



Belvoir Castle



Castle Howard

© Mike Kipling

# The Treasure Houses of Northern England

**NEW** June 1 to 12, 2027 ♦ From \$8,300\* per person

Step into the world of England's great country houses on this journey through the historic treasures of Northern England and the Midlands. Explore some of the nation's finest estates, where grand architecture, world-class art collections and centuries of family history are still preserved in homes that remain lived in today.

Highlights include Burghley House, Chatsworth, Harewood House and Castle Howard, with an exclusive out-of-hours visit to Castle Howard before it opens to the public. Enjoy guided tours, select dining experiences and a journey on the heritage North Yorkshire Moors Railway. With the landscapes of Yorkshire and the Peak District, the historic cities of York and Lincoln and a stay at Middlethorpe Hall, this tour showcases the best of England's heritage and country house tradition.

## What's Included

- ♦ Arrival/departure airport transfers from London Heathrow\*
- ♦ 2 nights at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor
- ♦ 1 night at the Barnsdale Hotel, Rutland
- ♦ 2 nights at the George Hathersage, Peak District
- ♦ 5 nights at the Middlethorpe Hall & Spa, near York
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 9 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
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

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

## Itinerary

### June 1: Depart your home city and arrive the next day in London

### June 2: Arrival

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

### June 3: Stamford & Burghley House

Our first stop is the handsome market town of Stamford, often regarded as one of England's most beautiful stone-built towns. Its medieval streets, historic churches and hidden alleyways have provided the backdrop for productions including the 2005 film adaptation of *Pride & Prejudice*. Later, we visit magnificent Burghley House, one of England's grandest Elizabethan estates, offering a remarkable glimpse into centuries of aristocratic life. Following a welcome talk, we explore the stunning State Rooms, home to one of the country's finest collections of paintings and decorative arts.

### June 4: Belton House & Belvoir Castle

The elegant Belton House, cared for by the National Trust, is one of England's finest country houses and a striking example of Gothic Revival architecture. Afterward, we continue to the impressive Belvoir Castle, home to the Dukes of Rutland. A guided tour reveals lavish interiors, fine art and historic treasures before we enjoy a traditional afternoon tea.



North Yorkshire Moors Railway

### June 5: Chatsworth, Buxton & the Peak District

One of the highlights of our tour awaits us at Chatsworth House, home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. Set within a magnificent Capability Brown landscape, this celebrated estate is renowned for its grand interiors, outstanding art collection and beautiful gardens. During our visit, we also enjoy lunch and a guided tour. Later, we travel through the spectacular scenery of the Peak District National Park before arriving in the elegant spa town of Buxton, where there is free time to explore.

### June 6: Hardwick Hall & Wentworth Woodhouse

We visit the National Trust's Hardwick Hall, the celebrated Elizabethan masterpiece built by the formidable Bess of Hardwick. Famed for its abundance of glass, the house is filled with fine tapestries, historic furnishings and impressive craftsmanship. One of Britain's grandest stately homes, Wentworth Woodhouse boasts the longest country house façade in England. Following a finger buffet lunch, we enjoy the fascinating Duties & Delights guided tour, exploring both the magnificent state rooms and the hidden world of the servants who kept the house running.

Afterward, we journey to Middlethorpe Hall & Spa, a beautiful red-brick country house built at the end of the 17th century and now one of the three Historic House Hotels of the National Trust.

### June 7: Fairfax House, York Minster & York

An orientation tour introduces the historic city of York, one of England's most captivating heritage destinations. Highlights include the medieval Shambles and York Minster, one of Europe's greatest Gothic cathedrals, which we discover on a guided tour.

We also enjoy an exclusive curator-led tour of Fairfax House, one of Britain's finest Georgian townhouses. Beautifully restored to its 18th-century splendor, the house offers a fascinating glimpse into Georgian high society. Afterward, enjoy free time to explore York at your own pace.

### June 8: Harewood House & York Historical Pub Tour

Set within beautiful Capability Brown parkland, Harewood House is one of England's finest treasure houses. Following a guided tour, we enjoy lunch and time to explore the gardens and grounds. Later, a fascinating walking tour reveals York's rich history through its famous historic pubs, uncovering stories of merchants, soldiers and local characters who helped shape the city. The evening is then free to enjoy York at leisure.

### June 9: Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Garden, Harrogate

The spectacular ruins of Fountains Abbey stand within the beautiful Studley Royal Water Garden. Together, they form a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its beauty and historical significance. Later, free time in the elegant spa town of Harrogate offers the chance to explore its handsome architecture, gardens and shops at leisure.

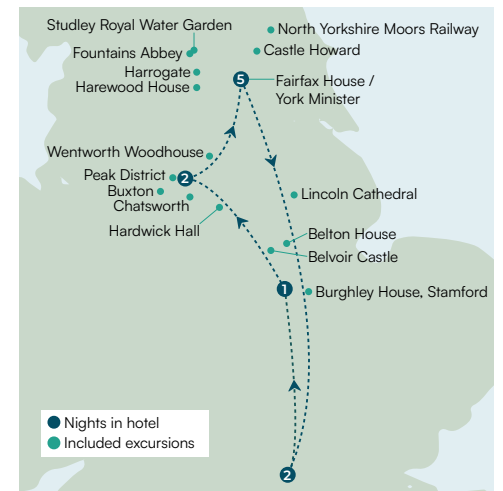
### June 10: Castle Howard & North Yorkshire Moors Railway

An exclusive out-of-hours visit to Castle Howard offers the rare opportunity to explore this magnificent home before it opens to the public. Home to the Howard family for more than 300 years, the estate is renowned for its richly decorated interiors and extensive collections of art and antiques. Following our private tour, there is time to visit the café or explore the grounds.

Later, we travel through the spectacular scenery of the North York Moors aboard the heritage North Yorkshire Moors Railway. Onboard, we enjoy a tea or coffee and a sweet treat. Goathland itself may be familiar as the setting for the television series *Heartbeat* and as Hogsmeade Station in the *Harry Potter* films.

### June 11: Lincoln Cathedral

Dominating the city's skyline, Lincoln Cathedral is one of Europe's finest Gothic masterpieces. For more than 200 years following its completion in the 14th century, it was the tallest building in the world and remains one of England's most impressive cathedrals. A guided tour reveals magnificent medieval architecture, beautifully carved stonework and centuries of fascinating history.



Afterward, there is free time to explore Lincoln's atmospheric Cathedral Quarter and the charming cobbled streets of Steep Hill. This evening, we return to Windsor and enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

### June 12: 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: \$1,350.

## Key Highlights

- ♦ Explore four of England's renowned Treasure Houses, including Burghley House, Chatsworth, Harewood House and Castle Howard
- ♦ Exclusive out-of-hours visit to Castle Howard before it opens to the public
- ♦ Discover the spectacular landscapes and charming towns of the Peak District
- ♦ Travel through the North York Moors on the heritage North Yorkshire Moors Railway
- ♦ Enjoy a five-night stay at Middlethorpe Hall, an elegant National Trust country house hotel near York

# 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](http://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](http://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](http://GOV.UK) ([www.gov.uk](http://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 porterage 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](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)	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](http://albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions).*

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