

NEW



# Discovering Wales: Heritage, Houses & Gardens

June 13 to 26, 2026 From \$8,500 per person \*

Beautiful Wales offers a treasure trove of historic wonders to discover, where imposing castles, glorious gardens and magnificent stately homes scatter the sweeping landscapes. We encounter a remarkable array of estates such as Penrhyn Castle, Bodnant Garden, Aberglasney Gardens and Tredegar House, learning about fascinating stories of power and enjoying memorable experiences along the way. Look forward to a luxurious stay at the National Trust’s Bodysgallen Hall Hotel & Spa, a wildlife cruise around the famous Puffin Island and an unforgettable gold-service journey on the Welsh Highland Railway, with its Orient Express-style splendour.

- ### What’s Included
- 2 nights at the Castle Hotel, Windsor (or similar)
  - 2 nights at the Parkgate Hotel, Cardiff
  - 2 nights at the Vale Resort, Pontyclun
  - 1 night at the Angel Hotel, Abergavenny
  - 4 nights at the Bodysgallen Hall Hotel & Spa, near Llandudno
  - 1 night at the Diglis House Hotel, Worcester
  - Welcome drink & canapés
  - Full English/Continental breakfast each day
  - 3-course table d’hôte dinner on 9 nights at the hotels\*(with after-dinner tea & coffee)
  - Services of a tour director
  - Travel to & from all excursions
  - All excursion costs
  - Airport transfers to/from London Heathrow\*
  - Porterage where available

\*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations, including central London.

## Itinerary

**June 13**  
Depart your home city and arrive the next day in London

**June 14: Arrival**  
Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to the Castle Hotel in Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.  
*Meals: Dinner*

**June 15: Avebury Manor Gardens & Caerleon Roman Baths**  
Visit the 16th-century Avebury Manor, famous for its recreated rooms in five different styles, from Tudor to the 20th century. Outside, there are different ‘rooms’ too, each with a different focus such as the organically grown produce of the Kitchen Garden, the wide range of herbaceous perennials of the Monk’s Garden and the spectacular display of the Church Garden, amongst others. There is also a Lavender Walk, sensory woodland walk at the end of the South Lawn plus a calming Orchard a registered Silent Space.

We continue to Caerleon Roman Baths, once home to a frigidarium, tepidarium, caldarium and an extensive open-air swimming pool – bought to life by the wonders of film projection. A visit here is the perfect chance to also see Europe’s only surviving Roman legionary barracks too, as well as the most complete Roman amphitheatre in Britain.

Later, we check into the Parkgate Hotel in Cardiff, where we stay for the next two nights.

*Meals: Breakfast*

### June 16: Tredegar House & Cardiff Food Tasting Tour

This morning we head to Tredegar House, a late 17th-century restoration house surrounded by 90 acres of beautiful gardens and parkland. For more than 500 years it was home to one of the greatest Welsh families, the Morgans, later Lords Tredegar, and their intriguing narrative is told throughout the house.

We then head back to Cardiff, with its fascinating history that stretches through the centuries, for a delicious Welsh food tasting tour.

*Meals: Breakfast, Food Tasting*

### June 17: Cardiff Castle & Hensol Castle

After checking out of the hotel, we visit nearby Cardiff Castle for a wonderful Connoisseurs tour. Although the fortress dates back over 2,000 years, the Gothic Victorian fantasy castle we see today was created for the 3rd Marquess of Bute, one of the world’s richest men – as such the interiors and opulent and rich with murals, stained glass, marble, gilding and elaborate wood carvings.

A memorable gin experience awaits at the 17th-century Hensol Castle, famous for its small-batch craft gin. We visit the botanical room with a complimentary signature cocktail on arrival, learn from the expert mixologists before making our own cocktails, sample some lovely gin, take a guided tour of the distillery and round off the afternoon with a gin and tonic back at the bar – cheers!

Afterward, we make our way to the Vale Resort in Pontyclun, our base for two nights.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 18: National Botanic Garden of Wales & Aberglasney Gardens

Visit the National Botanic Garden of Wales, created over 150 years. A spectacular re-interpretation of the historical garden blends the careful restoration of the double-walled garden with Norman Foster’s Great Greenhouse, the largest single span glasshouse in the world.

By contrast, Aberglasney is a superb 16th/17th-century garden, which was discovered after 50 years of neglect. Now restored, a visit here is a delight for the senses with over 20 different garden styles, including a unique Elizabethan Cloister Garden, the only surviving example in the UK today. We learn more during our guided tour with a Head Gardener.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*



### June 19: Brecon Mountain Railway & Afternoon Tea

Today we head to Pant, a small village near the Welsh border, where we board our vintage train on the Brecon Mountain Railway, which follows part of the original route of the 1859-built Brecon & Merthyr Railway. Sit back and relax as we meander through beautiful Brecon scenery and along the full length of the sparkling Taf Fechan Reservoir.

Later, we enjoy a delicious afternoon tea at the Angel Hotel in Abergavenny, where we also stay overnight.

*Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon Tea*



### June 20: Llandudno & Bodnant Garden

We enjoy some free time in Llandudno, known as the ‘Queen of the Welsh Resorts’ and is famed for its golden beach and its wonderful air of traditional Victorian charm. From strolling along the beautiful coast to exploring the famous Llandudno pier, or perhaps a spot of shopping at the Victoria Centre, there is plenty to do.

Next, we visit Bodnant Garden, nestled in the Snowdonian foothills. Created over 150 years ago by scientist, businessman and politician Henry Pochin, the garden was filled with plants collected by famous global explorers such as Ernest Wilson, George Forrest and Harold Climer.

Afterward, we check into the National Trust’s Bodysgallen Hall Hotel & Spa, where we’re treated to a memorable four-night stay.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 21: Plas Newydd, Puffin Island & Penrhyn Castle

In the Isle of Anglesey we visit to the fine country house of Plas Newydd. Its most famous past resident is the 1st Marquess of Anglesey, who commanded the cavalry at Waterloo in 1815. The elegant interior reflects the 1930s. The garden’s climate allows extraordinary plants to flourish, including tender exotics and Mediterranean plants.

We then enjoy a delightful wildlife cruise around the famous Puffin Island, admiring the scenery and looking out for Atlantic grey seals, resident coastal birds, visiting sea birds and puffins!

Penrhyn Castle was built on a massive scale over a period of 13 years and offers outstanding views of Snowdonia. Along the way, we discover more of Penrhyn’s history, including sugar and slate fortunes, social unrest and the longest-running industrial dispute in British history.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 22: Bodrhyddan Hall & Conwy Castle

Visit Bodrhyddan Hall, home to Lord Langford and his ancestors for the last 500 years and set in several acres of glorious formal gardens. We learn more about this splendid house on our fascinating guided tour. Our visit is complete with a drinks reception and some light bites.

Our next stop is the medieval walled town to visit the imposing Conwy Castle. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this imposing fortress was built by Edward I during his conquest of Wales in the late 13th century.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 23: Snowdonia Star

Today we board the Welsh Highland Railway for a picturesque trip to the quaint coastal town of Porthmadog, admiring the awe-inspiring scenery of the Snowdonia National Park along the way. Stunning coastlines, ancient woodlands, towering mountains, sparkling rivers and historic castles create an enchanting and memorable journey. We are also treated to the gold service, the perfect chance to experience Orient Express-style splendour.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 24: Brynkinalt Estate

We begin our journey back across to England, stopping first at the Brynkinalt Estate, which dates back to 1612. Enjoy a guided tour, followed by tea, coffee and Welsh cakes.

Continue to Powis Castle. This grand medieval gem has beautiful 25-acre gardens, terraces and an orangery.

This evening, we stay overnight at the Diglis Hotel in Worcester.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 25: Broughton Castle & Nuffield Place

Built in the early 14th century, Broughton Castle is a stunning moated and fortified manor house, set in idyllic parkland. The manor has been a hive for political exchanges and royal stays throughout the centuries. We find out more on our fascinating guided tour.

We then pay a visit to Nuffield Place, the perfectly preserved former home of Lord Nuffield, founder of the iconic Morris Motor Company. Fans of the Morris brand will find many interesting artefacts inside.

Later, we check back into the Castle Hotel (or similar), where we enjoy a farewell dinner together.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### June 26: Departure

A private transfer will take you back to Heathrow Airport for your return flight home.

*Meals: Breakfast*

**Please note:** the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.





# Frequently Asked Questions

## How do I make a booking?

Call National Trust Tours at **888-484-8785** to register by phone (preferred method) **Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm (EST)** or register online at **www.nationaltrusttours.com**.

**\*Please note:** featured prices are inclusive of the National Trust membership discount. **If you are not a National Trust Member, there is a \$150 increase on the prices shown.**

## When are payments due?

When you confirm your booking with us, a non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to secure your place. The final balance payment must be paid to us no later than 90 days prior to the tour departure date. Of course, full payment can be made at the time of booking if you prefer and for bookings made less than 8 weeks before the tour departs this will be a requirement.

## How can I pay?

We accept debit and credit cards for deposits and full payment.

## What paperwork will I receive?

When your booking is confirmed, we will email you a booking confirmation document along with a copy of our full Terms and Conditions and the reading list. Approximately 28 days prior to the tour, we will prepare and send you our Travel Pack with your finalized information and tour itinerary details.

## Do I need travel insurance?

Yes, this is essential; we can only accept a booking on the basis that you have taken out a full and comprehensive travel insurance policy to cover the full duration of your trip. We will ask you to confirm this to us. If you choose not to take out travel insurance, this is done so against our advice and at your own risk; we will ask you to sign a declination form indemnifying us from any responsibility or cost in the event of medical emergency or repatriation. Information on travel insurance will be sent to you upon tour confirmation. USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers. For details, please contact National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785.

## Do I need a passport and visa?

It is your responsibility to ensure you have a full passport and we recommend that it is valid for 6 months after the return date of your trip. At the time of printing, tourist visas are not required for US or Canadian citizens visiting the UK for under 90 days solely for the purpose of tourism. If you are not a US or Canadian citizen or you are combining your visit with business, it is your responsibility to check the requirements for visiting the UK, you can do this by visiting the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) website to determine whether you need a visa to enter the United Kingdom.

## Are there single traveler room supplements?

Yes, you can contact us to enquire about single supplement prices. Please book early as single rooms sell fast.

## Are room upgrades available?

All of the hotels on these tours have been hand-picked for their high quality of accommodation and service. However, in some instances room upgrades are available and we would be happy to assist you to arrange these should you be interested. For more information on the hotels please visit our website.

## Can you arrange extra hotel nights?

Yes, if you decide to arrive a few days before the start of the tour or leave a few days after the end of the tour, we are happy to arrange extra nights’ accommodation. However, this service is only available at hotels that feature in the tour on which you are traveling and a \$35 administration fee is charged for this service.

## Are meals included?

All breakfasts are included on all tours. Certain lunches and dinners are also included and you should study the tour itinerary in this brochure to determine what meals are included on your chosen tour. Meals not mentioned are not included and all beverages are at your own expense throughout the tour.

## What do I do about any dietary requirements?

Please inform us at the time of booking, we will pass your information on to the hotel, property or restaurant who will do their best to accommodate your requirements.

## How many passengers will be in the Albion Journeys tour group?

Typically, between 10 and 30.

## What is the role of the Tour Director?

Our friendly Tour Director will meet you for a welcome dinner at the beginning of each tour. Their role is to facilitate the smooth organization of all operational aspects of the tour. If you have any queries or experience any issues during the tour, they are there to assist you.

## Will the excursions change?

Please note that we plan our tours far in advance and the order and availability of excursions may be subject to change. In the event of a property not being available to visit, we will substitute with a similar visit, and you will be informed of the full details.

## How much walking will there be on these tours?

As much or as little as you like. Any included guided tours will operate at a fairly relaxed pace, as with many historic houses and gardens, you may experience some uneven flooring and steps along the way. Of course, you will always have the option to explore any venue by yourself at your own pace. If you have any specific concerns, please contact us.

## What are the arrangements for luggage?

The standard luggage allowance is one item of hand luggage and one suitcase per person restricted to a maximum weight of 20kgs (44 pounds). We do provide portage at each of the hotels used on our tours where available, however, as with all things of a personal nature, it is your responsibility to ensure your suitcase is loaded onto the vehicles we use throughout the tour.

## What clothing should I bring?

Comfortable leisurewear is recommended for the daytime. In the evening many participants prefer to wear smarter dress for dining. While gentlemen may choose to wear a jacket in the restaurant in the evening, at most hotels this is not obligatory, we will of course inform you if any hotel does have a dress code. It is advisable to bring layered clothing and a light waterproof jacket. We recommend sturdy footwear when visiting gardens as the ground may be soft underfoot. Many historic properties request ladies do not wear high heels which may damage flooring.

## Can you arrange my flights to the UK?

Albion Journeys do not arrange your air travel for our tours; this is your responsibility and gives you the flexibility to decide on your own routing.

## What should I budget for tipping?

While it is not compulsory, it is customary to tip the coach driver and Tour Director as well as offering a small gratuity to the transfer drivers to acknowledge the services they have provided. As a guideline we suggest a rate of £5 (about \$6.50 as of this printing) per day for your coach and transfer drivers and £10 (about \$13 as of this printing) per day for your Tour Director. Gratuities for hotel staff and the tour guides you may meet at properties are at your discretion.

*All tours offered subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply. Errors and omissions excepted.*



# Terms & Conditions Extract

It is important that you read the following booking conditions extract and the full booking conditions shown on our website at [albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions](http://albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions). These online booking conditions form the basis of your contract with us. Please read them and the extract below carefully as they apply to all bookings you make with us unless otherwise specified.

**1. VACATION PAYMENT:** When you make a booking you must pay a deposit for every person named on the booking. Deposits per person and the balance due date (the period before the departure date on which your full balance normally becomes due) are:

Deposit	Balance due date
\$1,000 (USD)	90 days before departure

If you cannot make a payment by card at the time of booking, please speak to one of our Reservations staff to discuss other options. You can make payments against your balance anytime between making the booking and the balance due date. If the balance is not paid on time we reserve the right to treat your booking as canceled by you and apply cancellation charges as set out in clause 3 below. For bookings made after the balance due date, the full amount is due at the time of booking.

**2. OUR AGREEMENT:** A contract is formed when we issue to you the booking confirmation document and terms and conditions. It is important you read through these and any other documents you receive and advise us of any inaccuracy within 14 days of the document date. By accepting the booking is correct you agree to our terms and conditions.

We regret we cannot accept any liability if we are not notified of any inaccuracy in any document within 14 days of our sending it out. This contract and all matters arising out of it will be governed by English law and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

**3. VACATION CANCELLATION BY YOU:** If you want to cancel your booking after we have confirmed it with you either verbally, over the telephone or by email, you can do so over the phone or in writing. The following cancellation charges will apply:

91 days or more prior to departure	\$1,000 (USD)
90 days or less before departure	100% of the program cost is non-refundable

If any member of your party is prevented from traveling, that person may transfer their place to someone else (introduced by you) providing we are notified no less than two weeks before departure.

*Full terms and conditions will be provided with your booking confirmation. They are also available on request or via our website: [albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions](http://albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions).*

*Bookings are accepted on the basis that you have read and understood them.*