

Britain and Ireland Highlights



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-  Start Location
-  Plane
-  Cruise
-  Over night

-  Visited Location
-  End Location
-  Train
-  Ferry

Day 1 | Stratford-upon-Avon, York and on to Harrogate



Join your Travel Director today and delve into centuries of history - tales of star-crossed lovers, tragic kings and Roman emperors are brought to life as you visit Stratford-upon-Avon and follow in the footsteps of Shakespeare. Visit his Birthplace and the Visitor Centre, then continue north to the Viking city of York, where you'll enjoy an orientation walk around its historic streets. View the cobbled Shambles, see the ancient city walls and the magnificent York Minster. This evening, enjoy dinner in the Victorian spa town of Harrogate.

Meals: Dinner

Hotel: Crowne Plaza

Day 2 | Through the Scenic Lake District to Glasgow



Journey through the Yorkshire Dales National Park to the beautiful Lake District, which has inspired poets and writers for centuries. A highlight on your journey is England's pretty Lake Windermere, which you'll pass as you continue through countryside made famous by the poet William Wordsworth. Cross the border, into Scotland, to the runaway wedding capital of Gretna Green. Here eloping couples would tie the knot over the Marriage Anvil. Drive through the Southern Uplands to vibrant Glasgow where your orientation will take you past Glasgow Cathedral and George Square. Tonight, consider joining an Optional Experience featuring a fabulous dinner and Scottish entertainment.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Novotel

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Scenic Cruise on Lake Windermere - Enjoy a scenic boat cruise on England's most beautiful and largest lake, taking in the beautiful houses, gardens and Wray Castle. You'll see boats and birdlife as you explore the area loved by Beatrix Potter and William Wordsworth.

Adult: 28.00 GBP

Steam Train Ride and Windermere Cruise - Step back in time as we board the steam train for a short journey from Haverthwaite to Lakeside. Then a chance to view the glorious scenery of the Lake District as we cruise across England's largest lake.*

Adult: 33.00 GBP

**Occasionally this experience will operate in reverse.*

A Stirling Evening - A piper will greet you at the gates of Stirling Castle, where Scotland's history comes alive. Hear tales of William Wallace, Robert the Bruce and the battles that shaped this nation. With the sound of bagpipes filling the air, you'll be guided down to a local restaurant in Stirling. Indulge in a hearty meal crafted from traditional Scottish recipes, all while soaking in an evening of storytelling and tradition.

Adult: 61.00 GBP

Day 3 | Explore Enchanting Edinburgh



From the cultural capital of Glasgow to enchanting Edinburgh, with its exquisite medieval façades, your encounter with Scotland will see you join a Local Specialist for a memorable sightseeing tour. Visit Edinburgh Castle, perched atop Castle Rock overlooking the city, and see the Royal Mile, the elegant Palace of Holyroodhouse and the new Scottish Parliament. Admire the elegant Georgian architecture in the New Town and amble through the secret lanes of Auld Reekie before returning to Glasgow this evening for a delicious locally-sourced meal at Mharsanta restaurant during a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Novotel

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 Guide. 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: 29.00 GBP

Day 4 | Cross the Irish Sea to Belfast and Dublin



Follow the rugged Ayrshire coast, past the island of Ailsa Craig, the stepping stone from Ireland to Scotland. Board the ferry to Northern Ireland, then join a Local Specialist to explore the crossroads of British and Irish culture in Belfast. You'll view City Hall and the dock where the Titanic was built. This evening, arrive in the vibrant capital of Ireland where you'll spend the next two nights.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Clayton Hotel Ballsbridge/The Address Hotel Connolly

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Dinner in Dublin City - Famous for its heritage buildings and authentic local culture, Dublin is a charm-filled city for travellers to explore – and what better way to immerse yourself in the atmosphere of the Irish capital than with an evening in one of the most locally loved restaurant-pubs? You'll enjoy dinner and experience the charming hospitality for which this part of the world is known.
Adult: 65.00 EUR

Day 5 | Discover Diverse Dublin



Dive Into Culture and discover the fascinating 250-year-old story of Guinness at its original home, the Guinness Storehouse. Top it off with a taste in their Gravity Bar while you enjoy the panoramic views of Dublin. Drive through the pretty streets of Dublin with a Local Specialist to admire the stately Georgian Squares, Trinity College and St. Patrick's Cathedral, the tallest church in Ireland, before spending the rest of the day exploring the sights alone. Ramble through Temple Bar or Grafton Street, famous for its colourful street performers. This evening, consider joining an Optional Experience to a rousing Irish cabaret performance.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Clayton Hotel Ballsbridge/The Address Hotel Connolly

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Experience the Ancient Monastic Site of Glendalough - Enjoy a visit to one of the most important monastic sites in Europe, which dates back to the 6th century. Your Local Specialist will tell tales and show you around this sacred area, famous for its tranquil beauty amidst the rolling countryside of County Wicklow, the garden of Ireland.

Adult: 34.00 EUR

Dublin Dinner and Cabaret - Enjoy an evening of fine food and fun as Ireland's history unfolds with comedy, song and dance. You'll be tapping your toes and joining in the show, all in the spirit of Irish humour. And you'll even be served an Irish coffee to round off your dinner.

Adult: 89.00 EUR

Day 6 | Journey to Kilkenny and on to Waterford



Gain insights into rearing world-class thoroughbreds at the Irish National Stud established in 1946. Enjoy a guided walk through the farm and take some time to stroll through its tranquil Japanese Gardens, regarded as the best in Europe. Admire the imposing medieval castle at Kilkenny before some free time for lunch. The next stop sees you Dive Into Culture to witness the delicate craft of Waterford Crystal. Watch master crafters at work during a tour of the workshop and see the exquisitely crafted pieces in the showroom.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Marina Hotel / Fitzwilton Hotel

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Explore Waterford's History and Local Pub - Join us in Waterford, where the history dates back as far as the Vikings. Your Local Specialist will bring the historic area to life through stories and anecdotes; one guest even described the trip as the "best history lesson ever". Afterwards, we stop off for a drink in one of the area's oldest pubs for a pint or drink of your choice.

Adult: 28.00 EUR

Irish Folk Fun - Join a magical entertainment experience, where you'll get the chance to see Irish hospitality in the best folk tradition. Enjoy a drink while locals sing and play music for you.

Adult: 33.00 EUR

Day 7 | Ferry Across to Cultural Cardiff



An early start to your sightseeing today sees you cross the Irish Sea to Wales by ferry and continue your journey to the Welsh capital of Cardiff to view the Wales Millennium Centre, National Assembly and historic Cardiff Castle, in the heart of the city. This evening, join a local family for a Be My Guest experience in the idyllic Welsh countryside,. Visit the oldest and largest vineyard in Wales, you'll learn how the Norris family are using sustainable farming practices and get to meet some of the resident animals that roam the land freely. You'll enjoy a homemade meal, enchanting stories of rural life in Wales and warm Welsh hospitality, leaving with the knowledge that your visit supports the family in their efforts to farm sustainably.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Park Inn by Radisson City Centre

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Cardiff Castle Tour - On a private tour, you'll explore this unique castle and hear tales about the eclectic refurbishments. Done in the 1800s by architect William Burgess, his influences included Islamic art, Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales and even Aesop's fables. You'll also walk on the battlements and climb the 900-year-old Norman keep for superb views over Cardiff.

Adult: 26.00 GBP

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



Traversing the Severn Estuary into England, arrive in the glorious UNESCO listed city of Bath, with its elegant Georgian façades and visit the world-famous Roman Baths for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Journey across the scenic landscapes of Wiltshire, paying a visit to the mysterious megalithic stone circle at Stonehenge, then return to London where your memorable holiday in Britain and Ireland comes to an end.

Meals: Breakfast