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Isle of Man

3

UK

4 - 29

Ireland

30 - 41

Europe

42 - 47

Welcome to Action Tours brochure for 2019! We are a leading specialist tour wholesaler creating tailor-made tours for groups.

Our team has a combined experience of over 130 years in the travel industry reflecting the company's solidity and extensive knowledge on holidays for groups. Having worked with coach operators and private group organisers from across the UK for over 25 years, we have established a strong reputation for product knowledge, reliability and high standards of service. The ability to create a bespoke itinerary and the willingness to research and plan a tour in detail has helped set us aside from the competition.

If you are looking for an inventive and affordable tour, we certainly have plenty to offer within these 48 pages of short breaks, themed tours, seasonal packages and longer holidays throughout the Isle of Man, UK, Ireland and Europe. We hope you will find something suitable, but if you are looking for something or somewhere a little different, please do get in touch as our team has a wealth of expertise in creating bespoke tours.

Take Action and give us a call.

Why Chose Action Tours?

- › Hotels & Attractions carefully selected & quality controlled
- › Free single room for your driver (minimum of 25 paying passengers)
- › No deposit required
- › Emergency assistance 24 hours / 7 days a week
- › Complimentary marketing support, images & itineraries
- › A friendly, reliable & highly experienced team
- › We give you peace of mind and save you time

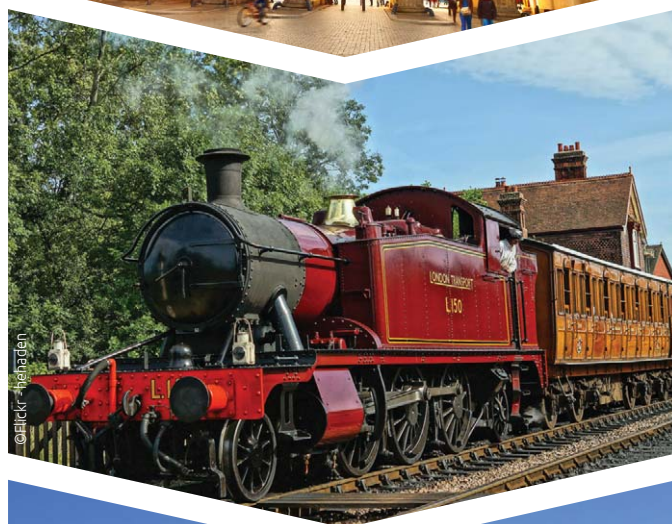
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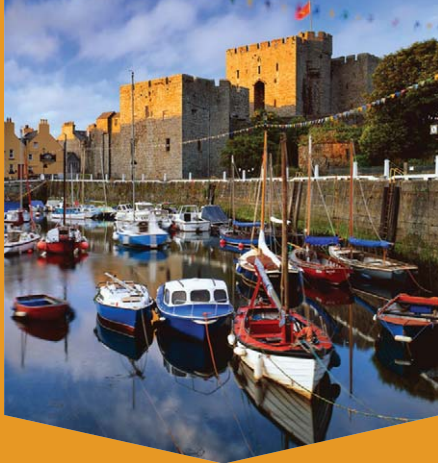
With Best Regards

All the team at **Action Tours**

We would like to thank all the regional tourist boards and visitor attractions that have supplied photographs included in this brochure.

Special Note: The prices detailed in this brochure are for guidance only and were calculated on the basis of the exchange rate quoted at the time of going to print, and include VAT at the current rates. Accordingly there may be some variation in the price so for an up-to-date quotation, please contact us. E & O E.





Isle of Man - 'the Treasured Isle'

The Isle of Man is a hidden treasure in the Irish Sea that's ideal for group tours. This small island lies just 60 miles off the mainland with classic railways, heritage sites and coastal resorts.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Take the Ferry from Heysham to Douglas for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Board the **Steam Railway** as it carries you through the Manx countryside to the popular resort of Port Erin, before continuing to **Cregneash Folk Village**, an historic chapter in island life. At the **Sound Café** and Visitor Centre, there are wonderful views of the Calf of Man, home to colonies of sea birds and diverse marine life. On the return journey to Douglas why not visit Castletown to see Castle Rushen and the Old School House or visit the Manx Fudge Factory.

Day 3: Spend the morning exploring the island's capital, **Douglas**, home to the award-winning Manx Museum. After lunch visit the iconic Lady Isabella – the world's largest working waterwheel and the island's most famous icon. You could also catch the mountain railway up to the summit of Snaefell.

Day 4: Follow the Isle of Man's **famous TT course**, stopping at '**Royal**' **Ramsey**, before travelling across the island to **Peel**. Sitting grandly at the mouth of the harbour is an attractive resort complete with castle, flat sandy beach, harbour, heritage centre and smoked kipper factory. Make time to visit **Tynwald Hill**, home of the 1000 year old Manx Parliament.

Day 5: After breakfast, return by ferry to Heysham and continue your journey home.

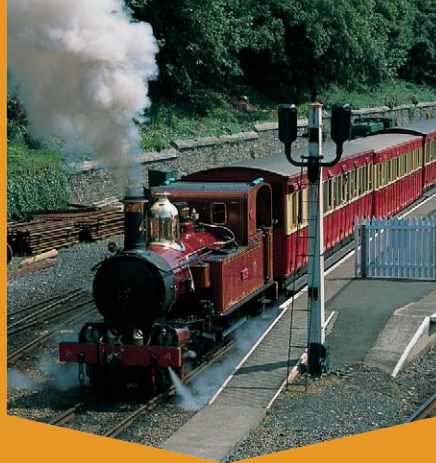
Empress Hotel ★★

An elegant hotel enjoying a central location on the promenade in Douglas.
• 102 Bedrooms • Lift

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Return Ferry
- Isle of Man Steam Railway to Port Erin

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £279
May - Sep: Prices from: £339



Great Little Trains of the Isle of Man

Explore the Isle of Man from top to bottom on its heritage trains & trams. This popular tour is a wonderful way to discover the island's countryside, coast and attractions whilst travelling on its fabulous heritage railways.

Railway journeys included:

Isle of Man Steam Railway – Experience the Age of Steam with a journey along the stunning South coast from Douglas to Port Erin.

Manx Electric Railway – A scenic journey up the East Coast with numerous choices between a one-way journey from Ramsey to Laxey, or Laxey to Douglas or a return journey between Douglas and Laxey.

Snaefell Mountain Railway – Enjoy the climb to the island's highest point aboard the Snaefell Mountain Railway.

Douglas Horse Trams – Experience Victorian grandeur on the promenade aboard these traditional horse-drawn carriages.

The little trains package can be based at any of our featured hotels. Call us for details and prices.



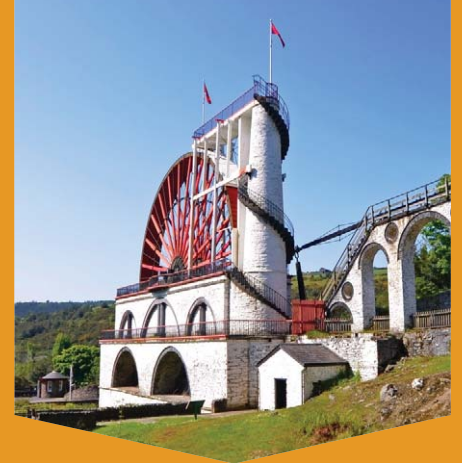
Rutland Hotel ★★

Promenade hotel enjoying stunning sea views over Douglas Bay.
• 64 Bedrooms • Lift

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- 3-day Explorer Pass
- Entertainment

May - Sep: Prices from: £329



The Magnificent 'Manx Madness'

This fabulous entertainment package takes place in March, April and October.

Try our popular short break to the Isle of Man, an eye-catching tour to suit the quieter months of March, April and October. The Isle of Man lies just 60 miles off the Lancashire coast and is known as the 'Treasured Isle'. It is small and perfectly formed with a delightful coastline, and irresistible curiosities such as the famous Fairy Bridge.

Discover the capital Douglas with its Victorian promenade and excellent Manx Museum, the charming harbour towns of Peel, Castletown, Port Erin and Ramsey and unique heritage sites including Cregneash Folk Park and Lady Isabella, the world's largest working waterwheel and the island's classic railways.

Relax at your seafront hotel where you'll be treated to musical entertainment on two nights and a free drink with dinner each evening.

This entertainment package is also offered at the Rutland Hotel at the same price. Call us to check availability.



Chesterhouse Hotel ★★

Perfectly positioned to explore Douglas seafront and town centre.
• 67 Bedrooms • Lift

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Return Ferry
- Inclusions as above

Mar, Apr & Oct: Prices from: £249



The Cream of Cornwall

Discover Cornwall's delightful coastlines, fascinating legends, historic resorts and a boat trip to Falmouth or an inspirational garden.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Newquay for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Visit Cornwall's only **cathedral city of Truro** with one of the most complete Georgian streets in England. This afternoon, relax on a **boat trip along the stunning banks of the Fal River to Falmouth** or visit the inspirational **Lost Gardens of Heligan**. Falmouth is a historic maritime coastal resort with a natural deepwater harbour guarded by twin castles and home to the National Maritime Museum, whilst the Lost Gardens of Heligan were created over a 200 year period, neglected and then gloriously restored over twenty five years ago.

Day 3: Excursion to **St Ives**, which was a busy fishing village, before developing into a picturesque holiday resort with glorious beaches and narrow alleyways which lead you to the harbour. It holds strong ties with the world of fine art, boasting both the Tate Gallery and Barbara Hepworth Museum. If time, continue to the famous landmark and dramatic coastline at Land's End or onto Marazion, with views out to St Michael's Mount.

Day 4: Relax on the famous Fistral Beach and explore **Newquay** itself or head north along the coast to Padstow, a busy fishing resort of great character and visit Prideaux Place, a charming Elizabethan Manor. Alternatively, visit the legendary King Arthur's headland town of Tintagel and the picturesque harbour village of Boscastle.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

Please see page 28 for an All-Inclusive tour at this hotel.

 Space is also available at the Fistral Beach Hotel & Spa ★★★★★

Esplanade Hotel ★★

Overlooking Fistral Beach away from the bustle of Newquay, it has an indoor pool.

- 90 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights
- Lost Gardens of Heligan or boat trip from Truro to Falmouth
- Leisure facilities ➤ 5 singles – no supplement in Apr & Oct

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £226
May - Sep: Prices from: £257



Smuggler's Cornwall

Explore some of Cornwall's most picturesque fishing villages and secluded coves, once regarded as perfect smuggling country.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Lostwithiel for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Discover **Charlestown**, which in some Poldark scenes played the role of the principal town. Wander along the side of the original Grade II listed harbour complete with Tall Ships, and you can almost imagine that you've been cast as an extra in the TV series. Explore the picturesque fishing village of **Mevagissey**, where you can still find working fishing boats and nets being mended. If you prefer, include a visit to the inspirational Lost Gardens of Heligan or the fabulous Eden Project.

Day 3: **Looe**, a delightful fishing town, is actually made up of East and West Looe, which face each other across the river. Relax and watch the world go by, explore its many gift shops or enjoy a local boat trip. A maze of lanes and alleyways lead down to the traditional fishing village and unspoilt harbour of **Polperro**, a true slice of Cornish beauty, where you can visit art and craft galleries and its very own Heritage Museum of Smuggling.

Day 4: Visit the attractive riverside town of **Fowey**, once home to the famous novelist Daphne du Maurier or **Bodmin**, one of Cornwall's oldest towns, before enjoying a scenic drive through spectacular **Bodmin Moor**, where the cast and crew of Poldark found themselves for a large part of their time. Scenes featuring the exterior of Poldark's cottage, Nampara, were shot here. This afternoon, relax on a nostalgic train ride on the **Bodmin & Wenford Railway** or visit **Lanhydrock House and Gardens**.

Day 5: Head for home.

Best Western Fowey Valley

★★★

Lovely welcoming hotel situated in the ancient town of Lostwithiel.

- 36 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Bodmin & Wenford Railway or Lanhydrock House & Gardens
- Outdoor heated pool at the hotel

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £259
May - Sep: Prices from: £303



Torquay & the English Riviera

South Devon beckons with a classic seaside resort, a stunning steam train journey and picturesque Dartmoor scenery.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Torquay for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: From Paignton, board a **steam train along a stunning stretch of coastline** to Kingswear, from where you catch the **foot passenger ferry to the historic maritime town of Dartmouth**, with its ancient narrow streets, boutique shops and art galleries. In the afternoon, you could enjoy spectacular views of castles, the Britannia Royal Naval College, Sir Walter Raleigh's Boathouse, Greenway Quay and the estate of the late Dame Agatha Christie, on a one hour circular harbour/river cruise from Dartmouth or continue to the historic town of Totnes.

Day 3: Excursion to the historic, **maritime city of Plymouth**, famous for Sir Frances Drake, who apparently finished a game of bowls on Plymouth Hoe, before heading out to sea and defeating the Spanish Armada. Return on a picturesque journey through the heart of the **Dartmoor National Park**, famous for its ponies and stunning scenery.

Day 4: Soak up the atmosphere, the parks, the gardens and all that **Torquay** has to offer or alternatively, travel to **Brixham**, a traditional fishing port with a beautiful harbour. Here you will find pretty colour-washed cottages, narrow, winding streets that overlook the harbour, rows of colourful craft and a replica of the Golden Hind, the vessel in which Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe.

Day 5: Reluctantly, it's time for home.

Please see page 28 for a Turkey & Tinsel tour at this hotel.

Headland Hotel ★★

Formerly the Russian Royal Family's home in Torquay, it sits majestically looking out to sea.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Paignton & Dartmouth Steam Railway
- Foot passenger ferry from Kingswear ➤ Entertainment each night
- Leisure Facilities ➤ 6 singles - no supplement

Apr, May & Oct: Prices from: £219
Jun - Sep: Prices from: £261



Devon & Somerset Steam & Cruise

Visit two of the most beautiful and scenic counties in Britain, whilst relaxing on cruises and a steam train journey.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Tiverton in mid-Devon for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Excursion to the stylish **Regency resort of Sidmouth**, situated on the Jurassic Coast, England's first natural World Heritage Site. "A town caught still in a timeless charm" – that was the Sidmouth that captivated the Poet Laureate, John Betjeman, and Sidmouth still captivates today. Continue to the seaside resort of **Exmouth**, where artists and poets have been inspired over the centuries, for a relaxing **River Exe circular cruise**, with live commentary on the sights, history and wildlife of the surrounding area.

Day 3: Tour through the delightful **Exmoor National Park** to the unique medieval village of **Dunster** which has over 200 listed buildings (tight bend in village may not be suitable for some longer coaches), before continuing to the coastal resort of **Minehead**. Enjoy a nostalgic steam train ride through the glorious Somerset countryside on the **West Somerset Railway**, the longest steam heritage railway.

Day 4: Explore the ancient **market town of Tiverton** which sits in a delightful setting on the banks of the River Exe, Bickleigh Mill which is one of Devon's largest rural shopping centres located in a historic working watermill, and watch the world go by very peacefully along the idyllic Grand Western Canal on the last **horse-drawn barge** trip in the South West - a little bit of 'heaven' in Devon!

Day 5: Time to reluctantly head for home.

Best Western Tiverton Hotel ★★

Offering a warm West Country welcome, it is ideally located for touring Devon and Somerset.

- 69 Bedrooms • Coach parking
- Ground floor bedrooms



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Horse-drawn canal trip
- River Exe circular cruise
- West Somerset Railway

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £258
May - Sep: Prices from: £273



Dorset & Wonderful Wessex

You will love the beautiful countryside and quintessential rural charm of Dorset's historic towns, streets and houses.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to the George Albert Hotel in Dorset for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Visit the 'Pearl of Dorset', the **historic coastal resort of Lyme Regis**, which is close to the Devon border. It is home to a number of landmarks, including its historic Cobb and harbour. Once a Cistercian monastery, **Forde Abbey** was transformed from an austere Abbey into a post renaissance palace and is now a stunning example of a fascinating historic house surrounded by 30 acres of glorious gardens.

Day 3: Dorchester, the historic market town which lies on the banks of the River Frome, is particularly well known for its associations with Thomas Hardy, the famous novelist and poet. The resort of **Weymouth** is home to a fine Georgian seafront, level promenade, long arc of award-winning sandy beach and a picturesque and traditional 17th century harbour. Alternatively, you could visit the stunning 15th century manor house and gardens at Athelhampton or the Swannery at Abbotsbury.

Day 4: Sherborne is, without doubt, one of England's most beautiful towns, with an abundance of medieval buildings, a superb Abbey, picturesque Almshouse and two castles. **Shaftesbury** is one of England's ancient hill top towns and famous as the home to the cobbled street of **Gold Hill**, made famous by the Hovis adverts of the 1980's, with stunning views over Hardy's Wessex.

Day 5: Time for home.



George Albert Hotel ★★ ★

With scenic views of the rolling Dorset countryside, this family-owned hotel has spacious accommodation.

- 39 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Forde Abbey Historic House & Gardens
- Entertainment on 1 night
- Leisure facilities

May & Oct: Prices from: £253
Jun - Sep: Prices from: £268



Poole & the Jurassic Coast

With a wonderful coastline, relaxing harbour cruise and nostalgic train ride, this tour to Dorset is a real treat.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Poole for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Explore the Isle of Purbeck, including the **Georgian market town of Wareham**, once a stronghold for King Alfred the Great and onto the lovely **Victorian seaside resort of Swanage**, which marks the Eastern end of the Jurassic Coast. Enjoy a wonderful journey through the Purbeck countryside with an included **trip on the Swanage Railway** with stunning views of the ruins of Corfe Castle en route.

Day 3: Enjoy a scenic drive along **Dorset's 'Jurassic Coast'**, a natural World Heritage Site containing 185 million years of the Earth's history and visit the **coastal resort of Weymouth** with its long sandy beach and picturesque harbour. If time allows, you could visit Athelhampton House & Gardens or the Swannery at Abbotsbury. Alternatively, head to the popular seaside resort of Bournemouth and the wonderful New Forest National Park.

Day 4: Discover **Poole Quayside** with its shops, cafés and working pottery or if you prefer travel the short distance to the picturesque ancient town of Wimborne Minster. This afternoon, enjoy the natural beauty of **Poole Harbour**, the second largest natural harbour in the world, on a relaxing and refreshing **cruise around the harbour and its islands** or if you prefer, visit Brownsea Island and enjoy the harbour cruise on your return to Poole Quay. Please note that the island is managed by the National Trust and a separate cost for visiting the island applies.

Day 5: Sadly, it's time for home.

Thistle Poole Hotel ★★ ★

With stunning views over Poole Harbour, this hotel is located on Poole Quayside.

- 70 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Swanage Railway
- Poole Harbour Cruise or Brownsea Island return cruise

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £259



Hampshire Steam & Gin – just the tonic!

Experience historic Hampshire, a nostalgic railway, Jane Austen heritage, an iconic gin distillery and maybe a relaxing cruise or two!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Winchester for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Explore the historic streets of King Alfred's ancient capital of England, **Winchester**. Visit the Great Hall and King Arthur's Round Table, a fully restored working water mill and Winchester Cathedral, where Jane Austen is buried. Based at Laverstoke Mill in rural Hampshire, the **Bombay Sapphire Distillery** is in a conservation area with over 1000 years of history. The distillery showcases the care, skill and artistry behind every drop of Bombay Sapphire, and allows you to discover the flavours of the botanicals which make this gin so unique.

Day 3: Head to **Alresford**, a lovely Georgian town, for a nostalgic trip on the **Mid-Hants Railway, also known as the Watercress Line**, through the lovely Hampshire countryside to Alton. This afternoon, if you wish, you could visit nearby Jane Austen's House Museum at Chawton, where Jane Austen did the majority of her mature writing and which still retains the charm of a village home; visit the Milestones Living History Museum or alternatively, drift peacefully along the Kennet & Avon Canal on a leisurely horse-drawn boat trip.

Day 4: The choice is yours! Visit the characterful historic city of Salisbury, home to a magnificent cathedral with England's tallest spire, before continuing to the picturesque town of Romsey with its winding streets and magnificent Norman Abbey or if you prefer, head into the wonderful New Forest National Park. Alternatively, you could visit Portsmouth, home to the Historic Dockyard and its many attractions and enjoy a stroll along the Promenade in Southsea.

Day 5: Head for home.

Norton Park Hotel ★★★★★

This prestigious hotel, close to Winchester, has an indoor pool and health spa.

- 166 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Mid-Hants Railway – 'Watercress Line'
- Bombay Sapphire Distillery ➤ Leisure & spa facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £263



Southsea & Chichester harbour cruise

Stroll along Southsea seafront, visit the historic cathedral city of Chichester and enjoy a relaxing harbour cruise.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Southsea for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a leisurely stroll in the gardens and along the Promenade in **Southsea**, home to a castle and the D-Day Museum & Overlord Embroidery. Visit the **historic waterfront city of Portsmouth** which is home to the unique Mary Rose Museum, a truly mesmerising experience. Why not visit some of the other Historic Dockyard attractions, which include HMS Victory and the Royal Naval Museum or for something more modern, take a panoramic trip up the 170ft high Spinnaker Tower.

Day 3: Nestled at the foot of the South Downs, visit the **cathedral city of Chichester** on market day. Cosmopolitan, fashionably elegant and unashamedly quirky, Chichester is made for exploring with its ancient circular walls, unique nooks and crannies. This afternoon, enjoy a relaxing and scenic **Chichester Harbour Cruise**. If you prefer, head to Southampton and enjoy a Two Rivers Cruise on the Rivers Itchen and Test, and in Southampton Harbour past modern cruise liners or a Hamble River Cruise, where Howard's Way was filmed.

Day 4: The choice is yours. The Isle of Wight is only a short ferry crossing away. Explore the coasts and curiosities of this island, perhaps visiting Shanklin, Sandown, Godshill, Alum Bay, the Needles, Queen Victoria's Osborne House or enjoy a train ride. Alternatively, stay in Hampshire and visit Alresford, a lovely Georgian town, for a nostalgic trip on the Mid-Hants Railway, also known as the Watercress Line, or head into West Sussex to the historic town of Arundel, home to a stately castle.

Day 5: Homeward bound.

Best Western Royal Beach Hotel ★★★★★

Proudly situated on Southsea's promenade, this lovely Victorian hotel is opposite the beach.

- 124 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Chichester Harbour Cruise
- 12 singles - no supplement

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £259



Eastbourne & the Bluebell Railway

Explore East Sussex with its stunning coast, genteel resorts, countryside, heritage and a trip on an iconic railway.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Eastbourne for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Excursion to the **historic town of Lewes**, which boasts a castle and the Anne of Cleves House, or the vibrant and colourful **Regency resort of Brighton**, where you can experience the heritage of the Royal Pavilion and take a trip up Britain's highest observation tower outside London, the Brighton i360. This afternoon, enjoy a **nostalgic trip back in time on the famous Bluebell Railway**.

Day 3: Explore **Eastbourne**, with its award-winning seafront, famous Carpet Gardens, Napoleonic fortress, harbour, boat trips, 1930's bandstand, Victorian Pier and relax in one of the beach huts or deckchairs. Visit the nearby, iconic and natural beauty spot at Beachy Head, the UK's highest chalk sea cliff. If you prefer, visit the seaside resort of Hastings, with its castle remains, a preserved Old Town and the steepest funicular railway in Britain.

Day 4: Excursion to the **historic town of Battle**, where one of England's most famous battles took place in 1066, and home to the famous Abbey or the **Cinque Port town of Rye**, with enchanting cobbled streets and beautifully preserved buildings from medieval, Tudor and Georgian times. This afternoon, visit **Pashley Manor Gardens**, which is an award-winning, quintessential English garden, with a sumptuous blend of romantic landscaping, fountains, springs and a dazzling array of colourful displays or the **historic house and gardens at Bateman's**, Rudyard Kipling's former home.

Day 5: Homeward bound.

Best Western Lansdowne Hotel ★★

This traditional, imposing and family-run hotel is located on Eastbourne's sea front.

- 102 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Bluebell Railway
- Bateman's or Pashley Manor Gardens ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights
- Tea/coffee on arrival ➤ 8 singles - no supplement

Apr: Prices from: £253
May - Sep: Prices from: £269



Historic Kent: the Garden of England

Steeped in history and heritage, discover the essence of this region with its perfect blend of city, coast and countryside.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Kent for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Explore the wonderful historic **spa town of Royal Tunbridge Wells**, with its elegant architecture and the pretty colonnaded 18th century walkway known as the Pantiles, which are now home to specialist shops and open-air cafes. This afternoon, enjoy a visit to either the enchanting **Hever Castle & Gardens**, which was the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, or the wonderful manor house and gardens at **Penshurst Place**, one of England's oldest family homes.

Day 3: Nestling against the banks of the River Medway, historic **Rochester** is home to England's second oldest cathedral, its tallest Norman castle and a host of connections to the writer Charles Dickens. Continue to the magnificent **Leeds Castle** and discover the glorious 900 year old story of the remarkable survival of a moated medieval castle or enjoy a nostalgic train journey on the **Kent & East Sussex Railway**, through the unspoilt countryside of the Rother Valley.

Day 4: The choice is yours. Head to the historic cathedral city of Canterbury with its atmospheric old streets and medieval walls, before continuing to the pretty coastal town of Deal, the ancient medieval town of Sandwich or Faversham, a charming town with nearly 500 listed buildings. Alternatively, you could enjoy a themed 'Call the Midwife' guided tour at Chatham Historic Dockyard; visit Broadstairs, Charles Dickens' favourite seaside holiday resort or Sissinghurst Castle Gardens, one of the world's most celebrated gardens.

Day 5: Time for home.

Bridgewood Manor Hotel ★★

Offering a peaceful setting for exploring Kent, this hotel near Chatham also has an indoor pool.

- 100 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Hever Castle & Gardens or Penshurst Place & Gardens
- Kent & East Sussex Railway or Leeds Castle
- Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £248



Royal Windsor & Henley-on-Thames

Discover the majesty of Windsor, the famous regatta town of Henley, a cruise on the Thames and a wonderful Royal garden.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Gerrards Cross in Buckinghamshire for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Crowned by stunning Windsor Castle, the largest and oldest inhabited castle in the world and official residence of Her Majesty The Queen, the **wonderful Royal town of Windsor**, has a rich mix of history, culture and heritage. This afternoon, enjoy a **relaxing two hour cruise along the River Thames** with excellent views of Windsor Castle and Eton College or visit **Savill Garden**, a haven of horticultural beauty in the heart of Windsor Great Park.

Day 3: **Henley-on-Thames** enjoys an international reputation as home of the world's greatest rowing regatta. Henley's historic heart is only a few strides from one of the most beautiful stretches of the River Thames. The main street, looking out to the iconic 18th century bridge, has many Georgian facades and over 300 buildings of architectural or historical interest. The **River & Rowing Museum** has galleries dedicated to rowing, rivers and the history of Henley, as well as a magical Wind in the Willows exhibition.

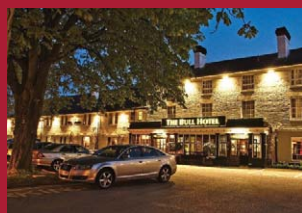
Day 4: Spoilt for choice today. You could explore the many wonders, museums and attractions of London and hop on a sightseeing bus or two. Alternatively, you could head to the city of spires at Oxford; the cathedral city of St Albans; the de Havilland Aircraft Museum; the Jacobean Hatfield House and Garden; the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew; the RHS Garden at Wisley or the magnificent Hampton Court Palace.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

The Bull Hotel ★★★★★

Historic and characterful hotel in Gerrards Cross, combining warm hospitality and modern comforts.

- 150 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Windsor River Thames Cruise or Savill Garden
- River & Rowing Museum at Henley

May - Sep: Prices from: £235



Codebreakers & Woburn Abbey

Visit the home of the famous World War 2 codebreakers and discover the history of the afternoon tea at Woburn Abbey.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Bedford for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Once Britain's best kept secret, **Bletchley Park, the 'Home of the Codebreakers'**, is today a unique heritage site and tourist attraction set within an atmospheric Victorian estate nestled in peaceful parkland. Explore and experience the top-secret world of iconic WW2 codebreaking huts and blocks, where codebreaking successes helped to save countless lives by shortening WW2 by about two years.

Day 3: Discover **Woburn Abbey** and its 28 acres of award-winning gardens, the historic family home of the Earls and Dukes of Bedford for nearly 400 years. Discover tales of imprisonment, beheadings, love affairs and Royal visits, all set against the backdrop of over 250 works of art displayed in over 20 rooms. The English social custom of Afternoon Tea was popularised in the 1840's by Duchess Anna Maria, who entertained her friends at Woburn Abbey. **Enjoy an indulgent Duchess Anna Maria Afternoon Tea** and be part of this continuing tradition. If time allows, visit the village of Woburn which has over 200 listed buildings.

Day 4: The choice is yours! Spend time exploring the riverside town of Bedford, home to the John Bunyan Museum, The Higgins Bedford with its fascinating collections and the Panacea Museum. Alternatively, you could visit Shuttleworth, home to a stunning 19th century Swiss Garden and a collection of historic aircraft, vintage vehicles and motorcycles; the historic flour mill and gardens at Jordans Mill; the once-hidden secret historic garden treasures at Wrest Park or head to the famous historic university city of Cambridge.

Day 5: Time for home.

The Bedford Swan Hotel ★★★★★

An 18th century hotel full of character and history, with a lovely river location in the heart of Bedford.

- 113 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Bletchley Park ➤ Woburn Abbey & Gardens
- Afternoon Tea at Woburn Abbey
- Leisure & spa facilities

May - Oct: Prices from: £277



Suffolk's Tranquil Villages & Coast

It's easy to see why some of England's most famous painters were inspired by Suffolk's picturesque villages and unspoilt coastline.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to the Best Western Marks Tey Hotel for 4 nights.

Day 2: Enjoy a **guided tour of Suffolk's pastel-coloured towns and villages**, whose timber-framed houses and thatched roofs make this area so unique. Visit **Sudbury**, home to Gainsborough's attractive townhouse which is now the birthplace museum and gallery of Thomas Gainsborough, one of Britain's greatest painters; **Long Melford** and **Lavenham**, where we include a visit to its **historic Guildhall**, which now contains exhibitions of local history.

Day 3: Be inspired and enjoy a slower pace of life, with visits to nearby **Dedham**, home to the Munnings Art Museum and an art & craft centre, and **East Bergholt**, picturesque villages associated with the artist John Constable. This afternoon, why not enjoy a nostalgic visit to the Tiptree Jam Shop, Tea Room and Museum (free admission) or if you prefer, continue to Beth Chatto Gardens or Colchester, officially Britain's oldest recorded town, home to Roman remains, a huge Norman castle keep and timber-framed cottages.

Day 4: Excursion to Suffolk's Heritage Coast and the **pretty coastal town of Aldeburgh**, with its unspoilt beach dotted with fishermen's huts and charming historic high street. This afternoon, enjoy a visit to the **Suffolk Punch Trust for a guided tour and a horsebus ride**, or a **relaxing cruise along the River Orwell or the River Deben**, making a lovely way to round off your holiday.

Day 5: Time to reluctantly head for home.

Best Western Marks Tey Hotel ★★

Ideal for exploring Suffolk, it has modern facilities and an indoor swimming pool.

- 110 Bedrooms • Coach parking
- Ground floor bedrooms



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Lavenham Guildhall ➤ Guided tour of Suffolk Villages
- Suffolk Punch Trust or an Orwell or Deben River Cruise
- Welcome drink on arrival ➤ Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £239



Norfolk Broads & the Poppy Line

What better way to experience Norfolk than with a cruise on the Broads, a nostalgic railway trip and a stately home.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Norwich for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Excursion to the **North Norfolk Heritage Coast** to the wonderful Georgian market town of Holt, where you board **'The Poppy Line'**, for a **heritage steam train ride** with stunning views of the Norfolk countryside and coastline through to **Sheringham**, a traditional seaside town which grew up around its old fishing village. Continue to the lovely **coastal resort of Cromer**, famous for its pier and tasty crabs or the wonderful harbour town of Wells-next-the-Sea.

Day 3: Travel to **Wroxham**, where you board your boat for a **relaxing cruise on the Norfolk Broads**. Today, you could also enjoy a trip on the narrow gauge Bure Valley Railway, visit the wonderful Blickling Hall or head into **Norwich**, which is said to be the most complete medieval city in Britain with over 1,500 historic listed buildings, two cathedrals, an imposing Norman castle and is famed as the home of Colman's Mustard.

Day 4: Spoilt for choice, you could explore the **Sandringham Estate**, the much-loved Norfolk retreat of Her Majesty the Queen. The magnificent stately house is set in stunning landscaped gardens, and remains very much as it was in Edwardian times. If time allows, visit the resort of Hunstanton, historic King's Lynn or pop into Norfolk Lavender. If you prefer, visit the unspoiled and historic seaside resort of Wells-next-the-Sea and the spectacular **Palladian Mansion at Holkham Hall**, with its restored Victorian kitchen and walled gardens.

Day 5: Time for home.

Holiday Inn Norwich ★★

Ideally located for touring Norfolk, this modern hotel is on Ipswich Road.

- 119 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Norfolk Broads Cruise ➤ Poppy Line Steam Railway
- Sandringham Estate or Holkham Hall
- Leisure facilities

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £245



Cambridge, Ely & Dad's Army

Have a 'punt' on the horses and discover a land of lazy waterways, majestic cathedrals and a Dad's Army Experience!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Cambridge for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a morning **panoramic coach guided tour of the famous university city of Cambridge**, before exploring the historic centre, the renowned Fitzwilliam Museum or maybe take a leisurely punt along the River Cam. Admire the wonderful architecture and majestic college buildings, and explore quaint passages set around the historic market place.

Day 3: Saddle up for the **attractive market town of Newmarket**, watch the racehorses exercise on the famous gallops and if you wish, visit the National Horseracing Museum or enjoy a tour of the National Stud. The city of **Ely** is rich in history, charm and beauty and its magnificent Cathedral is known locally as the 'Ship of the Fens'. Whilst in Ely, don't miss the Stained Glass Museum or Oliver Cromwell's House.

Day 4: Enjoy a **Dad's Army Experience Day** in and around the **charming town of Thetford**, where the famous BBC TV series was filmed. Enjoy an entertaining walking tour looking at many of the filming locations and visit the Dad's Army Museum, before continuing to **Bressingham Steam & Gardens**, a unique day out with steam engines, narrow gauge trains, wonderful gardens and the official Dad's Army Collection. Alternatively, you could visit the historic airfield and museum of aviation history at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford or head into Essex to the ancient towns of Saffron Walden and Thaxted, and the stunning Jacobean stately home at Audley End House and Gardens.

Day 5: Time for home.

Hallmark Hotel Cambridge ★★★★★

In picturesque grounds, close to Cambridge, this hotel has an indoor pool and a golf course.

- 136 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Tea/coffee on arrival ➤ Guided tour of Cambridge
- Dad's Army Museum, Thetford ➤ Dad's Army walking tour of Thetford
- Bressingham Steam & Gardens ➤ Leisure & Spa facilities

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £249



Lincolnshire Coast & Countryside

Experience the best of Lincolnshire with historic towns and villages, a thriving seaside resort and 'Bomber County' heritage.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Skegness for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Visit the delightful village of **Woodhall Spa** with its **Dambuster's** connections and its unique Kinema in the Woods, before continuing to the **Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre**. Enjoy exhibitions and an enlightening guided tour of the hangar where these historic aeroplanes are meticulously maintained. Alternatively, you could visit the **Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre**, where you can experience the sights, sounds, smells and atmosphere of a bomber airfield, complete with its own Lancaster bomber 'Just Jane'. If time, call in at the antiques town of Horncastle or Louth, the historic capital of the Wolds.

Day 3: Excursion to the heart of the dramatic fenland to a **gem of a market town, Boston**, which is immersed in history and dominated by its 14th century St Botolph's Church whose high tower is locally known as 'The Stump'. Continue to **Spalding**, famous as the centre of the UK flower industry, with its elegant Georgian terraces and tree-lined river walks, and take time out to visit the Springfield's Outlet Shopping Centre and award-winning Festival Gardens.

Day 4: Relax and explore **Skegness**, one of Britain's first seaside resorts, where large Victorian houses in leafy avenues lead to an amazing array of floral gardens, its grand promenade and wonderful beaches. If you prefer, why not head to the nearby Batemans Brewery or further afield to the **ancient city of Lincoln**, whose cathedral towers majestically over the city and its many other historic attractions including a Norman castle and charming medieval and Georgian houses.

Day 5: Time for home.

The Royal Hotel ★★★

In quiet, spacious grounds, this Victorian hotel in Skegness is close to the seafront and the town centre.

- 70 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre or Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre
- Entertainment on 3 nights ➤ 5 singles – no supplement

May & Jun: Prices from: £177
Jul - Sep: Prices from: £189



Cheltenham & the Cotswolds

Explore Regency Cheltenham, medieval Tewkesbury, the charming towns and villages of the Cotswolds and a truly wonderful garden.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Cheltenham for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Visit **Cheltenham**, England's most complete Regency town whose town houses, characterised by intricate ironwork balconies and painted stucco facades, line the historic Promenade, squares and terraces. Enjoy a trip on the **Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway** through the heart of the Cotswolds between Cheltenham and Broadway or visit **Sudeley Castle**, once the home of Katherine Parr, the last and surviving wife of Henry VIII, and its award-winning gardens.

Day 3: Discover the **picturesque medieval town of Tewkesbury** on Wednesday market day. Rich in timber-framed buildings, Tewkesbury has a long and fascinating history as well as being home to a famous Abbey. Enjoy a **relaxing cruise along the River Severn** from Tewkesbury or visit the rural **TV presenter Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park**, where you can experience a stunning diversity of animals, rare breeds, a farm safari tractor ride and changing demonstrations which follow the farming cycle.

Day 4: Enjoy a scenic tour of the honey-coloured limestone towns and villages of the Cotswolds. Visit **Bourton-on-the-Water**, the 'Venice of the Cotswolds'; **Stow-on-the-Wold**, with its many fine antique shops; the wonderful villages of **Broadway** and Chipping Campden, before an afternoon visit to **Hidcote Manor Garden**. Discover one of the country's great gardens, with its magnificent vistas and dazzling arrays of plants and flowers.

Day 5: Time for home.

The Cheltenham Chase Hotel ★★★★★

Situated at the foot of the Cotswold Hills, this stylish and contemporary hotel has an indoor swimming pool.

- 122 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

➤ 4 nights DBB ➤ Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park or Tewkesbury River Severn Cruise ➤ Hidcote Manor Garden ➤ Sudeley Castle & Gardens or Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway ➤ Leisure & spa facilities

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £266



Wye Valley & the Royal Forest of Dean

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

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Coleford in the Royal Forest of Dean for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Cross the border into Wales to the **Georgian market town of Monmouth**, famous for its unique 13th century Monnow Bridge, before returning to England for a **relaxing cruise along the River Wye** from Symonds Yat West, which has long been one of the most spectacular stretches of the Wye Valley. If time allows, explore Coleford itself or enjoy the bowling and golf facilities at your hotel.

Day 3: Follow the twists and turns of the **Wye Valley** for a coffee break and photo opportunity at the magnificent ruins of Tintern Abbey, before continuing to the historic walled border town of **Chepstow**, which is dominated by the oldest surviving stone castle in Britain, on the banks of the River Wye. Return into the delightful Royal Forest of Dean for a relaxing round trip on the **Dean Forest Railway**.

Day 4: The choice is yours. Why not enjoy a full or half day guided tour of the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean; head into Herefordshire to the historic cathedral city of Hereford, the market town of Ross-on-Wye, Ledbury with its 'black & white' timber-framed buildings or discover the secrets of traditional cider making on a Weston's Cider guided mill tour. Alternatively, why not head to Regency Cheltenham or Gloucester, with its cathedral and Victorian docks.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

Please see page 29 for a Turkey & Tinsel tour at this hotel.

Please note that 3 night tours are also available on these two tours.

Bells Hotel & Forest of Dean Golf Club ★★★★★

A warm welcome is assured at this hotel with bowling facilities.

- 53 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

➤ 4 nights DBB ➤ River Wye Cruise ➤ Dean Forest Railway ➤ Welcome drink on arrival ➤ Entertainment each night ➤ 6 singles - no supplement ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £234



Shakespearean Cream Tea & Cruise

Relax on a cream tea cruise in Shakespeare country and step back in time to an age of elegance, romance and treachery.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to the Chesford Grange Hotel, near Kenilworth for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Experience the sights and ambience of **Stratford-Upon-Avon**, a town synonymous with William Shakespeare. Walk in Shakespeare's footsteps at the house where he was born and grew up, and head off on the self-guided heritage trail. His influence is everywhere and there are also cafes, shops and riverside gardens to enjoy. This afternoon, board the 'Countess of Evesham' for an included gentle **relaxing cruise and cream tea on the River Avon**.

Day 3: Discover a wealth of treasures in the **charming historic town of Warwick**, home to secret gardens, a magnificent castle - Britain's greatest medieval experience, and the Lord Leicester Hospital, a group of timber-framed buildings dating mainly from the 14th century. Continue to the fashionable and **elegant town of Royal Leamington Spa**, home to the Royal Pump Rooms and the Grade II listed Jephson Gardens. Alternatively, a full day guided tour of Shakespeare Country and the Heart of England could be arranged.

Day 4: Head to the **ancient market town of Henley-in-Arden**, with its unspoilt historic high street, and **Coughton Court**, a fine Tudor estate owned by the Throckmorton family since 1409, with an absorbing history linked to the Gunpowder Plot and a conspiracy to assassinate Elizabeth I. Alternatively, visit **Kenilworth Castle and its Elizabethan Gardens**, which have been restored to their former glory, before exploring the **historic town of Kenilworth** itself.

Day 5: Homeward bound.

Chesford Grange Hotel ★★★★★

Historic and characterful hotel set in 17 acres of tranquil gardens and woodland, near Kenilworth.

- 205 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Cruise with cream tea
- Kenilworth Castle & Gardens or Coughton Court
- Leisure & spa facilities

Apr - Sep: Prices from: £257



Severn Steam & Cruise

Marvel at stunning scenery, amazing heritage, a nostalgic steam train journey and not just one, but two river cruises.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Stourport-on-Severn for a 4 night stay with tea/coffee and cake on arrival.

Day 2: Head to Worcester and visit the **Elgar Birthplace Museum** with an introduction to the museum and exhibition. Explore the **city of Worcester**, with its magnificent cathedral, medieval townhouse, famous Porcelain, Tudor House and The Commandery, which dates back to the 13th century, before experiencing the city from a different perspective on an included **cruise along the River Severn**.

Day 3: Enjoy a memorable **Severn Valley Railway** steam train journey through beautiful scenery and over Victoria Bridge, which featured in the famous film 'The Thirty-Nine Steps'. Visit **Bridgnorth**, which is actually two towns, High Town and Low Town, connected by the steepest inland funicular railway in Britain, before returning to **Bewdley**, 'the most perfect small Georgian town in Worcestershire' and picturesque **Stourport-on-Severn**, with its historic canal basins and riverside walks.

Day 4: Discover the **picturesque medieval market town of Tewkesbury** on Wednesday market day, with its timber-framed buildings, long and fascinating history and famous 12th century Abbey. Stroll along the riverside, its network of alleyways and explore the medieval Old Town, before enjoying a **relaxing cruise along the River Severn** with light refreshments available on board, and a scenic drive through the Malvern Hills back to the hotel.

Day 5: Head for home.

Hallmark Hotel Stourport Manor ★★★★★

Set in 23 acres, this contemporary, country house hotel has an indoor pool.

- 72 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Severn Valley Railway ➤ Elgar Birthplace Museum
- Worcester River Severn Cruise ➤ Tewkesbury River Severn Cruise
- Entertainment on 1 night ➤ Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £261



Shropshire & The Severn Valley

Visit Shropshire, with its remarkable heritage, a memorable train journey, the gourmet town of Ludlow and a lovely river cruise.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Shropshire for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a **unique and leisurely 40 minute cruise in Shrewsbury** along the famous and very picturesque River Severn loop. **Shrewsbury**, the birthplace of Charles Darwin, is arguably the finest Tudor town in England and is home to an abbey, many black & white half-timbered Tudor buildings and an imposing castle.

Day 3: Full steam ahead for an unforgettable and classic rail journey on the **Severn Valley Railway** between **Bridgnorth**, which is a 'twin town' linked together by its own remarkable Cliff Railway, and Kidderminster. Continue to the historic market town of **Ludlow**, often referred to as **the perfect historic town**, with over 500 listed buildings and a castle at its heart, or **Church Stretton**, the only town in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Day 4: The spectacular **Ironbridge Gorge** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy an absorbing day visiting **Blists Hill, an open air museum**, where townsfolk in traditional dress re-enact life in an authentic Victorian community; the village of Ironbridge and of course, the famous Iron Bridge itself. If time allows, visit **Much Wenlock**, a medieval town with close ties to the modern Olympics and home to the remains of a 12th century Priory. Alternatively, head into Wales and experience the picturesque town of Llangollen, a horse-drawn canal boat trip and a nostalgic trip through the Dee Valley on the Llangollen Railway.

Day 5: Time for home.

 Please note that space is also available at the Mercure Shrewsbury Albrighton Hall Hotel & Spa ★★★★★

Buckatree Hall Hotel ★★★★★

Country house hotel in a peaceful rural location, with its own mature gardens.

- 62 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Severn Valley Railway ➤ Blists Hill Victorian Museum
- Shrewsbury River Severn Cruise ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights
- Tea/coffee on arrival

Apr: Prices from: £229
May - Sep: Prices from: £249



Cheshire Highlife & Welsh Borders

Be inspired and fall in love with Cheshire & the Welsh Borders with its history, heritage, wonderful gardens and uplifting attractions!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Frodsham for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Full day in **Chester** to be able to explore and fully appreciate all this wonderful historic city has to offer. Discover Chester's remarkable cathedral with Europe's finest example of medieval carvings; the unique 700 year old Rows galleries of shops; the largest Roman Amphitheatre in Britain; the most complete City Walls in Britain, and if time allows, hop on and off an open top sightseeing bus or take a relaxing cruise along the River Dee.

Day 3: Head into the beautiful Cheshire countryside and visit the **medieval market town of Nantwich**, with its atmospheric streets, medieval timbered buildings, antique and craft shops. This afternoon, enjoy a **lift and river boat trip at the Anderton Boat Lift**, a Victorian masterpiece of waterway engineering built to connect the River Weaver and the Trent & Mersey Canal. Alternatively, visit a much cherished Victorian family home and it's lovingly created award-winning gardens at **Arley Hall and Gardens**.

Day 4: Cross the border into Wales and explore the **picturesque town of Llangollen** with the River Dee running through its heart. Experience the peace and tranquillity of a **horse-drawn canal boat trip** along the Llangollen Canal, now part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy Llangollen's wealth of independent shops and take a stroll along Victoria Promenade, before a nostalgic trip back in time through the Dee Valley on the **Llangollen Railway**. Alternatively, you could visit the historic village of Port Sunlight; the award-winning Ness Botanic Gardens; the National Trust's Little Moreton Hall or the stately estate at Tatton Park.

Day 5: Time for home.

Best Western Forest Hills Hotel ★★★★★

Set amidst wonderful countryside, with stunning views across the Cheshire Plains and Mersey Estuary.

- 58 Bedrooms • Coach parking
- Ground floor bedrooms



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Anderton Boat Lift and river trip or Arley Hall & Gardens ➤ Llangollen horse-drawn canal trip ➤ Llangollen Railway
- Entertainment on 1 night ➤ Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £249



Liverpool & Southport Explorer

Discover Liverpool's glorious maritime history, magnificent architecture, a 'Ferry across the Mersey' and the elegant resort of Southport.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Liverpool for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a **fascinating two hour coach guided tour of Liverpool** and marvel at the history, heritage and architecture of this vibrant city. Explore Liverpool, a UNESCO World Heritage City, with its two cathedrals and an historic waterfront including the Albert Dock, the largest collection of Grade I listed buildings in Europe, Tate Liverpool, Maritime Museum, Beatles Story and Pier Head, home to the affectionately titled Three Graces and the magnificent Royal Liver Building. To round off your day, **enjoy a River Explorer on a 'Ferry across the Mersey'.**

Day 3: Excursion to the **traditional and elegant Victorian seaside town of Southport**, which has become known as 'England's Classic Resort'. Its architecture, parks, gardens, promenade and the UK's oldest iron pier, reflect its historical heritage, and Lord Street, with its tree-lined boulevards, wide pavements and iron canopies, is recognised as one of the most elegant shopping areas in England. If time, why not visit the unique antiques and collectables experience at Bygone Times in Eccleston.

Day 4: The choice is yours. Spend more time exploring Liverpool or alternatively, travel through the Mersey Tunnel to the charming 19th Century village of Port Sunlight, which was built by William Hesketh Lever to house his soap factory workers, visit the wonderful Ness Botanic Gardens, the Anderton Boat Lift or head to the historic walled city of Chester, with its cathedral and unique 700 year old shopping rows.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

Alternative tours include 'Liverpool & the Manchester Ship Canal Cruise' – call us for details and prices.

Mercure Liverpool Atlantic Tower Hotel ★★★★★

In the very heart of the city overlooking Liverpool's world famous waterfront and iconic Liver Building.

- 225 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Two hour coach guided tour of Liverpool
- River Explorer Cruise – a 'Ferry across the Mersey'

May - Sep: Prices from: £248



Peak District & Summer Wine Country

Stay in an historic hall and explore the glorious Peak District scenery, stately Chatsworth House and Summer Wine Country.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Wortley Hall in Yorkshire for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a fascinating **tour of the house and gardens at Wortley Hall**, originally an ancestral home, which is steeped in history and heritage. This afternoon, you could explore Wortley village, Elsecar Heritage Centre, enjoy a private guided tour of Wentworth Woodhouse, which has the longest façade of any English country house, visit Wentworth Castle Gardens or head to the market town of Chesterfield, famous for its 'Crooked Spire'.

Day 3: Head into the **Peak District** and visit the elegant spa town of **Buxton** or the delightful town of **Bakewell**, famous for its Bakewell Pudding and Tart. If you prefer, visit one of the regular Well Dressings or the 'plague village' of Eyam, before continuing to the magnificent and stately **Chatsworth House**, with over 30 rooms and art collections in the house and 105 acres of wonderful gardens.

Day 4: Explore **Summer Wine Country** today. **Holmfirth**, a quirky and lovely market town, is home to Nora Batty's steps, Sid's Cafe and Compo's former home, which is now the Last of the Summer Wine Exhibition and Wrinkled Stocking Tea Room. Enjoy a **truly unique 45 minute TV locations tour** in and around Holmfirth on a narrow-bodied 25 seater coach. Return via the scenic 'Snake Pass' and past the reservoirs where the famous Dambusters trained in WW2.



Day 5: Time to head for home.

Wortley Hall ★★★

Tranquil rural setting with wood-panelling, fireplaces and 26 acres of gardens and woodland.

- 49 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Chatsworth House & Gardens ➤ Tour of Holmfirth & Summer Wine Country ➤ Wortley Hall house & gardens tour ➤ Evening talk on Wortley Hall ➤ Quiz or bingo night ➤ 6 singles - no supplement

May - Sep: Prices from: £247



Stately Yorkshire Rail & Cruise

Experience the ancient city of York, a river cruise, Yorkshire's finest historic house and a nostalgic rail journey.

Suggested Itinerary:


Day 1: Travel to the Best Western Burn Hall Hotel, near York for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Discover **Castle Howard**, one of England's grandest Baroque mansions and the perfect setting for the hit TV series 'Brideshead Revisited'. Set within 1,000 acres of breathtaking landscape, enjoy lavishly decorated rooms, stunning architecture, idyllic gardens and lakeside walks. Continue to Yorkshire Lavender or via Sutton Bank to the **traditional market town of Thirsk**, which was home for the famous vet and author James Herriot.

Day 3: Start the day in **York** with a **relaxing cruise along the River Ouse**. Within York's towering medieval walls is a heart of rich and colourful character, with its history recorded in the streets, buildings and museums gathered around the mighty Minster. Discover as many of the treasures and architectural gems this remarkable city has to offer, its cobbled streets, the famous Shambles and the National Railway Museum.

Day 4: Explore Heartbeat Country with a wonderful nostalgic trip on the **North Yorkshire Moors Railway**, a visit to the **historic coastal town of Whitby**, with its famous cliff-top Abbey and the small village of Goathland, which was 'Aidensfield' in the Heartbeat TV series, whilst the railway station here was used as 'Hogsmeade' in the Harry Potter films.

Day 5: Time for home.

 Please note that space is also available at the Queens Hotel, York and see page 29 for a Christmas themed break to the area.

Alternative tours include 'Yorkshire Rail Journeys' – call us for details.

Best Western Burn Hall Hotel ★★

Wonderful Victorian country house hotel, set in 8 acres of gardens and parkland, near York.

- 94 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ York River Cruise ➤ Castle Howard
- North Yorkshire Moors Railway ➤ Entertainment on 1 night
- 8 singles - no supplement

Apr, May & Oct: Prices from: £248
Jun - Sep: Prices from: £259



Harrogate & the Yorkshire Dales

The floral spa town of Harrogate, a heritage railway and stunning scenery, all await you in the wonderful Yorkshire Dales.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Harrogate for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Discover the **spa town of Harrogate**, renowned for its floral beauty, with its Victorian Pump Room, Royal Baths, curiosity shops and beautifully manicured gardens. Discover **Harewood House**, one of Yorkshire's treasure houses and its award winning gardens or the **amazing RHS Garden at Harlow Carr**, which is ablaze with colour and interest all year-round. Afternoon tea at Betty's will be the perfect end to the day.

Day 3: Enjoy a circular tour through the **picturesque Yorkshire Dales** scenery with a photo opportunity at the famous Ribbleshead Viaduct on your way to the lovely town of **Hawes**, which is also home to the Wensleydale Creamery, made famous by Wallace & Gromit. Continue to Leyburn for an authentic heritage railway trip on the **Wensleydale Railway** to Leeming Bar, before returning to Harrogate.

Day 4: Spoilt for choice today. Visit the small village of Esholt, home to the original Woolpack Pub, where Emmerdale used to be filmed and the charming town of Otley, the setting for Emmerdale's 'Hotton'. Alternatively, visit the cathedral city of Ripon and Newby Hall and Gardens; the historic city of York; Haworth and Bronte Country; Thirsk and Herriot Country or Skipton and the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway.

Day 5: Time for home.

 Please note that space is also available at the Cairn Hotel ★★

Alternative tours based in Harrogate include 'Lights, Camera, Action' and 'Bronte Country' – call us for details and prices.

Old Swan Hotel ★★

In the heart of beguiling Harrogate, this hotel offers elegance and old world charm.

- 136 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Wensleydale Railway
- Harewood House or RHS Garden Harlow Carr
- 8 singles - no supplement

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £251



The Pennine Explorer

Discover the Yorkshire-Lancashire border with a relaxing cruise on a traditional canal barge and a wonderful train journey.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Lancashire for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a classic rail journey on the **Settle to Carlisle Railway**, which is considered the most scenic rail journey in England as it winds through moorland scenery and over the famous Ribbleshead Viaduct. Alternatively, you could explore the historic town of **Haworth**, popular for its close ties with the famous Bronte Sisters and home to the Bronte Parsonage Museum, before following in the tracks of the 'Railway Children' at the **Keighley & Worth Valley Railway**, which, in 2018, celebrates 50 years since it re-opened.

Day 3: Travel into Yorkshire to **Skipton** for its ever-popular Wednesday market. Stall holders and shoppers barter with each other along the high street close to the town's impressive medieval castle. Join in the fun, before taking to the water on an historic **relaxing cruise along the Leeds-Liverpool Canal**, either from Skipton or from Foulridge.

Day 4: Why not experience an enlightening and informative full day Pendle Witches and Ribbles Valley coach guided tour and hear all about the mystical legends of these fascinating and beautiful areas of Lancashire. If you prefer, visit the historic market town of Clitheroe, a mill shopping experience at Boundary Mill or Oswaldtwistle Mills, or enjoy another rail journey with the East Lancashire or the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

Please note that 3 night tours are also available at this hotel.

Alternative tours include 'Ribbles Valley, Pendle & Bronte Country' – call us for details and prices.

Mercure Dunkenhall Hotel & Spa ★★★★★

Historic hotel mixing wonderfully the grandeur of a 700 year old building with modern facilities.

- 175 Bedrooms
- Lift • Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Settle to Carlisle or Keighley & Worth Valley Railway
- Leeds-Liverpool Canal Cruise ➤ Entertainment on 1 night
- 6 singles - no supplement ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £221



'Brief Encounter' with the Lancashire Coast

This tour brings together heritage, a romantic film, a historic house, unique gardens, picturesque countryside and wonderful coastlines.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to St Annes-on-Sea for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Excursion to the **traditional and elegant Victorian seaside town of Southport**, which has become known as 'England's Classic Resort'. Its architecture, parks, gardens, promenade and the UK's oldest iron pier, reflect its historical heritage, and Lord Street, with its tree-lined boulevards, wide pavements and iron canopies, is recognised as one of the most elegant shopping areas in England. If time, why not visit the unique antiques and collectables experience at Bygone Times in Eccleston.

Day 3: Enjoy a **fun and informative guided tour at the Carnforth Station Heritage Centre**, savour the restored splendour of the buildings, the famous clock and the **'Brief Encounter' Refreshment Room**, which has been lovingly recreated just as it was in the famous film. Take a lunch break at one of two historic market towns, Kirkby Lonsdale or Kendal, before visiting the stunning **Elizabethan house at Levens Hall**, its award-winning 10-acres of wonderful gardens **including the world famous Topiary Gardens**.

Day 4: Explore the **charming resort of St Annes-on-Sea** and take a stroll along the promenade, the Victorian Pier and come face to face with the Les Dawson statue in the ornamental gardens. You could also visit the neighbouring town of Lytham or venture further along the Fylde Coast to Blackpool, Cleveleys or Fleetwood, or if you fancy the 'Destination Garden Centre of the Year' then why not visit Barton Grange Garden Centre, which has won this national award a number of times.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

Chadwick Hotel ★★★

Wonderfully located on St Annes Promenade, it is ideally situated for both the beach and the town centre.

- 72 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Guided tour & visit to the Carnforth Station Heritage Centre ➤ Levens Hall & Gardens (not Oct) ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights
- 3 singles - no supplement ➤ Leisure facilities

May - Oct: Prices from: £209



Lake District Steam & Cruise

Be inspired by the Lake District's famous breathtaking scenery, nostalgic steam train journeys and relaxing lake cruises.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Grange-over-Sands for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Take a wonderfully scenic trip through the heart of the Lake District to the ever-popular North Lakes tourist town of **Keswick**, under the shadow of Skiddaw, before continuing to England's most beautiful lake, **Ullswater**, for a cruise on a 'steamer' from Pooley Bridge to Glenridding. Return to Grange-over-Sands via the narrow, but beautiful Kirkstone Pass.

Day 3: Enjoy a one-way steam train journey through the beautiful Leven Valley on the **Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway**, before boarding a **delightful cruise along Lake Windermere**, England's largest lake, from Lakeside to Bowness-on-Windermere. **Bowness** is popular all year round and people come here to sail on the lake or just to relax and savour the atmosphere and the town's delightful setting.

Day 4: Full steam ahead to Western Lake District for a trip back in time on the **Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway**, affectionately known by the locals as 'La'al Ratty'. Enjoy a return trip on Lakeland's oldest and longest railway from the delightful coastal village of Ravenglass through two glorious valleys to the foot of England's highest mountains. If time, call in to the market town of **Ulverston**, which is home to the Laurel & Hardy Museum or explore the genteel Edwardian resort of **Grange-over-Sands**.

Day 5: Time to return home.

Please see page 29 for a Turkey & Tinsel tour at this hotel.

 Space is also available at the Riverside Hotel ★★ in Kendal

Cumbria Grand Hotel ★★

Set in 20 acres, this charming Victorian hotel in Grange-over-Sands has stunning views over Morecambe Bay.

- 120 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Lake Ullswater Cruise
- Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway ➤ Windermere Lake Cruise
- Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £226
May - Sep: Prices from: £252



Discover Durham & Beamish

Experience the heritage of the city of Durham, the living museum of the north at Beamish and a Jacobean country house hotel.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Redworth, Co. Durham for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Discover the captivating **medieval city of Durham**, the jewel in the crown of an extraordinary county and a wonderful place to explore with ancient winding streets packed with history, culture and stunning architecture, including the magnificent Norman Castle and Cathedral. Why not include a visit to Crook Hall, a beautiful Grade 1 listed medieval manor house and explore its gardens, described by Alan Titchmarsh as a "tapestry of colourful blooms". If you prefer, you could enjoy a full or a half day coach guided tour exploring the hidden treasures of the North East.

Day 3: Scenic excursion through the **Durham Dales**, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, via Weardale through to Alston and via Teesdale to the market town of **Barnard Castle**, with its ever-popular Wednesday market. After lunch, visit either the **Bowes Museum**, a spectacular French-style Chateau with ornate gardens that is home to the exquisite Silver Swan, or **Raby Castle**, one of England's finest medieval castles.

Day 4: Step back in time at **Beamish**, where the past is brought vividly to life. Nestling in 300 acres of beautiful countryside, visit Pockerley with its stunning manor house and railway, and take a tram ride through a real Edwardian market town with its painstakingly and lovingly rebuilt houses and shops. You can also visit Home Farm, wander around the Pit Village and enjoy a ride on an old carousel.

Day 5: Homeward bound.

The Redworth Hall Hotel ★★

Set in 150 acres of landscaped gardens and grounds, this atmospheric hotel has excellent leisure facilities.

- 143 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Beamish Open Air Museum ➤ Bowes Museum or Raby Castle
- Leisure & spa facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £271



Back in 'Tyne' in Northumbria

Relax on a Tyne river cruise, visit an extraordinary garden, a spectacular castle and the inspirational Holy Island.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Newcastle for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Explore the **vibrant city of Newcastle-upon-Tyne** and enjoy an unrivalled way to experience one of the North's great cities on a **two hour 'Quay to Countryside' cruise along the River Tyne** (Jun-Sep). The cruise upriver will be accompanied by a fascinating commentary as you travel under eleven of the Tyne's famous bridges, including the Gateshead Millennium Bridge, Tyne Bridge and Swing Bridge. Alternatively, a three hour 'Quay to Sea' cruise could be taken instead. If time allows, take a break at the Angel of the North.

Day 3: Enjoy Northumbria's unspoilt beauty and stunning coastline on today's excursion along the North Northumberland Heritage Coast. Visit the wonderful **Holy Island, also known as Lindisfarne**, which is home to a Priory and a Castle and only accessible at low tide via a causeway, and the picturesque village of **Bamburgh with its spectacular coastal castle**.

Day 4: Excursion to the **historic town of Alnwick** in the heart of Northumberland, home to an impressive castle, which featured in the Harry Potter films. Enjoy a visit to **Alnwick Garden**, which is one of the world's most extraordinary, contemporary gardens, with its Rose Garden, Serpent Garden, Poison Garden and Grand Cascade. If time allows, why not visit Northumberlandia, the huge land sculpture in the shape of a reclining female figure or the Woodhorn Colliery Museum.



Day 5: Time for home.

County Hotel Newcastle ★★

A Grade II listed Victorian hotel in the very heart of Newcastle city centre.

- 114 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Alnwick Garden ➤ Bamburgh Castle
- Quay to Countryside Tyne Cruise (Jun-Sep)
- 6 singles - no supplement

Jun - Sep: Prices from: £258



Edinburgh Tattoo

Experience one of the world's most spectacular shows, the Edinburgh Tattoo, which is staged at the awe-inspiring Edinburgh Castle.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to your hotel in Scotland for a 3 night stay.

Day 2: Full day to explore Scotland's majestic capital, before the evening performance of the **Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**, to give it its full title, which is a truly remarkable and internationally acclaimed event. This thrilling and moving experience, against the world famous backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, will incorporate the unforgettable music of the massed pipes and drums, the massed military bands, as well as imaginative graphics, state-of-the-art lighting, singers, dancers and many other performers from around the world. The show is finally brought to an emotional and poignant close each evening, as the Lone Piper, high on the castle ramparts, plays a haunting lament.

Day 3: The choice is yours!

You could explore the Scottish Borders; the beautifully restored UNESCO World Heritage Site of New Lanark; the historic city of Stirling and enjoy a wonderful cruise on Loch Katrine or take a nostalgic ride on the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway, before visiting the Kelpies and enjoying a unique trip on the Falkirk Wheel.

Day 4: Sadly, it's time for home.

Tattoo tickets are based on the yellow seating areas in 2-5 or 12-15 and are subject to availability.



Holiday Inn East Kilbride ★★

A modern hotel with an indoor swimming pool.

- 101 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Mercure Barony Castle Hotel ★★

Manor House hotel with an indoor pool, near Peebles.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Westerwood Hotel ★★

Luxury hotel with an indoor pool, near Cumbernauld.

- 148 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 2 nights DBB, 1 night BB
- Admission to Edinburgh Tattoo
- Leisure facilities

Aug: Prices from: £242



Scottish Borders - Castles, Cake & Cashmere

Discover a rich cultural heritage with stately homes, a tour of a cashmere mill and a real taste of the Scottish Borders!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to the Scottish Borders for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a **tour of a cashmere mill in Hawick** and a **freshly made cake with tea/coffee** or enjoy a unique and fascinating behind the scenes **guided tour of Lochcarron's Selkirk Mill** to discover how tartan is produced. Continue to the wonderfully picturesque setting of **Abbotsford House and Gardens**, which was the inspirational home of Sir Walter Scott, or if you prefer, visit **Traquair House**, Scotland's oldest inhabited house. If time allows, visit the lovely genteel Borders town of **Peebles**.

Day 3: The choice is yours. Head to the historic capital city of Edinburgh, with time to explore the imposing Castle, Royal Mile, Princes Street and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of the Queen. Alternatively, visit the mysterious 15th century Rosslyn Chapel or travel to the impressive cotton mill village of New Lanark, which is now a beautifully restored UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 4: Visit the **historic town of Kelso**, regarded as one of the region's most charming towns with its cobbled streets, elegant Georgian buildings and French-styled cobbled market square, before enjoying an afternoon visit to the **stately home of Floors Castle**, with its collection of fine art, porcelain, tapestries, grand rooms and wonderful gardens.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

A Scottish Themed Night can be included on one evening, incorporating a Scottish piper to pipe guests into dinner and a themed Scottish menu, but an additional cost per person would apply.

Mercure Barony Castle Hotel ★★ ★

Set in a 25 acre estate, near Peebles, this striking hotel certainly makes you feel you're in Scotland.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

➤ 4 nights DBB ➤ Cashmere mill tour, cake & tea/coffee or a Tartan mill tour ➤ Abbotsford House & Gardens or Traquair House ➤ Floors Castle & Gardens ➤ Tea/coffee & shortbread on arrival ➤ Leisure & spa facilities

Apr, May & Oct: Prices from: £255
Jun - Sep: Prices from: £262



Firth of Forth Steam & Cruise

Experience a nostalgic rail journey, a Firth of Forth boat trip, the Falkirk Wheel and the inspiring city of Edinburgh.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Cumbernauld for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Explore **Scotland's historic capital city of Edinburgh** with its imposing Castle, Royal Mile, Princes Street and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of the Queen. For a panoramic view, why not include a coach guided tour of the city. Visit the **Royal Yacht Britannia**, the Royal Family's former floating royal residence board or **enjoy a boat trip on the Firth of Forth** with spectacular views of the road and rail bridges.

Day 3: Visit the **historic city of Stirling**, with its Old Town and Castle, which was once the residence of Scottish Kings. This afternoon, you could tour through the Trossachs National Park, visit Callander which is home to the Rob Roy & Trossachs Visitor Centre and enjoy a wonderful Loch Katrine cruise aboard the famous steamship 'Sir Walter Scott'. Alternatively, you could head to the Perthshire town of Crieff and enjoy a wee dram on the Famous Grouse Experience Tour.

Day 4: Step back in time and enjoy a truly memorable journey along the shores of the River Forth on the **Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway**. Take time out to visit the gift shop and the Museum of Scottish Railways. Well worth a visit, are **the Kelpies**, the world's largest equine sculptures, which tower 100 feet over the Forth & Clyde Canal, before enjoying an afternoon trip on the unique **Falkirk Wheel**, an amazing feat of engineering and the world's first and only rotating boatlift.

Day 5: Time for home.



Westerwood Hotel ★★ ★★

This prestigious hotel, near Cumbernauld, has its own indoor pool, spa facilities and golf course.

- 148 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

➤ 4 nights DBB ➤ Firth of Forth boat trip or Royal Yacht Britannia ➤ Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway ➤ Falkirk Wheel ➤ Leisure & spa facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £279



Famous Lochs & Distilleries

Be inspired, discover breathtaking views, relax on loch cruises and enjoy wee drams, in the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Aberfoyle for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Head into the **charming village of Aberfoyle**, and be sure to visit the Scottish Wool Centre, with its outdoor free animal shows, luxury clothing and whisky & food hall. **Callander** is home to the Rob Roy and Trossachs Visitor Centre and a fascinating toy museum. Continue to **Loch Katrine** for a wonderful one hour **cruise aboard the famous steamship 'Sir Walter Scott'**, which itself has been a landmark here for over 100 years, and enjoy the lovely scenery over Duke's Pass and through the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park.

Day 3: **Loch Lomond** is quite simply one of Scotland's most inspiring lochs. Visit Balloch, an enchanting town on the southern shores of the loch, home to the Loch Lomond Shores Visitor Centre. Sit back and relax on a **wonderfully scenic one hour Loch Lomond cruise**, before heading to the lovely village of Luss, which was famously the location in the Scottish TV series 'Take the High Road'. This afternoon, **enjoy a wee dram and tour at the 'picture postcard' Glengoyne Distillery**.

Day 4: Explore the **city of Stirling**, once the ancient capital of Scotland, its Old Town and its castle, which is considered to be one of the grandest of all Scotland's castles, or if you prefer, head to **Dunblane** and visit the town's medieval Cathedral. This afternoon, head north into Perthshire to the historic tourist town of Crieff, where we include a visit to **Scotland's oldest distillery, the Glenturret, for The Famous Grouse Experience Tour**. Return to Aberfoyle via Loch Earn and Loch Lubnaig.

Day 5: Return home.

Rob Roy Hotel ★★★

This relaxed and informal hotel in Aberfoyle, has been welcoming groups for many years.

- 103 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Loch Katrine Cruise ➤ Loch Lomond Cruise
- Glengoyne Distillery Tour ➤ Famous Grouse Experience Tour
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ 5 singles – no supplement

May - Sep: Prices from: £213
Oct: Prices from: £199



Isle of Arran & the Ayrshire Coast

Visit Arran, 'Scotland in Miniature', which is one of Scotland's most beautiful islands, and the wonderful Ayrshire Coast.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Irvine for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: It is easy to see why the **Isle of Arran** is often referred to as '**Scotland in Miniature**', with its constantly changing landscape of highland glens and rugged mountains alongside sweeping sandy bays and picturesque coastal villages. Enjoy a scenic excursion around the island, experience some of Arran's many unique and independent retailers, enjoy a wee dram at the island's distillery or visit Brodick Castle & Gardens, before the late afternoon return ferry.

Day 3: Enjoy the Ayrshire Coast at its best with a visit to the spectacular coastal setting of **Culzean Castle**, a Robert Adam 18th century masterpiece, before continuing to the lovely resort of **Troon**. Alternatively, visit **Alloway** and the **Robert Burns Birthplace Museum**, which consists of Burns Cottage, where the poet was born, a collection of his life and works, Burns Monument, Statue House & Gardens, the Auld Kirk and the Brig o' Doon bridge.

Day 4: The choice is yours. You could visit the Isle of Bute, a beautiful and peaceful island haven, which is home to the Victorian resort of Rothesay and Mount Stuart, Britain's most spectacular Victorian Gothic Mansion with its stunning and mysterious interiors and 300 acres of gloriously maintained gardens and grounds. Alternatively, you could visit Dumfries House, one of Britain's best kept heritage secrets or head to the cosmopolitan city of Glasgow.



Day 5: Time to head for home.

Riverside Lodge Hotel ★★★★★

Set in its own grounds, this modern hotel near Irvine, offers a contemporary feel.

- 128 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry to the Isle of Arran
- Culzean Castle or Robert Burns Birthplace Museum
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Tea/coffee & shortbread on arrival

May - Sep: Prices from: £239



Royal Deeside & Highland Perthshire

Follow in Royal footsteps to the Balmoral Estate and Glamis Castle, the childhood home of the late Queen Mother.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Blairgowrie for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Marvel at the spectacular mountain views as you pass through Glenshee into **Royal Deeside** to visit the famous village of **Braemar**, the town of **Ballater**, where many Royal Warrants are displayed by suppliers to the Queen, **Crathie Church**, where the Royal Family worship, and **Balmoral Estate** (Apr to Jul only), where you will be able to visit the gardens, audio visual exhibitions and the largest room in the Castle, the Ballroom.

Day 3: Explore **Glamis Castle**, the childhood home of the late Queen Mother, where you can admire the rich furnishings, tapestries and works of art, whilst the story of Glamis entices you into a world of history, legends and royalty. Visit the **historic city of Dundee**, with its famous Tay rail and road bridges, the RRS (Royal Research Ship) Discovery, the ship built in Dundee specifically for Captain Scott's heroic voyage to Antarctica, whilst opening in September 2018 is the **spectacular looking new V & A in Dundee**.

Day 4: Excursion to the small historic cathedral town of **Dunkeld**, the popular Victorian town of **Pitlochry**, famous for its salmon ladder and onto **Queen's View at Loch Tummel**, which is one of the most photographed views of Scotland. Alternatively, explore the fair city of Perth, a former capital of Scotland, and Scone Palace, with its treasury of fine furniture, paintings and porcelain, where many Scottish kings were crowned on the Stone of Destiny.

Day 5: Sadly, it's time for home.

Alternative tours based in Blairgowrie include 'Three Castles & a wee dram' – call us for details and prices.

Angus Hotel ★★

Privately owned hotel with a leisure club and indoor pool, in the heart of Blairgowrie.

- 89 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Glamis Castle
- Balmoral Castle & Estate (Apr to Jul only)
- 6 singles - no supplement ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr, May & Oct: Prices from: £203
Jun - Sep: Prices from: £225



Oban and the Isles of Mull & Iona

Experience Scotland's mountains, lochs and glens, the resort of Oban and the enchanting and tranquil islands of Mull and Iona.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Oban for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Relax on the ferry from Oban to Craignure on the enchanting **Isle of Mull**. Visit the **colourful harbour town of Tobermory and Duart Castle**, the magical 13th century fortress and home of the Clan Maclean or head via Glen More to Fionnphort, to board a foot passenger only ferry for the short crossing to the **tranquil Isle of Iona**. Discover its Abbey (admission not included) and the burial place of Scottish Kings. Although a tiny island, Iona is full of history and heritage, with Christianity at its heart.

Day 3: Explore the **coastal resort of Oban**, which is known as the 'Gateway to the Isles'. Whilst in Oban, stroll along the Esplanade, visit McCaig's Tower which overlooks the town, enjoy a wee dram at the distillery and visit the War & Peace Museum. This afternoon, head across the 'Atlantic Bridge' to the idyllic Seil Island.

Day 4: Today, the choice is yours. Head to Fort William, which is one of the Highland's major resorts in a dramatic setting on the shore of Loch Linnhe and lying under the shadow of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis. Why not enjoy a cruise on the Caledonian Canal, or alternatively, you could head south and visit the picturesque harbour village of Tarbert and the coastal garden at Arduaine, or visit the breathtaking Isle of Gigha and its Achamore Gardens.

Day 5: Head for home.



Royal Hotel ★★★

In the heart of Oban, it is a traditional Victorian hotel with plenty of character.

- 91 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry to the Isle of Mull
- Duart Castle or the return ferry to the Isle of Iona
- Entertainment on 2 nights

May & Jun: Prices from: £265
Jul - Sep: Prices from: £289



Jacobite Steam & Cruise

Spectacular Highland scenery awaits on one of the world's most famous rail journeys and along the most infamous of Lochs.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Fort William for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: All aboard the **Jacobite Steam Train**, regarded as one of the world's greatest rail journeys, on a single journey between Fort William and Mallaig and follow in the footsteps of Harry Potter along the route used by the Hogwarts Express. From views of mighty Ben Nevis, your memorable journey leads past the deepest freshwater loch in Britain, Loch Morar, and over the famous 21 arch **Glenfinnan viaduct** - a truly magical experience!

Day 3: Excursion to **Inverness**, the 'Capital of the Highlands' with its host of historic buildings or **Fort Augustus**, a lovely town where the Caledonian Canal meets Loch Ness, before a wonderfully relaxing **one hour cruise on Loch Ness** (longer cruise options available) under the shadow of the ruins of Urquhart Castle and maybe catch a glimpse of Nessie! If time allows, why not visit the Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge.

Day 4: The choice is yours. Relax and explore **Fort William**, enjoy a cruise along Loch Linnhe and experience some of Scotland's wildlife, take a trip on the Caledonian Canal or venture further afield and travel to the lovely resort of Oban. If you wanted to incorporate another scenic rail journey, then why not include a trip on the Kyle line between Dingwall and the Kyle of Lochalsh, as the views from the windows are worth the fare alone!

Day 5: Time to reluctantly head for home.

Alternative tours based in Fort William include 'Great Scottish Rail Journeys' - call us for details and prices.

Alexandra Hotel ★★

Traditional and characterful Victorian hotel in the heart of Fort William.

- 93 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Jacobite Steam Train ➤ Loch Ness Cruise
- Entertainment on 2 nights

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £264
May - Sep: Prices from: £299



Highlands, Railways and Dolphins

This wonderful Scottish Highlands tour offers spectacular scenery, a memorable rail journey and the opportunity to see Dolphins!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Beaulieu for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a memorable trip on one of the world's most scenic rail journeys on the **Kyle Line, the 'Great Highland Railway Journey'**. The train weaves its way through the Highlands and down to the Kyle of Lochalsh, close to the Isle of Skye. Crystal clear lochs mirror the forests and mountains on this wonderful journey. The views from the carriage windows are worth the fare alone, but the experience is thankfully repeated on the return to Beaulieu by coach.

Day 3: The choice is yours. Head over the Cromarty and Dornoch Firths to **Dornoch**, with its 13th century cathedral, and onto the spectacular **Dunrobin Castle** with its fairytale spires, turrets and one of Britain's oldest continuously inhabited houses. Alternatively, enjoy a wonderful circular tour of Wester Ross to the harbour village of **Gairloch** and **Inverewe Garden**, a historic botanical garden famous for its exotic plants and one of the most beautiful gardens in Scotland. If a day of rest is required, explore Beaulieu and head to Inverness on the local train.

Day 4: Experience an **unforgettable boat cruise on the Moray Firth** to see the world's most northerly population of Bottlenose Dolphins, along with other marine wildlife including seals and otters. Visit **Inverness**, the 'Capital of the Highlands', a thriving city with its historic Old Town, bustling centre and riverside setting, or if you prefer, head to the leafy Victorian spa town of Strathpeffer or enjoy a wee dram and tour at the Glen Ord Distillery.

Day 5: Time for home.

The Priory Hotel ★★

Experience true Highland hospitality at this lovely hotel situated in the village square of Beaulieu.

- 39 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Kyle Line rail journey
- Moray Firth boat cruise
- Dunrobin Castle or Inverewe Garden

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £276
May - Sep: Prices from: £304



Orkney & the Castle of Mey

Discover the hidden gems of this magical and mystical region, with visits to awe-inspiring Orkney and the Castle of Mey.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Head North into Scotland to your overnight hotel.

Day 2: Marvel at spectacular Highland scenery before arriving in Thurso, Britain's most northerly mainland town, for a 3 night stay. If time allows, why not include a visit to the spectacular setting at Dunrobin Castle en route.

Day 3: Enjoy the highlight of the tour, a voyage of discovery through time itself on a coach guided tour of the magical **Orkney Islands**. Here, you will have the chance to see the **World Heritage sites** of Skara Brae, the Standing Stones of Stenness and the Ring of Brodgar, plus Scapa Flow, the Churchill Barriers, the Italian Chapel and the Island's capital, Kirkwall, with its magnificent Cathedral.

Day 4: Explore **Thurso**, home to Caithness Horizons, a fascinating museum that tells the story of this region's past and present, before continuing to the **Castle and Gardens of Mey**, once the much-adored home of the Queen Mother, who saved it from ruin in 1952. With glorious views across the Pentland Firth towards Orkney, the castle is kept as it was when the Queen Mother was in residence. No visit to this region would be complete without a visit to the famous landmark, **John O'Groats**.

Day 5: Relax and enjoy the stunning Highland scenery en route to your overnight hotel.

Day 6: Time for home.

Please note that entrance fees to attractions on Orkney, are not included in the prices shown below, but they can be added on if required.

Pentland Hotel ★★

Located in the heart of Thurso, this popular family-run hotel uses the freshest local Caithness produce.

- 41 Bedrooms



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry to Orkney
- Guided Tour of Orkney
- Castle & Gardens of Mey

May - Sep: Prices from: £398



Hebridean Experience

Marvel at a striking mix of landscapes from golden sands to mountains and moonscapes on the wonderful Outer Hebrides.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Head into Scotland to your overnight hotel.

Day 2: Take the ferry from Ullapool to Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis and if time, explore Stornoway's town, harbour, marina and Lews Castle, before continuing to the Cabarfeidh Hotel for a 2 night stay.

Day 3: Explore the **Isle of Lewis**, home to the Callanish Stones, one of the finest prehistoric sites in Scotland, the historic Broch at Carloway and the Gearrannan Blackhouse Village, which consists of traditional thatched croft houses. *Please note that a guide and/or coach hire can be arranged on Lewis if required.*

Day 4: **Harris** beckons today with its ever-changing kaleidoscope of striking landscapes. Visit **Tarbert**, home to the Harris Tweed Shop and the Isle of Harris Distillery. Travel via stunning coastal beaches to the 16th century **St Clement's Church at Rodel**, before boarding the ferry from Leverburgh to Berneray and continue to the Dark Island Hotel for a 2 night stay.

Day 5: Explore the islands of **Benbecula and Uist**, home to 'Our Lady of the Isles' 30ft high statue and call in at the Kildonan Craft Shop and Museum for a tantalising insight into island life. Alternatively, you could head to Eriskay, of 'Whisky Galore' fame for the ferry across to **Barra** and experience the beauty of this small island, where the very popular BBC TV series 'Tales of an Island Parish' was filmed.

Day 6: Board the ferry from Lochmaddy to Uig on the Isle of Skye and continue onwards to your overnight hotel in Fort William.

Day 7: Homeward bound.

Cabarfeidh Hotel ★★★★★

Rightly known as 'Stornoway's finest hotel', experience a genuine warm island welcome.

- 46 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 6 nights DBB
- All ferry crossings

May - Sep: Prices from: £514



Anglesey & Snowdonia

Explore the heritage and wonderful coastline of Anglesey and the spectacular scenery of the Snowdonia National Park.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Caernarfon for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Full day guided tour of Anglesey, an Island of Treasures, wrapped around by 125 miles of sandy beaches and soaring rocky cliffs. Renowned for its wildlife and maritime history, there are sleepy fishing villages, hidden coves, stately homes, picturesque gardens, ancient religious places of worship and megalithic monuments to behold on this island of wonders.

Day 3: Enjoy an excursion into the heart of Snowdonia to the lovely village of Llanberis, where you could visit the National Slate Museum and step back in time to uncover the secrets of slate or take a journey of exploration deep inside one of Europe's largest man made caverns at the Electric Mountain. This afternoon, enjoy either a narrow gauge steam train ride on the Llanberis Lake Railway or head to the summit of Snowdon, weather permitting, on the Snowdon Mountain Railway.

Day 4: The choice is yours. Head to Anglesey again and explore the quaint, historic streets of Beaumaris, with its 17th century Courthouse and 13th century moated castle, before visiting Plas Newydd Country House and Gardens or the hidden gardens at Plas Cadnant. Alternatively, explore the medieval walled town of Caernarfon and its mighty 13th century castle; board a train for a single journey on the Welsh Highland Railway through the spectacular Snowdonia National Park to Porthmadog, or visit the historic town of Conwy and wander 'around the world in 80 acres' at Bodnant Garden.

Day 5: Time for home.

Celtic Royal Hotel ★★

Historic hotel within walking distance of Caernarfon's walled town and impressive castle.

- 110 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Guided Tour of Anglesey
- Llanberis Lake Railway or Snowdon Mountain Railway
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £227
May - Sep: Prices from: £279



Great Little Trains of North Wales

Enjoy memorable journeys on the Welsh Highland and Ffestiniog Railways through Snowdonia's stunning scenery.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Criccieth for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Marvel at the wonderful scenery on a memorable nostalgic rail trip on the famous Ffestiniog Railway, which offers a magical combination of spectacular landscape and historic railway. Explore the resort of Criccieth, with its two beaches separated by a spectacular headland castle, or if you prefer, why not visit the unique Italianate village of Portmeirion, where the cult 1960's TV series 'The Prisoner' was filmed.

Day 3: Excursion into the very heart of Snowdonia to Llanberis, which is home to the fascinating National Slate Museum and two narrow gauge railways, one which could take you on a relaxing trip around the lake and one which could take you to the very summit of Snowdon. Continue through the 'Pass of Llanberis' to the delightful village of Betws-y-Coed, which literally means 'sanctuary in the wood'.

Day 4: Travel north to the medieval walled town of Caernarfon, with time to explore its mighty 13th century Castle, before boarding a train for a single journey on the Welsh Highland Railway through the spectacular Snowdonia National Park scenery to the historic harbour town of Porthmadog, which has no less than three narrow gauge railway stations.

Day 5: Time to reluctantly head for home.

Please see page 28 for a 'Rolling Back the Years' tour in March, April or October at this hotel.

Please note that 3 and 4 night 'Go Crackers' tours in November and December are also available at this hotel.

The Lion Hotel ★★

Family run hotel in the heart of the charming Victorian seaside resort of Criccieth.

- 46 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Ffestiniog Railway ➤ Welsh Highland Railway
- Entertainment on 2 nights
- 4 to 8 singles - no supplement

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £219
May - Sep: Prices from: £249



Heart of Wales Steam & Cruise

Experience an elegant Victorian spa town, a scenic train journey, a Victorian Gothic Hall and a relaxing canal cruise.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Llandrindod Wells for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Visit **Abbey-Cwm-Hir Hall**, a Grade II listed historic house and one of Wales' finest examples of Victorian Gothic Revival architecture. Join the owners on a personal tour of this magnificent Hall which has been restored to its Gothic splendour. Each of its 52 rooms is unique and there are stunning interiors, fascinating collections and 12 acres of beautiful gardens. Home to the National Cycle Collection, explore **Llandrindod Wells**, whose towers and ornate ironwork reflect its heyday as a Victorian spa town.

Day 3: Head to the Ceredigion Heritage Coast and the **Victorian seaside resort of Aberystwyth**, which is home to beaches, a lovely Promenade, a funicular railway, castle ruins and the National Library of Wales. Enjoy an unforgettable and nostalgic journey through some wonderful scenery on the **Vale of Rheidol narrow gauge steam railway** to Devil's Bridge, before a scenic drive past the Elan Valley reservoirs on your return to Llandrindod Wells.

Day 4: Experience the beautiful and diverse scenery of the **Brecon Beacons National Park**, including **Brecon**, with its medieval cathedral and narrow streets full of craft and antique shops, and a **relaxing cruise through a lock and over an aqueduct on the historical Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal**, a fantastic feat of engineering which was built before roads and railways. A buffet lunch or cream tea can be included, if required. Alternatively, you could visit **Hay-on-Wye**, which has become a world famous second-hand book centre.

Day 5: Homeward bound.

The Metropole Hotel ★★★★★

In the heart of Llandrindod Wells, it has been owned by the same family for over 100 years.

- 120 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Vale of Rheidol Railway ➤ Brecon Canal Cruise
- Abbey-Cwm-Hir Hall & Gardens ➤ Entertainment on 1 night
- Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £267
May - Sep: Prices from: £287



Cultural Cardiff & the Royal Mint

Cardiff is far more than just a city break, with its vibrant bay area, imposing Castle, heritage and local attractions.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Cardiff for a 3 night stay.

Day 2: Familiarise yourself with **Cardiff** on an enjoyable and informative **two hour coach guided tour** of the city, the bay, the Barrage and Penarth seafront, before returning to your hotel, from where you will be able to explore the city and its numerous attractions for yourself.

Day 3: See the heads and hear the tales, at **the Royal Mint Experience**.

Go behind the scenes and see the processes that put the pounds and pennies in our pockets. Discover some surprising stories and fascinating facts about the craftsmanship that goes into each miniature work of art, and follow the journey of a coin, from a blank to a bank. If time allows, why not visit the St Fagans National History Museum, one of Europe's foremost open-air museums and Wales's most popular heritage attraction. Set in over 100 acres of parkland and with over 40 historic buildings and wonderful gardens, you can really feel the rich history of Wales and its people. Alternatively, visit the Victorian Dyffryn House with its beautiful 55 acre Grade 1 registered Edwardian gardens and its stunning collection of intimate garden rooms, formal lawns and arboretum.

Day 4: Time to head for home.

Please note that this tour can be extended to a 4 night stay, if required.



Holiday Inn Cardiff City Centre ★★★★★

Excellent city centre location, close to the castle and perfect for exploring this captivating city.

- 157 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB
- Two hour coach-guided tour of Cardiff
- The Royal Mint Experience

Apr - Oct: Prices from: £182



Gower Peninsula & Tenby

Discover Britain's first 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty', the resort of Tenby, a wonderful garden or a nostalgic train journey.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Llanelli for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Experience the sheer beauty of the Gower today with a visit to the **Gower Heritage Centre**, which offers crafts, a watermill and a museum, but most of all enjoy a **coach guided tour of the Gower Peninsula**.

Ensure you visit the **picturesque Victorian seaside village of Mumbles**, with its boutiques, galleries and potteries, and if time allows call in to the regenerated Swansea Bay and Maritime Quarter, home to the National Waterfront Museum.

Day 3: Excursion into Pembrokeshire to the **historic seaside resort of Tenby**, with its natural charm, narrow streets, harbour and beautiful beaches. Alternatively, you could try something completely different and head into the southern foothills of the Brecon Beacons to Penderyn Distillery, home of the one and only single malt Welsh Whisky or enjoy spectacular scenery on the Brecon Mountain Railway.

Day 4: Visit **Carmarthen, the oldest town in Wales**, with its popular Wednesday outdoor market, medieval lanes and Georgian buildings. This afternoon the choice is yours. You could visit the **National Botanic Garden of Wales**, with the world's largest single-span glasshouse, **Aberglasney Gardens**, which was a garden lost in time and abandoned for fifty years or you could enjoy a nostalgic heritage train journey on the **Gwili Steam Railway**.

Day 5: Head for home.



Best Western Diplomat Hotel & Spa ★★★★

A family-run hotel, it combines warm hospitality, with style and sophistication.

- 50 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Gower Heritage Centre and Guided Tour ➤ National Botanic Garden of Wales, Aberglasney Gardens or Gwili Steam Railway
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Tea/coffee on arrival ➤ Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £278



Pembrokeshire Coastlines & Tenby

Experience stunning sea views, Britain's only coastal National Park, an enchanting castle and the seaside resort of Tenby.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to the Fishguard Bay Hotel for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Surrounded by some of the finest coastline in Europe is **St Davids, the smallest cathedral city in Britain** and a popular location for pilgrims and artists alike. Adjacent to its 12th century cathedral stand the magnificent ruins of the medieval Bishop's Palace. Enjoy a visit to **enchanting Picton Castle**, near Haverfordwest, which is a half fortified manor house and half medieval castle, set in 40 acres of stunning gardens.

Day 3: Excursion through the **Pembrokeshire Coast National Park to Tenby**, one of the UK's finest coastal holiday resorts, which has retained its natural charm, narrow streets, harbour and beautiful beaches. Tenby is steeped in ancient history and surrounded by an imposing medieval stone wall. If time allows, continue to the picturesque seaside village of Saundersfoot, with its historic harbour.

Day 4: Visit the lovely market town of **Cardigan**, with its unspoilt townscape and rich heritage, before continuing through the picturesque Teifi Valley to the **National Wool Museum**. Enjoy an informative guided tour and let the story of wool, once the most important industry in Wales, weave its magic in this unique working museum. If time allows, why not call into the fascinating National Coracle Centre at Cernarh.

Day 5: Sadly, it's time to head for home.



Fishguard Bay Hotel ★★★★★

This grand hotel in Goodwick, has an impressive location overlooking Fishguard Bay.

- 59 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Picton Castle & Gardens
- National Wool Museum & Guided Tour
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ 8 singles - no supplement

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £199
May - Sep: Prices from: £211



Cornish All Inclusive

'Spring' into Cornwall with this fantastic all-inclusive package! With wonderful sea views overlooking Fistral Beach in a quieter part of **Newquay**, the Esplanade Hotel offers excellent accommodation and leisure facilities. There are many excursion possibilities and Cornwall is more relaxing at this time of year. Highlights include:

- Cornish cream tea
- Packed lunch on two days and hot buffet lunch on one day
- Cornish themed dinner menu
- Complimentary bar, 6pm-9pm each evening, on selected brands
- Entertainment on a minimum of 2 nights

Esplanade Hotel ★★★

Overlooking Fistral Beach away from the bustle of Newquay.

- 90 Bedrooms
- Lift

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above
- 5 singles - no supplement
- Leisure facilities

Mar: Prices from: £227



Dorset All Inclusive

Discover the delights of Dorset with this all-inclusive package by the seaside! **Bournemouth** is an all year round resort with stunning parks and gardens, a wealth of attractions and seven miles of beautiful coastline. Discover Poole, with its pottery, quayside and old town; the wonderful New Forest and the historic cathedral city of Salisbury. Highlights include:

- Packed lunch or one course hot buffet lunch on 3 days
- Inclusive drinks 6pm-9pm each evening, on selected brands
- Entertainment on a minimum of 2 nights

Turkey & Tinsel tours in November and December are also available at this hotel.

Suncliff Hotel ★★★

Situated on the East Cliff in Bournemouth, it has an indoor pool.

- 114 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above
- 6 singles - no supplement
- Leisure facilities

Mar: Prices from: £186
Apr: Prices from: £210



Rolling Back the Years

Good old fashioned fun awaits on this themed break in the lovely resort of **Criccieth** in North Wales. Enjoy music from the 50's and 60's, a sing-a-long, quizzes, competitions, a film show and the chance to 'Rock & Roll'. Visit the elegant Victorian seaside resort of Llandudno and enjoy a nostalgic train ride. Highlights include:

- Visit to The Home Front Experience in Llandudno
- A Cadwaladers Ice Cream and steam train ride from Porthmadog
- Nightly 50's and 60's themed entertainment

Please note that 3 and 4 night 'Go Crackers' tours in November and December are also available at this hotel.

The Lion Hotel ★★★

Family run hotel in the heart of the charming Victorian seaside resort of Criccieth.

- 46 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above
- 4 singles - no supplement

Mar, Apr & Oct: Prices from: £192



Torquay Turkey & Tinsel

Surround yourself in the warmth of Christmas spirit and discover the delights of **Torquay** and the English Riviera with this Turkey & Tinsel themed break. Experience the charming seaside resort of Torquay lit up for Christmas, the historic towns of Totnes and Dartmouth with their individual shops and art galleries and the maritime city of Plymouth, with its many high street names. Highlights include:

- Welcome tea/coffee & biscuits and drinks reception
- Afternoon quiz on one day
- Visit from Santa and gift
- Nightly entertainment

Headland Hotel ★★★

Formerly the Russian Royal Family's home in Torquay, it sits majestically looking out to sea.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above
- 6 singles - no supplement
- Leisure facilities

Nov: Prices from: £219
Dec: Prices from: £199



Wye Valley Turkey & Tinsel

Enjoy some pre-Christmas festive cheer on this Turkey & Tinsel tour to the scenic **Wye Valley & the Royal Forest of Dean**. You could visit the cathedral city of Hereford, the historic towns of Monmouth and Chepstow, Gloucester Quays Victorian Christmas Market, Regency Cheltenham and Bristol's German Christmas Market. Highlights include:

- Meet & greet with mulled wine and mince pies
- Visit from Santa
- Bucks Fizz served before dinner on 'New Year's Eve'
- Nightly themed entertainment

Bells Hotel & Forest of Dean Golf Club ★★

A warm welcome is assured at this lovely hotel.

- 53 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above
- 6 singles - no supplement

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £204



Lake District Turkey & Tinsel

Enjoy a festive Turkey & Tinsel break on the edge of the Lake District National Park, in the genteel **Edwardian resort of Grange-over-Sands**, with its quaint cafes, promenade and ornamental gardens. Excursions could include spectacular scenic circular tours of the Lake District incorporating some of its many picturesque and historic villages and towns. Highlights include:

- Glass of bubbly or sherry on day of arrival
- Jumbo Christmas Quiz
- Nightly themed entertainment

Please note that 3 night Turkey & Tinsel tours are also available.

Cumbria Grand Hotel ★★

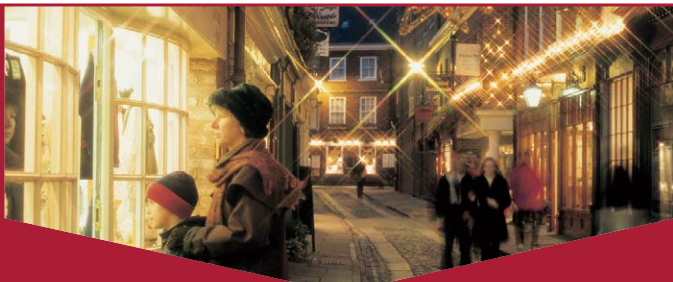
Set in 20 acres, this Victorian hotel in Grange-over-Sands has stunning views over Morecambe Bay.

- 120 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £164



Yuletide York & Castle Howard

Visit **York** for a unique Yuletide experience with its narrow cobbled streets, medieval buildings, historic Shambles and magnificent Minster, which all help create a magical festive atmosphere in one of Europe's most charismatic cities. Experience the magic of Christmas at **Castle Howard**. This enchanting home with its lavishly decorated rooms and stunning architecture, will be adorned with elegant decorations, whilst magnificent Christmas trees, decked with hundreds of baubles and lights, lead the way through the dramatic interiors, beautifully lit by fire and candlelight.

Please note that 2 night tours are available at this hotel and space is also available at the Queens Hotel, York.

Best Western Burn Hall Hotel ★★

Wonderful Victorian country house hotel, near York.

- 94 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB
- Castle Howard
- 8 singles - no supplement

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £172



Bath Christmas Market & Longleat

Bath's Christmas Market takes place in the heart of this World Heritage City in the quaint streets and square between the stunning Abbey and the world famous Roman Baths. Over 170 traditional wooden chalets adorn the streets offering seasonal food and drink, unique, handmade and unusual gifts and decorations. Enjoy a truly unique and magical experience at **Longleat during its Festival of Light**. The house will be enchantingly lit up with seasonal decorations, whilst the Festival of Light, with its illuminated Chinese lantern designs, will transform the estate into a glowing wonderland on a spectacular scale.

Please note that space is also available at the Blunsdon House Hotel ★★

Doubletree by Hilton Swindon ★★

This contemporary hotel is ideally located to visit Bath and Longleat.

- 171 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB
- Longleat House & the Festival of Light

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £182



Ultimate Ireland – the 11 day Grand Tour

A once in a lifetime visit to the Emerald Isle! Enjoy the opportunity to see Ireland from top to bottom, from the Antrim Coast & the Giants Causeway, Donegal and Galway to fabulous Killarney & the Ring of Kerry (3 & 4* packages available).*

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Head to **Belfast** for a 2 night stay, either via Holyhead & Dublin or from Cairnryan.

Day 2: We recommend a Guided City Tour to explore Northern Ireland's buzzing capital city that stands on the banks of the River Lagan, and where history's most famous ship, RMS Titanic, was built.

Day 3: Drive the breathtaking **Antrim Coast Road** to the world-famous **Giant's Causeway**. Continue along the scenic north coast and then down via Derry to Donegal for 2 nights.

Day 4: Either enjoy a free day in **Donegal** town with its castle, abbey ruins, traditional shops and boat trip around the bay, or drive through glorious Glenveagh National Park to the Atlantic Coast.

Day 5: Leave Donegal and our journey pauses at Mullaghmore where Lord Mountbatten died in a bomb explosion in 1979. Continue into **Galway** with a short stop to explore the city known as the 'City of Tribes' which has a fascinating, cultural and maritime history, before arriving in **Ennistymon**, Co. Clare for your next 2 nights.

Day 6: Today discover the **Cliffs of Moher** and **the Burren**. You could include a Cliffs of Moher Cruise or visits could be made to the Burren Visitor Centre and the official Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre for breath taking views 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean.



3 star tour Includes:

- 10 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Porterage
- Full Irish breakfast ➤ 3 Course / 3 Choice dinner & tea/coffee
- Entertainment (Donegal, Killarney)

Day 7: You'll find the medieval masterpiece of Bunratty Castle en route to **Limerick**, birthplace of broadcasting legend Terry Wogan and actor Richard Harris or the Foynes Flying Boat Museum is well worth a visit before reaching Killarney, your base for the next 3 nights.

Day 8: Enjoy a free day in **Killarney**, where you can ride on a traditional jaunting car and a pleasure cruise on Lough Leane. Muckross House is delightful, and once played host to Queen Victoria.



Day 9: The **Ring of Kerry**, with its magnificent coast and countryside, is the best-known scenic drive in Ireland. The Beara and Dingle peninsulas offer excellent alternatives and the scenery is equally spectacular; each can be easily reached from Killarney.

If you require a **Weekly Rest Period** for your driver during this tour, we can arrange coach hire to cover the Ring of Kerry trip on Day 9. Call us for details and prices.

Day 10: It's a short drive to **Co. Cork**, with the chance to kiss the Blarney Stone or visit Cobh Harbour, the final port of call for RMS Titanic. Head north to **Tipperary**, with its imposing fortress, the Rock of Cashel, and on to the Fair City of **Dublin** with a host of landmarks, shops and eateries to suit all tastes and appetites. Enjoy a final overnight close to the city centre.

Day 11: All aboard the Dublin ferry for your return journey to Holyhead, and home.

OPTION: If South Wales is your preferred route home, why not spend your final overnight in Wexford instead, allowing more time to explore Ireland's southern coast: the choice is yours.

4 star tour Includes:

- 10 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Porterage ➤ Full Irish breakfast
- 3 Course / 3 Choice dinner & tea/coffee ➤ Entertainment (Donegal, Killarney) ➤ Leisure (Donegal, Killarney)

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £524
May - Sep: Prices from: £559

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £559
May - Sep: Prices from: £639



Dublin Weekender includes Guinness & Canal Cruise

A superb short break to Ireland's capital city, the 'Home of Guinness'. Enjoy a guided city tour, a traditional canal cruise and visit to the award-winning Guinness Storehouse.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Ferry from Holyhead to Dublin and 3 nights BB at the Talbot Hotel Stillorgan.

Day 2: A guided city tour makes the perfect introduction to Ireland's vibrant capital city **Dublin**. Discover the major landmarks including Customs House, Trinity College, and the city's many iconic statues. When the Vikings built their stronghold beside the main water source in the area, close to the current site of Dublin Castle, Ireland's capital became known as 'Dub-Linn' or the 'Black Pool'. Today liquid refreshment is regularly enjoyed in the form of Guinness or the 'Black Stuff', and its popularity both on home soil and across the globe has been phenomenal. Enjoy a visit to the **Guinness Storehouse** where the story of this success is revealed, with guided tours, tasting and pouring tests and of course all those award-winning advertisements. A complimentary drink is served in the rooftop Gravity Bar with its panoramic views of the city.

Day 3: Begin today with another highlight of your tour, a **2 hour scenic cruise** along Dublin's Grand Canal aboard a traditional Guinness barge with guided commentary & complimentary tea/coffee. These classic vessels used the canal to move their precious cargo of Guinness from St James' Gate brewery to Dublin port ready for their journey to thirsty customers overseas. Round off your tour with free time in this fascinating city.

Day 4: Ferry back to Holyhead, and home.

We can also quote this package using other hotels in and around Dublin, or on Dinner, Bed & Breakfast basis, so please call us for details and prices.

Talbot Hotel Stillorgan ★★★★★
Cosmopolitan and vibrant hotel situated on the outskirts of Dublin City.

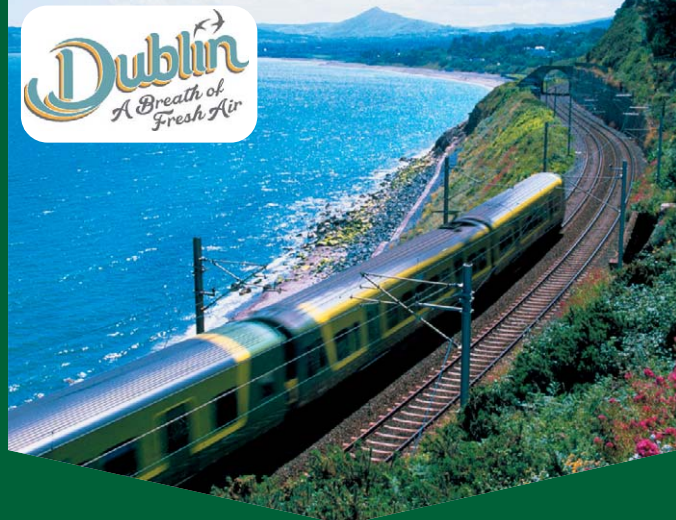
- 150 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 3 nights BB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Guided City Tour of Dublin
- 2 hour City Canal Cruise & tea/coffee
- Guinness Storehouse & free drink

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £199
May - Sep: Prices from: £239



Dublin & Wicklow 'River & Rail'

Our popular themed break to the East Coast brings you an exciting look at Ireland's seaside, city and countryside with a guided scenic rail journey, river cruise and entertainment.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Holyhead for the ferry to Dublin, and on to Bray for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: A day exploring Co. Wicklow could start with a visit to the lovely village of Enniskerry and Powerscourt House and Gardens, considered one of the world's greatest gardens, with international collections, ornate statuary, inspired designs and magnificent views of Sugarloaf Mountain. Continue through the Wicklow National Park to the enchanting monastic site at Glendalough.

Day 3: Begin today with a journey on **Ireland's oldest railway**, following the coast from Bray to Dublin. Accompanied by a local tour guide you'll enjoy a panorama of city, coast and countryside as the DART train carries you to the seaside resort of Malahide, where tea and scones will be served. This afternoon, you could include a visit to Malahide Castle.

Day 4: What better place to begin your day in **Dublin** than on the River Liffey, with a **boat cruise through the heart of the capital**. A detailed commentary brings the city's history to life as you discover some of the major landmarks including Ha'penny Bridge and Customs House. Enjoy a free afternoon in Dublin's many galleries, museums, shops and cafes.

Day 5: Wave goodbye to Ireland on the morning ferry back to Holyhead, and home.

This itinerary can also be based at the Royal Hotel ★★★★★ in Bray – call us for package details and prices.

Esplanade Hotel ★★★
A seafront hotel in Bray, restored to its Victorian elegance.

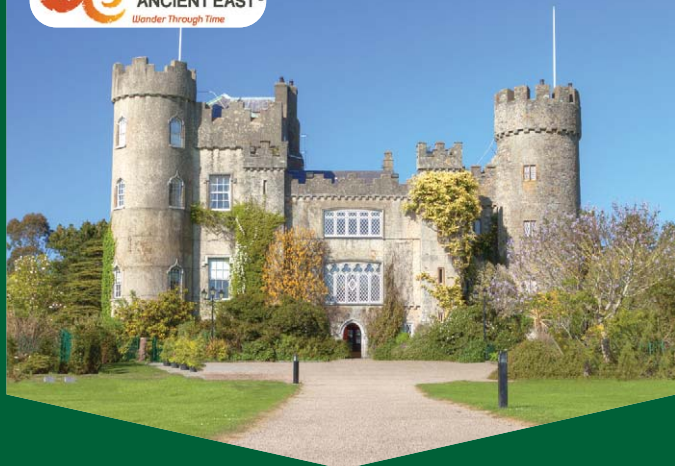
- 94 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Seasonal welcome drink ➤ Irish coffee on final night ➤ Entertainment on 1 night ➤ Coastal rail journey
- Tour Guide & tea/scones ➤ River Liffey cruise

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £289
May - Sep: Prices from: £309



Eastern Ireland Explorer

Castles and kings, Hollywood heroes, ghosts, great gardens and a Dublin guided tour all feature in this short break, plus Irish entertainment and a welcome drink to help wet your whistle.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel by ferry from Holyhead to Dublin, and continue on to Co. Meath for a 3-night stay at the Trim Castle Hotel. Welcome drink upon arrival.

Day 2: Step back into Ireland's past today starting with a visit to the Boyne Valley Battle Site, where a brutal encounter between King James II and William of Orange in 1690 forged the country's future. Head down the coast to **Malahide Castle**, a 12th Century fortress and family home shrouded in mystery and reputedly haunted by five ghosts. The ornamental walled gardens have an international collection of over 5000 species and are now open to the public.

Day 3: Take a day trip to Co. Kildare where the choice is yours. Why not visit Castletown House, near Celbridge, which is the largest Palladian estate in the country and beautifully preserved; visit the Irish National Stud with its champion racehorses and delightful Japanese Gardens; or find a treasure of your own at Newbridge Silverware with its Museum of Style Icons and a costume collection worn by legends of the stage and screen from Marilyn Monroe to Michael Jackson. Return to Trim with time to explore this heritage town with its impressive Norman castle featured in the Hollywood blockbuster Braveheart. *Entertainment this evening is a lighthearted but professional lesson in playing the Irish Tin Whistle.*

Day 4: Head into Dublin for a **guided tour** of the city's major landmarks followed by free time for sightseeing or shopping before overnighing close to the city centre.

Day 5: Catch the morning ferry back to Holyhead, and home.

Trim Castle Hotel ★★★★★

A relaxing, modern hotel in the centre of Trim heritage town overlooking the castle.

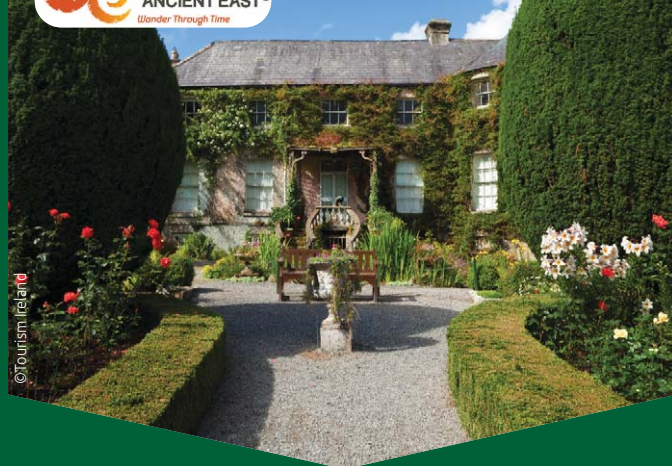
- 68 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Welcome drink
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Malahide Castle
- Guided Dublin City Tour

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £264
May - Sep: Prices from: £279



Carlow & Kilkenny Cracker

A perfect short break at Celtic Carlow's excellent Seven Oaks Hotel, with Altamont's garden delights, a road-train trip & beer tour in Kilkenny and musical entertainment on three nights!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel by ferry to Dublin, before a short journey to Carlow for a 3 night stay. *Tonight's Entertainment: Traditional Irish Music in the hotel bar.*

Day 2: Time to explore **Carlow**, a peaceful riverside town boasting a strong Celtic heritage, with its cathedral, courthouse, museum and Visual Arts Centre. After lunch discover delightful **Altamont Gardens**, one of the most romantic settings in Ireland. It's a charming blend of formal and informal styles, with an impressive rose collection and a parade of ancient oaks leading to an Ice Age Glen. *Tonight's Entertainment: Free admission to the hotel's dancing club.*

Day 3: For many people **Kilkenny** is the greatest city in Ireland, a medieval time capsule built around its magnificent castle and recently named Ireland's Tidiest Town. Get your bearings and see the sights aboard the **local road train** before a memorable visit to the **Smithwicks Brewery** for a tour and tasting of this favourite Irish beer. *Tonight's Entertainment: Candlelit Dinner Dance at the hotel.*

Day 4: Leaving Carlow today, either spend time exploring the many highlights of Co. Kildare or travel on to Dublin for a day in Ireland's absorbing capital city. Indulge in sightseeing, shopping or the many museums and galleries on offer before heading on to your final overnight stay close to the city.

Day 5: Catch the morning ferry back to Holyhead and head for home.

Seven Oaks Hotel ★★★★★

A magnificent, independently-owned hotel retaining its old world character.

- 89 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Kilkenny Road Train
- Altamont Gardens ➤ Smithwicks Brewery
- Entertainment on 3 nights ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £239
May - Sep: Prices from: £279



Waterford's Triple Crown including Kilkenny and Wexford

A short break to Ireland's South East for three of the best with Viking Waterford, the Dunbrody Famine Ship and the cobbled streets and medieval town of Kilkenny.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to South Wales for the ferry crossing to Rosslare, and travel to Waterford for a 4 night stay at the Dooley's Hotel.

Day 2: Waterford was established by the Vikings in the 9th Century and has become the capital of Ireland's sunny South East. With plenty to entertain the visitor, the choice really is yours: world-famous Waterford Crystal has been reborn in the centre of town and is well worth a visit; the Copper Coast route runs from the resort of Tramore through a national Geo-park with fine ocean views and fishing villages, while the walled gardens at Lismore Castle and the Jameson Whiskey Experience near Middleton may also tempt you!

Day 3: Co. Wexford has so much to discover. The JFK Arboretum is a permanent memorial to America's assassinated president with a wonderful international collection of trees and shrubs. In nearby **New Ross** you will find the Ros Tapestry with its intricately woven history of Ireland's past, a fascinating curiosity, and the **Dunbrody Famine Ship**.

Day 4: Kilkenny is a well-preserved medieval town, popular with tourists and with many original features. You could explore Kilkenny on foot with one of the popular walking tours, however we're offering a far more relaxing option with an included ride on the **Kilkenny Road Train**. Sit back and relax as it makes its way through the narrow streets to reveal the abbey, cathedral and many other highlights.

Day 5: Take the morning ferry back to South Wales and head for home.

Dooley's Hotel ★★

A popular, family-run hotel offering excellent service in the centre of Waterford.

- 113 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Welcome drink
- Minimum of 1 nights musical entertainment
- Dunbrody Famine Ship ➤ Kilkenny Road Train

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £229
May - Sep: Prices from: £249



Tales of Tipperary with a River Shannon Cruise

Explore timeless Tipperary & the Shannon Region on a guided river cruise plus day tours to Limerick and Clare, with traditional Irish storytelling, live music & local entertainment included.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Ferry from South Wales to Rosslare and on to Waterford for an overnight stay.

Day 2: Discover Co. Tipperary today, with its historic walled towns, fabulous fortresses and riverside scenery. Find **Cahir**, a small heritage town with its own castle built on an island in the River Suir, or explore the dramatic **Rock of Cashel** that overlooks the Plains of Tipperary. Continue to the Lakeside Hotel in Killaloe, your base for the next 3 nights.

Day 3: Visit Co. Limerick today for a visit to the **Foynes Flying Boat Museum**, a unique chapter in the country's aviation history. Enjoy the attached Maritime Museum and if it's to your taste why not sample a traditional Irish Coffee, which was actually invented here at Foynes. This afternoon board the Spirit of Killaloe at the hotel's private jetty for a **scenic cruise on lovely Loch Derg**, part of the River Shannon's extensive water course.

Day 4: Discover Co. Clare, starting at **Bunratty** with its beautifully preserved medieval castle & adjoining folk park, **Blarney Woollen Mills** and Ireland's oldest pub. Continue to the coast to discover the mighty **Cliffs of Moher**, standing 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean and if time allows there's the Burren National Park.

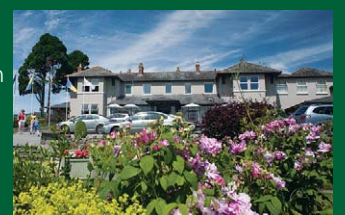
Day 5: Time for a look at **Limerick City** this morning, birthplace of Sir Terry Wogan and Richard Harris and that famous 5 line poem! Or head straight on to Dublin for the chance to explore Ireland's capital before a final overnight stay within easy reach of Dublin port.

Day 6: Ferry from Dublin to Holyhead, and home.

Lakeside Hotel ★★★★★

A family run, independent hotel in Killaloe, with landscaped gardens on the edge of Lough Derg.

- 43 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Nightly entertainment (Killaloe)
- Lough Derg Cruise ➤ Foynes Flying Boat Museum
- Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £319
May - Sep: Prices from: £359



Rails, Sails & Secret Gardens - An Irish Coastal Corker

A new look at Ireland's South Coast in all its glory with a scenic train ride to Mount Congreve Gardens, elegant Fota House and the heritage harbour towns of Cobh and Kinsale.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to South Wales for the afternoon sailing to Rosslare. Travel to Waterford for an overnight stay.

Day 2: Join the **Waterford & Suir Valley Railway** for a journey along the banks of the River Suir. Arrive at **Mount Congreve**, one of the world's largest private gardens whose owner Ambrose Congreve won 13 gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show. Why not include a whiskey tour at the Jameson Experience before 3 nights at the Midleton Park Hotel, Co. Cork.

Day 3: Discover **Fota House**, a Regency-style great country house surrounded by its own arboretum, a beautiful orangery and formal walled gardens. Then head to **Cobh**, a tiny fishing village with a big history made famous as the last port of call for RMS Titanic.

Day 4: Enjoy the spectacular scenery and pretty towns of the Gulf Stream Coast, sculptured by the Ice Age and lapped by the warm waters of the Gulf Stream. Include **Kinsale**, Ireland's 'gourmet capital' and a popular centre for sailing overlooked by historic Charles Fort.

Day 5: Another impressive scenic drive along the Copper Coast, a protected Geo Park with sweeping ocean views. Visit the historic town of **Dungarvan** or continue to **Waterford** for free time exploring Ireland's oldest city before a final overnight stay.

Day 6: Following breakfast, travel to Rosslare for the return ferry crossing to South Wales, and home.

If preferred, the itinerary can be changed to allow a return via Dublin Port – ask us for details.

Midleton Park Hotel ★★

Only ten miles from Cork City, the Midleton Park Hotel is elegant and warm-welcoming.

- 79 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Waterford & Suir Valley Railway
- Mount Congreve Gardens
- Fota House & Gardens

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £329

May - Sep: Prices from: £369



Bantry & the Gulf Stream Coast

Explore West Cork's coast and countryside while staying in the charming harbour town of Bantry. Take a boat trip to Garinish Island and visit Mizen Head, Ireland's southernmost point.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Catch the afternoon ferry from Holyhead to Dublin, and stay overnight close to the city.

Day 2: Head down to **Bantry** via Co. Kildare with its rich pastures and record-breaking racehorses, and Co. Tipperary with its heritage towns and historic sites. Enjoy a 3 night stay at the Maritime Hotel in the centre of Bantry, perfectly placed for exploring the region's highlights.

Day 3: **Bantry** is a popular fishing harbour renowned for its mussels and watched over by the Georgian splendour of Bantry House with its panoramic views of the bay. Take the pretty drive down to the coast at **Mizen Head** and try to spot Fastnet Rock, known as 'Ireland's Teardrop'.

Day 4: The gorgeous scenery of **Beara Peninsula** is steeped in myth and legend. From colourful Kenmare, the Ring of Beara coastal route passes traditional fishing villages round to Bantry Bay. At Glengarriff catch the **ferry to Garinish Island to find its idyllic Italianate garden**.

Day 5: Discover more of Ireland's southern shores as you travel east via Cork and Youghal towards Waterford. If time allows follow the Copper Coast route between Dungarvan and Tramore for more superb ocean views. From Waterford head on to Wexford for an overnight stay conveniently situated within easy reach of Rosslare Port.

Day 6: Morning ferry to South Wales and complete your journey home.

 Please note that space is also available at the Westlodge Hotel ★★ in Bantry

Maritime Hotel ★★

This hotel offers stylish, contemporary accommodation overlooking Bantry Bay.

- 110 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Bantry Bay boat trip ➤ Garinish Island
- Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299

May - Sep: Prices from: £337



Killarney & The Ring of Kerry

Still our most popular Irish tour offering a 4 star hotel in the centre of Killarney, nightly entertainment, a traditional jaunting car ride & lake cruise, and the spectacular Ring of Kerry.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Ferry from South Wales to Rosslare, and overnight in Waterford.



Day 2: Allow time to explore the Viking City of **Waterford** with its impressive collection of museums and the visitor centre at Waterford Crystal, or head west into Co. Cork, with the chance of a tippie at Old Jameson's Whiskey Distillery, a taste of Titanic history at Cobh Harbour, or a kiss of the Blarney Stone, before arriving in **Killarney** for 3 nights.

Day 3: Enjoy a free day in Killarney with a **traditional jaunting car ride** through the National Park followed by a **scenic lake cruise**. A regular winner of Ireland's Tidy Town competition, Killarney makes a great place to explore; nearby Muckross House, a handsome hunting lodge with a royal history, is well worth a visit.

Day 4: For many visitors, the **Ring of Kerry** is the highlight of their tour. Formed during the last ice age, this picturesque peninsula with its traditional villages, lush countryside and ocean views makes it a wonderful coastal drive.

Day 5: From Killarney it's possible to visit the beautiful thatched cottages at Adare, Bunratty Castle and Folk Park or the Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens, before arriving in **Dublin** for your final overnight stay.

Day 6: Catch the morning ferry from Dublin port to Holyhead, and complete the journey home.

 Please note that space is also available at the Holiday Inn Killarney 

Killarney Towers Hotel ★★★★★

A superbly appointed hotel with a great reputation, occupying a prime position in Killarney.

- 182 Bedrooms
- Lift

Exclusive to
Action Tours



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Nightly entertainment (Killarney)
- Jaunting car ride ➤ Lake cruise
- Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £304
May - Sep: Prices from: £349



Delightful Dingle Bay with Dolphins

A return of this popular tour to Co. Kerry combining entertainment with exciting day tours including a unique boat cruise and dolphin watching experience around Dingle Bay.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel by ferry from Fishguard to Rosslare, and head on to Waterford for an overnight stay at Dooley's Hotel located on the quayside in the centre of town.

Day 2: Travel on to Co. Cork, home of legendary Blarney Castle where it's possible to kiss the Blarney Stone in search of the gift of eloquence. Continue into **Co. Kerry** and on to the market town of **Castleisland**, your base for the next three nights.

Day 3: Today the choice is yours. Spend the day in Killarney with its many excellent tourist attractions, or if the sun's shining discover more of Co. Kerry's beautiful scenery. The Ring of Kerry and Beara Peninsula are both well worth exploring.

Day 4: A full day on the **Dingle Peninsula**. Enjoy a scenic tour of this precious Irish landscape with ancient beehive huts surrounded by an intricate coastline - a region that has captivated poets, writers and filmmakers for generations. This afternoon there's a special treat in store: a **scenic boat tour and dolphin-watching excursion** around Dingle Bay.

Day 5: From Kerry, travel up to **Dublin** with time to get a good taste of Ireland's cosmopolitan capital with excellent sightseeing, museums and galleries, shops and cafes to enjoy. Take a final overnight stay close to the city centre.

Day 6: Catch the morning ferry from Dublin to Holyhead, and continue your journey home.

River Island Hotel ★★★★★

A family-run hotel at the heart of Castleisland, a typical Kerry market town.

- 52 Bedrooms
- Lift

Exclusive to
Action Tours



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Dingle Bay Boat Cruise & Dolphin Watching Experience ➤ Nightly entertainment (Castleisland)
- Free drink with dinner (Castleisland)

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £286
May - Sep: Prices from: £323



Western Ireland's Coastal Delights

The West of Ireland in all its glory including a sea-cruise under the mighty Cliffs of Moher, an ocean drive, a day trip to Galway, and the haunting landscapes of Burren.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel by ferry from Holyhead to Dublin, and overnight accommodation near the city.

Day 2: Head through the rich pastures of Kildare, home to the Irish National Stud, lyrical Limerick and through Bunratty, home to Ireland's oldest pub 'Durtie Nellies', before arriving in **Ennistymon** for a 3 night stay.

Day 3: A truly memorable day begins with a **Cliffs of Moher Cruise**, sailing beneath the sheer faces of these colossal cliffs that are home to the country's largest seabird colony and have become an iconic image for Ireland's West Coast. Then head over to the official **Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre** for breathtaking views 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. This afternoon take the wonderful ocean drive past the Aran Islands as you head around Black Head and on to Ballyvaughan Bay.

Day 4: First stop is the **Burren Visitor Centre**, where the natural history of this enchanting region is revealed. Drive through the park to discover prehistoric limestone landscapes sheltering rare species of flora and fauna. Then on to **Galway**, for free time exploring the 'City of Tribes' founded by medieval merchants.

Day 5: From Co. Clare it's not a long way to Tipperary and a visit to Cahir heritage town with its well-preserved castle built on a rocky island on the River Suir. Continue to Waterford for time in Ireland's oldest city before a final overnight close to Wexford.

Day 6: Ferry from Rosslare to South Wales, and home.

Falls Hotel ★★ ★

This former manor house overlooking the river provides a haven of peace and tranquillity.

- 144 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Welcome Drink with dinner
- Entertainment on 1 night ➤ Burren Visitor Centre ➤ Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre ➤ Cliffs of Moher Cruise ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299
May - Sep: Prices from: £329



Galway, Connemara & Lake Cruise

From the vibrant and bohemian city of Galway, discover the precious wilderness of Connemara, elegant Kylemore Abbey and a relaxing lake cruise on Lough Corrib.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel by ferry to Rosslare, and on to an overnight stay in the centre of Waterford.

Day 2: If time allows why not include a quick visit to the Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre or the new Museum of Treasures that charts the city's fascinating history from the Viking invasion. Then travel north via Tipperary and Limerick to **Galway** for a 3 night stay at the Menlo Park Hotel on the outskirts of the city.

Day 3: Spend free time in Galway City, famous for its maritime history and boasting a full calendar of festivals and events. This afternoon enjoy one of the highlights of the tour: a lovely lake cruise aboard the **Corrib Princess**, with a full commentary and tea/coffee and scone.

Day 4: Explore Connemara National Park with its wild ponies and mountain scenery then head on to the thriving town of Clifden. Idyllic **Kylemore Abbey**, a neo-gothic castle with immaculate Victorian walled garden, makes an excellent addition to the day.

Day 5: From Galway travel across to your final overnight in Dublin, breaking your journey either at Athlone, home to the famous Irish tenor John McCormack, or Locke's Distillery at Kilbeggan where you could enjoy a fortifying drop of traditional Irish Whiskey.

Day 6: After breakfast, travel by ferry from Dublin to Holyhead and head for home.

Menlo Park Hotel ★★ ★★

This award-winning hotel combines old-fashioned hospitality with a modern touch.

- 70 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Lough Corrib Cruise with tea/coffee and scone
- Kylemore Abbey

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £319
May - Sep: Prices from: £345



Westport and Magical Mayo

Award-winning Westport on the edge of Clew Bay is surrounded by magnificent scenery and provides excellent opportunities for day tours. Enjoy a full programme of entertainment too!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Holyhead to Dublin ferry and overnight close to the city centre.

Day 2: Travel west via Mullingar and Longford, breaking the journey at Strokestown Park House, a 19th century estate containing the Irish National Famine Museum and a charming walled pleasure garden. Continue to the Castlecourt Hotel in **Westport** for a 3 night stay.

Day 3: Take a scenic drive through Co. Mayo past **Croagh Patrick** and down through eerie Doo Lough Valley. At Killary Harbour why not enjoy a picturesque cruise on the sheltered waters of Ireland's only fjord or continue down to **Connemara National Park**. Return mid-afternoon to explore Westport or enjoy the hotel's leisure facilities.

Day 4: Begin today with a tour of **Foxford Woollen Mills**, traditional wool manufacturers since 1892. Then head past Clew Bay to **Achill Island**, a region of ancient forests and boglands that emerges at the Atlantic coast to dramatic effect. Immense cliffs shelter nesting seabirds, and the sea views are magnificent.

Day 5: From Westport, call in at the **Museum of Country Life** with its modern exhibition galleries set in the grounds of Turlough Park House and surrounded by magnificent gardens. Complete the journey to Dublin with time to take in the city sights.

Day 6: Morning ferry from Dublin back to Holyhead, and then home.

Entertainment at the Castlecourt Hotel includes live music each evening plus other events such as cookery demonstrations, historical talks, quizzes and bingo.

Castlecourt Hotel ★★★★★

A family-run hotel, in Westport, well known for its great facilities and entertainment.

- 148 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Daily activities & entertainment at the hotel ➤ Foxford Woollen Mills ➤ National Museum of Country Life ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £303
May - Sep: Prices from: £339



Sligo & the Wild Atlantic Way

Our new tour to Ireland's North West offers a slice of the Wild Atlantic Way at Sligo and Donegal including magnificent Lissadell House and Europe's tallest sea cliffs at Slieve League.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Ferry crossing from Holyhead to Dublin and an overnight stay close to the city.

Day 2: Drive up through Cavan and Navan into the fabulous Fermanagh Lakelands before arriving in **Sligo** for a 3 night stay. Free time to explore this pretty town on the banks of the Garravogue River, with its art galleries and literary heritage.

Day 3: Sligo was crowned the 'Land of Heart's Desire' by WB Yeats, and the beauty of this region explains why he displayed such passion for his homeland. Begin with a visit to **Lissadell House**, an elegant Regency mansion with striking interiors and galleries set in beautiful grounds offering sweeping views of Sligo Bay, then finish with a drive around Lough Gill to find Parkes Castle.

Day 4: A day exploring the Wild Atlantic Way begins with a scenic drive along the edge of Donegal Bay to the **Folk Village at Glencolmille**. It's one of Ireland's best living-history museums with its collection of traditional thatched cottages perched on a hillside overlooking Glen Car Bay. Another highlight of your tour awaits with a trip up to the viewpoint on **Slieve League** to see these incredible sea cliffs reaching 2000ft above the Atlantic - a truly wild and wonderful sight.

Day 5: From Sligo to Dublin via Carrick on Shannon, where a leisurely river cruise could make a delightful finale to your tour. Continue to the capital for an overnight stay.

Day 6: Morning ferry from Dublin, and home.

Clayton Hotel Sligo ★★★★★

Offering traditional elegance and modern facilities in the centre of Sligo town.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Lissadell House ➤ Glencolmille Folk Park ➤ Slieve League Tour ➤ Leisure facilities

May: Prices from: £329
Jun - Sep: Prices from: £344



Ireland's Coasts & Castles

Exploring Ireland's magnificent northern coastline from the cliffs and coves of Co. Antrim to the spectacular seascapes of Co. Donegal, together with some truly romantic castles!

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Ireland from Holyhead or Cairnryan and complete the journey to your very own castle by the sea and an overnight stay at the Ballygally Castle Hotel.

Day 2: Begin today with one of the most rewarding coastal drives in Ireland as you travel up the Antrim Coast to the legendary **Giants Causeway**. Discover Dunluce Castle, precariously perched on a cliff edge, before heading to Co. Donegal for a 3 night stay.

Day 3: A day in Donegal can include a visit to the well-preserved castle, abbey ruins or the shops and cafe's in the town's 'Diamond', followed by a water-bus boat trip around the bay. Alternatively head to Co. Sligo, eulogised in the poetry of WB Yeats.

Day 4: Discover the delightful coast and countryside of Co. Donegal, beginning with a trip to **Glenveagh Castle**. It lies half hidden in woodland at the edge of a lake in a protected national park that is home to the largest herd of red deer in Ireland. Head on to the dramatic west coast then down through the Blue Stack Mountains before returning to Donegal town.

Day 5: Take the opportunity to visit Belleek Pottery, the oldest working pottery in Ireland, before arriving in Enniskillen on the edge of Upper and Lower Loch Erne. Continue to **Trim** crowned by its striking Norman Castle used in the film 'Braveheart'. Overnight in the aptly named Trim Castle Hotel.

Day 6: A quick look at Dublin before the early afternoon ferry to Holyhead and home.

Clanree Hotel ★★★★★

A modern hotel on the outskirts of the commercial centre of Letterkenny.

- 120 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Giants Causeway ➤ Glenveagh National Park Visitor Centre, castle tour & transfers ➤ Leisure facilities (Letterkenny)

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £324

May - Sep: Prices from: £344



Donegal Bay Getaway

A tour based in the heart of Donegal town with visits to Glenveagh National Park, the Atlantic Coast and Ireland's oldest pottery.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Lunchtime ferry to Dublin and an overnight stay close to the city.

Day 2: Head through historic Co. Meath, home to the High Kings of Ireland in the 12th Century, and on to Enniskillen. Continue to **Belleek Pottery** for a tour of the factory that has produced delicate Parian china since 1857. Arrive in Donegal for a 3 night stay.

Day 3: Spend a day in Donegal exploring the ruined Abbey of the Four Masters and Donegal Castle on the banks of the River Eske, or try on some Irish tweeds at Magee's. After lunch why not take a scenic cruise around Donegal Bay.

Day 4: A full day excursion around Co. Donegal, starts at **Glenveagh National Park** with a visit to its romantic lakeside castle and gardens. The North West contains an official Gaeltacht region with proud cultural traditions and a strong musical heritage. Local artists include Clanad, Enya, Westlife and Daniel O'Donnell who has a visitor centre celebrating his record-breaking career. The surrounding coastal scenery is breath taking with some of the world's tallest sea cliffs.

Day 5: Head back down to Dublin, Ireland's capital city, for free time shopping, sightseeing or more live entertainment from the street performers and buskers at Temple Bar; overnight nearby.

Day 6: Morning ferry to Holyhead, and home.



Central Hotel ★★★★★

Family-run hotel overlooking the main square in Donegal.

- 115 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Glenveagh Castle & Gardens
- Belleek Pottery ➤ Nightly entertainment ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £289

May - Sep: Prices from: £299



Fabulous Fermanagh Lakelands

This landscape of crystal clear lakes adorned with islands and peninsulas makes the perfect retreat. Stay in an elegant 18th Century manor house and enjoy a sunset dinner cruise.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Take the afternoon ferry from Holyhead to Dublin, and an overnight close to the city.

Day 2: Spend this morning exploring **Dublin** before heading north through the ancient landscapes of Navan and Cavan, to the lakeland county of Fermanagh for a 3 night stay.

Day 3: Relax in the hotel before a visit to the **Ulster American Folk Park**, one of the country's major museums. Here you'll experience the epic story of Ireland's emigration from the thatched cottages of Ulster to the American Frontier, brought to life through costumed re-enactments. This evening enjoy one of the highlights of the tour, a sunset dinner cruise on lovely Lough Erne.

Day 4: Take a scenic drive through the beautiful surroundings of the Fermanagh Lakelands. Visit **Belleek Pottery**, Ireland's oldest pottery having produced delicate Parian china for over 150 years. Continue along the shores of Lough Melvin and Lough Macnean to **Florence Court**, a fine 18th century stately home and gardens overlooked by the Cuilcagh Mountains.

Day 5: **Enniskillen** is built on a natural island between Upper and Lower Lough Erne. Include a visit to its prominent castle, home to the Royal Fusiliers, or discover a collection of arts and crafts boutiques in the Buttermarket. Travel back to Dublin for a final overnight.

Day 6: Catch the morning ferry from Dublin back to Holyhead and home.

Manor House Country Hotel ★★★★★

A former manor house combining traditional elegance with modern facilities in Killadeas.

- 81 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Sunset dinner cruise ➤ Entertainment on one night ➤ Belleek Pottery ➤ Ulster American Folk Park ➤ Florence Court ➤ Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £349



The Causeway Coaster

This exciting tour to the Northern shores of Ireland includes Michael Palin's coastal rail journey to the Giants Causeway, plus guided tours of Derry and the Inishowen Peninsula.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel from Holyhead to Dublin, and overnight accommodation.

Day 2: Drive north through the counties of Meath, Louth and Monaghan to Tyrone. Enjoy the beauty of the lake scenery that surrounds Enniskillen or the wooded landscape of The Sperrins before arriving in Buncrana for a 3 night stay.

Day 3: Today's guided tour starts with a scenic drive around the **Inishowen Peninsula** to Malin Head, the northernmost point in Ireland. Next to **Derry** on the banks of the River Foyle, the only completely walled city in Ireland and enjoying its recent status as UK City of Culture.

Day 4: Spend today exploring Donegal, beginning with a trip through the **Glenveagh National Park** under the shadow of imposing Mount Errigal. The county is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on three sides, providing spectacular sea views as you drive along its coastline. The west of Donegal has a significant Gaeltacht (Irish speaking) region where customs, traditions, skills and language have been preserved for centuries.

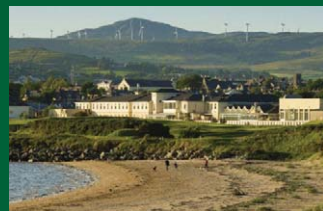
Day 5: Michael Palin described the **train journey from Londonderry to Coleraine** as "one of the most beautiful rail journeys in the world". The track runs alongside beautiful beaches, through Ireland's longest railway tunnels and past historic landmarks. **The Giants Causeway**, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is then just a short drive away. Complete the route to Belfast for an overnight stay.

Day 6: Catch the ferry to Cairnryan, and home.

Inishowen Gateway Hotel ★★★

A modern hotel with panoramic sea views over Lough Swilly and the fabulous beach.

- 80 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Full Day Guided Tour of Inishowen & Derry ➤ Scenic Rail Journey (Derry to Coleraine) ➤ Giants Causeway ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £284
May - Sep: Prices from: £319



Outstanding Northern Ireland

Our popular five day tour to Northern Ireland brings you Belfast, birthplace of Titanic, the Giants Causeway, Antrim Coast scenic drive and the delightful scenery of County Down.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel from either Cairnryan or Holyhead, and make your way to Belfast for a 4 night stay at the Stormont Hotel.

Day 2: Northern Ireland's capital **Belfast** has become increasingly popular as a touring destination for groups. Begin with a **guided tour through the city's four 'quarters'**, taking in the many highlights including City Hall, Queens University, the Opera House and the Botanic Gardens. This afternoon either enjoy free time to explore the city for yourself, or pre-book a visit to one of the leading local attractions such as Crumlin Road Gaol, Titanic Belfast or the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.

Day 3: For one of the most remarkable ocean drives take the **Antrim Coast Road** with its unspoilt views of the Irish Sea and Glens of Antrim. Arrive at the **Giant's Causeway**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** famous for its unique volcanic stone pillars and shrouded in folklore and fairytales.

Day 4: Begin your day tour of Co. Down with a drive through the **Ards Peninsula**. Mount Stewart House & Gardens is recommended, or head straight down to Portaferry for the quick ferry crossing to Strangford. Spend time in **Downpatrick** visiting the **St Patricks Centre** and the cathedral, the official burial site of Ireland's Patron saint, or carry on to the Mountains of Mourne.

Day 5: Time for the return ferry either from Belfast or Dublin, and your journey home.

Stormont Hotel ★★★★★

A stylish hotel in Belfast opposite the grounds of the Parliament Building.

- 105 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Giants Causeway
- Guided Belfast City Tour

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £309
May - Sep: Prices from: £319



Northern Ireland's Tapestries & Thrones

A rare opportunity to take tea at Hillsborough Castle, the Queen's official residence, explore delightful Glenarm Castle Gardens, discover Belfast and uncover the history of Irish linen.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Catch the ferry from Holyhead or Cairnryan, and head on to the Dunadry Hotel near Antrim for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: There's a treat in store today with a rare visit to the Queen's official residence in Northern Ireland, **Hillsborough Castle**. After a guided tour of this elegant mansion and gardens including the majestic throne room, morning tea will be served in one of the staterooms. Then explore Hillsborough town itself with its Georgian architecture and visitor's centre with an original courtroom exhibit. Finish the day with a tour of **Thomas Ferguson's Irish Linen** at Banbridge, producers of the finest damask table linen as used in Buckingham Palace.

Day 3: A day in the fascinating and industrious city of **Belfast** offers a wide range of attractions to suit all tastes. Choose from City Hall, the Botanical Gardens, Ulster Museum, Titanic Belfast, Crumlin Road Gaol and the National Trust owned Crown Liquor Saloon and many more.

Day 4: Head up through the Glens of Antrim to visit the delightful **Walled Garden at Glenarm Castle**. Originally designed to supply produce for the castle table, the garden is now filled with exciting flowers and specimen plants adding great colour to this charming setting. Continue along the Antrim Coast Road for magnificent sea views.

Day 5: Ferry from Belfast or Dublin, and complete the journey home.



Dunadry Hotel ★★★★★

Once home to paper and linen mills, this elegant hotel has a fascinating past.

- 83 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Hillsborough Castle – guided tour and morning tea ➤ Thomas Ferguson Irish Linen ➤ Glenarm Castle Gardens
- Welcome tea/coffee & shortbread at hotel ➤ Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299
May - Sep: Prices from: £309



St Patrick's Day in Dublin

What better place to revel in the excitement of **St Patrick's Day** than Ireland's capital city. Join in the fun as the country celebrates its patron saint and all things Irish, highlighted by the entertainment in **Dublin** where a parade of marching bands, performers, dancers and street artists threads its way through the 'fair city'. It's the one national holiday celebrated in more countries around the world than any other! In addition to the main parade there are other St Patrick's Day festivities to enjoy including The Greening of the City where the most famous landmarks including Dublin Castle, Christchurch Cathedral and Trinity College are illuminated in green.

Esplanade Hotel ★★★

A seafront hotel in Bray, restored to its Victorian elegance.

- 94 Bedrooms
- Lift

Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB
- Return Ferry
- Welcome drink
- Traditional Irish dinner
- Entertainment on 2 nights

Mar: Prices from: £269



Killarney Spring & Autumn Specials

Take a special break to the enchanting county of Kerry. Based in the thriving holiday resort of **Killarney** surrounded by some of the most beautiful scenery in Ireland, you can explore the coast and countryside by day with a trip around the famous Ring of Kerry, a scenic drive on the Dingle Peninsula, a Jaunting Car Ride and Lake Cruise, and enjoy great nightly entertainment at our best-selling Irish hotel.

Highlights include:

- Jaunting Car Ride & Lake Cruise • Muckross House, Gardens & Traditional Farm • Meet the Management reception • Free Drink with dinner each night (Killarney) • Nightly entertainment (Killarney)

Killarney Towers Hotel ★★★★★

An excellent hotel in the heart of Killarney.

- 182 Bedrooms
- Lift

Exclusive to
Action Tours

Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB (inc 2 o/nts)
- Return Ferry
- Inclusions as above
- Leisure facilities (Killarney)

Mar, Apr & Oct: Prices from: £289



'Danny Boy' & Donegal's Musical Magic

Head to the heartlands of **Donegal** for magical scenery, musical entertainment and a taste of traditional Ireland. Alongside famous bands such as Westlife and Clannad, Donegal has produced a genuine record breaker in local superstar Daniel O'Donnell, who has become the first artist to stay in the UK album charts for 25 consecutive years! On this tour you'll get to discover why this truly beautiful part of Ireland, from mighty Mount Erigal to the woodlands of Glenveagh, has inspired such sweet sounding music.

Enjoy a welcome drink, nightly entertainment with traditional Irish Music, bingo in the bar and a candlelit dinner dance.

Central Hotel ★★★

Family-run hotel overlooking the main square in Donegal.

- 115 Bedrooms
- Lift

Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB
- Return Ferry
- Daniel O'Donnell Visitor Centre
- Leisure facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299
May - Sep: Prices from: £309



Ireland's Great Gardens

Visit Co. Wicklow known as the '**Garden of Ireland**', where centuries of gardening expertise and exceptional soil have created treasured gardens from the decorative to the wild and exotic.

Highlights include two garden visits from the following:

- Powerscourt: a world champion • Mount Usher: riverside splendour
- Kilruddery: Elizabethan elegance • Japanese Gardens (Kildare): delicate inspiration • National Botanical Gardens (Dublin): beauty preserved

Enjoy also at the hotel, afternoon tea; a guest lecture/show for approx. one hour on gardening or flower arranging plus coffee & biscuits and complimentary Irish Coffee on the last evening.

Esplanade Hotel ★★★

A seafront hotel in Bray, restored to its Victorian elegance.

- 94 Bedrooms
- Lift

Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Return Ferry
- Inclusions as above

Jun - Sep: Prices from: £299



Austrian Lakes & Mountains - Sound of Music Country

Fresh mountain air & stunning scenery awaits you on this tour to Austria with day trips to St Wolfgang, Mondsee and the 'Sound of Music' city Salzburg, one of Europe's finest.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: From Dover to Calais and onto your overnight hotel.

Day 2: Travel to Austria, arriving at your destination.

Day 3: Free day in St Georgen im Attergau with your **included train and boat trip**. First we join the little train down to the lake of Attersee, the cruise on the north part of the lake before returning by train to the village. Free time in the afternoon for you to explore the village or just relax in the hotel.

Day 4: First head to the Spa town of **Bad Ischl**, home to Emperor's and composer's. You could visit the lovely Kaiser Villa where the Emperor Franz Joseph spent most of his summers. In the afternoon we make our way to the World Heritage Site of **Hallstatt**, said to be the prettiest of all the villages in the area.

Day 5: Salzburg is one of Europe's most enchanting cities and is known as the Sound of Music city. Key attractions include Mozart's Birthplace, the Mirabel Palace and the magnificent Hohensalzburg Fortress.

Day 6: The beautiful Lake District today. First stop in **Mondsee**, whose church was used for the wedding scene featured in The Sound of Music film before making your way to the Lake of Wolfgangsee and **St Wolfgang**, another stunning village set on the shores of the lake.

Day 7: Depart Austria and travel north to your final overnight stay.

Day 8: Travel back to Calais then Dover and home.

North Sea Ferry option available – call for details.

Hotel Tirolerhof ★★

Furnished in typical Austrian style, this is a charming family-run hotel.

- 48 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 7 nights DBB ➤ Train from St Georgen to Attersee and return
- Boat Cruise on Lake Attersee ➤ Welcome Drink ➤ 5 course candlelit farewell dinner ➤ Entertainment most nights in resort ➤ Use of Outdoor Swimming Pool in resort ➤ Return Ferry

May - Sep: Prices from: £369



Belgium, Bruges & Ypres

This tour is based in the centre of Ypres which has been lovingly restored since the First World War and enjoy a visit to the medieval city of Bruges.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel from Dover to Calais and on to Ypres and the Novotel Ypres Centrum for a 3 night stay.

Day 2: Begin with a visit to the In Flanders Field Museum located within the Cloth Hall in the centre of **Ypres**. The Cloth Hall was for a time the largest building in Europe and has been painstakingly rebuilt after its complete destruction during the First World War. In the afternoon why not take a guided tour of some of the key battlefield sites of the Ypres Salient. At 8pm each evening the Last Post is played at the **Menin Gate Memorial** in Ypres, an expression of the Belgian people's gratitude to those who died for their country's freedom.

Day 3: A full day to explore the medieval city of **Bruges**. Why not take a horse-drawn cab ride through the cobbled streets, visit the major art galleries and museums, or stock up on some luxurious Belgian chocolates.

Day 4: Retrace your steps to Calais for the return ferry to Dover, and home.

If staying for 4 nights, why not incorporate a visit to **Ostend**, Belgium's most popular beach resort. Ostend has an individual charm with its colourful sea front and yacht-filled marina. Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, bustling markets or try your luck at the casino, Ostend's famous centrepiece.

Other options are available, including the Best Western Plus Alize in Mouscron on 3 or 4 night packages on BB or HB basis from £189

Novotel Ypres Centrum ★★

The hotel is just a short stroll from the Menin Gate and the Grote Markt.

- 122 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 3 or 4 nights BB
- Tea/coffee making facilities in all bedrooms
- Return Ferry

May - Oct: Prices from: £239



Highlights of Normandy

The charming market town of Lisieux is found in the Calvados region of Normandy. The hotel is ideally situated for all the major attractions in Normandy.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel from Dover to Calais and on to Normandy for your 3 night stay at the Mercure Hotel on the outskirts of Lisieux.

Day 2: Spend a relaxing morning in the charming market town of **Lisieux** before continuing in the afternoon to the Normandy Jewel **Chateau Vendevre** for our included visit to the Chateau, Museum and Gardens.

Day 3: Spend a relaxing day on the 'Flowered Coast'. Begin with a visit to the stylish resort of **Deauville**, home to France's rich and famous. Head on to the harbour town of **Honfleur**, a favourite haunt of Monet and Baudelaire. Spend the afternoon strolling through its historic streets and browsing the many shops, restaurants and galleries.

Day 4: To Calais and the ferry to Dover and home.

Other day tours available:

To **Bayeux** to see the world famous Tapestry. While rich in cultural heritage this cathedral town is best known for the thousand-year-old woollen tapestry, depicting the history of the Norman Conquest. After lunch make your way to the coast to tour the main sites of the D-Day landing beaches to see the visual reminders and museums commemorating the incredible events of June 1944.

or

Travel to **Rouen** with time to explore this captivating city. Enjoy a fascinating walk through the architectural styles of the last 800 years: from the half timbering of the Middle Ages to the Renaissance and the classical era. Rouen is notoriously known for where Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake in 1431.

Mercure Hotel Lisieux ★★

A comfortable hotel on the outskirts of Lisieux conveniently situated for all of Normandy's attractions.

- 69 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB (choice of main) followed by tea/coffee ➤ Welcome drink
- Entrance to Chateau de Vendevre House and Gardens
- Return Ferry
- Leisure facilities

May - Sep: Prices from: £279



Holland in the Springtime - Trams, Boats & Bulbfields

Enjoy a delightful spring weekend break with a distinctive Dutch flavour visiting the magnificent, world-famous Keukenhof gardens. This tour also includes a trip through time by steam tram and museum boat.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel from Dover to Calais and onto Holland to the Utrecht / Amersfoort area for a 3 night stay at the Kontakt der Kontinenten Hotel.

Day 2: After breakfast, it's a full day excursion to and through the Dutch Bulbfields and your included visit to the **Keukenhof Gardens** named 'The Greatest Flower Show on Earth', with over 70 acres of parkland and 10 miles of walkways. Admire a vast collection of hundreds of thousands of flowers displayed in the beautifully landscaped gardens, which adorn the estate.

Day 3: Head north to Hoorn and board the **famous tram** for our included journey which travels through the lovely Dutch countryside to Medemblik. During the journey you will be served coffee and a local pastry. On arrival you have free time to explore Medemblik with its beautiful historical centre before boarding the **museum ship Friesland** for our included cruise to Enkhuizen. From here make your way home across the Houtribdijk - a 27km dike, built between 1963 and 1975, it crosses what used to be the Zuider See and is now the IJsselmeer, the largest inland lake in Western Europe. Look out for the radio station half way, before joining a polder "Flevoland" which is reclaimed land from the former sea.

Day 4: To Calais for the return ferry to Dover and home.

North Sea or Hook of Holland Ferry options available – call for details.

Up to 30 singles available on this tour.

Kontakt der Kontinenten ★★

A former mission house and monastery, ideally situated near to Utrecht and Amersfoort.

- 125 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking



Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB (3 course dinner with choice of starter & main) ➤ Free tea & coffee in the hotel lounge 24/7 ➤ Keukenhof Gardens ➤ One way trip on the Tram Train (Hoorn to Medemblik - inc. coffee and pastry on board)
- Cruise on the museum ship (Medemblik to Enkhuizen) ➤ Return Ferry

Apr & May: Prices from: £269



Luxembourg & Trier including wine tasting

The charming medieval town of Vianden is perfectly suited for touring Luxembourg & Germany's oldest city of Trier.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Ferry from Dover to Calais, then continue to Vianden in Luxembourg.

Day 2: Free day to explore **Vianden**, which has captivated visitors for many years. Why not visit the nearby Victor Hugo Museum or take time to explore the historic churches and gothic architecture of this historic town. Also well worth a visit is Vianden Castle which is considered the most impressive fortress in Luxembourg, a country which has over 60 castles but is only the size of Oxfordshire.

Day 3: Take a trip to **Luxembourg City**, the cultural and political centre of this modest country that plays a significant role in the administration of the European Community. There is plenty to discover including Grand Ducal Palace, Luxembourg Castle, and the National Museums of Art and Natural History.

Day 4: Today we visit Germany's oldest city Trier, which lies on the banks of the River Mosel and still retains its picture book quality. The city has many Roman monuments and remains which can still be seen today including Trier Cathedral, the Basilica of Constantine and the impressive Porta Nigra. After lunch continue along the Moselle Valley for your **included tour and tasting of wines** at one of the local vineyards.

Day 5: Travel back to Calais for the ferry to Dover, and home.

North Sea Ferry option available
- call us for details.



Grand Hotel de Vianden ★★

This charming family run hotel is close to the Victor Hugo Museum and impressive castle.

- 57 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB (choice menu) ➤ Welcome drink ➤ Porterage
- Vineyards Tour & Wine Tasting (including 3 glasses of wine)
- Return Ferry

May - Sep: Prices from: £279



Berlin, Dresden & Colditz Castle

A two centre holiday combining a stay in Germany's vibrant capital, Berlin, and the beautifully reconstructed city of Dresden. Also includes a visit to Colditz and its famous castle used as a prisoner of war camp in World War 2.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: From Dover to Calais and onto your overnight stay.

Day 2: This morning continue your journey eastwards through the Westerwald and past Hanover to reach Berlin and our city centre hotel for the next 2 nights.

Day 3: This morning you could have the option of a local guide for a walking tour of this exciting city. Among the sights are the new Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, the 'Wall' and of course the Kurfurstendam. **Berlin** is the emotional heart of the country and once again the capital of the reunited Germany.

Day 4: This morning we have a leisurely drive south making a stop in **Colditz** an historic town dating back to the middle ages. Included in our tour is a **guided tour and entrance to the famous castle** used as a prisoner of war camp during World War 2. This afternoon we arrive in beautiful Dresden and our city centre hotel for the next 2 nights.

Day 5: Free time to explore the city of **Dresden**. Visit famous landmarks such as Zwinger Palace and the Semper Opera House. The city was badly damaged during World War 2 but has been lovingly reconstructed with many of its beautiful historic buildings restored to their former glory.

Day 6: Depart Dresden and travel through what used to be East Germany, past the cities of Chemnitz and Erfurt. Spend time in the fairytale town of Alsfeld on the Machenstrasse, before reaching your last overnight hotel.

Day 7: Homeward bound to Calais for your return ferry to Dover.

Maritim Hotel Berlin ★★

Maritim Hotel Dresden ★★

Excellent 4 star Maritim city centre hotels in Berlin and Dresden.

- 550 Bedrooms (Berlin)
- 328 Bedrooms (Dresden)
- Lift (both hotels)



Tour Includes:

- 6 nights DBB ➤ Choice buffet menu at both hotels ➤ Entrance & Guided tour of Colditz Castle ➤ Leisure facilities at both hotels
- Return Ferry

Jul & Aug: Prices from: £549



Italian Riviera – Alassio, Monaco & Monte Carlo

Alassio on the Italian Riviera is ideally situated to combine a relaxing beach holiday with the very best of sightseeing, including the nearby resorts of Monaco and Monte Carlo.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: From Dover to Calais and onto your overnight hotel.

Day 2: Continue south into Italy, arriving in Alassio in time for your evening meal and welcome drink.

Day 3: Day at leisure in **Alassio**. This former feudal town is now one of Italy's most popular holiday centres. Visits can be made to Alassio's busy morning market which sells clothing, fruit and vegetables, the town's famous muretto or visit the many shops and boutiques in the pedestrian area of the town.

Day 4: Included **guided day trip** to the nearby cosmopolitan resorts of **Monaco and Monte Carlo**. This fairytale Princedom, an enclave rising from the rocks above the sea, is famed for its enormous wealth. Explore the old town or visit the Oceanographic Museum inspired by Jacques Cousteau, before heading down to the lavish surroundings of Monte Carlo, famous for its casino and street-staged Grand Prix.

Day 5: Take the coastal road visiting the nearby coastal towns of Diano Marina and San Remo, the glittering capital of the "Riviera of Flowers".

Day 6: Enjoy another free day to relax and unwind, or visit nearby Ventimiglia, which hosts an enormous market on Fridays and is a popular destination for tourists all year round. If you prefer, just over the French border is Menton, a popular resort famous for its cultivation of lemons.

Day 7: To France for your final overnight.

Day 8: Calais to Dover, then home.

Hotel Toscana ★★ ★ superior
This excellent family-run hotel is ideally situated near to Alassio beach and the main shopping area.

- 64 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

- 7 nights DBB ➤ American Buffet breakfast and choice dinner in Alassio
- Live music on two nights in Alassio ➤ Welcome drink & farewell drink in Alassio ➤ Monaco & Monte Carlo guide ➤ Porterage in Alassio

May, Sep & Oct: Prices from: £469



Italy's Lake Garda & the Dolomites

Italy's largest lake, its shores are dotted with fascinating old towns, castles and picturesque villages set against a backdrop of towering mountains.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Dover for your short channel crossing to Calais and onto your overnight hotel in France.

Day 2: Depart after breakfast and travel to Italy and onto the resort of Riva Del Garda situated at the northern tip of Lake Garda.

Day 3: Free day to relax and enjoy **Riva Del Garda**.

Day 4: The **Italian Dolomites**, or 'pale mountains', is a breath taking mountain range. With a mixture of Italian and Austrian architecture the Dolomites are said to be one of the most scenic regions in Italy.

Day 5: Spend a day exploring **Lake Garda**. Along its shores lie pretty villages such as **Malcesine, Bardolino** and **Sirmione**, set in a picturesque headland jutting into the lake, which lies at the southern tip of the lake.

Day 6: Another free day in Riva del Garda or why not visit the stunning city of **Verona**. This city is rich in history and culture and is also the setting for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Take time to visit the famous balcony, wander around the beautiful market piazzas and shops, or visit the famous Amphitheatre, where famous operas are held during the summer months.

Day 7: Depart after breakfast and enjoy the Alpine views en route back to your overnight hotel.

Day 8: Depart the hotel after breakfast and make your way to Calais for your return sailing.



Hotel Sole ★★ ★ ★
Ideally situated in the centre of Riva del Garda with stunning views over the lake and piazza.

- 63 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Choice menu at dinner



Tour Includes:

- 7 nights DBB ➤ Choice of Dinner Menu in Italy ➤ Welcome drink (at resort hotel) ➤ Wine tasting (in Riva del Garda) ➤ Gala dinner on one evening ➤ Return Ferry

Apr: Prices from: £389
May - Sep: Prices from: £409



Andorra – The 3 Countries Tour

Andorra is a small, but beautifully formed country in the Pyrenees Mountains between France and Spain, with its own unique culture, customs, legends and Romanesque art.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Following your Channel crossing we continue to our overnight hotel on bed and breakfast basis.

Day 2: After breakfast we continue south and complete the journey to **Andorra** and our hotel for the next 4 nights.

Day 3: At leisure in **Andorra la Vella**. Andorra's capital can be split in two, both easily accessible, the newer part has an open-air modern shopping centre, whilst the historic centre has changed little over time with its intriguing architecture, narrow streets, small squares and low houses.

Day 4: A guided three countries tour visiting Andorra, France and Catalonia in Spain. We travel to **La Seu d'Urgell** with its historic cathedral, a beautiful example of the Italian-influenced Romanesque style of Catalonia in the 11th and 12th centuries, before arriving at **Puigcerdà**, with its spectacular views to the craggy peaks of the surrounding Pyrenees with free time for lunch. In the afternoon we continue to **Mont Louis** where the city walls are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site before finishing the tour at the winter ski resort of **Font Romeu**.

Day 5: Today we enjoy a half day excursion to a local vineyard and enjoy wine tasting.

Day 6: Travel to our last overnight hotel on bed and breakfast basis.

Day 7: Depart the hotel after breakfast and make your way to Calais and your return sailing to Dover and home.

Included in Andorra is a welcome drink, wine and water with evening meal, free drinks package 20.30hrs-22.30hrs (selected beer, wine and soft drinks) and portage.

Hotel President Andorra La Vella ★★★★★

Situated in the heart of Andorra la Vella, it is near the historical centre.

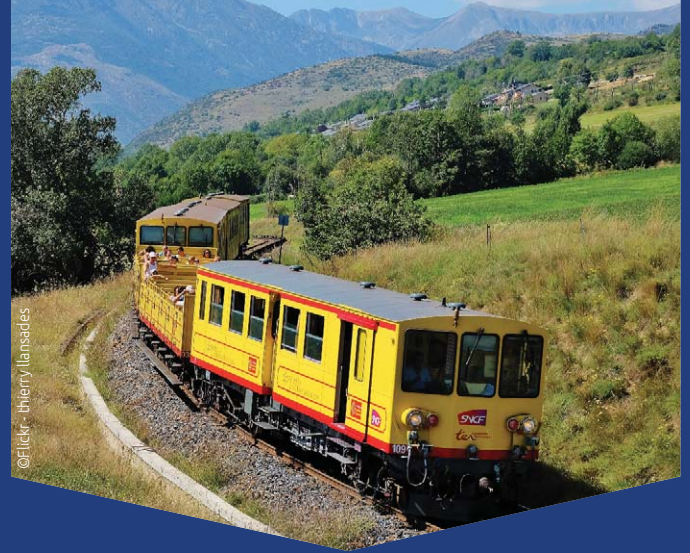
- 100 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

➤ Return Ferry ➤ 6 nights (2 o/nts on BB basis + 4 nights DBB) ➤ Visit to a local vineyard with wine tasting ➤ Guide for full day tour for the 3 countries tour (Andorra, France & Spain) ➤ Leisure facilities (Andorra)

May - Sep: Prices from: £349



Spain & the Little Trains of the Pyrenees

Our base for this very popular tour is the lovely Spanish resort of Roses and includes train journeys and visits in Spain and France.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: From Dover to Calais and onto your overnight stay.

Day 2: Drive through France, into Spain, and on to Roses for a 7 night stay.

Day 3: Free morning at leisure. In the afternoon join the **Roses Express**, a tourist train which allows your passengers to see the lovely countryside and Cap de Creus Nature Park.

Day 4: Day in France. This morning join your included visit to a vineyard in **Thuir** for **wine tasting**. Lunch can be taken in the village of Thuir before making your way to **Villefranche-de-Conflent** for your trip on the **Little Yellow Train to Mont Louis**.

Day 5: Free day at leisure to enjoy all **Roses** has to offer. Just sit and relax at the hotel or on the beach.

Day 6: A day trip to Nuria and your included return trip on the **rack railway up to the Sanctuary of Nuria**.

Day 7: Another day trip to France. Make your way to Rivesaltes where you will join the **TPCF train to Axat**. On arrival free time will be given in Axat where you can take lunch. In the afternoon on your way back to Roses you can make a stop at La Jonquera, time permitting.

Day 8: Make your way to **Figueres** with your included entrance to the **Dali Museum**. This afternoon enjoy free time at leisure back in Roses.

Day 9: Leave Spain today and head back into France to your overnight hotel.

Day 10: To Calais, then Dover and home.

North Sea Ferry option available - call us for details.

Coral Platja ★★★

A seafront hotel with swimming pool, ideally located for easy access to the resort of Roses.

- 167 Bedrooms
- Lift



Tour Includes:

➤ 9 nights DBB ➤ Wine with dinner (Roses) ➤ Entertainment ➤ Wine tasting ➤ Four rail journeys ➤ Dali Museum ➤ English speaking Guide (3 days) ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Leisure facilities

May, Jun & Sep: Prices from: £549



Going Dutch Singles Tour

This very popular tour to Holland is ideal with the demand for single rooms on holidays as this hotel allows up to 30 singles on selected dates in July and August. Combined with visits to any of the following attractions and you will have a perfect summer break:- **Amsterdam** – the captivating city with its artistic heritage and elaborate canal system; **Historic Holland day**, which would include a ride on the **famous tram and museum boat** before travelling over the second largest dike in the Netherlands or visit nearby **Arnhem & the Airborne Museum**.

North Sea or Hook of Holland Ferry options available – call us for details.

**Kontakt der
Kontinenten Hotel ★★★**
A former mission house and monastery, ideally situated near to Utrecht and Amersfoort.
• 125 Bedrooms • Lift
• Coach parking

Tour Includes:
➤ 3 nights DBB (choice of starter & main course)
➤ Return Ferry
➤ Free tea/coffee in the hotel lounge 24/7
➤ 4 night packages also available

Jul & Aug: Prices from: £226



Luxembourg's Autumn Colours

Embedded in a landscape typical of the Ardennes – rolling hills and heavily wooded valleys, this area of Luxembourg is a delight in the autumn, with its magnificent scenery and riot of colours. Our base for this tour is **Vianden** which has charmed visitors for many years. The narrow paved lanes, the gothic churches, the ramparts and fortified towers of this small medieval town are dominated by the impressive castle. To get the most out of your visit we have included a **walking tour of Vianden** and a **guided tour of Luxembourg City** with an informative and enlightening guide.

Summer packages and 4 night options are also available at this hotel.

Grand Hotel de Vianden ★★★
This charming family run hotel is close to the Victor Hugo Museum and impressive castle.

• 57 Bedrooms
• Lift

Tour Includes:
➤ 3 nights DBB (choice menu)
➤ Welcome drink ➤ Porterage
➤ Guided walking tour of Vianden
➤ Guided Tour of Luxembourg City
➤ One evening of live music /entertainment ➤ Return Ferry

Oct & Nov: Prices from: £189



Traditional Spain & Barcelona

A wonderful combination of touring and relaxation is on offer with this Traditional Spain tour.

Staying in the resort of **Roses** with its sandy beaches, there's plenty of time to unwind under the Spanish sun and enjoy the visits and built-in extras including a visit to a **local vineyard** with a make your own wine activity and a gift of a bottle of wine per person, a **return boat trip to Cadaques**, a **train ride on the Roses Express**, a traditional **Flamenco Show** and not forgetting a **half day guided tour of Barcelona** which is the principal attraction and a must see for anyone visiting the Costa Brava.

Coral Platja Hotel ★★★
This hotel is situated right on the beach front in Roses and only a short distance from the town centre.
• 167 Bedrooms
• Lift

Tour Includes:
➤ 7 nights DBB (incl 2 o/nts)
➤ Choice buffet dinner in resort with wine & water
➤ Inclusions as above
➤ Return Ferry

Apr, May, Jun & Oct: Prices from: £436



Three Countries Christmas Markets

Popular in Europe since the Middle Ages, these Christmas markets still remain a huge attraction. They are not just a chance to do some Christmas shopping, but they have their own unique character and atmosphere, especially in the evening when the Gluhwein flows and the sausages sizzle. Experience the fairytale setting of the **Valkenburg** Christmas Market with its distinctive illuminated caves and passageways which are quite unique, and Valkenburg is also well-placed for visiting the excellent Christmas markets in Germany and Belgium. Staying at the popular Hotel Schaepekens, you are just a short walk from the picturesque town of Valkenburg.

North Sea or Hook of Holland Ferry options available – call us for details.

Hotel Schaepekens ★★★
Situated in its own grounds close to the town of Valkenburg.

• 130 Bedrooms
• Lift
• Coach parking

Tour Includes:
➤ 3 or 4 nights DBB
➤ Choice buffet dinner
➤ Entertainment
➤ Porterage
➤ Return Ferry

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £209



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