

Uncover Glorious Heritage

Britain & Ireland 2027 Departures



Look out for properties supported by the Royal Oak Foundation!



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Beyond the Velvet Ropes

Featuring a selection of exclusive access opportunities and special visits, these are journeys designed for travelers who value depth, beauty and meaningful discovery amidst the stories, houses and landscapes that shaped Britain and Ireland.



Dunfermline Abbey

Dear Royal Oak Members and Friends,

I am pleased to share our 2027 tour program produced in partnership with Albion Journeys, featuring a host of inspiring itineraries to a range of captivating places and spaces. These exclusive tours allow Royal Oak members to step into different periods of British history and discover the vast cultural and natural heritage of the United Kingdom and Ireland first-hand, including many of the impressive estates owned by the National Trust for England, Wales, and Northern Ireland and the National Trust for Scotland.

There are a few favorites returning, such as our annual “RHS Chelsea Flower Show & Kent, the Garden of England” and “Royal Palaces & Regal Places” tours, but we are also delighted to introduce new tours to every corner of the British Isles, including “Historic Leaders, Great Houses & the Bayeux Tapestry,” “Glories of Georgian Britain & the Regency Lifestyle,” and more!

The Royal Oak Foundation is proud to partner with the National Trust, helping to support the Trust’s vital conservation work and meaning that every tour helps raise funds for The Royal Oak Foundation too. With excellent connections and decades of expertise, we are sure that you will have a truly memorable time sharing these journeys with other members and friends from across the United States. We look forward to seeing you next year.

Ian Murray

Executive Director,
The Royal Oak Foundation



RHS Chelsea Flower Show



Look out for properties that The Royal Oak Foundation has raised funds for with this icon. From the historic treasures of château-inspired Waddesdon Manor to the idyllic surroundings of Chartwell, there is plenty to discover!



Bamburgh Castle



Cragside

© National Trust Images/James Dolan

The Albion Journeys Difference

At Albion Journeys, we don't simply show you Britain's most remarkable places — we reveal the stories behind them.

Every Albion journey is shaped by experience, scholarship and close relationships with the heritage organizations who care for Britain and Ireland's greatest places and spaces. It's the considered details that distinguishes these tours.

Thoughtfully Curated

We work closely with our heritage partners to create unique and insightful itineraries that truly unlock Britain's history and culture — journeys that go beyond simply seeing the sights.

Memorable Heritage Experiences

On selected tours, we arrange special visits and access opportunities, where available, alongside insights from house owners, curators and local experts to enrich your experience. Discover the stories that bring Britain's past vividly to life.

Characterful Stays

Your journey through Britain's colorful past doesn't end when the day's excursions do. We've selected distinguished hotels chosen for their history, atmosphere and sense of place.

Expert Tour Directors

Outstanding journeys deserve outstanding people. Our experienced Tour Directors are passionate, knowledgeable and dedicated to making every tour seamless, enriching and memorable.

Our Heritage Partnerships

Albion Journeys works in partnership with a number of distinguished UK heritage organizations, enabling our guests to enjoy special access to some of Britain's most significant historic properties. We are proud to support them in their ongoing efforts to conserve and protect the nation's heritage for future generations.

In the United States, we also operate select tours in partnership with **The Royal Oak Foundation** and the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**, with a contribution from each tour supporting the important work of these charities.



Plas Newydd

©NTPL/Paul Harris



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION
Americans in Alliance with National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

The Royal Oak Foundation seeks to raise awareness of and advance the work of the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland by fostering American support for the preservation of historic places and landscapes across these countries. Albion Journeys has proudly partnered with The Royal Oak Foundation since 2013.



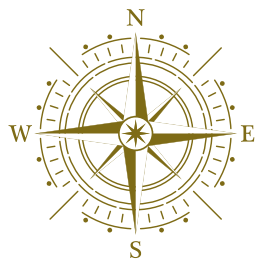
National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

The National Trust for Historic Preservation safeguards significant places in the United States where history has unfolded, representing the nation's diverse cultural heritage. Albion Journeys has worked in partnership with the organization since 2014 and is honored to support its mission.

Extraordinary Journeys. History That Inspires

2027 is an exceptional year to experience Britain and Ireland. Alongside eight new itineraries, discover immersive themed journeys and remarkable cultural events. From the once-in-a-generation opportunity to see the Bayeux Tapestry at the British Museum to the unique atmosphere of the Three Choirs Festival at Worcester Cathedral, there has never been a more compelling time to travel with Albion Journeys.



Bodnant Garden
(Chatsworth, Chester
& the Highlights of North Wales
p16-17)

Explore the best of Wales —
castles, gardens, railways
and wildlife



Charlecote Park
(Shakespeare & the Story
of Tudor England p28-29)

Learn how the tale of Tudor
England is forever intertwined
with The Bard



Highgrove Garden
(The Cotswolds, The King's
Garden & the Three Choirs
Festival p20-21)

Experience one of Britain's
oldest and most celebrated
music festivals



Brighton Pavilion
(Glories of Georgian Britain &
the Regency Lifestyle p24-25)

Delve into the high-society era
of *Bridgerton* in Regency Britain



Bamburgh Castle
(Grand Tour of Northern England
& the Lake District p10-11)

Discover the stories and
properties of England's
ruggedly scenic regions



Castle Howard
(The Treasure Houses of
Northern England p12-13)

Tick off some of England's
grandest estates and greatest
collections



Burghley House
(Treasure Houses of
Southern England p18-19)

See four beautiful Treasure
Houses along with the real
Downton Abbey



Waddesdon Manor
(Historic Leaders, Great Houses
& the Bayeux Tapestry p6-7)

Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime
opportunity to see the
Bayeux Tapestry



A New and Improved Program for 2027

As a result of your valued feedback, we've made some changes to next year's itineraries:

- ◆ **Fewer miles:** Reduced distances covered on each trip, meaning less time in transit, more time discovering the places you came to see.
- ◆ **Longer stays:** Fewer one- and two-night hotel stops in favor of longer, more relaxing stays with less unpacking.
- ◆ **Relaxing pace:** Built-in free time to explore some of our most attractive towns and cities at your own pace.
- ◆ **Dining flexibility:** Opportunities to dine at carefully chosen venues outside our hotels, or free evenings to choose your own restaurant.

BOOK
EARLY

LIMITED SPACES
ON MANY
DEPARTURES

“ I had a wonderful time on our tour! The beauty and majesty of these properties is simply overwhelming. I am still reading through all of the publications I collected from each site, which will be enjoyed for many months to come. ”

– Ms Hart, VA

Althorp Estate

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Waddesdon Manor

Historic Leaders, Great Houses & the Bayeux Tapestry

NEW 12 Days ♦ May 10 to 21, 2027 ♦ From \$9,800* per person

The temporary return of the Bayeux Tapestry to Britain, on loan to the British Museum, presents to us a rare moment to reconnect with the origins of a nation's story. This extraordinary artifact, chronicling William the Conqueror's triumph in 1066, serves as the evocative starting point for a journey that spans centuries of leadership, influence and innovation. From this pivotal turning point, our journey unfolds, tracing the lives and legacies of some of the greatest figures in political, royal, scientific and military history. Through visits to magnificent houses, historic estates and the very sites where defining moments took place, each chapter reveals the human stories behind power and an exploration of the individuals who shaped the modern world. From Sir Winston Churchill's Chartwell to Henry VIII's Hampton Court Palace, there is plenty to uncover.

What's Included

- ♦ Arrival/departure airport transfers from Heathrow Airport*
- ♦ 3 nights at the Hyatt Regency London — The Churchill, London
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ashdown Park Hotel & Country Club, East Grinstead
- ♦ 3 nights at Hartwell House Hotel & Spa, near Aylesbury
- ♦ 2 nights at Audleys Wood Hotel, Basingstoke
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 8 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage where available
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, Hyatt Regency Churchill, London. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: London & The Bayeux Tapestry

Enjoy a free morning before heading to the British Museum for the Bayeux Tapestry Exhibition. On loan from Bayeux in France, this extraordinary embroidery dates from the 11th century and depicts the events of 1064 to 1066.

Later, indulge in a traditional afternoon tea in the elegant Hansom Room at the St Pancras London, Autograph Collection.

Day 3: Kensington Palace, Apsley House & Benjamin Franklin House

A private guided tour of Kensington Palace awaits, home to TRH The Prince and Princess of Wales and their family and featuring the beautiful Sunken Garden.

We also step into the grandeur of Apsley House, the London residence of the 1st Duke of Wellington, with an extraordinary collection of art.

Afterward, discover the fascinating story of one of America's Founding Fathers with a visit to Benjamin Franklin House, set within a Georgian townhouse.

Please note: Benjamin Franklin House is unsuitable for anyone with mobility difficulties.

Osborne House



Visit National Trust Properties

- ♦ Bodiam Castle ♦ Quebec House ♦ Chartwell House
- ♦ Hughenden Manor ♦ Waddesdon Manor



Leeds Castle

Day 4: Eltham Palace & Down House

We take a guided tour with an expert gardener at medieval Eltham Palace, which boasts a Great Hall from the 1470s and served as a playground for the young Henry VIII.

Next is Down House, the former home of Charles Darwin and where he developed his revolutionary theory of evolution by natural selection.

Day 5: Battle Abbey & The Battle of Hastings, Rye & Bodiam Castle

Step back in time with a visit to Battle Abbey and the battlefield of the Battle of Hastings. Here, in 1066, William the Conqueror secured his victory and forever altered the course of English history. He later founded the abbey to commemorate this triumph.

We stop at the enchanting town of Rye before visiting Bodiam Castle, an archetypal 14th-century moated castle with an original wooden portcullis, spiral staircases, tower rooms and battlements.

Day 6: Dover Castle & Leeds Castle

We visit iconic Dover Castle, known as the 'Key to England,' which has witnessed sieges, royal intrigue and military innovation across the centuries.

Enjoy a traditional Ploughman's lunch at the moated Leeds Castle, once a Norman stronghold, a royal residence for medieval queens, a palace for Henry VIII and a retreat for high society guests.

Day 7: Quebec House & Chartwell

16th-century Quebec House offers a glimpse into Georgian family life and gives insight into General Wolfe, who secured Britain's victory at the Battle of Quebec in 1759.

Our discovery of Chartwell offers an intimate glimpse into the life of Sir Winston Churchill, filled with his memorabilia. On our specialist guided tour, we learn about his leadership, his legacy and his creative passion for painting.

Day 8: Blenheim Palace & Sulgrave Manor

The birthplace of Churchill, Blenheim is an awe-inspiring masterpiece set within magnificent parkland landscaped by Capability Brown. We discover its grand collections during our guided tour before enjoying lunch here.



We step into American history at Sulgrave Manor, a Tudor home built by Lawrence Washington, ancestor of George Washington, where we learn more about the Washington family.

Day 9: Hughenden Manor & Waddesdon Manor

Hughenden Manor was once the cherished residence of Benjamin Disraeli, Queen Victoria's 'favorite Prime Minister', and later used for covert operations during World War II.

Another highlight today is château-inspired Waddesdon Manor, created by the Rothschild family and boasting an exceptional array of treasures, which we discover on our guided tour. Explore the exquisite grounds before heading to the Five Arrows Hotel for dinner.

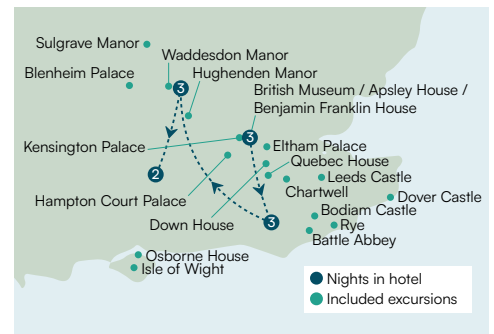
Day 10: Hampton Court Palace

We visit Hampton Court Palace, where our guided tour illuminates the fascinating world of the Tudor court. Highlights include Henry's Great Hall, still bearing Anne Boleyn's falcon badge, the vast Tudor kitchens and enchanting riverside gardens.

Day 11: Osborne House & Isle of Wight

Used as a seaside retreat, we take an intimate glimpse of royal family life at Queen Victoria's Osborne House, wandering through the magnificent Royal Apartments and the walled gardens.

Time and ferry schedules permitting, we hope to discover the charm of the Isle of Wight to round off our tour.



Day 12: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$2,250.



Key Highlights

- ♦ See the Bayeux Tapestry, while it is on loan from France to the British Museum
- ♦ Visit the favorite properties of Henry VIII, such as Hampton Court and Queen Victoria's beloved Osborne House
- ♦ Enjoy a combination of palaces such as Blenheim with more intimate homes, like Charles Darwin's Down House and General Wolfe's Quebec House
- ♦ Step back in time with visits to the Battle of Hastings' battlefield and uncover the wartime history of Dover Castle
- ♦ Visit the ancestral home of George Washington and the London home of Benjamin Franklin



RHS Chelsea Flower Show

RHS Chelsea Flower Show & the Garden of England

9 Days ♦ May 13 to 21, 2027 ♦ From \$6,800* per person

The prestigious RHS Chelsea Flower Show has come a long way since its humble single-marquee beginnings in 1913; the kaleidoscopic event is now an unmissable highlight of the British calendar and is world-famous for its stunning displays, vibrant colors and innovative designs. On our most popular tour, we are lucky enough to visit on Members' Day, where RHS members, royals and celebrities take an exclusive first look at the floral extravaganza before the general public. Alongside this wonderful event, we discover iconic horticultural treasures and hidden gems in Kent, the Garden of England, from a private tour of Great Comp to out-of-hours access at Sissinghurst Castle Garden.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 1 night at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ashdown Park Hotel & Country Club, East Sussex
- ♦ 4 nights at the Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill, London
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 6 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

On arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our overnight hotel, the Macdonald Windsor Hotel in Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: RHS Garden Wisley & Great Comp Garden

We head to RHS Garden Wisley, the Royal Horticultural Society's flagship garden. From beautiful rose and demonstration gardens to tranquil tracts of woodland, Wisley offers a wealth of inspirational ideas and boasts a state-of-the-art Glasshouse. While at Wisley, we also enjoy lunch.

A private guided tour awaits at Great Comp, an RHS Partner Garden surrounding a lovely 17th-century manor. It's full of stunning plants such as salvias, magnolias, azaleas, rhododendrons and hellebores and also features an Italian Garden, pretty woodland walks plus the Old Dairy Tearooms.

Day 3: Great Dixter House & Gardens & Hole Park

We visit Great Dixter today, home of gardener and gardening writer Christopher Lloyd. An experienced horticulturalist treats us to a guided tour of the famous gardens, home to a spectacular mix of topiary, mixed borders, an orchard and a wildflower meadow. We also take a peek around the largely medieval house.

Today also includes Hole Park, owned by the Barham family for generations. We enjoy refreshments and time to admire the garden, discovering the wide range of blooms, bursting with fragrance and set against the far-reaching views over the hills and woodland.



RHS Chelsea Flower Show



Hole Park

Visit National Trust Properties

◆ Sissinghurst Castle Garden 🏰

Day 4: Sissinghurst Castle Garden & The World Garden at Lullingstone Castle

An exclusive out-of-hours tour awaits at Sissinghurst Castle Garden, created in the 1930s by novelist Vita Sackville-West and her husband Harold Nicolson. Set around the ruins of an Elizabethan manor house, these world-famous gardens are laid out as a series of individually-planted 'rooms'.

We also make our way to Lullingstone Castle today. The World Garden here is home to thousands of rare plants collected from around the world by Tom Hart Dyke, the current heir. We find out more during our captivating gardens tour with a Blue Badge guide.

Day 5: Eltham Palace & Greenwich

Today we visit Eltham Palace. Once a medieval palace, then highly popular for Christmas celebrations in Tudor times, it was leased from the Crown and transformed by millionaires into an Art Deco mansion in the 1930s. Outside, we take a guided tour with an expert Gardener, who shows us the Sunken Rose Garden, quiet Rock Garden, idyllic wildflower meadow, medieval embankment and the series of garden rooms.

We also spend time in maritime Greenwich today, home to fascinating attractions including Greenwich Park, Observatory and Royal Naval College.

Great Dixter House



RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Day 6: Kew Gardens & London's Secret Gardens Tour

A springtime stroll is the order of the day with a guided walking tour of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Exploding with color and with no less than 50,000 plants, there is a range of different areas to explore including the Arboretum, the peaceful Japanese garden and the remarkable indoor rainforest climbing within the Palm House.

No visit to London would be complete without a Secret Garden Tour of London, taking in a host of hidden gems tucked away in the bustling metropolis. As we stroll from garden to garden, our Blue Badge guide also reveals the layers of history to be found round every corner in one of London's oldest neighborhoods.

Day 7: RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Today we enjoy Members' Day entry to the Royal Horticultural Society's most sought-after event, the Chelsea Flower Show. Here we take an exclusive first look at the show, discover the finest in garden design, listen to expert advice and soak up the unique atmosphere of this world-famous floral extravaganza. We also indulge in a quintessentially British afternoon tea here.

Day 8: London

Explore the iconic sights of London at your leisure today. Later, we enjoy a farewell dinner together.



Day 9: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions. Entrance to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show may not be guaranteed for late bookings. As this tour focuses primarily on gardens, including a number of guided walking tours, a reasonable standard of mobility is required to fully enjoy the itinerary.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,800.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Enjoy entrance to RHS Chelsea on one of the exclusive Members' Days, with afternoon tea
- ◆ Explore iconic RHS Wisley and Kew Gardens alongside hidden gems
- ◆ Learn about the fascinating story of The World Garden at popular Lullingstone Castle
- ◆ Visit Sissinghurst Castle Garden for an exclusive out-of-hours tour before opening to the general public
- ◆ See London's sights on an additional free day, new for 2027



Holy Island

Grand Tour of Northern England & the Lake District

NEW 13 Days ♦ May 16 to 28, 2027 ♦ From \$6,600* per person

Uncover the richly layered landscapes of Northern England, where celebrated landmarks and hidden treasures unfold. This meticulously crafted tour reveals a tapestry of scenery and compelling narratives, bringing to life the people, heritage and places that define the region's enduring allure. From the dramatic fells and tranquil waters of the Lake District to the timeless beauty of Northumberland National Park, each setting invites reflection and discovery. Walk in the footsteps of Romans along the evocative remains of Hadrian's Wall and immerse yourself in the literary legacies of Wordsworth and the Brontë sisters, whose works were shaped by these very surroundings. Experience the profound splendor of Durham Cathedral and savor exclusive moments, such as a private dinner within the atmospheric walls of Muncaster Castle.

What's Included

- ♦ Arrival/departure airport transfers from Manchester Airport*
- ♦ 2 nights at Cottons Hotel & Spa, Knutsford
- ♦ 2 nights at The Coniston Hotel, Country Estate & Spa, near Skipton
- ♦ 3 nights at the Bailiffgate Hotel, Alnwick
- ♦ 2 nights at Lumley Castle Hotel, Chester-le-Street (porterage not available)
- ♦ 3 nights at the Belsfield Hotel, Windermere
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English / Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 7 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage where available
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

**Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations.*

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Manchester Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, Cottons Hotel & Spa, Knutsford. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Quarry Bank Mill

Enjoy a guided tour of Quarry Bank Mill, where the Industrial Revolution comes to life through working machinery and vivid stories. Explore the historic cotton mill, visit the Apprentice House where child workers once lived and take time to wander scenic woodland paths and gardens along the River Bollin.

Day 3: Brontë Parsonage Museum & Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway

We visit the charming hilltop village of Haworth, home of the Brontë sisters, and explore the preserved Parsonage Museum. Enjoy a nostalgic journey on the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway through the Yorkshire Dales, then relax with a delightful afternoon tea at a nearby venue.

Day 4: Durham Cathedral & 'The Angel of the North'

Take a guided tour of Durham Cathedral, exploring its rich history before visiting the Cathedral Museum at your leisure. Spend free time discovering Durham's historic streets, university, or riverside walks. Later, relax on the journey to Alnwick, with a photo stop at the iconic Angel of the North.



Steam Yacht Gondola



Alnwick Castle

Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Quarry Bank Mill ◆ Cragside ◆ Holy Island & Lindisfarne
- ◆ Seaton Delaval Hall ◆ Dove Cottage & The Wordsworth Museum
- ◆ Steam Yacht Gondola ◆ Levens Hall

Day 5: Alnwick Castle & Cragside

We explore Alnwick Castle, the ancestral home of the Duke of Northumberland famed for film and television appearances, and admire its grand State Rooms and gardens. Then visit Cragside, the innovative hillside home of Lord Armstrong, renowned as the first house powered by hydroelectricity, filled with Victorian ingenuity and scenic surroundings.

Day 6: Holy Island & Lindisfarne Priory & Castle

Discover the unique Holy Island of Lindisfarne, visiting the ruins of Lindisfarne Priory and its dramatic castle. Reached by a tidal causeway, the island offers a memorable arrival. Once a center of early Christianity and home to the Lindisfarne Gospels, it remains a place of striking beauty.

Day 7: Bamburgh Castle & Seaton Delaval Hall

We head to Bamburgh Castle, set dramatically above the Northumberland coast, where we explore its historic halls, collections and stunning surroundings. Continue to Seaton Delaval Hall, a grand Baroque house designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, where exhibitions and restored gardens bring the lively history of the Delaval family to life.

Day 8: Vindolanda Fort & Museum, Hadrian's Wall & Hexham Abbey

Here, at the very frontier of the Holy Roman Empire, we explore Vindolanda on our guided tour, uncovering life along Hadrian's Wall and viewing remarkable Roman artifacts in the museum. Stop at The Sill Discovery Center for lunch at your leisure and countryside views, then visit Hadrian's Wall. We conclude at Hexham Abbey, discovering its rich 1,300-year history on a guided tour.

Day 9: Raby Castle

Take a private guided tour of Raby Castle, a magnificent fortress shaped by the Neville family. Explore its richly decorated interiors, spanning medieval to Victorian styles, and admire an impressive art collection. Afterward, relax and enjoy a picnic lunch within the historic surroundings of this remarkable estate.

Lake District



Day 10: Blackwell House, Grasmere, Dove Cottage & The Wordsworth Museum

Embark on a guided tour of Blackwell, an Arts and Crafts masterpiece with original features and Lakeland views. Then visit Dove Cottage, home of William Wordsworth, for a curator-led tour showcasing personal items, manuscripts and rare pieces, offering a fascinating insight into the poet's life and legacy.

Day 11: Steam Yacht Gondola, Brantwood & Muncaster Castle

Enjoy a scenic cruise aboard the National Trust-restored Steam Yacht Gondola on Coniston Water, followed by a visit to Brantwood, the former home of John Ruskin. Later, explore Muncaster Castle on a private evening tour, discovering its history, collections, gardens and legends before a special dinner inside the castle. It promises to be one of the most memorable highlights on our tour.

Day 12: Lake Windermere Cruise, Holker Hall & Levens Hall

We begin with a relaxing cruise on Lake Windermere, taking in spectacular Lakeland scenery. Visit Holker Hall on a private tour, admiring its historic interiors and art, then explore Levens Hall, home to fine paintings and England's oldest topiary gardens, with time to wander after a delightful included lunch.

Day 13: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Manchester Airport for your return flight home.



Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,000.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Take in rugged scenery in the Lake District, Pennines and Northumberland National Park
- ◆ Enjoy a day out at Hadrian's Wall, exploring one of the best-preserved Roman forts — Vindolanda
- ◆ Contrast the exuberance of aristocratic life at Seaton Delaval Hall with the harsh conditions of Quarry Bank Mill's Apprentice House
- ◆ Discover more about literary legends and artists, as we visit the houses of John Ruskin, Wordsworth and the Brontë sisters
- ◆ Visit Holy Island, Lindisfarne, along with Durham Cathedral and find out about some of the UK's most important religious sites
- ◆ Be treated to a special after-hours tour and private dinner at Muncaster Castle



Belvoir Castle

The Treasure Houses of Northern England

NEW 11 Days ♦ June 2 to 12, 2027 ♦ From \$8,300* per person

Step into the world of England's great country houses on this journey through the historic treasures of Northern England and the Midlands. Explore some of the nation's finest estates, where grand architecture, world-class art collections and centuries of family history are still preserved in homes that remain lived in today.

Highlights include Burghley House, Chatsworth, Harewood House and Castle Howard, with an exclusive out-of-hours visit to Castle Howard before it opens to the public. Enjoy guided tours, select dining experiences and a journey on the heritage North Yorkshire Moors Railway. With the landscapes of Yorkshire and the Peak District, the historic cities of York and Lincoln and a stay at Middlethorpe Hall, this tour showcases the best of England's heritage and country house tradition.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 2 nights at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 1 night at the Barnsdale Hotel, Rutland
- ♦ 2 nights at the George Hathersage, Peak District
- ♦ 5 nights at the Middlethorpe Hall & Spa, near York
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 9 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Stamford & Burghley House

Our first stop is the handsome market town of Stamford, often regarded as one of England's most beautiful stone-built towns. Its medieval streets, historic churches and hidden alleyways have provided the backdrop for productions including the 2005 film adaptation of *Pride & Prejudice*. Later, we visit magnificent Burghley House, one of England's grandest Elizabethan estates, offering a remarkable glimpse into centuries of aristocratic life. Following a welcome talk, we explore the stunning State Rooms, home to one of the country's finest collections of paintings and decorative arts.

Day 3: Belton House & Belvoir Castle

The elegant Belton House, cared for by the National Trust, is one of England's finest country houses and a striking example of Gothic Revival architecture. Afterward, we continue to the impressive Belvoir Castle, home to the Dukes of Rutland. A guided tour reveals lavish interiors, fine art and historic treasures before we enjoy a traditional afternoon tea.



North Yorkshire Moors Railway

Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Belton House 🏰 ◆ Hardwick Hall 🏰 ◆ Fountains Abbey 🏰
- ◆ Studley Water Garden 🏰

Castle Howard

© Mike Kippling

Day 4: Chatsworth, Buxton & the Peak District

One of the highlights of our tour awaits us at Chatsworth House, home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. Set within a magnificent Capability Brown landscape, this celebrated estate is renowned for its grand interiors, outstanding art collection and beautiful gardens. During our visit, we also enjoy lunch and a guided tour. Later, we travel through the spectacular scenery of the Peak District National Park before arriving in the elegant spa town of Buxton, where there is free time to explore.

Day 5: Hardwick Hall & Wentworth Woodhouse

We visit the National Trust's Hardwick Hall, the celebrated Elizabethan masterpiece built by the formidable Bess of Hardwick. Famed for its abundance of glass, the house is filled with fine tapestries, historic furnishings and impressive craftsmanship.

One of Britain's grandest stately homes, Wentworth Woodhouse boasts the longest country house façade in England. Following a finger buffet lunch, we enjoy the fascinating Duties & Delights guided tour, exploring both the magnificent state rooms and the hidden world of the servants who kept the house running.

Afterward, we journey to Middlethorpe Hall & Spa, a beautiful red-brick country house built at the end of the 17th century and now one of the three Historic House Hotels of the National Trust.

Day 6: Fairfax House, York Minster & York

An orientation tour introduces the historic city of York, one of England's most captivating heritage destinations. Highlights include the medieval Shambles and York Minster, one of Europe's greatest Gothic cathedrals, which we discover on a guided tour.

We also enjoy an exclusive curator-led tour of Fairfax House, one of Britain's finest Georgian townhouses. Beautifully restored to its 18th-century splendor, the house offers a fascinating glimpse into Georgian high society. Afterward, enjoy free time to explore York at your own pace.

Day 7: Harewood House & York Historical Pub Tour

Set within beautiful Capability Brown parkland, Harewood House is one of England's finest treasure houses. Following a guided tour, we enjoy lunch and time to explore the gardens and grounds. Later, a fascinating walking tour reveals York's rich history through its famous historic pubs, uncovering stories of merchants, soldiers and local characters who helped shape the city. The evening is then free to enjoy York at leisure.

Day 8: Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Garden, Harrogate

The spectacular ruins of Fountains Abbey stand within the beautiful Studley Royal Water Garden. Together, they form a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its beauty and historical significance. Later, free time in the elegant spa town of Harrogate offers the chance to explore its handsome architecture, gardens and shops at leisure.

Day 9: Castle Howard & North Yorkshire Moors Railway

An exclusive out-of-hours visit to Castle Howard offers the rare opportunity to explore this magnificent house before it opens to the public. Home to the Howard family for more than 300 years, the estate is renowned for its richly decorated interiors and extensive collections of art and antiques. Following our private tour, there is time to visit the café or explore the grounds.

Later, we travel through the spectacular scenery of the North York Moors aboard the heritage North Yorkshire Moors Railway. Onboard, we enjoy a tea or coffee and a sweet treat. Goathland itself may be familiar as the setting for the television series *Heartbeat* and as Hogsmeade Station in the *Harry Potter* films.

Day 10: Lincoln Cathedral

Dominating the city's skyline, Lincoln Cathedral is one of Europe's finest Gothic masterpieces. For more than 200 years following its completion in the 14th century, it was the tallest building in the world and remains one of England's most impressive cathedrals. A guided tour reveals magnificent medieval architecture, beautifully carved stonework and centuries of fascinating history.



Afterward, there is free time to explore Lincoln's atmospheric Cathedral Quarter and the charming cobbled streets of Steep Hill. This evening, we return to Windsor and enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

Day 11: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

**Single supplement applies: \$1,350.*



Key Highlights

- ◆ Explore four of England's renowned Treasure Houses, including Burghley House, Chatsworth, Harewood House and Castle Howard
- ◆ Exclusive out-of-hours visit to Castle Howard before it opens to the public
- ◆ Discover the spectacular landscapes and charming towns of the Peak District
- ◆ Travel through the North York Moors on the heritage North Yorkshire Moors Railway
- ◆ Enjoy a five-night stay at Middlethorpe Hall, an elegant National Trust country house hotel near York



Inveraray Castle

Grand Tour of Scotland - Romantic Castles & Royal Connections

14 Days ♦ June 18 to July 1, 2027 ♦ From \$9,800* per person

On this grand tour, follow in the footsteps of royalty and retreat to beautiful Scotland during the summertime, with its sparkling lochs, sweeping landscapes and quiet valleys. We see how this wonderful country has provided a sanctuary for the Royal Family for centuries, beginning with Balmoral, Queen Victoria's 'dear paradise in the Highlands'. In Edinburgh, we step aboard Elizabeth II's *Royal Yacht Britannia*, offering an intimate glimpse into 'off-duty' royal life, and discover the Palace of Holyroodhouse, The King's official Scottish residence. Our journey reveals Scotland's many faces: the architectural innovation of Glasgow, the longstanding traditions of whisky distilleries, the rich poetic legacy, the grandeur of stately homes and, of course, the stunning scenery. From a must-do drive through breathtaking Glencoe to a cruise on peaceful Loch Lomond, this is Scotland at its most inspiring.

What's Included

- ♦ Airport transfer to/from Glasgow or Edinburgh Airports*
- ♦ 2 nights at the Voco Grand Central by IHG, Glasgow
- ♦ 2 nights at the Marine Troon, Ayrshire
- ♦ 2 nights at the Cameron House Hotel, Loch Lomond
- ♦ 3 nights at the Dunkeld House Hotel, Dunkeld
- ♦ 4 nights at the InterContinental Edinburgh the George by IHG, Edinburgh
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full Scottish/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 10 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at either Glasgow or Edinburgh Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, the Voco Grand Central by IHG Hotel in Glasgow. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: House for an Art Lover & Burrell Collection Museum

Our tour begins with a visit to House for an Art Lover, a homage to Charles Rennie Mackintosh's visionary designs from 1901.

Next is the Burrell Collection for a behind-the-scenes guided tour, allowing access to thousands of objects not on public display.

Later, spend the evening at leisure in Glasgow.

Day 3: Dumfries House & Culzean Castle

The 18th-century Dumfries House is a wonderful Robert Adam designed Palladian mansion with an unrivalled collection of Chippendale furniture, which we see on our 'Grand Tour'.

We also visit Culzean Castle. In recognition of Eisenhower's leadership during World War II, the castle's upper floor was gifted to him by the people of Scotland.

Day 4: Mount Stuart on the Isle of Bute

Our destination on the Isle of Bute is Mount Stuart, a magnificent neo-Gothic mansion with dazzling interiors. Led by a guide, we uncover the secrets of this extraordinary house before enjoying afternoon tea.

Mount Stuart Horoscope Room



© MST & Keith Hunter



Culzean Castle

Day 5: Robert Burns' Birthplace & Hill House Helensburgh

We turn from aristocratic grandeur to poetic heritage with a guided tour of Burns Cottage, the thatched cottage where Scotland's national poet was born.

Next is Hill House, designed by Mackintosh, where delicate stencilling, stained glass and elegant furniture come together in a harmony of Art Nouveau and Scottish tradition.

Day 6: Inveraray Castle & Loch Lomond Cruise

Soak up the views of Loch Fyne to Inveraray Castle, the ancestral seat of the Dukes of Argyll, where the castle's collections span the centuries. We take a private guided tour before having time in Inveraray.

We also enjoy the stunning Scottish scenery on a Loch Lomond cruise.

Day 7: Scenic Drive – Glencoe, Trossachs National Park & Loch Tay

Sit back and relax on a journey through the spectacular landscapes which Scotland is so famous for.

Day 8: Blair Castle, The Queen's Viewpoint & Blair Athol Distillery

Our guided tour of Blair Castle reveals a fascinating blend of Scottish history, aristocratic heritage and personal stories.

We then pause at the famous Queen's View Viewpoint before taking a Signature Tour at the historic Blair Athol Distillery.

Day 9: Balmoral Castle & Ballater

Balmoral Castle awaits, the grand Scottish holiday home of the Royal Family, purchased by Prince Albert for Queen Victoria after they were so enchanted by the Highlands. We explore the elegant ballroom, where the famous Ghillies Ball takes place, as well as the exquisite grounds.

Afterward, we travel to the picturesque village of Ballater for some free time.

Day 10: Scone Palace & St Andrew's

We enjoy a guided tour at Scone Palace, once the ancient crowning place of Scottish kings, before visiting world-famous St Andrews.

Day 11: Dunfermline Abbey, Andrew Carnegie Birthplace & Palace of Holyroodhouse

We discover the striking Dunfermline Abbey, home to Robert the Bruce's tomb. Just a short stroll away is the Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum, set in the weaver's cottage where the great philanthropist and industrialist was born.

After some time for an early dinner at leisure back in Edinburgh, we take a private, out-of-hours tour of the Palace of Holyroodhouse. We are immersed in centuries of royal history, from the turbulent times of Mary, Queen of Scots, to the elegant State Apartments still used by the King today.

Day 12: The Royal Yacht Britannia, St Giles Cathedral & Edinburgh Castle

After an early breakfast, we step aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia, once the floating residence of Elizabeth II. As we wander the decks on our private tour, imagine the royal voyages across the globe, the glittering receptions and quiet family moments that unfolded at sea.

Afterward, we discover St Giles' Cathedral, followed by the mighty Edinburgh Castle. From ancient sieges to royal births, there is plenty to uncover before our champagne afternoon tea.

Day 13: Mellerstain House & Floors Castle

Our final day takes us to the exquisite Mellerstain House, one of Scotland's finest stately homes, and Floors Castle, a striking sight with its fairytale turrets and French-style architecture. Here we are treated to a guided tour and lunch.

This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.



Day 14: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Edinburgh or Glasgow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$2,800.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Delve into royal connections at Balmoral, Holyroodhouse, the *Royal Yacht Britannia*, Dumfries House and St Andrews
- ◆ Admire stunning landscapes and scenery, from Loch Lomond to Royal Deeside, and with a drive through Glencoe
- ◆ Explore world-famous art and architecture in Glasgow, featuring House for an Art Lover and the Burrell Collection
- ◆ New for 2027, enjoy a trip to Ayrshire to visit Dumfries House, Culzean Castle and sites associated with Robert Burns
- ◆ Stay in unique hotels, including one overlooking the 18th hole of the iconic Royal Troon Golf Club



© NPL/Paul Harris

Speke Hall

Chatsworth, Chester & the Highlights of North Wales

NEW 11 Days ♦ June 23 to July 3, 2027 ♦ From \$8,100* per person

Discover the charm of Chatsworth, the historic city of Chester, the breathtaking landscapes of North Wales and more on this relaxed journey. From the grandeur of Chatsworth House to the dramatic mountains and valleys of Snowdonia, each day unveils a memorable experience. Along the way, enjoy a stay at the enchanting Bodysgallen Hall, an atmospheric National Trust country house steeped in history, and experience the golden age of travel with journeys on heritage railways through some of Britain's most spectacular scenery. A wildlife cruise off the coast of Anglesey adds another dimension and the chance to encounter seabirds, seals and perhaps even dolphins in their natural habitat.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from Manchester*
- ♦ 4 nights at the Crewe Hall Hotel & Spa, Cheshire
- ♦ 5 nights at the Bodysgallen Hall & Spa, near Llandudno
- ♦ 1 night at Cottons Hotel & Spa, Knutsford
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 10 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Manchester Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, the Crewe Hall Hotel & Spa in Cheshire. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Lyme Park & Chatsworth

We visit Lyme Park, a 1,400-acre estate near the Peak District, featuring woodland, formal gardens and landmarks like The Cage and Paddock Cottage. A house tour highlights its history while the gardens impress with symmetry and trimmed hedges. At Chatsworth House, we enjoy a buffet lunch and tour its grand interiors, art collection and Capability Brown-designed park. This magnificent estate is home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and famously appeared as Mr Darcy's house in the 2005 adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*.

Day 3: Dunham Massey & Tatton Park

Our visit to Dunham Massey includes the Georgian house, deer park and gardens, where we can explore the history, admire interiors and spot ancient trees and fallow deer. We then head to Altrincham on market day for free time among artisan stalls, street food and independents. Later, visit Tatton Park's neo-classical mansion and seasonal gardens, enhanced with a guided history tour.



Plas Newydd



Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Lyme Park ◆ Dunham Massey
- ◆ Tatton Park ◆ Speke Hall
- ◆ Bodnant Garden ◆ Plas Newydd
- ◆ Conwy Castle



Chatsworth House

Day 4: Speke Hall & Chester

We visit Speke Hall, a timber-framed Tudor house near the Mersey, built by the Norris family under Elizabeth I. Discover hidden features like a priest's hole and whispering gallery, then explore the gardens. In Chester, admire black-and-white architecture, medieval two-tier shopping arcades and landmarks including the cathedral, Roman amphitheatre and historic Town Hall.

Day 5: Brynkinalt Estate, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Llangollen

Today we discover Brynkinalt Estate, a Grade II-listed hall from 1612. The Trevor family has preserved this historic home, with roots tracing back to Severa, daughter of Emperor Maximus and Gwrtheyrn Gwrtheneu, an ancient British king. We enjoy a guided tour and refreshments, see the UNESCO-listed Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, a real marvel over the Dee, and explore Llangollen.

Day 6: Llandudno & Bodnant Garden

Enjoy leisure time in Llandudno, the 'Queen of the Welsh Resorts,' known for its golden beach and Victorian charm. Take the chance to stroll the promenade or shop at the Victoria Center.

Today's highlight is Bodnant Garden in Snowdonia's foothills. Established by Henry Pochin over 150 years ago, it features plants collected by renowned hunters like Ernest Wilson. We explore its National Collections on a self-guided tour.

Day 7: Welsh Highland Heritage Railway & Caernarfon

We travel to Porthmadog to board the Welsh Highland Railway for a scenic journey to Caernarfon. Passing through Snowdonia National Park, we enjoy views of mountains, forests and coastline. In Caernarfon, there's time to explore the royal town, known for Prince Charles's investiture in 1969. The journey is enhanced by Gold Service aboard the *Snowdonia Star*.



Bodrhyddan Hall

Day 8: Plas Newydd, Puffin Island & Penrhyn Castle

We cross the Menai Bridge to Anglesey to visit Plas Newydd, home of the Marquess of Anglesey, with Rex Whistler-inspired interiors and vibrant gardens. The wonderful sights continue with a memorable wildlife cruise around the nearby Puffin Island, taking in the coastal scenery while keeping watch for Atlantic gray seals and an array of seabirds. As the name suggests, puffins are a seasonal highlight, and with a bit of luck, we may even spot porpoises or dolphins playing in the waters. We then explore Penrhyn Castle, a neo-Norman 19th-century estate featuring grand interiors, art collections, restored kitchens and views of Snowdonia.

Day 9: Snowdon Mountain Railway

The Snowdon Mountain Railway offers an unforgettable journey to Wales's highest peak, Mount Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa). Departing from Llanberis, this historic railway has carried passengers since 1896. As the train climbs, enjoy stunning views of Snowdonia's valleys and cliffs. On clear days, the summit offers panoramas across Snowdonia and the Irish Sea.

Day 10: Conwy Castle, Conwy & Bodrhyddan Hall

We visit the walled town of Conwy to explore Conwy Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built by Edward I in the 13th-century conquest of Wales. Enjoy free time to stroll the quayside



and browse shops before visiting Bodrhyddan Hall, a long-held family home with gardens, fine portrait collections and a 3,000-year-old Egyptian mummy. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

Day 11: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Manchester Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,050.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Stay at one of the National Trust's Historic House Hotels, Bodysgallen Hall
- ◆ Enjoy free time to explore and relax in Chester, Llangollen, Llandudno and Conwy
- ◆ Journey on two historic railways, including the Snowdon Mountain Railway, which takes us to the summit of Wales' highest peak
- ◆ Take a wildlife spotting cruise off the coast of Anglesey, looking out for puffins, porpoises and more
- ◆ Discover the architecture and lavish interiors of Penrhyn Castle, with its outstanding art collection

The Treasure Houses of Southern England

NEW
9 Days ♦ **July 9 to 17, 2027** ♦ **From \$7,600*** per person

The Treasure Houses of England represent eleven of the nation's most magnificent palaces, houses and castles, enduring symbols of aristocratic power, royal connection and artistic patronage. On this carefully curated journey, we visit four of these exceptional estates: Blenheim Palace, Beaulieu, Woburn Abbey and Hatfield House, each showcasing outstanding collections of art, furniture and portraiture still displayed in their ancestral settings.

We also enjoy rare access to Highclere Castle on an exclusive day reserved solely for Albion and its sister companies, alongside visits to Waddesdon Manor, Sulgrave Manor and Broughton Castle. With stays in distinguished country house hotels and a fascinating visit to Bletchley Park, this relaxed-paced tour blends heritage, American connections and exclusive access into an unforgettable exploration of England's grandest homes.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 3 nights at the Audleys Wood Hotel, Basingstoke
- ♦ 5 nights at Hartwell House & Spa, near Aylesbury
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 7 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

On arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to the Audleys Wood Hotel. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Highclere Castle & Winchester

On our exclusive access day, Highclere Castle opens its doors solely for guests of Albion and our sister companies, a rare privilege at one of England's most celebrated country houses. Known worldwide as the setting for *Downton Abbey*, Highclere is first and foremost a living family home, seat of the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon. We explore the opulent interiors featured in the series, discovering the real history of Highclere, remodelled in the 19th century by Sir Charles Barry and used as a hospital during WWI. Downstairs, the fascinating Egyptian Exhibition tells the story of the 5th Earl of Carnarvon's role in the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb.

Later, time in Winchester offers independent discovery in England's ancient former capital, with the option to visit Winchester Cathedral or the Great Hall to see the legendary Round Table of King Arthur.

Day 3: Beaulieu & the National Motor Museum

The Beaulieu Estate in the New Forest offers an engaging look at aristocratic life, past and present. We enjoy a guided tour of Palace House, once the gatehouse of the medieval Beaulieu Abbey and the ancestral home of the Montagu family since 1538. Remodeled and extended in the 1800s, it is now a fine example of a Victorian Gothic-style country house.

A light sandwich lunch is included before time to explore the wider estate at leisure. Highlights include the fascinating National Motor Museum, housing an extraordinary collection of historic vehicles, as well as the ruins of Beaulieu Abbey. On departure, a scenic drive through the New Forest showcases a quintessentially English landscape.

Visit National Trust Properties

◆ Hughenden Manor



Highclere Castle

Day 4: Blenheim Palace

Blenheim Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and birthplace of Winston Churchill, this masterpiece by Sir John Vanbrugh sits within sweeping parkland designed by Capability Brown. A guided tour and included lunch enhance the experience, with access to the magnificent State Rooms. As the seat of the Dukes of Marlborough, Blenheim remains one of Britain's most powerful aristocratic symbols. Time is also spent in nearby Woodstock for independent exploration.

Day 5: Waddesdon Manor & Oxford

Waddesdon Manor, built in the 1870s by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, is a spectacular French-style château set in the Buckinghamshire countryside. Created for entertaining, it houses an outstanding collection of French decorative arts, Old Masters and English portraiture.

A guided house tour is followed by time to explore the formal gardens, from the Parterre to the Rococo-style aviary, before departing for Oxford, where the afternoon is free to explore the historic university city at leisure.

Day 6: Sulgrave Manor & Broughton Castle

American history comes to life at Sulgrave Manor, the Tudor home of the Washington family and ancestral link to George Washington. Built in the mid-1500s by Lawrence Washington, the manor explores this unique transatlantic connection on a guided visit, having been restored as a memorial of shared heritage between Britain and the United States.

Beaulieu House



Later, a guided tour of Broughton Castle reveals a beautifully preserved moated manor still owned by the Fiennes family since the 14th century. Rich in portraits and political history, it hosted royal visitors and played a role in the tensions leading to the English Civil War.

Day 7: Hatfield House & Hughenden

Hatfield House, one of England's finest Jacobean mansions, was built in 1611 by Robert Cecil, advisor to Elizabeth I. Still home to the Marquess of Salisbury, it features richly decorated State Rooms, the Grand Staircase and extensive gardens and parkland. Its cinematic legacy includes *The Crown* and *Bridgerton*.

We also visit Hughenden Manor, former home of Victorian Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, offering a more intimate look at 19th-century political life within the Chiltern Hills. Tonight's dinner is served at the historic Grade II-listed Five Arrows Inn.

Broughton Castle



Day 8: Woburn Abbey and Gardens & Bletchley Park

Woburn Abbey, home of the Dukes of Bedford for nearly 400 years, is one of the great Treasure Houses of England. Its State Rooms display an exceptional art collection including works by Reynolds, Gainsborough and Canaletto, set within elegant interiors overlooking landscaped gardens.



The afternoon shifts to Bletchley Park, where Alan Turing and the codebreakers of World War II deciphered the Enigma code. Restored huts and interactive exhibits reveal the extraordinary secrecy and impact of this pivotal wartime achievement.

Day 9: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

**Single supplement applies: \$1,400.*



Key Highlights

- ◆ See four of the famous Treasure Houses, Blenheim, Beaulieu, Woburn Abbey and Hatfield House
- ◆ Stays in just two hotels, including Hartwell House (one of the National Trust's Historic House Hotels) and ever-popular Audleys Wood
- ◆ An exclusive visit to Highclere, on a day when access is reserved for Albion and its sister companies
- ◆ Discover Bletchley Park, with its interesting wartime history and extraordinary codebreakers



Three Choirs

The Cotswolds, The King's Garden & the Three Choirs Festival

NEW 10 Days ♦ July 22 to 31, 2027 ♦ From \$8,300* per person

Experience England at its most elegant on this captivating tour through the Cotswolds and the historic counties of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire. From royal residences and magnificent gardens to historic castles and world-class music performances, every day reveals another chapter of England's rich heritage.

Discover picturesque market towns, explore some of the country's finest country houses and gardens, including The King's horticultural gem at Highgrove, and enjoy a relaxed programme of visits that offer unique insights into England's history and traditions. Along the way, soak up the beauty of the Cotswolds, with its stone-built villages, rolling countryside and timeless charm. Enhanced by private tours, special-access experiences and two memorable concerts at the world-renowned Three Choirs Festival, this carefully curated tour offers an unforgettable blend of history, culture, music and scenic beauty.

What's Included

- ♦ Airport transfers from Heathrow Airport*
- ♦ 3 nights at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 3 nights at the Stanbrook Abbey Hotel, Worcester
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ellenborough Park Hotel, Cheltenham
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 8 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

On arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our overnight hotel, the Macdonald Windsor Hotel in Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Blenheim Palace

One of England's grandest country houses, Blenheim Palace is a masterpiece of Baroque architecture and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Home to the Marlborough family and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, the palace boasts magnificent State Rooms, priceless collections and parkland designed by Capability Brown. A guided tour and included lunch complete our visit.

Day 3: Croft Castle, Ludlow & Evening Concert

Croft Castle has been home to the Croft family for almost 1,000 years. A guided tour reveals stories of medieval knights, Civil War intrigue and generations of family life, while the surrounding parkland and ancient trees add to its timeless appeal. Later, enjoy free time in the historic market town of Ludlow, where you can browse the market stalls, explore independent shops and cafés or perhaps visit the ruins of Ludlow Castle (admission not included).

The Three Choirs Festival is an unmissable annual event where the cathedral choirs of Hereford, Worcester and Gloucester come together to present a special program of concerts and recitals. Hosted in the magnificent surroundings of Worcester Cathedral, our first evening performance promises soaring vocals accompanied by a live orchestra.



Windsor Castle

Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Hidcote Manor
- ◆ Snowhill Manor
- ◆ Sudeley Castle

Day 4: Hellens Manor, Eastnor Castle & Evening Concert

A guided visit to Hellens Manor introduces one of England's oldest historic homes. This remarkable Tudor and Jacobean manor is filled with fine art, fascinating family stories and treasures linked to figures including Anne Boleyn. Following our tour, we enjoy tea or coffee and homemade cake.

Eastnor Castle rises dramatically from its estate at the foot of the Malvern Hills. Still home to the Hervey-Bathurst family, the castle features richly furnished State Rooms, paintings, armor and family treasures, complemented by beautiful grounds and sweeping countryside views. Later, we return for dinner and a second memorable Three Choirs Festival concert.

Day 5: Hidcote Manor, Broadway & Scenic Cotswolds Drive

Hidcote Manor Garden, created by American horticulturalist Major Lawrence Johnston, is one of England's most celebrated Arts and Crafts gardens. Our visit includes exclusive early entry, a guided tour and two glasses of prosecco or elderflower. Later, enjoy free time in the picturesque village of Broadway before a scenic drive through the rolling hills, charming villages and beautiful landscapes of the Cotswolds.

Day 6: Chavenage, Cirencester & Painswick Rococo Garden

Built in 1576 and still owned by the same family, Chavenage House is one of England's finest Elizabethan manor houses. Historic rooms filled with period furnishings and family treasures offer a fascinating glimpse into centuries of English country house life. We also enjoy free time in Cirencester, often known as the 'Capital of the Cotswolds,' before a guided visit to the whimsical Painswick Rococo Garden, with its winding pathways, follies and vibrant seasonal displays.

Day 7: Snowhill Manor & Sudeley Castle

Snowhill Manor offers a glimpse into the extraordinary world of collector Charles Wade. Every room is filled with fascinating objects from around the globe, while the hillside gardens provide beautiful views across the countryside.

Later, we visit Sudeley Castle, one of England's most historic private castles. Closely associated with Henry VIII and Katherine Parr, who is buried within the grounds, the castle combines lavish interiors, fascinating collections and award-winning gardens. Our behind-the-scenes tour includes access to private family rooms not normally open to the public, followed by a traditional afternoon tea.

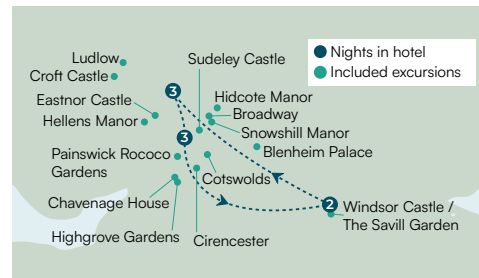
Day 8: Highgrove Gardens & Windsor Castle

A highlight of the tour is a private guided visit to Highgrove Gardens, the personal gardens of His Majesty The King. Developed over more than 30 years, these extraordinary gardens reflect the King's passion for sustainability, traditional craftsmanship and working in harmony with nature.

Later, free time in Windsor provides an opportunity to explore this historic royal town before an exclusive out-of-hours tour of Windsor Castle. The world's oldest and largest occupied castle, Windsor, has served as a royal residence for almost 1,000 years and remains one of the most iconic symbols of the British monarchy.

Day 9: The Savill Garden & Windsor

Set within Windsor Great Park, The Savill Garden is one of Britain's finest ornamental gardens. A guided tour reveals its beautiful landscapes, rare plant collections and horticultural highlights, followed by an included lunch. The remainder of the day is free to enjoy Windsor at your own pace. Perhaps revisit Windsor Castle, stroll across the river to historic Eton or continue exploring before tonight's farewell dinner.



Day 10: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions. At the time of going to print, the 2027 concert program for the Three Choirs Festival had not yet been finalized, but further information will be made available via our website once confirmed.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,750.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Enjoy two performances at the world-renowned Three Choirs Festival
- ◆ Explore the idyllic villages, landscapes and historic treasures of the Cotswolds
- ◆ Exclusive experiences including a private visit to Highgrove Gardens and special access at historic estates
- ◆ Guided tour of Blenheim Palace and an out-of-hours visit to Windsor Castle
- ◆ Visit some of England's finest gardens, including Hidcote Manor, Painswick Rococo Garden and The Savill Garden



© NPL/John Millar

Blickling Hall

An Exclusive Tour of Royal Palaces & Regal Places

11 Days ♦ August 3 to 13, 2027 ♦ From \$10,300* per person

You are cordially invited on an exclusive tour of England's magnificent palaces, castles and royal estates, following in the footsteps of monarchs past and present. Beginning in London, we enjoy visits to Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London's ancient Ceremony of the Keys, before venturing to some of the country's most iconic regal landmarks. Highlights include the Althorp Estate, the childhood home and final resting place of Diana, Princess of Wales, Sandringham in Norfolk and charming Highgrove, home to the spectacular gardens of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Along the way, we also discover Windsor Castle, Hampton Court Palace and Kew Gardens, with exclusive guided visits and special-access experiences revealing the grandeur, history and enduring legacy of England's royal heritage.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 4 nights at the Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill, London
- ♦ 3 nights at the Harper, North Norfolk
- ♦ 3 nights at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 6 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

On arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to the Hyatt Regency London Hotel, our base for the first four nights of our tour. This evening, join the group for a welcome drink, canapés and dinner.

Day 2: Kensington Palace & Kew Palace and Gardens

A private guided tour of Kensington Palace introduces the royal residence of TRH The Prince and Princess of Wales. Highlights include the elegant Sunken Garden, the King's State Apartments and Queen Victoria's childhood rooms. Kew Gardens is home to extraordinary botanical collections from around the world. Alongside the beautifully landscaped gardens, we explore Kew Palace, once home to Queen Charlotte and George III, who presided over the loss of the American Revolution during his 53-year reign.

Day 3: Buckingham Palace, Luxury Afternoon Tea & The Tower of London

An insider's look at royal London begins at Buckingham Palace, where our Royal Day Out ticket grants access to the magnificent State Rooms, the King's Gallery and the Royal Mews. Gilded ceilings, masterworks from the Royal Collection and glittering chandeliers set the scene, while the historic state carriages at the Mews reveal the pageantry behind coronations and state occasions.

A luxurious afternoon tea is served at an iconic London venue before an exclusive evening visit to the Tower of London. After a guided introduction to the imposing exteriors of the fortress, we witness the ancient Ceremony of the Keys, the nightly locking of the Tower, carried out for more than 700 years.

Visit National Trust Properties

◆ Blickling Hall 



Buckingham Palace

Day 4: Hampton Court Palace

A guided visit to Hampton Court Palace offers a captivating immersion into the world of the Tudor court. One of Europe's most sophisticated royal residences, the palace reveals both the private life and very public dramas of Henry VIII. Henry's magnificent Great Hall still displays Anne Boleyn's falcon badge, while the vast Tudor kitchens evoke the scale and spectacle of courtly banquets. Outside, the beautiful riverside gardens are lined with yew trees and seasonal blooms. Returning to London mid-afternoon, the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 5: Althorp Estate

Set within 550 acres of sweeping parkland, Althorp Estate has been home to 19 generations of the Spencer family since the early 16th century. One of England's great private houses, it contains an exceptional collection of fine furniture, paintings and ceramics, widely regarded as among the most important in Europe. There is time to explore the State Rooms, landscaped grounds and to walk beside the tranquil Round Oval Lake, where Diana, Princess of Wales, is laid to rest. A powerful and reflective conclusion to a journey steeped in royal heritage and historic legacy.

Day 6: Blue Badge Guided Tour of Norwich & Blickling Hall

A Blue Badge-guided exploration begins at Norwich Cathedral, a magnificent Norman masterpiece dating back to the 12th-century. The tour continues through the medieval streets of Norwich, before continuing to Blickling Hall. One of the country's finest Jacobean houses and once home to the Boleyn family, Blickling is celebrated for its impressive Great Hall and superb 18th-century Long Gallery. It also houses the National Trust's most important historic library collection.

Day 7: Holkham Hall & Sandringham

A private guided tour reveals the grandeur of Holkham Hall, a Neo-Palladian estate on the north Norfolk coast. The spectacular Marble Hall, impressive state rooms and outstanding art collections by Rubens, Van Dyck and Gainsborough reflect centuries of aristocratic life and patronage.

At Sandringham Estate, long cherished by Queen Elizabeth II, a special-access guided visit offers rare insight into royal life beyond the capital, including access to St Mary Magdalene Church, where the Royal Family worships while in residence. Afternoon tea is served before an exclusive late-day tour of the house, when only private groups are admitted.

Day 8: The Jockey Club Newmarket

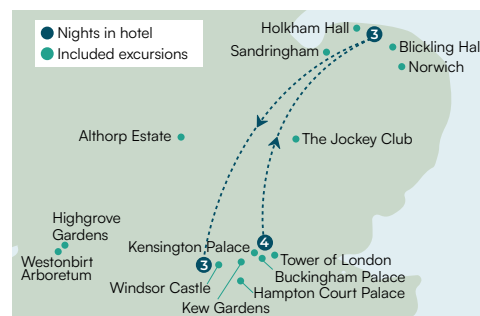
An exclusive visit to The Jockey Club in Newmarket offers rare access to one of the sport's most prestigious private institutions. During a guided tour of the elegant Jockey Club Rooms, we discover centuries of Royal connections from King James I to Queen Elizabeth II, whose lifelong passion for racing helped cement Newmarket's place at the heart of the sport.

Later, lunch is served within these historic surroundings, an opportunity to savor both the atmosphere and the legacy of a sport long intertwined with the British Crown.



Day 9: Highgrove Gardens, Tetbury & Westonbirt National Arboretum

We are treated to an exclusive, private guided tour of Highgrove Gardens. Over 30 years in the making, the gardens reflect the King's environmental philosophy and include the Kitchen Garden, Wildflower Meadow and beautiful arboretum, with views of Highgrove House throughout. Later, we pause in the charming Cotswold town of Tetbury, with free time to explore and enjoy lunch independently, before visiting Westonbirt National Arboretum, home to one of the world's finest collections of trees and shrubs.



Day 10: The Savill Garden, Windsor & Windsor Castle

The Savill Garden is Britain's finest ornamental garden, set in the heart of Windsor Great Park. Created in the 1930s, it offers a guided tour that introduces us to beautifully designed landscapes and The Rose Garden, in honour of Queen Elizabeth II, before lunch in the Garden Kitchen.

Our next stop is a private out-of-hours guided tour of Windsor Castle, the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world and the final resting place of Elizabeth II. The magnificent State Apartments are furnished with some of the finest works of art to admire during our evening tour.

Day 11: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$2,550.



Key Highlights

- ◆ New for 2027 is the Jockey Club Newmarket, the home of UK horse racing and a favourite of Queen Elizabeth II
- ◆ Buckingham Palace - Royal Day Out ticket gives access to State Rooms, King's Gallery & Royal Mews
- ◆ Althorp Estate - Diana, Princess of Wales' family home, a firm favorite of previous Albion Journeys' guests
- ◆ Sandringham Estate, a cherished retreat for King Charles III and Queen Camilla, features beautiful gardens and a museum with royal memorabilia



Bowood House

Glories of Georgian Britain & the Regency Lifestyle

NEW

13 Days ♦ August 18 to 30, 2027 ♦ From \$8,800* per person

In Britain, the 18th and early 19th centuries were a time of great social change, elegant architecture and imperial ambitions, with the peak of the Industrial Revolution creating huge wealth. With it came some of the grandest houses of them all, including Petworth, Osterley Park and Stourhead to name but a few. Embodying Georgian ideals and rooted in symmetry, it is no wonder that many of the refined estates we visit featured in the smash-hit series, *Bridgerton*. And so, *dearest gentle reader*, step into the life of high society — a world of glittering soirees, exclusive balls and exciting debutantes, as we weave through a number of beautiful English counties. At a time when George III was unfit to rule due to madness, we chart the influence of the Prince Regent, follow in the footsteps of ‘the ton’ and promenade in fashionable seaside and spa towns.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 2 nights at the Castle Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 2 nights at the The Spread Eagle Hotel & Spa, West Sussex
- ♦ 3 nights at the Bishopstrow Hotel & Spa, Wiltshire
- ♦ 2 nights at the Bailbrook House Hotel, Bath
- ♦ 2 nights at the Queens Hotel, Cheltenham
- ♦ 1 night at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 10 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, the Castle Hotel, Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Basildon Park & Chiswick House and Gardens

With appearances on screen in *Downton Abbey* and *Bridgerton*, it's no wonder that a visit to Georgian Basildon Park feels like stepping straight into a period drama. On our visit here, we discover how it was saved from ruin.

Our next included visit is Chiswick House and Gardens. During our guided house tour, we discover this masterpiece of the Palladian style before strolling the grounds, the birthplace of the English Landscape Movement.

Day 3: Osterley Park and House & Hatchlands Park

We delve into 18th-century aristocratic life at Osterley, a magnificent estate with restored formal gardens. The house features stunning interiors that showcase Robert Adam's neoclassical designs

— it's no surprise that this Georgian gem has appeared in *Bridgerton*.

Today also includes an introductory welcome talk followed by a self-guided audio headset tour of Hatchlands Park, a classic red-brick country house featuring a parterre garden designed by Gertrude Jekyll. The house is crammed with Robert Adam's fine ceiling decorations and boasts Europe's largest collection of keyboard instruments.

Day 4: Brighton Pavilion & Brighton

On a private guided tour, we discover Brighton Pavilion, built for George IV as a seaside palace and a combination of Regency and Indo-Saracenic styles. Afterward, enjoy some free time to visit Brighton's iconic pier and stroll the seafront promenade as wealthy Georgians once did.



Chiswick House & Gardens



Brighton Pavilion

Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Osterley Park ◆ Hatchlands Park  ◆ Petworth House
- ◆ Stourhead  ◆ Sezincote House ◆ Basildon Park

Day 5: Petworth House & Salisbury Cathedral

Immortalized in Turner's paintings, 17th-century Petworth House is nestled in a deer park landscaped by Capability Brown and is home to the National Trust's finest collection of art and sculptures. Fans of *Bridgerton* may also recognize various filming locations here too.

We continue to Salisbury Cathedral, boasting the tallest spire in Britain and the best-preserved version of the 1215 Magna Carta.

Day 6: Stourhead

We're treated to a gardener-led tour of our hotel estate before heading to Stourhead. Our time here includes a guided house tour, discovering its Chippendale furniture and fine Regency library, a walled garden tour and afternoon tea at the Temple of Apollo, which featured in *Pride & Prejudice* (2005).

Day 7: Bowood House & Gardens

We take a guided tour of Bowood House, the family home of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne with Capability Brown surroundings. The 'Georgian Ladies of the House' exhibition provides a glimpse into life above and below stairs for 18th-century women here.

Day 8: The Roman Baths & Bath Walking Tour

An audio-guided visit brings the history of the Roman Baths to life, where steaming thermal waters still flow through the well-preserved ancient bathing complex.

We continue with a guided walking tour of Regency Bath, with highlights including Bath Abbey, the Pump Room and Pulteney Bridge.

Day 9: Bath & No. 1 Royal Crescent, Bath

Enjoy some free time to explore more of Bath. Later, we visit an iconic address — No 1 Royal Crescent. We're treated to an after-hours guided tour by a curator of this Georgian townhouse museum, used for the exterior of Lady Featherington's home in *Bridgerton*. We hear how high society descended on Bath for 'the season', while enjoying wine and canapés.

Hatchlands Park



Day 10: Sezincote House & Garden, Broadway & the Cotswolds

Soak up the rolling landscapes of the Cotswolds on the way to exotic Sezincote, featuring a weathered-copper onion dome, elegant minarets, an exquisite orangery and more. It was a visit by the Prince Regent here that led him to redesign plans for Brighton Pavilion, and we learn more during our guided tour.

Afterward, enjoy some time in Broadway. Often referred to as the 'Jewel of the Cotswolds', this picturesque village is known for its charming streets lined with honey-colored stone buildings, boutique shops and art galleries.

Day 11: Painswick Rococo Gardens & Regency Cheltenham

Painswick Rococo Garden awaits, with its playful architecture, winding paths and colorful flowerbeds. We enjoy a guided tour, focusing on its history and restoration.

The afternoon is left free to explore Cheltenham, a celebrated spa town with Regency treasures.

Day 12: Windsor

Our tour reaches a gentle close with free time in Windsor. You may wish to visit Windsor Castle (not included), the final resting place of Elizabeth II.

This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at our hotel back in Windsor.

Day 13: Departure

A private transfer will take you to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.



Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,800.



Royal Crescent



Key Highlights

- ◆ Discover lovely properties new to the Albion programme, including Petworth House, Bowood House, Stourhead and Basildon Park
- ◆ Enjoy a day at the seaside in Brighton with a visit to George VI's Brighton Pavilion
- ◆ Visit two classic 'spa towns' that were so fashionable in Regency England — Bath and Cheltenham
- ◆ Immerse yourself in the elegance of the era, as portrayed in smash hits such as *Bridgerton*
- ◆ Stay in several characterful hotels — smaller, independent, historic and boutique-style



Powerscourt Estate

Irish Traditions - from Dublin to the Wild Atlantic Way

12 Days ♦ September 20 to October 1, 2027 ♦ From \$8,600* per person

Delve into the cultural heritage and rugged beauty of the Emerald Isle on this all-encompassing tour, from Dublin's Book of Kells to the Wild Atlantic Way's Cliffs of Moher. A land steeped in myth with centuries of stories just waiting to be uncovered, we learn about the fateful *Titanic*, discover the legend behind Blarney Castle's Stone of Eloquence and see what life was like aboard the Dunbrody Famine Ship. We also experience the traditional side of Irish life, including a jaunting car ride in Killarney, an immersion into long-standing traditions at Bunratty Castle and Folk Park plus a pony and trap ride on Inisheer, where the Irish language is still widely spoken and the verdant hills are peppered with ancient forts and cottages. This glimpse into the past is wonderfully contrasted with its modern cities, and, alongside aristocratic estates with beautiful gardens, offers a real taste of Ireland's southern region.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from Dublin Airport*
- ♦ 3 nights at the Dylan Hotel, Dublin
- ♦ 2 nights at the The Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny
- ♦ 2 nights at the River Lee Hotel, Cork
- ♦ 2 nights at the Europe Hotel & Resort, Killarney
- ♦ 2 nights at the Savoy Hotel, Limerick
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full Irish/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 7 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Dublin Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, the Dylan Hotel in Dublin. We then join the group for a welcome drink and canapés in the evening, followed by dinner.

Day 2: Dublin City Tour, Trinity College & Dublin Castle

A tour of Dublin is the perfect introduction to Ireland, as we discover several landmarks such as the old city wall, Temple Bar and the River Liffey.

Our tour continues with Trinity College, Ireland's oldest university, founded in 1592. The college's magnificent Old Library displays Ireland's greatest cultural treasure, the Book of Kells, written around 800 AD and containing the four Gospels in Latin.

We also see Dublin Castle, with a history stretching back to the 13th century, where highlights of our guided tour include the elegant State Rooms, the Chapel Royal and the beautiful gardens.

Day 3: Powerscourt Estate & Russborough House

The beautiful Powerscourt Gardens awaits, designed from 1731 onwards and stretching over 47 acres. The estate includes formal walled gardens, distinctive Italian and Japanese gardens and more.

Today's other visit is glorious Palladian mansion of Russborough House. We learn about the history behind the magnificent artwork here on our guided tour, which extends to the walled garden. We also enjoy lunch here.



Aran Islands



Rock of Cashel

Day 4: Dunbrody Famine Ship, Waterford & Mount Congreve Gardens

Ireland's history is brought to life today with a guided tour at the Dunbrody Famine Ship, learning about the bravery of Irish people onboard an authentic replica of an 1840s emigrant boat. After weeks spent dangerously crossing the Atlantic, the emigrants arrived in North America and made up a quarter of the population in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore by 1850.

Afterward, enjoy some free time in the city of Waterford before we continue to Mount Congreve Gardens, a horticultural masterpiece of exotic plants. We are treated to a tour with the Estate Director.

Day 5: Kilkenny Castle & Rock of Cashel

Kilkenny Castle is a majestic fortress that has stood since the 12th century. We explore the period rooms and learn more about the significant events witnessed here during our guided tour.

Lunch is served at a traditional Irish pub in Kilkenny before a guided tour at the Rock of Cashel, one of Ireland's top archaeological spots.

Day 6: Cork & Titanic Exhibition Cobh

Spend some free time in Cork before we head to Cobh. As the last port of call for the Titanic, our guided tour at the Titanic Experience offers a unique insight into the lives of the passengers who boarded the ship here.

Titanic Experience, Cobh



Day 7: Blarney Castle & Kinsale

We visit the medieval Blarney Castle, built nearly 600 years ago by a powerful Irish magnate. Millions have flocked here to kiss the legendary Stone of Eloquence but there is so much more to see.

The rest of the day is spent at leisure in Kinsale, a pretty harbor town in County Cork.

Day 8: Ring of Kerry

Our tour manager takes us on a scenic guided tour of the Ring of Kerry, journeying through an untouched landscape of tranquil lakes and rolling hills.

Day 9: Killarney National Park & Bunratty Castle and Folk Park

We head to pretty Killarney, famed for its jaunting cars (horse-drawn carts) operated by the local jarvies. We experience it for ourselves before heading to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, Ireland's most complete castle. Admire the extensive great hall, atmospheric dungeons and fairytale towers before discovering the surrounding Folk Park, offering a glimpse into 19th-century Irish village life. We also enjoy lunch here.

Day 10: Aran Islands & Cliffs of Moher Cruise

We catch the ferry to the smallest of the Aran Islands, Inisheer. This charming island is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, pristine beaches and beautiful landscapes, peppered with ancient stone forts and traditional cottages, where the Irish language is still widely spoken. We are treated to a pony and trap tour to take in the highlights of this delightful isle, the old-fashioned way.

We also enjoy a leisurely cruise along the magnificent Cliffs of Moher, enjoying the geological wonders from below, admiring the views of the Aran Islands, listening to the onboard commentary and spotting colonies of cliff-nesting seabirds.

Day 11: Limerick & Irish National Stud

We spend some free time in Limerick, then combine the world of horses with serene Japanese



gardens with a guided tour at the Irish National Stud. This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

Day 12: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Dublin Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

**Single supplement applies: \$2,150.*



Key Highlights

- ◆ Stroll through a range of lovely gardens, including Powerscourt, Russborough, Mount Congreve and Irish National Stud
- ◆ Enjoy plenty of free time to explore attractive towns such as Cork, Kinsale and Waterford
- ◆ Uncover historic stories such as the Dunbrody Famine Ship and Titanic Exhibition Cobh, the Titanic's last port of call
- ◆ See the 'Book of Kells' at Trinity College Dublin
- ◆ Relax at a mix of historic and modern hotels, well located for those who like to explore independently



Hampton Court Palace

Shakespeare & the Story of Tudor England

NEW

11 Days ♦ September 20 to 30, 2027 ♦ From \$8,800* per person

In August 1485, Richard III was killed during the Battle of Bosworth, thus conceding the throne to Henry VII. This changing of the guard ended the 300-year-long Plantagenet rule, established the Tudor dynasty and altered the course of British history thereafter. This tour immerses us in the eventful Tudor period, starting with the very battlefield in which they came to power and ending with the grandest Tudor building of all, Henry VIII's Hampton Court Palace. Along the way, we visit fascinating properties which once hosted royalty, hid Catholic priests and witnessed countless tales of drama. We also see how this world influenced many of Shakespeare's works, noting how the story of Tudor England is forever intertwined with the world's greatest playwright.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 1 night at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ettington Park Hotel, near Stratford-upon-Avon
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ashdown Park Hotel & Country Club, East Sussex
- ♦ 3 nights at the Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill, London
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 8 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

On arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our overnight hotel, the Macdonald Windsor Hotel in Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.



Charlecote Park

Day 2: Bosworth Battlefield, Leicester Guildhall & Leicester Cathedral

Today we explore the history behind the infamous battle between Henry Tudor and Richard III, beginning with the fascinating Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Center.

Next is Leicester Guildhall, a beautifully preserved medieval building which features exhibits on Richard III, who was killed at the Battle of Bosworth and found underneath a city-center car park in 2012. We can see his tomb at our final stop, Leicester Cathedral.

Day 3: Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon & RSC Shakespeare Theatre

An exciting day in Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon awaits. We explore the half-timbered house where he was born, the beautiful garden and exhibition center at Shakespeare's New Place, the Schoolroom where he wrote his first works, Anne Hathaway's idyllic cottage and the iconic RSC Swan Theater, where Shakespeare's plays are regularly performed.

Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Charlecote Park ◆ Coughton Court
- ◆ Baddesley Clinton ◆ Knole House
- ◆ Royal Oak Foundation Conservation Studio
- ◆ Sissinghurst Castle Garden



Coughton Court

© NPL/Robert Morris

Day 4: Charlecote Park & Coughton Court

While Stratford is synonymous with Shakespeare's theatrical success, there lurks in nearby Charlecote Park's history a far less respectable connection; the famous playwright is rumoured to have been caught poaching deer here! Home to the Lucy family for 900 years, this Tudor manor is a real treasure.

We continue to the Coughton Court, boasting a rich history intertwined with Tudor monarchs, where we enjoy afternoon tea and an introductory talk, learning how the priest hole here provides an insight into the country's history of the Catholic faith.

Day 5: Baddesley Clinton, Lord Leicester's Hospital & Warwick

Once owned by a powerful Tudor family, Baddesley Clinton is a moated, medieval manor house dating back to the 13th century. We see how the extensive formal gardens provided the setting for some fascinating stories.

Next is Lord Leicester's Hospital in Warwick, renowned for its distinctive timber-framed architecture. We learn about its history on a guided tour before spending a little free time in Warwick, home to one of England's best-preserved collections of black and white timber-framed Tudor buildings.

Day 6: Knole House & The Royal Oak Foundation Conservation Studio & Haver Castle

We visit one of Britain's most important historic homes, Knole House, once used by Henry VIII as a hunting lodge. Whilst here, we explore the Royal Oak Foundation Conservation Studio — the first of its kind in the National Trust.

Next is the magnificent Haver Castle, the childhood home of Henry VIII's second wife, Anne Boleyn. Dating back to the late 13th century, this double-moated castle is home to various historic artifacts, including two prayer books inscribed by Anne Boleyn. The castle was lavishly restored by American millionaire William Waldorf Astor, in the early 20th century. We enjoy a guided tour of the castle's elegant interior and its grand exterior, comprising 125 acres of award-winning gardens.

Anne Hathaway's Cottage



Day 7: Sissinghurst Castle Garden & Leeds Castle

An exclusive out-of-hours tour awaits at Sissinghurst Castle Garden, set around the ruins of an Elizabethan manor house.

We continue to the moated Leeds Castle, once home to Henry VIII who transformed it for Catherine of Aragon. Admire the wealth of furnishings, paintings, tapestries and antiques here, followed by a Ploughman's lunch.

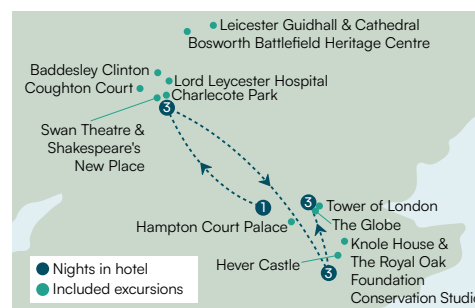
Day 8: Eltham Palace & Shakespeare's Globe Theater

Today we see Eltham Palace, where Henry VIII spent much of his childhood. Outside, we are treated to a guided tour with an expert Gardener.

There's also time in Greenwich for lunch at your leisure before we journey down the river on the Thames Clipper. Shakespeare's Globe is our destination, which brings the Bard's timeless works to life in a setting that evokes the atmosphere of his era. We find out more during our guided tour.

Day 9: London & the Tower of London

Explore the iconic sights of London at your leisure today. Later this afternoon, we enjoy entrance to the Tower of London, where we have the chance to see the dazzling Crown Jewels. Elizabeth I (prior to her coronation) and multiple wives of Henry VIII were once kept here as prisoners. After our visit, there's an opportunity to find somewhere for dinner before returning to the Tower of London for the time-travelling Ceremony of the Keys.



Day 10: Hampton Court Palace

We make our way to Hampton Court Palace for a dive into the fascinating world of the Tudor court and Henry VIII during a guided tour. Believed to have staged some of Shakespeare's plays and one of the greatest surviving Tudor buildings, it is a fitting end to our wonderful tour.

This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

Day 11: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$2,100.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Learn about the five Tudor monarchs (1485-1603) — Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth I
- ◆ Discover the stories, people and secrets contained within world-famous buildings
- ◆ Explore iconic landmarks of the time, including the Tower of London, plus lesser-known gems such as Baddesley Clinton
- ◆ See where the Tudors came to power at the Battle of Bosworth right through to their greatest building, Hampton Court Palace
- ◆ Follow in the footsteps of Shakespeare in locations significant to The Bard, from his birthplace to the Globe Theater



Yuletide Festivities - the Cotswolds, Windsor & Bath

10 Days ♦ December 2 to 11, 2027 ♦ From \$7,800* per person

Twinkling lights, festive markets and magnificent historic houses dressed for the season set the scene for this enchanting Christmas journey through southern England. From royal palaces and medieval castles to elegant country estates and winter gardens, discover some of the country's most celebrated heritage treasures at their most magical time of year.

Explore Windsor Castle and Hampton Court Palace adorned with seasonal decorations, browse the Christmas Markets of Bath and Oxford and experience the spectacular illuminated trail at Kew Gardens. Along the way, uncover the traditions of Oxford University, enjoy a traditional Sunday lunch in the Cotswolds and visit magnificent estates including Waddesdon Manor, Hughenden Manor and Blenheim Palace, transformed by dazzling festive displays.

What's Included

- ♦ Airport transfers from Heathrow Airport*
- ♦ 4 nights at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 2 nights at the Bailbrook House Hotel, Bath
- ♦ 3 nights at the Hartwell House & Spa, near Aylesbury
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 7 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, the Macdonald Windsor. This evening, meet your fellow travelers for a welcome reception with drinks, canapés and dinner.

Day 2: Hampton Court Palace & Festive Fayre

The festive season begins in regal style at Hampton Court Palace, where the popular Festive Fayre fills the historic grounds with traditional wooden chalets, artisan gifts, seasonal treats and live entertainment. We also enjoy a guided tour of the magnificent Tudor palace, once home to Henry VIII, exploring highlights including the Great Hall, Tudor Kitchens and beautifully decorated historic interiors.

Day 3: The Roman Baths, Bath Christmas Market & No. 1 Royal Crescent

Elegant Bath provides a wonderfully festive setting today. Visit the remarkably preserved Roman Baths, where steaming thermal waters still flow through Britain's most famous Roman site, before free time to explore Bath's renowned Christmas Market. Later, we enjoy an exclusive after-hours curator-led tour of No. 1 Royal Crescent. Featured as Lady Featherington's home in *Bridgerton*, this beautifully decorated Georgian townhouse is brought to life with wine and seasonal canapés.





Blenheim Palace

Visit National Trust Properties

◆ Waddesdon Manor ◆  ◆ Hughenden Manor ◆ Greys Court

Day 4: Berkeley Castle, Traditional Sunday Lunch & Scenic Cotswolds Drive

One of England's oldest inhabited castles, Berkeley Castle is richly decorated for Christmas and steeped in royal history. Still home to the Berkeley family after almost 900 years, it is also famed as the place where King Edward II was imprisoned in 1327. Following a traditional Sunday lunch, we enjoy a scenic drive through pretty villages and rolling landscapes of the Cotswolds, one of England's most picturesque regions.

Day 5: Oxford University, Bodleian Library & Oxford Christmas Market

A guided tour of Oxford introduces centuries of academic excellence and architectural splendor. Explore the historic Bodleian Library, including Duke Humfrey's Library and the Divinity School, familiar to many as a filming location in the Harry Potter films. There is also time at leisure to discover the famous 'City of Dreaming Spires', browse the Christmas Market or visit one of the city's renowned museums, such as the Ashmolean.

Day 6: Waddesdon Manor

Built in the 1870s by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor resembles a French château set within the Buckinghamshire countryside. Our guided tour explores its exceptional collections of French decorative arts, paintings and furnishings, while the beautifully landscaped grounds provide a fitting backdrop to the festive season. This evening, dinner is served at the historic Five Arrows Hotel, situated at the gates of the estate.

Day 7: Christmas at Blenheim Palace

Christmas at Blenheim Palace is a spectacular seasonal experience. Birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the palace is transformed with dazzling decorations, festive displays and beautifully dressed State Rooms.



Roman Baths

Beyond the Christmas displays, admire the grandeur of Sir John Vanbrugh's architecture and the sweeping parkland designed by Capability Brown. Following our visit, we return to Hartwell House for a traditional afternoon tea and time to enjoy the elegant surroundings of this magnificent country house hotel.

Day 8: Hughenden Manor, Henley-on-Thames & Greys Court

We visit Hughenden Manor, the much-loved home of Queen Victoria's favorite Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli. Decorated for Christmas, the house offers fascinating insights into Victorian politics and its secret role in Second World War map-making operations. Later, enjoy free time in the charming riverside town of Henley-on-Thames before visiting nearby Greys Court, a Tudor manor house surrounded by historic gardens and rolling Chiltern countryside.

Day 9: Windsor Castle & Kew Gardens

Windsor Castle is the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world and an official residence of the Royal Family. Explore the magnificent State Apartments, richly decorated for the festive season and filled with treasures from the Royal Collection.



Later, experience the magical Christmas light trail at Kew Gardens, where illuminated trees, sparkling installations and festive music transform the world-famous botanic gardens into a spectacular winter wonderland. This evening, we gather for a farewell dinner.

Day 10: Departure

After breakfast, we transfer to Heathrow Airport for our return journey.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,650.



Key Highlights

- ◆ Enjoy royal history, seasonal treats and shopping at Hampton Court Palace and Festive Fayre
- ◆ Stay at elegant Hartwell House, one of the National Trust's historic hotels and in festive Bath for our yuletide escape
- ◆ See England's grandest homes with spectacular seasonal decorations and festive displays
- ◆ Visits to Christmas markets and charming towns (Bath, Oxford, Henley-on-Thames and the Cotswolds)
- ◆ Dazzling seasonal displays at Waddesdon Manor, the Neo-Renaissance masterpiece built for the Rothschilds



Hever Castle

Christmas Carols, Canterbury & the Bright Lights of London

10 Days ♦ December 6 to 15, 2027 ♦ From \$7,300* per person

Combining the captivating blend of Kent's natural beauty with the festive magic of Christmas, we embark on an enchanting yuletide journey through historic treasures, including wonderful castles and grand stately homes plus a chance to experience a special carols concert in the chapel at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich. As we journey from the capital to Kent, we celebrate the spirit of Christmas past, learn how Dickens 'invented' Christmas, enjoy the 'Santa Special' on the Kent & East Sussex Railway and catch a glimpse of festivities of times gone by in a range of beautifully dressed properties. There is plenty to see, from Hever Castle and Winston Churchill's beloved Chartwell to Bateman's, where we warm up by the crackling fire amidst its Edwardian interiors and sparkling decorations.

What's Included

- ♦ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 1 night at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 2 nights at the Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, Canterbury
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ashdown Park Hotel & Country Club, East Sussex
- ♦ 3 nights at the Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill, London
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 5 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

**Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.*

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival

Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport a private transfer will take you to the Macdonald Hotel Windsor for our overnight stay. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.



Penshurst Place

Day 2: Chartwell House & Ightham Mote

We visit Sir Winston Churchill's beloved Chartwell, full of the great statesman's personal and political mementos. Themed trees and gorgeous garlands transform the historic house into a cozy Christmas spectacle.

Today's other National Trust property is a moated manor house, 'the most beautiful and the most interesting of English country houses' according to historian David Starkey. Ightham Mote has been home to medieval knights, courtiers to Henry VIII and Victorian High Society. We learn more during our welcome talk.

Day 3: Canterbury Cathedral & Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

We spend the day in Canterbury, beginning with a guided tour of Canterbury Cathedral, featuring a sweeping Gothic nave, cavernous crypt and early medieval stained glass plus beautiful Christmas trees and a life-size nativity scene.

Next is nearby Cathedral Lodge, where we enjoy afternoon tea and an insightful talk about Charles Dickens from a guest speaker.



©National Trust Images/John Miller

Ightham Mote

Visit National Trust Properties

- ◆ Chartwell House ◆ Ightham Mote
- ◆ Penshurst Place ◆ Bateman's
- ◆ Bodiam Castle ◆ Polesden Lacey

Day 4: Leeds Castle

We make our way to the moated Leeds Castle, which has been a Norman stronghold, the royal residence of six medieval queens and was once home to Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon. We find out more during our private guided tour before our two-course lunch.

Day 5: Penshurst Place & Hever Castle

Today we visit medieval Penshurst Place, used as a hunting lodge by Henry VIII and owned by the Sidney family since 1552. We are treated to seasonal refreshments and a guided house tour, with its medieval and Tudor features, magnificent Great Hall and decorated State Rooms.

Next is Hever Castle, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, where we enjoy a two-course Christmas lunch. Admire the castle's artifacts, including two prayer books inscribed by Anne Boleyn, and its atmospheric interior, beautifully decorated for the festive season with fairy lights, log fires and twinkling trees.

Canterbury Cathedral



Day 6: Bateman's, Bodiam Castle & the Kent & East Sussex Railway

We visit Rudyard Kipling's Bateman's, where the ground floor is decorated for an Edwardian family Christmas with a roaring fire, a traditionally decorated tree and a table set for dinner.

Today also includes Bodiam Castle, an archetypal 14th-century moated castle which offers a glimpse of medieval splendor. Just imagine medieval revelers enjoying a cup of festive Wassail here!

We complete our day with a journey on the Kent & East Sussex Railway from Tenterden, watching the scenic Kent countryside pass by to the sounds of Christmas carols.

Day 7: Polesden Lacey

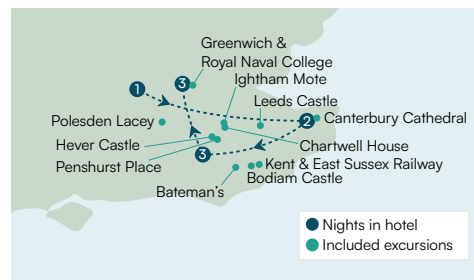
We visit one of the National Trust's most popular properties, Polesden Lacey, described as a 'delicious house' by the Queen Mother on her honeymoon and home to an extensive collection of art and ceramics, with immersive scenes creating a festive atmosphere.

This countryside retreat is most closely connected to Dame Margaret Greville, who entertained royalty and celebrities of her time with lavish parties.

Day 8: Greenwich, Christmas Carols at the Royal Naval College & River Thames Sightseeing

We spend some time at leisure in Greenwich, home to fascinating attractions. Later, a festive treat awaits at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, where we enjoy a Christmas carols concert in the Chapel of St Peter and St Paul, performed by the award-winning Trinity Laban Choir. Afterward, enjoy some mulled wine and a mince pie before exploring the Painted Hall, known as 'Britain's Sistine Chapel'.

From Greenwich, we journey up the river on the Thames Clipper to Westminster Pier. This is the perfect chance to see landmarks illuminated after dark, from the skyscrapers of Docklands to historic icons such as the Tower of London.



Day 9: London

Explore the iconic sights of London at your leisure today or stock up on some gifts in the likes of Harrods, Selfridges and Liberty. Later, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at our hotel.

Day 10: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.

*Single supplement applies: \$1,650.



Key Highlights

- ◆ See beautifully decorated castles and stately homes, including Churchill's Chartwell and Rudyard Kipling's Bateman's
- ◆ Visit Canterbury Cathedral, the centre of the UK's Christian faith, with its charming Nativity scene
- ◆ Enjoy the enchanting Christmas Carols concert at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich
- ◆ New for 2027, spend some free time in London, where there's nowhere quite as magical during the run-up to Christmas
- ◆ Experience British Christmas traditions past and present, from Dickensian tales to a festive lunch at Hever Castle

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I make a booking?

You can book via our website, www.albionjourneys.com/royal-oak or over the telephone on our toll-free number 1-866-834-8358. Our offices are open 9:00am - 5:00pm EST Monday to Friday. If you have any questions or queries you can also email us at info@albionjourneys.com. If you are not a Royal Oak Member, the cost of the tour increases by \$150.

When are payments due?

When you confirm your booking with us, a non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to secure your place. The final balance payment must be paid to us no later than 120 days prior to the tour departure date. Of course, full payment can be made at the time of booking if you prefer and for bookings made less than 8 weeks before the tour departs this will be a requirement.

How can I pay?

We accept debit and credit cards for deposits and full payment.

What paperwork will I receive?

When your booking is confirmed, we will email you a booking confirmation document along with a copy of our full Terms and Conditions and the reading list. Approximately 28 days prior to the tour, we will prepare and send you our Travel Pack with your finalized information and tour itinerary details.

Do I need travel insurance?

Yes, this is essential; we can only accept a booking on the basis that you have taken out a full and comprehensive travel insurance policy to cover the full duration of your trip. We will ask you to confirm this to us. If you choose not to take out travel insurance, this is done so against our advice and at your own risk; we will ask you to sign a declaration form indemnifying us from any responsibility or cost in the event of medical emergency or repatriation.

Do I need a passport and visa?

It is your responsibility to ensure you have a full passport and we recommend that it is valid for 6 months after the return date of your trip. Tourist visas are not required for US citizens visiting the UK or Republic of Ireland, however for travel to the UK a new Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) will now be required.

Electronic Travel Authorisations (ETA) are being introduced for visitors to the UK who currently do not require a visa for short stays, they are digitally linked to a traveller's passport and ensure more robust security checks are carried out before people begin their journey to the UK, helping prevent abuse of immigration systems.

An ETA costs £10 and permits multiple journeys to the UK for stays of up to 6 months at a time and is valid for 2 years or until the holders passport expires — whichever is sooner.

An ETA does not permit entry to the UK — it authorises an individual to travel to the UK.

British & Irish citizens do not need an ETA.

Apply for an ETA

Applications can be done via a smartphone app — UK ETA app or on line at Apply for an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) — GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

This is a simple process, and decisions are usually communicated within 3 days.

It remains your responsibility to ensure you have the correct travel documentation for your trip.

Are there single traveler room supplements?

Yes, all our featured hotels charge single supplements and prices are shown on the tour pages. Please book early as single rooms sell fast.

Are room upgrades available?

All of the hotels on these tours have been handpicked for their high quality of accommodation and service. However, in some instances room upgrades are available and we would be happy to assist you to arrange these should you be interested.

Can you arrange extra hotel nights?

Yes, if you decide to arrive a few days before the start of the tour or leave a few days after the end of the tour, we are happy to arrange extra nights' accommodation. However, this service is only available at our featured hotels and a \$35 administration fee is charged.

Are meals included?

All breakfasts are included on all tours. Certain lunches and dinners are also included and you should study the tour itinerary in this brochure to determine what meals are included on your chosen tour. Meals not mentioned are not included and all beverages are at your own expense throughout the tour.

What do I do about any dietary requirements?

Please inform us at the time of booking, we will pass your information on to the hotel, property or restaurant who will do their best to accommodate your requirements.

How many passengers will be in the Albion Journeys tour group?

Typically, between 10 and 30.

What is the role of Tour Directors?

Our friendly Tour Director will meet you for a welcome dinner at the beginning of each tour. Their role is to facilitate the smooth organization of all operational aspects of the tour. If you have any queries or experience any issues during the tour, they are there to assist you.

Will the excursions change?

Please note that we plan our tours far in advance and the order and availability of excursions may be subject to change. In the event of a property not being available to visit, we will substitute with a similar visit, and you will be informed of the full details. Note also that tours described as being led by property owners, curators and head gardeners

are always subject to availability of the individuals concerned.

How much walking will there be on these tours?

Any included guided tours will operate at a fairly relaxed pace, but with many historic houses you may experience some uneven flooring along the way, and some rooms and levels may be inaccessible other than by stairs. You will, however, usually have the option to explore any venue by yourself at your own pace. Due to the distances covered, garden tours and guided city walking tours will often require slightly higher standards of mobility. It is essential that you inform us of any concerns at the time of booking, so that we can assess the suitability of your chosen tour in line with your specific requirements.

What are the arrangements for luggage?

The standard luggage allowance is one item of hand luggage and one suitcase per person restricted to a maximum weight of 20kgs (44 pounds). Unless stated otherwise we do provide porterage at each of the hotels used on our tours, however, as with all things of a personal nature, it is your responsibility to ensure your suitcase is loaded onto the vehicles we use throughout the tour.

What clothing should I bring?

Comfortable leisurewear is recommended for the daytime. In the evening many participants prefer to wear smarter dress for dining. While gentlemen may choose to wear a jacket in the restaurant in the evening, at most hotels this is not obligatory, we will of course inform you if any hotel does have a dress code. It is advisable to bring layered clothing and a light waterproof jacket. We recommend sturdy footwear when visiting gardens as the ground may be soft underfoot. Many historic properties request ladies do not wear high heels which may damage flooring.

Can you arrange my flights to the UK?

Albion Journeys do not arrange your air travel for our tours; this is your responsibility and gives you the flexibility to decide on your own routing.

What should I budget for tipping?

While it is not compulsory, it is customary to tip the coach driver and Tour Director as well as offering a small gratuity to the transfer drivers to acknowledge the services they have provided. As a guideline we suggest a rate of £5 (about \$6.50 as of this printing) per day for your coach and transfer drivers and £10 (about \$13 as of this printing) per day for your Tour Director. Gratuities for hotel staff and the tour guides you may meet at properties are at your discretion.

All tours offered subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply. Errors and omissions except. All dates are subject to change.



Holkham Hall



Bodnant Garden



Hever Castle



Tower of London

Terms & Conditions Extract

It is important that you read the following booking conditions extract and the full booking conditions shown on our website at albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions. These online booking conditions form the basis of your contract with us. Please read them and the extract below carefully as they apply to all bookings you make with us unless otherwise specified.

1. VACATION PAYMENT: When you make a booking you must pay a deposit for every person named on the booking. Deposits per person and the balance due date (the period before the departure date on which your full balance normally becomes due) are:

Deposit	Balance due date
\$1,000 (USD)	120 days before departure

If you cannot make a payment by card at the time of booking, please speak to one of our Reservations staff to discuss other options. You can make payments against your balance anytime between making the booking and the balance due date. If the balance is not paid on time we reserve the right to treat your booking as canceled by you and apply cancellation charges as set out in clause 3 below. For bookings made after the balance due date, the full amount is due at the time of booking.

2. OUR AGREEMENT: A contract is formed when we issue to you the booking confirmation document and terms and conditions. It is important you read through these and any other documents you receive and advise us of any inaccuracy within 14 days of the document date. By accepting the booking is correct you agree to our terms and conditions.

We regret we cannot accept any liability if we are not notified of any inaccuracy in any document within 14 days of our sending it out. This contract and all matters arising out of it will be governed by English law and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

3. VACATION CANCELLATION BY YOU: If you want to cancel your booking after we have confirmed it with you either verbally, over the telephone or by email, you can do so over the phone or in writing. The following cancellation charges will apply:

121 days or more prior to departure	\$1,000 (USD)
120 days or less before departure	100% of the program cost is non-refundable

If any member of your party is prevented from traveling, that person may transfer their place to someone else (introduced by you) providing we are notified no less than two weeks before departure.

Full terms and conditions will be provided with your booking confirmation. They are also available on request or via our website: albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions.

Bookings are accepted on the basis that you have read and understood them.



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliancē with National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland



Return address

The Royal Oak Foundation
20 W 44th Street, Suite 606
New York, NY 10036-6603

For inquiries and bookings

 albionjourneys.com/royal-oak

 info@albionjourneys.com

 **1-866-834-8358**

Hever Castle
Front cover image: Conwy Castle