# PC COACH HOLIDAYS A Company Going Places!

# UK & European Holidays 2024



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### We are delighted to introduce our complete 2024 holiday brochure, and hope you find something of interest within these pages.

We work hard all year round in the background to adapt existing itineraries and create new ones, taking into consideration customer feedback wherever possible; just one of the many benefits of using a longstanding familyrun company with an excellent reputation.

There's something to suit everyone; whether you fancy a city, coast or countryside break, or wish to venture further afield onto the continent...leave your car behind, book with confidence, and join us on a PC Coach Holiday!

### And don't just take our word for it – here are some customer comments from recent tours:



# **Coach Seating Plans**

4		8	12	16	20		$\exists$	28	32	36	40	44	48	53
3		7	11	15	19		H	27	31	35	39	43	47	52
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4	8	12	16	20		$\vdash$	28	32	36	40	44	45
3	7	11	15	19		E	27	31	35	39	43	46
												47
2	6	10	14	18	22	24	26	30	34	38	42	48
1	5	9	13	17	21	23	25	29	33	37	41	49

**Please Note:** These seating plans are for guidance and it is possible that a different configuration may sometimes be used. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions on page 66 for more details. We can not gurantee which configuration will be used.

### DEPOSIT PER PERSON

- £75 for UK Tours
- £100 European tours, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, theatre & special event ticketed breaks

### TO PAY YOUR BALANCE

Please pay your balance by the due date shown on your confirmation.

### TRAVEL TICKETS

Approximately two weeks prior to your holiday you will receive your travel ticket which will confirm your joining point and pick up time. You will also receive your holiday itinerary, luggage labels and any other information which we consider may be of interest to you.

### SECURE FREE PARKING

Limited secure free parking is available at only our Lincoln depot and must be prebooked. *Please note that vehicles are left at owners risk.* 

### LOCAL JOINING POINTS

- Alford Ancaster Barton-upon-Humber • Boston • Brigg • Caistor
- Cleethorpes Gainsborough
- Gonerby Moor Services
- Grantham Grimsby Holton-le-Clay

Horncastle
 Immingham

- Lincoln Louth Mablethorpe • Market Rasen • Newark • North
- Hykeham Scunthorpe Skegness • Sleaford • Spalding • Spilsby
- Sutton-on-Sea Torksey Lock
- Woodhall Spa Wragby

### HOME COLLECTION SERVICE On tours of four days or more

On tours of four days or more you can enjoy the luxury of being collected from and dropped off at home for only  $\pm 25$  per person.

You may be required to share your home collection service vehicle with other passengers, however we will always endeavour to keep your travelling time to a minimum. Please be aware that the vehicle collecting you from home may be a car, people carrier or mini bus and at the time of booking, we will not know which joining point the vehicle is taking you to. Postcodes for our home collection service are as follows:

- DN15 to DN22 inclusive
- DN31 to DN41 inclusive
- LN1 to LN13 inclusive
- NG23 to NG25 inclusive
- NG31 to NG34 inclusive
- PE20 to PE25 inclusive





The ideal present for all occasions, our gift vouchers can be used against day trips, short breaks and holidays, and can be of any monetary value. **To purchase, please contact the reservations team on 01522 533605.** 

# **Calling Group Organisers!**

We can offer your group a wonderful stress free holiday. You decide where you want to go and when, and let us do the rest.

Your group, association, club or society will enjoy the benefits of a bespoke tour, whilst we take the strain and provide a one to one service for the group organiser, supporting you every step of the way.

For smaller groups why not consider joining one of our brochure tours which still offer great savings.



### ACCOMMODATION SYMBOLS

	Lift
	Ensuite
₽	Tea and coffee facilities
2	TV in room
٦	Telephone in room
9	Hairdryer in room
5	Swimming pool



# **Selection of Remaining 2023 Departures:**

DATE	TOUR	DAYS	FROM	DATE	TOUR	DAYS	FROM
3 NOV	Leeds Castle Fireworks Spectacular	3	£239	30 NOV	Thursford Christmas Spectacular	2	£210
6 NOV	Sidmouth Turkey & Tinsel	5	£445	2 DEC	Durham & Beamish Museum at Christma	s 2	£159
10 NOV	Chatsworth House at Christmas	2	£189	3 DEC	Windsor Castle at Christmas & London	2	£165
13 NOV	Newquay Turkey & Tinsel	5	£375	4 DEC	Snowdonia Turkey & Tinsel	5	£359
17 NOV	Durham Lumiere Festival	2	£145	4 DEC	Three Countries Christmas Market	4	£445
17 NOV	Potters All Inclusive Festive Weekend	4	£549	7 DEC	Thursford Christmas Spectacular	2	£210
20 NOV	Turkey & Tinsel in the Trossachs	5	£299	8 DEC	Christmas Lights at Sudeley Castle	3	£265
23 NOV	Thursford Christmas Spectacular	2	£210	23DEC	Christmas in Durham	5	£629
25 NOV	York Christmas Market & Harrogate	2	£145	23 DEC	Christmas in the Heart of England	5	£679
26 NOV	Christmas Shopping in the Capital	2	£159	23 DEC	Christmas in Fort William	5	£575
27 NOV	Bournemouth Turkey & Tinsel	5	£429				

### **MYSTERY TOURS**

Our ever popular mystery tours are set to keep you guessing! It's so exciting to set off into the unknown, so there will be no 'spoilers' here. What we can say is, the minimum you can expect is a 2-star standard hotel, with en suite bedrooms, TV and tea/coffee making facilities. **It could be coast or countryside, north, south, east or west, but our lips are sealed...** 

### SPRING MYSTERY TOUR - FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2024

Our March package includes three nights dinner bed & breakfast, a visit to an attraction and some scenic excursions, making the most of our chosen area. Porterage is included. Single room supplement £45

### 4 DAYS FROM £325

### TURKEY & TINSEL MYSTERY TOUR - MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2024

A festive mystery package, including four nights dinner bed & breakfast and a programme of festive entertainment, a visit to an attraction, and some scenic excursions. Porterage is included. Limited rooms with no single supplement.

5 DAYS FROM £369

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# DAY 2 DECEMBER 2024 Tour Ref. P110



# England

Autumn Glory in the North York Moors	37
Beautiful Bournemouth	21
The Blackpool Summer Sizzler	31
Blackpool Winter Warmer	31
Bournemouth All-Inclusive	08
Brunel's Bristol	21
Constable Country	27
Cotswolds in Bloom	17
Delights of North Devon	30
Devon & Dartmoor	24
Discovering County Durham	20
Durham & Beamish	19
Eastbourne	36
Eastbourne & Pashley Manor Tulip Festival	15
Escape to the English Riviera	06
Exmouth	32
Falmouth & the Cornish Riviera	34
Glorious Gardens of Cambridgeshire	22
Hampton Court Flower Show	26
Harrogate & Haworth 1940s Weekend	18
Harrogate & York in Springtime	16
Heritage of the North West	18
Hidden Gems of Yorkshire	35
Highclere Castle	26
Houses & Gardens of Kent	34
Houses & Gardens of the Cotswolds	28
Isle of Man "Steam & Cream"	16
Isle of Wight	20
Jane Austen Country	32
Kynren – An Epic Tale!	29
Les Misérables London Theatre Break	12
Liverpool City Break – Beatles Edition	22
Liverpool City Break – Spring	10
Liverpool City Break – Autumn	37

Looe and Captivating Cornwall	38
Malvern and the Three Counties Explorer	39
Manchester Ship Canal Cruise & Liverpool	28
Navigating Northumberland	06
Newcastle's Hidden Depths!	13
Nostalgic Norfolk	14
Nostalgic Norfolk	36
Oxford & Bletchley Park	12
Rail, Sail & History Trail	15
RHS Malvern Spring Festival	17
RHS Malvern Autumn Festival	35
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Scenic Shropshire	39
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A Trip Down Memory Lane	27
Waddesdon Manor & Blenheim Palace	25
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Weymouth & the Jurassic Coast	09
Wimpole Estate & Cambridge	13
Wonderful Wiltshire & Longleat	25
Wye Valley & the Forest of Dean	33
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### ESCAPE TO THE ENGLISH RIVIERA - MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024



What better way to shake off those winter blues than treating yourself to this fantastic value four night break in the delightful resort of Paignton. A great way to start the New Year!

**MONDAY** We travel to Paignton making suitable stops en route. Enjoy tea/coffee on arrival at the hotel.

**TUESDAY** We visit Exeter today, a compact city, and one of the most attractive and historically interesting in England. It's just a 4 minute walk between the magnificent cathedral and the award winning Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, where admission is free. Perhaps visit the beautiful quayside, or enjoy the stylish shops set in architectural splendour. We return mid afternoon making a stop at the uniquely fascinating House of Marbles, where you can watch craftsmen glassblowing, and peruse the pottery, games and glass museums.

**WEDNESDAY** We call first at Teignmouth, a coastal town in a stunning setting, before making our way to the thriving resort of Torquay with its iconic palm trees and busy harbour. We have time to explore, and also visit Bygones, where you can see, smell and hear the bustle of a life size Victorian street, and visit exhibitions full of authentic displays from Wartime Britain to the Fabulous 50s and Swinging 60s.

**THURSDAY** This morning we journey south to the picturesque port of Dartmouth for some time at leisure, to browse its historic streets. We then spend the afternoon in our resort. Paignton is a colourful, traditional seaside resort popular for its mild climate, seafront with wide promenade, and traditional pier. The attractive buildings and streets and sense of style make this an English Riviera favourite.

**FRIDAY** We depart after breakfast to commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

# QUEENS HOTEL **M \***\*\*

# Package includes four nights dinner bed & breakfast; and nightly entertainment

This family run hotel enjoys a flat level position, and is just 200 yards from Paignton town centre. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar & entertainment lounge with dance floor; heated indoor swimming pool; games room with TV & pool table; WiFi, and lift to all bedrooms. There are five stairs to the restaurant. Porterage is included.



### NAVIGATING NORTHUMBERLAND - FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 2024



# Enjoy splendid scenery, rugged coastline and historic towns on this lovely early season break.

**FRIDAY** On our outward journey we take a break in the historic town of Ripon, with its imposing Gothic cathedral.

**SATURDAY** We journey along the Northumberland coast for a visit to the pretty harbour of Seahouses. After some free time here, we make our way back to Alnwick for an afternoon at leisure to explore the traditional market town, where today is market day.

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You may also like to seek out Barter Books, one of the largest second hand book shops in England, housed in what was once the Victorian Railway Station in the town.

**SUNDAY** An excursion further north today, heading across the causeway to Holy Island, where the mysterious Lindesfarne Castle dominates the skyline. Bamburgh next, a beautiful coastal town with pristine beaches and the magnificent Bamburgh Castle. We also pay a visit to the RNLI Grace Darling Museum, where she is remembered for her selfless heroic part in rescuing survivors of the SS Forfarshire in 1838. Before dinner tonight at the hotel we enjoy a gin tasting. (N.B. today's itinerary is subject to Holy Island tide times, and therefore may be subject to change.)

Tour Ref. P194

**MONDAY** We depart after breakfast and journey to Durham, where we have time at leisure to explore this captivating compact city, dominated by the Cathedral and Castle. We commence our journey home in the afternoon.

### **THE WHITE SWAN \*\*\*** Alnwick

### Three nights dinner bed and breakfast, predinner gin tasting on one night, plus quiz/ bingo nights

In the heart of the historic market town of Alnwick and only a stone's throw from Alnwick Castle and Gardens, this is a charming historic coaching inn combining its unique heritage with superb accommodation. Facilities include Olympic Restaurant; Hardy's Bistro; and WiFi. The hotel does not have a lift, however limited ground floor rooms are accessible via a few steps. There are also several steps to the dining areas.



### SET SAIL IN SCARBOROUGH - MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2024



Scarborough, with the distinction of being Britain's first resort, is truly the Queen of the Yorkshire Coast, sitting proudly on glorious coastline. Enjoy a cruise theme at the hotel for this brilliant early season break - no sea legs required!

MONDAY On our outward journey we take a break in the beautiful market town of Beverley, before continuing to Scarborough, for our four night stay.

TUESDAY This morning we head north following the coast road to Whitby, the famous fishing port which was once the home of Captain James Cook. High above the harbour stands the 7th century Whitby Abbey, the inspiration for Bram Stoker's Dracula. We have time to wander around the narrow streets and busy harbour side and to obtain lunch (at own expense). Later we head to picturesque Goathland, well known from the television series 'Heartbeat'. The heritage train station in this bracing moorland village also served as 'Hogsmeade' station from the early Harry Potter films.

WEDNESDAY A free day to discover the varied attractions in Scarborough. Enjoy the delightful promenade and the attractive Belvedere Gardens, take a stroll to the town centre and shops, or explore the busy little harbour.

THURSDAY An excursion to York where you can enjoy a day exploring some of the city's many attractions. There's the National Railway Museum, York Castle Museum, the City Walls, the Minster, the Shambles, and not forgetting the famous Betty's Tearooms, and cosy pubs (charges applicable for some).

FRIDAY We commence our return journey via the coast, including stops at Filey & Bridlington en route.

### THE RED LEA HOTEL $\star \star \star$ Scarborough

Four nights dinner bed and breakfast, three nights entertainment; cruise-themed break, "visiting" a different destination each evening

Thoughtfully modernised, the hotel is situated on Scarborough's South Cliff, close to the Spa Centre and the beach (accessed by steps). The town centre, historic castle and harbour are a short walk away. Facilities include: restaurant; bar; fitness suite, indoor swimming pool; free WiFi and lift to all floors. Please note the entrance has 7 steps to access, and then level access to the bar &restaurant. Porterage is included.





### One of the most magical signs that spring is on the way! Enjoy an early season break to lift your spirits as we celebrate the arrival of the snowdrops in the grounds of Goldsborough Hall.

**SUNDAY** We journey first to Goldsborough Hall, where the spectacular display of snowdrops in the 12-acre grounds are a sight to behold. The team of expert gardeners create a beautiful visual spectacle showcasing the impressive range of snowdrops. From here we head to the hotel for our one night stay, enjoying a welcome cream tea upon arrival.

MONDAY We enjoy time at leisure in Harrogate, where you will find all the leading high street names sitting alongside stylish independents. Perhaps enjoy tea in the famous Bettys Café Tea Rooms and take a walk down Montpellier Hill, experiencing the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the area. We depart in the afternoon for the return journey home.

### **2 DAYS FROM £159**

### OLD SWAN HOTEL $\star \star \star \star$ Harrogate

### One night dinner bed & breakfast, cream tea on arrival

This hotel combines Victorian splendour with elegant contemporary style and is just a short walk from the town centre. Facilities include: Wedgewood Restaurant, Swan lounge & bar; WiFi. Hotel has a lift.

### BOURNEMOUTH ALL-INCLUSIVE - MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2024



On the sunny south coast with its pale honey coloured cliffs, Bournemouth is an elegant resort, boasting seven miles of award-winning golden beaches. Come and enjoy a great value early season inclusive package in this picturesque setting.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with suitable stops en route. Enjoy tea/coffee upon arrival at the hotel.

**TUESDAY** This morning we commence with a visit to the picturesque village of Shaftesbury, passing Stonehenge en route. We then

continue on to Salisbury, where we enjoy time at leisure to explore this well-preserved medieval city.

**WEDNESDAY** A leisurely day exploring the unique and beautiful New Forest. Our scenic circular tour takes us via Burley, Lyndhurst

and Beaulieu to Lymington, and from here we return to Bournemouth via Christchurch.

**THURSDAY** We journey along the coast to Sandbanks for a short break. We then continue to Poole for some time at leisure, before returning to the hotel for a light lunch. Enjoy an afternoon in your resort to explore, or use the hotel's leisure facilities.

**FRIDAY** We depart after breakfast and commence our homeward journey, with suitable stops en route.

# SUNCLIFF HOTEL \*\*\*

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, three lunches (including 2 packed lunches), minimum 1 night entertainment, and an inclusive bar between 6-9pm daily on selected house brand spirits & soft drinks.

The Suncliff is in a stunning location on the prestigious East Cliff, and about a 15 minute walk from the town centre. Facilities include: Atlantic Restaurant; several lounges including conservatory lounge with views overlooking the sea; pool table; and leisure complex including indoor swimming pool & sauna. Porterage is included.



### **TORQUAY WINTER WARMER - MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2024**



Join us as we visit one of the friendliest hotels in Torquay. With a reputation for creating a brilliant atmosphere, coupled with its superb location on the English Riviera, this break will help keep the winter blues at bay!

**MONDAY** We travel south, with suitable stops en route, arriving in Torquay with time to settle in before dinner.

**TUESDAY** We commence the day by boarding the Dartmouth Steam Railway in Paignton,

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enjoying a 30 minute journey to Kingswear with breathtaking coastal views along the way. From Kingswear, we then cross the River Dart on the foot passenger ferry to Dartmouth, where there will be time at leisure to explore

Tour Ref. P114

the historic waterside town, before rejoining the coach and returning to the hotel.

**WEDNESDAY** This morning we head to the picturesque fishing town of Brixham for some time at leisure, and then continue on to the delightful resort of Paignton to round off the day.

**THURSDAY** We first visit the uniquely fascinating House of Marbles, where you can watch craftsmen glassblowing, and peruse the pottery, games and glass museums. We then return to our resort, to spend the rest of the day at leisure.

**FRIDAY** We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### HOWDEN COURT HOTEL Torquay

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, this break's theme is "50s, 60s & 70s"

A well run family establishment in the heart of Torquay, with a private path leading to within 100 yards of the promenade. Facilities include dining room; lounge; bar with dance floor; and complimentary WiFi. The lift serves most bedrooms. Porterage is included.



BOOK ONLINE: WWW.PCCOACHES.CO.UK / E: holidays@pccoaches.co.uk

### SUNDAY NIGHT AT THE WALDORF - SUNDAY 3 MARCH 2024



A great value short break giving you ample time to enjoy all of the sights and sounds of our vibrant capital city, with a fantastic base in the heart of London's glitzy theatre district to help you maximise your time even further!

**SUNDAY** We depart our local joining points and travel to London. Our coach will take you directly to the hotel, where luggage will be unloaded into the hotel's storage facility, leaving you free to enjoy all the sights and attractions of the capital. Return to the hotel at your leisure to check in after 4 pm.

MONDAY After breakfast you are free to enjoy further leisure time in London to spend as you wish, whether it's sightseeing, indulging in retail therapy or just taking in the London atmosphere! Perhaps prebook to enjoy a Waldorf Afternoon Tea for the ultimate experience! (At own expense; contact details can be provided.) We depart the hotel at 4pm for our journey home.

### THE WALDORF \*\*\*\* **HILTON HOTEL** London

One night bed and full English breakfast

This iconic London hotel blends Edwardian grandeur with modern comfort. Covent Garden, The British Museum and Trafalgar Square are all within a mile of the hotel. Facilities include: Homage Restaurant; Good Godfrey's Bar & Lounge; T Room; indoor pool, sauna & steam room; and WiFi.

### WEYMOUTH & THE JURASSIC COAST - MONDAY 11 MARCH 2024



Surrounded by rolling hills and woodlands, Weymouth is perfectly placed to explore the charming Dorset countryside and coastline. The resort has a beautiful beach, and along the harbour side leading to the town you'll find pavement bistros, tea rooms and art galleries.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with suitable stops en route.

**TUESDAY** Today we head to the picturesque resort of Swanage on the Isle of Purbeck, with its delightful bay and Victorian pier. We then continue on to the neighbouring resort of Poole where you will find a bustling quay and stunning natural harbour. Much of Poole's history still survives in the old town; the narrow backstreets offer a degree of

tranguillity with plenty of interesting buildings, and also the famous Cockle Trail!

WEDNESDAY This morning we visit Athelhampton House, one of England's finest Tudor manor houses. Dating from 1485, the Great Hall is a fine example of domestic Tudor architecture, and the house has many interesting rooms, filled with antique furnishings and art. The gardens, remodelled in 1891, surround the House with many

'compartments' built with Ham stone. Later we drive to charming Dorchester, county town of Dorset, for some time at leisure before returning to the hotel.

Tour Ref. P160

THURSDAY A morning excursion to the Isle of Portland. This unique, tied island marks the southernmost point on the Jurassic Coast and is joined to the mainland by Chesil Beach. Its isolated location, with Portland Bill lighthouse dominating the skyline, quaint villages and rocky coastal scenery all lend the island its own special atmosphere, perfect for exploring. We then have an afternoon at leisure in our resort.

FRIDAY We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.



### Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment

Situated on the Esplanade overlooking the stunning golden sands of Weymouth Beach, the hotel is just a short walk from the busy fishing harbour and town centre. Facilities include: residents' lounge; bar; Rex Restaurant; WiFi and a lift to all floors. Porterage is included.



### THRIPLOW DAFFODIL WEEKEND - FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2024

Tour Ref. P172



Single room supplement £40

2 DAYS FROM £145

The peaceful village of Thriplow, near Cambridge, has celebrated its own Daffodil Weekend since 1969. The unique event offers a host of activities to visitors, with open gardens, craft and home-produce stalls, music and rural entertainment, and much more besides! You can even take a heavy horse dray ride through the village, all whilst enjoying thousands of beautiful daffodils!

**FRIDAY** We visit the picturesque university city of Cambridge. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the cobbled streets, medieval passageways and riverside life before we continue our journey to the hotel for our overnight stay.

SATURDAY We make our way to Thriplow where your admission is included and you

are free to explore the village and enjoy the festival. Step back in time walking the beautiful traffic-free lanes and footpaths, visit residents' open gardens, and the craft barns, marquees, stalls and demonstrations. Experience the warm and friendly atmosphere at one of the best loved charity events in Cambridgeshire.

### HOLIDAY INN \*\*\* HUNTINGDON Huntingdon Racecourse

One night dinner bed & breakfast

Set in the grounds of the famous racecourse, the hotel offers modern and comfortable accommodation. Facilities include: Open Lobby restaurant, bar & lounge; and complimentary WiFi

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### Tour Ref. P130



### An intriguing and vibrant destination with world class architecture, and more listed buildings than any UK city outside of London.

SUNDAY Outward journey to Liverpool, arriving early afternoon, enabling you to enjoy some free time in the city.

**MONDAY** We commence the day with our guide, and board our coach for a two

10

hour panoramic tour of Liverpool. You are then free to explore the city at your leisure. With two cathedrals, art galleries in the city centre, and near the hotel - the Albert Dock and the Beatles Story, you'll not be short

of inspiration. The shopping in Liverpool is world class too, and shoppers will be spoilt for choice between gleaming new city centre shopping centres, boutique arcades and bohemian streets.

**TUESDAY** More time at leisure in Liverpool. The choice of museums is second to none, with the landmark Museum of Liverpool, offering diverse exhibits, the World Museum Liverpool, one of Britain's finest, and the thought-provoking International Slavery Museum all offering free admission. We commence our homeward journey midafternoon.

Please note: the free to enter 'National Museums Liverpool' are open Tuesday-Sunday. Be sure to plan your own itinerary accordingly.

### PULLMAN HOTEL \*\*\*\* Liverpool

### Two nights bed & full English breakfast

A stylish hotel located by Kings Dock on Liverpool's iconic waterfront, just a fiveminute walk from the vibrant Albert Dock, and close to tourist attractions. Facilities include: Pullman Liverpool Restaurant; Pullman Bar & Lounge and complimentary WiFi.



### SUSSEX, PORTSMOUTH & THE SOUTH DOWNS - MONDAY 18 MARCH 2024

Tour Ref. P106



Based in Felpham village, near Bognor Regis, with the outstanding coast & countryside of East and West Sussex right on your doorstep.

**MONDAY** We travel south making suitable comfort stops en route.

**TUESDAY** Today we visit the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard for a day of exploration. Perhaps visit the multi award-winning Mary Rose, HMS Victory, HMS Warrior or take in the views from the Emirates Spinnaker Tower (admission charges apply to all). For those preferring retail therapy, indulge at the Gunwharf Quays waterfront shopping outlet nearby, or take a stroll into the centre of Portsmouth.

WEDNESDAY Today we venture into the heart of the South Downs National Park, for a visit to Amberley Museum. The 36 acre site set in the heart of the South Downs National Park is dedicated to the industrial heritage of the south east, and can be explored using the narrow gauge railway or vintage bus. We then continue to Arundel, where the gothic cathedral dominates the skyline. Arundel's Georgian and Victorian town centre is famous for antique shops and contemporary art galleries making shopping a real pleasure.

**THURSDAY** A morning excursion to the historic city of Chichester. You may wish to explore the cathedral with its ancient city walls, the Pallent House Gallery (charges apply) or simply enjoy the fascinating array of shops on offer. We then enjoy the afternoon at leisure in our resort.

**FRIDAY** After breakfast we depart our hotel for the homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### **BEST WESTERN \*\*\* BEACHCROFT HOTEL** Felpham near Bognor Regis

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast

This hotel is located on the seafront, only 500 yards from the centre of Felpham village, where you'll find a small selection of shops, a Norman church, and traditional pubs. The garden adjoins the promenade, which is almost four miles long. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar; and complimentary WiFi. The hotel does not have a lift. Porterage is included



### SPRINGTIME IN THE LAKE DISTRICT - MONDAY 25 MARCH 2024



The Lake District National Park is one of the most spectacular areas of the British Isles. This springtime holiday includes the fabulous High Adventure Mountain Goat excursion, and a train journey.

**MONDAY** Outward journey to Harrogate with time at leisure before continuing on to our hotel.

**TUESDAY** After breakfast we journey to the popular market town of Ambleside, for some time to explore, before continuing on to Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria's most popular destination on the banks of Lake Windermere. Perhaps take a lake cruise (at own expense, and timings permitting).

**WEDNESDAY** The Mountain Goat minibuses take us on our high adventure reaching parts of the Lake District inaccessible by coach. We

take in the Wrynose and Hardknott passes, the steepest in England, before descending to lovely Eskdale, where we take a break for lunch (at own expense). From here we board the train from Dalegarth to Ravenglass, and continue to Wastwater viewpoint, and then the splendid 14th century castle of Muncaster, where we have time to visit the magnificent gardens, and the Hawk and Owl centre (admission to the castle is not included). The beautiful scenery of the Coniston Fells and Coniston Water brings to an end this classic day of exploration. **THURSDAY** This morning we travel alongside Ullswater to Keswick, capital of the Northern Lakes, where today is market day. After some time at leisure here, we continue alongside Thirlmere and visit Grasmere - be sure to purchase some of the legendary Grasmere Gingerbread, or perhaps visit William Wordsworth's grave.

Tour Ref. P105

**FRIDAY** We make our way to Appleby where we commence our train journey, enjoying the beautiful scenery of the Dales before disembarking at Skipton. We then have time at leisure in this friendly market town, before commencing our journey home.

# CUMBRIA GRAND *H* **\***\*\*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, and some entertainment

Built in 1880, the hotel is set in 20 acres of private gardens and woodlands and overlooking Morecambe Bay you will receive a warm and friendly welcome at this charming hotel.

*Facilities include:* Hazelwood Restaurant; The Jacobean Bar; complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.

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### **OXFORD & BLETCHLEY PARK -** TUESDAY 2 APRIL 2024



# A short break combining the cobbled streets and colleges of Oxford, code cracking, and the Cotswolds!

**TUESDAY** We make our way to Moreton in Marsh. Its broad high street is lined with elegant 17th and 18th Century buildings, among them the rare Curfew Tower with its original clock and bell. After some free time to explore, we make our way to the hotel for our two night stay. WEDNESDAY Following breakfast, we meet our Oxford guide who will take us on a guided walking tour, including admission into one of the colleges. After the tour we have free time in the city, to explore and soak up the fine architecture, picturesque cobbled streets and hidden corners. Perhaps visit the Museum of Natural History, and the Pitt Rivers Museum, a dimly lit wonderland packed to the ceilings with a wonderful array of objects (admission to both is free).

**THURSDAY** Following our final breakfast, we make our way to Bletchley Park, where, apart from the famous Enigma Machine, there's so much more to explore during a visit to this once top secret, atmospheric site. Explore the iconic code-breaking huts, discover a wartime mini cinema, and an outstanding Churchill collection. Then there's the ornate Victorian mansion that was headquarters to intelligence staff during the war. We depart mid-afternoon for our homeward journey.

### HOLIDAY INN \*\*\*\* OXFORD

Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

Conveniently located, just three miles from Oxford city centre. With clean and modern feel throughout, and spacious rooms with ample facilities. En suite bathrooms feature shower over bath.

Facilities include open lobby restaurant; lobby lounge & bar; fitness room; WiFi; lift to all floors.



### LES MISÉRABLES LONDON THEATRE BREAK - WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2024

Tour Ref. P119



This brilliant new staging has taken the world by storm and has been hailed "Les Mis for the 21st Century" (Huffington Post). The magnificent score of Les Misérables includes the songs: "I Dreamed A Dream", "On My Own", "One Day More", "Bring Him Home", and many more. Seen by over 130 million people worldwide across 53 countries and in 22 languages, Les Misérables is undisputedly one of the world's most popular musicals. WEDNESDAY A leisurely departure as we travel to London. Enjoy some free time in London prior to the evening performance of Les Misérables. After the show your coach will be waiting, and we transfer to the hotel for bed and breakfast accommodation (please note that we do not check in to the hotel until late evening after the theatre).

**THURSDAY** Following breakfast, we transfer back to London for further time to spend as you wish, whether it's sightseeing, indulging in retail therapy or just taking in the vibrant atmosphere of the capital city. We depart London mid afternoon for our journey home.

# **HOLIDAY INN \*\*\***

### One night bed & full English breakfast

A modern hotel, opened in 2019. The quality of the decor and fixtures and fittings is of a very high standard, and it is ideally situated for our itinerary. Facilities include HI Pizza Restaurant; Sports Bar & Cafe; and free WiFi. The hotel has a lift.



### NEWCASTLE'S HIDDEN DEPTHS! - MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024



Based in the heart of the World Heritage City of Durham, this delightful tour makes the most of the contrasting landscapes and history of the surrounds, including a guided tour of Hadrian's Wall, a visit to the World of James Herriot, and time exploring the Newcastle area...from a completely unique perspective!

**MONDAY** On our outward journey we take a break in the historic town of Ripon, with its imposing Gothic cathedral. From here we continue to the hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** We head underground this morning, with a visit to the Victoria Tunnel, a 19th-century waggonway under Newcastle, stretching from the Town Moor to the Tyne river. The tunnel was subsequently converted in 1939 into an air-raid shelter. Learn how tough life was during WWII; listen for the air-raid warning, the sound of planes passing overhead dropping their bombs, and hear the memories of people who lived through this period of history. We then have an afternoon at leisure to explore Newcastle from above ground, too! WEDNESDAY Today we are taken under the wing of our Blue Badge Guide, and enjoy a guided tour of Hadrian's Wall, a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of England's greatest landmarks. On the return journey we call at Hexham where, at the heart of the town, you will find the Abbey.

**THURSDAY** A day at leisure in Durham today. With its UNESCO World Heritage listed cathedral and castle, charming streets and pretty riverside walks, you'll find this compact city a delight to explore.

**FRIDAY** After breakfast we depart the hotel, and visit the enchanting 'World of James Herriot' visitor centre. See where the world's most famous vet lived, worked and wrote his incredibly successful series of books based on his experiences as a young North Yorkshire vet. We also have some time at leisure in Thirsk, before continuing our journey home.

### DELTA HOTELS BY \*\*\*\* MARRIOTT DURHAM ROYAL COUNTY - Durham

Four nights dinner, bed and breakfast

In one of the most enviable positions in the city, the hotel boasts an historic heritage, impeccable amenities and beautifully appointed bedrooms. Facilities include: Restaurant; coffee lounge; fitness centre and complimentary WiFi.

Tour Ref. P187



# WIMPOLE ESTATE & CAMBRIDGE - THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2024

Single room supplement £40

# A lovely short break visiting a unique National Trust working estate, as well as enjoying a punt along the river Cam.

**THURSDAY** We make our way to Wimpole Estate, with an impressive mansion at its heart, set amidst acres of parkland. Explore the hall, where intimate rooms contrast with beautiful Georgian interiors; there is something to captivate and inspire all visitors. From here we make our way to the hotel for our overnight stay.

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**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and make our way to the picturesque university city of

Cambridge, where we first embark on a 45 minute punt along the river Cam. (A degree of mobility is required for the punt tour, including the ability to sit on the floor and get back up again - even if it is with assistance) We then enjoy some time at leisure to take in the cobbled streets, and medieval passageways of Cambridge before continuing our journey homeward mid afternoon.

Reduction for National Trust members £17.00

### 2 DAYS FROM £195



### One night dinner bed & breakfast

Set in the grounds of the famous racecourse, the hotel offers modern and comfortable accommodation. Facilities include: Open Lobby restaurant, bar & lounge; and complimentary WiFi

### YORKSHIRE EXPLORER - MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024



# Join us on this lovely break, where we combine the breathtaking beauty and dramatic landscapes of Yorkshire with some great attractions along the way.

**MONDAY** On our outbound journey we visit Harewood House. Enjoy the impressive art collection, renaissance masterpieces, exquisite Thomas Chippendale furniture and beautiful interiors. If that is not enough, there are also 100 acres of award winning gardens including the renowned lakeside Bird Garden, set within the magnificent landscape created by 'Capability' Brown. From here we continue onwards to our hotel for a four night stay.

**TUESDAY** First stop today is Knaresborough, with its warren of medieval streets and stone staircases that weave their way up and down the hill. The town centre is perched on the cliffs above the River Nidd and the imposing railway viaduct across the Nidd Gorge. Onwards to Ripon, a cathedral city steeped in history and home to magnificent buildings and rich cultural heritage. Our final stop is Pateley Bridge. Located in the centre of Nidderdale, this idyllic market town stretches up the hillside.

**WEDNESDAY** Today we head to Leeming Bar for a journey on the Wensleydale Railway. Sit back and enjoy the scenery as we journey to the Dales market town of Leyburn. Here we visit 'Ceramic Inspirations' and 'Inspired Chocolate', two fascinating businesses where we can view the teams at work creating their wares. Following this, enjoy some time at leisure in the town, before rejoining the coach to venture into the heart of the Yorkshire Dales to the Wensleydale Creamery, an extraordinary place to visit, full of history, heritage and cheese!

**THURSDAY** A morning of exploration in the picturesque, bustling town of Skipton, gateway to the Yorkshire Dales. We then spend the afternoon in Grassington, widely considered one of Yorkshire's prettiest villages, and known as the fictional market town of Darrowby in All Creatures Great & Small.

**FRIDAY** Some leisure time in Harrogate. Perhaps enjoy a stroll through Valley Gardens, or take a walk down Montpellier Hill, experiencing the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the area. We depart for home mid-afternoon.

# **THE CROWN HOTEL**

### Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast

With a history dating back over 300 years, and an enviable location just moments from many of Harrogate's most popular sites, the hotel offers modern amenities, and ornate dining. Facilities include The Churchill Suites; The Brasserie; Henry's Bar and WiFi. The hotel has a lift, however there are some rooms that have 6 or 7 steps to negotiate after the lift. Porterage is included.



### Tour Ref. P167



# A lovely weekend break providing a taste of what's on offer in this beautiful corner of England, brimming with history and simple pleasures.

**FRIDAY** On our outward journey we make our way to Oxburgh Hall. Built over 500 years ago, Oxburgh has survived turbulent times. Inside, the Victorian Gothic interiors reflect a romantic view of Oxburgh's medieval past. (N.B. the spiral staircase is not suited to those with mobility issues.) The moated Hall is also surrounded by gardens with seasonal interest, streams and woodland walks. From here we continue to the hotel for our two night stay.

**SATURDAY** We make our way to the beautiful village of Horning, to enjoy a journey along the River Bure aboard luxury paddle boat 'Southern Comfort'. Enjoy the informative on-board commentary during our 90 minute cruise, as we pass by thatched houses and

windmills, spotting yachts and river wildlife along the way. From here we head into Wroxham, known as capital of the Norfolk Broads, located alongside the meandering River Bure. Time at leisure here to enjoy the array of tea rooms, and shops including Roys of Wroxham, thought to be the largest village store in the country. We round off the day with some time at leisure in Norwich.

**SUNDAY** We depart the hotel and take a break in Wells-next-the-Sea, architecturally the loveliest town on the coast. Enjoy some time exploring its quaint lanes and historic quayside. We commence our journey home in the afternoon.

Reduction for National Trust members £10

# MERCURE NORWICH \*\*\*\*

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

On the outskirts of Norwich, just a short drive from the city centre. Bedrooms are over two levels, including the ground floor. Facilities include: The Brasserie; The Club Bar; and WiFi. There is no lift, ground floor rooms available on request and subject to availability.



### EASTBOURNE & PASHLEY MANOR TULIP FESTIVAL - MONDAY 22 APRIL 2024 Tour Ref. P143



An elegant award winning resort where you'll find superb level promenades bordered by banks of informal floral displays, the popular Victorian Pier, great shopping, and the beautifully preserved 1930's Bandstand with regular musical entertainment.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with a suitable stop en route.

**TUESDAY** In the morning we visit the village of Alfriston, reputed to be one of England's most beautiful villages, with its medieval narrow, twisting High Street containing a surprising wealth and variety of shops. Later we head to the resort of Brighton, where there will be time to meander through the bohemian back streets, and enjoy a stroll along the legendary seafront and pier. We follow the coast back to the hotel and enjoy breathtaking views, passing Newhaven and Beachy Head Lighthouse.

WEDNESDAY A morning visit to Pashley Manor's spectacular Tulip Festival, carpeted with up to 48,000 tulips. Over a hundred varieties of tulip are planted in colour themed garden 'rooms' throughout the grounds and in pot displays. Enjoy elegant displays of white and palest cream classic tulips planted around a brick terrace, to the open space of sweeping herbaceous borders covered in a riot of colour. We then visit Battle, the location where the Battle of Hastings was fought. It is now a thriving market town featuring Georgian and medieval cottages amongst a host of interesting shops, historic pubs and tea-rooms, as well as Battle Abbey and Battle Museum of Local History (charges may apply).

**THURSDAY** A day free to relax and enjoy the attractions in Eastbourne. Perhaps enjoy a stroll along the pier and by the delightful promenade gardens, or visit the historic Wish Tower.

**FRIDAY** We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### BEST WESTERN \*\*\* YORK HOUSE HOTEL Eastbourne

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast

An elegant Victorian hotel enjoying a seafront location, just 20 yards from the sea and a pleasant stroll from the town centre. Facilities include: Verandah Bar & Restaurant; sea view terrace; and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.

### Tour Ref. P188

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# We invite you to join us on this weekend break where we include wonderful attractions in an area made vibrant by its history and heritage.

**FRIDAY** On our outward journey we travel to Lyme, a glorious National Trust property surrounded by gardens, moorland and deer park. The 1,400 acre estate offers fantastic walks and stunning views, and has featured in the BBC production of Pride & Prejudice. Head into the house to step back in time to the Regency era – a time which saw great rejuvenation for Lyme. From here we continue to the hotel where we enjoy tea/coffee and Bara Brith on arrival.

**SATURDAY** From the pretty town of Llangollen we join the Rheilffordd Llangollen Railway for a nostalgic train ride. Next we take a trip on the Llangollen Canal, the country's biggest navigable aqueduct, known as the "Stream in the Sky".

**SUNDAY** A morning excursion to Port Sunlight Village, where we include a guided tour. Port Sunlight is unique, and those who visit for the first time are usually astonished at what they discover. The late 19th century village was built by William Hesketh Lever to house his soap factory workers, and it is an enduring testament to the achievements of this remarkable man. From here we continue homeward.

Reduction for National Trust members £12

### BEAUFORT PARK \*\*\* HOTEL Mold, North Wales

Two nights dinner, bed & breakfast, and one night entertainment

Set in rural North Wales a short drive from the historic market town of Mold. Facilities include: The Orchard Restaurant; Arches Bar & Coffee Lounge; and complimentary WiFi. There is no lift, however there are plenty of ground floor rooms, subject to availability. Porterage is included.



### HARROGATE & YORK IN SPRINGTIME - SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2024



### Our base for this relaxing luxury weekend break is the former spa town of Harrogate, an elegant destination with cosmopolitan charm, quaint mews and handsome parks.

**SATURDAY** We travel to Yorkshire and the RHS Garden Harlow Carr for an afternoon to explore at your leisure. The garden is full of surprises, from sculptures to inspirational

planting and landscapes, including woodland, riverside and meadow. You are sure to find inspiration for your home garden in this delightful setting. Those not wishing to visit the garden will be dropped off in the centre of Harrogate for time at leisure. We later make the short transfer to our hotel, with time to settle in before dinner.

**SUNDAY** We travel to York, where you can explore some of the city's many attractions. Suggestions include the National Railway Museum, the City Walls, York Minster, the Shambles, and not forgetting the world famous Bettys Café Tea Rooms, or a cosy pub where you may wish to enjoy lunch (at own expense). We depart late afternoon for the journey home.

Reduction for RHS members or those not visiting Harlow Carr £10.00

# CAIRN HOTEL M \*\*\*

One night dinner, bed & breakfast

Located just a five minute walk downhill to the town, the Cairn has been carefully modernised and the grand original features still welcome you to this charming hotel. Facilities include: Windsor Restaurant & Lounge Bar.

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### ISLE OF MAN "STEAM & CREAM" - WEDNESDAY 1 MAY 2024



The Isle of Man is blessed with stunning scenery, and a fascinating heritage. Enjoy this classic tour with a steam train journey, elegant gardens and a delicious cream tea.

**WEDNESDAY** We travel north to Heysham and board the afternoon ferry to Douglas, crossing time approximately 3½ hours, arriving in time for dinner.

**THURSDAY** A morning visit to Peel, where the magnificent ruins of Peel Castle dominate the landscape, followed by an afternoon at leisure to explore Castletown, with its small winding streets, picturesque harbourside fishing cottages and a Viking castle.

**FRIDAY** We take a trip on the delightful Isle of Man Steam Railway along the south coast

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from Douglas to Port Erin, where we visit The Railway Museum, before heading to The Sound, with its colonies of seals and seabirds. This afternoon we enjoy some time at leisure in Douglas.

**SATURDAY** We head via Laxey to Ramsey for a short stop, before continuing on to enjoy the gardens and woodland walks at the Milntown Estate, followed by a cream tea. We round off the day with a visit to the Jurby Transport Museum, to view the impressive range of vehicles on display, including buses, cars, lorries, steam engines and trams. Our return to the hotel follows in the tyre tracks of motorbike racing legends along the island's TT course, with a stop at Tynwald Hill, the ceremonial site for the island's 1000 year old parliament.

Tour Ref. P122

**SUNDAY** We depart after an early breakfast to board the return ferry to Heysham, and continue our homeward journey.

# **RUTLAND HOTEL** \*\*\*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment

One of the most elegant buildings on the Isle of Man, the Rutland offers comfort, style and quality and enjoys beautiful panoramic views across Douglas Bay. Facilities include: Bay Room Bar & Lounge; Queens Carvery Restaurant. Porterage is included.

N.B. This hotel is less suitable for guests with mobility issues. There are no ground floor bedrooms, and the small lift will not carry wheelchairs. There are 9 steps to access the hotel, and steps on the access route between the lift and adjacent bedroom corridors.

Please note: Valid photo ID is not required for entry to the Isle of Man, but strongly advised



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### COTSWOLDS IN BLOOM - FRIDAY 10 MAY 2024



### A real treat for our green-fingered enthusiasts, as we visit Blenheim Palace, one of the most treasured houses & gardens to be found in England, as well as some other Cotswolds gems, bursting with a riot of springtime colour.

FRIDAY Our outbound journey takes us to Hidcote Manor Garden, one of the bestknown and most influential Arts and Crafts gardens in Britain, with its linked "rooms" of hedges, rare trees, shrubs and herbaceous borders. Using Hidcote as a 'blank canvas', Lawrence Johnston designed the garden in phases from 1907 to 1938, furnishing borders with newly discovered plants and exotic rarities gathered during plant hunting expeditions from around the world. From here we continue to the hotel for our two night stay.

**SATURDAY** Discover the rich and fascinating history of the Lansdowne family and Bowood House, set within 100 acres of beautifully landscaped Capability Brown parkland. Explore the Georgian House and its surrounds, including the Italian-inspired Terrace Garden, and the herbaceous border, radiating colour throughout the seasons. We also include admission to Bowood Woodland Garden, only open for 6 weeks of the year, during the flowering season. Covering over 30 acres, this garden is an oasis of bluebells, azaleas, magnolias and rhododendrons.

SUNDAY We depart the hotel, and visit Blenheim Palace, home of the Duke of Marlborough and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. The splendour of the 2000 acres of parkland and 100 acres of formal gardens is unrivalled, and the seemingly effortless views have been successfully designed to take your breath away! Your inclusive ticket covers the Palace, Park & Gardens. We depart mid afternoon and commence our journey home.

Please note: Due to the nature of the attractions we are visiting, these may sometimes involve walking on uneven or sloping terrain, or cobbled paths, therefore please bear this in mind if you have mobility issues.

Reduction for National Trust members £14

### DOUBLETREE \*\*\*\* **BY HILTON** Swindon

Two nights dinner, bed & breakfast

Set in the Wiltshire countryside, and recently refurbished to a high standard, this hotel is ideally placed for a visit to this beautiful region. Facilities include: Open plan restaurant and kitchen; split level bar/lounge; air conditioning; complimentary toiletries; and WiFi.



### Tour Ref. P115



There is no better place for gardeners to discover summer inspiration than at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival, where you will find incredible garden design, flowers, plants, food and entertainment - offering something for everyone.

FRIDAY Outward journey with an afternoon break in Evesham. Enjoy some time at leisure, before we continue to the hotel for dinner.

SATURDAY We depart promptly after an early breakfast to transfer to the Malvern Spring Festival, where you'll find heaps of inspirational ideas for your own garden in the

top medal winning show gardens. There are spectacular floral displays, and an abundance of opportunities for you to indulge in some shopping, or you could choose to simply relax and soak up the atmosphere in this beautiful location. We depart late afternoon for the journey home.

### 2 DAYS FROM £199

### **HOLIDAY INN** Gloucester-Cheltenham

### One night dinner, bed & breakfast

A modern, smart hotel conveniently situated for our itinerary. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar & lounge; leisure facilities with indoor pool, and whirlpool; and WiFi. Rooms are over two floors; no lift.

### HERITAGE OF THE NORTH WEST - MONDAY 13 MAY 2024



Enjoy the beautiful Lancashire and Cheshire countryside as we visit the newest RHS garden, an industrial heritage site and enjoy a cruise on the Leeds Liverpool Canal.

WEDNESDAY We commence our outward journey to RHS Garden Bridgewater, a stunning 154 acre garden, which is the newest addition to the RHS fold, and one of the largest gardening projects undertaken in Europe. From here we continue to the hotel for our two night stay.

THURSDAY This morning we visit The World of Glass. This fascinating attraction is situated in St Helens, a town shaped by glass-making. Explore the underground tunnels of one of the world's first continuous regenerative tank glass making furnaces, and two museum galleries that show history of glass with many artefacts. We also enjoy a glass blowing demonstration, and have time to browse the shop & café. We continue on to Wigan Pier for a narrow boat cruise along the Leeds Liverpool Canal. During our two hour cruise we enjoy the lovely countryside and nature, as well as a delicious afternoon tea on this spacious vessel, where each table has a panoramic view of the canal.

**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and make our way to Quarry Bank, one of Britain's greatest industrial heritage sites, and home to a complete industrial community. You will find the compelling story of mill workers, entrepreneurs and the Industrial Revolution, with hand-spinners working, the clatter of machinery and the hiss of steam engines, and also discover the beauty of the Quarry Bank garden. We depart in the afternoon and continue our journey homeward.

Reduction for National Trust members £19

Reduction for RHS members £8.50

### LAST DROP VILLAGE **HOTEL & SPA** Nr Bolton

### Two nights dinner, bed & breakfast

The Last Drop Village Hotel and Spa is steeped in history and enjoys breathtaking views of the West Pennine Moors. Facilities include: Courtyard Restaurant; Courtyard Bar; Drop Inn Pub; Tea Shop; a variety of shops in an attractive courtyard setting; spa facilities including indoor swimming pool & fitness centre; and complimentary WiFi. Lift serves some bedrooms; some have steps to first floor level, and ground floor rooms are available, subject to availability. Porterage is included.

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### HARROGATE & HAWORTH 1940s WEEKEND - FRIDAY 17 MAY 2024

**3 DAYS FROM £309** Single room supplement £60

A lovely Yorkshire-based nostalgic weekend, timed to coincide with one of the biggest and best 1940s weekends in the UK.

FRIDAY On our outward journey we head directly to Harrogate, enjoying welcome tea/ coffee on arrival at our hotel. You then have time at leisure prior to dinner; perhaps enjoy a stroll through Valley Gardens, or take a

walk down Montpellier Hill, experiencing the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the area.

SATURDAY Following breakfast, we head to Keighley, where we join the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway, for a train journey to Oxenhope. Here we rejoin the coach,

and transfer to Haworth. See the village transformed into a celebration of all things 1940s; vintage vehicles on display, locals and visitors in 1940s dress and wartime costumes, and bands playing music from this popular era. Browse the memorabilia stalls, and enjoy reenactment parades, as you soak up the truly nostalgic atmosphere amidst the bunting adorned streets.

Tour Ref. P178

SUNDAY We depart the hotel and travel to Knaresborough, with its warren of medieval streets and stone staircases that weave their way up and down the hill. The town centre is perched on the cliffs above the River Nidd and the imposing railway viaduct across the Nidd Gorge. We depart late afternoon for the journey home.

### CEDAR COURT HOTEL $\star \star \star \star$ Harrogate

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

Located in the heart of Harrogate, the hotel offers recently refurbished accommodation overlooking 200 acres of the pristine Stray parkland, just a short stroll from some of the must-see attractions. Facilities include: restaurant; lounge; bar, and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.



### TORQUAY & THE ENGLISH RIVIERA - SUNDAY 19 MAY & SUNDAY 8 SEPT 2024 Tour Ref. P114



Superior rooms are available and carry a supplement

DURHAM & BEAMISH - FRIDAY 24 MAY 2024

# 7 DAYS FROM £619 - SEPT

In a superb location at the head of Torbay, Torquay's Mediterranean style skyline, mild climate and sub-tropical plants & trees give it that exotic 'Riviera' feeling.

SUNDAY Outward journey with suitable stops en route.

MONDAY Today we visit Buckland Abbey. The abbey, later converted into a house, combines furnished rooms with museum galleries, bringing to life the stories of seafaring adventurers Sir Richard Grenville and Sir Frances Drake. Outdoors you'll find a walled kitchen garden, Cider House garden and wild garden as well as an impressive medieval Great Barn. We make a stop on the way back to visit Buckfast Abbey, an inspirational space that is

home to a community of Benedictine Monks.

**TUESDAY** A day visiting the neighbouring resorts of Paignton & Brixham, for ample time at leisure to explore these jewels of the English Riviera.

WEDNESDAY We enjoy a day at leisure to enjoy Torquay and its many attractions.

THURSDAY We visit Sidmouth, an elegant seaside town that nestles beneath the majestic red cliffs of the Jurassic Coast and the hills of the glorious Sid Valley. In the afternoon we

continue to Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, Devon's most magnificent botanical gardens. The superbly landscaped park includes historic glass houses, a countryside museum and a woodland train ride. (Small additional cost applies for the train)

FRIDAY We head south to Dartmouth for some time to explore, before embarking on a circular cruise sailing the lower part of the River Dart where we view Bayards Cove, Kingswear and Dartmouth Castles, Britannia Royal Naval College, Sir Walter Raleigh's Boathouse, and The Estate of the late Dame Agatha Christie. We then continue to the fascinating historical town of Totnes, where today is market day.

SATURDAY We return home, with convenient stops en route.

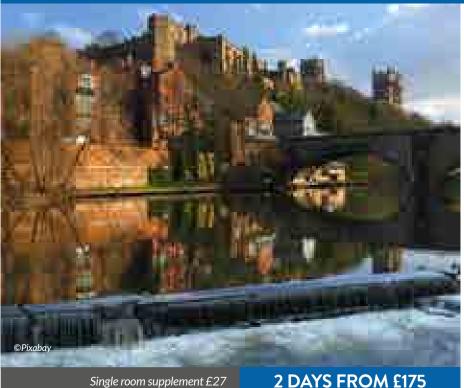
Reduction for National Trust Members £12.50

### THE HOWDEN COURT HOTEL Torquay

### Six nights dinner, bed & breakfast

One of our most popular hotels, this well run, friendly, family establishment in the heart of Torquay has a private path leading to within 100 yards of the promenade. Facilities include: lounge and bar with dance floor. The lift serves most bedrooms, and the hotel offers regular entertainment.

### Tour Ref. P109



### A lovely short break as we visit two perennial favourites!

FRIDAY Outward journey to Durham, with a suitable stop en route. With its UNESCO

World Heritage listed cathedral and castle, charming streets and pretty riverside walks, you'll find Durham a delight to explore. Later, we make the short transfer to our hotel, for dinner and overnight accommodation.

**SATURDAY** Following breakfast, we make our way to Beamish, the Living Museum of the North. Set in 350 acres, there is something for everyone to enjoy! Take a tram ride back in time and become immersed in real, living history. Take a walk down an Edwardian cobbled street. chat to the cheerful costumed staff, experience life as a Land Girl, or have a go at fun 50s activities in the welfare hall. We depart in the afternoon to commence our homeward journey.

### CLARION HOTEL $\star \star \star \star$ **BOLDON -** Tyne & Wear

### One night dinner bed & breakfast

This contemporary, fresh hotel is in a convenient location for our planned itinerary. Facilities include: Modern bedrooms spread over the ground and first floor; Grill Bar & Restaurant; and impressive leisure facilities with swimming pool, sauna, steam room and jacuzzi. Porterage is included.



### DISCOVERING COUNTY DURHAM - WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2024



# County Durham has a lot to offer; stunning coastline, spectacular views, and fascinating heritage. From our delightful base in Darlington we are ideally situated to get a great insight into some highlights of the surrounding area.

**WEDNESDAY** On our outward journey we take a break in the historic town of Ripon, with its imposing Gothic cathedral.

**THURSDAY** First stop of the day is Preston Park Museum. Nestled alongside the River Tees, this former Georgian residence is home to a vast collection of artefacts from the local area. Experience what life was like in 1895 as you take a stroll down the replica Victorian Street and meet the people who live and work there. Onwards then to Saltburn-by-the-Sea, a relaxed seaside resort with a charm and character that's distinctly Victorian. The formal Italian Gardens are linked to the shore by a miniature railway and a unique cliff lift.

**FRIDAY** We make our way to Raby Castle, one of England's finest medieval castles. Situated in the foothills of the Durham Dales, it was built in the 14th century by the powerful Neville family. The interior reveals a fascinating heritage and dramatic interiors. (N.B: Wheelchair users should ideally be accompanied by able pushers. The Gardens are on a natural slope, and accessibility inside the Castle for wheelchair users is limited to the Entrance Hall.) In the afternoon we visit Shildon Railway Museum - Locomotion. Get up close to incredible engineering feats in Shildon – the world's first railway town.

**SATURDAY** We commence our journey home, taking a break in Whitby, the popular seaside town brimming with quirky shops, sea shanty inns, and quaint tea rooms.

### MERCURE \*\*\*\* DARLINGTON KINGS HOTEL - Darlington

Three nights dinner, bed & breakfast

Located in the heart of Darlington, the hotel is arguably one of the town's most iconic buildings dating back to Victorian times.

Facilities include King's Grill & Bar and WiFi. Hotel has a lift.



### ISLE OF WIGHT - SUNDAY 2 JUNE & SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2024



# This delightful holiday island has its own unique charm and special beauty, whilst generally enjoying a mild and sunny climate.

**SUNDAY** We travel south with suitable stops en route, and board a late afternoon ferry for the short crossing to the Isle of Wight.

**MONDAY** We include a return trip on the charming Isle of Wight Steam Railway from Havenstreet, before continuing to Ryde. In addition to its expanse of sandy beach and the world's oldest seaside pleasure pier, you'll find a great selection of museums, galleries and shops to explore.

**TUESDAY** An excursion to the west of the island, taking in the spectacular views along the old military road. We pause to admire the beautiful St Agnes Church, before continuing to world-famous Needles Landmark

attraction, and one of the Isle of Wight's most iconic sights. Perhaps visit Alum Bay Glass, the Sand Shop or the Isle of Wight Sweet Manufactory (charges may apply at each). We round off the day in Yarmouth, with its picturesque harbour, for time at leisure.

**WEDNESDAY** We journey to Cowes for a morning at leisure in this attractive and vibrant town full of independent shops. In the afternoon we visit Godshill Model Village, where the buildings are lovingly crafted out of sand and cement to ensure they weather authentically over the years. Set in the grounds of the Old Vicarage, it is a timeless place to escape modern life, and Godshill village itself is also worth exploring if time permits.

Tour Ref. P118

**THURSDAY**\* A day at leisure to explore Sandown. Sheltered in a beautiful bay, and famed for its long stretch of golden beach, traditional promenade and pier, you'll find plenty here to occupy your time.

**FRIDAY\*** We visit Osborne House, where you can view Queen Victoria and Albert's private apartments, their bathing beach, and children's play cottage for an intimate glimpse into royal family life.

**SATURDAY** We board a morning ferry for our return sailing, and continue homeward with suitable stops en route.

\*September tour returns home on Thursday, therefore the day at leisure, and Osborne house are excluded

# **THE TROUVILLE HOTEL**

Four or six nights dinner bed & breakfast and regular entertainment

Gloriously situated directly overlooking the sea, opposite the beach. Facilities include: Split-level restaurant with panoramic views over the bay; bar; and lounge. All double and twin bedrooms have sea view. Porterage is included.



### **BEAUTIFUL BOURNEMOUTH - MONDAY 3 JUNE 2024**



Limited single rooms with no supplement

### 5 DAYS FROM £529

On the sunny south coast with its pale honey coloured cliffs, our base is the elegant resort of Bournemouth, boasting seven miles of award-winning golden beaches. We enjoy the best of the south coast on this great value holiday.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with suitable stops en route. Enjoy tea/coffee upon arrival at the hotel.

**TUESDAY** A morning excursion to Compton Acres, recognised as one of the most important ornamental gardens in England. Explore at your leisure, the 10 acres of horticultural heaven and spectacular themed gardens. We continue on to Poole, for some free time in the historic quay area before our 70 minute cruise. Enjoy fantastic views and live commentary, as we pass picturesque Brownsea Island, Sandbanks Peninsula, Studland Bay and more. (Please note, a degree of mobility will be required; passengers need to walk a short distance across the gangway).

WEDNESDAY Today we take a trip back in time to the 18th century, with a visit to Buckler's Hard in the heart of the New Forest. Once a thriving shipbuilding village, Buckler's Hard is a tranquil haven, perfect for escaping the hustle and bustle of modern life. We include admission to the historic village, maritime museum and enjoy a 30 minute cruise along the Beaulieu River. We return to the hotel via the pretty village of Brockenhurst.

**THURSDAY** We visit Highcliffe Castle this morning, a stunning Gothic revival style Grade 1 listed cliff-top castle overlooking Christchurch Bay. Featured in the hit TV drama Mr Selfridge, and set in 14 acres of land, we are given an informative talk about the castle's rich history, and also enjoy a delicious cream tea in the State Dining Room. We spend the afternoon at leisure in our resort.

**FRIDAY** Following breakfast we commence our homeward journey, with suitable stops en route.

# SUNCLIFF HOTEL \*\*\*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment, and tea/coffee on arrival

The Suncliff is in a stunning location on the prestigious East Cliff, and about a 15 minute walk from the town centre. Facilities include: Atlantic Restaurant; several lounges including conservatory lounge with views overlooking the sea; pool table; and leisure complex including indoor swimming pool & sauna. Porterage is included.

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### Tour Ref. P209



Bristol is a city of pioneers, adventurers and engineers – notably, honorary Bristolian Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Learn more about his work on this delightful break involving insight into the maritime history of Bristol with a local guide, a cruise with a cream tea, and a visit to Brunel's SS Great Britain.

**FRIDAY** We journey to Cheltenham, taking a break in this fine Regency town with its wonderful blend of traditional Regency architecture, stylish shops and colourful parks, before continuing to the hotel for our three night stay.

**SATURDAY** This morning our Bristol Blue Badge Guide joins us aboard our coach to provide us with an interesting and informative panoramic tour of this historic maritime city. Following this we spend an afternoon in Bath, for some free time exploring the World Heritage streets. With its Roman Baths, splendid Abbey and Georgian stone crescents, Bath really is an unforgettable and beautiful place to visit.

**SUNDAY** A morning aboard Brunel's SS Great Britain, one of the most historically significant

ships in the world. Be sure to head beneath the glass sea, walk the history in the Dockyard Museum, and step aboard the ship itself. (Due to the nature of the site, some areas may be difficult to reach, or may involve cobblestones. Where possible, alternative access points are provided). After some time at leisure in Bristol's historic harbourside, we then enjoy a two hour cruise taking in the sights as we cruise through the Floating Harbour on the original course of the Avon, while enjoying a delicious cream tea.

**MONDAY** We depart the hotel, taking a break in Stratford upon Avon, steeped in culture and history, and one of Britain's most visited towns thanks to its association with William Shakespeare. From here we continue our journey homeward.

# HILTON GARDEN INN \*\*\*\*

### Three nights dinner, bed & breakfast

Located in the heart the city centre, rooms are bright, with sleek décor and each room has floor-to-ceiling windows. Facilities include: Recess lounge bar & restaurant; stylish terrace overlooking Temple Gardens; and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift. Porterage is included.



### LIVERPOOL CITY BREAK - BEATLES EDITION - SUNDAY 9 JUNE 2024



A city break to really Twist & Shout about! Get your Ticket to Ride aboard our executive coach, as we hit The Long and Winding Road to Liverpool to celebrate four of its most famous inhabitants, on this brilliant short break... it's certainly not a Day Tripper!

**SUNDAY** Outward journey to Liverpool, where we visit Strawberry Field, an interactive experience that tells interweaving stories of the house, The Salvation Army, John Lennon's childhood, and the writing and recording of Strawberry Fields Forever. Enter into a world where 'nothing is real' plunging into the 1860's era where Strawberry Field began as a Victorian house, before it transformed into a safe place run by The Salvation Army. We also include a light lunch here, before heading to the hotel for our two night stay with breakfast included.

**MONDAY** After a Hard Day's Night, we commence the day at one of Liverpool's most visited attractions: The Beatles Story. Located in the Fab Four's hometown of Liverpool on the stunning waterfront at the Royal Albert Dock, The Beatles Story takes visitors on an immersive, atmospheric journey through the story of the lives, times, culture and music of The Beatles. You are then free to explore the city at your leisure.

**TUESDAY** More time at leisure in Liverpool. The choice of museums is second to none, with the landmark Museum of Liverpool, offering diverse exhibits, the World Museum Liverpool, one of Britain's finest, and the thoughtprovoking International Slavery Museum all offering free admission. We commence All Together Now for our homeward journey midafternoon.

Please note: the free to enter 'National Museums Liverpool' are open Tuesday-Sunday. Be sure to plan your own itinerary accordingly.

# PULLMAN HOTEL \*\*\*\*

### Two nights bed & full English breakfast

A stylish hotel located by Kings Dock on Liverpool's iconic waterfront, just a fiveminute walk from the vibrant Albert Dock, and close to tourist attractions. Facilities include: Pullman Liverpool Restaurant; Pullman Bar & Lounge and complimentary WiFi.



### GLORIOUS GARDENS OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE - THURSDAY 13 JUNE 2024

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Calling all garden enthusiasts! Join us on a lovely short break visiting a National Trust property, as well as two other unique gardens.

**THURSDAY** We journey to Elton Hall House & Gardens, an extraordinary, romantic part-Gothic historic house, and 2021 winner of Historic Houses Garden of the Year Judges' Choice Award. The gardens provide a stunning backdrop to the house, containing many unusual plants and shrubs, and incorporating a flower garden, lily pond, orangery garden & orangery, and topiary and shrub garden. From here we make our way to the hotel for our two night stay.

**FRIDAY** Today we make our way to the picturesque university city of Cambridge, for a visit to Cambridge University Botanic Garden. This heritage-listed botanic garden, originally conceived by Charles Darwin's mentor and teacher, Professor John Henslow, now boasts plant collections in excess of 8,000 species from around the world, displayed within acres of beautifully landscaped gardens and a Glasshouse Range. We then enjoy some time at leisure to take in the cobbled streets, and medieval passageways of Cambridge for the rest of the afternoon.

Tour Ref. P173

**SATURDAY** We depart the hotel and head to Anglesey Abbey, a Jacobean-style house full of rich history, evolved from a monastic priory to 20th century home. The celebrated garden, with its sweeping avenues, classical statuary and flower borders offers captivating views with vibrant colours and scents, whatever the season. In June the herbaceous borders and Rose Garden are anticipated to be in full bloom. From here we depart in the afternoon for our homeward journey.

Reduction for National Trust members £16

### HOLIDAY INN **HUNTINGDON** Huntingdon Racecourse

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

Set in the grounds of the famous racecourse, the hotel offers modern and comfortable accommodation. Facilities include: Open Lobby restaurant, bar & lounge; and complimentary WiFi.



### ST ANNES-ON-SEA - MONDAY 17 JUNE 2024



St Anne's-on-Sea nestles on the picturesque stretch of the Fylde coast in Lancashire just south of Blackpool, and is brimming with tradition, Lancashire friendliness, charm and style. In this revamped tour, we also include a fish & chip lunch, a lunch cruise, two stunning properties and a panoramic tour of the rolling Lancashire scenery.

**MONDAY** We commence our outward journey to The Piece Hall, nestled amongst a dramatic landscape of rolling hills and wooded valleys at the centre of Halifax. With its honeycoloured architecture, rich industrial heritage and diverse cultural offerings, this hidden gem makes an ideal destination to visit. From here we continue to the hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** A morning visit to Rufford Old Hall, a black and white Tudor building home to five centuries of Lancashire and Hesketh family history, an impressive Great Hall and a tranquil Victorian-style garden. We then continue onwards to the nearby resort of Southport, with its miles of unspoilt coastline, beautiful parks and gardens, listed pier, and of course Lord Street, with an array of Victorian canopied shops offering some excellent retail therapy.

**WEDNESDAY** We head to Oswaldtwistle Mill to meet our guide for a one hour panoramic circular tour of "Valleys, Fells & Spells"; upon our return we have some time at leisure. We then continue to the nearby Riley Green Marina, for a relaxing and scenic 2 hour cruise with soup & sandwiches included.

**THURSDAY** A day at leisure to explore St Annes.

**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and travel to Smithills Hall, one of the oldest and best preserved manor houses in the North West of England, containing fine examples of architecture through the ages. From here we make the short transfer to the award-winning Olympus Restaurant to enjoy a fish & chip lunch, before continuing our homeward journey.

Reduction for National Trust members £9

# **ST. IVES HOTEL** \*\*\*

## Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, entertainment on two evenings

In a lovely location on the sea front, opposite the gardens and the promenade. Facilities include: lounge/reception area; large screen TV lounge; lounge bar & ballroom; open plan dining room overlooking the sea front, serving food carvery style. Sea view and sea view balcony rooms carry a supplement and are subject to availability. Lift serves first floor only. Porterage is included.



### Tour Ref. P116



ST ANNES-ON-SEA - MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

St Anne's-on-Sea nestles on the picturesque stretch of the Fylde coast in Lancashire just south of Blackpool, and is brimming with tradition, Lancashire friendliness, charm and style. In this revamped tour, we also include a fish & chip lunch, a lunch cruise, an afternoon tea at the iconic Blackpool Tower and a panoramic tour of the stunning Lancashire scenery.

**MONDAY** On our outward journey we enjoy a fish and chip lunch at Bolton's award winning Olympus Restaurant. From here we continue to the hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** We head to Oswaldtwistle Mill to meet our guide for a one hour panoramic circular tour of the Ribble Valley; on our return we have some time at leisure. We then continue to the nearby Riley Green Marina, for a relaxing, scenic 2 hour cruise with soup & sandwiches included. WEDNESDAY A morning at leisure to explore St Annes. In the afternoon we make the short transfer to Blackpool for an afternoon tea in the iconic Blackpool Tower Ballroom, with its beautifully decorated ceilings, sparkling chandeliers and ornate balconies. Enjoy live music from the Wurlitzer as the dancers glide around the dancefloor. Following this, there will be some time at leisure before returning to the hotel. **THURSDAY** We visit the nearby resort of Southport, with its miles of unspoilt coastline, beautiful parks and gardens, listed pier, and of course Lord Street, with an array of Victorian canopied shops offering some excellent retail therapy.

**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and travel to The Piece Hall, nestled amongst a dramatic landscape of rolling hills and wooded valleys at the centre of Halifax. With its honeycoloured architecture, rich industrial heritage and diverse cultural offerings, this hidden gem makes an ideal destination to visit. From here we continue our homeward journey.

# **ST. IVES HOTEL \*\***

## Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, entertainment on two evenings

In a lovely location on the sea front, opposite the gardens and the promenade. Facilities include: lounge/reception area; large screen TV lounge; lounge bar & ballroom; open plan dining room overlooking the sea front, serving food carvery style. Sea view and sea view balcony rooms carry a supplement, and subject to availability. Lift serves first floor only. Porterage is included.



### DEVON & DARTMOOR - MONDAY 17 JUNE 2024

### Tour Ref. P159



Situated in one of the most beautiful bays in England, surrounded by stunning scenery and coastline, Paignton is one of Devon's most popular seaside resorts. Most of the town is compact and level, and life revolves around the seafront and Paignton Green.

**MONDAY** Outward journey to Paignton, where we enjoy tea/coffee on arrival at the hotel.

**TUESDAY** Today we explore Dartmoor National Park with the benefit of a knowledgeable and friendly local guide on board our coach. On our tour we will discover open moorlands, deep river valleys, a rich history and perhaps, if we're very lucky, some rare wildlife.

**WEDNESDAY** This morning we visit the Britannia Royal Naval College at Dartmouth, to join an expert resident guide on a walking tour. We visit the heart of the College, from the elegant Chapel, through areas including the Quarterdeck, Parade Ground, Senior Gun Room and Britannia Heritage Museum. (Please note that photographic ID will be needed for access to the College, sturdy footwear is required, wheelchair access is limited and mobility scooters cannot be accommodated.)

We have a short break afterwards, before joining a relaxing river cruise from Dartmouth to Totnes, where we meet our coach for the journey back to Paignton.

**THURSDAY** Enjoy a full day to explore the delights of Paignton at leisure.

**FRIDAY** Departing after breakfast we begin our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

# **QUEENS HOTEL M \*\*\***

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, regular entertainment

This popular hotel enjoys a level position just 200 yards from the town centre and seafront, offering a high level of hospitality and comfort. Facilities include: Spacious restaurant; games room; bar & entertainments lounge with dance floor; and WiFi. Porterage is included.



### TIMELESS TREASURES OF YORKSHIRE - WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 2024



A lovely short break taking in some of Yorkshire's classics; a stately home, a medieval city, a vintage museum and the seaside!

**WEDNESDAY** Outward journey to Castle Howard, where we have time to explore this magnificent historic house with its ornate interior, beautifully landscaped gardens, and home to the Carlisle branch of the Howard family for more than 300 years. From here, we transfer to Huby, near York for our two night stay.

**THURSDAY** To Scarborough, for a morning at leisure in this iconic seaside resort. In the afternoon we visit the Scarborough Fair

Collection and Vintage Transport Museum. Packed full of a wide range of exhibits from years gone by, including vintage fairground rides, vintage cars, vehicles used during the war and so much more. On Thursdays, there is even a tea dance to enjoy, with the melodic well-known tunes played on their Wurlitzer organ.

Tour Ref. P178

**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and journey to York, where we first enjoy a scenic river cruise. Follow in the wake of the Romans and Vikings, taking in the story of York from a different perspective as you escape the hustle and bustle of the city. Following this, enjoy some time at leisure to explore this compact city on foot, before we depart mid afternoon and commence our homeward journey.

# BURN HALL HOTEL \*\*\*

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

A Victorian manor house hotel offering comfortable stylish accommodation in the heart of North Yorkshire. Facilities include: Terrace and beer garden; Richardson's restaurant and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.



### WADDESDON MANOR & BLENHEIM PALACE - FRIDAY 21 JUNE 2024

**2 DAYS FROM £195** Single room supplement £20

A lovely short break as we visit the spectacular Waddesdon Manor, and also Blenheim Palace, a masterpiece of Baroque architecture. As a real bonus for green-fingered enthusiasts, our visit coincides with the Blenheim Palace Flower Show.

FRIDAY Outward journey to Waddesdon Manor, a 16th century French Renaissance style chateau, built by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild in the 1870s, and now housing a superb collection of fine art and furniture. The flamboyant gardens are a riot of colour, with ornate fountains and statues. We continue to the hotel for our overnight stay.

SATURDAY Following an early breakfast we transfer to Blenheim Palace. To coincide with our visit, tickets also include entry to the Flower Show, an annual horticultural event featuring hundreds of garden and home exhibitors, a Grand Floral Pavilion, a Floral Art Marquee and live entertainment. We depart late afternoon and commence our homeward journey. Reduction for National Trust members £20

### HOLIDAY INN \*\*\*\* Aylesbury

### One night dinner, bed & breakfast

Located in a pleasant semi-rural setting near the Chiltern Hills, this modern hotel is ideally situated for our itinerary. Facilities include: The Hub bar & lounge; indoor swimming pool; WiFi. The hotel has no lift; rooms are located over ground and first floor.

### WONDERFUL WILTSHIRE & LONGLEAT - THURSDAY 27 JUNE 2024

circle partially encompass the pretty village, and explore the 16th century manor house refurbished in the styles of different historical periods, as well as its distinctive formal garden.

### SATURDAY This morning we head for

Longleat House, home to the Marquess of Bath, and a house widely regarded as one of the best examples of high Elizabethan architecture in Britain. Explore the rich history of this stately home and Capability Brown landscaped grounds, and we also take a tour through the world-famous safari park.

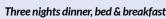
**SUNDAY** We depart the hotel, taking a break in Bath en route. Enjoy the traditional heritage and stunning Georgian architecture, including the iconic Royal Crescent. From here we continue our homeward journey.

Reduction for National Trust members £10

### DOUBLETREE \*\*\*\* **BY HILTON** Swindon

Three nights dinner, bed & breakfast

Set in the Wiltshire countryside, and recently ideally placed for a visit to this beautiful region. Facilities include: Open plan restaurant and kitchen; split level bar/lounge; air conditioning; complimentary toiletries; and WiFi.









Single room supplement £114

### A lovely tour taking in some of the most scenic parts of the Wiltshire area, including a full day at the world famous Longleat House and Safari Park.

THURSDAY We journey to Wiltshire, with a break in the Cotswolds, arriving late afternoon at the hotel.

FRIDAY This morning we head to Marlborough, a charming old market town, with the widest High Street in the UK, and

lined on both sides with characterful old buildings housing an array of high quality shops, antique emporiums and eateries. Following some time at leisure, we make the short transfer to Avebury, part of the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site. See the world's largest prehistoric stone

Tour Ref. P182

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### A WEEKEND IN SCARBOROUGH - FRIDAY 28 JUNE 2024

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Scarborough, with the distinction of being Britain's first resort, is truly the Queen of the Yorkshire Coast, sitting proudly on glorious coastline. This lovely break also includes a Sunday lunch prior to heading home!

**FRIDAY** On our outward journey we visit Helmsley Walled Garden, which sits beneath the ruins of Helmsley Castle. Enjoy the vibrant borders, glasshouses and apple orchards of this beautiful and historic space in the North Yorks Moors. From here we continue to Scarborough for our two night stay. **SATURDAY** This morning we head north following the coast road to Whitby, the famous fishing port which was once the home of Captain James Cook. High above the harbour stands the 7th century Whitby Abbey, the inspiration for Bram Stoker's Dracula. We have time to wander around the

### narrow streets and busy harbour side and to obtain lunch (at own expense). Later we head to picturesque Goathland, well known from the television series 'Heartbeat'. The heritage train station in this bracing moorland village also served as 'Hogsmeade' station from the early Harry Potter films.

**SUNDAY** A free morning to discover the varied attractions in Scarborough. Enjoy the delightful promenade and the attractive Belvedere Gardens, take a stroll to the town centre and shops, or explore the busy little harbour. We then enjoy a Sunday lunch at the hotel, before departing in the afternoon, with fond memories of the weekend.

# **THE RED LEA HOTEL \*\*\***

# Two nights dinner bed and breakfast, and Sunday lunch

Thoughtfully modernised, the hotel is situated on Scarborough's South Cliff, close to the Spa Centre and the beach (accessed by steps). The town centre, historic castle and harbour are a short walk away. Facilities include restaurant; bar; fitness suite, indoor swimming pool; free WiFi and lift to all floors. Please note the entrance has 7 steps to access, and then level access to the bar & restaurant. Porterage is included.

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HOLIDAY INN \*\*\*\*

One night dinner bed & breakfast

A well run hotel, with high standards of

acres of quiet grounds close to the River

Facilities include: Lounge area and Regatta

service and accommodation, set in 11

Thames and the famous film studios.

London-Shepperton

Bar & Brasserie.

### HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW - THURSDAY 4 JULY 2024

Join us as we visit one of the best loved events in the UK gardening calendar, and enjoy fabulous florals, gorgeous gardens and fantastic shopping in an unforgettable setting.

**THURSDAY** On the outward journey we make our way to Royal Learnington Spa, famous for its wide boulevards, Regency architecture and award-winning parks. After some time at leisure, we continue to the hotel for our overnight stay with dinner. **FRIDAY** A prompt departure after breakfast to enable us to maximise our time at the Hampton Court Flower Show. Set in 25 acres of Royal Parkland, the highlights of the show include show gardens, water gardens, floral marquees, garden accessories, and a craft village. We depart mid-afternoon for the journey home.

Single room supplement £40

2 DAYS FROM £225

### HIGHCLERE CASTLE - SUNDAY 14 JULY 2024

The major period drama TV series and 2019 motion picture Downton Abbey, filmed on location at Highclere Castle, have both been huge successes. On this weekend break we visit the beautiful stately castle, as well as travelling through the delightful Cotswolds countryside.

**SUNDAY** Outward journey to Batsford Arboretum in the Cotswolds, offering visitors year round colour and interest. Wander along 60 acres of wild gardens, paths and streams, enjoy stunning views across the Evenlode Valley and discover the beautiful oriental-influenced statues hidden in glades around the grounds. We have time at leisure, before continuing to our hotel in comfortable time for dinner. **MONDAY** After breakfast we board the coach for the transfer to Highclere Castle in Berkshire, the venue for filming Downton Abbey. Highclere is one of England's most beautiful Victorian castles set amidst 1,000 acres of spectacular parkland, and home to the Carnarvon family who have lived here since 1679. We have ample time to view the castle and gardens. From Highclere we commence

Single room supplement £22 **2 DAYS** 

### 2 DAYS FROM £195

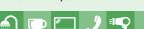
our return journey, with a suitable stop en route. (NB: As a historic building, there is no lift, but photographic albums are provided to enable visitors to view images of the bedrooms on the upper floors, if stairs cannot be negotiated.)

### HOLIDAY INN \*\*\* Basingstoke

### One night dinner bed & breakfast

Modern and contemporary hotel ideally situated for our itinerary. Facilities include: restaurant; bar and WiFi. The hotel does not have a lift.

Tour Ref. P153



### CONSTABLE COUNTRY - MONDAY 1 JULY 2024



We combine beautiful pastoral views and picturesque villages of 'Constable Country', made famous by artist John Constable's many paintings of the area, as well as some delightful East Anglian countryside and peaceful coastline.

**MONDAY** On our outward journey we take a break in Ely, a small city full of charm and beauty, and home to a magnificent cathedral. We continue onwards to the hotel, and enjoy tea/coffee on arrival.

**TUESDAY** This morning we enjoy the knowledge of a guide who joins us aboard the coach and takes us on a tour of the idyllic villages of Constable Country. We include East Bergholt, an unspoilt village and the birthplace of Constable. We see the church at Dedham, and the hamlet of Flatford Mill, both of which were subjects in some of the artist's works. We then continue to the charming seaside town of Felixstowe for an afternoon at leisure. WEDNESDAY We visit the historic market town of Bury St Edmunds, with its striking medieval architecture, and today is market day. We have time to explore the town and obtain lunch (at own expense) before heading to Lavenham, one of our best preserved medieval villages – look out for The Crooked House on High Street!

**THURSDAY** Today our first stop is Woodbridge, considered one of the gems in Suffolk's crown. Enjoy some time exploring this beautiful and vibrant market town on the banks of the River Deben, before we continue to the charming seaside town of Aldeburgh. Although it has expanded over time from an old fishing and shipbuilding centre, fishermen still haul their boats up the steep shingle beach, and sell their catch each morning. The wide High Street has attractive Georgian buildings housing independent shops, galleries and restaurants – the fish and chips here are considered some of the best in the country! We return to the hotel passing The House in the Clouds, one of the country's most iconic follies.

**FRIDAY** A leisurely departure today, and we make the short transfer to Bressingham Steam Gardens. Avid gardener and horticulturalist Alan Bloom combined his passion for plants and gardens with his love of steam, to create a truly unique attraction. Enjoy the impressive collection of steam locomotives, engines and vehicles, hop aboard the carousel, take a narrow-gauge steam ride to best explore the 17 acres of beautifully curated gardens, or visit the indoor recreated 1940s street. From here we continue our homeward journey.

### BEST WESTERN 🖊 \*\*\* BROME GRANGE HOTEL

### Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast

A 16th century former coaching inn located in the village of Brome in Suffolk, set in several acres of grounds, and ideally situated for our itinerary. Facilities include Courtyard Restaurant; Knight's Bar; free WiFi. Rooms are spread over ground and first floor; hotel has a lift though it doesn't serve all rooms. Porterage is included.



### A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE - SUNDAY 7 JULY 2024



We include admission to the Black Country Living Museum, a river cruise, and a ride on the Severn Valley Railway on this nostalgic break.

**SUNDAY** On our outward journey we visit the National Memorial Arboretum, the UK's living and lasting memorial to commemorate and celebrate those who sacrificed so much for our country. We continue to the Mecure Telford Centre. **MONDAY** With a prompt start, we transfer to Kidderminster station for our ride on the Severn Valley Railway to Bridgnorth. There's no better way to see the beauty of the River Severn than via a steam hauled train. From Bridgnorth we meet our coach and

### Tour Ref. P174

continue to Shrewsbury, lying in the heart of the Shropshire countryside, and one of the finest Tudor towns in England. This delightful town with its half-timbered buildings, little independent shops and tea rooms is a pleasure to explore. Later in the day we enjoy a 45 minute cruise on the beautiful River Severn aboard the Sabrina passenger boat, with tea/ coffee and biscuits included, before returning to our hotel.

**TUESDAY** After breakfast we make our way to the Black Country Living Museum. With 26 acres of living history there's plenty to see and do. We depart mid-afternoon for the journey home.

### MERCURE TELFORD \*\*\*\* CENTRE - Telford

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

A modern, stylish hotel, situated in the heart of Shropshire at the foot of the Wrekin leading into the Shropshire Hills (AONB) and perfectly located for our itinerary. Facilities include: Ironmasters restaurant; bar; leisure facilities and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift, and porterage is included.



### HOUSES & GARDENS OF THE COTSWOLDS - THURSDAY 18 JULY 2024



### On this lovely break we visit some of the area's most striking properties, as well as travelling through the picturesque Cotswolds countryside.

**THURSDAY** Outward journey with a stop in Moreton-in-Marsh, before heading onwards to Sezincote, known as "India in the Cotswolds". A 200-year-old Mogul Indian palace, set in a romantic landscape of temples, grottoes, waterfalls and canals reminiscent of the Taj Mahal. We enjoy a guided tour of the house, followed by time at leisure to explore the delightful gardens. (NB: much of the garden could prove difficult for those with mobility issues, although there are areas still accessible. The upstairs portion of the house tour involves climbing stairs.)

**FRIDAY** We spend the morning at Sudeley Castle & Gardens, nestled in the Cotswolds

Hills. Explore the exhibitions telling the story of Sudeley's royal past, Castle rooms, romantic ruins, award-winning gardens and 1000 years of fascinating history. Sudeley is the only privately owned home in England to have a Queen (Katherine Parr, Henry VIII's sixth and last wife) buried within the grounds. We then spend an afternoon at leisure in Cheltenham, the most complete Regency town in Britain.

**SATURDAY** A day of southern Cotswolds exploration commences with our knowledgeable Blue Badge Guide aboard the coach. Travelling via Cheltenham, we head to Cirencester, capital of the Cotswolds, stopping for a break in this lovely market town, full of tastefully restored courtyards, alleyways and lovely old streets to explore. Onwards to Tetbury for another break. This former wool town is home to an impressive array of architectural gems as well as being known for its antique shops and royal connections. We return to the hotel via Wotton-under-Edge, taking a scenic route looking across the River Severn and Severn Plain.

**SUNDAY** We depart the hotel and visit Spetchley Park Gardens, a garden for all tastes containing one of the biggest private collections of plant varieties outside the major botanical gardens. Spetchley is not a formal paradise of neatly manicured lawns or beds but rather a wondrous display of plants, shrubs and trees woven into a garden of many rooms and vistas. From here we continue our homeward journey.

### HOLIDAY INN

Gloucester-Cheltenham

### Three nights dinner bed & breakfast

A modern, smart hotel conveniently situated for our itinerary. Facilities include: restaurant; bar & lounge; leisure facilities with indoor pool and whirlpool; and WiFi. Rooms are over two floors; no lift.

Tour Ref. P148



### MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL CRUISE & LIVERPOOL - TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024



# Join us on a fascinating journey through some of North West England's industrial heartland, via the wide open spaces of the Mersey.

**TUESDAY** Outward journey to Liverpool with time at leisure, before our late afternoon check in at the hotel. Whether you visit one of the cathedrals, the Royal Albert Dock complex, the Beatles Story, or indulge in some first class retail therapy, you'll be spoilt for choice in this vibrant, diverse city full of attractions.

**WEDNESDAY** Following breakfast, we board the Mersey Ferries ship at Liverpool Pier Head

for a fascinating 5-6 hour leisurely cruise along the Manchester Ship Canal to Latchford Lock, returning to Liverpool Pier Head. The round trip, includes live commentary from a Blue Badge Guide and takes in some spectacular scenery as we journey through one of Britain's most significant waterways. Refreshments and snacks are available to purchase on board. Upon our return to Liverpool we rejoin the coach and commence our homeward journey.

### CROWNE PLAZA \*\*\*\* LIVERPOOL JOHN LENNON AIRPORT Liverpool

One night dinner bed & breakfast

One of Liverpool's premier luxury hotels, 7 miles from the centre. This iconic hotel full of historic character, offers elegant accommodation with a touch of Art Deco. Facilities include Starways restaurant, lounge & bar; and WiFi



### SCARBOROUGH & THE NORTH YORKS MOORS - THURSDAY 1 AUGUST 2024



Scarborough, with the distinction of being Britain's first resort, is truly the Queen of the Yorkshire Coast, sitting proudly on glorious coastline. We also enjoy some stunning scenery with a ride on the North Yorks Moors Railway.

**THURSDAY** On our outward journey we take a break in the beautiful market town of Beverley, before continuing to Scarborough, for our four night stay.

**FRIDAY** We journey to Pickering, where we board the North York Moors Railway – sit back, relax and enjoy a nostalgic ride through

the enchanting countryside before alighting at Goathland, well known from the television series 'Heartbeat'. The heritage train station in this bracing moorland village also served as 'Hogsmeade' station from the early Harry Potter films. (N.B. there is a 5 minute walk to the coach park, set on a gradual incline.) We then head to Whitby for an afternoon at leisure.

# **SATURDAY** A free day to discover the varied attractions in Scarborough. Enjoy the delightful promenade and the attractive Belvedere Gardens, take a stroll to the town centre and shops, or explore the busy little harbour.

**SUNDAY** An excursion to York, where we first enjoy a scenic river cruise. Follow in the wake of the Romans and Vikings, taking in the story of York from a different perspective as you escape the hustle and bustle of the city. Following this, enjoy some time at leisure to explore this compact city on foot.

**MONDAY** We commence our return journey via the coast, including stops at Filey & Bridlington en route.

### **ESPLANADE HOTEL** Scarborough

# Four nights dinner bed and breakfast, nightly entertainment

With picture-postcard views and charming Victorian elegance this is the perfect place to enjoy a traditional seaside holiday. Overlooking the sweeping sands of the South Bay, it is approx. a 10-15 minute walk to the centre.

Facilities include Landau Restaurant; Parlour Bar; Belmont Suite. There are no ground floor rooms, but there is a lift to all floors. There are stairs in the hotel, so level access cannot be guaranteed throughout. Porterage is included.



### Tour Ref. P198

# KYNREN – AN EPIC TALE! - FRIDAY 2 AUGUST 2024



# Arguably the UK's most spectacular open-air live action show; Kynren is an epic tale of England, taking you on a spellbinding journey through British history.

**FRIDAY** Outward journey to Knaresborough, with its warren of medieval streets and stone staircases that weave their way up and down the hill. The town centre is perched on the cliffs above the River Nidd and the imposing railway viaduct stretches across the Nidd Gorge. After a break here we continue to the hotel, for our two night stay.

**SATURDAY** A day at leisure in Darlington, where today is market day. Perhaps take a stroll

around Darlington's Victorian South Park, a 91-acre haven in the heart of the market town. We enjoy an early dinner at the hotel, prior to the highlight of our break, as we transfer to Bishop Auckland where, once darkness has fallen, and against the backdrop of Auckland Castle, the 90-minute show takes place. On a landscaped open air space equivalent to five football pitches with a full size lake at its centre, Kynren immerses you in 2,000 years of history, with a movie-like, fast paced and action packed journey from Roman times to the Second World War. As the story unfolds you'll be treated to expert choreography, combat, dance and dazzling pyrotechnics. We return to the hotel late evening.

**NB:** Warm clothing is recommended for this outdoor event, and due to its location there will be some walking involved to access the site, and seating is tiered therefore may not be suitable for those with mobility issues.

**SUNDAY** We depart the hotel and commence our homeward journey, taking a break en route in the historic town of Ripon, with its imposing Gothic cathedral.

### MERCURE \*\*\*\* DARLINGTON KINGS HOTEL Darlington

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

Located in the heart of Darlington, the hotel is arguably one of the town's most iconic buildings dating back to Victorian times, and was fully refurbished in 2012. Facilities include King's Grill & bar; and WiFi. Hotel has a lift.



### **DELIGHTS OF NORTH DEVON - MONDAY 5 AUGUST 2024**



Limited single rooms with no supplement

**5 DAYS FROM £509** 

### North Devon has a lot to offer; award-winning coastline, spectacular views, verdant valleys and historic harbours. From our delightful base in Bideford we are ideally situated to get a great insight of everything the area has to offer.

MONDAY We journey south to North Devon, making suitable stops en route.

**TUESDAY** We make the short transfer into Bideford for a morning of exploration; take a stroll along the quay and admire the expansive waterfront, or perhaps wander through the lanes lined with guirky shops. From here we continue to RHS Tapeley Park. The walled kitchen garden is a delight with its rare greenhouse originally built in the early 1930s. Admire the Italian garden with its semitropical and tender plants, or perhaps walk down through the wood to the lake. We round off the day with a visit to nearby Appledore, a

quaint fishing village with an attractive maze of winding cobbled streets lined with the prettiest of pastel coloured houses.

WEDNESDAY Our first visit of today is to Quince Honey Farm. Wander around the Nectar Gardens, see millions of bees up close, visit the Honey Factory and get a glimpse behind the scenes at the honey production areas. We continue to Ilfracombe for leisure time in this delightful resort, where the rich Victorian tradition is evident in the architecture of many of the town's buildings. On a clear day you can see Lundy Island and the Gower Peninsula.

THURSDAY A morning visit to Arlington Court & the National Trust Carriage Museum. This unexpected jewel on the edge of Exmoor, is a complete family estate held by the Chichester family for over 500 years, comprising an intriguing Regency house and impressive collection of national significant horse-drawn vehicles, set in a picturesque garden. In the afternoon we continue to Lynton, set amongst the spectacular scenery of an area known as England's Little Switzerland. Enjoy time at leisure to explore this small Victorian town with its selection of shops, tea-rooms and cafes.

FRIDAY We commence our journey home, with suitable stops en route.

Reduction for National Trust members £12

### DURRANT HOUSE \*\*\* **HOTEL - Bideford**

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast

Bideford's largest 3 star hotel, located on the outskirts of town. The hotel enjoys superb views across North Devon's Taw Estuary towards Instow beach. Facilities include The Olive Tree Restaurant; Appledore Bar; R&R Spa (charges apply); and complimentary WiFi. Hotel has a lift.

Tour Ref. P192



### SHREWSBURY FLOWER SHOW - FRIDAY 9 AUGUST 2024



### A lovely short break for all green-fingered enthusiasts!

**FRIDAY** On our outward journey we visit the National Memorial Arboretum, the UK's living and lasting memorial to commemorate and celebrate those who sacrificed so much for our country. We continue to the hotel for our overnight stay.

SATURDAY After breakfast we travel to Shrewsbury Flower Show. As one of the

country's premier flower show events. it attracts top exhibitors from all over the country. Featuring floral displays, TV personalities, celebrity chefs, live music and spectacular arena acts, along with numerous craft and food stalls which offer shopping opportunities, it's a great day out! We depart mid-afternoon for our homeward journey.

### MERCURE TELFORD \*\*\*\* **CENTRE -** Telford

### One night dinner bed & breakfast

A modern, stylish hotel situated in the heart of Shropshire at the foot of the Wrekin leading into the Shropshire Hills (AONB) and perfectly located for our itinerary. Facilities include Ironmasters restaurant; bar; leisure facilities and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift, and porterage is included.



### ENGLAND

### BLACKPOOL SUMMER SIZZLER - FRIDAY 16 AUGUST 2024

Tour Ref. P157



Enjoy a summer break in one of the UK's most iconic seaside resorts. With no set itinerary or planned excursions, you are completely free to relax and unwind as you explore the delights of Blackpool daily, on your own terms. You also have the choice of two hotels, meaning you can tailor-make your perfect holiday. Come alone, as a couple or with the whole family – we have a package to suit everyone!

### **Royal Seabank Hotel**

Three nights dinner bed & breakfast, nightly cabaret entertainment

This popular hotel is ideally situated on Central Promenade, on the iconic Golden Mile. Just a short walk to any of the major attractions, and with transport links outside to travel further afield, this is a prime spot for exploring Blackpool. Guests should be able to manage some steps within the hotel.

### 4 DAYS FROM £339 CHILD FROM £225

Limited single rooms with no supplement

### **Royal Boston Hotel**

Three nights dinner bed & breakfast and more! Also includes: nightly cabaret entertainment, drinks package\* between 1pm-10pm Sat/Sun, and from 3pm on arrival day, travel pass for tram/local buses, evening meals, game of bingo each night. \*Ask staff for more details.

Situated on Queens' Promenade, this is a firm favourite for those seeking a fun filled holiday, just a short tram or bus ride away from the major attractions. Guests should be able to manage some steps within the hotel.

### 4 DAYS FROM £389 CHILD FROM £249

Limited single rooms with no supplement



Tour Ref. P157



Another great value break in Blackpool! With no set itinerary or planned excursions, you are completely free to relax and unwind as you explore the delights of Blackpool daily, on your own terms. The Winter Warmer break also means you have the added bonus of enjoying the world-famous Blackpool Illuminations when the sun sets, and there will be a Christmas style dinner on one evening too!

### **Royal Seabank Hotel**

Three nights dinner bed & breakfast, nightly cabaret entertainment

This popular hotel is ideally situated on Central Promenade, on the iconic Golden Mile. Just a short walk to any of the major attractions, and with transport links outside to travel further afield, this is a prime spot for exploring Blackpool. Guests should be able to manage some steps within the hotel.

### 4 DAYS FROM £289

Limited single rooms with no supplement

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Please note: Various family rooms subject to availability. No coach-based day excursions are included on any Blackpool tour, and all public transport is used at guests' own expense (unless staying at the Royal Boston Hotel). Home collection service is not available on these breaks. The coach will return to Blackpool to collect guests mid afternoon on the departure day.

### EXMOUTH - MONDAY 12 AUGUST 2024



Exmouth offers a delightful mixture of immaculate sands, lovely gardens and a busy harbour. The vibrant town centre boasts a wide range of shops, and the flat three-mile promenade is perfect for an afternoon stroll through the bustling resort.

**MONDAY** Outward journey to Exmouth, arriving in comfortable time for dinner.

**TUESDAY** We call first at Teignmouth, a stunning coastal resort boasting historic Georgian buildings, a lovely high street and long sandy beaches. The river beach is full of boats and has a charming atmosphere making it the perfect place for a gentle stroll. Following time at leisure here we head to Dawlish, a traditional seaside town, centred around The Lawn and Brook, which is home to the famous black swans.

**WEDNESDAY** To Sidmouth first, a charming Regency town on the Jurassic Coast, for a morning at leisure. We then make the short transfer to Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, Devon's most magnificent botanical gardens. The superbly landscaped park includes historic glass houses and a countryside museum. A cream tea will also be included during our visit.

**THURSDAY** A day at leisure in our resort, to relax at the hotel, or to seek out the diverse selection of shops, places to eat and things to do - perhaps take the land train for a tour of the town, which stops outside the hotel (charges apply).

**FRIDAY** We depart after breakfast and commence our homeward journey.

### ASHTON COURT HOTEL - Exmouth

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment

A striking Grade II listed building, enjoying magnificent views of the Exe estuary and the beautiful coastline, with attractive gardens overlooking the Esplanade. The seafront and town's amenities are within easy walking distance. Facilities include: restaurant; lounge; ballroom; bar; and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift, however there are steps down from the Lounge to the Bar, and steps into the main entrance, therefore it may not be suitable for those with mobility issues.

### J 🕂 🗐

### Tour Ref. P165



One of the world's most famous authors spent most of her life in the historic and beautiful county of Hampshire, where you will find picturesque market towns, ancient forests and villages just waiting to be explored.

**MONDAY** We travel to Basingstoke taking a lunchtime break in the old market town of Banbury en route.

**TUESDAY** An excursion to Winchester. The many museums, art galleries, medieval streets and tranquil green spaces make Winchester perfect for strolling and soaking up the historic atmosphere. We include a 90 minute guided walking tour of Winchester, before enjoying time at leisure. Perhaps visit the 11th century Winchester cathedral (at own expense) – the resting place of Jane Austen.

**WEDNESDAY** We travel to New Alresford and the Mid Hants Railway Watercress Line where we board the train for a nostalgic journey to Alton. Time for a lunch break (at own expense), before rejoining the coach for the short transfer to Chawton House. Jane Austen's charming red brick 17th century family home is now a museum and houses an extensive collection of her works and memorabilia. We also include a cream tea during this visit.

**THURSDAY** We visit the beautiful New Forest. Trips here were a favourite day out for the Austen family. They would often travel by boat from Buckler's Hard up river to the village of Beaulieu. We have time here to explore Buckler's Hard museum, the historic village and waterfront, and also include a tranquil 30 minute river cruise on the River Beaulieu.

**FRIDAY** We depart after breakfast to commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### HAMPSHIRE COURT \*\*\*\* HOTEL - Basingstoke

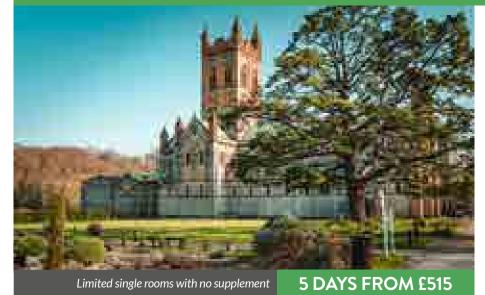
### Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast

This popular hotel is tucked away in a residential area of Chineham, and built around a central courtyard. Facilities include: Hampshire Restaurant; Time Out Lounge & Bar; Spa & Health Club; and free WiFi throughout the hotel. The hotel has a lift.



### 32 BOOK ONLINE: WWW.PCCOACHES.CO.UK / E: holidays@pccoaches.co.uk

### SOUTH DEVON EXPLORER - MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2024



Situated in one of the most beautiful bays in England, surrounded by stunning scenery and coastline, Paignton is one of Devon's most popular seaside resorts. Most of the town is compact and level, and life revolves around the seafront and Paignton Green.

MONDAY Outward journey to Paignton, where we enjoy arrival tea/coffee at the hotel.

**TUESDAY** Today we explore Dartmoor National Park with the benefit of a knowledgeable and entertaining local guide. On our tour we will discover open moorlands, deep

river valleys, a rich history and perhaps, if we're very lucky, some rare wildlife.

WEDNESDAY Our first destination of the day is Buckfast Abbey, an inspirational space home to a community of Benedictine Monks. We then make the short transfer into Buckfastleigh for some time at leisure in the vibrant lively town, followed by a journey on the South Devon Railway, as the heritage steam train gently meanders alongside the river Dart through glorious Devon scenery, to Totnes. After some time in this captivating market town, we return to the hotel.

THURSDAY A morning visit to Powderham Castle, which lies in a unique setting on the banks of the River Exe. On this enchanting visit you will discover nearly 600 years of history within the walls of one of England's oldest family homes, and our guided tour will reveal lavish rooms, secrets of the castle, and a glimpse of life below stairs. We return to Paignton for an afternoon at leisure.

FRIDAY Departing after breakfast we begin our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

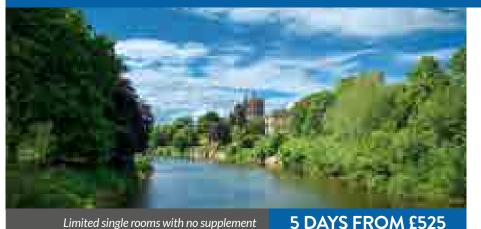
### QUEENS HOTEL 🖊 ★ ★ Paignton

### Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, regular entertainment

This popular hotel enjoys a level position just 200 yards from the town centre and seafront, offering a high level of hospitality and comfort. Facilities include: Spacious restaurant; games room; bar & entertainments lounge with dance floor; and WiFi. Porterage is included.



### WYE VALLEY & THE FOREST OF DEAN - MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2024



### Experience this magical borderland on a scenic river cruise, a relaxing train ride and visits to historic towns.

MONDAY Outward journey to Coleford in the Royal Forest of Dean, with a suitable stop en route.

TUESDAY We cross the border into Wales to the Georgian market town of Monmouth, famous for its unique 13th century Monnow Bridge. We have some time to explore this busy market town with some fine Tudor and Georgian buildings and renowned as the birthplace of King Henry V in 1387. We later return to England for a relaxing cruise along the River Wye from Symonds Yat West, on one of the most spectacular stretches of the Wye Valley.

WEDNESDAY Enjoy the twists and turns of the Wye Valley, stopping for a photo opportunity at the magnificent ruins of Tintern Abbey. We then continue to the historic walled border town of Chepstow, on the banks of the River Wye, dominated by the oldest surviving stone castle in Britain, for some time at leisure. You'll find plenty of tempting independent boutiques amid the handsome Georgian and Victorian buildings in the centre of town. Final stop of the day is back to the Royal Forest of Dean, for a relaxing round trip on the Dean Forest Railway.

Tour Ref. P186

THURSDAY A morning in Hereford, where we are accompanied by our knowledgeable Blue Badge Guide for a walking tour, highlighting the fascinating past and present of the city. Following this we also visit Hereford Cathedral for a guided tour, as we explore the rich history, art and treasures contained within. We then enjoy time at leisure in nearby Ross on Wye, a characterful market town, towering above the River Wye, offering some stunning scenery and vistas.

FRIDAY We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### BELLS HOTEL & \*\*\* **COUNTRY CLUB** Coleford

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, three

Nestled in the Forest of Dean. with spectacular views of the surrounding countryside, this hotel and leisure complex offers golf, and a bowling green. Facilities include restaurant; bar and WiFi. The hotel has no lift, but has a large number of ground floor rooms, subject to availability. Porterage is included.



### FALMOUTH & THE CORNISH RIVIERA - SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2024



Falmouth has the third largest natural harbour in the world, and this historic town is famous for its fascinating maritime heritage, enchanting narrow streets and superb sandy beaches.

**SATURDAY** We drive to Falmouth, making convenient stops along the way.

**SUNDAY** We spend the morning at the 26 acre sub-tropical paradise of Trebah Garden, with its stunning coastal backdrop. Please be aware that there are sloping paths, relatively steep in places, and sensible footwear is recommended. We then continue to Truro, where centre stage is the beautiful cathedral surrounded by a maze of intriguing side streets.

**MONDAY** We travel first to Penzance, the largest town on the Cornish Riviera, for a short stop. Onwards to the ancient market town of Marazion, set against the backdrop of the legendary St Michael's Mount. Explore the town's winding streets filled with quaint little gift shops, and fisherman's cottages. Final stop of the day is Porthleven, a picturesque fishing village with a friendly atmosphere, full of little shops and galleries.

**TUESDAY** A day at leisure in Falmouth to perhaps explore the bustling harbour or visit the National Maritime Museum (cost not included).

**WEDNESDAY** We drive to St Erth where we board the local train for the short journey to St lves. Here we discover one of Cornwall's best loved resorts with its winding alleyways, historic harbour and quaint fishermen's cottages. A mecca for artists, the town is home to the Tate St lves.

**THURSDAY** We commence our journey homeward, with suitable stops en route.

### MEMBLY HALL \*\*\* HOTEL - Falmouth

### Five nights dinner bed & breakfast

Owned by the Andrew family for over sixty years, Membly Hall offers an intimate and friendly atmosphere whilst enjoying a superb seafront position on Falmouth Bay. Facilities include: Covered sun lounge; sauna (charges apply); hot tub; table tennis & indoor short mat bowls available; restaurant; bar; lounge; large dance floor and regular entertainment. Porterage is included.



### HOUSES & GARDENS OF KENT - MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2024



A wonderful holiday to the Garden of England, where we discover some of the abundant delights of Kent, with a bumper selection of some of the best properties and gardens to visit in this beautiful area.

**MONDAY** On our outward journey we visit Audley End House & Gardens. Here you can immerse yourself in the life of a grand Jacobean mansion house and explore the stables, gardens and grounds. From here we continue to the hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** This morning we visit Great Dixter House and Gardens, one of the most famous and provocative gardens of the 20th century and home to the late Christopher Lloyd, a much loved eccentric plantsman and writer. On in the afternoon to Tenterden, "Jewel of the Weald", and one of the most charming towns in the South East with its unique mix of fascinating history and heritage, where Georgian buildings share the streets with tall Victorian houses and tiny cottages. WEDNESDAY A morning excursion to Great Comp Garden, one of the finest gardens to visit in Kent. This quirky garden showcases seven acres of beautiful and rare plants, an Italian Garden, romantic ruins and enchanting woodland. Onwards for an afternoon at leisure in Rochester, where centuries of history and heritage are just awaiting discovery in the place that was the childhood home of novelist Charles Dickens.

**THURSDAY** This morning we visit Rye. Once surrounded by sea, this fortified hilltop town is now home to the local fishing fleet. Here you will have time to explore the labyrinth of cobbled lanes lined with fine medieval houses. On in the afternoon to visit Sissinghurst Castle Garden. Sitting within the ruin of a great Elizabethan house. Explore the garden 'rooms' and rich herbaceous borders, and also the wider estate, which includes a vegetable

Tour Ref. P169

garden and lakes. **FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and travel to Lullingstone Castle & The World Garden. Set within 120 acres of beautiful Kent countryside, it is one of England's oldest family estates, dating back to the time of Domesday. The Manor House and Gatehouse overlook a stunning 15-acre lake, while The World Garden

designed as a miniature world map with plants located in their correct miniature native land masses are a sight to behold. We commence our homeward journey in the afternoon.

Reduction for English Heritage members £16 Reduction for National Trust members £14

### ASHFORD \*\*\*\* INTERNATIONAL HOTEL Ashford

### Four nights dinner bed & breakfast

Tucked away in idyllic Kent, this hotel boasts comfortable bedrooms and is ideally located for our itinerary. Facilities include brasserie style restaurant Horizon; Quench bar; leisure and spa facilities comprising indoor pool, jacuzzi, sauna, and steam room. The hotel has a lift.



### HIDDEN GEMS OF YORKSHIRE - WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2024



### A lovely short break taking in some of Yorkshire's lesser known gems; an arboretum, a beautiful walled garden, and ending with a lovely excursion to York with a cruise.

WEDNESDAY On our outward journey we visit Helmsley Walled Garden, which sits beneath the ruins of Helmsley Castle. Enjoy the vibrant borders, glasshouses and apple orchards of this beautiful and historic space in the North Yorks

Moors. From here, we transfer to Huby, near York for our two night stay.

**THURSDAY** Today we visit Thorp Perrow Arboretum, in the Yorkshire Dales. Home

to some of the largest and rarest trees and shrubs in the country, this is widely regarded as the most important arboretum in the North of England. In addition, there is also the birds of prey and mammal centre to visit. (Sensible, weather appropriate footwear is recommended.) Onwards to Ripon, a cathedral city steeped in history and home to magnificent buildings and rich cultural heritage.

FRIDAY We depart the hotel and journey to York, where we first enjoy a scenic river cruise. Follow in the wake of the Romans and Vikings, taking in the story of York from a different perspective as you escape the hustle and bustle of the city. Following this, enjoy some time at leisure to explore this compact city on foot, before we depart mid afternoon and commence our homeward journey.

### BURN HALL HOTEL \*\*\* Huby near York

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

A Victorian manor house hotel offering comfortable stylish accommodation in the heart of North Yorkshire. Facilities include: Terrace and beer garden; Richardson's restaurant and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.



# RHS MALVERN AUTUMN FESTIVAL - FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2024 Tour Ref. P115 Single room supplement £30

A celebration of food and gardening held at the Three Counties Showground, Malvern. The last big RHS Flower Show of 2024 is host to impressive displays from UK nurseries. Garden and food lovers alike will find everything they need to bring gardens to life, and vegetables to the kitchen table.

FRIDAY Outward journey to Spetchley Park Gardens, containing one of the biggest private collections of plant varieties outside the major botanical gardens. Spetchley is not a formal paradise of neatly manicured lawns or beds but rather a wondrous display of plants, shrubs and trees woven into a garden of many rooms and vistas. We then continue to the hotel for dinner and overnight accommodation.

SATURDAY An early breakfast and prompt departure to the Three Counties Showground and the Malvern Autumn Show, where you'll find a wealth of horticultural displays, entertainment and demonstrations. We allow plenty of time for you to sample the delights of the show, before departing late afternoon for the journey home.

**2 DAYS FROM £199** 

### **HOLIDAY INN** Gloucester-Cheltenham

One night dinner, bed & breakfast

A modern, smart hotel conveniently situated for our itinerary. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar & lounge; leisure facilities with indoor pool, and whirlpool; and WiFi. Rooms are over two floors; no lift.



### **NOSTALGIC NORFOLK - SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER 2024**

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# A lovely weekend break providing a taste of what's on offer in this beautiful corner of England, brimming with history and simple pleasures.

**SATURDAY** On our outward journey we make our way to Langham Glass. Experience a fascinating live glassmaking demonstration with informative commentary, and see the experts use age-old techniques to create the finest handmade crystal. From here we continue to the hotel for our two night stay. **SUNDAY** Our first visit today is to the

attractive Georgian town of Holt for some free time, before boarding the North Norfolk

# EASTBOURNE - MONDAY 7 OCTOBER 2024



An elegant and timeless award winning resort where you'll find superb level promenades, the popular Victorian Pier, great shopping, and the beautifully preserved 1930's Bandstand.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with a suitable stop en route.

**TUESDAY** In the morning we visit the village of Alfriston, reputed to be one of England's most beautiful villages, with its medieval narrow, twisting High Street containing a surprising wealth and variety of shops. Later we head to the resort of Brighton, where there will be time to meander through the bohemian back streets, and enjoy a stroll along the legendary seafront and pier. We follow the coast back to the hotel and enjoy breathtaking views, passing Newhaven and Beachy Head Lighthouse.

**WEDNESDAY** Hastings Old Town is our first stop today, for some time to explore this timeless bohemian seaside town tucked between two cliffs, with its eclectic muddle of colourful Railway and making the short journey through glorious countryside to Sheringham, a rare example of a seaside town hardly changed from a century ago. Our final stop is Felbrigg Hall, where there are more than 400 years of family stories to discover in the Hall, as well as a working walled garden and dove house, orangery, lake and miles of estate walks.

**MONDAY** After breakfast, we head into Norwich, and enjoy an entertaining and informative two hour walking tour of this city of heritage and culture, with its ancient and beautiful buildings lining the narrow cobbled streets and lanes. We then have some further time at leisure here, before joining the coach in the afternoon and commencing our journey home

Reduction for National Trust Members £10

### MERCURE NORWICH ★★★★ Norwich

### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

On the outskirts of Norwich, just a short drive from the city centre. Bedrooms are over two levels, including the ground floor. Facilities include: The Brasserie; The Club Bar; and WiFi. There is no lift, ground floor rooms available on request and subject to availability.



### Tour Ref. P143

houses, shops and pubs, and unique fishing quarter. Following time at leisure here, we head to Carr Taylor Vineyard in the afternoon. The visit includes a tour and talk on the vineyard and wines, a tutored wine tasting with a guide, and homemade cake with tea and coffee.

**THURSDAY** A morning visit to the 300-acre Herstmonceux Castle Estate, set within the beautiful East Sussex countryside. It features a stunning 15th century moated castle that leads to themed and formal gardens, woodland trails, lakes, and meadows. We return in the afternoon for some time at leisure in Eastbourne. Perhaps enjoy a stroll along the pier and by the delightful promenade gardens, or visit the historic Wish Tower.

**FRIDAY** We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### **LANGHAM HOTEL \*\*\*\*** *Eastbourne*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, 2 nights entertainment

A family run hotel with an excellent location on the seafront of Eastbourne looking across the bay, and only a short walk to the pier, town and amenities. Facilities include: Langham Restaurant & Conservatory; Langhams Bar; and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.



# LIVERPOOL CITY BREAK - SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER 2024



## An intriguing and vibrant destination with world class architecture, and more listed buildings than any UK city outside of London. Enjoy some of the most famous sights, with both a Mersey cruise, and open top bus tour!

SUNDAY Outward journey to Liverpool, arriving early afternoon, enabling you to enjoy some free time in the city.

**MONDAY** Experience Liverpool from both water and land today! We commence with a 50-minute River Explorer Cruise, offering stunning views of Liverpool's skyline and the River Mersey, followed by a guided tour on

Liverpool's City Explorer open top bus. The route provides the opportunity to see some of the city's most famous landmarks, including the Royal Albert Dock, The Cavern Quarter and the Chinese Arch. You are then free to explore the city at your leisure for the remainder of the day. With two cathedrals, art galleries in the city centre, and near the hotel - the Albert Dock and the Beatles Story, you'll not be short of

inspiration. The shopping in Liverpool is world class too, and shoppers will be spoilt for choice between gleaming new city centre shopping centres, boutique arcades and bohemian streets.

TUESDAY More time at leisure in Liverpool. The choice of museums is second to none, with the landmark Museum of Liverpool, offering diverse exhibits, the World Museum Liverpool, one of Britain's finest, and the thoughtprovoking International Slavery Museum all offering free admission. We commence our homeward journey mid-afternoon.

Please note: the free to enter 'National Museums Liverpool' are open Tuesday-Sunday. Be sure to plan your own itinerary accordingly.

## PULLMAN HOTEL \*\*\*\* Liverpool

#### Two nights bed & full English breakfast

A stylish hotel located by Kings Dock on Liverpool's iconic waterfront, just a fiveminute walk from the vibrant Albert Dock. and close to tourist attractions. Facilities include: Pullman Liverpool Restaurant; Pullman Bar & Lounge and complimentary WiFi.



## AUTUMN GLORY IN THE NORTH YORK MOORS - WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2024 Tour Ref. P175



Limited single rooms with no supplement

**3 DAYS FROM £339** 

## A tour inspired by the tranquil and picturesque North Yorkshire Moors, timed to enjoy the spectacular riot of autumnal colours.

WEDNESDAY We journey to the bustling and vibrant market town of Pickering, where we have time at leisure to explore. From here, we board the North York Moors Railway - sit back, relax and enjoy a nostalgic ride through the enchanting countryside before alighting at Whitby and continuing to the hotel in time for dinner.

THURSDAY Our first stop is a visit to Goathland, well known from the television series 'Heartbeat'. The heritage train station in this bracing moorland village also served as 'Hogsmeade' station from the early Harry Potter films. We then make the short transfer to Whitby, for a visit to The Endeavour Experience, the only life size replica of Captain Cook's HM Bark Endeavour in the northern hemisphere. A fish and chip lunch, including tea, bread and butter will be included on board. (Please note that access is via gangplank and steps connecting each deck.)

Enjoy time at leisure in Whitby before we return to the hotel.

FRIDAY Today we visit Thorp Perrow Arboretum, in the Yorkshire Dales. Home to some of the largest and rarest trees and shrubs in the country, this is widely regarded as the most important arboretum in the North of England. Enjoy the dazzling array of colour as you meander through the trails. In addition, there is also the birds of prey and mammal centre to visit. (Sensible, weather appropriate footwear is recommended.) From here we continue our journey home.

## RAVEN HALL HOTEL 🖊 📩 Ravenscar

#### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

Raven Hall Country House Hotel in Ravenscar is dramatically situated 600 feet above sea level, overlooking Robin Hood's Bay in the North Yorkshire Moors National Park. Facilities include: Panorama Restaurant and Bar; oak panelled lounge with open fire; Bay View Lounge; 100 acres of award winning grounds; 9 hole golf course; games room; sauna; croquet lawn; putting green; bowls; and tennis courts. Lift serves second floor only. Porterage is included.



## LOOE AND CAPTIVATING CORNWALL - THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER 2024



5 DAYS FROM £499

The fascination with Cornwall is legendary, and from our base in the pretty seaside town of Looe, we explore picturesque fishing villages and towns, and also include a visit to Bodmin Jail.

**THURSDAY** We drive to the West Country, making suitable comfort stops en route, and enjoy a cream tea on arrival at the hotel.

FRIDAY We journey west to Charlestown, with its majestic tall ships, a charming Grade II listed harbour and well known as a Poldark filming location, for some time at leisure. On in the afternoon to Mevagissey, a traditional Cornish fishing village, where you can wander the narrow alleyways, browse gift shops and art galleries, perhaps try the local ale in one of the many pubs, or of course, sample some fish & chips!

SATURDAY We begin the day in the picture postcard village of Polperro, a quaint old Cornish fishing village whose narrow streets and pretty cottages remain undeniably attractive, and where the streets are so narrow they are banned to cars, making it an ideal place to explore on foot. We then return to Looe for an afternoon at leisure. Explore its rich history including the famous Looe Bridge that connects East Looe to West Looe, and cobbled streets lined with independent boutiques and restaurants.

**SUNDAY** A visit to Bodmin Jail this morning, for a guided tour. Built in 1779, the jail has played an important role in Cornwall's history, and this immersive attraction allows you to delve into an intriguing hidden history. We continue to Padstow in the afternoon. Enjoy some leisure time here in one of Cornwall's oldest harbour towns, with its picturesque harbour and medieval buildings, including the 16th century courthouse of Sir Walter Raleigh.

**MONDAY** We travel home with suitable stops en route.

### PORTBYHAN HOTEL Looe

#### Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, and two nights entertainment

The hotel, which has undergone a total refurbishment over the past few years is situated in an unrivalled position right in the heart of Looe, so guests can enjoy panoramic views of the vibrant harbour with only a short stroll into Looe town centre. Facilities include: Restaurant; Portside Brasserie & Terrace; and free WiFi. There are no ground floor rooms, but the hotel has a lift. Porterage is included.



#### Tour Ref. P195

# **3 DAYS FROM £305** Single room supplement £76

STEAM INTO AUTUMN - THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2024

We visit the stunning Westonbirt Arboretum, Lacock Abbey and Village, and also STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway, as we celebrate the spectacular colours of autumn.

**THURSDAY** We travel through the beautiful Cotswolds making suitable stops en route.

FRIDAY Today we visit Lacock Village in rural Wiltshire, famous for its picturesque streets

and as a TV and film location. Experience the atmosphere in the medieval rooms of the Abbey, visit the Fox Talbot Museum, to explore the history of photography, and take a wander through the grounds and historic streets. In the afternoon we return to Swindon for our visit to STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway, where, through a series of reconstructions, the history is brought to life with displays and famous GWR locomotives.

**SATURDAY** After breakfast we make our way to Westonbirt Arboretum. Here we find one of the finest collections of temperate trees and shrubs in the world, and have time to admire the internationally renowned autumnal display before commencing our homeward journey.

Reduction for National Trust members £15

## DOUBLETREE \*\*\* **BY HILTON -** Swindon

#### Two nights dinner, bed & breakfast

Set in the Wiltshire countryside. and recently refurbished to a high standard, this hotel is ideally placed for a visit to this beautiful region. Facilities include: Open plan restaurant and kitchen; split level bar/lounge; air conditioning; complimentary toiletries; and WiFi.



# MALVERN & THE THREE COUNTIES EXPLORER - SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER 2024



# From our lovely base in Malvern, we take in the highlights of three beautiful counties with our Blue Badge Guide, and visit a National Trust property on this idyllic short break.

**SUNDAY** This morning we visit Hanbury Hall in the heart of Worcestershire. The house, featuring original wall-paintings by Sir James Thornhill and the garden, originally used as a backdrop for summer parties, both offer a glimpse into life at the turn of the 18th century. The original formal gardens, designed by George London, have been faithfully recreated, with orangery, orchards and walled garden. From here we continue to the hotel for our two night stay. **MONDAY** A day under the wing of our guide aboard the coach, as we meander through three neighbouring counties, stopping in delightful and historic towns. The route takes in Upton on Severn, Tewkesbury, and Ledbury before returning to the hotel.

**TUESDAY** A relaxed breakfast and then a morning at leisure to discover the charming town of Great Malvern on foot, from our centrally located hotel. Surrounded by the natural beauty of the hills, enjoy the rich history & culture of the town, with its many independent cafés and restaurants. We commence our homeward journey in the afternoon.

Reduction for National Trust members £13

## **THE ABBEY HOTEL \*\*\*\*** Great Malvern

#### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

In a tranquil setting amidst landscaped gardens, offering spectacular views of the scenic Vale of Evesham and the Malvern Hills. The hotel is perfectly situated to tour the area, and is located next to Malvern Priory and Gatehouse. Facilities include Priory View Restaurant & Lounge; and WiFi. The hotel has a lift and porterage is included.



#### Tour Ref. P174



# Enjoy a break in Shropshire, with its remarkable heritage, where we include some highlights of this beautiful area.

**FRIDAY** On our outward journey we visit the National Memorial Arboretum, the UK's lasting tribute commemorating those who sacrificed so much for this country. Enjoy some time exploring the arboretum, resplendent in its autumnal glory. We continue to the hotel for our three night stay.

**SATURDAY** We commence the day in Shrewsbury for time at leisure in the birthplace of Charles Darwin, and arguably one of the finest Tudor towns in England, where the streets are lined with pretty black and white half-timbered buildings. We then head to the Ironbridge Gorge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site - passing the Iron Bridge itself - for an afternoon at Blists Hill Victorian Town. Explore this open air museum where townsfolk in traditional dress re-enact life in an authentic Victorian community, providing an experience of what life was like over 100 years ago.

**SUNDAY** Today we take a scenic drive via the woods of Wenlock Edge to Stokesay Castle. Step into the finest and best-preserved fortified medieval manor house in England, immersing yourself in the audio tour as you imagine Stokesay in its heyday as a bustling centre of medieval life. Climb to the top of a fairytale tower for breathtaking views of the Shropshire Hills. (**N.B. Limited access for wheelchair users, due to many staircases. There are no ramps or lifts, and it is not accessible for motorised scooters.**) From here we head to Ludlow, often referred to as the perfect historic town, home to around 500 listed buildings and containing a castle at its heart. With a reputation for an abundance of quality food and drink offerings, the market town is a delight to visit.

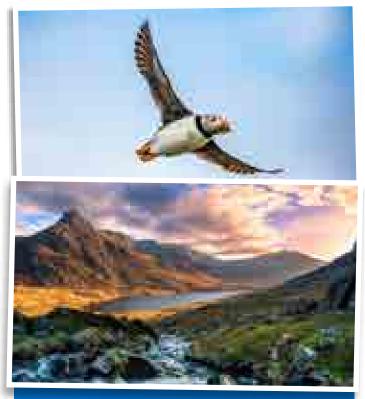
**MONDAY** We depart the hotel and commence our homeward journey, taking a break in Lichfield en route, where we have time to explore the historic streets and obtain lunch (at own cost).

Reduction for English Heritage members £8

#### MERCURE TELFORD \*\*\*\* CENTRE HOTEL Telford

#### Three nights dinner bed & breakfast

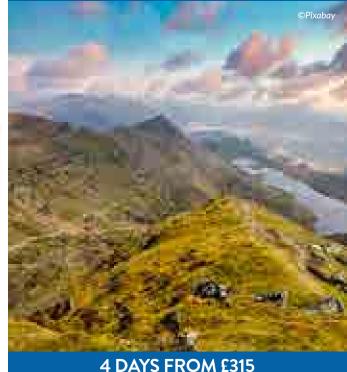
A modern, stylish hotel situated in the heart of Shropshire at the foot of the Wrekin leading into the Shropshire Hills AONB and perfectly located for our itinerary. Facilities include Ironmasters restaurant; bar; leisure facilities and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift.



# Wales, Scotland & Ireland

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# GO SOLO IN NORTH WALES -MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2024



Limited single rooms with no supplement

We invite you to join us on this early season break where we enjoy some highlights of this vibrant area. And with a large stock of single rooms at this popular hotel, this is an ideal holiday for solo travellers!

**MONDAY** Outward journey, making a suitable stop en route, before continuing to the hotel where we enjoy tea/coffee and Bara Brith on arrival.

**TUESDAY** A day in Liverpool today, commencing with a two hour Panoramic City Tour aboard the coach with our informative guide, followed by time at leisure in Liverpool. The choice of museums is second to none, with the landmark Museum of Liverpool offering diverse exhibits, the World Museum Liverpool, one of Britain's finest, and the thought-provoking International Slavery Museum all offering free admission.

**WEDNESDAY** We visit Conwy this morning, a town rich in history, with much of it still

preserved. At the heart is the mighty 13th-century castle, whose walls encapsulate this remarkable medieval town. In the afternoon we enjoy the spectacular Bodnant Garden. This world famous garden covers 80 acres and is superbly located with breathtaking views of Snowdonia. (N.B. There are some steep pathways, and sturdy footwear is recommended.)

Tour Ref. P188

**THURSDAY** We depart the hotel and journey to Chester for some time at leisure. From here we continue homeward.

Reduction for National Trust members £14

BEAUFORT PARK HOTEL \*\*\* Mold, North Wales

Three nights dinner bed & breakfast, and minimum one night entertainment

Set in rural North Wales a short drive from the historic market town of Mold. Facilities include: The Orchard Restaurant; Arches Bar & Coffee Lounge; and complimentary WiFi. There is no lift, however there are ground floor rooms, subject to availability. Porterage is included.

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# NORTH WALES EXPLORER - MONDAY 18 MARCH 2024

# and splendid scenery.

THURSDAY A day at leisure to explore Llanberis, you may wish to take a ride on the Llanberis Lake Railway (charges apply, and is subject to timetable availability) or perhaps visit the National Slate Museum (free admission).

FRIDAY On our return journey we take a break in Chester. This beautiful city has a unique atmosphere and the compact centre is a delight to explore. From here we continue homeward.

Reduction for National Trust members £13

# ROYAL VICTORIA 🕌 ★ ★ 🕇 HOTEL - Llanberis

#### Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment, evening drinks package\*

The Royal Victoria Hotel is uniquely located close to Llanberis at the foot of Snowdon. commanding excellent views. Set within 30 acres of gardens and woodlands, including the historic castle of Dolbadarn, it is a 10 minute walk from the town centre. Facilities include: restaurant; lounge; and bar. Porterage is included.

\*Drinks available between specified times in the evening. Drinks include selected draft lagers/ciders, selected draft soft drinks, 125ml house wine, cordials and nonspeciality tea/coffee.



# SPRINGTIME IN SNOWDONIA - MONDAY 6 MAY 2024



One of the prime resorts on the beautiful North Wales coast, our base of Llandudno has a great deal to offer. The broad sweep of the bay is sheltered by the Great Orme and Little Orme headlands and the majestic mountains of Snowdonia.

MONDAY Outward journey with suitable stops before continuing to the Four Oaks Hotel for our four night stay.

TUESDAY We travel over the Menai Strait to Anglesey and for a morning exploring Beaumaris, arguably the prettiest town on the island, with its stunning waterfront and mountain views, and impressively long pier. In the afternoon we make the short transfer to Plas Newydd, a handsome 16th century house, and ancestral home of the Marguess of Anglesey, sitting majestically on the shores of the Menai Strait offering breathtaking views of Snowdonia.

WEDNESDAY A day at leisure to explore Llandudno with its wealth of attractions, Victorian architecture and splendid scenery. THURSDAY This morning we enjoy a narrow gauge steam train ride on the Llanberis Lake Railway, a delightful hour long journey

Tour Ref. P405

showcasing breathtaking views of Snowdon as well as 13th century Dolbadarn Castle, and past Llanberis' twin lakes. After time to obtain lunch in Llanberis (at own cost) we then continue to Conwy for a short cruise as an alternative way to view the historic medieval town and its famous Castle, along with views of Snowdonia and the surrounding area. Following this we also allow some time to explore the town on foot.

FRIDAY On our return journey we visit the world famous Bury Market, where you will find the range of products and facilities second to none. From here we continue homeward.

Reduction for National Trust members £11

## FOUR OAKS HOTEL Llandudno

#### Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast, entertainment on most evenings

Situated in the heart of Llandudno on its picturesque promenade, the hotel is classically designed but comes equipped with all the latest modern features. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar; and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift, and porterage is included.





Limited single rooms with no supplement

# 5 DAYS FROM £415

stories to tell, as well as boasting extensive

spectacular backdrop of Snowdonia and the

WEDNESDAY We visit Conwy this morning,

a town rich in history, with much of it still

preserved. At the heart is the mighty 13th-

remarkable medieval town. We then make

the short transfer to Llandudno with its

century castle, whose walls encapsulate this

wealth of attractions, Victorian architecture

grounds and parkland, all set against the

North Wales coast.

North Wales is blessed with some spectacular scenery, and it is arguably the most beautiful region in the whole of Britain. Our resort for this tour is Llanberis, in a perfect lakeside setting at the foot of Mount Snowdon.

**MONDAY** Outward journey to the charming spa town of Buxton, where we take a break, before continuing to the Royal Victoria Hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** We journey into Anglesey to Beaumaris today, to enjoy some time at leisure in arguably the prettiest town in Anglesey with its stunning waterfront and mountain views, and impressively long pier. We then visit Penrhyn Castle & Garden. This vast neo-Norman castle has many different

## RAILWAYS, WATERWAYS & PUFFIN ISLAND - MONDAY 17 JUNE 2024



Limited single rooms with no supplement

5 DAYS FROM £519

Join us as we journey through the spectacular scenery of Wales, with iconic landmarks and globally recognised architecture. This inspired tour includes a rail journey, a canal cruise, a cruise around Puffin Island, and a ride on the famous Anderton Boat Lift.

**MONDAY** We depart in the morning and head to Northwich for a ride on the magnificent Anderton Boat Lift. Originally built in 1875, the structure lifts passengers aboard the elegant Edwin Clark boat from the River Weaver to the Trent and Mersey Canal high above. A visitor centre houses an exhibition focusing on the lift's history together with its control centre. We also enjoy a lunch of soup and sandwiches here, before transferring to the hotel to be greeted with tea/coffee and Bara Brith.

**TUESDAY** Today we head to Anglesey where we have time at leisure to explore the quaint, historic streets of Beaumaris, with its stunning waterfront and mountain views, and impressively long pier. In the afternoon we enjoy an hour long cruise around Puffin Island, a bird sanctuary and nesting site for many species of breeding seabirds. Look out for common guillemots, razorbills, kittiwakes and hopefully puffins, with informative and entertaining commentary along the way. (N.B. It is approx a 5 minute walk to Beaumaris Pier for the cruise. Passengers may get wet due to sea spray. In extreme weather if Puffin Island is deemed unnavigable, the Menai Strait cruise will be offered as an alternative, weather permitting)

WEDNESDAY From the pretty town of

Llangollen we join the Rheilffordd Llangollen Railway for a nostalgic train ride. Next we take a trip on the Llangollen Canal, the country's biggest navigable aqueduct, known as the "Stream in the Sky".

**THURSDAY** We pay a visit to the National Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port. A marvellously self-contained world where you can still walk around its locks, docks and warehouses and visit its forge, stables and workers cottages. There's so much to explore from the handsome Victorian buildings, which house the museum's fascinating displays, to the locks and moorings, home to colourful narrow boats. In the afternoon we enjoy time at leisure in Chester.

**FRIDAY** On our return journey we take a break in Buxton, before continuing homeward.

#### BEAUFORT PARK \*\*\* HOTEL - Mold, North Wales

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, and two nights entertainment

Set in rural North Wales a short drive from the historic market town of Mold. Facilities include: The Orchard Restaurant; Arches Bar; Coffee Lounge; and complimentary Wi-Fi. Porterage is included. There is no lift, however there are plenty of ground floor rooms.



#### Tour Ref. P403



Our base for this tour is the historic and elegant spa town of Llandrindod Wells in Mid Wales, a charming town full of character, and a great central location for our itinerary.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with a suitable stop en route.

**TUESDAY** A day in Hereford today, where we are accompanied by our knowledgeable Blue Badge Guide for a walking tour, highlighting the fascinating past and present of the city. Following this we visit Hereford Cathedral for a guided tour, as we explore the rich history, art and treasures contained within. We also include entry into the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library (please note these will be selfguided visits.)

**WEDNESDAY** Enjoy a scenic drive to Aberystwyth, the principal holiday resort on the west coast of Wales. Nestling between three hills and two beaches, the town boasts a wide promenade from where on a clear day, you may see Mount Snowdon. After time at leisure, we join the Vale of Rheidol Steam Train, one of the Great Little Trains of Wales. We enjoy a scenic journey to Devil's Bridge, where we re-join the coach and return to our hotel.

**THURSDAY** A morning's scenic tour of the Elan Valley, including a visit to the Elan Valley Visitor Centre. Set in a fantastic location against a spectacular backdrop of a stone dam, Elan is a haven of wildlife and nature nestled within the Cambrian Mountains. We return to Llandrindod Wells for an afternoon of exploration of this delightful Victorian spa town.

**FRIDAY** We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

### METROPOLE *M* **\***\*\*\* HOTEL - Llandrindod Wells

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, one nights entertainment

In the historic spa town of Llandrindod Wells, this is one of the region's leading luxury hotels. Facilities include: Spencer's Brasserie; Radnor & Miles Restaurant; bar; and The Rock Spa with swimming pool. Porterage is included.



# PEMBROKESHIRE & THE GOWER PENINSULA - THURSDAY 25 JULY 2024

Tour Ref. P400



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 villages. Our hotel is in Carmarthen, an ideal base from which to explore this delightful corner of Wales

**THURSDAY** We travel to Carmarthen, making suitable stops en route, and arrive late afternoon at the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel for our four night stay.

**FRIDAY** We travel west to the popular holiday resort of Tenby, where you will find old town walls, interesting little side streets to explore, and superb beaches. Following some time at leisure, we embark on a seventy five minute cruise taking in some of Pembrokeshire's most dramatic offshore islands. Cruise the famous pirate Paul Jones' bay, with the imposing Cathedral Caverns looming in the distance. At the base of these caverns you may be able to view thousands of resident and visiting birds including puffins, razorbills, cormorants and gannets. **SATURDAY** Following a morning at leisure in Carmarthen where today is market day, we travel via St Brides Bay and Newgale Sands to St David's, Britain's smallest cathedral city. Enjoy time at leisure here, before re-joining the coach and returning to the hotel.

**SUNDAY** South today, through Kidwelly, as we journey to the picture postcard resort of Mumbles, located in Swansea Bay. This afternoon we take a short drive to the Gower Heritage Centre, to meet our guide for a tour of the unspoilt scenery of the Gower Peninsula. We then return to the Heritage Centre and enjoy a Gower cream tea.

**MONDAY** We depart after breakfast and commence our homeward journey.

#### **IVY BUSH ROYAL \*\*\* HOTEL -** Carmarthen

# Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast, and two nights entertainment

Located on the River Towy and within walking distance of the town centre, the Ivy Bush has been sympathetically modernised whilst retaining its old world charm. Facilities include: Restaurant; large lounge area; and bar. There are a few steps along the corridors to access some bedrooms. Porterage is included.



# SNOWDONIA RAIL & SAIL - MONDAY 19 AUGUST 2024



One of the prime resorts on the beautiful North Wales coast, our base of Llandudno has a great deal to offer. The broad sweep of the bay is sheltered by the Great Orme and Little Orme headlands and the majestic mountains of Snowdonia.

**MONDAY** Outward journey to the charming spa town of Buxton, where we take a break, before continuing to the hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** We journey into Anglesey to Beaumaris today, where we commence with an hour's cruise along the Menai Straits. With informative commentary along the way, there will be ample opportunity to spot an abundance of wildlife as we pass Victorian piers, palatial manor houses and Anglesey's very own Millionaires' Row. We then enjoy some time at leisure in Beaumaris itself, arguably the prettiest town in Anglesey with its stunning waterfront and mountain views, and impressively long pier.

**WEDNESDAY** A day at leisure to explore Llandudno with its wealth of attractions, Victorian architecture and splendid scenery.

**THURSDAY** This morning we enjoy a narrow gauge steam train ride on the Llanberis

Lake Railway, a delightful hour long journey showcasing breathtaking views of Snowdon as well as 13th century Dolbadarn Castle, and past Llanberis' twin lakes. We have time to obtain lunch in Llanberis (at own cost) before transferring to the unique and stunning Italianate village of Portmeirion, constructed between 1925 and 1976 by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis as a tribute to the atmosphere of the Mediterranean, and to show how a naturally beautiful site could be

**FRIDAY** On our return journey we take a break in Chester. This beautiful city has a unique atmosphere and the compact centre is a delight to explore. From here we continue homeward.

developed without being spoiled.

# FOUR OAKS HOTEL \*\*

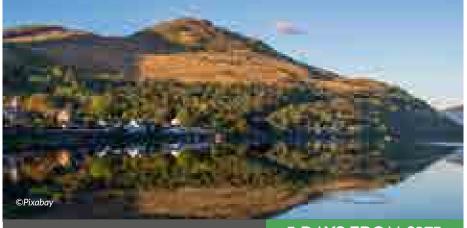
# Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast, entertainment on most evenings

Situated in the heart of Llandudno on its picturesque promenade, the hotel is classically designed but comes equipped with all the latest modern features. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar; and complimentary WiFi. The hotel has a lift, and porterage is included.



Tour Ref. P405

## ABERFOYLE & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK - MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2024 Tour Ref. P325



Limited single rooms with no supplement

5 DAYS FROM £275

A winter warmer low in cost, but high in value! Based on the edge of the Trossachs within one of Scotland's National Parks, the hotel is a great base for our itinerary.

**MONDAY** We travel north to Scotland, taking breaks en route.

**TUESDAY** Today begins with a visit to Stirling, rich in history and spectacular scenery and home to one of the most important castles in Scotland. Enjoy some time at leisure to browse the independent boutiques in the historic surroundings of the old town. We next head to the bustling town of Callander, a popular stop at the gateway to the Highlands, situated on the River Teith. We return to the hotel via the Duke's Pass.

WEDNESDAY We journey to Edinburgh, making a stop en route to visit the magnificent and striking Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures. Enjoy Edinburgh's cityscape with its medieval old town, striking Georgian architecture, and Edinburgh Castle dominating the skyline. Whether you prefer shopping or sightseeing, Edinburgh has both bases more than covered!

**THURSDAY** Today, an excursion into the Trossachs National Park. Enjoy breathtaking views as we pass by wooded glens, braes, and lochs. We include a stop at Loch Lomond Shores, for a spot of retail therapy, or a bite to eat in one of the cafés (at own cost). We also include a visit to the picturesque village of Luss on the west side of the Loch, and round off the day at Aberfoyle's Woollen Mill where we have time to browse the traditional Scottish wares, before returning to the hotel.

**FRIDAY** We depart after our final Scottish breakfast, making suitable stops en route.

# **ROB ROY HOTEL** \*\*\*

Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast and two nights entertainment

Situated in idyllic countryside at the gateway to the Trossachs, and set within Scotland's first National Park, the hotel is a short stroll along the banks of the Forth River to the picturesque village of Aberfoyle. Facilities include: Tartan Tea Room; Thistle Bar Lounge.



## SPRING ON SCOTLAND'S WEST COAST - MONDAY 4 MARCH 2024

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Based in the popular coastal holiday town of Oban, known as the gateway to the isles. Enjoy sweeping, panoramic views of mountains, lochs and islands on this scenic break.

**MONDAY** We travel north to Scotland, taking breaks en route.

**TUESDAY** Today we make our way to Fort William, located at the northernmost end of the long, deep Loch Linnhe with Ben Nevis towering in the background. We have free time to explore before making our way to Glen Coe where the sheer majesty of the mountain scenery will take your breath away.

**WEDNESDAY** A day at leisure to explore Oban, an attractive and popular resort surrounded by awe inspiring scenery. The harbour is a hive of colourful activity, with regular ferries for Mull, Iona and Staffa, as well as pleasure craft and fishing boats.

Tour Ref. P301

**THURSDAY** Our excursion today takes us along the top of Loch Awe to Inveraray, the traditional county town of Argyll on the banks of Loch Fyne. We first visit Inveraray Jail, stepping back almost two centuries in time. Explore the historic buildings and meet the costumed characters who animate the past in this unique museum. (Please note, the historic nature of the building means upper floors are reached by flights of stairs) The remainder of the day is free to explore the charming historic town.

**FRIDAY** We depart after our final Scottish breakfast, making suitable stops en route.

# **ROYAL HOTEL** \*\*\*

# Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast and some entertainment

Based in the heart of Oban, the hotel's striking Victorian façade dominates the town square. An ideal location for our itinerary, the hotel offers traditional Scottish hospitality within modern surroundings. Facilities include: Morvern Restaurant; Lounge Bar; and WiFi. Porterage is included.



# DUNOON & THE ISLE OF BUTE - MONDAY 6 MAY 2024



Dunoon is the main resort on the beautiful Cowal Peninsula and the maritime gateway to the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park. This popular resort nestles by the Firth of Clyde, against a backdrop of steep wooded slopes, and offers an attractive four mile promenade, a fine Victorian pier, and is surrounded by some of Scotland's prettiest scenery.

**MONDAY** We travel north, with suitable stops en route, before joining the ferry for the twenty minute crossing to Dunoon. **TUESDAY** A morning at leisure in our resort, and an afternoon visit to the enchanting Benmore Botanic Garden with its magnificent

# **GREAT HIGHLAND RAILWAYS - THURSDAY 23 MAY 2024**



Michael Portillo's "Great Railway Journeys" television series has rekindled our romance with railways. This adventure includes scenery in areas of Scotland that are dramatic in different ways, creating many memorable experiences on these breathtakingly beautiful journeys.

**THURSDAY** We travel north over the border into Scotland for our overnight stay with dinner at the Holiday Inn East Kilbride.

**FRIDAY** Our journey north continues to the Highlands where we reach Aviemore and enjoy a ride on the nostalgic Strathspey Railway to Broomhill. On then to Inverness, for time at leisure, before proceeding to the Priory Hotel, Beauly for our three night stay. Tea/coffee will be served on arrival, and porterage is included at this hotel. **SATURDAY** An early start today for the scenic journey to the remote Georgian town of Thurso. Following time at leisure, enjoy today's rail journey on the Far North Line, the northernmost railway in the United Kingdom. Experience the wilderness of the moors before the dramatic scenery of the eastern coastline unfolds before you.

**SUNDAY** The highlight for most will be today's journey on one of the world's finest

mountainside setting, surrounded by dramatic scenery.

**WEDNESDAY** We travel through stunning scenery beside Loch Eck, to the shores of Loch Fyne and the delightful historic town of Inveraray, where there will be time, for those who wish, to visit the famous jail. (Admission not included).

**THURSDAY** Another scenic drive today as we travel to the Isle of Bute, via a short ferry ride from Colintraive to Rhubodach. We visit Mount Stuart House, often described as an architectural masterpiece and one of the world's great houses, set within 300 acres of gardens.

**FRIDAY** We commence our homeward journey, with suitable stops en route.

# **THE ESPLANADE** STB **\*\*\***

Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast

Situated on the West Bay Promenade with stunning views, this hotel offers a warm welcome, friendly service and comfortable accommodation. Lift serves most floors, however there are a few steps to access the dining room. Porterage is included.

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## Tour Ref. P322

coast-to-coast railway journeys to the Kyle of Lochalsh, overlooking the Isle of Skye. This spectacular train ride is undoubtedly one of the most scenic rail journeys in the United Kingdom. Rejoin the coach for an equally interesting return drive via Loch Ness.

**MONDAY** We begin our journey south with a break in Pitlochry, one of the most beautiful and vibrant places to visit in the heart of Scotland. From here we continue to the Holiday Inn East Kilbride for our final night's stay with evening meal included.

**TUESDAY** We bid farewell to Scotland and commence our homeward journey, with suitable stops en route.

# **THE PRIORY HOTEL**

#### Three nights dinner bed & breakfast

A popular hotel well located for touring. Set on an attractive town square this traditional building has been modernised to a very good 3-star standard. No ground floor rooms, but hotel has a lift. Facilities include: Restaurant; bar bistro; Lavazzo coffee lounge; and free WiFi.



## CRUISES, A CASTLE AND A WEE DRAM! - MONDAY 24 JUNE 2024



Based on the edge of the Trossachs within one of Scotland's National Parks, the hotel is a great base for our itinerary, where we include two cruises, a castle and a distillery visit on this great value holiday!

**MONDAY** We travel north to Scotland, taking breaks en route.

**TUESDAY** Today begins with a visit to Stirling, rich in history and spectacular scenery. We include a visit to Stirling Castle, widely regarded as one of Scotland's grandest castles, with its imposing position and impressive architecture. Following this, enjoy some time at leisure to browse the independent boutiques in the historic surroundings of the old town. **WEDNESDAY** A scenic drive today as we explore the Trossachs, an area recognised as one of outstanding beauty, with breathtaking views as we pass by wooded glens, braes and lochs. We visit Callander, a bustling town situated on the River Teith, often described as the gateway to the Highlands. We then venture further west, and take time to relax and enjoy a tranquil one hour cruise of Loch Katrine. From here, we return to Aberfoyle via the Duke's Pass, with a stop off at the Scottish Wool Centre to browse the traditional Scottish wares, before returning to the hotel.

**THURSDAY** We commence the day with a visit to the picturesque Balloch, a charming village located at the southern edge of Loch Lomond, and home to the Loch Lomond Shores Visitor Centre. From here we embark on a scenic one hour Loch Lomond cruise, and then continue on to the picturesque village of Luss. In the afternoon we enjoy an informative guided walk of the Glengoyne Distillery grounds, followed by a tasting of one of their whiskies.

**FRIDAY** We depart after our final Scottish breakfast, making suitable stops en route.

# **ROB ROY HOTEL** \*\*\*

Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast and two nights entertainment

Situated in idyllic countryside at the gateway to the Trossachs, and set within Scotland's first National Park, the hotel is a short stroll along the banks of the Forth River to the picturesque village of Aberfoyle. Facilities include: Tartan Tea Room; Thistle Bar Lounge.



#### Tour Ref. P317

TREASURES OF SCOTLAND - MONDAY 15 JULY 2024



Single room supplement £64

5 DAYS FROM £579

Join us as we visit some fascinating historical and cultural treasures, including Scone Palace, Dundee Botanic Garden...and no holiday in Scotland would be complete without a distillery visit!

**MONDAY** We travel north across the border, with suitable stops en route, arriving in good time for dinner.

**TUESDAY** Today we travel to St Andrews for a morning at leisure to explore this former fishing port, famous as a university town and golfing mecca. We then make the short transfer to Kingsbarns Distillery, where we experience the perfect introduction to Scotland's amber nectar, partaking in a whisky tour and tasting. **WEDNESDAY** Our first stop today is the University of Dundee Botanic Garden, located in 9.5 hectares of gently sloping land near the River Tay. Enjoy the wide range of plants, with fine collections of conifers and broad-leaved trees and shrubs, tropical and temperate glasshouses, water garden and herb garden. Following this, enjoy some time at leisure in the centre of Dundee, after which we head out on a coastal drive taking us through the golf town of Carnoustie and onwards to Arbroath. Here, the Signal Tower museum, steeped in maritime history tells tales of the town and its famous smoked fish.

**THURSDAY** This morning we head for Scone Palace, world famous crowning place of the King of Scots. The palace houses an outstanding collection of antiques, paintings and rare artefacts, and the grounds are renowned throughout the world, making this one of the most popular attractions in Scotland. We then return to Perth for an afternoon at leisure. Perhaps visit the Perth Museum & Art Gallery, or follow the River Tay Public Art Trail.

**FRIDAY** We bid farewell to Scotland, and commence our homeward journey with suitable stops en route.

# SALUTATION HOTEL \*\*\*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment.

Located in the centre of Perth, the deceptively large Salutation Hotel has been operating since 1699, with its iconic facade and grand entry. Facilities include Adam Restaurant; Reid's Bar; and WiFi in public areas. Hotel has a lift, and porterage is included.



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## **ROYAL EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO - FRIDAY 9 AUGUST 2024**

Tour Ref. P300



## The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a unique display of massed military bands, pipes and drums, and colourful Scottish dancers, in the magnificent atmosphere of Edinburgh Castle.

**Please note:** Access to the Tattoo is via a steep gradient and there are always steps to the seats, which may be problematic for those with mobility issues.

**FRIDAY** We commence our outward journey, making a suitable stop for a lunchtime break, before continuing to our hotel for dinner bed and breakfast accommodation.

**SATURDAY** A leisurely departure from Irvine, making our way to Edinburgh for some time at

leisure prior to the early evening performance of the tattoo. We return to the hotel late evening for bed & breakfast accommodation.

**SUNDAY** We depart after breakfast, making a suitable lunch stop en route, before continuing our homeward journey.

# RIVERSIDE LODGE \*\*\*\*

# One night dinner bed & breakfast; one night bed & breakfast (day of the Tattoo)

This modern hotel on the outskirts of Irvine (75 miles from Edinburgh) boasts recently refurbished, stylish public areas. No lift; rooms are spread over ground and first floor. Facilities include Riverside Bar & Grill, and WiFi. Porterage is included.

# AYRSHIRE'S COAST & CASTLES - MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2024

#### Tour Ref. P316



A holiday combining exploration of the Ayrshire coast with a spot of island hopping. We include two castles and plenty of time at leisure to enjoy the majestic landscapes of Scotland's west coast.

**MONDAY** We travel north to Scotland, taking breaks en route.

**TUESDAY** Today begins with a scenic drive to the charming seaside resort of Largs for the short crossing to Great Cumbrae, a small and picturesque island only 10 miles round. We include a stop at Millport, the island's only settlement, and home to Britain's smallest cathedral - Cathedral of the Isles - before taking the return crossing back to Largs. This afternoon, enjoy time at leisure in Troon, with its sandy beaches, beautiful views overlooking the Isle of Arran, and a bustling harbour.

**WEDNESDAY** We head south this morning to Culzean Castle and Country Park, perched high above the Ayrshire cliffs. Your costumed guide shares the secrets of Culzean Castle, once home to the chieftain of Clan Kennedy, an ancient Scottish family descended from Robert the Bruce. In the afternoon, enjoy some time at leisure in the popular seaside resort of Ayr.

**THURSDAY** A full day excursion to the Isle of Arran today, commencing with a visit to Brodick Castle & Garden. Dramatically set against the backdrop of Goatfell, the baronial style red sandstone castle boasts stunning views across Brodick Bay and its impressive gardens. Enjoy some free time in Brodick afterwards, before we take the return ferry back to the mainland.

**FRIDAY** We depart after our final Scottish breakfast, making suitable stops en route.

Discount for National Trust members £25

## RIVERSIDE LODGE \*\*\*\* HOTEL - Irvine

# Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast and two nights entertainment

Ideally situated for our itinerary, this modern hotel on the outskirts of town boasts recently refurbished, stylish public areas. No lift; rooms are spread over ground and first floor. Facilities include Riverside Bar & Grill, and WiFi. Porterage is included.



## HIGHLAND PERTHSHIRE AND THE ENCHANTED FOREST - SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER 2024 Tour Ref. P315



A holiday in the majestic landscape of Highland Perthshire, considered by many to be one of the most beautiful parts of Scotland, particularly in autumn when the woodlands and forests are at their most spectacular and the heather is in bloom. As well as admission to Glamis Castle, we include a visit to the award winning Enchanted Forest, an outdoor attraction, where you will experience a light and sound show that is, quite simply, out of this world!

**SUNDAY** We journey to Scotland, making suitable stops en route, and arrive late afternoon.

**MONDAY** A morning visit to Crieff, a traditional market town set amidst Perthshire's stunning scenery, on the edge of the Highlands overlooking beautiful Strathearn. Following a lunch stop at Crieff Visitor Centre (at own expense) we continue to Glenturret, Scotland's oldest working distillery, for a tour. Discover the history, heritage and traditional art of single malt whisky, as we get up close to the production areas at every stage of the whisky-making process.

**TUESDAY** A morning at leisure to explore our base of Perth, laced with gorgeous architecture. Perhaps visit the Perth Museum & Art Gallery, or follow the River Tay Public Art Trail. Following lunch back at the hotel, we head north to Pitlochry, where we have some time at leisure in this bustling and picturesque town, before our transfer to the Enchanted Forest. Following the path on foot around the forest, you are treated to a series of spectacular sound and light shows along the way. Please wrap up warm and wear sensible footwear for this evening's walk.

WEDNESDAY We visit Glamis Castle, the childhood home of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and setting for Shakespeare's Macbeth. You will not fail to be touched by the magic of this castle steeped in history, legends and myths. We continue to Dundee for a visit to the V&A museum, a design museum set within a striking building on the city's waterfront, that celebrates Scotland's design heritage and promotes Scottish design talent. (Please note, some special exhibitions may require entrance fees, which would be at own expense).

**THURSDAY** We commence our homeward journey, with suitable stops en route.

# SALUTATION HOTEL \*\*\*

Three nights dinner bed & breakfast; One night lunch bed & breakfast (Enchanted Forest day)

Located in the centre of Perth, the deceptively large Salutation Hotel has been operating since 1699, with its iconic facade and grand entry. Facilities include Adam Restaurant; Reid's Bar; and WiFi in public areas. Hotel has a lift, and porterage is included.

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# COUNTY DONEGAL & THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY - SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2024



Wild and rugged, County Donegal with its mystical landscape of coasts, cliffs and country roads is perfect for touring, and taking in some of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. We also include a visit to the iconic Guinness Storehouse in Dublin.

**SUNDAY** An early morning departure as we travel to Holyhead for our sailing to Dublin. We then continue to the Bray area for dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation.

**MONDAY** Continuing our journey we make our way to Ballybofey, our base for the next three nights. En route we visit Sligo, a picturesque place nestled between majestic Benbulben mountain to the north, ancient Knocknarea and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. Enjoy some time at leisure to explore, following in the footsteps of its most famous resident W.B. Yeats, before we transfer to our hotel, where tea and coffee will be served on arrival, prior to dinner and evening entertainment.

**TUESDAY** A full day excursion around Co. Donegal, commencing with a drive through

Glenveagh National Park under the shadow of the imposing Mount Errigal, continuing via Bloody Foreland (known locally as The Hill of Blood), and including a stop at Glenveagh Visitor Centre. We make our way to the attractive village of Meenaleck where we take a break, and then continue to Dungloe, with its links to Daniel O'Donnell.

WEDNESDAY A day at leisure in Donegal town. Featuring a charming harbour, serene beaches and stone remains from centuries past, including those of 15th-century Donegal Abbey. Donegal Castle, recently restored back to its Gaelic glory, is the crown jewel of the area. For some retail therapy, head to "The Diamond", Donegal's pedestrianised centre. In the afternoon we take a trip up to the viewpoint on Slieve League, to see the incredible sea cliffs soaring almost 2000ft above the Atlantic - a truly wild and wonderful sight!

Tour Ref. P504

**THURSDAY** After breakfast we journey to Dublin for a visit to the Guinness Storehouse. This seven-storey brewery provides the lowdown on Ireland's iconic stout through the different stages of production, before we enjoy a complimentary pint of the black stuff in the Gravity Bar, with its panoramic views of Dublin below. We then continue our journey to the Bray area, for dinner and overnight accommodation.

**FRIDAY** A "Grab & Go" snack at the hotel this morning, before we head to Dublin and board an early morning ferry to Holyhead. Breakfast is included on board, and from Holyhead we continue homeward.

Please note: a valid form of photo ID is required for travel to Ireland for British/Irish citizens. Euros are the local currency in the Republic of Ireland.

# **KEE'S HOTEL \*\***

Three nights dinner bed and breakfast, nightly entertainment, drinks reception prior to dinner on one night

Family owned since 1892, this award-winning hotel in the Finn Valley oozes with style and character from a bygone era. Facilities include: Harry's Bar; The Coach House Restaurant; leisure facilities including indoor swimming pool. The hotel has a lift. Porterage is included.



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## **IRELAND COAST TO COAST -** SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

Tour Ref. P502



This wonderful dual-centred coast to coast tour explores both the south east and west of Ireland, including Waterford, Kilkenny, Foynes Flying Boat Museum and Galway.

**SUNDAY** With an early departure, we make our way to Holyhead for the ferry crossing to Dublin, with overnight dinner, bed and breakfast in Bray.

**MONDAY** Leaving Bray we make our way to the Irish National Stud and Japanese Gardens, the beating heart of Ireland's thoroughbred horse industry. Time to enjoy the unique experience of horses and horticulture, before continuing to the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon for a three night stay.

**TUESDAY** We make our way to the coast to find the mighty Cliffs of Moher, rising 700 ft above the Atlantic Ocean. On a clear day the viewing platforms offer stunning views of the Aran Islands, Maumturks and Galway Bay. There will be ample time to explore both outdoors and the Cliffs of Moher visitor centre, before we continue to the spa town of Lisdoonvarna for free time.

WEDNESDAY A full day in Galway, once a humble fishing village but now western Ireland's adopted capital. This free spirited, artistic and bohemian city has an ambience all of its own. Enjoy the buzzing café culture in Eyre Square, visit the cathedral and museums (charges may apply) or watch the salmon fishermen on Lough Corrib.

**THURSDAY** We depart the hotel and travel to the west coast, including a visit to Foynes Flying

Boat Maritime Museum. A fascinating insight into the nostalgic era that Foynes became the centre of the aviation world between 1937 and 1945. Enjoy a complimentary Irish coffee during the visit. We then continue to the Dooleys Hotel in Waterford for a three night stay, enjoying a welcome drink on arrival.

**FRIDAY** A day at leisure to explore Waterford. Established by the Vikings in the 9th century, it is now capital of Ireland's sunny South East. Perhaps enjoy a guided walking tour of the historic city, visit the museums, or the worldfamous Waterford Crystal and Visitor Centre (charges may apply to all).

**SATURDAY** Kilkenny is today's destination, for a day of exploration. We begin with an introduction to this well-preserved medieval town with a ride on the Kilkenny Road Train. Sit back and relax as it takes us through the narrow streets to reveal the abbey, and cathedral among other highlights. In the afternoon we have time to further explore the compact city on foot.

**SUNDAY** We board an early morning ferry from Rosslare to Pembroke, with breakfast included on board, and then continue our homeward journey to Lincolnshire.

Please note: a form of valid photo ID is required for travel to Ireland for British/Irish citizens.

# FALLS HOTEL \*\*\*\*

Three nights dinner, bed & breakfast, complimentary drink with dinner on first night, and musical entertainment in the bar on one night

This former manor house, overlooking the river, provides a haven of peace and tranquillity. Spacious bedrooms offer views of the river or surrounding woodland. Facilities include: Dylan Thomas Bar; Cascades Restaurant



# **DOOLEY'S HOTEL**

#### Two nights dinner bed & breakfast

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One night dinner & bed only (breakfast to be taken on return ferry crossing) musical entertainment on one night.

A family run hotel offering contemporary conveniences with a warm welcome and traditional Irish hospitality, just a stone's throw from shopping and attractions. Facilities include: New Ship Restaurant; Dry Dock Bar; and WiFi. Porterage is included, and the hotel has a lift.





# Continental & Jersey

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# VALKENBURG – THREE COUNTRIES CORNER MONDAY 10 JUNE 2024



Single room supplement £79

Surrounded by undulating scenery and pretty villages, Valkenburg is the ideal base for this unique tour, which includes the cities of Aachen and Maastricht, and the Three Country Point, where the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium converge. An ideal itinerary for the ardent explorer!

**MONDAY** An early morning departure as we make our way to Dover for the channel crossing to Calais, and continue to our hotel in the Netherlands.

**TUESDAY** A day in Valkenburg, often called "Marlstone Town" due to the soft yellow marlstone which has, since Roman times, been quarried as building material. As a result, there is a network of over 150 miles of underground caves beneath the town, parts of which we explore today, with a guided train tour. The rest of the day is yours at leisure; perhaps visit the famous castle ruins (admission charge applies) with its impressive panoramic view over Valkenburg.

**WEDNESDAY** Today we enjoy a guided sightseeing tour, first to the three countries "meeting point". We then continue via the Margraten US war cemetery to Aachen for some time at leisure to explore the beautiful old town and its cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

Tour Ref. P617

**THURSDAY** We journey to Maastricht, capital of the Limburg region, where we first enjoy a one hour sightseeing cruise through to the Belgium border, before returning for some time at leisure on foot. Take some time to explore the historic inner city, the cobbled old town, and the grand squares and merchant houses.

**FRIDAY** We retrace our steps to Calais for the return ferry to Dover and continue homeward.

# HOTEL WALRAM - Valkenburg ★★★

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast

A modern and cosy hotel situated on the banks of the river De Geul, just a 2 minute stroll from the town centre. Facilities include restaurant; bar; and WiFi



## MEDITERRANEAN RIVIERA & MENTON LEMON FESTIVAL - THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2024 Tour Ref. P609



Diano Marina is a picturesque resort on the Mediterranean's Riviera of Flowers. A long safe sandy beach, shaded by palm trees along the promenade and topped with its own pretty harbour, makes this an idyllic place for relaxing. The highlight of our tour is a day at Menton's annual Lemon Festival, celebrating the very best of the area's produce!

**THURSDAY** A very early morning departure for our crossing to Calais. We continue into France for bed and breakfast accommodation in the Dijon area.

**FRIDAY** We continue south into Italy, to our hotel in the pretty resort of Diano Marina.

**SATURDAY** We start the day in Ventimiglia, a vibrant coastal town with dazzling Mediterranean views, and a colourful old town to explore. From here we head slightly inland to the medieval village of Dolceacqua. The bridge, together with the cluster of houses in the Terra district and the overwhelming castle makes for one of the most picturesque and famous views of the area, famously painted by Claude Monet.

**SUNDAY** We visit the charming town of Menton on the Cote d'Azur today, to enjoy the annual Lemon Festival. This unique and flamboyant citrus-related celebration is one of the highlights of the year on the Riviera, where you will witness giant floats parade through the streets with impressive constructions created entirely from citrus fruits! You will enjoy the spectacle from our reserved seating, giving you a great vantage point for the unforgettable event.

**MONDAY** We enjoy a full day to Monaco and Monte Carlo with the services of a local guide. Occupying a tiny strip of the Riviera coast and nestling under the foot of the Alps, Monaco is the second smallest country in the world, after the Vatican. An enchanting place to visit, with a reputation that far exceeds its size!

**TUESDAY** A day at leisure in Diano Marina. Enjoy exploring the palm lined promenade with its many shops, bars, cafes and restaurants, or the bustling town centre with its lovely pastel coloured buildings, adding to its old world charm.

**WEDNESDAY** We depart the hotel and travel to the Dijon area of France for our final evening, with dinner bed and breakfast included.

**THURSDAY** Following breakfast we continue to Calais where we board the ferry to Dover, and continue homeward.

The days on which the excursions take place may be subject to change. *Please note that due* to the nature of the excursions and the location of the hotel, this tour is not considered suitable for those with limited mobility.

# HOTEL NETTUNO \*\*\*

Five nights dinner bed & breakfast

Package includes free bar offering local spirits, beers and wines in the hotel from 1900-2200 daily, entertainment some nights; and pizza party with live music on one night.

This family run hotel is in a sunny position overlooking the picturesque West Beach and wind surfing harbour, approx. a 15 minute walk from the centre. Facilities include: comfortable bar; restaurant; pavement terrace; most rooms in main hotel have balcony; rooms in the accommodation block approx. 50 metres away have access to a roof terrace. No lift.



# CHARMING CHÂTEAUX OF THE LOIRE VALLEY - FRIDAY 3 MAY 2024

Tour Ref. P629



# A lovely holiday based in the Loire Valley region, famed for its stunning châteaux, fine wines and beautiful scenery; we aim to give you a taster of all three!

**FRIDAY** An early departure as we travel to Dover for our channel crossing to Calais. From here we continue to the Rouen area for dinner, overnight accommodation and breakfast.

**SATURDAY** We commence the day with some free time in Rouen. Explore the maze of medieval cobbled streets, the half timbered houses and the magnificent Gros-Horloge (Great Clock). Here you will also find the market square where Joan of Arc was executed in 1431. We then continue on to Amboise for our four night stay.

**SUNDAY** This morning we visit the magnificent Château de Chenonceau, one of the most photographed châteaux in the area. Enjoy some time wandering the beautiful formal gardens, visiting the Flower Garden and exploring the interior. We then make a stop in the picturesque medieval town of Montrichard, before continuing to Blois, capital of the region. Nestled on two hills by the Loire River, this enchanting city is distinguished by its refined elegance. Dominating the cityscape are the magnificent Château Royal de Blois - once home to French royalty, and the Cathédrale Saint-Louis - both overlooking the spectacular Loire Valley.

**MONDAY** Today we journey through countryside to enjoy a morning visit to Château de Villandry, a monumental countryside villa surrounded by world-famous gardens, organised in the classic French Renaissance style. We later return to our base of Amboise, for an afternoon at leisure to explore this lovely town with its stunning architecture and utterly delightful narrow streets to wander around.

**TUESDAY** We take some time to explore the lovely town of Amboise, followed by a visit to nearby Château du Clos Lucé, where Leonardo da Vinci spent his final years. Enjoy this beautifully preserved example of French architecture, as well as the beautiful and extensive gardens. In the afternoon we visit a local vineyard for a tour and tasting.

**WEDNESDAY** We depart the hotel and head north to Calais for our channel crossing, and continue our homeward journey.

# **NOVOTEL AMBOISE**

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast (buffet style), glass of wine with dinner each night

A modern hotel on the outskirts of Amboise with panoramic views across the town. Facilities include restaurant; bar; WiFi and outdoor swimming pool.



# THE ROMANTIC RHINE & MOSEL - SUNDAY 19 MAY 2024





The picturesque scenery of these two famous rivers, punctuated by vineyards, quaint medieval towns and of course the legendary Loreley Rock, make this region the epitome of romance. The Rheinhotel Wagner is once again back by popular demand - where Andreas, our ever-enthusiastic host, will be looking forward to welcoming friends old and new alike!

**SUNDAY** An early morning departure for our midday sailing to Calais, and then on to Belgium for dinner, overnight accommodation and breakfast.

**MONDAY** We depart the hotel and head to Valkenburg. Following some time at leisure here, we continue to Kamp-Bornhofen and enjoy a welcome Schnapps on arrival, prior to dinner.

**TUESDAY** We cruise downstream this morning, along the Rhine Gorge, a section of the UNESCO protected Upper Middle Rhine Valley, to St. Goarshausen. We have a short break in this pretty town; the old part of the town with the two historical city towers is particularly idyllic. We then continue further south via coach, passing the famous Loreley Rock en route to Rüdesheim, a resort famous for the Drosselgasse – a street almost completely filled with restaurants and wine taverns. Time permitting, perhaps take a ride on the popular cable car (at own cost) to the Niederwald monument, where you can enjoy fantastic views over the Rhine.

WEDNESDAY A morning in the Mosel Valley, as we travel to the pretty riverside town of Cochem. Perhaps explore the old town, made up of quaint squares, winding alleys, halftimbered buildings and imposing town gates. We then continue onto Koblenz. As well as time at leisure to explore the old quarter and delightful squares, we also enjoy an aerial view of this beautiful city where the Rhine and Mosel rivers meet at Deutsches Eck (German Corner), as we cross the Rhine in a cable car.

**THURSDAY** A day in Boppard where you can stroll along the Rhine promenade and explore the bustling, historic streets with their stylish shops and cafes. We return to the hotel in ample time for a wine tasting prior to dinner.

**FRIDAY** We depart early morning for the journey back to Calais, and arrive home late evening.

## **RHEINHOTEL WAGNER** Kamp-Bornhofen

Four nights dinner bed & continental breakfast; 1 night musical entertainment; 1 wine tasting; happy hour on 3 nights 9pm-10pm (selected drinks)

A long established family run hotel, offering good food amid traditionally furnished surroundings possessing a rustic charm. The hotel has a lift from street level up to the patio, and a second lift inside allows access to the bedrooms, however please note that it is not entirely suitable for those with limited mobility, as a number of stairs are always involved to gain access to the dining room. All bedrooms have shower, some have balcony or terrace. This hotel is a cash only site.



# A WEEKEND IN ARRAS - FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2024



The city of Arras is famous for the stunning architecture of its Grand Place and Place des Héros. These cobbled squares are a stunning setting for the city's numerous bars, restaurants, shops and galleries, overlooked by the impressive belfry of the town hall. This lovely long weekend includes a visit to the Carrière Wellington tunnels, and a pleasant cruise through Amiens' floating gardens.

**FRIDAY** An early departure as we travel to Dover and board the ferry to Calais. From here we head to Saint-Omer, an attractive town with numerous impressive 17th century houses and buildings, many in the Flemish style typical of the region. After some time to explore, we continue onwards to our hotel, and enjoy a welcome drink on arrival.

**SATURDAY** Enjoy a morning at leisure in Arras, known for its two ornate squares

brimming with shops and restaurants. Today is market day in Grand Place and Place des Héros. We then make the short transfer to the Carrière Wellington Museum, named after the former underground quarry which was part of a network of underground tunnels used during WWI. Our guided tour takes us 20 metres underground via a lift shaft, where we learn more about their construction and the Battle of Arras.

SUNDAY We spend today in the city

of Amiens, starting with a guided boat trip of Les Hortillonnages, also known as the 'floating gardens', which can only be visited by boat. This beautiful maze of water gardens is a wonderful sight – marvel at the natural beauty as we drift through the tranquil gardens on this gentle cruise. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure in Amiens, which is home to France's largest cathedral, the Amiens Cathedral, also a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**MONDAY** We depart the hotel and head to Lille, capital of Flanders. Explore the tangle of cobbled streets of the old town, and perhaps enjoy a coffee in Lille's Grand Place to soak up the atmosphere. From here we retrace our steps to Calais for the return ferry to Dover and continue homeward.

#### MERCURE ARRAS \*\*\*\* CENTRE GARE Arras

Three nights bed & breakfast, welcome drink on arrival

Located in the centre of Arras, this is an excellent base for touring the area, ideally located in the city centre, near the squares and Beffroi d'Arras, and close to the Musée des Beaux-Arts. Facilities include modern, cosy bar and stylish restaurant. Porterage is included.



#### Tour Ref. P631



# From our historic base of Rouen, we include visits to two stunning gardens in this lovely corner of northern France.

**FRIDAY** An early departure as we travel to Dover to board the ferry to Calais. We arrive at our hotel in Rouen late afternoon.

**SATURDAY** Today we travel to Monet's country retreat in Giverny where we visit the impressionist painter's charming pink house and iconic gardens. Take time to relax in the

gardens at leisure, admiring the Japanese bridge and famous waterlily pond. Never before had a painter created his subjects in nature before painting them, and Monet found inspiration in this water garden over twenty years. We later return to our base for an afternoon at leisure. Explore Rouen's maze of medieval cobbled streets, the half timbered houses and the magnificent Gros Horloge (Great Clock). Here you will also find the market square where Joan of Arc was executed in 1431.

**SUNDAY** This morning we head to Etretat, famous for its spectacular cliff views. We have some time at leisure in the pretty town to obtain lunch (at own cost) before taking the tourist train to Etretat Gardens, a picturesque clifftop garden with lush topiary, blooms, sculptures and art to explore. This is also the perfect vantage point to admire the impressive white cliffs in the distance, represented in some of Monet's masterworks. (N.B: due to the site's location it has undulating pathways, quite steep in places)

**MONDAY** We depart the hotel and head to the pretty fishing port of Boulogne-sur-Mer, for a break. From here we retrace our steps to Calais for the return ferry to Dover and continue homeward.

## **IBIS ROUEN CENTRE** Champs-de-Mars

Three nights bed & continental breakfast

Located in Rouen, approx. a 10-15 minute walk to the cathedral. Facilities include a modern, cosy bar and free WiFi. Porterage is included.



# CÔTE D'AZUR & THE RIVIERA OF FLOWERS - TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2024



Diano Marina is a picturesque Italian resort on the Mediterranean's Riviera of Flowers. A long safe sandy beach, shaded by palm trees along the promenade and topped with its own pretty harbour, makes this an idyllic place for relaxing. With excursions to beauty spots in both France and Italy, this represents a great value break.

**TUESDAY** A very early morning departure for our crossing to Calais. We continue into France for bed and breakfast accommodation in the Dijon area.

**WEDNESDAY** We continue south into Italy, to our hotel in the pretty resort of Diano Marina.

**THURSDAY** A day with the services of a friendly local guide. Our first stop is the medieval village of Dolceacqua. The bridge, together with the cluster of houses in the Terra district and the overwhelming castle makes for one of the most picturesque and famous views of the area, famously painted by Claude Monet. We continue to the charming town of Menton. Known as the pearl of France, the charm of the French Riviera is abound, with shuttered villas, terracotta roofs and dreamy beaches. Look out for the small tourist train, an excellent way of seeing some of the town (charges apply).

**FRIDAY** A day at leisure in Diano Marina. Enjoy exploring the palm lined promenade with its many shops, bars, cafes and restaurants, or the bustling town centre with its lovely pastel coloured buildings, adding to its old world charm. **SATURDAY** We enjoy a full day to Monaco and Monte Carlo with the services of a local guide. Occupying a tiny strip of the Riviera coast and nestling under the foot of the Alps, Monaco is the second smallest country in the world, after the Vatican. An enchanting place to visit, with a reputation that far exceeds its size!

**SUNDAY** Today's first stop is Alassio, a seaside resort with a delightful old town and scenic views. We then venture further along to Albenga, nicknamed "city of a hundred spires". The main attraction here is the medieval walled city which contains important historic monuments such as the 5th century Baptistery, the cathedral and a series of medieval towers.

MONDAY A day at leisure in our resort.

**TUESDAY** We depart the hotel and travel to the Dijon area of France for our final evening, with dinner bed and breakfast included.

**WEDNESDAY** Following breakfast we continue to Calais where we board the ferry to Dover, and continue homeward.

The days on which the excursions take place may be subject to change. *Please note that due to the nature of the excursions and the location of the hotel, this tour is not considered suitable for those with limited mobility.* 

### HOTEL NETTUNO Diano Marina

#### Six nights dinner bed & breakfast

Package includes free bar offering local spirits, beers and wines in the hotel from 1900-2200 daily, entertainment some nights; and pizza party with live music on one night.

This family run hotel is in a sunny position overlooking the picturesque West Beach and wind surfing harbour, approx. a 15 minute walk from the centre. Facilities include: comfortable bar; restaurant; pavement terrace; most rooms in main hotel have balcony; rooms in the accommodation block approx. 50 metres away have access to a roof terrace. No lift.



## CAPTIVATING COSTA BRAVA - SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2024

Tour Ref. P630



# The Costa Brava is one of Spain's most well-known holiday coasts, boasting magnificent cities, medieval villages and beautiful coastal resorts. Enjoy the best of the area, from our base at a fantastic 4 star hotel on an all-inclusive package!

**SATURDAY** An early morning departure as we travel to Dover and board a lunchtime ferry to Calais. A meal voucher is included on this and the return ferry crossing. We continue into France for bed and breakfast accommodation in the Dijon area.

**SUNDAY** We continue onwards to Calella for our six night stay. Enjoy a welcome drink of wine/sangria on arrival.

**MONDAY** A day at leisure in the resort, where you will soon discover that Calella is much more than just sun and sea. Explore the charming old town, with its straight and narrow streets around the neoclassical Church of Santa Maria, see the handsome lighthouse, or enjoy the tranquillity of a stroll through Dalmau Park.

**TUESDAY** We journey first to the compact city of Figueres, for a visit to the Salvador Dalí museum. With its striking exterior, it has been dubbed "the world's largest surrealist object". Showcasing many examples of Dalí's unique art, the museum includes some of the painter's greatest masterpieces. In the afternoon we make our way to Girona, where the beautiful Roman walled old quarter, Força Vella, is dominated by the 11th century cathedral tower and its baroque façade. WEDNESDAY An excursion to Barcelona today. Home to masterpieces of many great architects, the most famous of which is Antoni Gaudi, whose eye catching work includes the Parc Güell and the magnificent Church of the Sagrada Familia. Perhaps enjoy a stroll down the wide promenade of Las Ramblas, and explore narrow alleyways, boutique shops and tapas bars in this vibrant and beautiful city.

**THURSDAY** We spend a morning discovering the medieval walled town of Tossa de Mar, where today is market day. Prehistoric remains coexist with Roman and medieval buildings in this ancient fisherman's village that now attracts artists and writers to its shores. In the afternoon we head to Malgrat de Mar, a cheerful coastal town with a lovely stretch of beach and an attractive old town.

**FRIDAY** A final day to enjoy our resort. Following an early dinner, we make our way to Barcelona in the evening to see the Magic Fountain of Montjuïc, a spectacular display of colour, light, motion, music and water acrobatics - if you mix these elements together in just the right combinations, you end up with pure magic! **SATURDAY** We depart Spain and make our way to the Dijon area for dinner, and overnight accommodation.

**SUNDAY** After breakfast, we continue to Calais where we board the ferry to Dover, and continue homeward.

\*Free bar includes local beer, wine, spirits, soft drinks and coffee.

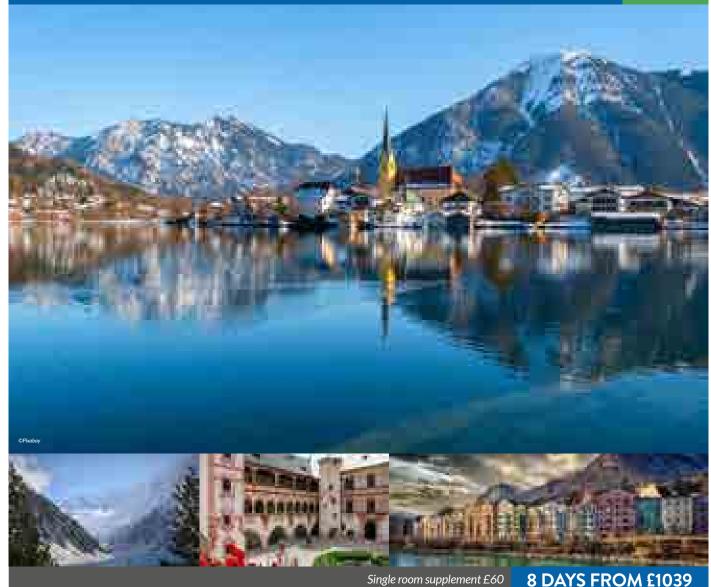
**HTOP AMAIKA HOTEL \*\*\*\*** 

Six nights all inclusive: hot/cold buffet breakfast; buffet or packed lunch; 3 course 3 choice buffet dinner; unlimited wine, beer & soft drinks (excl sparkling water) with dinner; free bar from 1000-2300 daily (selected drinks\*); nightly entertainment.

A welcoming and traditionally styled hotel, tastefully decorated throughout, just a 5 minute walk from the beach and resort centre. Facilities include large elegant restaurant; spacious bar and lounge; outdoor pool; sauna; jacuzzi; and gym. The hotel has a lift. Porterage is included at the mainstay hotel



# AUSTRIAN ALPINE ADVENTURE - SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER 2024



From our base in the northernmost point of Lake Achen (Achensee), this tour takes in some of the Tyrol's finest destinations, including Tratzberg Castle, a journey on the Zillertal Railway, Mayrhofen and Innsbruck. We also cross into Germany for a cruise on Lake Tegernsee.

**SATURDAY** An early morning departure as we travel to Dover and board a lunchtime ferry to Calais. We continue into France for bed and breakfast accommodation in the Metz area.

**SUNDAY** We continue onwards and into Achenkirch for our five night stay. Enjoy welcome Schnapps after dinner today.

**MONDAY** Making the most of our proximity to Achensee boat pier (just 450m from the hotel) you will be provided with a full day hop-on, hop-off ticket to cruise the lake at your leisure, taking in the stunning lake vistas framed by the Karwendel mountains. Perhaps include a visit to the upmarket resort of Pertisau, where you could also embark on a scenic cable car journey (at own cost) with stunning views over the lake.

**TUESDAY** This morning we make our way to Jenbach for a journey on the Zillertal train to Mayrhofen (steam engine not guaranteed). Upon arrival in the popular resort of Mayrhofen, we enjoy an afternoon at leisure in our stunning surroundings, the skyline dominated by the majestic Zillertal Alps.

WEDNESDAY Today commences with a visit to Innsbruck, surrounded by the jagged rock spires of the Nordkette mountain range. Enjoy some time to wander the streets of this compact, charming city, before we travel to the magnificent Tratzberg Castle. This romantic castle has always been considered a Renaissance jewel among the historic buildings of Europe and is one of the most valuable and best-preserved cultural assets of its time. The included audio tour invites you to immerse yourself in a time of emperors, princesses and knights as you walk from room to room.

**THURSDAY** We cross the border into southern Germany and head to Lake Tegernsee in the Bavarian Alps. We embark on a circular lake cruise, making various stops on our scenic journey before arriving in Rottach-Egern. We enjoy free time for lunch (at own cost) then rejoin the boat for the return trip. We then have some time at leisure in Tegernsee, a charming lakeside resort with a small-town feel enhanced by small shops, restaurants and a beautiful church providing panoramic views of the valley.

**FRIDAY** We depart Austria and make our way to the Metz area for dinner, and overnight accommodation.

**SATURDAY** After breakfast, we continue to Calais where we board the ferry to Dover, and continue homeward.

# FISCHERWIRT HOTEL \*\*\*

# Five nights dinner bed & breakfast, coffee & cake one afternoon

A family run hotel, full of rustic charm, situated 50 metres from the shores of Lake Achen, the largest lake in the Tyrol. Facilities include traditional restaurant; bar; sauna. The hotel has a lift.



**CONTINENTAL & JERSEY** 

# JERSEY IN STYLE SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2024



Single room supplement £156

The most southerly of the Channel Islands, Jersey has one of the best sunshine records in the British Isles, and spectacular scenery from sweeping bays in the south to dramatic cliffs in the north. Measuring only nine miles by five, this tiny island with its clear air and clean sea really is a holiday paradise. St Helier is alive with bustling streets and an exciting waterfront area. The public transport system on the island is easy to use, or you may decide to hire a car to explore the many attractions.

**SUNDAY** We make our way to Bournemouth with suitable stops en route, for dinner, overnight accommodation and breakfast.

**MONDAY** A morning transfer to Poole for our Condor Ferries crossing to Jersey. On arrival we will meet a local representative and be transferred to the hotel for our four night stay.

**TUESDAY** Experience Jersey's beautiful coastline on a full day guided island tour.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY Days at leisure. Perhaps make the most of the 'Hop On, Hop Off' bus system to explore further afield; there is the famous Durrell Wildlife Park or Jersey War Tunnels to visit (admission charges apply), or enjoy a pleasant 15 minute stroll into the bustling centre of St Helier. Alternatively, switch into relaxation mode, and make the most of the excellent and varied facilities at the hotel!

Tour Ref. P700

**FRIDAY** We retrace our steps back to Poole via Condor Ferries, and continue homeward, making suitable stops en route.

PHOTO ID – all Condor Ferries passengers must present a form of valid photo ID for check-in and boarding purposes. Without this you will not be permitted to board.

CURRENCY – The currency is Sterling, but Jersey has its own coins and notes which you may receive as change. Please note these are not accepted in the UK.

## MERTON HOTEL - St Saviour \*\*\*

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, regular entertainment

In a good location and just a 15 minute walk to the centre of St Helier via a pretty park. This resort hotel boasts an impressive number of amenities including an indoor and outdoor pool complex and fitness centre; Belvedere Restaurant; Bonetti's Italian Restaurant; Jersey Joe's Diner; Cascades Café Bar; Lobby Lounge; Commentary Box Sports Bar; The Star Room; tennis court; and WiFi.



# Festive & Christmas

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All festive packages at hotels in this section are subject to slight change, due to lead times involved.

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## BOURNEMOUTH TURKEY & TINSEL - MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2024



Limited single rooms with no supplement

## 5 DAYS FROM £445

On the south coast with its pale honey coloured cliffs, Bournemouth is an elegant resort, boasting seven miles of award-winning golden beaches. Come and enjoy an extensive festive entertainment package in this picturesque setting.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with suitable stops en route. Enjoy tea/coffee upon arrival at the hotel, and entertainment after dinner on "Christmas Eve".

**TUESDAY** *"Christmas Day"*. Time at leisure to explore Bournemouth, or perhaps enjoy the hotel's leisure facilities. Be sure to return to the

hotel in time for a glass of sherry, and afternoon bingo, followed later by a traditional Christmas dinner and entertainment!

WEDNESDAY "Boxing Day". Today we enjoy a scenic drive to the New Forest, for our visit to Beaulieu. Home to The National Motor Museum, World of Top Gear, Palace House & Gardens, Beaulieu Abbey and more – there really is something for everyone here. Explore the site using the monorail or 1912 replica London open top bus to make the most of your visit.

**THURSDAY** "New Year's Eve". A morning excursion to Brockenhurst, a bustling village, and one of the largest in the area. Here you may even witness ponies and donkeys roaming free in an old world setting full of charm. We return to the hotel, to enjoy an afternoon tea dance prior to dinner, and then relax with the final evening of festive entertainment.

**FRIDAY** We depart after breakfast and commence our homeward journey, with suitable stops en route.

# SUNCLIFF HOTEL \*\*\*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, four nights entertainment, and an afternoon tea-dance

The Suncliff is in a stunning location on the prestigious East Cliff, and about a 15 minute walk from the town centre. Facilities include: Atlantic Restaurant; several lounges including conservatory lounge with views overlooking the sea; pool table; and leisure complex including indoor swimming pool & sauna. Porterage is included.



# CHATSWORTH HOUSE AT CHRISTMAS - FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2024

Tour Ref. P205



Single room supplement £35

## **2 DAYS FROM £189**

Join us for this most festive of short breaks, as we enjoy the beauty and wonder of Chatsworth House dressed for Christmas. In addition there is the Chatsworth Christmas market to visit – an attraction in itself! What better way to start the festive season with this truly magical experience for all to enjoy.

**FRIDAY** We make our way to the market town of Bakewell, famous for its Bakewell Pudding. Idyllically situated on the banks of

the River Wye, the biggest town in the Peak District National Park boasts mellow stone buildings, a medieval five-arched stone bridge and quaint courtyards to explore. From here we continue to our Derby hotel.

**SATURDAY** We transfer to Chatsworth House. The theme, normally announced in September, will entrance and captivate, as you move from room to room, enjoying Chatsworth's renowned seasonal celebrations and elaborate decorations, trees and twinkling lights. Once you've had your fill of the ornate décor and kaleidoscope of colour, why not soak up the Christmas market atmosphere as you browse over 100 stalls offering a wide range of Christas gifts and decorations – a great opportunity to find perfect presents for all the family. We depart late afternoon and commence our journey homeward.

## LEONARDO H \*\*\*\* HOTEL - Derby

#### One night dinner bed & breakfast

The Leonardo Hotel Derby is a great choice for this weekend break and ideal for our itinerary. Facilities include: contemporary restaurant; stylish bar; and coffee bar. The hotel has a lift.

## TURKEY & TINSEL IN THE TROSSACHS - MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2024



A winter warmer to ease you into the festive season! Based on the edge of the Trossachs within one of Scotland's National Parks, the hotel is a great base for our itinerary, enhanced by a festive programme at the hotel.

**MONDAY** We travel north to Scotland, taking breaks en route, arriving in comfortable time for "Christmas Eve" dinner.

**TUESDAY** "Christmas Day". Today begins with a visit to Stirling, rich in history and spectacular scenery and home to one of the most important castles in Scotland. Enjoy some time at leisure to browse the independent boutiques in the historic surroundings of the old town. We next head to the bustling town of Callander, a popular stop at the gateway to the Highlands, situated on the River Teith. We return to the hotel via the Duke's Pass.

**WEDNESDAY** *"Hogmanay"*. We journey to Edinburgh, the compact, hilly capital, with its medieval old town, striking Georgian architecture, and Edinburgh Castle

dominating the skyline. Whether you prefer shopping or sightseeing, Edinburgh has both bases more than covered!

**THURSDAY** "New Year's Day". Today, an excursion into the Trossachs National Park. Enjoy breathtaking views as we pass by wooded glens, braes, and lochs. We include a stop at Loch Lomond Shores, for a spot of retail therapy, or a bite to eat in one of the cafés (at own cost). We also include a visit to the picturesque village of Luss on the west side of the Loch, and round off the day at Aberfoyle's Woollen Mill where we have time to browse the traditional Scottish wares, before returning to the hotel.

**FRIDAY** We depart after our final Scottish breakfast, making suitable stops en route.

# **ROB ROY HOTEL** \*\*\*

Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast and two nights festive entertainment Situated in idyllic countryside at the gateway to the Trossachs, and set within Scotland's first National Park, the hotel is a short stroll along the banks of the Forth River to the picturesque village of Aberfoyle. Facilities include: Tartan Tea Room; Thistle Bar Lounge.



## LANTERNS AT LONGLEAT & BRISTOL CHRISTMAS MARKET - FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2024 Tour Ref. P182



Join us to visit this truly unique event as the world famous Longleat Estate is transformed into a glowing winter wonderland on a spectacular scale.

**FRIDAY** We make our way to Wiltshire, with a break in the Cotswolds, and arrive late afternoon at the hotel.

**SATURDAY** This morning we stop at the historic market town of Devizes for a short break, before continuing to Longleat. Here we gain access to some of the attractions Longleat has to offer, including the winter safari drive-through, in addition to the main event; the UK's original lantern festival. As the winter sun sets, enjoy the sight of a multitude of lanterns and numerous magical scenes displayed

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over 30 acres of splendid 'Capability' Brown landscaped grounds, transforming Longleat into a breath-taking illuminated world. We return to the hotel for a late dinner.

**SUNDAY** We transfer to Bristol for our visit to the traditional Christmas Market. Located in the heart of the city centre, enjoy over 50 unique stalls, amidst a backdrop of decorations and lights that welcome and guide you through the market. We depart mid-afternoon for the journey home.

## DOUBLETREE BY \*\*\*\* HILTON HOTEL - Swindon

#### Two nights dinner, bed & breakfast

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Set in the Wiltshire countryside, and recently refurbished to a high standard, this hotel is ideally placed for a visit to this beautiful region. Facilities include: Open plan restaurant and kitchen; split level bar/lounge; air conditioning; complimentary toiletries; and WiFi.

## NEWQUAY TURKEY & TINSEL - MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2024



# The appeal of the Cornish coast is legendary, and on this tour we explore pretty villages, dramatic coastline and visit the Eden Project, home to the largest indoor rainforest in the world.

**MONDAY** We drive to the South West, making suitable comfort stops en route. Today is "Christmas Eve", and we enjoy mulled wine on arrival, and live entertainment after this evening's dinner.

**TUESDAY** "Christmas Day". A visit to Bodmin Jail this morning. Built in 1779, the jail has played an important role in Cornwall's history, and this immersive attraction allows you to delve into an intriguing hidden history. We continue to Padstow in the afternoon. Enjoy some leisure time here in one of Cornwall's oldest harbour towns, with its picturesque harbour and medieval buildings, including the 16th century courthouse of Sir Walter Raleigh. Tonight we enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner, followed by bingo and live entertainment. WEDNESDAY "Boxing Day". A morning excursion to Cornwall's capital city of Truro, where centre stage is the beautiful cathedral surrounded by a maze of intriguing side streets. We then enjoy some time at leisure in Newquay, or perhaps enjoy the showing of a festive film at the hotel this afternoon, with mince pies.

**THURSDAY** "New Year's Eve". We visit the Eden Project where, nestled in a huge crater, giant Biomes house the largest rainforest in captivity, with stunning plants, exhibitions and striking contemporary gardens. Tonight, enjoy a NYE dinner followed by entertainment.

**FRIDAY** We travel home with suitable stops en route.

# **KILBIRNIE HOTEL \* \* \* \***

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, nightly entertainment

With an enviable position, The Kilbirnie Hotel is located overlooking Tolcarne and Lusty Glaze beaches, with just a short stroll down onto the golden sands. Facilities include restaurant boasting magnificent sea views; lounge bar; heated indoor swimming pool and sauna, fully equipped fitness suite, and sun terrace. The hotel has a lift.

Tour Ref. P128



# THURSFORD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR - THURSDAY 21 & 28 NOVEMBER, THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2024



Welcome to the largest Christmas show in England! Set in the magical surroundings of mechanical organs and fairground carousels, a cast of 130 performers deliver an extravaganza of non-stop singing, dancing, music, humour and variety. The lavishly decorated auditorium is a riot of Christmas colour with thousands of twinkling lights and festive decorations to rival a Hollywood film set.

**THURSDAY** Departing from our local joining points we make an early lunch stop en route (at own expense), before continuing to Thursford in time for the 2pm performance. After the show we transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight accommodation. **FRIDAY** We head to Norwich city centre where we will have time at leisure for Christmas shopping or sightseeing, before departing midafternoon for the homeward journey.

## HOLIDAY INN \*\*\* NORWICH CITY - Norwich

#### One night dinner bed & breakfast

A modern, popular hotel on the outskirts of Norwich, overlooking Carrow Road Stadium. Facilities include: restaurant and cocktail lounge.



## LAKE DISTRICT TURKEY & TINSEL - MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2024



# The Lake District National Park is one of the most spectacular areas of the British Isles, and the perfect destination to enjoy a lovely festive winter break!

**MONDAY** Outward journey to Skipton with time at leisure. We then continue onwards, stopping briefly at Carnforth Station, the setting for the classic 1945 film 'Brief Encounter'. From here we continue to the hotel. Enjoy a glass of sherry or fizz prior to dinner, followed by entertainment.

**TUESDAY** *"Christmas Eve"*. This morning we journey to Kendal, a town steeped in history and character, with a web of pretty interweaving alleyways and cobbled yards. We then continue on to Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria's most popular destination on the banks of Lake Windermere. Following Christmas Eve Dinner there will be another evening of entertainment to look forward to.

WEDNESDAY "Christmas Day". An excursion to Leighton Hall, a much loved family home with a rich heritage. We enjoy arrival coffee and mince pies in front of an open fire, followed by a guided tour of the hall, all dressed for Christmas. It's then a short journey to Bay View Garden Centre, for free time in the Christmas Shop, plant area and restaurant, with stunning views over Morecambe Bay. There will also be a £9.00 lunch voucher included. Tonight, a traditional Christmas Dinner will be served, followed by hot mince pies and coffee to accompany the night's entertainment.

**THURSDAY** "New Year's Eve". This morning we head north to Keswick, capital of the Northern Lakes, where today is market day. After some time at leisure here, we continue alongside Thirlmere and visit Grasmere be sure to purchase some of the legendary Grasmere Gingerbread, or perhaps visit William Wordsworth's grave. Tonight dinner will be followed by entertainment to see in the new year!

**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and make our way home, taking a break in Harrogate en route.

# **CUMBRIA GRAND HXXXXHOTEL** - Grange-over-Sands

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, regular entertainment

Built in 1880, the hotel is set in 20 acres of private gardens and woodlands and overlooking Morecambe Bay you will receive a warm and friendly welcome at this charming hotel.

Facilities include: Hazelwood Restaurant; The Jacobean Bar; complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included



# WEYMOUTH TURKEY & TINSEL - MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2024



Surrounded by rolling hills and woodlands, Weymouth is perfectly placed to explore the charming Dorset countryside and coastline. The resort has a beautiful beach, and along the harbour side leading to the town you'll find tea rooms and art galleries.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with suitable stops en route. Today is "Christmas Eve" – dinner will be followed by bingo and festive music.

**TUESDAY** "Christmas Day". We start the day with time at leisure in Sherborne. Medieval and mellow-stoned, this Dorset gem boasts timber framed stone buildings, 15th century almshouses, two castles and a 12th century abbey. We continue to Shaftesbury, a small market town in Dorset with history dating back to Saxon times. The town is the home of Gold Hill, made famous by the "Hovis" advert, and offers magnificent views over Thomas Hardy's Blackmore Vale. This evening, enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner, followed by bingo and entertainment.

**WEDNESDAY** "Boxing Day". This morning we visit Athelhampton House, one of England's finest Tudor manor houses. Dating from 1485, the Great Hall is a fine example of domestic Tudor architecture, and the house has many interesting rooms, filled with antique furnishings and art. Later we drive to charming Dorchester, county town of Dorset, for some time at leisure before returning to the hotel.

Tour Ref. P160

**THURSDAY** "New Year's Eve". A morning excursion to the Isle of Portland. This unique, tied island marks the southernmost point on the Jurassic Coast and is joined to the mainland by Chesil Beach. Its isolated location, with Portland Bill lighthouse dominating the skyline, quaint villages and rocky coastal scenery all lend the island its own special atmosphere. We then have an afternoon at leisure in our resort. This evening enjoy a Hogmanay dinner, a glass of bubbly to see in the new year and party night entertainment.

**FRIDAY** We commence our homeward journey, making suitable stops en route.

# HOTEL REX M \*\*\*

# Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, two nights entertainment

Situated on the Esplanade overlooking the stunning golden sands of Weymouth Beach, the hotel is just a short walk from the busy fishing harbour and town centre. Facilities include: residents' lounge; bar; Rex Restaurant; WiFi and a lift to all floors. Porterage is included.



## YORK CHRISTMAS MARKET & HARROGATE - SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2024



# Come along and enjoy the special atmosphere of these two renowned Yorkshire towns decked for the festive season.

**SATURDAY** Outward journey to Harrogate where you will find all the leading high street names sitting alongside stylish independents. Explore the Christmas market, perhaps enjoy

tea in the famous Bettys Café Tea Rooms and take a walk down Montpellier Hill, experiencing the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the area. There will be the opportunity to join our coach late afternoon and transfer to RHS Harlow Carr, where you can enjoy the gardens at dusk as special lighting effects bring a touch of magic as you follow the illuminated trail. Cost is £15 per person, and subject to passenger numbers. Please indicate your interest at time of booking.

**SUNDAY** After breakfast we depart for York. There will be ample time to wander the tangle of cobbled streets, explore the Christmas market, peruse designer shops, high street names and antique shops – certainly enough to satisfy the most demanding shopper. You may prefer to visit one of the many attractions, such as the iconic York Minster, the National Railway Museum, Castle Museum or Clifford Tower, (admissions at own expense) before we depart late afternoon for the journey home.

## **CAIRN HOTEL** *M* \*\*\* Harrogate

#### One night dinner bed & breakfast

Located just a five minute walk from the town centre, the Cairn has been carefully modernised and the grand original features still welcome you to this charming hotel. Facilities include: Windsor Restaurant & Lounge Bar



## WINDSOR CASTLE AT CHRISTMAS & LONDON - SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2024

Tour Ref. P127



Celebrate the festive season this year with a visit to Windsor Castle. The State Apartments will be transformed, with magnificent Christmas trees, twinkling lights and festive garlands.

**SUNDAY** We journey to London for time to spend as you wish; whether it's sightseeing, Christmas shopping, indulging in retail therapy or just taking in the vibrant atmosphere of the capital city. We transfer to the hotel at 8pm for our overnight stay with breakfast. **MONDAY** After breakfast we transfer to Windsor for our visit to the Castle. Windsor Castle is the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world, and has been the home of 39 monarchs. Experience the splendour, and discover the delights within the Castle's buildings. Admission also includes entry to St George's Chapel, final resting place of Queen Elizabeth II. (N.B: the castle is at the top of a steep hill, and the visitor route covers long distances, we therefore recommend comfortable footwear.)

## **HOLIDAY INN \*\*\*\*** London Heathrow Bath Road

#### One night bed & breakfast

A modern hotel, opened in 2019. The quality of the decor and fixtures and fittings is of a very high standard, and it is ideally situated for our itinerary. Facilities include HI Pizza Restaurant; Sports Bar & Cafe; and free WiFi. The hotel has a lift.



## CHRISTMAS IN STIRLING - MONDAY 23 DECEMBER 2024



Situated in the centre of Scotland, where highland mountains and lochs meet the lowlands, Stirling boasts an old town to rival that of Edinburgh. The perfect backdrop for a relaxing Christmas break.

**MONDAY** Outward journey with suitable stops en route, arriving in comfortable time to settle into our accommodation. Enjoy a welcome drink prior to a delicious three course dinner.

**CHRISTMAS EVE** This morning we enjoy a walk to the nearby Stirling Castle, widely regarded as one of Scotland's grandest castles, with its imposing position and impressive architecture. Afterwards, we return to the hotel where afternoon tea will be served. And later, perhaps venture out into the city centre to soak up some last minute pre-Christmas atmosphere prior to dinner.

**CHRISTMAS DAY** Merry Christmas! Enjoy your breakfast and a lazy morning at your leisure. Later, a traditional Christmas lunch will be served, and there may even be a visit from Santa! Then enjoy a light buffet supper in the evening. **BOXING DAY** Following breakfast we make a brief visit to the magnificent Kelpies monument en route to Edinburgh. Here you are free to enjoy the sights of the medieval old town and elegant Georgian new town, or perhaps bargain hunt in the Christmas sales.

**FRIDAY** After a hearty Scottish breakfast, we commence our return journey, making a suitable stop en route.

## THE GOLDEN LION STB \*\*\* HOTEL - Stirling

Four nights dinner bed & breakfast, Christmas day lunch, one afternoon tea, entertainment on one night

For over 200 years this hotel has welcomed guests, including royalty and National Bard, Rabbie Burns. Located in the heart of historic Stirling, with excellent shopping virtually on its doorstep, this family owned and run hotel provides traditional Scottish hospitality in modern surroundings. Facilities include Cronies Bar, Cronies Restaurant; free WiFi in public areas. Porterage is included.

Please note there are several steps from the main entrance to the reception area, and two small steps within the restaurant which is split level.



## **CHRISTMAS IN HARROGATE - MONDAY 23 DECEMBER 2024**



# A lovely Yorkshire-based Christmas break featuring some of its most popular destinations, whilst enjoying the peaceful location of our lovely hotel.

**MONDAY** On our outward journey we head to Knaresborough, with its warren of medieval streets and stone staircases that weave their way up and down the hill. The town centre is perched on the cliffs above the River Nidd and the imposing railway viaduct stretches across the Nidd Gorge. We continue to the hotel, enjoying tea/coffee and mince pies on arrival.

**CHRISTMAS EVE** Our day begins with an "Emmerdale" drive, taking us through the beautiful countryside featured on the opening credits of the TV show, and we make our way to the village of Esholt - "Beckindale" and then "Emmerdale" for many years. Final destination of the day is the former spa town of Ilkley, sheltered by Ilkley Moor and the Cow and Calf Rocks. We return to the hotel for afternoon tea, and a festive quiz. This evening, enjoy a Christmas banquet dinner, followed by Christmas carols, mulled wine, tea or coffee and mince pies.

**CHRISTMAS DAY** Merry Christmas! After a relaxing morning, sit down to a 4 course Christmas lunch, and later, tea/coffee and Christmas cake will be served during the King's speech. In the evening, there will be Tour Ref. P129

a hot fork buffet with desserts, and evening entertainment of bingo.

**BOXING DAY** Following breakfast, you have a day at leisure to explore Harrogate. Perhaps enjoy a stroll through Valley Gardens, or take a walk down Montpellier Hill, experiencing the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the area. This evening's dinner is followed by a festive quiz.

**FRIDAY** We depart the hotel and head to York. Enjoy some time exploring the city's many attractions, or perhaps snap up some Christmas sale bargains... and don't forget a visit to Bettys Café Tea Rooms! We depart in the afternoon and continue our homeward journey.

# **CEDAR COURT HOTEL \*\*\***

#### Four nights dinner bed & breakfast; programme of entertainment; afternoon tea; Christmas Day lunch

Located in the heart of Harrogate, the hotel offers recently refurbished accommodation overlooking 200 acres of the pristine Stray parkland, just a short stroll from some of the must-see attractions. Facilities include: restaurant; lounge; bar, and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.



64 BOOK ONLINE: WWW.PCCOACHES.CO.UK / E: holidays@pccoaches.co.uk ·

## CHRISTMAS IN DURHAM - MONDAY 23 DECEMBER 2024



Spend Christmas in the World Heritage City of Durham, at this ever popular hotel. This year we include a visit to the pantomime too!

**MONDAY** Outward journey to Durham, with a suitable stop en route. Mince pies and tea/coffee will be served on arrival. With its UNESCO World Heritage listed cathedral and castle, charming streets and pretty riverside walks, you'll find Durham a delight to explore. **CHRISTMAS EVE** Time at leisure this morning to enjoy the festive atmosphere of Durham. In the afternoon a cream tea will be served at the hotel.

**CHRISTMAS DAY** Merry Christmas! Enjoy a relaxed breakfast, and perhaps

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Can I get my deposit back if I cancel my holiday?** Deposits are non-refundable, so if you decide to cancel, unfortunately this will be forfeited. If you are within 56 days prior to departure, then please refer to our Ts & Cs (no.14) for further cancellation charge details.

When do I pay the balance of my holiday? The "balance due by" date can be found on the bottom right hand corner of your booking confirmation; no further reminders will be issued.

Is car parking available at the Lincoln and Louth depots while I am on holiday? We have limited parking at our Lincoln depot only, it is free of charge, and subject to availability - please enquire at the time of booking. Please also note that if parking at the Lincoln depot, you will need to leave your car keys in case we need to move vehicles around whilst you are away, although this happens rarely.

Will it be the coach picking me up at my joining point? Not necessarily; you may be collected by a feeder vehicle and transferred to a pick up point on the designated main route that the coach will take. We do not know what the specific coach route will be until approx. two weeks prior to departure, and it varies from holiday to holiday.

What time will I be picked up? This information will be in your holiday documents that arrive 10-14 days prior to departure – we will not know the answer prior to this, and it varies from holiday to holiday.

When will I receive my pick-up time and my travel documents? These will be issued approx. 10-14 days prior to travel.

What size suitcase can I take? As a rough guide, a medium suitcase is generally between 58-63cm (h) and 39-42cm (w) – but please apply common sense to these guidelines. The weight should be no more than 20kg per case.

#### Why do I have to pay a single supplement?

They are the commercial decision of a hotel, vary from property to property, and unfortunately we have no control or jurisdiction over them – these supplements are passed directly on. There are a few hotels offering a limited number of single rooms supplement-free, so we recommend enquiring about single room availability upon receipt of new brochures, as single rooms always sell out quickly.

# Can I be picked up from my house, because I think the feeder vehicle will be passing by?

Unfortunately not; most of the feeder vehicles are operated by partner taxi firms, and we have no say over the route taken by their drivers – other pick ups en route/roadworks/travel disruptions all mean their route cannot be anticipated ahead of time. The home collection service can be booked on holidays of 4 days or more, at a cost of £25 per person.

Are there toilets on the coaches? All of our executive coaches have W.C. facilities for emergencies, but we do also factor in comfort breaks en route, where the journey length/driver's working hours so dictate. Refreshment/comfort break venues and frequency are at the driver's discretion.

**Can I eat aboard the coach?** We respectfully request that you refrain from eating whilst travelling on the coach, unless for specific medical reasons. Comfort breaks are taken at venues where food can be eaten on site.

Will the driver give commentary whilst driving? For safety reasons, the driver cannot generally provide a full running commentary whilst driving the vehicle. We do have some holidays that include the services of a local guide who take a stroll before a traditional Christmas Day lunch is served, with a glass of champagne. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon before dinner in the evening.

**BOXING DAY** A visit to Whitley Bay this morning – you may even witness the locals participating in the annual Boxing Day dip! From here we journey to Newcastle to enjoy the matinee performance of this year's Pantomime.

**FRIDAY** After breakfast we begin our return journey, taking a break in Richmond en route.

# DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT DURHAM ROYAL COUNTY - Durham

Four nights dinner, bed and breakfast and Christmas Day lunch; welcome mince pies with tea/coffee on arrival; and a cream tea on Christmas Eve. Please note this is a package for those looking for a more sedate, relaxing break – no evening entertainment is included.

In one of the most enviable positions in the city, the Durham Royal County Marriott Hotel boasts an historic heritage and impeccable amenities. Beautifully appointed bedrooms have sitting/living area, iron & ironing board, and safe. Facilities include: Restaurant; coffee lounge; fitness centre and complimentary WiFi. Porterage is included.



will provide running commentary on the coach for a number of hours or sometimes a full day – see holiday itineraries for further details.

What time will I arrive at the hotel? We always aim to arrive in comfortable time for you to settle in prior to dinner (where applicable) – this meal time does vary from hotel to hotel.

Is there a charge for front seats? We do not charge an additional premium for booking front seats.

Are guide dogs permitted? Guide dogs are permitted, though we do need to know at the time of booking so we can also notify the hotel. Therapy dogs are not permitted at this time.

**Can I take a mobility scooter**? Yes, subject to available coach space, and the mobility scooter's compliance with our regulations – please enquire at the time of booking.

I am owed a refund from you – when can I expect to receive this? We aim to process refunds within 7-10 working days – please get in touch if you do not receive it within this timeframe.

Why do some holiday itineraries warn of an early morning outbound departure? Generally this is for tours involving a ferry crossing. The timings take into account the route required for the pick-ups, comfort break/s en route, and we always build in a little bit of time in case of traffic congestion en route, in order to arrive in good time for ferry sailings.

Can I book coach-only travel if you're travelling to a destination I wish to visit on my own terms? Yes, this can be arranged, no earlier than 8 weeks prior to the date of travel, subject to availability. Please contact us for a quote at this point.

#### **1** WHAT'S INCLUDED

Holiday prices include all coach travel from listed departure points, excursions/admissions fees unless otherwise stated, ferry crossings unless part of an optional excursion, hotel accommodation & board basis as specified in each itinerary.

#### 2 WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Charges that hotels may make for certain facilities, e.g. tennis courts, sun beds etc. Cost of visas or inoculations. Any personal expenditure incurred that is not specified as a holiday package inclusion, e.g. meals en route or during excursions, gratuities, and travel insurance. Extra items such as laundry, alcohol, tea/coffee after dinner, unless the hotel specifically includes those items within the advertised package.

#### **3 EXCURSION PROGRAMMES & OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

We reserve the right to substitute any advertised excursion with a similar alternative if operational reasons deem this necessary. Excursions often involve taking you to a convenient central point with time at leisure to explore at your own pace. On tours where there are free days, we may offer optional excursions. These are not included in your holiday price, and are subject to minimum numbers booking to make their operation viable.

#### **4** PASSENGER MOBILITY & MOBILITY AIDS POLICY

Please note that you must be able to negotiate the (approx. 5) steps onto the coach and any feeder vehicle, either independently or with the aid of a travelling companion. We also strongly encourage you to conduct your own research on your chosen itinerary to ascertain its suitability for your needs, as we want everyone to have an enjoyable and carefree holiday. While we provide an overview of each holiday, we are unable to provide accessibility statements for every attraction/destination/hotel, nor will we be held responsible for something we don't mention that impedes upon your enjoyment of the holiday.

We will accept compact mobility scooters/walking aids subject to the following:

- a) Our booking staff must be notified at the time booking of any mobility aids you wish to bring. Please note we cannot accept class 3 scooters, which are too large and heavy to lift, and scooters must be operated by dry cell batteries only.
- b) You must complete and return a Mobility Aid Booking Form in advance, and we will advise you of the suitability of your mobility scooter for carriage on our coaches/feeder vehicles, and whether we have sufficient space (we can only carry 2 per coach). Without this paperwork, and our confirmation where applicable, your mobility scooter/aid will be refused on the day of travel. Mobility scooters cannot be unloaded at comfort breaks.

#### **5 SEAT ALLOCATION**

It is possible, on occasion, that a coach of different seat configuration or size may be used, and we therefore reserve the right to alter the seating plan and allocate seats other than the ones you have booked, although this will be avoided wherever possible. We have no liability in relation to any such change of specification. We also reserve the right to move single passengers on a coach, so that they are seated next to another single passenger. Seat allocation does not apply on feeder vehicles.

#### **6** SPECIAL REQUESTS

If you have any special requests, you must advise us at the time of booking, and ensure they are noted on your Booking Confirmation. Your request will be passed on to the hotel concerned; however we cannot guarantee their compliance.

#### 7 SMOKING/VAPING

Smoking and vaping on-board our vehicles is strictly prohibited.

#### 8 PRIVACY POLICY

We take your privacy very seriously, and are committed to abiding by the data protection laws which protect your privacy. Our privacy policy may change on occasion; the most up-to-date version will always be available on our website. It is your responsibility to read this privacy policy. A printed copy can be made available on request by telephoning either our Lincoln office (01522) 533605 or Louth office (01507) 600016.

#### **9 FINANCIAL SECURITY**

PC. Executive Coaches of Lincoln Ltd is a member of the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT) and follows their guidelines. We have established a Client Trust Account in order to comply with the European Community Directive number 90/314 for the benefit of our customers. All monies received are paid into a dedicated Client Trust Account until after the holiday departs.

#### **10 TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We offer travel insurance; however, you can purchase travel insurance from another provider. Please note that if you choose not to obtain a travel insurance policy for your trip, you will be required to sign and return an Insurance Disclaimer which will be provided upon receipt of your deposit/s.

#### **11 YOUR CONTRACT WITH US**

By paying the relevant deposit, you are binding all persons travelling to our Terms & Conditions. The contract is made when your booking is entered onto our reservations system and we issue a confirmation of booking – please check this carefully to ensure all information is correct, and advise us immediately of any errors. The balance of payment must be made no later than 8 weeks prior to departure. (Please note some tours are 10 weeks prior to departure)

#### **12 IF YOU CHANGE YOUR BOOKING**

Minor changes prior to the balance due date, such as additional requests, joining point amendments etc. necessitating the issue of a new Booking Confirmation will be allowed subject to the payment of a £10 amendment fee per person. After the balance due date, whilst we will attempt to accommodate minor changes on the same basis, no guarantee can be given. For major changes such as transfer to a different holiday after the balance due date, we reserve the right to treat such changes as cancellations and levy the cancellation charges as set out in Section 14.

#### **13 IF WE CHANGE YOUR HOLIDAY**

The arrangements for your holiday are usually made many months in advance and changes are sometimes unavoidable. We reserve the right to alter without notice, routes, seating plans and itineraries, (and occasionally) hotels, and make short notice changes from ferry sailings to Eurotunnel crossings (and vice versa) if deemed necessary, on any tour arranged by PC Coach Holidays.

#### **14 IF YOU CANCEL YOUR HOLIDAY**

You or any member of your party may cancel your holiday at any time provided that the information is conveyed in writing to PC Coach Holidays. Any such cancellation will incur cancellation charges on the following scale:

Balance Due Date	Period before departure that written cancellation is received	Cancellation charge as a % of the total holiday price
10 Weeks	More than 70 days	Loss of deposit
8 Weeks	More than 56 days	Loss of deposit
10 Weeks 8 Weeks	56 to 70 days 28 to 56 days	45% of holiday cost or loss of deposit whichever is greater
10 Weeks	14 to 55 days	60% of holiday cost
8 Weeks	14 to 27 days	60% of holiday cost
10 Weeks	0 to 13 days	100% of holiday cost
8 Weeks	0 to 13 days	100% of holiday cost

10 week balance deadlines relate to: European tours, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, theatre & special event ticketed breaks

#### **15 IF WE CANCEL YOUR HOLIDAY**

It is necessary in order to operate any holiday that a certain level of passenger numbers is achieved. If not achieved, then the holiday may be cancelled and an alternative offered. You will then have the choice of accepting this alternative, accepting a credit note or receiving a refund of all monies paid in respect of your booking, less any amendment fees already charged. We are not responsible for any out of pocket expenses you incur beyond the holiday booking, as a result of the cancellation.

#### **16 FINAL HOLIDAY DETAILS/PAPERWORK**

You will receive your tickets and final holiday details approximately 14 days before departure. If you have not received this information 3 working days before departure, we request that you telephone our office to check the exact departure time and departure point for your holiday. We regret that we will be unable to consider any claim for loss of money or compensation from clients who fail to contact us in the event of not receiving final holiday details. The cost of your holiday is not guaranteed against any increase resulting from government action, including an increase in VAT, additional bonding, and devaluation of the pound sterling or increased fuel charges.

#### 17 LUGGAGE

All baggage and belongings are carried at owners' risk and we will not be held responsible for any loss or damage except where such damage or loss is caused by the proven negligence of our employees. We ask you to keep your holiday luggage down to one medium size case per person, not exceeding 20kg, and ensure the contents are securely packed. On tours with overnight stops, one small overnight bag per person is also recommended. Please ensure that all regular medication is carried as hand luggage, and not stowed in the luggage compartment on the coach.

#### **18 CONTINENTAL TRAVEL**

#### Passport and visa information

For continental holidays you must have at least 6 months left on your passport on the date of travel. Your passport must be less than 10 years old on the day of entry to your holiday destination. Please note, any extra months on your passport over 10 years will not count towards the minimum period needed; calculate the 10 years from the date of issue. If you have any doubts over your status as resident or British subject, or you do not hold a full British passport, you must check with the Embassy or Consulate of the countries to be visited, to confirm passport and visa requirements for your particular circumstances. We cannot accept responsibility for passengers not in possession of the correct travel documents.

#### European tourist taxes

Local authorities in some towns and cities throughout Europe have introduced tourist taxes, which must be paid directly to the hotel by all guests in person. No such taxes are included in our prices to you and we cannot make payment on your behalf or include this tax on your invoice. As soon as we become aware of any such taxes affecting your holiday we will notify you.

#### **19 LATE ARRIVAL OF PASSENGERS**

We will be unable to delay departures where you arrive more than 10 minutes late at any of the stops en route during your trip, or if you are more than 10 minutes late to arrive at your joining point. Where you miss a pick up you shall have no claim against us for any losses incurred as a result. Please call us on the emergency duty phone if you are running late (number provided with travel documentation) and we will do our best to assist.

#### **20 CLIENTS BEHAVIOUR**

PC Coach Holidays reserves the right to refuse a booking or terminate a client's holiday in the event of unreasonable conduct if, in our opinion, it is likely to cause damage, distress, danger or annoyance to other clients, employees, and property or to any third party. If you are prevented from travelling or continuing your holiday by such termination, PC Coach Holidays' responsibility for your holiday ceases. Full cancellation charges will apply and PC Coach Holidays will be under no obligation for any refund, compensation or loss which you may incur, and any future bookings with us will be cancelled.

#### **21 INFECTIOUS/CONTAGIOUS DISEASES**

If you develop an infectious or contagious disease, and attempt to commence the holiday, and it is our driver's opinion that your health represents a significant risk to others, we reserve the right to refuse you travel. If you develop such a disease whilst on holiday with us, and in our opinion you present a risk to other guests, we reserve the right to require you to quarantine in your room, or return home, as appropriate. In such circumstances, we will make every effort to assist with alternative means of travel home, but all costs incurred as a result will be your responsibility.

#### 22 IF YOU WISH TO COMPLAIN

In the unlikely event that you or any member of your party have cause for complaint, in the first instance, please inform the supplier of the service at the point of the issue, and also our driver who will do his utmost to resolve the problem immediately. Failing this, you must notify us in writing within 14 days of your return. We will respond to complaints within 28 days of receipt. We do not enter into correspondence from Customer Questionnaires alone.

This policy is underwritten by ERGO Travel Insurance Services Ltd on behalf of Great Lakes Insurance UK Limited. Great Lakes Insurance UK Limited is a company incorporated in England and Wales with company number 13436330 and whose registered office address is 10 Fenchurch Avenue, London, United Kingdom, EC3M SBN. Great Lakes Insurance UK Limited is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Firm Reference Number 955859. You can check this on the Financial Services Register by visiting: https://register.fca.org.uk

ERGO Travel Insurance Services Ltd (ETI) is registered in England and Wales, company number 11091555. Authorised and regulated by the FCA, register number 805870 and registered office: 10 Fenchurch Avenue, London, EC3M 5BN.

Should you wish to take out this holiday insurance policy 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 pre-existing medical conditions, are travelling in countries included within the policy terms and who wish to insure themselves against unforeseen 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 Towergate Assistance. A summary of the cover is detailed below. Full details of the key benefits, conditions and exclusions will be included in the Policy Booklet, Table of Benefits and Insurance Product Information Document (IPID), copies of which will be sent to you with your confirmation of booking. In any event you may ask for specimen copies of the policy wording before booking should you wish to examine this in advance.

Section of Cover	Maximum Sum Insured/Benefit Level per Person	Excess per Person
Emergency Medical & Repatriation Expenses	Up to £2,000,000, sub-limited as follows: • Up to £350 Emergency Dental Pain Relief • Up to £1,000 Local Funeral Expenses outside of the United Kingdom • Up to £100 Emergency Telephone Calls & Taxi Fares • £2,500 Reasonable and additional Travel Expenses within the United Kingdom • £50 United Kingdom Prescription Charges outside of the United Kingdom Physiotherapy & Chiropractic Care outside of the United Kingdom • £100 Fro each completed 24-hours up to a maximum £100 Hospital Benefit within the United Kingdom • £15 for each completed 24-hours up to a maximum £100 Hospital Benefit within the United Kingdom • £15 for each completed 24-hours up to a maximum £450 Hospital Benefit outside of the United Kingdom • £50 for each completed 24-hours up to a maximum £500 Hugging Benefit	<ul> <li>Nil Emergency Telephone Calls &amp; Taxi Fares</li> <li>Nil United Kingdom Prescription Charges</li> <li>Nil United Kingdom Physiotherapy &amp; Chiropractic Care</li> <li>Nil Hospital Benefit</li> <li>Nil Mugging Benefit</li> <li>£60 All Other Claims under this Section</li> </ul>
Cancellation	£1,500 for trips to the United Kingdom, Isle of Man, Channel Islands & Europe     No cover for Worldwide trips	<ul> <li>Nil trips under 4-days</li> <li>£25 trips 4-days plus Loss of Deposit only</li> <li>£70 trips 4-days plus Cancellation</li> </ul>
Curtailment & Loss of Holiday	<ul> <li>£1,500 for trips to the United Kingdom, Isle of Man, Channel Islands &amp; Europe</li> <li>No cover for Worldwide trips</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nil trips under 4-days</li> <li>£70 trips 4-days plus</li> </ul>
Personal Accident	£15,000 (£1,000 children aged under 16-years & £7,500 adults aged 66-years plus at the time of the accident) Death £15,000 Loss of Limb(s) or Sight £15,000 (Nii children aged under 16-years at the time of the accident) Permanent Total Disablement	Nil
Personal Possessions	Up to £1,500, sub-limited as follows:     £200 Single Article, Pair or Set     £200 in all Valuables	£50
Personal Money	Up to £200, sub-limited as follows: • Up to £50 for children under 16 years at the date of the incident	<ul> <li>Nil children under 16-years</li> <li>£50 All Other Claims in this section</li> </ul>
Passport & Other Documents	Up to £200	Nil
Baggage Delay on the Outward Journey	• Up to £100 after a completed 12-hours delay	Nil
Missed Departure	<ul> <li>Up to £200 inside the United Kingdom</li> <li>Up to £800 outside of the United Kingdom</li> </ul>	Nil
Travel Delay & Abandonment	£20 after the first completed 12-hours delay and then £10 for each subsequent completed 12-hours up to a maximum £60 Delayed Benefit     £1,500 after a completed 12-hours delay Abandonment	<ul> <li>Nil Delayed Benefit</li> <li>£70 trips 4 days or more</li> </ul>
Personal Liability	Up to £2,000,0000	Nil
Legal Costs & Expenses	Up to £25,000	Nil
Hijack Benefit	A benefit of £50 per 24 hours up to £500 $$	Nil
COVID-19 Cover	<ul> <li>Up to £1,500 Cancellation for trips to the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man or Europe and not covered for Worldwide trips</li> <li>Up to £1,500 Curtailment for trips to the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man or Europe and not covered for Worldwide trips</li> <li>£2,500 Emergency Medical &amp; Repatriation Expenses within the United Kingdom</li> <li>£2,000,000 Emergency Medical &amp; Repatriation Expenses outside of the United Kingdom.</li> </ul>	Nil trips under 4-days Cancellation & Curtailment     E70 trips 4-days plus Cancellation & Curtailment     E60 Emergency Medical & Repatriation Expenses Nil Confinement to Holiday Accommodation

#### RESIDENCY

The cover under this policy is only available to United Kingdom residents being defined as: Any person who has an address in the United Kingdom, has lived in the United Kingdom for at least 6 of the last 12 months, and is registered with a General Practitioner in the United Kingdom.

#### **HEALTH CONDITIONS**

This policy may not provide cover for pre-existing medical conditions, so it is important that you review and respond to the questions below in order to have the full protection of your policy. If you do not take the appropriate action, or if you withhold information which we should reasonably be made aware of when considering the provision of cover, then your policy may be cancelled, or your claim rejected or not fully paid.

If you are travelling within the United Kingdom you are not required to declare your medical conditions. However to be covered for any medical conditions you have or have had, you must be able to answer NO to questions 1. to 4. and YES to questions 5. and 6. a) and b) below:

Are you aware of any reason why the trip could be cancelled or cut short (such as the health of a close relative)
 Are you travelling:

- a against the advice of a medical practitioner, or
- **b** for the purpose of obtaining medical treatment.
- 3 Have you been given a terminal prognosis
- 4 Are you receiving or awaiting treatment for any bodily injury, illness or disease as a hospital day case or in-patient
- 5 If you are on prescribed medication, are your medical condition(s) stable and well controlled
- 6 If you suffer from stress, anxiety, depression or any other mental or nervous disorder, have you received written confirmation (at your cost) that you are fit enough to take this trip by either:
  - a registered mental health professional (if you are under the care of a Community Mental Health Team), or
     b a consultant specialising in the relevant field.

If you are travelling outside of the United Kingdom You must telephone MediScreen on 0344 892 1698 if anyone is to be covered by this policy, or any person upon whose health the trip depends:

- 1 Has or has had a medical condition (excluding childhood and minor ailments not requiring treatment)
- 2 Is taking prescribed medication
- 3 Has or has had any medical condition still requiring periodic review
- 4 Is awaiting any tests, treatment, investigation, referral or the results of these

MediScreen's office hours are 9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9am to 4pm Friday excluding Bank Holidays.

#### CHANGE IN MEDICAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER THE DATE THE POLICY IS ISSUED Important note: this applies to all destinations, including trips solely within the United Kingdom.

You must also notify MediScreen immediately on 0344 892 1698 if there is any change in your medical circumstances between the date you first purchased your insurance policy and the date your holiday is due to begin. If you do not take the appropriate action, or if you withhold information which we should reasonably be made aware of when considering the provision of cover, then your policy may be cancelled, or your claim rejected or not fully paid. If we can extend cover, we may charge an additional premium for doing so.

If your trip is solely within the United Kingdom then you must obtain confirmation from your medical practitioner that you are fit enough to take the trip and this must be noted on your medical records so that in the event of a claim you are able to provide this evidence if required by us. Failure to do so may invalidate your policy. You must also tell us as soon as reasonably possible if you are no longer a resident in the United Kingdom.

#### SIGNIFICANT OR UNUSUAL LIMITATIONS OR WHAT IS NOT COVERED

- 1 The cover under this policy is only available to United Kingdom residents for travel within the Geographical limits contained in this policy and which begins and ends in the United Kingdom. Repatriation will be to the United Kingdom only.
- 2 Cover is only available for the whole duration of a booked trip to a maximum 70 consecutive days, and cover cannot be purchased once a trip has already begun.
- 3 The excess amount deductible from a claim applies to each and every claim, per incident claimed for, under certain sections by each insured person.
- 4 If your money, valuables, any items of baggage, your passport or visa are lost or stolen, you must notify the local Police within 24 hours of discovery or as soon as possible thereafter. Please make sure you get a copy of the Police report. Failure to comply may result in your claim being rejected or the amount of any relevant claim reduced.
- 5 You are not covered for valuables, your passport or visa if left unattended at any time (including in a vehicle, in checked in luggage or while in the custody of a carrier, tour operator or public transport operator) unless deposited in a hotel safe, safety deposit box or left in your locked accommodation.
- 6 Stolen property: You are not covered for baggage stolen from:
- a an unattended coach / bus unless it was locked in the luggage compartment of the coach / bus and evidence of force or violent entry to the vehicle is available, or
- b the passenger compartment of any unattended vehicle.
- 7 Claims arising from any epidemic or pandemic as declared by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- 8 You must ensure that you have had any recommended inoculations, vaccine (including COVID-19 where it has been offered to you) or medications relating to your destination prior to your trip.
- 9 Claims arising from or related to any coronavirus including but not limited to COVID-19, or any related/mutated form of the virus. This exclusion does not apply to COVID-19 claims under the COVID-19 Cover section.

TRAVEL SIGNPOSTING Not the right level of cover to meet your Travel Insurance needs? Not the right level of cover to meet your Travel Insurance needs? If we can't offer you the cover you want, or your premium is higher than you wanted because you have medical conditions, you may be able to get help by accessing the MoneyHelper travel directory at: https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/everyday-money/insurance/travelinsurance-directory?source-mas# or by calling 0800 138 7777 (Open Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm).

#### **COOLING OFF PERIOD**

Please tell us immediately if your policy does not meet your requirements. If you cancel within 14-days of the receipt of your documentation and you have not started a trip or made or intend to make a claim, we will give you a full refund. Following this 14-days period, you continue to have the right to cancel your policy at any time by contacting us. If the notice of cancellation is received outside of the 14-days cooling-off period no premium will be refunded.

PC Coaches of Lincoln Limited and P.C. Executive Coaches of Lincoln Limited are appointed representatives of ITC Compliance Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and which is permitted to advise on and arrange general insurance contracts as an intermediary.

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE PREMIUM TO BE PAID WITH DEPOSIT

Please note that you do not have to purchase the insurance we offer. However, if you do, the following premiums apply:

Duration	UK tours including Northern Ireland	European Tours including ROI, Channel Islands and Isle of Man
2 days	£19	
3 days	£29	
4-5 days	£42	£61
6-9 days	£52	£75

The premium does not include cover for pre-existing medical conditions. • All premiums include 20% Insurance Premium Tax. P.C. Executive Coaches of Lincoln Limited Va PC Coach Holidays is an appointed representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and which is permitted to advise on and arrange general insurance contracts as an intermediary.

For further information regarding the insurance we can offer please contact us on 01522 533605.

This applies to holidays booked and policies issued from 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024 with travel up to 31/12/2025

# PC COACH HOLIDAYS A Company Going Places!



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