



All New Tour in May



Cardiff Bay, Wales



St Davids, Wales

Next tour: London - Wales - Bath

Tour Dates: May 21-28, 2024

Dear Reader:

Welcome to our newest tour. It's filled with new places we've not visited before!

Our May 2024 tour takes us for the first time to Wales, as well as to new places in London and Bath, England.

Our stops in London will feature the Garden Museum, a gem in the heart of the city, as well as a quick boat ride to Greenwich where we'll see the Royal Naval College's painted hall and the Prime Meridian.

In Wales we'll visit the Royal Mint and the UK's smallest city, poet Dylan Thomas' home, and, hopefully, a rehearsal by a Welsh Men's choir (still being negotiated).

In Bath, we'll trace the steps of Queen Charlotte and her world from the Bridgerton series.

See the page 3 for a detailed itinerary.

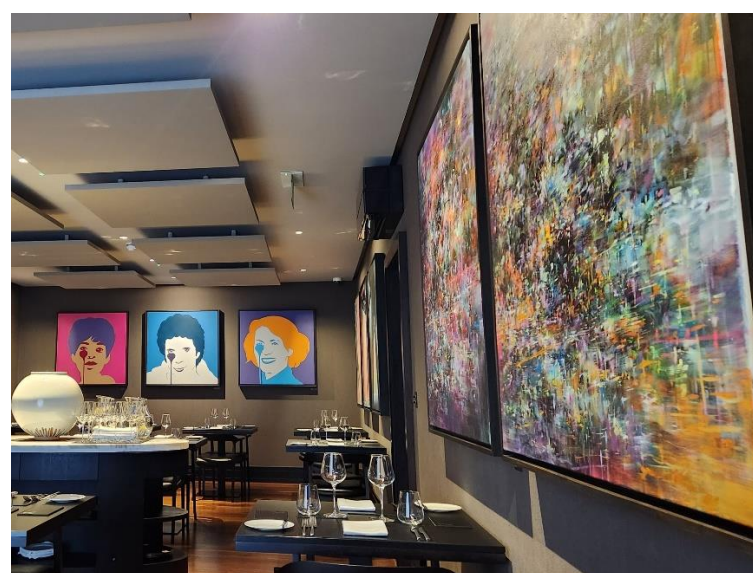
New!!! Reserve your spot before October 20th to receive a \$100 discount. See details inside.

I hope you'll join us.

Mary



Hot air balloons over Bath



Our five-star hotel in Wales

HOW TO RESERVE A SPACE

Cost per person: \$6450. This covers hotels for eight nights; eight breakfasts; seven dinners; one afternoon tea; group taxis in London; a luxury coach in the countryside; tickets and entry fees to 15-20 venues. Not covered: airfare, airport transfers, lunches, incidentals, and tips for our driver. Group size: 7-10.

To reserve a spot, send a non-refundable \$500 deposit to Mary Valentine now. An installment of \$3000.00 is due no later than February 1, 2024. The balance (\$2950) is due no later than April 1, 2024.

Send payments to:
Mary Valentine Tours
15030 Ventura Blvd. #456
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
323.868.6394 or 747.998.5630
www.maryvalentinetours.com

We also accept payment via Zelle at maryvalentinetours.com



HOW TO RECEIVE A DISCOUNTED RATE:

Send us your \$500 non-refundable deposit before October 20 and we'll knock off \$100 from your final payment. You may then reduce your April 1 payment to \$2850.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Here's a sample of what you'll experience on our tour.



The Weir, Bath



St. Nons Chapel, Wales

DAILY SCHEDULE (Subject to updates)

May 21: In the morning, we'll sail from London's Westminster Bridge to Greenwich where we tour the Old Naval College and view its spectacular Painted Ceiling. Then we'll stop at the Prime Meridian. In the afternoon, we'll visit the Garden Museum (located in the deconsecrated church of St Mary-at-Lambeth) and take a walking tour of London's "Chelsea in Bloom" where shops compete for the most beautiful floral decorations.



Garden Museum London



Chelsea in Bloom

May 22: Our schedule includes a visit to the Staterooms at Kensington Palace, as well as a special exhibit at the recently reopened National Portrait Gallery. An early dinner at the Portrait Restaurant will be followed by a candlelight concert at St.-Martin-in-the-Fields.

May 23: Our coach picks us up, and soon we're in Wales. Stops include St. Fegans National History Museum and the Big Pit Coal Mine.

May 24: We will spend the day in Cardiff, the capital of Wales, where we'll view Parliament, the Docks, the Welsh Assembly, and the performing Arts Concert Hall. Then we're on to St. Davids, the smallest city in Wales, where we'll spend three nights at a 5-star hotel which is noted for its fabulous restaurant and modern art collection.



May 25: Stops include the Chapel of St. Non, poet Dylan Thomas' home, the Baked Bean Museum (!), and a scenic coastal drive.

May 26: We spend the morning exploring St. Davids, including stops for a tour at the Cathedral and St. Davids Castle. St. Davids is filled with opportunities for walks as well as shopping. An evening of music by the men's chorus of St. Davids will close out the day.

May 27: We leave St. Davids and stop at the Royal Mint which is producing the UK's new money featuring King Charles. We'll then check into the five-star Pig Near Bath for one night.

May 28: Following a Bridgerton/Queen Charlotte walking tour of Bath, we'll stop at Persephone Books for tea, scones and lively conversation before heading for London. We'll dine at London's Frontline Restaurant and end our tour.

We'll be adding more stops as we get closer to May.



Testimonials from past participants:

"I had the opportunity to go with Mary to England. She booked beautiful hotels with friendly staff and great locations. We had a private coach for 9 people and the sites she booked each day were interesting. Looking forward to another trip in the future. I highly recommend her tours." P. Fritzel

"If you want to go on a well-designed, educational, literary, yummy, and totally fun trip planned to the 't' with other like-minded folks, look no further than a Mary Valentine tour. Her tour to England was honestly one of the best trips I have ever taken. And I am not exaggerating." C. Bernstein

"I accompanied Mary on a trip to Southwest England and loved it. It didn't really feel like a 'tour' at all, but rather a group of companionable friends traveling together! Such interesting folks, and Mary's easy-going manner made it all seem effortless. The accommodations were wonderful. The 'activities' Mary had planned took us off the beaten tourist-track to experience some really interesting and varied hidden treasures. I highly recommend travel with Mary." P. White

"Escape to the English countryside with Mary Valentine! From personalized itineraries to savvy hotel and restaurant choices, traveling with Mary guarantees a unique experience. Her deep knowledge of history, culture (and British TV mystery series) informs each tour she creates. I've traveled with Mary twice and look forward to doing so again." K. Breazeale



Best fish and chips ever

LEARN A LITTLE WELSH

Although most Welsh people speak English, it's always nice to be able to communicate in the native language.

Here are a few simple Welsh phrases to try out:

“Bore da” – meaning, good morning.
Pronounced: ‘bore-ray-dah’

“Helô / Hylô” – meaning, hello
Pronounced: ‘hell-oh / hill-oh’

“Sut wyt ti?” – meaning, how are you?
Pronounced: ‘Soot-wut-tee’

“Diolch” – meaning, thank you.
Pronounced: ‘Dee-ol-ch’

“Croeso” – meaning, you’re welcome
Pronounced: ‘Croe-soe’

“Prynhawn da” – meaning, good afternoon.
Pronounced: ‘Prin-how’n-dah’

“Nos da” – meaning, good night.
Pronounced: ‘Nohs-dah’

“Ble mae’r tŷ bach?” – meaning, where is the toilet?
Pronounced: ‘Blair my-r tee ba-ch?’

Source: University of South Wales Pathway



Cadwaladr, the red dragon of Wales