



Tour Information

The specialists in designing individualised European travel experiences.

Luxury Tours for Independent Travellers

Choose from a smorgasbord of unique travel experiences and we will design your very own tailor-made holiday of a lifetime.

Add extra days, destinations, sightseeing or excursions. As an independent traveller you can even undertake the tour in either direction.

Take a detour or a break in the tour to do 'your own thing' for a while, like hiring a car in Cornwall or Scotland to explore the countryside and villages and create a truly individualised and unique itinerary.



England & Scotland Tour



England & Scotland Tour

Highlights

14 DAYS

LONDON | WINDSOR CASTLE | DOVER | BATH | STONEHENGE
LAKE DISTRICT | EDINBURGH | SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS | LONDON



London

Your *England Scotland* tour starts in London. Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guard, Tower of London, Piccadilly Circus, Westminster Abbey, Soho, historic pubs, Hyde Park. Excursion to Windsor castle, the white cliffs of Dover, Canterbury Cathedral and Leeds Castle.

Bath and Stonehenge

Drive through the picture-perfect Wiltshire countryside to Stonehenge; see the Royal Crescent, Circus, Abbey and Pulteney Bridge in Bath; visit Lacock and Cotswold village.

The Lake District

Cruise on Lake Windermere; visit Beatrix Potter's Hill Top farm and medieval village of Hawkshea; drive through the beautiful Yewdale Valley; tour ten lakes and three mountain passes, visit the Castlerigg Stone Circle and the ancient township of Keswic.

Edinburgh and Scottish Highlands

Stay in the 13th Century Dalhousie Castle; visit Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Yacht Britannia; explore the Scottish Highlands and visit Stirling Castle and Loch Lomond.



England & Scotland Tour

Prices & Inclusions

Accommodation and Meals

- 13 nights in first class, 4 star hotels, castle hotel or B&B guesthouse
- 13 full breakfasts

Travel

- 1st class train tickets between destinations. Seat reservations where required and available.
- Airport transfer to hotel with pre-paid Underground railway ticket on arrival and departure

Sightseeing and Excursions

- Sightseeing with a double-decker 'hop-on-hop-off' bus in London and Bath
- Admission ticket to Windsor Castle
- All day guided coach excursion to Dover, Canterbury Cathedral and Leeds Castle from London
- Priority admission ticket to Leeds Castle
- 'Changing of the Guards' at Buckingham Palace walking tour
- 'Rock 'n Roll' or 'Jack the Ripper' walking tour in London
- Cruise on the Thames in London
- Admission ticket to the Jane Austen Centre in Bath
- All day small group guided coach excursion to Stonehenge from Bath
- Beatrix Potter half day tour in Windermere including Lake Windermere lake cruise
- All day guided coach excursion of Lake District from Bath including lake cruise
- Priority admission ticket to Edinburgh Castle and guided tour
- Guided walking tour of Edinburgh with local expert guide
- Visit to the Royal Yacht Britannia including audio guide
- All day small group guided coach excursion into the Scottish Highlands and Loch Lomond

Not included

Travel insurance. Admission to Stonehenge. Local transport in Edinburgh to the Royal Yacht Britannia at Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre. Cruise on the River Avon. Flights to and from Europe.

Tour prices

All tour prices are published on our **website**

Upgrades to superior luxury hotel accommodation for this England Scotland tour can be arranged on request at extra cost. We also cater for solo travellers, families and groups. Prices by application.

Surcharges apply if travelling during holidays, New Year's Eve or other local events. The prices and tour information are correct at the time of the website going live, however are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.

England & Scotland Tour Itinerary

14 DAYS | LONDON | WINDSOR CASTLE | DOVER | BATH | STONEHENGE
LAKE DISTRICT | EDINBURGH | SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS | LONDON

As these tours are self-guided and for independent travellers they can commence at any time of the year.

(Inclusions in italics)

Day 1 - London: Your first experience of England will be the London *Underground*, 'The Tube'. The 'Piccadilly Line' will whisk you from your arrival terminal directly to your hotel in the heart of the city.

Day 2 - London: Explore the city and its many famous sites in a *red double-decker 'hop-on hop-off' bus*. Watch the 'Changing of the Guards' at Buckingham Palace during a *guided walking tour*. See the Tower, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral. Stroll through Hyde Park, Soho, Notting Hill, Piccadilly Circus or along the Thames. In the afternoon choose from either the '*Rock 'n Roll*' or '*Jack the Ripper*' *walking tour*. Enjoy High Tea at Claridge's or a drink in a historic pub. Relax in the evening and view some of London's attractions, the London Eye and Big Ben, from the comfort of a *river cruise boat*. See London Options for extra sightseeing and extensions.



Day 3 - Windsor castle: A short train journey takes you from London to Windsor Castle, the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world. Start your visit of this historic place with a guided tour, led by the Wardens, dressed in their striking red and black livery. The tour introduces the Castle's 900-year history as a fortress and palace, and its role today as an official residence of The Queen.

During this independent *excursion to Windsor Castle* visit the State Apartments, St. George's Chapel, Queen Mary's dolls' house and take a tour of the castle precinct, the royal kitchens and the tower. Watch the changing of the guard which usually takes place at 11am within the castle grounds.



Day 4 - White Cliffs of Dover and Canterbury

Cathedral: On this *all day guided coach tour* you head from London to the picturesque, historic sites of Leeds Castle, Canterbury Cathedral and Dover. Drive through Greenwich, where the world's time is set. At Leeds Castle you'll enjoy a private viewing of the picturesque 12th Century castle before the doors open to the public allowing you to experience in relative peace the full grandeur of the castle and its famous lake that surrounds it.

Then on to view the breath-taking Gothic-style architecture of Canterbury Cathedral. Afterwards you will be driven through the picture-perfect Kent countryside - known as the Garden of England, with its quaint villages and pretty landscapes - and reach the coast at Dover with its famous white cliffs and Dover Castle.

Day 5 - Bath: In the afternoon enjoy a *coach sightseeing tour* of the main attractions of this UNESCO World Heritage place with some of the finest architectural sites in Europe, like the Royal Crescent, the Circus and Pulteney Bridge.

The highlight of your stay in Bath will be a visit to the Roman Bath itself. Around Britain's only hot spring, the Romans built a magnificent temple and bathing complex that still flows with natural hot water. Walk where Romans walked on the ancient stone pavements around the steaming pool. In the summer months you can even experience a romantic torch-lit visit to the Roman Bath and avoid the crowds.



Day 6 - Cruise the River Avon: Take a tranquil cruise along the River Avon between Pulteney Bridge in Bath and the charming village of Bathampton. During this leisurely cruise through the Avon Valley you can see the old toll bridge and Bathampton weir. Disembark at a quaint riverside village and enjoy traditional English fare at a local pub.

A visit to the *Jane Austen Centre*, Bath's most famous resident, will provide you with an insight into life during Regency times and explores how living in this magnificent city affected Jane Austen's life and writing. Afterwards enjoy a scrumptious cream tea on the rooftop tea room of the Jane Austen Centre.

Day 7 - Stonehenge: On this full-day coach excursion visit two of the most impressive megalithic monuments in Europe, the Cotswold village that was voted the prettiest village in England and a traditional Wiltshire woollen village used in the filming of *Pride and Prejudice* and the *Harry Potter* movies.

Drive through the beautiful Wiltshire countryside to Stonehenge and on to the Avebury Stone circle. This lesser known megalithic monument is 16 times larger in area than Stonehenge and nearly 1000 years older!

Stop for lunch at Lacock National Trust Village. This wonderful village consists of properties which date from the 13th and 18th centuries. There has been no major building in Lacock in the last 200 years so you really feel as if you're stepping back into English history.



Day 8 - Lake District: Spend the afternoon enjoying one of the most beautiful regions of England. Visit the Steam boat museums or the Watermill Brewing Company. Hire bicycles and explore the country lanes around the lake. Lovers of traditional English Country gardens should visit the delightful Holehird Gardens.

Day 9 - Lake District: During a half-day *guided coach tour* you will travel alongside Lake Windermere to Waterhead and explore the favourite places associated with Beatrix Potter. The journey will take you through the beautiful Yewdale Valley to Coniston Water for the start of a short lake cruise. Then on to visit Beatrix Potter's stone house on the Hill Top farm. The tour will then take you back to Windermere via the medieval village of Hawkshead and the beauty spot of Tarn Hows.

Day 10 - Lake District: The *full-day coach excursion* will take you to the most beautiful spots of the Lake District. You will visit many lakes, mountain passes, a beautiful waterfall, Castlerigg Stone Circle and stop at the ancient township of Keswick for lunch.

Day 11 - Edinburgh: Your holiday of England and Scotland does not only provide you with the opportunity to visit many magnificent castles but you are actually going to stay in one. And where better than in Scotland and the 13th Century Dalhousie castle, which will be your base from where to explore Edinburgh and the Scottish Highlands.



The *visit to the majestic Edinburgh Castle* in the afternoon will be one of the highlights of your holiday. Take a guided tour of the Royal Apartments, the Great Hall and tiny St Margaret's Chapel. Admire the Scottish Crown Jewels, which are amongst the oldest regalia in Europe and are displayed with the Stone of Destiny, the coronation seat of Scottish Kings.

Day 12 - Edinburgh: Take a walk around the five decks of the Royal Yacht Britannia and catch a glimpse into the public and private lives of the British Royal Family. Your *visit of the Britannia* will include a viewing of the State Drawing Room, The Queen's Bedroom, the Sun Lounge and the Admiral's cabin and you will also have a chance to see the working side of the ship, from the once sweltering heat of the laundry to the crew's densely packed quarters.

Discover the secrets of Edinburgh's historic past during your *afternoon guided walking tour* of the city's famous Royal Mile. The tour ventures down narrow passageways and into courtyards where your guide will entertain you with stories from Edinburgh's good, not-so-good and very often dramatic past.



Day 13 - Scottish Highlands: No holiday in Scotland is complete without *touring the Scottish Highlands*. You will be travelling on spectacular single track roads and past several lochs to Stirling Castle, which was Scotland's most important medieval stronghold.

Day 14 - Return to London: Enjoy the views of the picturesque English countryside as you take the train back to London.

Average travel time between destinations: 3 hours and 30 minutes.

Travel in Style

Comfort & Luxury

Travelling

Travel in style in Europe's luxurious superfast trains and arrive relaxed and in next to no time at your holiday destinations. Comfortable, fast and stress-free. Enjoy the spacious seats, plenty of leg room, ability to move around and the magnificent views from the comfort of your reserved first class seat or the dining car. No early morning starts and no late afternoon arrivals at the next destination.



Accommodation

Your luxurious hotels will not just be a comfortable place to stay at but will be a feature in itself and enhance your European experience, right in the heart of the cities, close to all the historic sites and within 'strolling' distance of restaurants and cafes. Step out of the front door of your hotel and be surrounded by the sounds, sights, music and ambience of the town. Your hotel will also be a place to retreat to - be that in a peaceful inner courtyard, a lakeside terrace, a garden, or rooftop terrace.

Food

Taste the regional specialties. We will also provide you with information prior to your departure on local markets, restaurants, wine taverns or little 'hole in the wall' eateries that you might like to check out.

Atmosphere and sights

You will have ample time to explore and become familiar with each place as you are not spending a lot of travelling time getting from one destination to the next and staying 2 nights minimum everywhere. All of us have our own preferred way of how and what to see in a city and how much time to spend where. We have therefore given you sightseeing options to choose from that will fit your personal preferences.

Hassle free travelling

We take care to plan and organize your holiday in every detail and to your personal liking. Just pack your bags, get on the plane and enjoy a stress-free and well-paced holiday. Our programs are a well-balanced mix of magnificent architecture but also markets, river or lake cruises, walks in the countryside, themed excursions or strolls along rivers and little cobble-stoned alleyways.



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Hotels

London

Hotel Megaro ****

A sanctuary in the bustling heart of St Pancras: an oasis of fine wine and cuisine; luxury accommodation and customised service. London's many interesting and spectacular attractions are easily accessible from The Megaro Hotel. The stylish rooms have an espresso coffee machine and free Wi-Fi access. 100m to St Pancras train station (Eurostar departure point). <http://www.hotelmegaro.co.uk/>

Bath

Hilton Bath City ****

The Hilton Bath City hotel is set amid the fine Georgian architecture of central Bath. The hotel overlooks the river Avon and is in close proximity to most major sites. <http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/united-kingdom/hilton-bath-city-hotel-BATHNHN/index.html>

Windermere - Lake District

Southview Guest House ****

The Southview Bed & Breakfast Guest House offers high quality accommodation with a 'splash' of luxury. Situated in a central and quiet, private cul-de-sac, overlooking Windermere village, Southview offer the best of the town and the fells, making your stay as peaceful or as action filled as you wish with many walks, sports and cycling routes available nearby. www.southviewwindermere.co.uk/

Edinburgh

Dalhousie Castle Hotel ****

This fascinating 13th Century fortress is set within a wooded parkland along the picturesque banks of the river Esk on the outskirts of Edinburgh. The castle has occupied a position of great strategic importance for centuries and has seen it fair share of history.

From the moment you arrive at Dalhousie Castle, one of the finest luxury hotels in Scotland, a warm Scottish welcome awaits you. Feel like the 'Laird' of the castle while having a drink at the 'secret bar' next to the open fire, dining in the ancient barrel-vaulted dungeon or relaxing in a four-poster bed in one of the castle's bedrooms. <http://www.dalhousiecastle.co.uk/>

Tailor Made

Independent Travelling

'Self-guided' travelling

You are travelling as independent travellers, with your own tickets, reservations, detailed itinerary, directions, timetables, admission tickets, maps etc. Every day will be quite clearly laid out in your itinerary, with train departure and arrival times, seat reservation details, destination information, directions and maps where sightseeing tours will leave from or how to get to or from the train station to your hotel, usually in easy walking distance. The various sightseeing tours at your destinations will be pre-booked and we will provide you with detailed information regarding the time and content of the tour, and departure points.

The choice is yours

We ensure that our tours are planned and organized with attention to every detail and we feel confident that you will find that everything works smoothly. You will have the advantage of the substantial savings of the 'self-guided' tour price and you can choose to use these savings to splash out on some exciting optional travel experiences, like extra excursions, pamper treatments or indulging in some regional delicacies.

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About Us

As a registered travel agency and member of the Australian Travel Compensation Fund you can have the peace of mind that your money is secure and you will not find yourself stranded and without tickets or valid reservations. The Travel Compensation Fund has an ongoing financial monitoring system in place that helps prevent the failure of a participating travel agency. In the case of a financial collapse of the participating travel agency however, eligible travellers are provided with compensation through the TCF if the traveller has suffered a financial loss.

Our Travel Compensation Fund Number is: 10067

<http://www.tcf.org.au/index.as>

Our Travel Agent Number is: 3402878

<http://www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au/travel-agent-licence-check.htm>

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Terms & Conditions

See our website for detailed Terms and Conditions.