doric Hotel

Situated on the Queen's Promenade, with breath-taking views over the Irish Sea, Morecambe Bay, and the Isle of Man, The Doric is a firm favourite. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, poolside bar, and incredible entertainment every night. A pool of highly professional entertainers awaits you at The Doric. A full all-year-round entertainment programme with tribute acts, performances and fabulous vocal talent all waiting in the spotlight to entertain you.

### Please note our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour and no excursions are included.

After breakfast on the last day of your holiday we travel straight home.

#### SAMPLE OF INCLUSIONS YET TO BE FINALIZED BY THE HOTEL:

- Morning Entertainment, Buffet Lunch, Afternoon Entertainment, Banquet Dinner, Evening Entertainment on Christmas Eve
- Morning Entertainment, Gala Lunch, Gift from Santa, King's Speech with tea/coffee & Cake, Afternoon Entertainment, Hot Barms, Evening Entertainment on Christmas Day
- Morning Entertainment, Buffet Lunch, Afternoon Entertainment, Banquet Dinner, Evening Entertainment on Boxing Day



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Tuesday 23rd December 2025	5 Days	<b>£599</b> pp	NIL	£29

Dating back to the 1890's, and beautifully situated opposite Inverness Castle and alongside the bonnie banks of the River Ness, the Inverness Palace Hotel offers a warm welcome and combines the best of the past with the contemporary style of the present with elegant interiors, lovely bedrooms, and luxury Leisure Club & Spa. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, brasserie & bar. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, iron & ironing board, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Mulled Wine & Mince Pies & Christmas Reviver Night with Themed Menu
- Festive Charades with Cream Tea
- Festive Finale with Hogmanay Dinner & Celebrations

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- We visit Fort Augustus, situated on the southern tip of Loch Ness on the Great Glen Way. Lying on the impressive 60-mile-long Caledonia Canal, halfway between Inverness and Fort William, Fort Augustus offers spectacular views down Loch Ness. Sit and watch the boats navigating the locks or explore the Clansmen Centre, where appropriately attired guides demonstrate 17th Century clan weaponry. We also visit Fort William, a scenic town surrounded by stunning landscapes.
- Inverness is the Capital of the Highlands, and a unique location. Discover hidden gems just outside The Palace. This includes the refurbished Inverness Museum & Art Gallery, next to the Whisky Shop, discover the famous Leaky's Bookshop, or visit the Inverness Botanic Gardens, Scotland's most visited free attraction. Then stroll back through the lovely Ness Islands to unwind at The Palace.



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Saturday 27th December 2025	4 Days	<b>£399</b> pp	£72	£29

# Twixmas at the Tynedale

Ever popular, we are delighted to feature this fantastic Twixmas Break to the Tynedale hotel, Llandudno.

### **New Year in Sidmouth**

Sidmouth is probably the most unspoilt resort in the country and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful. Quiet and unhurried, Sidmouth has preserved the natural beauty of the countryside with colourful gardens, open spaces, and tree-covered hills.



#### The Tynedale Hotel

Situated in a prime seafront position on Llandudno's iconic Victorian promenade, The Tynedale Hotel is bright, modern and welcoming and just 20-meters from the beach and a short walk from the hight street and the town's well-preserved pier. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, and bar.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Glass of Sherry & Designer Canapes
- Afternoon Tea
- Haggis Rolling Competition
- Late Night Finger Buffet
- Evening Entertainment

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- A warm welcome awaits you in the bar whilst hotel staff take care of your luggage, and you enjoy tea & hot mince pies. A glass of Sherry and 'designer' canapes are served prior to evening dinner – a fabulous 4-course meal with hats, streamers, and party poppers. Following dinner there is an evening of entertainment. At 11pm, indulge in the complimentary finger buffet to end your day.
- Enjoy a leisurely breakfast with the day free to explore Llandudno independently. Stroll along the Victorian seafront and explore the Pier – the longest in Wales or browse the shops along Mostyn Street and grab yourself a bargain in the sales! At 4pm, be back at the hotel for complimentary tea/coffee followed by a traditional Haggis Rolling Competition. 'Happy Hour' at the bar takes place between 5pm & 6:30pm, followed by a candlelit dinner and entertainment. The evening is rounded off with Auld Lang Syne and of course, the late-night finger buffet.

#### **The Royal York & Faulkner Hotel**

The hotel is a fine example of Regency architecture and forms a modern, spacious hotel. Situated in an unrivalled position at the centre of the Esplanade, the Royal York & Faulkner directly overlooks the sea and is adjacent to the picturesque shopping centre. En-suite bedrooms have TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, Aspara Spa with Hydrotherapy Pool, sauna & steam cabin, and some evening entertainment.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ Gala Dinner on New Year's Eve with Music & Dancing
- Roulette or Black Jack (Fun Money Provided)
- Grand Prize Draw
- Champagne to Toast in the New Year & Auld Lang Syne

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ New Year's Eve -A scenic drive takes us to the pretty seaside resort of Lyme Regis. Enjoy a wander through the gardens, a walk along the Southwest Coast Path or stroll along The Cobb. Not only is Lyme Regis a fantastic town to enjoy gorgeous sea views, but its eateries also feature menus filled with locally caught seafood and delicious local produce. The town is a narrow tangle of streets and shops that wind their way down to the 13th Century Cobb Harbour.
- ♦ New Year's Day Happy New Year! The day is free to explore Sidmouth or to just relax and enjoy the facilities of the hotel. Sidmouth is a town like no other, with friendly faces and beautiful scenery. The dramatic cliffs, fresh sea air and abundance of attractions make it a wonderful place to recharge the batteries.

DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Sunday 28th December 2025	3 Days	<b>£329</b> pp	NIL	£27	Tuesday 30th December 2025	4 Days	<b>£469</b> pp	NIL	£29

### New Year in Windsor & Winchester

Winter in Hampshire is a magical time of year. From Christmas celebrations and festive ice rinks to the cosiest pubs, there's so much waiting for you to discover. Combine this with a Festive Afternoon Tea Cruise on the Thames and you are in for a real festive treat.



#### **The Hampshire Court Hotel**

Part of the prestigious Q Hotels Group, The Hampshire Court Hotel boasts comfortable bedrooms, stylish restaurants, a lift, and an excellent Health Club with 2 indoor pools, gym, steam room and sauna. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, complimentary Wi-Fi, and tea/coffee making facilities.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Historic Winchester
- Royal Windsor with Afternoon Tea Cruise on The Thames
- Festive Entertainment

#### **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

- ♦ New Year's Eve The bustling centre of Winchester has a delightful festive atmosphere to enjoy. Perhaps visit Winchester Cathedral, one of England's oldest, boasting centuries of English heritage, magnificent architecture, priceless treasures and works of art. Or experience unrivalled shopping, offering a tempting array of bigname stores, boutiques, and designer shops. Perhaps just watch the world go by from one of Winchester's delightful cafes, pubs, or restaurants. We return to the hotel with time to relax and get ready for our Welcome Dinner Drinks and Black-Tie Dinner before taking to the dance floor to welcome in the New Year.
- New Year's Day A leisurely breakfast this morning before we make our way to Royal Windsor for a little free time to explore. Crowned by Windsor Castle and set on the banks of the River Thames, with an unrivalled royal heritage, Windsor boasts superb shopping, food, and drink. Later, we board our boat at the Windsor Promenade for our intimate tea-room experience cruise, offering the chance to travel in style. We cruise upstream past the famous Royal Windsor Racecourse and Eton College before heading downstream to see the most famous view of Windsor Castle from the river and on through Romney Lock. Enjoy the views from the upper deck before moving to the comfortable saloon, complete with full licensed bar. A sumptuous Afternoon Tea will be served on a three-tiered cake stand accompanied by tea or coffee. This will be provided when the boat makes its turn at Old Windsor weir for the return journey to Windsor Promenade. We return to the hotel for dinner & quiz or bingo entertainment this evening.

### **New Year in Blackpool**

A holiday in Blackpool will leave you feeling refreshed, relaxed, and recharged, even if you are on the go 25 hours a day! Perhaps it's the resort's infectious zest for life, or maybe it's just that, uniquely, whatever your routine, Blackpool can offer a perfect break from it. Spend the Christmas period in the fresh seaside air. With plenty of things to do, special added extras and a beautiful backdrop just waiting to be explored, your New Year break is sure to be truly memorable.



#### **The Doric Hotel**

Situated on the Queen's Promenade, with breath-taking views over the Irish Sea, Morecambe Bay, and the Isle of Man, The Doric is a firm favourite. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, telephone, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, poolside bar, and incredible entertainment every night. A pool of highly professional entertainers awaits you at The Doric. A full all-year-round entertainment programme with tribute acts, performances and fabulous vocal talent all waiting in the spotlight to entertain you.

Please note our coach & Driver do not stay with you on this tour and no excursions are included.

After breakfast on the last day of your holiday we travel straight home.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Afternoon Entertainment, Banquet Dinner, Evening Entertainment, Bacon Sandwiches on New Year's Eve
- Bubbly Breakfast, Afternoon Entertainment, 'Round the World' Buffet, Evening Entertainment on New Year's Day



DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS	DATE	DAYS	PRICE	SRS	INS
Tuesday 30th December 2025	4 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	£96	£29	Tuesday 30th December 2025	4 Days	<b>£479</b> pp	NIL	£29





### **Jersey by Air**

Jersey – an island of rediscovery, where landscapes are just waiting to be explored. Whether it's the view from the battlements of a 12th Century castle, a beach walk along Jersey's unspoilt coastline, or taking time to reflect while you watch the sun sink into the sea over St Ouen's Bay, Jersey is there to be discovered. Live Island Life to the full and explore some must-see experiences and destinations from world-class conservation centres to living history locations – all in easy reach within Jersey's 45 square miles. Get a taste of Jersey and its authentic local flavour with memorable eating experiences, from beach restaurants to Michelin-starred fine dining. Shopping in Jersey is like nowhere else in the world. Enjoy top brand designer goods, department stores in the heart of St Helier High Street, or wander through charming markets, quirky antique stores, and unique local boutiques. No need to shop 'til you drop, there's plenty of places to refresh and relax along the way. Rest your feet and stop off in a nearby cafe for a quick espresso or enjoy a glass of wine over a delicious, leisurely lunch.



#### A CHOICE OF HOTELS:

#### Norfolk Lodge Hotel

Situated in one of St Helier's best residential areas, this hotel is only half a mile away from the town, shops, and beaches. En-suite bedrooms feature TV and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, indoor swimming pool, and some evening entertainment.

#### **Monterrey Hotel**

A fine hotel with excellent facilities, an informal hotel where good value is the order of the day. En-suite bedrooms feature TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. The hotel has a lift, restaurant, bar, lounge, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, and some evening entertainment.



#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Door to Door Service
- Return Flights from Liverpool with Easyjet
- Meet & Greet on Arrival in Jersey
- Return Transfers from the Airport to your Chosen Hotel
- Accommodation with Breakfasts and Dinners Daily
- Services of a Local Representative



# Jersey by Air (continued)



DATE	DAYS	THE NOLFOLK LODGE	THE MONTERREY	SRS	INS
Sunday 4th May 2025	7 Days	<b>£789</b> pp	N/A	£90	£72
Sunday 18th May 2025	7 Days	<b>£789</b> pp	<b>£829</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 1st June 2025	7 Days	<b>£889</b> pp	<b>£929</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 15th June 2025	7 Days	<b>£889</b> pp	<b>£929</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 22nd June 2025	7 Days	<b>£889</b> pp	<b>£929</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 29th June 2025	7 Days	<b>£889</b> pp	<b>£929</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 6th July 2025	7 Days	<b>£899</b> pp	<b>£939</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 13th July 2025	7 Days	<b>£899</b> pp	<b>£939</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 20th July 2025	7 Days	<b>£899</b> pp	<b>£939</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 17th August 2025	7 Days	<b>£899</b> pp	<b>£939</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 24th August 2025	7 Days	<b>£899</b> pp	<b>£939</b> pp	£120	£72
Sunday 14th September 2025	7 Days	<b>£849</b> pp	<b>£879</b> рр	£120	£72
Sunday 28th September 2025	7 Days	<b>£789</b> рр	<b>£829</b> pp	£90	£72

#### Deposit: £175.00 per person

Balance Due: 13 weeks prior to departure date

#### Important Information:

The Jersey holidays by air featured in this brochure are NOT protected under our BCH Bonding (details on page 2) and therefore DO OT come under the Terms & Conditions of our Trading Charter. They are however ATOL Protected, as detailed below:-

Elen Smith (Tours) Ltd act as retail agents for Destination Specialists – ATOL No. 9503. Destination Specialists Terms apply. A copy of these will be sent to you with your ATOL Receipt once received by us. If you require a copy of Destination Specialists Terms & Conditions prior to booking, please ask a member of staff. Coaches on Jersey are not of an executive standard.

Booking information: We have secured a number of rooms at the hotels stated for the dates advertised in our brochure. These can ONLY be booked with our booking office staff on 01706 648126 or via our website at www.ellensmith.co.uk AND NOT THROUGH OUR AGENTS.

We have a budget for flight seats. Once this budget has been reached, flight supplements may apply. Any supplements will be advised to you at the time of booking.

Obligatory Requirements for Jersey by air: Please be aware that for security purposes when travelling to the Channel Islands you are required to carry some form of photographic identification (e.g. Photo Driving Licence, Passport, etc.),



## HOLIDAY TRAVEL INSURANCE



Our Client Holiday Travel Insurance is available for all eligible passengers travelling on our holidays which is arranged by Wrightsure Services (Hampshire) Limited and underwritten by AWP P&C SA and administered in the UK by Allianz Partners, a trading name of AWP Assistance UK Ltd. AWP Assistance UK Limited is registered in England (registration number 1710361). Registered office: PO Box 74005, 60 Gracechurch Street, London, EC3P 3DS. AWP Assistance UK Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) (Firm reference number 311909).

AWP P&C SA is authorised and regulated by L'Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution in France. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority. Subject to regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority (Firm reference number 534384) and limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority.

Wrightsure Services (Hampshire) Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 311394) and is permitted to advise on and arrange general insurance contracts. You can check these details online using the Financial Services Register (accessible from https://register.fca.org.uk) or by contacting the Financial Conduct Authority Consumer Helpline on 0800 1116768.

Should you wish to take out this travel insurance please include the appropriate premium when booking your holiday.

#### DEMANDS AND NEEDS

This insurance policy will suit the demands and needs of an individual or group (where applicable) who have no excluded medical condition(s), are travelling in countries included within the policy terms and who wish to insure themselves against unforeseen circumstances/events detailed in the cover section below. Subject to the terms, conditions and maximum specified sums insured.

#### IMPORTANT

We will not provide you with advice about the suitability of this product for your individual needs but will be happy to provide you with factual information.

We summarise below the details of the insurance cover provided which also includes 24-hour emergency service from Allianz Assistance.

The following is a brief summary of the cover available. Full details of cover and exclusions will be forwarded with your confirmation of booking. In any event you may ask for a specimen copy of the policy wording before booking should you wish to examine this in advance.

#### SUMMARY OF COVER

#### PLEASE SEE THE POLICY WORDING FOR FULL DETAILS OF THE COVER, LIMITATIONS AND EXCESSES, A SPECIMEN COPY OF WHICH IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

<b>COVER</b> Trip Cancellation	<b>SUM INSURED</b> Up to £3,000	<b>EXCESS</b> £75*
Trip Interruption	Up to £3,000 (Extra Accommodation Sub-Limit £500)	£75
Travel Delay	Up to £300	Nil
Baggage	Up to £1,500 (£200 High Value Item Limit)	£75
Baggage Delay	Up to £100	12 Hours
Emergency Medical Expenses	Up to £1,000,000	£75
Emergency Transport	Unlimited (Reasonable Cost)	£75
Personal Liability	Up to £1,000,000	£75
Travel Accident	Up to £10,000	Nil
Loss of Travel Documents	Up to £200	Nil
Personal Money	Up to £200	£75

### \* Excess only applies for cancellation of a journey over three days in duration (Nil for Loss of Deposit).

#### **Health Declaration & Health Exclusions**

It is very important that you read the following and, where necessary, declare any pre-existing medical conditions.

### For UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man trips only (except Air & Cruise Holidays)

You will not be covered under this policy for any claims arising as a direct or indirect of any pre-existing medical condition, unless you can comply with the following:

- 1. You are fit to travel and undertake your planned trip when you take out this policy, book your trip or at the time you travel (whichever is later).
- 2. Following any claim investigation, your doctor confirms they would have agreed with or recommended your travel plans when you took out this policy, booked your trip or at the time you travelled (whichever is later).

- 3. You are not travelling for the purpose of having medical treatment or a consultation during your trip.
- 4. You are not awaiting any medical tests, investigations or surgery, or the outcome of any tests or investigations when you take out this policy or book your trip (whichever is later).

#### For trips outside of the UK plus all Air & Cruise Holidays

You will not be covered for any claims arising as a direct or indirect result of any pre-existing medical condition if, in the 12 months before taking out this policy or booking your trip (whichever is later), you:

- 1. Were prescribed medication;
- 2. Received treatment or consulted a doctor or other medical practitioner for any medical condition;
- 3. Attended a hospital or a clinic as an outpatient or inpatient;
- Were referred for tests, investigations, treatment or surgery, or are waiting for either results or a diagnosis;
- Had any symptoms of an undiagnosed medical condition or have had a terminal illness;

unless you told us about the pre-existing medical condition and we have agreed in writing to cover it.

To declare a pre-existing medical condition(s), you should contact insurers confidential medical screening service on 023 92 41 9063 as soon as possible after taking out this insurance policy and/or booking your trip.

Based on the medical information you provide, it will be confirmed to you if cover can be offered for your declared pre-existing medical condition (or conditions), and if an extra premium needs to be paid. Occasionally, insurers may need you to get extra medical information (at your cost) from your doctor to enable us to make a decision.

If an extra premium is required, cover will not start until this has been paid in full and we have issued written confirmation.

If we are unable to cover the pre-existing medical condition (or conditions), this will mean that you and any other person insured by us will not be covered for any directly or indirectly related claims arising from the pre-existing medical condition (or conditions). This applies even if the person with the pre-existing medical condition (or conditions) decides to buy cover from another provider.

Each person insured by us would still be covered for any unrelated (or conditions), subject to the terms and conditions of this policy.

#### FOR ALL TRIPS:

You will not be covered if:

- Following any claim investigation, your doctor confirms they would not have agreed with or recommended you travel as planned either when you took out this policy, booked your trip or at the time you travelled (whichever is later).
- You know you will need medical treatment or a consultation at a medical facility during your trip.
- You are travelling specifically for the purpose of having surgery, medical procedures or hospital treatment, whether medically necessary or not.
- You had been diagnosed with a terminal illness prior to the date you took out this policy or booked your trip (whichever is later).

Exclusions relating to the health of someone not insured on this policy, but whose health may affect your decision whether to take or continue with your trip:

You will not be covered for any directly or indirectly related claims (see note at the end of this section) arising from the health of a travelling companion, someone you were going to stay with, a family member or a business associate if at the time your policy was issued:

- You were aware they had undiagnosed medical condition(s) for which they were awaiting tests, investigations or the results of these;
- You were aware that their medical condition(s) were unstable, were likely to get worse in the next 12 months or they had been diagnosed as having a terminal condition.

Note: Only claims relating to a medical condition where any of the above apply will be affected. This includes indirectly related claims. For example, if someone breaks a bone and a doctor confirms it is related to an existing diagnosis of osteoporosis (brittle bone disease), this would not be covered if we have not agreed in writing to cover the osteoporosis.

#### Level of medical cover provided

This is not a private medical insurance policy and only gives cover for emergency medical treatment and/or transport in the event of an accident or unexpected illness occurring during your trip.

This also means that any other person insured by us will not be covered for any directly or indirectly related claims arising from the pre-existing medical condition (or conditions). This applies even if the person with the medical condition (or conditions) decides to buy cover from another provider.

# **HOLIDAY TRAVEL INSURANCE (Continued)**

#### RESIDENCY

You must have your primary residence in and be registered with a doctor in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man; and have not spent more than six months abroad during the 12 months before this policy was issued or your trip was booked (whichever is later).

#### SIGNIFICANT EXCLUSIONS

- Any existing medical conditions unless they have been declared to (where appropriate) and accepted by the insurer.
- Your intentional self-harm or if you attempt or commit suicide.
- An epidemic or pandemic, except when an epidemic or pandemic is expressly referenced in and covered under Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Travel Delay or Emergency Medical/Dental Cover Abroad.
- Terrorist events.
- Any travel supplier's complete cessation of operations due to financial reasons, with or without involving insolvency or bankruptcy.

For full terms and conditions and your policy contact details please refer to your policy wording.

#### How to make a claim

All claims should be made direct to Allianz Assistance. Please visit the website www.allianz-protection.com. This will lead you to insurers online claims notification service where claim forms can be completed directly from the site. Alternatively, please phone 0208 666 9233 and ask for a claim form alternatively write to: Wrightsure Travel Claims c/o Allianz Partners, PO Box 528, Manchester, M28 8FQ, or email travel.claims@allianz-assistance.co.uk

#### **Protecting your information**

We will only use your personal details in line with our Privacy Notice. This can be found on our website or is available in hard copy format upon request and

you should read this carefully and contact us immediately if you have any queries. Your personal information includes all of the details you have given us to process your insurance policy (we will not ask for more information than is necessary). We may share your data with Third Parties for the provision and ongoing performance of your insurance policy. Your data may be transferred outside the UK. All of the personal information you supply to us will be handled strictly in accordance with the applicable Data Protection regulations and legislation.

Ellen Smith (Tours) Limited is an appointed Representative of Wrightsure Services (Hampshire) Limited who are authorised and regulated by the FCA (their registration number is 311394) and which is permitted to advise on and arrange general insurance contracts.

You can check these details online using the Financial Services Register (accessible from www.fca.org.uk) or by contacting the Financial Conduct Authority Consumer Helpline on 0800 111 6768.

Should you have personal circumstances, for which you may need additional support or accommodations, please let us know and we will do our best to support you. These could include issues with sight, hearing impairments, capability restrictions, welfare/health issues or anything else you feel is important for us to know about.

If our chosen insurance provider, Wrightsure Services (Hampshire) Limited are unable to offer you the travel insurance cover you require, or your premium is higher than you expected because you have serious medical conditions, you may be able to get help by accessing the Money and Pensions Service travel directory or by calling 0800 138 7777 (lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm).

Please note: The insurance product and premiums detailed are correct at the time of publication and may be subject to change at any time.

# **TRADING CHARTER & BOOKING CONDITIONS**

#### **1. Financial Protection**

Your contract is with Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd, Globe House, Moss Bridge Road, Rochdale, OL16 5EB. When you book a holiday with us, which does not include a flight, the money you pay us for the booking will be protected by Bonded Coach Holidays (BCH) and the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), this is a Government approved consumer protection scheme. The scheme will also ensure your repatriation in the event the company becomes insolvent. Our Trading Charter and Booking Conditions set out clearly and simply the responsibility we have to you and in turn, you have with us, when a contract is made. Please see the Consumer Guarantee at https://www.abtot.com/bch-abtot-members-directory/ There is no financial protection if you purchase just transport or accommodation-only from us. We fully comply with the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018. The combination of travel services offered to you is a package holiday within the meaning of the Regulations. Therefore, you will benefit from all rights applying to package holidays. Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd will be fully responsible for the proper performance of the holiday and providing assistance if you are in difficulty. Your key rights will be in the details of the tour which will be provided prior to booking.

#### 2. Booking and Payment

When a booking is made, the 'lead name' on the booking guarantees that he or she is 18 or over and has the authority and accepts on behalf of the party the terms of these booking conditions and pays the deposit indicated in the brochure and as confirmed in the pre-contract information. After we receive your booking and all appropriate payments, if the arrangements you wish to book are available, we will send you or your booking agent a confirmation invoice within 14 days. This confirmation will include any special requests we have agreed. All monies paid to your booking agent are held by them on your behalf until we issue our confirmation invoice, thereafter your booking agent holds the money on our behalf. A binding agreement will come into existence between us when we dispatch this invoice to the 'lead name' or your booking agent. Please check the confirmation carefully to ensure all the information is correct. This contract is governed by English Law, and the jurisdiction of the English Courts.

Single occupancy of rooms, when available, may be subject to a supplementary charge and these will be shown in the brochure. You can book by paying a deposit for each person named on the booking, but our commitment is always conditional upon the balance being paid as below.

#### Deposit £75.00 per person.

The balance of the price of your holiday must be paid at least 8 weeks before your departure. If you book within our balance due period, you will need to pay the total holiday cost at the time of booking. If the balance is not paid in time,

we reserve the right to cancel your holiday, retain your deposit, and apply the cancellation charges set out in the paragraph below. The date of cancellation will normally be the date we receive your written confirmation that you intend to cancel or 15 days after the balance due date, whichever comes first.

Where optional items are purchased as part of the holiday, these are payable on the balance due date except where items, such as theatre tickets, have been specifically purchased for you. In this case the cost will be payable at a separate date notified to you and will not normally be refunded unless we obtain a refund from the supplier we use.

#### 3. Brochure Accuracy

Although Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the brochure information and pricing, regrettably errors do sometimes occur. You must therefore ensure you check the price and all other details of your holiday with us at the time of booking and when you receive our confirmation invoice.

#### 4. Our Pricing Policy

Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd endeavour to ensure that the most up to date and correct prices are shown in our brochure. Occasionally, an incorrect price may be shown, due to an error. When we become aware of any such error, we will endeavour to notify you at the time of booking (if we are then aware of the mistake) or as soon as reasonably possible. We reserve the right to cancel the booking if you do not wish to accept the price which is applicable to the holiday. Local Authorities in many towns and cities throughout Europe have introduced new tourist taxes which must be paid directly to the hotel by all guests in person. These taxes are not included in our prices, but we will notify you when applicable.

Holiday prices include all travel, hotel accommodation and meals as specified in the holiday description and VAT payable in the UK where applicable. The price of the holiday will not be subjected to any surcharges except those arising from exchange rate changes, transportation including the price of fuel, air & ferry operator fares and tolls, embarkation or disembarkation fees at terminals, duties and taxes (including the rate of VAT). Even in these cases we will absorb the cost equivalent to cost of the first 2% of the holiday price. Amounts more than this plus £1 administration fee and Travel Agents commission will be surcharged to you. If this means the total cost of the holiday increases by more than 8% then you are entitled to cancel your holiday and receive a full refund of all monies paid except any insurance premium and amendment charges. We will communicate the options with you either through email or letter, with a reminder if necessary. If you exercise the right to cancel, we must receive written notice within 20 days of the date of the surcharge invoice. The currency exchange rate used in the holiday costings are based on rates as at 31st October 2024.

# **TRADING CHARTER & BOOKING CONDITIONS**

#### 5. If you change your booking

If, after our confirmation has been issued, you wish to change to another of our holidays or change departure date, we will do our utmost to make the changes, but we cannot guarantee to do so. However, notification must be received in writing at our offices from the person who signed the booking form, at least 8 weeks before departures. This must be accompanied by a payment of £25.00 to cover our administrative costs, plus costs we incur in making the amendment. Alterations cannot be made within 8 weeks of departure and any such request for an alteration will be treated as a cancellation of the original booking and will be subject to the cancellation charges set out in paragraph below. Some arrangements cannot be changed without paying a cancellation charge of up to 100% of the ticket cost.

#### 6. Transferring your booking

You can transfer your booking to somebody else, but the person must satisfy all the conditions of the holiday and you must inform us either by letter or email no less than 7 days before departure. This transfer will cost £25.00 plus reasonable costs to make the transfer. You will remain responsible for ensuring payment before the balance due date. This is in addition to (and does not affect) the separate liability of the transfere to us.

#### 7. If you need to cancel your holiday

You or any member of your party, may cancel your holiday at any time provided the cancellation is made by the person signing the booking form and is communicated to us in writing via the office who made your original booking. You must pay cancellation charges to cover our administration costs. Your cancellation will take effect from the date on which we or our agent receive your written confirmation of your cancellation. You must also return any tickets or vouchers you have received. A reduction in room occupancy may increase the charges for the remaining passengers by the application of supplements for low occupancy of rooms. Where bought in supplies, such as ferries, hotel accommodation etc have been bought in on your behalf, and where the terms and conditions of the supplier are non-refundable, these products will be charged to you at the full retail rate. If this applies, the non-refundable items will be deducted from your holiday costs and the following scale of charges will be applied to the remainder:

Amount of cancellation charge

as a % of total package cost

# Period before departure within which written cancellation of package price is received

is received	
More than 56 days	Deposit only
55 - 29 days	30% or Deposit, if greater
28 - 15 days	50%
14 - 8 days	70%
7 days and up to departure day or later, including voluntary termination during the package	Total package cost

You may cancel your holiday without paying any termination fee before the start of the holiday, in the event of unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances occurring at the place of destination or its immediate vicinity, for instance, if there are serious security problems at the destination which are likely to affect the package.

#### 8. Alterations to your holiday by us

We hope that we will not have to make any change to your holiday but, because our holidays are planned many months in advance, we sometimes do need to make minor changes. We reserve the right to do this at any time. We will let you or your booking agent know about any important changes as soon as possible, including the minimum number of passengers required on the trip. If after booking, and before departure, we make a major change to your holiday, you will have the option of withdrawing from the holiday without penalty or transferring to another holiday without any charge. In either case, we will pay you compensation, according to the scale set below. A major change includes the time of your departure or return time by more than 12 hours, a change in departure point, location of resort or type of hotel, a change in cross channel travel, or specification of the coach. If we tell you about any of these changes after we have confirmed your holiday booking (other than force majeure), you may either:

- accept the new arrangements offered by us; or

- accept a replacement holiday from us of equivalent or similar standard and price (at the date of the change), if we can offer you one; or

- cancel your holiday with us and receive a full refund of all monies.

Either way, we will pay you compensation, using the Compensation table shown,

#### Period before departure in which significant change is notified to you or your agent

More than 28 days	Nil
21 to 27 days	£10.00
15 to 20 days	£15.00
8 to 14 days	£20.00
0 to 7 days	£25.00

**IMPORTANT NOTE** Compensation will not be payable if the holiday is cancelled because the number of persons booked is less than the number required, or for events beyond our control, which include: war, threat of war, riots, civil disturbances, terrorist activity and its consequences, industrial disputes, natural and nuclear disasters, fire, epidemics, health risks and pandemics, unavoidable and unforeseeable technical problems with transport for reasons beyond our control or that of our suppliers; hurricanes and other actual or potential severe weather conditions and any other similar events. You are also advised to check with The Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice Unit regularly at https://www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/travel-abroad prior to travel.

Amount per person

All holidays operate if the minimum number of participants is met. However, in no case will we cancel your holiday less than 4 weeks before the scheduled departure date, except where you have failed to pay the final balance or because of force majeure (force majeure means an event which we or the suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid and is therefore beyond our control).

#### 9. Our responsibility to you

We accept responsibility for ensuring the holiday which you book with us is supplied as described in our publicity material and the services offered reach a reasonable standard and if you are in difficulty, we will assist you. If any part of our holiday contract is not provided as promised, you may terminate the contract without paying a termination fee and we will pay you appropriate compensation if this has affected your enjoyment of your holiday. We will, however, not be liable if there are any unforeseeable or unavoidable actions of a third party not connected with our travel services, or there were unavoidable or extraordinary circumstances, or the lack of conformity is due to a traveller in the party. We accept responsibility for the acts and/or omissions of our employees, agents and suppliers except where they lead to death, injury or illness. Our liability in all cases shall be limited to a maximum of twice the value of the original holiday cost (not including insurance premiums and amendment charges). We accept responsibility for death, injury, or illness caused by the negligent acts and/or omissions of our employees or agents together with our suppliers and sub-contractors, servants and/or agents of the same whilst acting within the scope of, or during their employment in the provision of your holiday. We will accordingly pay to our clients such damages as might have been awarded in such circumstances under English Law. In respect of carriage by air, sea, tunnel and rail and the provision of accommodation our liability in all cases will be limited in the manner provided by the relevant international convention.

If we make any payment to you or any member of your party for death or personal injury or illness, you will be asked to assign to us or our insurers the rights you may have to act against the person or organisation responsible for causing the death, personal injury or illness. This clause does not apply to any separate contracts that you may enter for excursions or activities during or outside of your holiday. If you or any member of your party suffer death, illness or injury whilst overseas arising out of an activity which does NOT form part of your holiday, we may offer guidance and where legal action is contemplated and you want our assistance, you must obtain our written consent prior to any proceedings (We limit the cost of our assistance to you or your party to £5,000 per party)

#### 10. If you have a complaint

If you have a problem during your holiday, please inform your Tour Manager, your driver or the relevant supplier/resort representative immediately who will endeavour to put things right. If your complaint cannot be completely resolved locally, you must complete a Holiday Report Form which can be obtained by your driver or local representative, which you should keep. Our contact number, for unresolved complaints will be our office number on 01706 648126 (open in office hours) If you remain dissatisfied please follow this up within 14 days of your return home by writing to Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd giving your original booking reference number and all other relevant information, including the reference of the Holiday Report Form. It is therefore a condition of this contract that you communicate any problem to the supplier of the services in question AND to our representative whilst in resort and obtain a written report form. If you fail to follow this simple procedure, we cannot accept responsibility as we have been deprived of the opportunity to investigate and rectify the problem. Should you wish to pursue the complaint further, BCH ABTOT have an Alternative Dispute Resolution scheme and full details are available from them. Please contact them at ABTOT 69 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 2BG.

# **TRADING CHARTER & BOOKING CONDITIONS**

#### 11. Our Coaches

We will always use our reasonable endeavours to provide a coach to the specification in our brochure or advert but reserve the right to substitute an alternative vehicle should there be unforeseen circumstances. There is a seating plan but, in some cases, operational reasons may require a coach with a different configuration. We reserve the right to alter a coach seating plan and allocate seats other than those booked. Single passengers may be required to share a double seat with other single passengers. When your booking is confirmed, you will be offered the best seats that are available at that time. If you feel that you require two seats, then these must be booked and paid for in advance, at the time of booking. If you fail to do this and it transpires that the seat allocated to you is insufficient for your needs and there is no alternative seating available, then you will be refused access to the coach and any payments made will be liable to forfeiture.

Specific seats will not be allocated on coaches operating a feeder service between joining points and main holiday departure points or on coaches that carry out transfers between airports, seaports etc.

#### 12. Hotel Facilities

Some hotel facilities and entertainment may be withdrawn for routine maintenance or be subject to seasonal availability and provision of the facilities cannot be guaranteed. Single occupancy of rooms may be subject to a supplementary charge.

#### 13. Health and Safety

In some foreign countries, standards of infrastructure, safety and hygiene may be lower than those to which we are accustomed in the UK. You should therefore exercise greater care for your own protection. There may be countries that we visit that have special medical requirements for tourists. These regulations are subject to change and our clients are responsible for complying with entry and current health requirements. If you are not sure of the health requirements for the country you are visiting, you are advised to check with your own GP before travelling. You are also advised to refer to the Department of Health leaflet "Health Advice for Travellers".

Some people may be at risk from discomfort or deep vein thrombosis (DVT) if they remain immobile on a journey for a long period. If you are planning to undertake a journey of more than three hours, you should consult your doctor, if you have ever had DVT, pulmonary embolism, a family history of clotting conditions, cancer or treatment for cancer, stroke, and heart or lung disease or If you have had major surgery in the past three months.

We reserve the right to refuse any booking in the absence of a doctor's certificate confirming that you are fit to travel. Where we provide comfort stops you are encouraged to walk around. Exercise reduces any discomfort, which may be caused by periods of immobility.

NO SMOKING is allowed on our coaches (including E-Cigarettes) and we do not allow pets or any other animals, although we accommodate registered assistance dogs, but not on overseas holidays.

#### 14. Travel documents, itineraries, pick-up points and passports

For all Continental holidays, you will require a full 10-year British Passport (machine readable) valid for a further 6 months after your holiday. If you do not hold a full British Passport or have any doubts about your status as a resident British subject, you must check with the Embassies or Consulates of the Countries to be visited to confirm the Passport or visa requirements when you book. We cannot accept responsibility if passengers are not in possession of the correct travel documents. For full details on passport requirements, please contact 'the identity and passport service' on 0300 222 0000 https://www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/passports

In relation to holidays in the European Union or a requirement to travel through an EU Member State, you are responsible to ensure that you have any necessary entry documents as required by the EU including any required compliance with the EU's 'ETIAS' system, for more information on which see www.etiasvisa.com. We cannot accept any liability for the consequences of your failure to do so.

You are responsible for ensuring you are at the correct departure point, at the correct time and with the correct documents. Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd reserve the right to modify itineraries to conform with requests from competent authorities both within the UK and abroad.

Excursions which are included in the cost of your booking are detailed on the brochure page and refunds will not be made for excursions not taken. Optional excursions booked and paid for in resort do not form part of your booking. Admission fees to buildings may not be included in the price of the holiday, please check.

#### **15. Special Requests**

All special needs and requests, if agreed, should be entered on the booking form and be included in the confirmation of the holiday. These cannot be guaranteed except where confirmed as part of our holiday commitment to you and are detailed on your holiday booking confirmation. We are keen to ensure that we plan the arrangements for your holiday so that special needs and requests can be accommodated as far as possible. If you will need assistance or may be unable to fully enjoy all aspects of your holiday you must tell us in advance so that we can maximise your enjoyment of the holiday. We will need to know if you will need special facilities in the hotel, taking part in the excursions or have difficulty boarding and travelling on the coach or other means of transport. Before booking your holiday, you should be sure that you and your party are both physically and mentally capable of completing the itinerary. If you need advice or further information either you or your booking agent should contact Ellen Smith (Tours) Ltd If you will require a special diet please tell us at the time of booking, or as soon as you are medically advised, together with a copy of the diet.

#### 16. Passengers with disabilities

We want everyone to enjoy our travel arrangements. We are happy to advise and assist you in choosing a suitable holiday. But, as some of the accommodation and resorts featured may not cater for even minor disabilities, it is important that, when booking, you advise us of any disability, specific need or complex need you may have and any special requirements that will make sure the holiday is suitable. If a passenger requires personal assistance (for example, assistance with feeding, dressing, toileting, mobilising) then this passenger must travel with an able-bodied companion or carer and written confirmation that such assistance will be provided for the entirety of the holiday is required at the time of booking. Coach drivers/Tour Managers are unable to provide such assistance.

#### Important

You must tell us if you have an existing medical condition, disability or complex need that may affect your holiday or other group members' enjoyment of it before you book your holiday. We reserve the right to request a doctor's certificate confirming the passenger is fit to travel. If, in our reasonable opinion, your chosen holiday is not suitable for your medical condition or disability, we reserve the right to refuse your booking. You are responsible for bringing with you the proper clothing and equipment, which we advise you about in our printed trip information. We want you to enjoy your holiday and will help you select an appropriate trip.

#### 17. Passenger Behaviour

We want all our customers to have a happy and carefree holiday. You are responsible for your behaviour and hygiene and the effect it may have on others. If you or any other member of your party is abusive, disruptive or behaves in a way that could cause damage or injury to others or affect their enjoyment of their holiday or which could damage property, we have the right to terminate your contract with us and we will have no further liability or obligation to you. The coach driver/representative, ship's captain, or authorised official is entitled to refuse you boarding if in their reasonable opinion you are unacceptably under the influence of drink or drugs or you are being violent or disruptive. If you are refused boarding on the outward journey, we will regard it as a cancellation by you and we will apply cancellation charges. If on your return journey, we have the right to terminate the contract with you. We also request that mobile telephones are not used on the coach.

#### 18. Travel Insurance

We strongly advise that you take out personal travel insurance for the trip. We have arranged travel insurance with Wrightsure, which is outlined below. You may use an alternative insurer, but you must advise us. The insurance should cover medical and repatriation costs, personal injury, loss of baggage and cancellation charges. If you do not have adequate insurance and require our assistance during your holiday, we reserve the right to reclaim from you any medical repatriation or other expenses which we may incur on your behalf which would otherwise have been met by insurers. You must advise us if you use an alternative insurer, the policy number and 24-hour contact number.

#### 19. Luggage

Please restrict your luggage to a suitcase weighing no more than 18kgs per person. We cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to luggage unless through our negligence. Please do not leave valuable items in your suitcase when left on the coach. Please contact us for our policy on mobility scooters.

#### 20. General Data Protection Regulations

We comply with the GDPR 2018 Regulations, our data controller is The Managing Director and our data protection policy can be found at www.ellensmith.co.uk or you can request a copy from Ellen Sith (Tours) Ltd, Globe House, Moss Bridge Road, Rochdale, OL16 5EB.

#### 21. Emergency Contact

Our emergency contact details are Tel: 01706 648126 during office hours, 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday, (except Bank Holidays), or 07870 573041 outside of office hours. Alternatively, you can email ellensmithtoursltd@gmail.com

#### **PUBLICATION DATE**

This brochure was printed in the UK in October 2024.

### **TOURS DIARY 2025**

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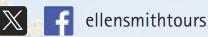
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