

Your best trip starts *here.*

Wonders of Britain and Ireland



Your itinerary



- Start Location
- Visited Location
- Plane
- End Location
- Cruise
- Train
- 1 Over night
- Ferry

Day 1 | Stonehenge and Bath and on to Cardiff



Ponder the mysteries of the ancient monoliths of Stonehenge this morning, as we drive west to Bath with its elegant Georgian façades and the Roman Baths. Crossing the Severn Estuary to the Welsh capital, we view the Wales Millennium Centre and the National Assembly at Cardiff Bay. Enjoy warm hospitality and traditional Welsh pub fare and drinks this evening at a rousing Welcome Reception with your travel companions and Travel Director.

Meals: Welcome Reception

Hotel: Mercure Holland House

Day 2 | Onwards to Waterford



This morning, we view the Principality Stadium during our orientation of Cardiff. Enjoy some leisure time in this modern capital. Perhaps visit the Victorian Gothic fantasy of Cardiff Castle at the heart of the city. We cross the Irish Sea by ferry to the 'Emerald Isle' and travel to historic Waterford, where we'll dine in our hotel tonight.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Marina

Optional Experiences:

Cardiff Castle Tour - You'll explore this unique castle on a private tour and hear tales about the eclectic refurbishments. Done in the 1800s by architect William Burgess, his influences included Islamic art, Hans Christian Anderson'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: 21.00 GBP

Day 3 | Admire Blarney Castle and Journey to Killarney



Dive Into Culture and watch the master craftsmen of the renowned House of Waterford Crystal. Then, kiss the Blarney Stone to acquire the 'gift of the gab', before travelling to the picturesque town of Killarney.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Killarney

Optional Experiences:

Explore Waterford's History - 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".

Adult: 19.00 EUR

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

Irish Ceilidh Evening - The Irish Ceilidh epitomises how music and dance were enjoyed in rural Ireland, especially on festive occasions. The craic - welcoming, jolly, fun and informal - is accompanied with plenty of food and drink. There's no more enjoyable way to understand Irish culture.

Adult: 67.00 EUR

Celtic Steps - Enjoy a spectacular evening of Irish music, song and dance performed by champion dancers and musicians and showcasing the music of Kerry and beyond.

Adult: 37.00 EUR

Day 4 | A Day on the Ring of Kerry

Today we experience the enduring beauty of Ireland's most scenic coastal drive around the Iveragh Peninsula – the emerald green hills, centuries-old stone villages and vivid blue seascapes provide an exquisite backdrop for our leisurely drive around what has become known as the Ring of Kerry. See Daniel O'Connell's Cahirsiveen, the fishing village of Waterville, the Black Valley and Moll's Gap with its panoramic views. This evening, we Connect With Locals at Molly Gallivan's 200-year-old cottage, sharing a memorable Be My Guest experience with the O'Sullivan family and their Kerry cows.

Meals: Breakfast, Be My Guest

Hotel: Killarney

Optional Experiences:

Experience a Jaunting Cart Ride - Enjoy a traditional pony and trap ride through the beautiful Bourn-Vincent National Park. During your journey, your Local Specialist will share fascinating anecdotes about the area and Ireland.

Adult: 23.00 EUR

Day 5 | Journey to Cultural Dublin



Celtic art and history take centre stage this morning as we visit the Rock of Cashel in County Tipperary, the seat of Irish kings for centuries. Perched atop a limestone outcrop in the Golden Vale, the historic ruins house one of the most remarkable collections of Celtic art and medieval architecture in Europe. We arrive this afternoon in Dublin, where we will join our Local Specialist for a sightseeing tour to see Trinity College, St. Patrick's Cathedral and the stately Georgian Squares. This evening, consider joining an Optional Experience to enjoy the rousing sounds of an Irish cabaret.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn

Optional Experiences:

Dublin Dinner and Irish Show - 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: 72.00 EUR

Day 6 | Dublin Your Way

Beat the crowds and Dive Into Culture when you explore the Guinness Brewery for a tour of the Storehouse including a tasting. The rest of the day is yours to soak up the cosy atmosphere of the Irish capital. Ramble through the buzzing streets of Temple Bar or visit Grafton Street, famous for its colourful street performers.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn

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: 27.00 EUR

Dinner in Dublin City - Come to one of Dublin's most locally-loved restaurant-pubs. You'll enjoy dinner and charming hospitality that this part of the world is renowned for.

Adult: 51.00 EUR

Day 7 | The Sights of Chester and Liverpool



Board the ferry to Wales. Admire the spectacular landscape of Snowdonia National Park as you travel to the ancient city of Chester, with its characteristic Tudor Rows and medieval walls. We arrive later in Liverpool, the haunt of the 'Fab Four', joining our companions for a tasty Regional Dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Regional Dinner

Hotel: Jurys Inn

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: 19.00 GBP

Day 8 | Through the Lake District to Edinburgh



The beautiful landscape, which for centuries inspired the Romantic poets, provides a mesmerising backdrop for our scenic drive from the lush green hills of Lancashire to the Lake District. Skirt the shores of England's largest lake, Windermere, as we travel through countryside made famous by poet William Wordsworth. We cross the Scottish border and visit the runaway wedding capital that is Gretna Green. This evening, we arrive in beguiling Edinburgh, where we'll spend the next two nights.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Apex City

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 northern coastline, beautiful houses, gardens and Wray Castle. You'll see deserted islands, boats and birdlife as you explore the area loved by Beatrix Potter and William Wordsworth.

Adult: 18.00 GBP

Windermere Cruise and Steam Train Ride - 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: 24.00 GBP

**Occasionally this experience will operate in reverse.*

Edinburgh by Night and Dinner - We'll drive into the old city of Edinburgh to see the city at night with photo opportunities of the Castle and the Grassmarket, famous for historic executions and when possible visit one of the most haunted graveyards and see the grave of Greyfriars Bobby, the famous Skye Terrier. Then, we'll make our way to a local restaurant for a delicious dinner and drink.

Adult: 45.00 GBP

Day 9 | Discover Remarkable Edinburgh



Join a Local Specialist this morning for a memorable sightseeing tour of this captivating capital, including a visit to Edinburgh Castle, perched high above the city on Castle Rock. See Auld Reekie's Royal Mile and the elegant Palace of Holyroodhouse in the shadow of Arthur's Seat, and admire the Georgian façades in Edinburgh's New Town. Tickets to see the spectacular Edinburgh Tattoo are included on departures that coincide with performance dates.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Apex City

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: 22.00 GBP

Of the two following optional experiences, you will be offered the 'Scottish Show With Dinner'. However, on the rare occasion that this is not available, the 'Dinner and Drive to Historic Torphichen' has been selected as a suitable alternative.

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: 56.00 GBP

Scottish Show with Dinner - Tonight is your chance to put on that tartan and join us for an evening of singing, dancing and bagpipe playing. You'll enjoy Scottish food and wine, join in the singing and watch a Highland dance or two. There's even a chance to sample Scotland's national dish – haggis.

Adult: 72.00 GBP

Day 10 | Venture to York



We journey south to the medieval market town of Alnwick with its impressive castle and Tenantry Column, upon which the Percy Lion sits imposingly overlooking the town's beautiful gardens. Marvel at the magnificent scenery as you cross Northumberland and the River Tyne at Newcastle en route to York where you'll walk through the charming Shambles, see the medieval walls and York Minster, one of the greatest cathedrals in the world.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Novotel Centre

Optional Experiences:

Ghost Walk and Dinner - The 2000-year-old Roman city of York abounds with tales of murder and mystery, some of which you'll discover as you take a stroll with the local ghost hunter. You'll finish with a drink and delicious meal in a local restaurant. Without the walk - meal and drinks only - £38.

Adult: 42.00 GBP

Day 11 | On to Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon



We visit Shakespeare's Birthplace and Visitor Centre in Stratford-upon-Avon to see where the 'Avon Bard' was born and raised. View Anne Hathaway's thatched cottage, then enjoy some free time to explore. This evening we join our fellow travellers and Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

Hotel: Mercure Warwickshire Walton Hall Hotel and Spa

Optional Experiences:

Shakespeare's Schoolhouse Experience - Today we'll visit the spectacular Holy Trinity Church where Shakespeare was baptised and also where he is buried. We'll also see Stratford's medieval guildhall and attend a lesson at Shakespeare's schoolhouse before enjoying scones with cream and a glass of bubbly.

Adult: 31.00 GBP

Day 12 | Journey through the Cotswolds to Oxford and London



Journey to the Cotswolds this morning and the little churchyard at Bladon where Sir Winston Churchill is buried. Arriving in Oxford, the oldest university city in the British Isles, we'll enjoy an orientation tour of the city to view the Radcliffe Camera and the Bodleian Library and visit one of the university's famous colleges (when open). We return to London this afternoon and bid a fond farewell to our Travel Director and newfound friends at the end of a wonderful holiday.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Park Plaza County Hall