

TOURS FOR 2020

Experience the difference



ISLE OF MAN | IRELAND | UK | EUROPE



Experience the difference with

# ACTION TOURS

We are a leading specialist tour wholesaler creating tailor-made tours for groups and have been working with coach operators and private group organisers from across the UK and Ireland for over 25 years.

Our team has a combined experience of over 135 years in the travel industry reflecting the company's solidity and extensive knowledge on touring holidays for groups. We have established a very strong reputation for product knowledge, efficiency and high standards of personal service, whilst the ability to create a bespoke itinerary and the willingness to research and plan a tour in detail has helped set us aside from our competitors.

If you are looking for an inventive, interesting and affordable tour, we certainly have plenty to offer within this brochure throughout the Isle of Man, Ireland, UK 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, so why not give us a call and experience the difference!

## Why choose Action Tours?

- Tailor-made tours and itineraries
- Hotels are carefully selected and 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 with images and itineraries
- Friendly, efficient, reliable and highly experienced team
- Peace of mind

**Guaranteed  
Exchange  
Rates  
Available**

We thank you for looking at our 2020 brochure  
All the team at **Action Tours**



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

**Special Notes:** The prices detailed in this brochure are for guidance only, include VAT at the current rates and were calculated on the basis of the exchange rate quoted at the time of going to print. Accordingly, there may be some variation in the prices so for an updated quotation, please contact us. Brexit – at the time of going to print, it was still unknown how leaving the EU may affect, if at all, our Irish and European tours, so please contact us with any queries or concerns you may have. E & O E.



**CTA**  
COACH TOURISM  
ASSOCIATION





## Irresistible Isle of Man



*The Isle of Man is a hidden treasure in the Irish Sea that's ideal for group tours. This popular tour combines heritage sites, coastal resorts and a visit to the capital.*

### 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. If you wish you could visit **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.

**Day 3:** Spend the morning exploring the island's capital, **Douglas**, home to the award-winning Manx Museum. After lunch you could visit the iconic **Lady Isabella (Laxey Wheel)**, 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 to 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 ★★

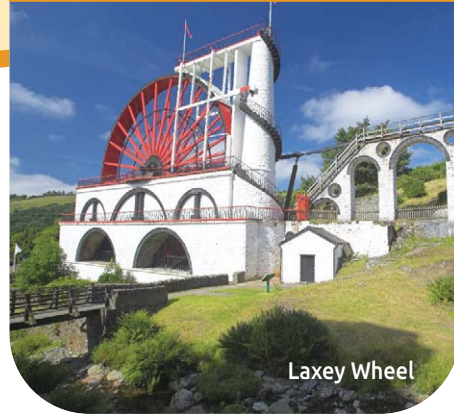
Promenade hotel enjoying stunning sea views over Douglas Bay.  
• 64 Bedrooms • Lift

### Tour Includes:

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

**May to Sep: Prices from: £329**

## 'Manx Madness' Seasonal Special



Laxey Wheel

*Here's something special for your Spring or Autumn programme in 2020. An island adventure offering excellent value for money, our popular Manx Madness package based in the centre of Douglas at either the **Chesterhouse Hotel** or **Rutland Hotel** brings you coast, countryside and curiosities, plus musical entertainment on 2 nights and a free drink with dinner each evening!*

Spend your days exploring the capital Douglas, the harbour towns of Peel and Port Erin and a host of heritage sites including the Laxey Wheel, Rushen Abbey and Cregneash Folk Park. Then relax at your hotel in the evening with fine food and entertainment, and seeing as the Bee Gees were born on the island, the music should be good!



### Chesterhouse Hotel ★★

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

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Entertainment on 2 nights
- Free drink with dinner

**Mar, Apr & Oct: Prices from: £249**



# 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.

**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 visit **Adare** and the Foynes Flying Boat Museum 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 Berra and Dingle peninsulas offer excellent alternatives and the scenery is equally spectacular; each can easily be reached from Killarney.

If you require a Weekly Rest Period for your driver during this tour, we can arrange coach hire. 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 Co. 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 Dublin.

**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.



## 3 star tour Includes:

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

## 4 star tour Includes:

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

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £549**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £599**

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £589**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £679**



## Outstanding Northern Ireland



Giants Causeway

*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: £329**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £339**

## Northern Ireland's Tapestries & Thrones



Glenarm Castle Garden

*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. Explore Hillsborough town itself with its Georgian architecture and visitor centre with an original courtroom exhibit. Finish the day with a tour of **Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum**, a short distance away in Lisburn.

**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
- Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum ➤ Glenarm Castle Gardens
- Welcome tea/coffee & shortbread at hotel ➤ Leisure facilities

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £329**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £336**



## 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:** Explore 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 stunning beaches, through Ireland's longest railway tunnels and past historic landmarks. The **Giants Causeway**, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is just a short drive away. Head 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

## Ireland's Hidden Treasure - 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 continue onto your overnight stay.

**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:** This morning we head to the fabulous **Blessingbourne Country Estate** for a guided tour of the house and gardens with its fascinating history, by the lady of the manor. We finish the tour with tea and homemade scones. This evening, enjoy one of the highlights of the tour, a sunset dinner cruise on lovely Lough Erne.

**Day 4:** 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 afternoon visit **Belleek Pottery**, Ireland's oldest pottery having produced delicate Parian china for over 150 years.

**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
- Blessingbourne Estate (including tea & scones) ➤ Leisure facilities

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £339**

**May to Sep: Prices from: £379**



## Donegal Bay



*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.

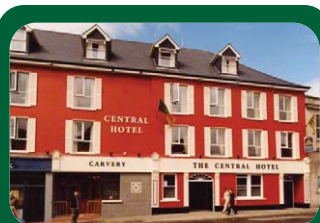
**Day 2:** Head through historic Co. Meath, home to the High Kings of Ireland in the 12th Century, and onto Enniskillen. Continue to **Belleek Pottery** for a tour of the factory that has produced delicate Parian china since 1857. Arrive in Donegal for a 3 night stay.

**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 Clannad, 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.

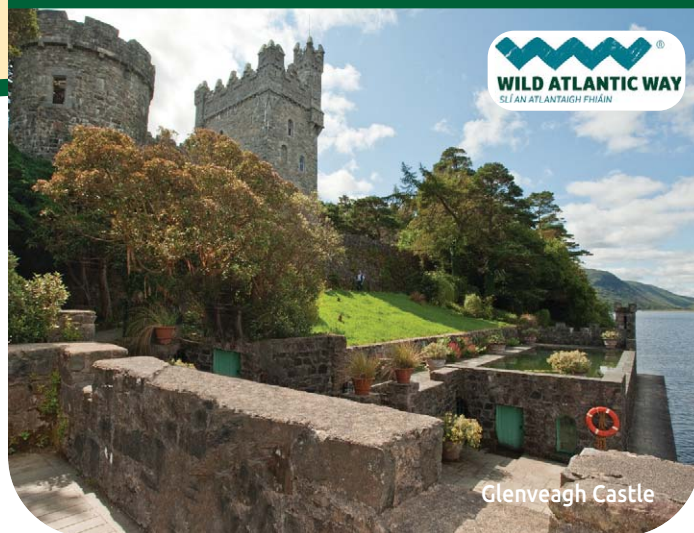
- 115 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

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

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £309**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £319**

## Ireland's Coasts & Castles



Glenveagh Castle

*Explore 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 Letterkenny.

**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. Head to Trim crowned by its striking Norman Castle used in the film 'Braveheart' and continue to the outskirts of Dublin for your overnight stay.

**Day 6:** Morning 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: £339**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £359**



## Westport, Galway & Charming Connemara



Kylemore Abbey

*Award-winning Westport on the edge of Clew Bay is surrounded by magnificent scenery and provides excellent opportunities for day tours including a trip to Galway City with a boat cruise.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Ferry from Holyhead to Dublin and onto your overnight.

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

**Day 3:** Scenic day tour to **Connemara** via Louisburgh for breath taking views of the islands and Croagh Patrick, Ireland's Holy Mountain. Continue through the haunting beauty of the Doo Lough Valley, to the picturesque village of Leenane. Take the coast road to Killary Harbour, at the start of Ireland's only fjord. Close by is **Kylemore Abbey** a neo-gothic castle mirrored in its own lake, which was originally owned by a millionaire and is now run by Benedictine nuns.

**Day 4:** Make your way to **Galway City**, famous for its maritime history. This afternoon enjoy one of the highlights of the tour, a lovely lake cruise aboard the **Corrib Princess**, with full commentary and tasty tea and scones.

**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 ➤ Kylemore Abbey
- Boat cruise in Galway Bay including tea & scones
- National Museum of Country Life ➤ Leisure facilities

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £339**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £389**

## Co. Donegal's Cliffs & Coasts



**NEW!**



*This new tour to Ireland's North West offers a slice of the Wild Atlantic Way. Staying in the seaside resort of Bundoran, explore this region including Lissadell House and Europe's tallest sea cliffs at Slieve League.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Ferry from Holyhead to Dublin and onto your overnight stay.

**Day 2:** Drive up through Cavan and Navan into the fabulous Fermanagh Lakelands before arriving in the beautiful seaside resort of Bundoran for a 3 night stay.

**Day 3:** Today we 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. Continue to Sligo, 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. Free time in **Sligo** to explore this pretty town on the banks of the Garravogue River, with its art galleries and literary heritage.

**Day 4:** Make your way to **Donegal** with free time to explore this lovely town. Why not visit the ruined Abbey of the Four Masters, Donegal Castle on the banks of the River Eske, or try on some Irish tweeds at Magee's. Enjoy the highlight of your tour with a trip up to the viewpoint on **Slieve League** to see these incredible sea cliffs soaring 2000ft above the Atlantic – a truly wild and wonderful sight!

**Day 5:** Make your way back 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.



### Holyrood Hotel ★★★★★

This attractive and recently refurbished family-run hotel is in a stunning location overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in the centre of Bundoran.

- 78 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Lissadell House
- Slieve League Tour ➤ Leisure facilities
- Tea/coffee and scones on arrival in Bundoran
- Nightly live music and dancing in Bundoran

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £319**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £359**



## Galway and the Aran Islands



*From the bustling city of Galway with its medieval history and cosmopolitan atmosphere, to the woodland paradise of Connemara National Park and the ancient Aran Islands, this hotel offers a perfect base for your tour.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel by ferry from Holyhead to Dublin and on to an overnight stay.

**Day 2:** Arrive in **Galway** before lunch with ample time to explore this cosmopolitan city. Founded by medieval merchants, the city is known as the City of Tribes, a bustling trading and fishing port since the 16th Century and a popular staging post for exhibitions and festivals. From here continue the short distance to the Menlo Park Hotel, situated on the outskirts of the city, and your base for the next 3 nights.

**Day 3:** A wonderful day trip to the **Aran Islands**, located at the mouth of Galway Bay, begins by ferry to Kilronan on Inis Mor. Minibuses then escort you around this ancient island, taking in fantastic sea views and ancient ruins.

**Day 4:** Enjoy a scenic tour of **Connemara National Park**, which consists of 300 hectares of mountains, grasslands and forests. As you explore this wilderness, there are many unique and rare species to discover from orchids to red deer and Connemara ponies.

**Day 5:** From Galway retrace your steps to Dublin breaking your journey in Athlone, home to the famous Irish tenor John McCormack. From here continue onto your last overnight hotel.

**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
- Excursion to the Aran Islands including return ferry between Rossaveal to Kilronan, and a scenic tour of Inis Mor by minibus

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £349**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £369**

## Western Ireland's Coastal Delights inc. Galway



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

### Suggested Itinerary:

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

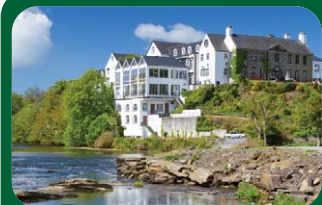
**Day 2:** Head through the rich pastures of Kildare, home to the Irish National Stud, lyrical Limerick and Bunratty, home to Ireland's oldest pub Durty Nelly's, before arriving in **Ennistymon** for a 3 night stay.

**Day 3:** Morning at leisure to enjoy the excellent leisure facilities at the hotel or take a stroll through the attractive grounds that include a delightful, gently cascading waterfall. After lunch, there's a real treat in store with a **Cliffs of Moher Cruise**. Lasting about an hour, the cruise travels beneath these mighty sea cliffs which stand over 700 feet above the ocean. They are home to the largest colony of nesting sea birds in Ireland, including puffins, guillemots and razorbills. Don't forget to keep an eye out for the diverse range of marine life including seals, dolphins and even basking sharks.

**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 ➤ Cliffs of Moher Cruise
- Burren Visitor Centre ➤ Leisure facilities

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £309**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £349**



## Killarney & the Ring of Kerry



Gap of Dunloe

*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:** Take the ferry from South Wales to Rosslare, and overnight in Wexford or 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 tipple 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 a 3 night stay.

**Day 3:** Of the many highlights to enjoy on a free day in Killarney, a **traditional jaunting car ride** through the National Park followed by a **scenic lake cruise** are two of the best. A regular winner of Ireland's Tidy Town competition, Killarney is a great place to explore, whilst 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 this 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 to Holyhead, and complete the journey home.



### Killarney Towers Hotel

★★★★★

A superbly appointed hotel occupying a prime position in Killarney.

- 182 Bedrooms
- Lift

Exclusive to Action Tours

## Delightful Dingle Bay with Dolphins



*A return of this 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 South Wales 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 3 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 clockwise 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: £339**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £389**

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £309**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £339**



## 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 ferry 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.



**Midleton Park Hotel** ★★★★★  
Only ten miles from Cork City, the Midleton Park Hotel is elegant and 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: £339**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £379**

## Bantry and 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 Garnish 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. The Ring of Beara coastal route passes traditional fishing villages and sandy bays round to Bantry Bay. At Glengarriff catch the **ferry to Garnish 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 via Dungarvan 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:** Catch the 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 & Garnish Island
- Leisure facilities

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £319**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £349**



## Shannon Surprise & River Cruise



Lough Derg Cruise

*Explore timeless Tipperary and 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 an overnight stay.

**Day 2:** Discover Co. Tipperary, with its historic walled towns, fabulous fortresses and riverside scenery. Explore **Cahir**, a small heritage town with its own castle built on an island in the River Suir, or 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 with 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 for a **scenic cruise on lovely Lough 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 stunning 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: £339**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £389**

## The Wonders of West Cork



**NEW!**



Kinsale

*Based in the pretty town of Rosscarbery in West Cork, this hotel is ideally placed to explore this beautiful corner of Ireland.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Ferry from South Wales to Rosslare and onto an overnight stay.

**Day 2:** Travel to Co. Cork with a visit to **Cobh**, the final port of call for the Titanic before she met her fate in 1912. Continue to Rosscarbery your base for the next 3 nights.

**Day 3:** A leisurely morning before a guided walk of **Rosscarbery** town with tea/coffee and biscuits on arrival back at the hotel. The remainder of today could be at leisure or you could head to the popular harbour town of Bantry.

**Day 4:** Visit the vibrant city of **Cork** for shopping and sightseeing amongst the colourful buildings on the banks of the river. In the afternoon drive to **Kinsale**, a medieval fishing port and one of the most picturesque in the country. Join your **included boat cruise** for the spectacular view of the beautiful natural harbour with tea & biscuits served during your cruise. Free time will be given to explore the town before returning to the hotel.

**Day 5:** Depart the hotel after breakfast and make your way towards your last overnight. A stop can be made in **Blarney**, home to Blarney Woollen Mills, which offers the best range of genuine Irish products. For the more adventurous a visit could be made to the nearby castle, and the famous Blarney Stone, where you could take part in the long-standing tradition of kissing the stone to receive 'the gift of eloquence'.

**Day 6:** After breakfast catch the morning ferry to South Wales and complete your journey home.



### Celtic Ross Hotel ★★★★★

Superbly situated overlooking Rosscarbery Bay and just a few minutes' walk from the town centre, this hotel offers a great standard of accommodation.

- 66 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Guided walk of Rosscarbery and refreshments
- Entertainment on 1 night in Rosscarbery
- Leisure and Spa facilities ➤ Boat cruise in Kinsale

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £309**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £329**



## 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 **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 lovely, independently-owned hotel retaining its old world character.

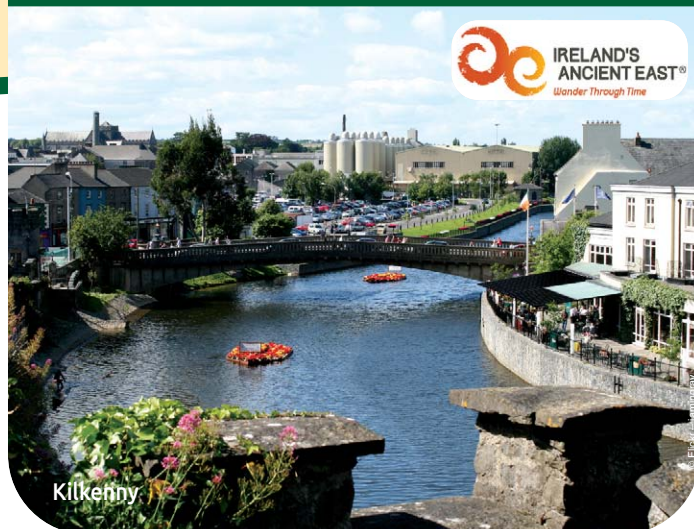
- 89 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £309**

## Waterford's Triple Crown inc. Kilkenny & Co. 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. Enjoy a guided walking tour of this historic city, visit the city's museums and the world-famous Waterford Crystal and its visitor centre. Alternatively, take the Copper Coast route through a national Geo-park with fine ocean views and fishing villages, whilst the walled gardens at Lismore Castle and the Jameson Whiskey Experience near Midleton 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 collection of trees and shrubs. In nearby **New Ross**, you will find the **Dunbrody Famine Ship** and the Ros Tapestry which is an intricately woven history of Ireland's past and a fascinating curiosity.

**Day 4: Kilkenny** is a well-preserved medieval town, popular with tourists and with many original features. The best way to initially explore Kilkenny and its historic sights is on an included ride on a **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. This afternoon, explore the town, the castle and for a unique and fascinating tour, why not visit Smithwick's Brewery.

**Day 5:** Morning ferry back to South Wales and head for home.

**Please see page 15 for a new 'Wonders of Waterford' tour in March, April & October.**



### Dooley's Hotel ★★★

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

- 113 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry ➤ Welcome drink
- Musical entertainment on one night ➤ Dunbrody Famine Ship
- Kilkenny Road Train

**May to Sep: Prices from: £269**



## 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 located in Bray and restored to its Victorian elegance.

- 94 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

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

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £309**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £319**

## Eastern Ireland Explorer – Castles and Kings



Trim Castle

*Castles and kings, Hollywood heroes, battles and a Dublin guided tour all feature in this lovely short break.*

### 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 of the Boyne Visitor Centre**, on the 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.

**Day 3:** Today we head to **Slane Castle**. Enjoy a **guided tour** and learn about the heritage and history of the Conyngham family and the building, before heading to the Jack Daniel's owned **Slane Distillery**. Included is a **guided tour of the distillery** before experiencing the taste of the signature, triple-casked blend, Slane Irish Whiskey. 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 free time for sightseeing or shopping before overnighing south of the city centre.

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

**Please note that extended 4 night stays can also be arranged at the Trim Castle Hotel.**



### 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 1 night ➤ Malahide Castle
- Guided tour of Slane Castle ➤ Guided tour of Slane Distillery
- Boyne Valley & Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £319**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £329**



## Ireland's Grand Parade - St Patrick's Day Specials



Join the festival atmosphere on the biggest day in Ireland's calendar, **St Patrick's Day**, on 17th March when the nation revels in all things Irish. Pageantry, carnivals and free entertainment are on show across Dublin and do not miss the crowning event, the St Patrick's Festival Parade. You will be entertained by an awesome display of creative talent as the parade snakes its way through the centre of the city. International and Irish marching bands join performers, dancers and street theatre to present a wonderful spectacle.

**If you prefer, celebrate the occasion in other Irish destinations, including Waterford and Killarney. Call us for details and prices.**

### 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: £286

## Ireland's Great Gardens



Powerscourt House

Visit Co. Wicklow, known as the 'Garden of Ireland', where centuries of gardening expertise have created treasured gardens from the decorative to the wild and exotic, including Powerscourt, Mount Usher, Kilruddery, the Japanese Gardens at Kildare and the National Botanic Gardens.

**Highlights include:** Powerscourt House & Gardens, a world champion The riverside splendour of Mount Usher Gardens • Afternoon Tea at the hotel • Guest lecture/show on either gardening or flower arranging followed by coffee and biscuits at the hotel • Complimentary Irish Coffee on the last night at the hotel

### 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 to Sep: Prices from: £309

## Killarney Seasonal Specials



Muckross House

Just the ticket for a great value Irish tour. **Killarney** is one of the most popular resorts in Ireland with a very friendly atmosphere and surrounded by magnificent scenery. Staying in the centre of town at the fabulous 4 star Killarney Towers Hotel with lovely leisure facilities, a free drink with dinner and nightly entertainment, this certainly is a break to savour. Excursions could include the Ring of Kerry; Tralee & the Dingle Peninsula, Jaunting Car Ride & Lake Cruise (included in your tour), Muckross House, Gardens & Traditional Farm, Kenmare & the Beara Peninsula.

### Killarney Towers Hotel

★★★★

An excellent hotel in the heart of Killarney.

- 182 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 5 nights DBB ➤ Return Ferry
- Free Drink with dinner each night (Killarney)
- Jaunting car ride & lake cruise
- Entertainment & Leisure facilities (Killarney)

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £299

## Wonders of Waterford - a fabulous new seasonal short break



**NEW!**

Waterford

Staying in the historic city of Waterford you'll discover hidden gems in this lovely part of Ireland. To make the most of your stay we have included a guided tour of Waterford and a visit to Waterford Crystal. Visit Kilkenny, which is for many people the greatest city in Ireland. It is a medieval time capsule built around its magnificent castle and to help you get your bearings and see the best of the city we have included a trip aboard a local road train.

**Hotel inclusions:** Glass of wine, beer or soft drink with dinner each night • Musical Entertainment on 2 nights

### Dooleys Hotel ★★

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

- 113 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Return Ferry
- Guided Tour of Waterford
- Waterford Crystal
- Kilkenny Road Train
- Hotel inclusions as above

Mar, Apr & Oct: Prices from: £279



## Hebridean Experience



Callanish

*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 Lewis 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 Gearranan Blackhouse Village, which consists of traditional thatched croft houses.

**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 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.

**Please note that a local guide and/or coach hire on Lewis can be arranged, if required.**

### Tour Includes:

- 6 nights DBB
- All ferry crossings



### Cabarfeidh Hotel ★★★★★

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

- 46 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

## Orkney & the Castle of Mey



Castle of Mey

*Discover the hidden gems of this magical and mystical region, with awe-inspiring visits to 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 to Sep: Prices from: £536

May to Sep: Prices from: £414



## The Kyle Line Rail Journey & Dolphins



Dunrobin Castle

*A wonderful Scottish Highlands tour with spectacular scenery, a memorable rail journey and a chance 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: £286**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £314**

## Great Highland Railways & the Spey Valley



Strathspey Railway

*Enjoy rail journeys on the Jacobite Steam Train and either the heritage Strathspey Railway or the UK's highest railway.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Kingussie for a 4 night stay.

**Day 2:** Head to **Aviemore**, which is surrounded by beautiful Highland scenery in the majestic Cairngorms National Park. Towering mountains, sparkling lochs and magical forests surround this bustling town, making it a popular year-round destination. This afternoon, enjoy a heritage steam railway journey on the **Strathspey Railway** or if you prefer, take a trip on the UK's highest railway, the **Cairngorm Mountain Railway**, where you can soak up the panoramic views.

**Day 3:** All aboard the **Jacobite Steam Train**, regarded as one of the world's greatest rail journeys, on a single or return 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 4:** The choice is yours. Relax and explore **Kingussie**; 'Monarch of the Glen' country which was filmed entirely in the upper Spey Valley; the Highland Folk Museum (free admission) at Newtonmore, which gives an insight into Highland life from the 1700's to the 1950's or head to the lovely town of Grantown-on-Spey and onto the Speyside Malt Whisky Trail or enjoy another rail journey on the Keith & Dufftown Railway. Alternatively, head to Inverness, the 'Capital of the Highlands' and experience dolphins on an unforgettable boat cruise on the Moray Firth.

**Day 5:** Time to reluctantly head for home.



### Duke of Gordon Hotel ★★

A historic Victorian hotel with a true Highland welcome in the heart of Kingussie.

• 68 Bedrooms • Lift  
• Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Jacobite Steam Train single or return journey
- Strathspey Railway or Cairngorm Mountain Railway
- Entertainment on 2 nights

**May to Sep: Prices from: £329**  
**Oct: Prices from: £289**



## Jacobite Steam & Cruise



Jacobite Steam Train

*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 or return 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, experience stunning views on Nevis Range, Britain's only Mountain Gondola 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.



### Alexandra Hotel ★★

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

- 93 Bedrooms
- Lift

## 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 experience stunning views on Nevis Range, Britain's only Mountain Gondola. Alternatively, 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
- Jacobite Steam Train single or return journey
- Loch Ness Cruise ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights

### 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

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £274**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £314**

**Apr: Prices from: £235**  
**May & Jun: Prices from: £274**  
**Jul to Sep: Prices from: £299**



## Royal Deeside, Dundee & Highland Perthshire



Balmoral Castle

*Walk in Royal footsteps at the Balmoral Estate and visit the historic city of Dundee, home to the new Victoria & Albert Museum.*

### 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 and the **spectacular looking new V & A in Dundee**, which opened in September 2018 and is the first Victoria and Albert museum outside of London.

**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.



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

**Apr & Oct: from: £197**  
**May to Sep: from: £224**

## Famous Loch Cruises & Distilleries



Loch Lomond

*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 to Sep: from: £215**  
**Oct: from: £199**



## Isle of Arran & the Ayrshire Coast



Brodict Castle

*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 or Troon 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 Brodict 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 spending time in 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 ★★

This modern hotel near Irvine, offers a contemporary feel.

- 128 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

### South Beach Hotel ★★

Family-run hotel, close to the beach in the seaside town of Troon.

- 32 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

## Firth of Forth Steam & Cruise



Falkirk Wheel

*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 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.



### Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow 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 to Sep: Prices from: £245

May to Sep: Prices from: £285



## Scottish Borders - Castles, Cake & Cashmere



Floors Castle

*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:** 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.**



### 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 facilities

**Apr, May, Sep & Oct: Prices from: £262**  
**Jun & Jul: Prices from: £279**

## 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.**



### Tinto Hotel ★★ ★

Traditional hotel set in 5 acres of grounds, near Biggar.

- 39 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

### Barony Castle Hotel ★★ ★

Manor House hotel with an indoor pool, near Peebles.

- 78 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow 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 (Barony Castle + Westerwood)

**Aug: Prices from: £255**



## Back in 'Tyne' in Newcastle & Northumbria



Bamburgh Castle

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

### Suggested Itinerary:

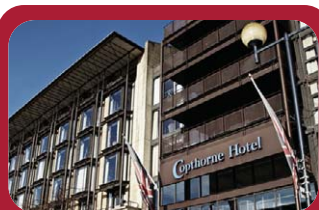
**Day 1:** Travel to Newcastle for a 4 night stay.

**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 or a half day coach guided tour of the North East's hidden treasures. 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.



### Copthorne Hotel Newcastle ★★★★★

Located on the Quayside in the heart of the city, all rooms have river views.

- 156 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Alnwick Garden ➤ Bamburgh Castle
- Quay to Countryside Tyne Cruise (Jun-Sep)

Jun to Sep: Prices from: £224

## Discover Durham & Beamish



Beamish

*Experience the history and heritage of the city of Durham and the living museum of the north at Beamish.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to 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

### Radisson Blu Hotel Durham ★★★★★

Wonderfully located in the heart of the city overlooking the river, with leisure facilities.

- 207 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

May to Sep: Prices from: £283



## Lake District Steam & Cruise



Windermere Lake Cruise

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

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Grange-over-Sands or Kendal 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 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 nostalgic 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, explore the genteel Edwardian resort of **Grange-over-Sands** or the historic market town of **Kendal**.

**Day 5:** Time to return home.

**Please see page 40 for a Turkey & Tinsel tour at the Cumbria Grand Hotel.**

### 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

### Riverside Hotel ★★ ★

Enjoying a peaceful riverside location in Kendal, this former tannery has a range of leisure facilities.

- 58 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Lake Ullswater Cruise ➤ Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway ➤ Windermere Lake Cruise ➤ Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights (Cumbria Grand Hotel)

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £233**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £259**

## The Pennine Explorer



Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

*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, celebrated 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.



### Mercure Dunkenhall Hotel & Spa ★★ ★

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

- 175 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

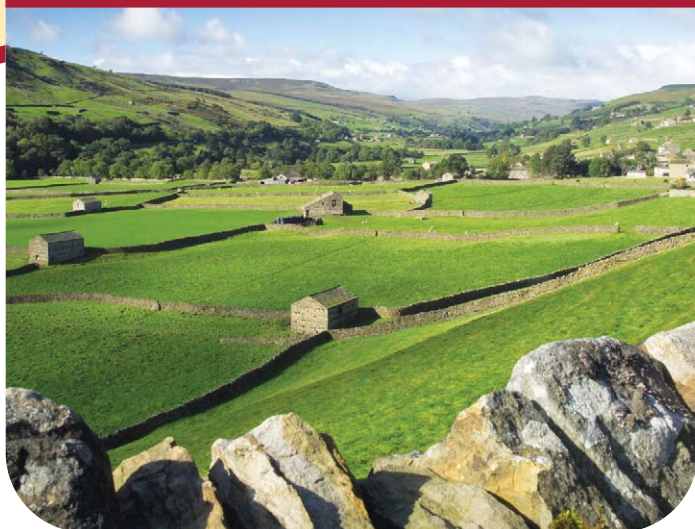
### Tour Includes:

- 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 to Oct: Prices from: £229**



## 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:** Circular tour through the **picturesque Yorkshire Dales** with a photo opportunity at the famous Ribbleshead Viaduct on route to the lovely town of **Hawes**, home to the Wensleydale Creamery, made famous by Wallace & Gromit. Enjoy an authentic heritage trip on the **Wensleydale Railway** or a tour at the **Black Sheep Brewery**.

**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 a canal cruise or a trip on the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway.

**Day 5:** Time for home.

### Old Swan Hotel ★★★

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

- 136 Bedrooms
- Lift • Coach parking

### Cairn Hotel ★★★

Charming Victorian hotel in Harrogate, with period features.

- 135 Bedrooms
- Lift • Coach parking

### The Majestic Hotel ★★★★★

A palatial and stately Victorian hotel in the heart of Harrogate.

- 170 Bedrooms
- Lift • Coach parking

## York, Castle Howard & Heartbeat Country



*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 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 see page 41 for a Christmas themed break to York and Castle Howard.**

### Best Western Burn Hall Hotel ★★★

Wonderful Victorian country house hotel, set in 8 acres, near York.

- 94 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Queens Hotel ★★★

On the banks of the River Ouse in the heart of York.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

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

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Wensleydale Railway or Black Sheep Brewery
- Harewood House or RHS Garden Harlow Carr
- Entertainment on 2 nights (Cairn Hotel)
- Leisure & spa facilities (Majestic Hotel)
- 5 singles - no supplement (Old Swan Hotel)

**Apr to Sep: Prices from: £252**  
**Oct: Prices from: £230**

**Apr, May & Oct: Prices from: £255**  
**Jun to Sep: Prices from: £267**



## Liverpool & the Manchester Ship Canal Cruise



Manchester Ship Canal

*Discover Liverpool's glorious maritime history, magnificent architecture and a memorable cruise on the Manchester Ship Canal.*

### 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, why not enjoy a River Explorer on a 'Ferry across the Mersey'.

**Day 3:** **Cruise along the Manchester Ship Canal**, one of Britain's most historic waterways between Liverpool Pier Head and Salford Quays. This fascinating six hour cruise, with live commentary along the way, is as awe inspiring as it is relaxing. Hear the story of this magnificent waterway and enjoy wonderfully differing scenery as your cruise takes you through locks and under bridges, which have remained largely unchanged for over 100 years.

**Day 4:** The choice is yours. Spend more time exploring Liverpool or visit the traditional and elegant seaside resort of Southport, known as 'England's Classic Resort'. Alternatively, travel through the Mersey Tunnel to the charming 19th Century village of Port Sunlight, 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.



### 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
- Manchester Ship Canal Cruise

**Apr to Oct: Prices from: £289**

## Cheshire Charms & Llangollen



Chester

*Fall in love with Cheshire & the Welsh Borders with its history, heritage, wonderful gardens and uplifting attractions!*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Cheshire for a 4 night stay.

**Day 2:** Full day in **Chester** to explore 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:** Visit the **medieval market town of Nantwich**, with its atmospheric streets, medieval timbered buildings, antique and craft shops. 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, or visit a much cherished Victorian family home and its lovingly created gardens at **Arley Hall**. Alternatively, you could visit the historic village of Port Sunlight; Ness Botanic Gardens; the National Trust's Little Moreton Hall or the stately estate at Tatton Park.

**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**.

**Day 5:** Time for home.



### Best Western Forest Hills Hotel ★★★★★

Set in countryside, near Frodsham, with stunning views across the Cheshire Plains.

- 58 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

### 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 to Sep: Prices from: £254**



## Peak District Delights



Chatsworth House

*Explore England's first National Park, known for its breath taking views, historic houses, pretty villages and unique customs.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Derbyshire for a 4 night stay.

**Day 2:** Visit **Ashbourne**, with its winding cobbled streets and more than 200 listed buildings including historic almshouses and handsome Tudor and Georgian heritage. Continue to the elegant spa town of **Buxton**, renowned for its Georgian and Victorian architecture and The Crescent. This afternoon, enjoy a visit to the **Crich Tramway Village**, where you can step back in time on a journey through the history of trams, or take a trip on the **Ecclesbourne Valley Railway**, Derbyshire's longest heritage railway.

**Day 3:** Discover the delightful town of **Bakewell**, with its medieval stone bridge, quaint courtyards and famous for its Bakewell Pudding. Continue to the 'plague village' of **Eyam**, before heading 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:** Don't forget to try and visit one of the regular Well Dressings; Matlock Bath, set in the beautiful gorge of the River Derwent; Haddon Hall, a gem of a medieval and Tudor manor house; the beautifully situated village of Castleton; the market town of Chesterfield, famous for its 'Crooked Spire'; the National Memorial Arboretum or enjoy a relaxing cruise on the Upper Peak Forest Canal.

**Day 5:** Time to head for home.



**Hallmark Hotel Derby Mickleover Court ★★★★★**  
Stylish and contemporary hotel with leisure facilities, close to Derby and the Peak District.

- 99 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Chatsworth House & Gardens
- Crich Tramway Village or Ecclesbourne Valley Railway
- Leisure facilities

## Lincolnshire Coast & Countryside



Skegness

*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 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 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 overlook 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 town centre.

- 70 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

Apr to Oct: Prices from: £254

May & Jun: Prices from: £181  
Jul to Sep: Prices from: £193



## Shropshire & the Severn Valley



Severn Cruise

*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 a 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. Head 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 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 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 to the picturesque town of Llangollen for a horse-drawn canal boat trip and a nostalgic trip through the Dee Valley on the Llangollen Railway.

**Day 5:** Time for home.

### Tour Includes:

➤ 4 nights DBB ➤ Severn Valley Railway ➤ Blists Hill Victorian Museum ➤ Shrewsbury River Severn Cruise ➤ Entertainment on 2 nights (Buckatree Hall) ➤ Leisure facilities (Telford Centre and Telford Hotel)

May to Sep: Prices from: £236

## Severn Steam & Cruise



Severn Valley Railway

*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 biscuits 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. Alternatively, why not visit the Black Country Living Museum, where Peaky Blinders was filmed.

**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.

### 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



### Hallmark Hotel Stourport Manor ★★★★★

Set in 23 acres, this country house hotel has its own leisure facilities.

- 72 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



## Wye Valley & the Royal Forest of Dean



Wye Valley

*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 40 for a Turkey & Tinsel tour at this hotel.**



### Bells Hotel & Country Club ★★

A warm welcome is assured at this lovely 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 to Oct: Prices from: £239**

## Cheltenham, Tewkesbury & the Cotswolds



Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway

*Explore Regency Cheltenham, medieval Tewkesbury, a relaxing cruise and the charming Cotswolds towns and villages.*

### 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 Toddington 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 to Oct: Prices from: £274**



## Shakespeare Country Cream Tea & Cruise



Stratford Upon Avon

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

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Warwickshire 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 Leycester 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 to Sep: Prices from: £265

## Codebreakers & Cambridge

**NEW!**



Bletchley Park

*Visit the home of the famous World War 2 codebreakers and discover a land of lazy waterways and majestic cathedrals.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Huntingdon 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:** 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 4:** The choice is yours! 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'. Alternatively, you could visit the historic airfield and museum of aviation history at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, or head north to Peterborough and enjoy a trip on the Nene Valley Railway.

**Day 5:** Time for home.



### Huntingdon Marriott Hotel

★★★★

Modern hotel with leisure facilities ideally located for exploring Cambridgeshire.

- 150 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Bletchley Park
- Guided tour of Cambridge
- Leisure facilities

Apr to Oct: Prices from: £256



## Norfolk Broads Steam & Cruise



Norfolk Broads Cruise

*What better way to experience Norfolk than with a Broads cruise, a nostalgic railway 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 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.

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Norfolk Broads Cruise ➤ Poppy Line Steam Railway
- Sandringham Estate or Holkham Hall
- Leisure facilities (Holiday Inn Norwich and Dunston Hall Hotel)

### Holiday Inn Norwich ★★ ★

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

- 119 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

### Holiday Inn Norwich City ★★ ★

Modern hotel, close to Norwich city centre.

- 150 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Dunston Hall Hotel ★★ ★ ★

Elizabethan-styled hotel in acres of parkland, south of Norwich.

- 169 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

## Suffolk's Tranquil Villages & Coast



Aldeburgh

*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 **relaxing cruise along the beautiful and scenic River Deben**, which makes a lovely way to round off your holiday.

**Day 5:** Time to head for home.



### Best Western Marks Tey Hotel ★★ ★

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

- 110 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking



### Tour Includes:

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

Apr to Oct: Prices from: £252

May to Sep: Prices from: £253



## 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 city of **Canterbury** with its atmospheric old streets, medieval walls and Cathedral, which is now a World Heritage Site. Continue 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 to Sep: Prices from: £258

## 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: £259  
May to Sep: Prices from: £277



## Southsea & Chichester harbour cruise



Portsmouth

*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 and other Historic Dockyard attractions, including 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

## Hampshire Steam & Gin - just the tonic!



Bombay Sapphire Distillery

*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, 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
- Chichester Harbour Cruise
- 12 singles - no supplement

### Tour Includes:

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

Apr to Oct: Prices from: £263

May to Sep: Prices from: £269



## Poole & the Jurassic Coast



Poole Cruise

*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: £269**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £283**

## Dorset & Wonderful Wessex



Weymouth

*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 advert of the 1970'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



Forde Abbey

### Tour Includes:

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

**Apr, May & Oct: Prices from: £245**  
**Jun to Sep: Prices from: £273**



## Wonderful Wells & Serene Somerset



Wells Cathedral

**NEW!**

*On this new tour, discover England's smallest city, the beautiful Mendip Hills, the spectacular Cheddar Gorge and the Somerset Coast.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

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

**Day 2:** The **wonderful city of Bath**, a protected World Heritage Site, is full of architectural wonders. Don't miss the Royal Crescent, Pulteney Bridge which is lined with tiny shops, the Roman Baths, Pump Room and Sally Lunn's House. Alternatively, head to **Longleat**, and discover one of the most beautiful stately homes in Britain and its famous safari park.

**Day 3:** Head to the Somerset Coast today and visit either **Weston-Super-Mare**, a seaside resort with a fabulous beach and new pier, or **Clevedon**, a beautiful Victorian town with a grade 1 listed Pier, ornamental gardens and a relaxing Promenade. This afternoon, head to **Oakham Treasures**, which will give you an uplifting trip down memory lane with its vast and unique collection of memorabilia.

**Day 4:** Step out from your lovely, historic hotel and explore **Wells**, England's smallest city, on Wednesday market day. With its cobbled streets, medieval architecture, compact historic centre, magnificent cathedral and unique moated Bishop's Palace, there is plenty to see and do in this wonderful city. This afternoon, head the short journey to mystical **Glastonbury** or the spectacular setting of **Cheddar Gorge**, home to some breath taking caves.

**Day 5:** It's time to head for home.



Cheddar Gorge



### Best Western Plus Swan Hotel ★★★★★

This historic hotel sits in the heart of Wells, directly opposite the magnificent west front of Wells Cathedral.

- 49 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms

## Devon & Somerset Steam & Cruise



West Somerset Railway

*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 • Ground floor bedrooms • Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Oakham Treasures

### Tour Includes:

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

May to Oct: Prices from: £296

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £265  
May to Sep: Prices from: £280



## The English Riviera & South Devon



Torquay

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

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel to Torquay or Paignton 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 and Paignton** have 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 39 for a 'Cosy Break' tour and page 41 for a 'Turkey & Tinsel' tour at these two hotels.

### Headland Hotel ★★ ★

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

- 78 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Queens Hotel ★★ ★

Lovely, welcoming hotel close to Paignton's town centre and seafront.

- 75 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: £224  
Jun to Sep: Prices from: £257

## Cornish Gems



Polperro

*Discover some of Cornwall's most delightful coastlines, inspirational gardens, picturesque fishing villages and secluded coves.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

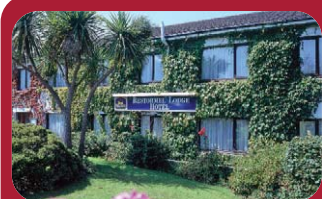
**Day 1:** Travel to Lostwithiel for a 4 night stay.

**Day 2:** Discover **Charlestown** and wander along the side of the original Grade II listed harbour or explore the picturesque fishing village of **Mevagissey**, where you can still find working fishing boats and nets being mended. This afternoon, visit the inspirational **Lost Gardens of Heligan**. Alternatively, incorporate a visit to the fabulous Eden Project; the attractive riverside town of Fowey, once home to the famous novelist Daphne du Maurier; Lanhydrock House and Gardens or enjoy a nostalgic trip on the Bodmin & Wenford Railway.

**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 Cornwall's only **cathedral city, 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**, a historic maritime coastal resort with a natural deep water harbour guarded by twin castles and home to the National Maritime Museum.

**Day 5:** Sadly, it's time to 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 ➤ Lost Gardens of Heligan
- Truro to Falmouth Boat Trip
- Outdoor heated pool at the hotel

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £282  
May to Sep: Prices from: £326



## Snowdonia & the Isle of Anglesey



Snowdon

*Discover the spectacular scenery of the Snowdonia National Park, a heritage rail journey and the wonderful coastline of Anglesey.*

### 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:** 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.

Please see page 40 for a 'Winter Warmer' tour at this hotel.



### Celtic Royal Hotel ★★

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

- 110 Bedrooms
- Lift • Coach parking

## 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 39 for a 'Rolling Back the Years' tour in March, April and 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 ➤ Guided Tour of Anglesey
- Llanberis Lake Railway or Snowdon Mountain Railway
- Entertainment on 2 nights ➤ Leisure facilities

### Tour Includes:

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

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £234  
May to Sep: Prices from: £286

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £229  
May to Sep: Prices from: £255



## Heart of Wales Steam & Cruise



Brecon Canal

*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: £271**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £291**

## Pembrokeshire Coastlines & Tenby



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 Cliff Hotel & Spa, near Cardigan 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, call into the fascinating National Coracle Centre at Cernarh.

**Day 5:** Time to head for home.



Picton Castle



**The Cliff Hotel & Spa ★★★**  
This lovely hotel near Cardigan, has stunning sea views and cliff-top walks.

- 73 Bedrooms
- Lift • Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB ➤ Picton Castle & Gardens
- National Wool Museum & Guided Tour
- Nightly entertainment ➤ Leisure facilities

**May to Sep: Prices from: £244**  
**Oct: Prices from: £229**



## Gower Peninsula & Tenby



Gower Peninsula

*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 or Carmarthen 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:** Explore **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

### Ivy Bush Royal Hotel ★★

Set in the heart of Carmarthen, it combines old world charm with modern facilities.

- 70 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 ➤ Leisure facilities (Diplomat Hotel)

## Cultural Cardiff & the Royal Mint



Cardiff Bay

*Cardiff is far more than just a city break, with its vibrant bay area, imposing Castle, heritage and historic 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

May to Sep: Prices from: £263

Apr to Oct: Prices from: £189



## Dorset All Inclusive



Bournemouth

Discover the delights of Dorset with this all-inclusive package by the seaside! **Bournemouth** is an all year round resort with a wealth of attractions. Visit 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

### Suncliff Hotel ★★

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

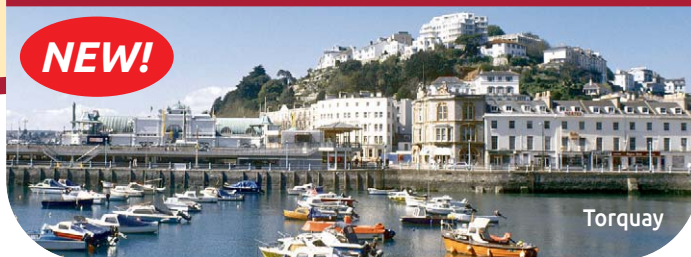
- 114 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

Mar: Prices from: £194

## English Riviera Cosy Break



Torquay

Enjoy a late winter/early spring tour to the English Riviera and discover the delights of Torbay with this 'Cosy Break'. Experience the charming seaside resorts of **Torquay** and **Paignton**, the historic towns of Totnes and Dartmouth with their individual shops and art galleries and the maritime city of Plymouth.

### Highlights include:

- Welcome tea/coffee and drinks reception
- Bingo with tea/coffee & biscuits on one afternoon
- Nightly entertainment

### Headland Hotel ★★

- 78 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Queens Hotel ★★

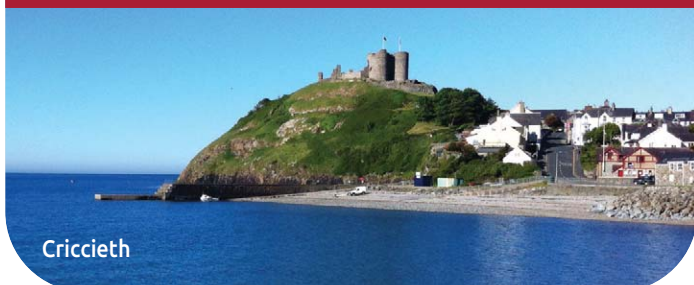
- 75 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

Mar & Apr: Prices from: £186

## Rolling Back the Years



Criccieth

Good old fashioned fun awaits 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 Victorian seaside resort of Llandudno and enjoy a nostalgic train ride.

### Highlights include:

- Old penny to spend on a welcome drink
- Visit to The Home Front Experience in Llandudno
- A Cadwaladers Ice Cream and a steam train ride from Porthmadog
- Nightly 50's and 60's themed entertainment

### 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: £197

## Dorset 'European Cruise'



Bournemouth

Discover the delights of Dorset and Europe with this 'mock cruise' 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.

### Highlights include:

- Welcome cocktail drink
- Choice menu at dinner with one choice being from the country visited on the 'cruise', i.e. Italy, Spain, France and Germany
- Nightly entertainment

### 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

Oct: Prices from: £194



## 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 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

### Cumbria Grand Hotel ★★

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

- 120 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £172

## Harrogate 'Fizz & Fayre'



Enjoy a festive 'Fizz & Fayre' break in the heart of the beautiful Yorkshire spa town of **Harrogate**. Excursions could include Haworth and Bronte Country, the market towns of Skipton and Knaresborough, and the cities of Leeds and York during their Yuletide festivities.

### Highlights include:

- Mulled wine drinks reception
- Festive themed mini afternoon tea and a glass of festive fizz
- Nightly entertainment

### Cairn Hotel ★★

Charming Victorian hotel in Harrogate with period features and private gardens.

- 135 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB
- Inclusions as above

Nov & 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 & Country 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: £209

## Snowdonian Winter Warmer



Spectacular Snowdonia scenery awaits on this Winter Warmer package based at the excellent Celtic Royal Hotel in Caernarfon. Visit the Victorian resort of Llandudno and enjoy the Snowdonian towns and villages.

### Highlights include:

- Punch or mulled wine reception on arrival day
- Tea/coffee and mince pies on one afternoon
- Christmas dinner on one evening
- Indoor Treasure Hunt
- Entertainment on three nights

### 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
- Inclusions as above
- Leisure facilities

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £169



## English Riviera Turkey & Tinsel



Surround yourself in the warmth of Christmas spirit and discover the delights of Torbay and the English Riviera with this Turkey & Tinsel themed break. Experience the charming seaside resorts of **Torquay** and **Paignton** lit up for Christmas, the historic towns of Totnes and Dartmouth and the maritime city of Plymouth.

### Highlights include:

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

### Headland Hotel ★★★

- 78 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Queens Hotel ★★★

- 75 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £199

## Dorset Turkey & Tinsel



Discover the delights of Dorset with this Turkey & Tinsel themed break in **Bournemouth**. Experience Bournemouth's very own Alpine Christmas Market and Gardens of Light, with its glowing trail of hanging lights, the historic city of Salisbury and its Christmas Market and the Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market.

### Highlights include:

- Tea/coffee on arrival
- Christmas quiz, sherry, Christmas Cake and bingo on one afternoon
- Afternoon tea dance on one afternoon • Nightly entertainment

### 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

Nov: Prices from: £184  
Dec: Prices from: £156

## 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.

### Doubletree by Hilton Swindon ★★★★★

This 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: £189

## 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.

### Best Western Burn Hall Hotel ★★★

- 94 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Queens Hotel, York ★★★

- 78 Bedrooms • Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB
- Castle Howard
- 8 singles - no supplement (Burn Hall Hotel)

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £177



# Danube River Cruise

**NEW!**



*A Danube cruise is the perfect way to explore one of Europe's most iconic rivers, the beauty of which was famously honoured by the Austrian composer Strauss when he wrote his celebrated waltz, The Blue Danube in 1866. On this fabulous 7 day cruise visits will be made to Vienna, Budapest and Bratislava - names that conjure up images of a glorious, splendid and romantic past. These fabulous cities are from a bygone era when the Habsburg dynasty ruled central Europe. The Empire may be long gone, but these Imperial Cities will dazzle you with their charm and fascinate you with their history.*

## Suggested Itinerary:

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

**Day 2:** Travel to Austria today, arriving in **Linz** where you join your vessel, the MV Esmeralda. Enjoy a Welcome Cocktail prior to dinner on board.

**Day 3:** Our boat departs Linz before breakfast as you enjoy a full day cruising on the Danube. Plenty of time to relax and admire the passing scenery. The ship arrives in Vienna in the early evening.

**Day 4:** After breakfast spend the day exploring **Vienna**, the capital of Austria. Six centuries of Imperial Habsburg rule have left an incredible mark on Vienna, which is noted for its art, culture, architecture and coffee shops. Lying in the Danube Valley at the foot of the Vienna Woods, the city offers many wondrous sights. This evening the cruise vessel departs for an overnight sailing to Budapest.

**Day 5:** We arrive in **Budapest** this morning. Free time to explore this stunning city known as the Pearl of the Danube. Buda and Pest are contrasting halves with the old quarter of Buda and the more modern Pest. Eight bridges span the Danube River linking the two halves to each other. Visit some of the fine sights which are reminders of the city's imperial past under the Austro-Hungarian Empire. This evening your cruise vessel departs for Bratislava.

**Day 6:** Spend the morning relaxing on board as your cruise ship will arrive in **Bratislava** around lunchtime. This afternoon is free for you to enjoy this wonderful city.

**Day 7:** Our ship will cruise early morning making its way to **Durnstein** in Austria, with time to relax and enjoy the scenery. Upon arrival free time to stroll through this wonderful medieval town which is

overlooked by the ruins of the castle where in 1192 King Richard I of England was held captive by the Duke of Austria during his return from the crusades.

**Day 8:** This morning the ship will cruise early morning making its way to **Melk**. Option here to join a local coach and enjoy a guided tour of the beautiful Benedictine Abbey overlooking the town of Melk. This evening enjoy the on board Captain's Farewell Dinner.

**Day 9:** Time to depart after breakfast. You will disembark in Linz and make your way back to your overnight hotel on dinner, bed and breakfast basis.

**Day 10:** After breakfast continue north to the port of Calais and your return crossing back to the UK.

**An option is available for your passengers to book excursions directly with the cruise company – call us for details.**

**North Sea Ferry and Eurotunnel options available – call us for details.**

## Your ship: MV Esmeralda

This river cruise ship is perfect from which to enjoy your cruise. It has a spacious lounge, bar area, restaurant and sundeck. There is a small lift to both passenger decks and a stair lift to the sun deck. All cabins are outward facing and comfortably equipped with lower twin beds and private facilities.



## Tour Includes

➤ 2 overnights in hotels on dinner, bed & breakfast basis

### During the cruise:

- 7 nights on board with lunch, dinner and breakfast
- Welcome Cocktail
- Afternoon tea and biscuits daily
- Evening entertainment on at least 2 nights
- Captain's Farewell Dinner ➤ Return Ferry

**May to Sep: Prices from: £799**





## Springtime in the Bulbfields - a Dutch Delight!



*Enjoy a delightful spring 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:** 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 "Flevoiland" which is reclaimed land from the sea.

**Day 3:** 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 4:** To Calais for the ferry to Dover and home.



### 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 course)
- Free tea & coffee in the hotel lounge 24/7
- Entrance to Keukenhof Gardens
- One way trip on the Tram Train from Hoorn to Medemblik (including coffee and pastry on board)
- Cruise on the museum ship from Medemblik to Enkhuizen
- Return Ferry ➤ Up to 20 singles available

**Apr & May: Prices from: £279**

## Crossroads of Europe - Valkenburg



*Your base for this new tour is the medieval town of Valkenburg, a hidden treasure in Holland. We have included a fabulous package for your customers to make the most of this lovely area.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Ferry from Dover to Calais then on to Valkenburg for your 4 night stay.

**Day 2:** We have **included a guide for today's tour**. We start with the historic spa town of **Aachen**, in Germany. We then head for Vaals, South Eastern Holland, where a stop will be made at **Dreilandereck** where Germany, Holland and Belgium meet at the viewpoint in the wooded hills outside of Aachen. Free time here for lunch before driving through Belgium to visit the American Cemetery at Margraten.

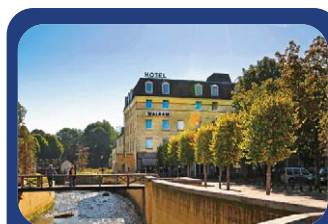
**Day 3:** Today we board the **Zuid-Limburgse steam train** for a wonderful journey from Simpelveld to Valkenburg, travelling through the beautiful countryside of Limburg. The train returns to Valkenburg early in the afternoon and the rest of the day is yours to explore this lovely town. **Valkenburg**, a fashionable fortified town nicknamed 'Marltown' is situated in the hilly Dutch province of Limburg. The town's attractions include a castle, catacombs, museums, a casino plus numerous bars, cafes and shops.

**Day 4:** After breakfast, we travel the short distance to **Maastricht**, one of the oldest cities in Holland. On arrival we have included a boat trip on the River before exploring the city at your leisure.

**Day 5:** Back to Calais for the ferry to Dover, and home.

### North Sea Ferry options

available – call us for details.



### Hotel Walram ★★★

A 3-star superior hotel situated beside the river in the centre of Valkenburg close to the cafes, bars and restaurants.

- 106 Bedrooms • Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB (choice menu)
- Welcome drink ➤ Guided three countries tour
- Return steam train journey
- Boat trip in Maastricht ➤ Leisure facilities
- Return Ferry

**May, Jun & Sep: Prices from: £259**  
**Jul & Aug: Prices from: £269**



## Highlights of Normandy



*The charming market town of Lisieux is found in the Calvados region of Normandy in France and the hotel is ideally situated to visit all the major attractions.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

**Day 1:** Travel from Dover to Calais and on to Normandy for your 3 night stay at the 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 one of Normandy's jewels, **Chateau de Vendeuvre**, 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 and see the visual reminders and museums commemorating the incredible events of June 1944.

### OR

A day of contrasts with visits to Le Havre and Etretat. Le Havre, completely rebuilt after the ravages of WW2, was the first European City to become a World Heritage Site. Nearby Etretat is an attractive resort famous for its striking white cliffs.



### Mercure Hotel Lisieux

★★★

A comfortable hotel with an outdoor swimming pool, on the outskirts of Lisieux ideally situated for all of Normandy's major attractions.

- 69 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

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

May to Sep: Prices from: £289

## Luxembourg & Trier



*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.

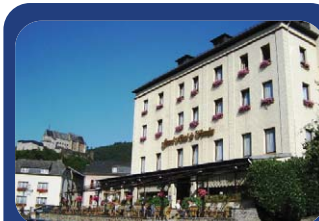
**Day 2:** Free day to explore **Vianden**, which has captivated visitors for many years. **We have included a guide** for a short walking tour before you have free time to explore the Victor Hugo Museum, historic churches and gothic architecture of this historic town. Also well worth a visit is Vianden 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 country that plays a significant role in the administration of the European Community. Here we have included an extremely interesting tour with **a local guide**. 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.

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

**Eurotunnel and North Sea Ferry options 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 ➤ Guide walking tour of Vianden
- Guide of Luxembourg ➤ Return Ferry

Apr to Sep: Prices from: £259



## Italy's Stunning Lake Garda



*Italy's largest lake stretches 60 miles from the mountainous north to the low-lying land around the southern tip at Desenzano. Its shores are dotted with fascinating old towns, castles and picturesque villages.*

### 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 through Bavaria and Austria to arrive in Riva Del Garda at the excellent Hotel Sole in time for Dinner.

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

**Day 4: The Italian Dolomites**, or 'pale mountains', are 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 **Sirmione**, **Malcesine** and **Bardolino**. Sirmione, at the southern tip of the lake, is set in a picturesque headland jutting into the lake.

**Day 6:** Another free day in **Riva del Garda** or why not visit the stunning city of **Verona**, which is rich in history and culture and also the setting for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Take time to visit the famous balcony or 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 ★★★★★

This hotel is ideally situated in the centre of Riva del Garda with stunning views over the lake and the piazza.

• 63 Bedrooms • Lift

### 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 ➤ Porterage at resort hotel
- Return Ferry

**May, Jun & Sep: Prices from: £409**  
**Oct: Prices from: £399**

## Italian & French Riviera's



*Alassio on the Italian Riviera is ideally situated to combine a relaxing beach holiday with the very best of a sightseeing tour including the cosmopolitan French Riviera resorts of Cannes and Nice.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

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

**Day 2:** Continue south into Italy, arriving in time for your evening meal.

**Day 3:** Day at leisure in **Alassio**. Visit the busy morning market which sells clothing, fruit and vegetables, the famous muretto (little wall) or the many shops and boutiques in the town.

**Day 4:** Head into France to the Cote d'Azur, the Riviera, the Midi, call it what you wish, this is the world's dream spot. We include a guide to join your coach from Alassio for a full day tour to the two main resorts. First **Cannes** the elegant and cosmopolitan resort in a beautiful setting, with the liveliest pleasure port on the Riviera. Only during the film festival in May does Cannes lose its habitual cool. We travel onto **Nice**, the unofficial capital of the French Riviera. This vibrant city, boasts France's third largest airport, an opera house and excellent philharmonic orchestra, university and several good museums.

**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 or visit **Ventimiglia** with its enormous Friday market, and the beautiful medieval village of **Dolceaqua**, with its maze of narrow streets.

**Day 7:** To France for your final overnight.

**Day 8:** Calais to Dover, then home.



### Hotel Toscana ★★★★★

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 ➤ Live music on 2 nights during your stay in Alassio
- American Buffet breakfast and choice dinner in Alassio
- Welcome drink ➤ Guide to visit the towns of Cannes & Nice
- Porterage in Alassio

**May, Sep & Oct: Prices from: £469**



## Andorra - the 3 Countries Tour



*Andorra is a tiny independent principality in the Pyrenees mountains and this tour includes a guided visit to nearby Spain and France.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

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

**Day 2:** Continue south to **Andorra** and your hotel for the next 4 nights.

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

**Day 4:** 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. Continue to **Mont Louis** where the city walls are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site before finishing at the ski resort of **Font Romeu**.

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

**Day 6:** Travel to our last overnight hotel.

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



### Hotel President Andorra La Vella ★★★★★

Situated in the heart of Andorra la Vella, the hotel is near the historical centre and shops.

- 100 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 6 nights (4 nights DBB + 2 nights BB at o/n's)
- Visit to a local vineyard with wine tasting ➤ Return Ferry
- Guide for full day 3 countries tour (Andorra, France & Spain)

### Inclusions at the hotel in Andorra:

- Welcome drink plus wine and water with evening meal
- Free drinks package on selected drinks 20.30hrs-22.30hrs
- Leisure facilities ➤ Porterage

**May to Sep: Prices from: £359**

## Costa Brava & the little boats of the Mediterranean



**NEW!**

*Our base for this new tour is the lovely Spanish resort of Roses, and includes a fabulous package of boat trips, all in very different settings.*

### Suggested Itinerary:

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

**Day 2:** Drive through France, into Spain, and on to Roses for your 6 night stay.

**Day 3:** Included return boat trip from **Roses** to **Cadaques**. Be amazed by the Cap de Creus coastline before spending free time in Cadaques, a picturesque fishing village once home to many famous artists.

**Day 4:** Day trip to **Beziers in France** where you will be accompanied by a local guide to enjoy a **boat trip on the Canal du Midi** and a delicious typical French lunch on board.

**Day 5:** Day trip to **Banyoles** for a relaxing **boat trip on the lake**, the largest in Catalonia, again accompanied by a local guide.

**Day 6:** **Barcelona** is still the principal attraction when visiting the Costa Brava. The highlights include the Sagrada Familia, Las Ramblas, and the many markets, bars and restaurants. On arrival a local guide will give you a tour before free time to enjoy a little tapas in the shade, and watch the world go by.

**Day 7:** In the morning make your way to **Figueres** with your included entrance to the **Dali Museum**. Enjoy your last afternoon with free time back in Roses.

**Day 8:** Head back into France to your overnight hotel.

**Day 9:** To Calais, then Dover and home.

**North Sea Ferry option available, call us for details.**



### Coral Platja ★★★★★

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

- 167 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 8 nights DBB (inc 2 o/n's) ➤ Wine with dinner (Roses)
- Entertainment (Roses) ➤ 3 boat trips (one with lunch on board)
- Entrance to Dali Museum ➤ Barcelona guide
- English speaking guide (2 days) ➤ Return Ferry

**Apr & Oct: Prices from: £479**  
**May to Sep: Prices from: £499**



## Holland in the Summertime - Dutch Singles Tour



Amsterdam

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 have a perfect summer break:- **Amsterdam** – a captivating city with an artistic heritage and elaborate canal system; **Historic Holland day**, which includes 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 & Hook of Holland Ferry options available.

### Kontakt der Kontinenten Hotel ★★

A former mission house and monastery, near to Utrecht.

- 125 Bedrooms • Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB (choice of starter & main course)
- Return Dover/Calais Ferry
- Free tea/coffee in the hotel
- 4 night packages also available

Jul & Aug: Prices from £269

## Dutch Turkey & Tinsel



**NEW!**

Enjoy a festive Turkey & Tinsel package at this popular hotel situated in the centre of the lovely Dutch town of **Valkenburg**.

**Highlights include** a 2 hour free bar in the hotel every night plus:

**Day 1:** Small box of chocolates, welcome drink and 3-course set buffet dinner; **Day 2:** Christmas Eve: complimentary drink, 3-course dinner, visit from Santa and tea, coffee and cake; **Day 3:** Christmas Day: 4-course turkey dinner with complimentary drink followed by music night; **Day 4:** New Year's Day: 4-course gala dinner with complimentary drink, champagne and local pastry followed by live entertainment.

### Hotel Walram ★★

A 3-star superior hotel situated beside the river in the centre of Valkenburg close to the cafes, bars and restaurants.

- 106 Bedrooms • Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 4 nights DBB (choice menu)
- Inclusions as above
- Leisure facilities
- Porterage
- Return Ferry

Nov: Prices from: £239

## 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.

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 impressive castle.

- 57 Bedrooms
- Lift

### Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB (choice menu)
- Welcome drink ➤ Porterage
- One evening of live music/entertainment
- Return Ferry

Oct & Nov: Prices from £199

## Three Countries Christmas Markets - Valkenburg



Valkenburg

Popular in Europe since the Middle Ages, these Christmas markets remain a huge attraction. Not just a chance to do some Christmas shopping, they have their own unique character and atmosphere especially in the evening when the gluhwein flows and the sausages sizzle.

Experience the fairy-tale setting of the **Valkenburg Christmas Market** with its distinctive illuminated caves and passageways, and visit other nearby 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.

### Hotel Schaepekens ★★

Situated in its own grounds close to the town of Valkenburg

- 130 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

### Tour Includes:

- 3 nights DBB
- Choice buffet dinner
- Entertainment
- Porterage ➤ Return Ferry
- 4 night packages also available

Nov & Dec: Prices from: £209





5 ASTON STREET, SHIFNAL  
SHROPSHIRE, TF11 8DW

Tel: 01952 462462

Fax: 01952 462555

Email: [info@actiontours.co.uk](mailto:info@actiontours.co.uk)

Website: [www.actiontours.co.uk](http://www.actiontours.co.uk)

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