



Hampton Court Palace



Coughton Court

© NPTL/Robert Morris

Shakespeare & the Story of Tudor England

NEW September 19 to 30, 2027 ♦ From \$8,800* per person

In August 1485, Richard III was killed during the Battle of Bosworth, thus conceding the throne to Henry VII. This changing of the guard ended the 300-year-long Plantagenet rule, established the Tudor dynasty and altered the course of British history thereafter. This tour immerses us in the eventful Tudor period, starting with the very battlefield in which they came to power and ending with the grandest Tudor building of all, Henry VIII's Hampton Court Palace. Along the way, we visit fascinating properties which once hosted royalty, hid Catholic priests and witnessed countless tales of drama. We also see how this world influenced many of Shakespeare's works, noting how the story of Tudor England is forever intertwined with the world's greatest playwright.

What's Included

- ♦ Arrival/departure airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ♦ 1 night at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ettington Park Hotel, near Stratford-upon-Avon
- ♦ 3 nights at the Ashdown Park Hotel & Country Club, East Sussex
- ♦ 3 nights at the Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill, London
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 8 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage where available
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

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

Itinerary

September 19: Depart your home city and arrive the next day in London

September 20: Arrival

On arrival at Heathrow Airport, a private transfer will take you to our overnight hotel, the Macdonald Windsor Hotel in Windsor. In the evening, join the group for a welcome drink and canapés, followed by dinner.



Charlecote Park

September 21: Bosworth Battlefield, Leicester Guildhall & Leicester Cathedral

Today we explore the history behind the infamous battle between Henry Tudor and Richard III, beginning with the fascinating Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Center.

Next is Leicester Guildhall, a beautifully preserved medieval building which features exhibits on Richard III, who was killed at the Battle of Bosworth and found underneath a city-center car park in 2012. We can see his tomb at our final stop, Leicester Cathedral.

September 22: Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon & RSC Shakespeare Theatre

An exciting day in Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon awaits. We explore the half-timbered house where he was born, the beautiful garden and exhibition center at Shakespeare's New Place, the Schoolroom where he wrote his first works, Anne Hathaway's idyllic cottage and the iconic RSC Swan Theater, where Shakespeare's plays are regularly performed.

September 23: Charlecote Park & Coughton Court

While Stratford is synonymous with Shakespeare's theatrical success, there lurks in nearby Charlecote Park's history a far less respectable connection; the famous playwright is rumoured to have been caught poaching deer here! Home to the Lucy family for 900 years, this Tudor manor is a real treasure.

We continue to the Coughton Court, boasting a rich history intertwined with Tudor monarchs, where we enjoy afternoon tea and an introductory talk, learning how the priest hole here provides an insight into the country's history of the Catholic faith.

September 24: Baddesley Clinton, Lord Leycester's Hospital & Warwick

Once owned by a powerful Tudor family, Baddesley Clinton is a moated, medieval manor house dating back to the 13th century. We see how the extensive formal gardens provided the setting for some fascinating stories.

Next is Lord Leycester's Hospital in Warwick, renowned for its distinctive timber-framed architecture. We learn about its history on a guided tour before spending a little free time in Warwick, home to one of England's best-preserved collections of black and white timber-framed Tudor buildings.

September 25: Knole House & The Royal Oak Foundation Conservation Studio & Hever Castle

We visit one of Britain's most important historic homes, Knole House, once used by Henry VIII as a hunting lodge. Whilst here, we explore the Royal Oak Foundation Conservation Studio — the first of its kind in the National Trust.

Next is the magnificent Hever Castle, the childhood home of Henry VIII's second wife, Anne Boleyn. Dating back to the late 13th century, this double-moated castle is home to various historic artifacts, including two prayer books inscribed by Anne Boleyn. The castle was lavishly restored by American millionaire William Waldorf Astor, in the early 20th century. We enjoy a guided tour of the castle's elegant interior and its grand exterior, comprising 125 acres of award-winning gardens.



Anne Hathaway's Cottage

September 26: Sissinghurst Castle Garden & Leeds Castle

An exclusive out-of-hours tour awaits at Sissinghurst Castle Garden, set around the ruins of an Elizabethan manor house.

We continue to the moated Leeds Castle, once home to Henry VIII who transformed it for Catherine of Aragon. Admire the wealth of furnishings, paintings, tapestries and antiques here, followed by a Ploughman's lunch.

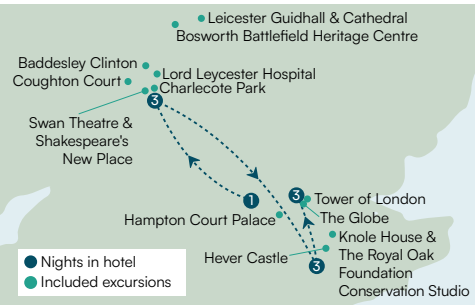
September 27: Eltham Palace & Shakespeare's Globe Theater

Today we see Eltham Palace, where Henry VIII spent much of his childhood. Outside, we are treated to a guided tour with an expert Gardener.

There's also time in Greenwich for lunch at your leisure before we journey down the river on the Thames Clipper. Shakespeare's Globe is our destination, which brings the Bard's timeless works to life in a setting that evokes the atmosphere of his era. We find out more during our guided tour.

September 28: London & the Tower of London

Explore the iconic sights of London at your leisure today. Later this afternoon, we enjoy entrance to the Tower of London, where we have the chance to see the dazzling Crown Jewels. Elizabeth I (prior to her coronation) and multiple wives of Henry VIII were once kept here as prisoners. After our visit, there's an opportunity to find somewhere for dinner before returning to the Tower of London for the time-travelling Ceremony of the Keys.



September 29: Hampton Court Palace

We make our way to Hampton Court Palace for a dive into the fascinating world of the Tudor court and Henry VIII during a guided tour. Believed to have staged some of Shakespeare's plays and one of the greatest surviving Tudor buildings, it is a fitting end to our wonderful tour.

This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

September 30: Departure

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

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

**Single supplement applies: \$2,100.*

Key Highlights

- ♦ Learn about the five Tudor monarchs (1485-1603) — Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth I
- ♦ Discover the stories, people and secrets contained within world-famous buildings
- ♦ Explore iconic landmarks of the time, including the Tower of London, plus lesser-known gems such as Baddesley Clinton
- ♦ See where the Tudors came to power at the Battle of Bosworth right through to their greatest building, Hampton Court Palace
- ♦ Follow in the footsteps of Shakespeare in locations significant to The Bard, from his birthplace to the Globe Theater

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 120 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. National Trust Tours makes travel insurance available to its customers through USI Travel Insurance Services. Information will be sent to you upon request or with your confirmation letter from National Trust Tours.

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. Tourist visas are not required for US citizens visiting the UK or Republic of Ireland, however for travel to the UK 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 on line 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, all our featured hotels charge single supplements and prices are shown on the tour pages. 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.

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 our featured hotels and a \$35 administration fee is charged.

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 Tour Directors?

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. Note also that tours described as being led by property owners, curators and head gardeners are always subject to availability of the individuals concerned.

How much walking will there be on these tours?

Any included guided tours will operate at a fairly relaxed pace, but with many historic houses you may experience some uneven flooring along the way, and some rooms and levels may be inaccessible other than by stairs. You will, however, usually have the option to explore any venue by yourself at your own pace. Due to the distances covered, garden tours and guided city walking tours will often require slightly higher standards of mobility. It is essential that you inform us of any concerns at the time of booking, so that we can assess the suitability of your chosen tour in line with your specific requirements.

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). Unless stated otherwise we do provide portage at each of the hotels used on our tours, 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 except. All dates are subject to change.



Holkham Hall



Hever Castle



Bodnant Garden



Tower of London

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. 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)	120 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:

121 days or more prior to departure	\$1,000 (USD)
120 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.

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