

## Best of Britain



14 Days from \$2,876 per person | Style: First Class | Pace: Active

Travel to the Scottish Highlands, exploring rugged Dartmoor, the idyllic Lake District, the Isle of Skye and Tudor Chester.

## Trip Itinerary

### Day 1: Arrive London (2 Nights)

London's vibrant city streets are your launch pad to an epic journey through the iconic sights of Britain. Embrace the pomp and ceremony of this multi-cultural capital, exploring the treasures of its former Empire in museums, rambling through its picturesque Royal Parks or admiring the ancient façades that line its grand boulevards and hidden lanes.

Hotel: Park Plaza Riverbank/Park Plaza County Hall

### Day 2: London Sightseeing and Free Time

Join a 'Local Specialist' today for a tour of the city's iconic sights. See Big Ben and the imposing Houses of Parliament on the banks of the Thames, then Buckingham Palace, the official UK residence of the UK's sovereigns since the mid-19th century. The rest of the day is yours to explore London - an effortless mix of centuries-old heritage and modern sophistication.

Dining: Breakfast

### Day 3: London - Stonehenge - Bath - Exeter (2 Nights)

Meet your Travel Director and commence your journey through the rolling green and golden landscapes of rural Wiltshire to Salisbury Plain. We tread in the footsteps of druids and pagans at Stonehenge, before travelling to UNESCO-listed Bath with its elegant Georgian façades and the centuries-old Roman Baths. Our home for the next two nights is the historic cathedral city of Exeter, where we will enjoy a memorable Welcome Reception this evening at our hotel.

Dining: Breakfast, Welcome Reception

Hotel: Mercure Southgate

#### **Day 4: Exeter – Excursion to Plymouth, Polperro, Dartmoor and Buckfast Abbey**

Our first stop today is in the ancient port city of Plymouth, where we'll delve into the history of the brave Pilgrim Fathers who set sail for an unknown New World from its shores. See the Royal Citadel overlooking Plymouth Sound and consider an optional cruise around the dramatic coastline. We take a step back in time at our next stop, the fishing village and artists' retreat of Polperro. Continuing along the brooding moorland of Dartmoor, we arrive at Buckfast Abbey, where we'll 'Dive Into Culture' and gain insights into how Benedictine monks have lived and prayed for over 1,000 years.

Dining: Breakfast

#### **Day 5: Exeter – Glastonbury – Cardiff**

Enjoy a scenic drive through the pretty Devon and Somerset countryside to mystical Glastonbury, where we'll visit the ruined Abbey, said to be the final resting place of King Arthur. Later, we 'Connect With Locals', joining the Dyer family on their 15th-century dairy farm in Somerset for a 'Be My Guest' lunch. We journey to Cardiff, the capital of Wales, where we'll explore the proud heritage of the Welsh and modern icons, including the Principality Stadium during an orientation tour.

Dining: Breakfast, Be My Guest

Hotel: Park Inn City Centre

#### **Day 6: Cardiff – Ludlow – Chester – Liverpool**

Tudor history is explored this morning as we visit the historic towns of Ludlow and Chester with their characteristic black and white half-timbered buildings. Join your Travel Director for an orientation walk past these famous Tudor Rows and enjoy views of Chester's medieval city walls and red sandstone Cathedral. The haunt of the 'Fab Four' is our final stop today. Join a 'Local Specialist' to gain insight into Liverpool's Beatles' history and enjoy a free evening in one of Britain's edgiest cities.

Dining: Breakfast

Hotel: Jurys Inn

#### **Day 7: Liverpool – Lake District – Glasgow**

Rolling Lancashire pastures give way to the soul-stirring Lake District, whose beautiful scenery has inspired poets and writers for centuries. We travel along the shores of Lake Windermere, through countryside made famous by the poet William Wordsworth. Stop in Gretna Green, where many an eloping couple has tied the knot. We arrive in Glasgow later for an orientation tour, including views of the Cathedral, magnificent George Square and the Clyde River, the former heart of the shipbuilding industry. Warm Scottish hospitality and hearty flavours are ours to enjoy this evening during a Regional Dinner in a local restaurant.

Dining: Breakfast, Regional Dinner

Hotel: Crowne Plaza/Holiday Inn City Centre Theatreland

#### **Day 8: Glasgow – Glencoe – Fort William – Scottish Highlands (2 Nights)**

Journey along Loch Lomond, whose bonnie banks were immortalised in the well-known Scottish song. We arrive in Glencoe and remember the MacDonald clansmen who died tragically in the 1692 massacre which led this place to be called the 'Glen of Weeping'. At the World War II

Commando Memorial near Fort William, we admire views of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis. Our day in beautiful surrounds comes to an end with a cosy dinner at our hotel located within the Cairngorms National Park in the Scottish Highlands.

**Dining:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Laggan Gaskmore/Carrbridge

### **Day 9: Isle of Skye Sightseeing and Scenic Highland Excursion**

We travel to the coast this morning to the Isle of Skye where a 'Local Specialist' will take us on a journey to view the remarkable Cuillin Mountains. Against the backdrop of heather-clad mountains, we stop at the ancient settlement of Kyleakin. Later, we cross back to view scenic Eilean Donan Castle on the mainland. Travel through the Scottish Highlands past its picturesque lochs and glens, keeping your camera at the ready to capture 'Nessie' if you can.

**Dining:** Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 10: Scottish Highlands – Pitlochry – St. Andrews – Edinburgh (2 Nights)**

Heading back to the lowlands of Scotland, we stop in Pitlochry before heading to the historic home of golf, St. Andrews. Here, the first games were played during the 1400s. See its famous 18th hole before crossing the Firth of Forth to Scotland's enchanting capital, Edinburgh. Tickets to see the spectacular Edinburgh Tattoo are included on departures that coincide with performance dates.

**Dining:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Marriott/Jurys Inn

### **Day 11: Edinburgh Sightseeing and Free Time**

Ramble up the Royal Mile today and see the iconic sights of one of Britain's most enchanting cities. The elegant Palace of Holyroodhouse, in the shadow of Arthur's Seat, and the Scottish Parliament feature on your sightseeing tour with a 'Local Specialist'. Visit Edinburgh Castle perched atop Castle Rock overlooking the city. Admire the elegant Georgian architecture in the New Town and amble through the hidden passages of the Old Town before enjoying an evening at leisure. Consider an Optional Experience including traditional song, dance and Scottish fare.

**Dining:** Breakfast

### **Day 12: Edinburgh – Alnwick – York**

We travel to the medieval market town of Alnwick this morning, where we'll see the impressive castle home to the Duke of Northumberland and the Tenantry Column, upon which the Percy Lion sits and surveys the town. Journey through Northumberland to the cathedral city of York. We'll embark an orientation walk past its cobblestone Shambles and see the inspiring Minster with its 'heart of Yorkshire' before joining our newfound friends for a Farewell Dinner.

**Dining:** Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

**Hotel:** Novotel Centre

### **Day 13: York – Stratford-upon-Avon – London**

Shakespeare's legacy and life are celebrated in his hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon, which we will have an opportunity to visit today on our return to London. See Anne Hathaway's thatched cottage and visit Shakespeare's Birthplace and Visitor Centre. Later, we travel back to London for our final night at leisure.

**Dining:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Park Plaza Riverbank/Park Plaza County Hall

## Day 14: Depart London

Say a fond farewell to London and your newfound friends at the end of an unforgettable journey.

Dining: Breakfast

## Price Includes

### Dining Highlights

- 13 breakfasts
- 1 lunch (including Be My Guest)
- 5 dinners

### First Class Travel Highlights

- Audio Headsets for flexible sightseeing
- Daily breakfast and up to half your evening meals
- Luxury air-conditioned coach with Wi-Fi in most countries or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)
- The services of a Trafalgar Local Host at your London hotel
- Cherry-picked hotels, all tried and trusted
- Optional Experiences and free time
- All portorage and restaurant gratuities
- Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras
- An expert Travel Director and professional Driver
- All hotel tips, charges and local taxes
- Handcrafted Highlights
- VIP entry to many sights

### Sightseeing Highlights

- ORIENTATION of Bath, Plymouth, Cardiff, Chester, Glasgow and York
- VISIT the ancient stone circle at Stonehenge, the Roman Baths in Bath, Polperro, Buckfast Abbey, Glastonbury Abbey, the town of Ludlow, the Isle of Skye, Edinburgh Castle, Alnwick and Shakespeare's Birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon
- VIEW Eilean Donan Castle, Alnwick Castle used as Hogwarts in the Harry Potter films, York Minster and Anne Hathaway's thatched cottage
- SEE Dartmoor, the Lake District, Ben Nevis and Glencoe in the Scottish Highlands and the 18th green at St. Andrews

## Dates and Prices

All dates and prices subject to change. Please see

<https://www.getours.com/tours/best-of-britain/2020-main-season>

for the latest discounts and departure information for this tour.

#### Dates & Prices

✘ Airfare is not included, but can be added to quote upon request

✔ Definite Departure

🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿 Edinburgh Tattoo

	PRICE	DISCOUNT
Start Date: Thu, Mar 26, 2020	<del>\$3,195</del>	<b>SAVE: \$319</b>
Return Date: Wed, Apr 8, 2020	<b>\$2,876 pp</b>	PAY BY DEC 18
		AARP members save an additional \$100

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**PRICE DISCOUNT**

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Start Date: Thu, Apr 2, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Apr 15, 2020	<del>\$3,195</del> <b>\$2,876 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$319</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Apr 9, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Apr 22, 2020	<del>\$3,195</del> <b>\$2,876 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$319</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Apr 16, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Apr 29, 2020	<del>\$3,195</del> <b>\$2,876 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$319</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Apr 23, 2020 Return Date: Wed, May 6, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Apr 30, 2020 Return Date: Wed, May 13, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 
Start Date: Thu, May 7, 2020 Return Date: Wed, May 20, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 
Start Date: Mon, May 11, 2020 Return Date: Sun, May 24, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 
Start Date: Thu, May 14, 2020 Return Date: Wed, May 27, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, May 21, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jun 3, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 
Start Date: Thu, May 28, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jun 10, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 
Start Date: Thu, Jun 4, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jun 17, 2020	<del>\$3,325</del> <b>\$2,993 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$332</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Jun 11, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jun 24, 2020	<del>\$3,375</del> <b>\$3,038 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$337</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Jun 18, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jul 1, 2020	<del>\$3,375</del> <b>\$3,038 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$337</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 
Start Date: Mon, Jun 22, 2020 Return Date: Sun, Jul 5, 2020	<del>\$3,375</del> <b>\$3,038 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$337</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Jun 25, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020	<del>\$3,375</del> <b>\$3,038 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$337</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100 

	PRICE	DISCOUNT	
Start Date: Thu, Jul 2, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jul 15, 2020	<del>\$3,425</del> <b>\$3,083 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$342</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Thu, Jul 9, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jul 22, 2020	<del>\$3,425</del> <b>\$3,083 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$342</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Thu, Jul 16, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Jul 29, 2020	<del>\$3,425</del> <b>\$3,083 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$342</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	
Start Date: Thu, Jul 23, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Aug 5, 2020	<del>\$3,425</del> <b>\$3,083 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$342</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	
☒ Start Date: Thu, Jul 30, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2020	<del>\$3,625</del> <b>\$3,263 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$362</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
☒ Start Date: Mon, Aug 3, 2020 Return Date: Sun, Aug 16, 2020	<del>\$3,625</del> <b>\$3,263 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$362</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	
☒ Start Date: Thu, Aug 6, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020	<del>\$3,625</del> <b>\$3,263 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$362</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
☒ Start Date: Mon, Aug 10, 2020 Return Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020	<del>\$3,625</del> <b>\$3,263 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$362</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
☒ Start Date: Thu, Aug 13, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Aug 26, 2020	<del>\$3,625</del> <b>\$3,263 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$362</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020	<del>\$3,395</del> <b>\$3,056 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$339</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Thu, Sep 3, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Sep 16, 2020	<del>\$3,395</del> <b>\$3,056 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$339</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Thu, Sep 10, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Sep 23, 2020	<del>\$3,395</del> <b>\$3,056 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$339</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Mon, Sep 14, 2020 Return Date: Sun, Sep 27, 2020	<del>\$3,395</del> <b>\$3,056 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$339</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	
Start Date: Thu, Sep 17, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Sep 30, 2020	<del>\$3,350</del> <b>\$3,015 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$335</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	✓
Start Date: Thu, Sep 24, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Oct 7, 2020	<del>\$3,350</del> <b>\$3,015 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$335</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100	

	PRICE	DISCOUNT
Start Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Oct 14, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100
Start Date: Thu, Oct 8, 2020 Return Date: Wed, Oct 21, 2020	<del>\$3,295</del> <b>\$2,966 pp</b>	<b>SAVE: \$329</b> PAY BY DEC 18 AARP members save an additional \$100



## Edinburgh Military Tattoo

**The Edinburgh Military Tattoo takes place every year in August.**

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, often referred to as "the most spectacular show on earth," is an exciting celebration showcasing the best of Scottish music, dance, and military pageantry. In 2020 it will take place in Edinburgh from August 7th to August 29th, and is sure to draw entertainers and spectators from around the world.

Tickets and arrangements have been included on these select departures. Book early as they will sell out quickly!

## Optional Add-Ons

Optional Experiences are subject to change. Your Travel Director will supply you with a final list of Optional Experiences available on your trip. Optional Experiences cannot be booked online; they can be purchased during your trip through your Travel Director.

### Plymouth Plymouth Harbour Cruise

Relax on a boat trip round the harbour of one of England's most famous seaports. As your skipper commentates, you'll see the Mayflower steps monument, where the Pilgrim Fathers set sail for America and ships sailed for Australia, New Zealand and Newfoundland and enjoy panoramic vistas of Plymouth Hoe. We'll also enter the Royal Navy Dockyard, where you'll see some of the modern vessels of the Royal Navy.

Adult Price: £15

### Exeter Devonshire Village And Dinner

We'll drive to a beautiful village in Devon, where you'll see cob walled houses with thatched roofs and the parish church, which dates back over 700 years. You'll also savour a tasty pub dinner and meet the locals, in a 700-year-old village pub.

Adult Price: £37

### Cardiff Welsh Evening At Millennium Centre

Enjoy an evening of Welsh music, culture and humour. The venue for the evening is the Welsh Millennium Centre, an iconic building in the fashionable Cardiff Bay area. After a warm reception, you'll enjoy a first-class meal of seasonal Welsh specialities, sourced and produced locally. Quality wine or soft drinks are



included and the meal will be accompanied by our enchanting Welsh harpist. You'll then be entertained by the finest local singers presenting the beautiful music of Wales.

Adult Price: £54

### **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 Price: £21

### **Windermere Private Cruise On Lake Windermere**

Enjoy an exclusive cruise on a private boat 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 Price: £17

### **Windermere Cruise And Steam Train Ride**

A chance to view the glorious scenery of the Lake District as we cruise across England's largest lake. Then step back in time as we board the steam train for a short journey from Lakeside to Haverthwaite.

Adult Price: £19

### **Loch Lomond 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 Price: £15

### **Scottish Highlands 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 sheep shearing, feeding the lambs and discover his training techniques. Weather permitting.

Adult Price: £14

### **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 Price: £20

### **Edinburgh 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 Price: £42



### **Local Dinner Evening**

Join us and your travelling companions for a delicious traditional dinner and drink at a local restaurant.

Adult Price: £40

### **Rosslyn Chapel**

We'll drive out of Edinburgh to the tiny village of Rosslyn, where you'll hear the inside story on the famous Rosslyn Chapel. 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 Price: £21

### **Dinner And Drive To Historic Torphichen**

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

Adult Price: £46

### **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 at an internationally famous venue. You'll enjoy delicious 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 Price: £60