

# ENGLAND'S CASTLES, COTTAGES & COUNTRYSIDE

from CANTERBURY to the COTSWOLDS



From Canterbury on England's eastern coast to the Cotswolds in the west, explore the lovely and historic countryside of southern England. Facing the English Channel, the iconic White Cliffs of Dover stand at a strategic defensive point for the island of Britain. Delve into the wartime history of this area, as well as the life of Winston Churchill, the World War II prime minister. Head west to experience the picture-perfect Cotswolds. The thatched roof cottages and churches made of honey-colored stone possess a timeless charm. Shakespeare, one of the world's greatest writers, hailed from this pastoral area, and in nearby Oxford, the impressive architecture is a fine backdrop for the world-class university. Of course, no trip to this area of England would be complete without a visit to a renowned castle and vibrant London.

## INCLUDED FEATURES

### Accommodations

- **Three nights** in Canterbury England, at the **ABode Canterbury**, a first-class hotel.
- **Four nights** in Broadway at **The Lygon Arms**, a first-class hotel.
- **Two nights** in London at **Radisson Blu Edwardian Vanderbilt**, a first-class hotel.

### Transportation

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

### Activities and Events

- **Informative educational programs** presented by **local experts** will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- **Personal VOX listening device** to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Attend a **Welcome Reception and Dinner**.
- Gather for a **Farewell Reception and Dinner**.

### Extensive Meal Program

- Enjoy nine breakfasts, two lunches and three dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.

## MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



- Your exclusive **Small-Group experience** is limited to 28 travelers to maximize your travel experience.
- Experience the history and heritage of **Canterbury and the Cotswolds**, and many places in between.
- **Visit the following UNESCO World Heritage sites:** Canterbury Cathedral, St. Augustine's Abbey and St. Martin's Church in Canterbury, Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire and the Kew Royal Botanic Gardens.
- Visit **Chartwell**, home of Sir Winston Churchill, and **Leeds Castle**.
- Tour the town that initiated the famous **Canterbury Tales** anthology.
- See the changing of the guard at **Windsor Castle**.
- Admire some of Europe's finest architecture at **Oxford University**.
- Stroll through the bountiful **Royal Horticulture Society Garden Wisley**.

## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### DAY 1 ~ IN TRANSIT

Depart for London, England.†

† Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

### DAY 2 ~ Canterbury

Upon arrival, transfer† to Canterbury and check in to the ABode Canterbury. Tonight, gather with fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

### DAY 3 ~ WESTERHAM/ MAIDSTONE

**Educational Focus:** *Canterbury Tales.*

**Excursion:** *Canterbury.*

Explore Canterbury, home of the spiritual head of the Church of England for nearly 500 years. See Canterbury Cathedral, St. Augustine's Abbey and St. Martin's Church, which has served the community for more than 14 centuries.

### DAY 4 ~ DOVER/CANTERBURY

**Excursion:** *The White Cliffs of Dover and Leeds Castle.* Head for the coast, where The White Cliffs of Dover overlook the English Channel. Continue to Dover Castle and experience a World War II hospital atmosphere at the Underground Hospital. Continue to Leeds Castle near the village of Maidstone. This beautiful castle was built on the site of a 12th-century Norman garrison.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

### DAY 5 ~ CANTERBURY/THE COTSWOLDS

**Educational Focus:** *English Gardens & "Capability" Brown.*

**Excursion:** *Gardens of England.*

Visit Chartwell, home of Winston Churchill and his wife, in Westerham. The home is a picture of life as Churchill and his family lived it, with many of his belongings still in the home. Continue to the RHS Garden Wisley for a guided tour and stroll through ornamental grasses and orchards. Travel north to the charming Cotswolds, a region designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

**Local Flavor:** Relax and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

Check in to The Lygon Arms in Broadway.

### DAY 6 ~ THE COTSWOLDS

**Educational Focus:** *The History of the Cotswolds.*

**Excursion:** *Classic Cotswolds.*

Explore the villages in this quaint English country landscape. Visit Burton-on-the-Water, Stow-on-the-Wold and Chipping Campden.

**Independent Exploration:** Have some time at leisure for lunch and exploring in Stow-on-the-Wold.

### DAY 7 ~ OXFORD

**Educational Focus:** *Churchill.*

**Excursion:** *Blenheim Palace and Oxford.*

Visit Blenheim Palace, birthplace of Winston Churchill, and see its state rooms and gardens. Continue to Oxford, where the namesake university has some of Europe's finest architecture. Visit one of the colleges for a closer look.

### DAY 8 ~ BROADWAY

**Independent exploration:** Enjoy a free day to discover quaint Broadway.

### DAY 9 ~ WINDSOR/LONDON

**Excursion:** *Windsor Castle and Kew Royal Botanic Gardens.*

Head to London via Windsor to see the changing of the guard at Windsor Castle. Continue to the Kew Royal Botanic Gardens and explore its tapestry of vibrant blossoms. Check in to The Langham.

**Independent exploration:** The afternoon is at leisure in London.

### DAY 10 ~ LONDON

**Independent exploration:** Your final full day in England is free to explore London on your own. Tonight, attend a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

### DAY 11 ~ IN TRANSIT

Transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.†

**NOTE:** *The information presented is preliminary. Itineraries, included features and schedules are subject to change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.*

### ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Available at an additional cost

**Stratford-upon-Avon.** On Day 8, enjoy an outing to discover Shakespeare's birthplace and visit Anne Hathaway's cottage. Enjoy lunch in this lovely town.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### ABODE CANTERBURY Canterbury

This stylish, first-class hotel is located on High Street near Canterbury Castle and other historic sites. Enjoy European cuisine at the County Restaurant, or gather for cocktails at the Champagne Bar or Old Brewery Tavern. The hotel has a fitness center and Wi-Fi is complimentary.



### THE LYGON ARMS Broadway

Located in the heart of the bucolic Cotswolds, The Lygon Arms has opened its doors to travelers since the 16th century. The hotel, built with the typical honey-colored stone of the area, is a cozy retreat. There is a spa, fitness center and indoor pool. Enjoy delicious cuisine in two restaurants. Afternoon tea also is served. Wi-Fi is complimentary.

### RADISSON BLU EDWARDIAN VANDERBILT, LONDON London

Located in the Royal Borough of South Kensington, the Radisson Blu Edwardian Vanderbilt, features cozy, secure rooms with satellite television and Sicilian marble bathrooms. Enjoy proximity to the Knightsbridge, Harrods, the Natural History Museum and many fine-dining choices. The hotel has a fitness center and Wi-Fi is complimentary.

Previous page (top to bottom):  
Leeds Castle  
Chartwell



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