# Real Britain



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## Day 1 | Welcome to London



Brightly colored Union Flags pave your way to an unforgettable journey through Britain, which kicks off in London. Visit 'The City' and see the imposing dome of Sir Christopher Wren's St. Paul's and the Tower of London, or admire the pageantry of royal palaces, cathedrals and parks, exploring the city on your own terms.

Hotel: Hilton Kensington

Day 2 | Explore the Sights of London



Join a Local Specialist today for a grand exploration of the vibrant British capital, including such sights as Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament on the banks of the Thames, then Buckingham Palace, the official UK residence of British sovereigns since 1837. Spend the rest of the day on your own, exploring the centuries-old heritage and modern sophistication of London.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hilton Kensington

Day 3 | Journey to Stonehenge, Bath and Cardiff



Embark on a mesmerizing sojourn past rolling hills and farmlands of England. Head west to Stonehenge's megaliths, whose centuries-old mysteries have yet to be fully revealed. The elegant Georgian architecture of Bath takes center stage during your visit to this famous spa town. See the Abbey and visit the Roman Baths, before crossing the Severn Estuary to Cardiff. Tonight, celebrate the beginning of an epic adventure through Great Britain over dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Clayton

# Day 4 | Through the Scenic Countryside to Liverpool



Delve into the proud culture and heritage of the Welsh as you embark on an orientation of the city. Journey to Ludlow to see its half-timbered Tudor houses, medieval walls and historic castle. Continue north through the Shropshire Hills and Cheshire landscapes to Liverpool, hometown of the Fab Four, for an opportunity to join an Optional Experience to see the sights of the city with a Local Expert.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Mercure Atlantic Tower

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:**

Cardiff Castle Tour - On a private tour, you'll explore this unique castle and hear tales about the eclectic refurbishments. Done in the 1800s by architect William Burgess, his influences included Islamic art, Hans Christian Andersen'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: 27.00 GBP

**Famous Sights and the Fab Four** - Come along with our Local Guidet 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: 26.00 GBP

# Day 5 | Venture to the Romantic Lake District and on to Edinburgh



The enchanting views of Britain's Lake District provide a scenic backdrop for our drive north to Scotland. Skirt the romantic shores of Lake Windermere and enjoy views that inspired literary greats like William Wordsworth. We stop at the runaway wedding capital that is Gretna Green where 'Blacksmith Priests' would marry couples over the Marriage Anvil. Later, we arrive in enchanting Edinburgh – our home for the next two nights. This evening, consider attending a lively Scottish cèilidh with traditional haggis and bagpipes. Tickets to The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo are included on departures that align with performance dates.

Meals: Breakfast
Hotel: Holiday Inn

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:**

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Steam Train Ride and Windermere Cruise - There is no better way to appreciate the scenic beauty of the English Lake District than a relaxing cruise and steam train ride. First take to the limpid waters of Windermere for a spectacular voyage, offering magnificent views of rugged mountains, secluded bays and wooded islands. At the southern end of the lake, your cruise connects with a steam locomotive for a nostalgic ride along the banks of the beautiful River Leven to Haverthwaite Station.\*

Adult: 34.00 GBP

Scenic Cruise on Lake Windermere - Enjoy a scenic boat cruise on England's most beautiful and largest lake, taking in the beautiful houses, gardens and Wray Castle. You'll see boats and birdlife as you explore the area loved by Beatrix Potter and William Wordsworth.

Adult: 29.00 GBP

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Ceilidh Evening and Dinner at Ghillie Dhu - Experience the best of Scottish tradition at Ghillie Dhu, where we'll be welcomed by a Scottish piper and enjoy a welcome drink before settling in for a delicious three-course meal and live Ceilidh music. And you can't miss the iconic Piping in the Haggis ceremony, a true highlight of the Scottish experience.\*

Adult: 88.00 GBP

**Dinner and Drive to Historic Torphichen** - Head to the historic village of Torphichen where you'll meet Kenny, the owner of the local pub and a true character. Kick off the evening with a toast and the skirl of bagpipes before sitting down to a three-course dinner with drinks, followed by haggis, poetry, singing and stories in good company. Adult: 73.00 GBP

<sup>\*</sup>Occasionally this experience will operate in reverse.

<sup>\*</sup>This experience is subject to seasonal availability and will only be offered during the summer months April - October.

### Day 6 | Discover Edinburgh's Treasures



Ramble up the Royal Mile in the mesmerizing medieval city of Edinburgh, where you'll join a Local Specialist on an included city sightseeing tour. See the Old Town and view Arthur's Seat and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, for centuries the seat of the kings and queens of the Scots. Visit Edinburgh Castle perched atop Castle Rock overlooking the city. Spend the rest of the day exploring Auld Reekie's medieval relics and elegant Georgian and Gothic facades on your own, or join your Travel Director on an Optional Experience to visit Rosslyn Chapel.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Holiday Inn

#### **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 Warden. 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: 30.00 GBP

Historic Old Town Edinburgh Walk With Traditional Fish & Chips - Walk through Edinburgh's Historic Old Town with a Local Specialist. Stroll along Victoria Street, with its unusual shape and collection of quirky shops its said to be the inspiration behind Diagon Alley in the Harry Potter books. Afterwards, tuck into some traditional Fish and Chips at Bertie's Restaurant.

Adult: 48.00 GBP

Johnnie Walker's 'Journey of Flavor' Tour & Dinner on the Royal Mile - Jump into a 90-minute adventure with Johnnie Walker Experts guiding the way. This tour's packed with live performances, dazzling light displays, and tasty whiskey cocktails (mocktails, too!). Find out what flavors tickle your fancy, then wrap it up with a cozy meal on the Royal Mile.

Children over the age of 8 are welcome if accompanied by an adult 18 years+ at all times. Non-alcoholic options will be provided. Children under 8 are not permitted due to health and safety reasons.

Adult: 81.00 GBP

#### Day 7 | Explore Hadrian's Wall and Onwards to York



Trace the northern frontier of the Roman Empire at Hadrian's Wall before crossing the River Tyne and venturing south to York. Walk along The Shambles and view York Minster, one of the greatest cathedrals in the world. This evening join a family at their stately home in York for a Be My Guest experience and some hearty British home-cooked hospitality.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Novotel Centre

# Day 8 | Admire Stratford-upon-Avon and return to London



Learn about Shakespeare's life at his Birthplace and Visitor Center in Stratford-upon-Avon, and view Anne Hathaway's thatched cottage before returning to London.

Meals: Breakfast

**Hotel:** Hilton Kensington

Day 9 | Cheerio London



Say farewell to your fellow travelers and Travel Director as you return home with magical memories.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hilton Kensington