

Amazing Britain



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Day 1 | Journey to Stratford-upon-Avon and on to York



Indulge your love of theatre and poetry this morning as we travel to romantic Stratford-upon-Avon, made famous by its favourite son, William Shakespeare, whose extraordinary works have been admired by audiences for over 500 years. View Anne Hathaway's thatched cottage and visit Shakespeare's Birthplace and Visitor Centre for insights into the life of the 'Bard of Avon', before exploring the charming cobblestone streets of his hometown.

Continue to the ancient cathedral city of York where we will enjoy an orientation walk to view its ancient city walls, picturesque Shambles and magnificent 800-year-old Minster. Join your Travel Director and fellow travel companions this evening for a memorable Welcome Dinner and delicious local pub fare.

Meals: Dinner

Hotel: Clayton Hotel Leeds

Day 2 | Cross Hadrian's Wall and onwards to Edinburgh



We venture north to the medieval riverside town of Durham, whose exquisite 11th century cathedral sits imposingly alongside Durham Castle watching over the streets below. We cross what was once the northern frontier of the Roman Empire, Hadrian's Wall, before enjoying a scenic drive through the soul-stirring landscapes of Northumberland National Park. Admire spectacular views of the windswept Cheviot Hills as you cross the Scottish border, stopping to admire the 12th century ruins of Jedburgh Abbey en route to Edinburgh.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Holiday Inn

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Johnnie Walker's 'Journey of Flavour' Tour & Dinner on the Royal Mile - Take part in a 90-minute immersive tour, led by Johnnie Walker Experts. This sensory experience includes live performances, light shows, and delicious whiskey cocktails (& mocktails)! After discovering your flavour profile, enjoy a meal in the cosy Royal Mile.

Adult: 74.00 GBP

Day 3 | Discover Enchanting Edinburgh



Fall in love with the enchanting city of Edinburgh as you join a Local Specialist to discover what lies behind its medieval façades. Ramble up the Royal Mile and enjoy astounding views of the Palace of Holyroodhouse and the Scottish Parliament. Visit Edinburgh Castle perched atop Castle Rock overlooking the city. Spend some free time this afternoon strolling through Edinburgh and admiring ancient relics. Tickets to see the spectacular Edinburgh Tattoo are included on departures that coincide with performance dates.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Holiday Inn

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Rosslyn Chapel - We'll drive out of Edinburgh to the tiny village of Rosslyn, where we'll hear the inside story of the famous Rosslyn Chapel from a Local Specialist. One of Scotland's most unusual 15th-century buildings, Rosslyn is famed for its associations with the Knights Templar, the Masonic movement, and now 'The Da Vinci Code'.

Adult: 27.00 GBP

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Dinner and Drive to Historic Torphichen - Enjoy a scenic drive to the ancient village of Torphichen, associated with Scottish kings and Knights Templar. At the Torphichen Inn, your arrival will be toasted by our gracious host before enjoying an excellent dinner of local specialties and entertainment.

Adult: 69.00 GBP

Ceilidh Evening and Dinner at Ghillie Dhu - Experience the best of Scottish tradition at Ghillie Dhu, where we'll be welcomed by a Scottish piper and enjoy a welcome drink before settling in for a delicious three-course meal and live Ceilidh music. And you can't miss the iconic Piping in the Haggis ceremony, a true highlight of the Scottish experience.

Adult: 79.00 GBP

**This experience will only be offered during the summer months April - October.*

Day 4 | Venture into the Scottish Highlands



Cross the Firth of Forth to the ancient Kingdom of Fife and St. Andrews. This famous golf course is renowned for its 18th hole and 700-year-old Swilcan Bridge.

We continue our journey into the dramatic Scottish Highlands, where we'll Dive Into Culture at Blair Athol Distillery and sample a wee dram of whisky. Visit picture-perfect Pitlochry, on the edge of the Ben Vrackie and Cairngorms National Park, before arriving at your hotel in the Scottish Highlands where you'll dine tonight.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Highlander

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Pitlochry, Visit of Blair Castle - Set in its own grounds against a backdrop of glorious scenery, we'll discover the ancient home of the Dukes of Atholl, home to Europe's last remaining private army. Unique amongst Scottish castles

Blair has hosted royalty from Mary, Queen of Scots, to Queen Victoria.

Adult: 28.00 GBP

Highland Farm Experience - Visit a real Highland sheep farm and meet Neil the Shepherd and his border collies. He'll show you how he uses different whistles to command each dog to carry out different tasks. You'll also have the opportunity to try your hand at feeding the lambs and discover his training techniques. Weather permitting.

Adult: 22.00 GBP

Day 5 | Onwards to Loch Lomond and Glasgow's Rich Legacy



The arresting beauty of the Scottish Highlands provides a stunning backdrop for today's leisurely drive to Glasgow. View the World War II Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge and admire views of Britain's highest mountain – Ben Nevis. See Glencoe, the site of a bloody massacre in 1692 following the Jacobite Uprising, and travel to the 'bonnie' banks of Scotland's prettiest loch, Loch Lomond.

We arrive in Glasgow this afternoon where our orientation will take us past St. Mungo's Cathedral and George Square, lined with statues and monuments dedicated to famous British subjects, including Robert Burns and Sir Robert Peel.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Novotel

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Loch Lomond Boat Trip - Discover the wild beauty of the 'Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond'. As we cruise across the loch, the skipper will share stories of the area and point out Rob Roy's cave as you relax and savour the stunning scenery.

Adult: 21.00 GBP

A Stirling Evening - See Stirling Castle and the Wallace Memorial by night. A truly wonderful experience, you'll be piped in to your evening meal in the historic Scottish city and enjoy an evening of Scottish delights.

Adult: 54.00 GBP

Day 6 | Explore the Lake District and Journey to Liverpool



Today's first stop is in the runaway wedding capital, Gretna Green, where eloping couples would exchange their vows over the Marriage Anvil.

Returning to England, we Connect With Locals, joining Christine for lunch at a Be My Guest experience in the company of Highland cows. See beautiful Lake District landscapes and skirt the romantic shores of Lake Windermere, the largest lake in England, arriving in edgy Liverpool of 'Fab Four' fame, for an evening at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Mercure Atlantic Tower

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Famous Sights and the Fab Four - Come along with our Local Specialist for a guided tour of Liverpool. From its glorious maritime past to its famous cultural present, you'll discover the two magnificently different cathedrals, see Mathew Street, birthplace of The Beatles, and enjoy the Mersey beat.
Adult: 24.00 GBP

Day 7 | Through the Beautiful Welsh Countryside to Discover Bristol



This morning, we traverse the pretty Welsh countryside before we visit the Shropshire market town of Ludlow with some time to explore on your own. Later, arrive in Bristol for an orientation drive. Join us for an Optional Experience that will take us out to the SS Great Britain as well as the Clifton Suspension Bridge along with all the other highlights of Bristol. As the curtain comes down on a memorable journey through England and Scotland, we enjoy a Farewell Dinner in a local restaurant with our Travel Director and newfound friends.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Mercure Bristol Holland House

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Guided Tour of Bristol - The centre of the British aeronautics industry since WWII, Bristol was also a great seafaring port and England's second city until not long ago. There's a wealth of history to be discovered and John Cabot, Brunel, the Plimsoll Line, John and Charles Wesley, Wills Tobacco, Archibald Leach (who's he?), Banksy, and Robinson Crusoe are all names that have unique links with Bristol. Find out how they all fit together on a rip-roaring tour of the town with Bristol's number-one Local Specialist.
Adult: 22.00 GBP

Day 8 | Soak up Bath and Stonehenge then off to London



Returning to London, we visit the UNESCO-listed city of Bath to admire its elegant Georgian façades and the Roman Baths from which the city takes its name. Emerging from the Salisbury Plain, the imposing monoliths of Stonehenge are our final stop before continuing through the lush Wiltshire and Hampshire landscapes to London, where our amazing holiday comes to an end.

Meals: Breakfast