



St Michael's Mount

# Write around the Finest Homes of Cornwall, Devon & Dorset

April 18 to May 1, 2026 ◆ From \$8,700 per person

With its ancient myths, sparkling seas and beautiful landscapes, the counties of Cornwall, Devon and Dorset have long provided a source of literary creativity. We explore their finest historic gems while treading the path of British icons; we see the very spot where Jane Austen penned her classics, visit the famous smuggler's tavern immortalized in Daphne du Maurier's *Jamaica Inn*, traverse the idyllic countryside that is inextricably linked to Thomas Hardy's works and follow in the footsteps of Agatha Christie at her beloved Greenway. From grand stately homes and castles to colourful gardens and wild moors, this tour uncovers a magical world of inspiration.

## What's Included

- ◆ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow\*
- ◆ 1 night at the Audleys Wood Hotel, Basingstoke
- ◆ 1 night at the Harbour Hotel, Sidmouth
- ◆ 2 nights at the Bovey Castle Hotel, Dartmoor National Park
- ◆ 5 nights at the Headland Hotel, Newquay
- ◆ 2 nights at the Lincombe Hall Hotel & Spa, Torquay
- ◆ 1 night at the MacDonald Hotel, Windsor
- ◆ Welcome drink & canapés
- ◆ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ◆ 3-course *table d'hôte* dinner on 10 nights at the hotels\*\* (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ◆ Services of a tour director
- ◆ Travel to & from all excursions
- ◆ All excursion costs
- ◆ Porterage where available

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

\*\*Please note that the availability of the 3-course *table d'hôte* dinner may vary depending on the hotel, as some establishments offer a set menu.

## Itinerary

**April 18:** Depart your home city and arrive the next day in London

**April 19:** Arrival

Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to the Audleys Wood Hotel in Basingstoke, where we stay overnight. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.

*Meals: Dinner*

**April 20:** Jane Austen's House Museum & Chawton House

For our first visit, we head to Jane Austen's House Museum, the charming house where she completed the majority of her mature writing, including the timeless *Pride and Prejudice*. Admire Austen's first editions, jewellery, furniture and more here.

We continue to Chawton House, an Elizabethan manor house that once belonged to Jane Austen's brother, Edward Austen Knight. Renowned for its titles focusing on women's writing in English from 1600 to 1830, we find out more during our guided tour, preceded by lunch.

Later, we check into our overnight hotel, the Harbour Hotel in Sidmouth.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**April 21:** A La Ronde & Exeter Cathedral

We step into another world at A La Ronde, a unique 16-sided house built at the request of two spinster cousins in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, crammed full of extraordinary curiosities from their grand European tour.

Afterward, we continue to the magnificent Exeter Cathedral, dating back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The cathedral boasts the world's longest uninterrupted medieval vaulted ceiling and houses an extensive collection of historical documents, beautiful stained-glass windows and intricate carvings.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**April 22:** Dartmoor drive, Buckland Abbey Garden & Tavistock

This morning, we take a drive through spectacular Dartmoor with photo stops along the way, before heading to Buckland Abbey. Here we discover over eight centuries of history and hear stories of how Buckland went from a peaceful Cistercian Abbey through dissolution and restoration to the fascinating house it is today.

Later, we head to the market town of Tavistock for some free time before enjoying an afternoon tea at the Bedford Hotel.

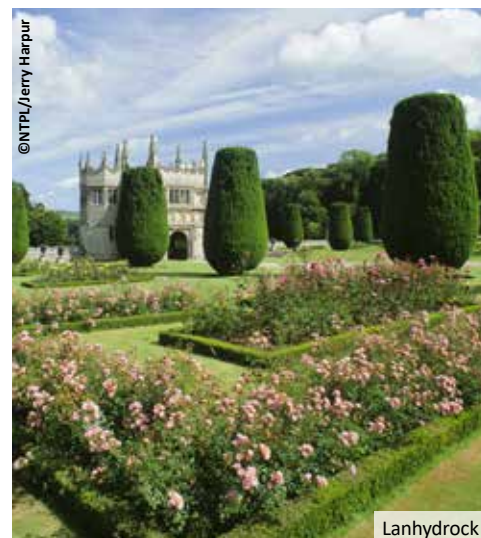
*Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon Tea, Dinner*

**April 23:** Jamaica Inn & Lanhydrock

We visit the famous Jamaica Inn, located high up on the wildly beautiful Bodmin Moor. Full of legend, this historic coaching house was made famous by Daphne du Maurier's tale of smugglers also houses a fascinating museum. Coffee and cake is included during our visit.

We continue to Lanhydrock, one of the most fascinating and complete late 19<sup>th</sup>-century houses in England. Here we discover two sides of Victorian life, admire the beautiful gardens and enjoy a light lunch.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



Lanhydrock

2027 dates coming soon  
please call for more details

James Darling Photography

Pencarrow House



**April 24:** Immersive Horticulture Experience at the Eden Project

From the steamy rainforests to the fragrant Mediterranean, we enjoy a real feast for the senses at Eden Project, where we are joined by a dedicated Eden horticulturist. Our Immersive Horticulture Experience includes a tour, hands-on gardening, workshop with biocontrol tips, lunch and complimentary Eden gifts.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**April 25:** Port Isaac & Godolphin

Any travelers who have seen the British TV series *Doc Martin* or the *Fisherman's Friends* movies will no doubt recognise charming Port Isaac. We visit various filming locations in the fishing village, which boasts winding streets lined with whitewashed cottages and a quaint harbor with clear waters (when the tide is in!).

Next, we take a guided tour of Godolphin, which played a pivotal role in Cornwall's mining history and its transformation of life in Britain. Features here include a medieval garden, Piggery tea room, Grade II listed farm buildings and a Grade I listed house.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**April 26:** Godolphin & St Michael's Mount

A warm Cornish welcome awaits at Pencarrow House, nestled on the edge of Bodmin Moor and the family home of the Molesworth-St Aubyns for almost 500 years. Our guided tour uncovers the secrets of this magnificent house.

Afterward, we enjoy a delightful afternoon tea at St Michael's Mount, one of the most iconic sights of Cornwall and connected to the mainland by a cobbled causeway. Depending on tide times, we either enjoy a boat ride to and from the island or a 15-minute walk along the ancient cobbled walkway.

For dinner this evening, we head to Rick Stein's flagship restaurant in the charming port of Padstow, renowned for its fresh seafood.

*Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon Tea, Dinner*

**April 27:** St Ives, Barbara Hepworth Museum & Sculpture Garden & Trevice House

Today, we see why artists have long been drawn to Cornwall. We begin with the holiday town of St Ives, where one highlight is the Cornwall branch of the Tate Gallery, showcasing stunning pieces from artists who have attracted international attention.

We then visit the nearby Barbara Hepworth Museum & Sculpture Garden, the former home and studio of the eminent British sculptor. It contains the largest collection of her works and a stunning garden with sculptures placed by the artist herself decades ago.

Next is one of Cornwall's hidden gems, Trevice House, for a guided tour and a light lunch. This romantic Elizabethan manor house remains little changed, featuring the Tudor Great Hall, exquisite plasterwork ceilings, a vast collection of longcase clocks and unique paintings.

Later, we enjoy a fascinating talk by a guest speaker.

*Meals: Breakfast, light lunch*

**April 28:** Charlestown & Saltram House

We enjoy some time in Charlestown, an unspoiled example of a late Georgian working port and a popular filming location with credits including the BBC's hugely successful *Poldark* TV series.

Later, we head to Saltram, an elegant Georgian mansion set in a rolling landscape park. The house is a rare survival of the period; particularly because it comes complete with its original, impressively lavish contents, including stunning paintings, ceramics and textiles.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**April 29:** Greenway & Burgh Island

After a journey on the foot ferry we arrive at Greenway, the much-loved holiday home of Agatha Christie and her family. As we wander through the atmospheric rooms with its unique collections, imagine Christie reading her latest mystery novel to her guests here.

We then take a special trip to the beautiful Art Deco Burgh Island Hotel, accessed by a sea tractor, where we enjoy a champagne afternoon tea. Previous guests include Josephine Baker

and Edward VIII, and you can just visualise Agatha Christie writing two novels here with the glitz of the hotel appealing as a literary setting.

*Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon Tea, Dinner*

**April 30:** Hardy's Cottage & Max Gate

Leaving Cornwall, we travel to Thomas Hardy's birthplace, Hardy's Cottage. Little altered since the Hardy family left, this delightful cob and thatch cottage is surrounded by a typical cottage garden of honeysuckle, climbing roses and japonica, and is where Hardy wrote *Far from the Madding Crowd*.

We continue to the Victorian Max Gate, where *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* was written and where Hardy lived until his death in 1928, followed by Dorchester, Hardy's birthplace. Here we explore the visitor center with its manuscripts, personal belongings and interactive displays.

Later, we check into the MacDonald Hotel in Windsor, where we enjoy a farewell dinner together.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**May 1:** 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.

## Albion Experiences

- ◆ Guided tour & lunch at Chawton House
- ◆ Coffee & cake at Jamaica Inn
- ◆ Sparkling Devon Cream Tea at The Bedford in Tavistock
- ◆ Guided tour & light lunch at Trevice House
- ◆ Guided tour of Pencarrow House
- ◆ Guided tour of Hardy's Cottage
- ◆ Afternoon tea at the Burgh Island Hotel
- ◆ Immersive Horticulture Experience at the Eden Project
- ◆ Dinner at Rick Stein's flagship restaurant in Padstow
- ◆ Themed evening talk by a guest speaker

# 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, please visit **savingplaces.org/membership-benefits** to sign up. Thank you for your support.

## 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.

## Do I need a passport and visa?

**Important UK Entry requirements**  
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. Tourist visas are not required for US citizens visiting the UK however a new Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) will now be required.

Electronic Travel Authorisations (ETA) are being introduced for visitors to the UK who currently do not require a visa for short stays, they are digitally linked to a traveller's passport and ensure more robust security checks are carried out before people begin their journey to the UK, helping prevent abuse of immigration systems.

An ETA costs £10 and permits multiple journeys to the UK for stays of up to 6 months at a time and is valid for 2 years or until the holders passport expires – whichever is sooner. An ETA does not permit entry to the UK – it

authorises an individual to travel to the UK. British & Irish citizens do not need an ETA.

## Apply for an ETA

Applications can done via a smartphone app - UK ETA app or online at Apply for an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) - **GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)**

This is a simple process, and decisions are usually communicated within 3 days.

It remains your responsibility to ensure you have the correct travel documentation for your trip.

## 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 handpicked 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.*

**ALBION**  
Journeys Inspired By Heritage