

While you might not meet Mr Darcy, this tour certainly evokes a bygone age, imbued with archetypal villages, stately homes, historic castles and gardens.



Highlight visit to magnificent Castle Howard

Elegance of Great Britain



TOUR PACE

This tour features two-night stays throughout. In each overnight destination there are expertly planned day excursions, or city tours, with fabulous visits designed to showcase each region in depth. An engaging, yet balanced itinerary.

HOTELS

Enjoy both modern and traditional hotels - from the contemporary Botley Park to the more traditional Hilton Grosvenor in Edinburgh, and the highlight historic grand Victorian Marriott Hollins Hall, set in 200 acres of Brontë Country.

FELLOW PASSENGERS

Both seasoned and first-time travellers are drawn to the cornucopia of gardens, castles, museums and stately homes included on this tour. Perfect for lovers of history and the picture-perfect English countryside.

INSIGHT FACT

Blenheim Palace: Blenheim Palace was created to celebrate victory over the French during the Wars of the Spanish Succession. In particular it was a gift to the First Duke of Marlborough from a grateful nation. He was the military commander who skillfully led the Allied forces into battle on 13th August 1704 at Blindheim (Blenheim). In 1987 Blenheim Palace was created a World Heritage site.

DAY 1 – LONDON – HAMPSHIRE. After a warm welcome from your Tour Director, make your way into the Kent countryside. At the pretty village of *Westerham*, Winston Churchill watches over the neat village green *and you visit his nearby residence of Chartwell next. Continue through brilliant yellow and green pastures to Hever Castle, home to the tragic tale of Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII. Cross the moat to explore the fortified manor house and stroll the pretty gardens.* Move on to your hotel set amid a 176-acre parkland golf course, with extensive leisure facilities and Health Spa. Enjoy a *Welcome Drink* before dinner tonight. Hotel: Botley Park, Golf & Country Club (D)

DAY 2 – NEW FOREST EXCURSION. *A scenic drive through the woods and glades of the New Forest brings you to Beaulieu Abbey, once a Cistercian Abbey, now the stately home of Lord Montagu. Tour the Palace House, Abbey ruins and visit his lordship's collection of cars in the National Motor Museum.* Travel on to *Salisbury* to see the *13th century cathedral*, whose spire is the tallest in the land. After some free time, return to your hotel where the remainder of the day is at leisure. (B)

DAY 3 – HAMPSHIRE – STRATFORD. Visit the *cathedral town of Winchester* this morning, where King Alfred stands guard in the High Street. The country roads lead you past pretty villages en route to *Avebury*, which is partially situated in a huge prehistoric *henge monument* of several stone circles. *Continue on to Stratford-upon-Avon to visit Shakespeare's birthplace, full of memorabilia and artefacts relating to his life.* Hotel: Swans Nest (B)

DAY 4 – COTSWOLDS EXCURSION. An enchanting day takes you across the beautiful *Cotswold hills*, a chocolate box scene of golden stone villages with roses round the doors. *Visit Blenheim Palace, the greatest building of the English Baroque, residence of the Dukes of Marlborough and birthplace of Winston Churchill. After touring the house and gardens, visit the gardens of Sudeley Castle, former home to one of King Henry VIII's wives, Katherine Parr. Tonight, you are offered a choice of restaurants for your dining pleasure.* (B,DA)

DAY 5 – STRATFORD – LAKE DISTRICT. Travel through the orchards of Worcestershire to the border town of *Ludlow*, where elegant 18th century mansions rub shoulders with picturesque *half-timbered Tudor buildings*. The town is dominated by the massive *castle*, rich in tragic royal history. After some time to explore the *lanes and hidden courtyards*, continue through the remote Shropshire hills. You pass *Wenlock Edge*, as celebrated in the poetry of AE Housman, *to reach historic Ironbridge Gorge, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. From the eponymous 200-year-old bridge* the smooth motorway carries you north to the *English Lake District*. Hotel: Windermere Hydro (B,D)

DAY 6 – LAKE DISTRICT EXCURSION. A whole day is devoted to the *Lake District* – a scenic wonderland of rugged mountains and tranquil waters and an inspiration to a host of English poets. *Visit Wordsworth's grave in the small churchyard at Grasmere*, then admire the vast expanse of *Windermere*, the largest of the lakes. Perhaps consider a cruise on its peaceful waters before returning to the hotel. (B,D)

DAY 7 – LAKE DISTRICT – EDINBURGH. Cross the Scottish border at *Gretna* – for years the destination of eloping English lovers. Spend your spare time shopping before enjoying the contrasting beauty of the Southern Lowlands en route to *Edinburgh. Here, discover the wonders of the plant kingdom in the Botanical Gardens, which form a remarkable haven of tranquillity in the south of the city, as well as being a world-renowned centre for botanical science.* Hotel: Hilton Grosvenor (B)

DAY 8 – EDINBURGH SIGHTSEEING. Today a *local guide* shows you the glory of the 'Athens of the North'. In the *old town visit Edinburgh Castle containing the Honours of Scotland, the oldest Royal regalia in the British Isles.* Follow the *Royal Mile* to the *Palace of Holyroodhouse* where Mary Queen of Scots lived - it is still the official Scottish residence of the Queen. Drive along *Princes Street* to see the ornate *Scott Memorial*, then visit the 18th century 'New Town' with its classical Adam facades. The rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight, *selected departures attend the spectacular Edinburgh Tattoo.* (B)

DAY 9 – EDINBURGH – BRONTË COUNTRY. *Travel through the Borders region to Abbotsford House, the 19th century estate of Sir Walter Scott, which now serves as a museum for the Scottish memorabilia and artefacts collected throughout his lifetime.* Head south past *Jedburgh Abbey* and over the border to visit *Hadrian's Wall*, boundary of the civilised world in Roman times! Stay for the next two nights in an *historic, grand Victorian hotel*, set amidst a landscape that fuelled the imagination of the Brontë sisters in writing their classic novels. Hotel: Marriott Hollins Hall & Country Club. (B,D)

DAY 10 – YORKSHIRE EXCURSION. After breakfast, drive to the walled city of *York*, one of the most historic cities in Britain, its story going back to the time of the Romans and the Vikings. See the huge *Minster*, Britain's largest medieval cathedral, and explore the *maze of narrow streets*, including the *Shambles*. Head out now through rich farmland to *visit the fabulous 18th century Castle Howard, one of Britain's grandest historic houses with its fine furniture, paintings, tapestries and extensive gardens.* (B,D)

DAY 11 – BRONTË COUNTRY – LONDON. *Travel south to visit Warwick Castle, with its magnificent medieval towers and ramparts perched on a crag above the River Avon. The chilling dungeon contrasts with the splendour of the State Rooms and baronial Great Hall.* Return to London where you bid farewell to your Tour Director and your tour comes to an end. (B)



Attend the spectacular Edinburgh Military Tattoo (on selected departures)

For updated lists of Definite Departures (DEF), news, views & info visit our 'Bulletin Board' at www.insightvacations.com

11 DAYS ~ ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

Visit the Edinburgh Botanical Gardens, home to thousands of plant species and world renowned centre of science



Witness the military manoeuvres, pipes and drums of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo (06 - 28 Aug only)
See the Honours of Scotland at Edinburgh Castle

Visit Abbotsford House on the River Tweed, the 19th century estate of the novelist, Sir Walter Scott

This beautiful 18th century home (still in the possession of the Howard family for whom it was built) contains a vast collection of china, furniture and tapestries

Learn about the life of William Wordsworth

Ironbridge Gorge, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution

Visit Shakespeare's Birthplace
Choose from a selection of restaurants on our Dine-Around evening

Visit Warwick Castle

Visit Blenheim Palace & Gardens

Visit Chartwell & Hever Castle

Tour the Palace House, Abbey ruins and visit the National Motor Museum

Visit Sudeley Castle Gardens



Included Premium Highlights

- Visit Winston Churchill's former country residence of Chartwell
- Visit Hever Castle, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, tragic queen of King Henry VIII
- Tour the Palace House, Abbey ruins and National Motor Museum at Beaulieu
- Visit the birthplace of the celebrated bard, William Shakespeare, in Stratford-upon-Avon
- Visit the house and gardens of Blenheim Palace, the greatest building of the English Baroque
- Visit the award-winning gardens of Sudeley Castle in the Cotswolds
- Visit the Edinburgh Botanical Gardens
- View the Honours of Scotland on your visit to Edinburgh Castle
- Attend the spectacular Edinburgh Military Tattoo (selected departures only)
- Visit Abbotsford, the house built and lived in by famous novelist and author, Sir Walter Scott
- Visit the fabulous 18th century Castle Howard, with its tapestries and scenic gardens
- Visit the dungeons, Great Hall and State Rooms of medieval Warwick Castle

Included Personal Insights

- At Ironbridge, the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, enjoy an introduction to the engineering miracle that changed the world forever
- Learn some of the lesser known facts about the life of William Wordsworth, Britain's best-loved poet

Included Additional Excursions & Sights

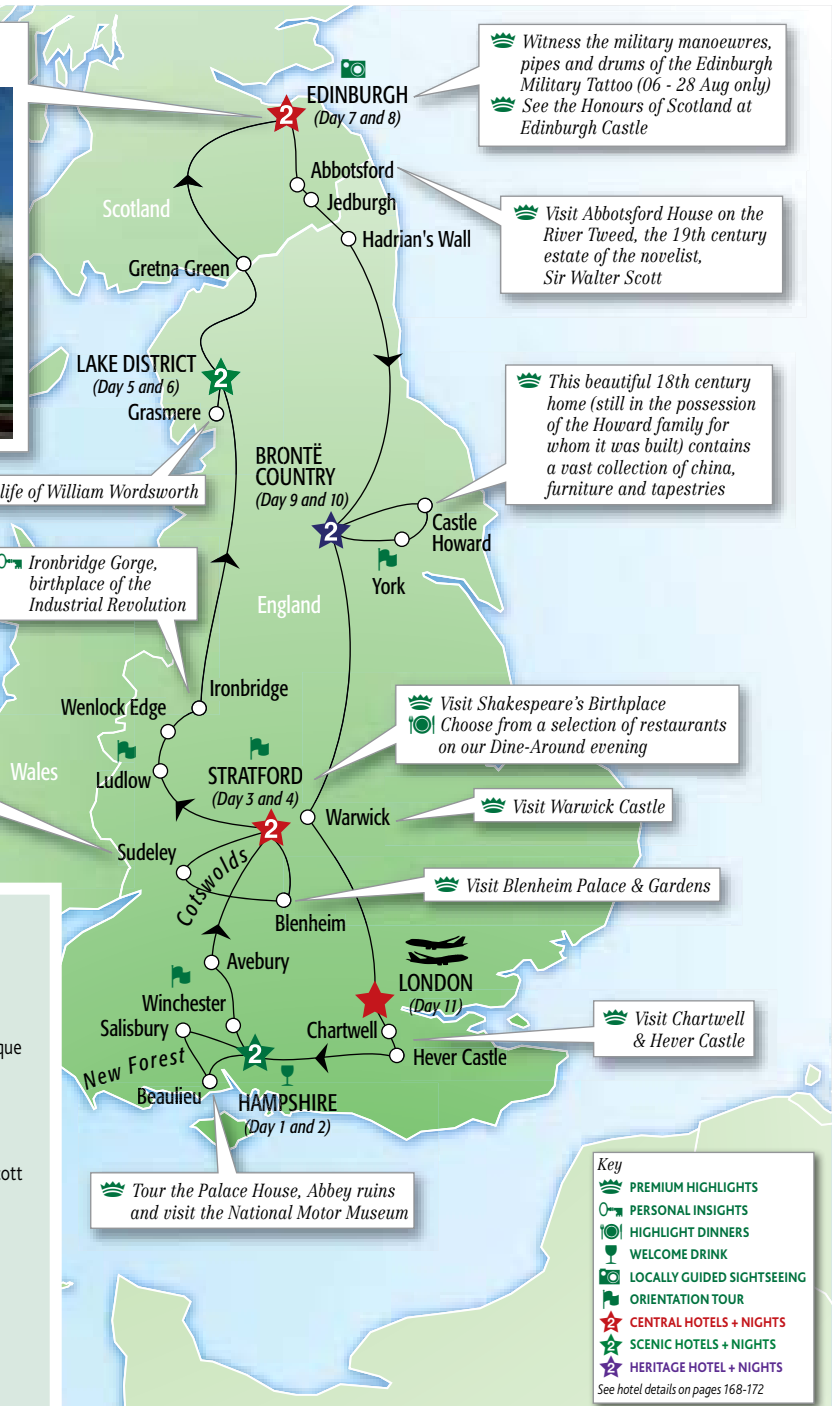
- See Churchill's statue in the village of Westerham
- Visit the cathedral town of Winchester
- See Salisbury Cathedral with its soaring 404ft spire, highest in England
- Visit Avebury's stone circles
- See Ludlow's ruined castle and Jacobean timbered buildings
- See Wenlock Edge • Visit Gretna Green
- Tour the New Town and drive the Royal Mile to Holyroodhouse Palace in Edinburgh
- See Jedburgh Abbey • Visit Hadrian's Wall
- See York Minster and Shambles
- Scenic Drives – Cotswolds, New Forest, Lake District

Included First Class Services

- Escorted by a professional Tour Director
- Luxury air-conditioned 40 seat coach with onboard toilet
- Insight Hotels include all service charges, taxes and portage
- Insight Traveller document wallet, map book journal and information pack
- Free London Airport shuttle service, conditions apply, see pages 17 & 173

Included Quality Dining

- Dine-Around evening at your own choice of restaurant from our selection in Stratford (DA)
- 10 full Breakfasts (B) and 5 three-course Evening Meals with choice, or buffets, plus tea or coffee (D)



Key

- PREMIUM HIGHLIGHTS
- PERSONAL INSIGHTS
- HIGHLIGHT DINNERS
- WELCOME DRINK
- LOCALLY GUIDED SIGHTSEEING
- ORIENTATION TOUR
- CENTRAL HOTELS + NIGHTS
- SCENIC HOTELS + NIGHTS
- HERITAGE HOTEL + NIGHTS

See hotel details on pages 168-172

Save up to US\$225 p.p. - see reductions below

Starts - Ends London	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option	Starts - Ends London	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option	Starts - Ends London	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option
May 06 - May 16	\$2250	\$410	Jul 15 - Jul 25	\$2250	\$410	Sep 02 - Sep 12	\$2250	\$410
May 20 - May 30	\$2250	\$410	Jul 29 - Aug 08	\$2250	\$410	Sep 09 - Sep 19	\$2250	\$410
Jun 03 - Jun 13	\$2250	\$410	# Aug 05 - Aug 15	\$2350	\$410	Sep 16 - Sep 26	\$2250	\$410
Jun 17 - Jun 27	\$2250	\$410	# Aug 12 - Aug 22	\$2350	\$410			
Jul 01 - Jul 11	\$2250	\$410	# Aug 19 - Aug 29	\$2350	\$410			

Reductions

SAVE \$75 per person with Triple room reduction

Insight's Great Savings & Discounts

SAVE \$225 per person with Young Traveller Discount

SAVE up to \$118 per person with 2nd Tour Discount

SAVE up to \$118 per person with Frequent Traveller Discount

Early Payment Discount 12 mths 10 mths 6 mths

SAVE per person \$225 \$165 \$110

For additional information regarding Insight's great Savings & Discounts, please see page 18.

Notes

REF: B917. Prices are per person sharing a twin in US\$.
The Edinburgh Tattoo is included on these departures.
Tours start Thursday and end Sunday. Alternative stately homes or gardens may be substituted if those mentioned are closed.

Tour Departure Point
This tour departs from the Thistle Marble Arch, our recommended pre/post tour accommodation (see page 16 for booking details, airport transfers and sightseeing).

Included are worth approximately US\$352