

A Tour Around the Treasure Houses of England

September 4 to 15, 2022

From \$6,040 per person

The Treasure Houses of England are a collection of the most magnificent palaces, houses and castles, each with its own unique charm, stunning architecture and beautiful gardens. Most are still homes to the great families who have owned them for generations. Together, the houses display some of the most important art collections in the world, showcasing exquisite examples of fine furniture, porcelain, china and portraiture. On this captivating tour, we explore nine of these impressive places, alongside other historic gems, giving us a fascinating insight into life in England over the centuries.

Twelve Day Itinerary

September 4: Arrival (depart U.S. on 9/3)

On arrival at Heathrow airport, a private transfer will take you to the Audleys Wood Hotel where we stay for two nights. In the evening join the group for a welcome drink, followed by dinner.

Meals: Dinner

September 5: Beaulieu

After breakfast, we make our way to the Beaulieu Estate, set in the heart of the New Forest National Park. Here we enjoy a guided tour of Palace House, the ancestral home of the Montagu family since 1538. Remodeled in the 1800s, it is a fine example of a Victorian Gothic style country house adorned with family treasures.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 6: RHS Garden Wisley and Leeds Castle

Today we travel first to RHS Garden Wisley, the Royal Horticultural Society's flagship garden. Extending over 240 peaceful acres – from beautiful rose gardens to tranquil woodland – Wisley offers a wealth of inspirational ideas on design and cultivation techniques.

Our next stop is Leeds Castle, a moated castle set in 500 acres of glorious parkland. Dating back to the 12th century, it was once home to Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon. The castle's last private owner was Lady Baillie, an Anglo-American heiress who lovingly restored the castle to its former glory, and we discover more during our audio guided tour.

From here, we travel the short distance to the Chilton Park Hotel where we stay overnight.



Burghley House



Holkham Hall

Special extras included in your itinerary

- ❖ Guided Palace House tour at Beaulieu
- ❖ Audio guided tour at Leeds Castle
- ❖ Exclusive out-of-hours Champagne guided tour of Hatfield House including Champagne greeting, a two-hour guide and complimentary guidebook
- ❖ Private guided tour of Holkham Hall led by Hall Steward with refreshments
- ❖ Guided tour of Doddington Hall and Gardens
- ❖ Guided tour of Chatsworth House
- ❖ Private guided tour of Castle Howard, with refreshments and guidebook
- ❖ Guided tour and lunch at Harewood House
- ❖ Guided tour of Burghley House
- ❖ Audio guided tour and afternoon tea at Blenheim Palace
- ❖ Themed evening talk by a guest speaker



Lincoln Cathedral



**Please note: the 2021 tour itinerary may differ slightly from the 2022 itinerary shown.*

After dinner at the hotel we are treated to a fascinating talk by a guest speaker.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 7: Hatfield House

We travel northwards to Hatfield House, built in 1611 by Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, one of Elizabeth I's most important advisors. Look out for the superb examples of Elizabethan craftsmanship as we learn more on our exclusive, out-of-hours Champagne guided tour.

Later we check in to the stunning Ickworth Hotel on the Ickworth Estate – a magnificent National Trust property and our base for the next two nights.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 8: Holkham Hall, Norfolk villages and Ickworth House

This morning we enjoy a private guided tour led by one of the most experienced Hall Stewards followed by refreshments at Holkham Hall, an elegant 18th-century Palladian mansion. The spectacular Marble Hall was inspired by the Temple of Fortuna Virilis and the Pantheon in Rome, while the magnificent State Rooms boast a range of superb collections.

We also make a short stop in Castle Acre and Swaffham. The tranquil village of Castle Acre boasts an extraordinary wealth of history. With its castle, parish church and abbey, it is a rare and complete survival of a Norman planned settlement, while the small market town of Swaffham boasts many attractive Georgian buildings.

On returning to the Ickworth Estate we explore Ickworth House itself. This Neo-classical mansion is most notable for its enormous central Rotunda commissioned by the 4th Earl of Bristol to house his priceless treasures. The impressive Italianate garden offers box hedges and Mediterranean planting plus a Victorian stumpery planted with shade-loving ferns.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 9: Doddington Hall and Lincoln

Begun in 1595 by the great Elizabethan architect Robert Smythson, Doddington Hall was completed in 1600 and has never been sold or cleared out since. Still a much-loved family home, the unfussy exterior contrasts with an elegant Georgian interior, full of captivating collections that reflect 400 years of unbroken family occupation. We learn more on our guided tour of the hall and gardens.

After our visit, we have some free time at leisure in Lincoln, a compact city with a well-preserved medieval quarter full of quaint cobbled streets. Don't miss Lincoln Cathedral, one of Europe's finest Gothic buildings filled with beautiful medieval decoration.

From here, we make our way to our hotel for the next three nights, the Grand Hotel & Spa in York.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 10: Chatsworth House

Today we travel to Derbyshire where we enjoy a guided tour of Chatsworth House. This

email: info@nationaltrusstours.com

magnificent pile is home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and has witnessed 16 generations of the powerful Cavendish family. The house has evolved through the centuries to reflect the tastes of succeeding generations and boasts grandiose interiors and a superlative art collection.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 11: Castle Howard and York

Our first visit of the day is to Castle Howard, home to the Howard family for over 300 years, where we enjoy a private guided tour with refreshments and a complimentary guidebook. Designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, Castle Howard has twice appeared as *Brideshead*, as well as providing the backdrop for various scenes in the hit Netflix series, *Bridgerton*. This magnificent 18th-century residence offers world-renowned collections, all set within 1,000 acres of breathtaking scenery.

We then return to York. There is plenty of evidence of the city's fascinating past to admire, from the Roman city walls to the surviving medieval streets known as the Shambles. A must-see is York Minster, the largest Gothic cathedral in northern Europe and home to stunning stained glass windows.

Later this evening we enjoy dinner together at a local pub in York.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 12: Harewood House

When Edwin Lascelles started building Harewood House in 1759, he employed the finest craftsmen of the time: architect John Carr, interior designer Robert Adam, England's greatest furniture maker Thomas Chippendale and visionary landscape gardener 'Capability' Brown. The house is filled with an outstanding art collection ranging from Renaissance to 20th-century masterpieces, and we discover more on our tour followed by lunch.

Later we check in to the Stapleford Park Country House Hotel in Leicestershire where we stay overnight.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

September 13: Burghley House

This morning we start our journey south, stopping to enjoy a guided tour of Burghley House, cited as England's greatest Elizabethan house. Home to William Cecil, Lord High Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth I, Burghley offers a unique glimpse into the way great houses have been lived in from the time of Elizabeth I to the present day.

We continue on to our overnight hotel, the Hartwell House Hotel, one of the National Trust's Historic House Hotels.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

September 14: Blenheim Palace

We head to Blenheim Palace, designed by Vanbrugh and set in beautiful parkland landscaped by 'Capability' Brown. As the seat of the Dukes of Marlborough, the palace is synonymous with the Churchill family and is the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. The magnificent State Rooms reveal a superb collection of tapestries, paintings, porcelain and furniture and we learn more on our audio guided tour followed by a delicious afternoon tea.

Afterwards we travel east to check in to the Macdonald Windsor Hotel where we enjoy a farewell dinner together.

Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon Tea, Dinner

September 15: Departure

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

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: as this tour travels from the south to the north of England and back, some days will involve fairly long journeys. The order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.



What's Included

- ❖ Return airport transfers from London Heathrow*
- ❖ 2 nights at the Audleys Wood Hotel
- ❖ 1 night at the Chilston Park Hotel
- ❖ 2 nights at the Ickworth Hotel
- ❖ 3 nights at the Grand Hotel & Spa York
- ❖ 1 night at the Stapleford Park Country House Hotel
- ❖ 1 night at the Hartwell House Hotel
- ❖ 1 night at the Macdonald Windsor Hotel
- ❖ Welcome drink and canapés
- ❖ Full English/Continental breakfast each day
- ❖ 3-course *table d'hôte* dinner on 10 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea and coffee)
- ❖ 1 dinner at a local pub
- ❖ Services of a tour director throughout your stay
- ❖ Travel to and from all excursions
- ❖ All excursion costs
- ❖ Portage

*supplement applies for transfers from all other airports

Your Hotels

Nights One and Two – Audleys Wood Hotel, Basingstoke

Night Three – Chilston Park Hotel, Lenham

Nights Four and Five – Ickworth Hotel, near Bury St Edmunds

Nights Six to Eight – Grand Hotel & Spa, York

Night Nine – Stapleford Park Country House Hotel, near Melton Mowbray

Night Ten – Hartwell House Hotel, near Aylesbury

Night Eleven – Macdonald Windsor Hotel, Windsor

For more information on these hotels please visit our website.

We have a limited number of single places available with no supplement on this tour. These sell quickly.

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**

When are payments due?

When you confirm your booking with us, a non-refundable deposit of \$750 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 (except American Express), 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. 90 days prior to the tour, we will prepare and send you our Travel Pack with your finalized information, reading list 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.

Do I need a passport and visa?

It is your responsibility to ensure you have a passport which must be valid for 6 months after the return date of your trip. Tourist visas are not required for US citizens visiting the UK for under 90 days solely for the purpose of tourism. If you are not a US 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?

We have a small number of rooms on each tour that are sold with no single supplement; once these are sold out we charge a supplement for any additional single rooms which varies for each tour. 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.

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. Any specific tour

in this brochure with more than an average amount of walking will be clearly noted in the itinerary. 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 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. Whilst 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 per day for your driver, £10 per day for your Tour Director and a couple of pounds for your transfer driver. Gratuities for hotel staff and the tour guides you may meet at properties on your day trips are covered by Albion Journeys.

For more information, please telephone the Tours Program at the National Trust at **(888) 484-8785** or **(202) 588-6300**

- web: **www.nationaltrusttours.com**
- email: **info@nationaltrusttours.com**

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



Kensington Gardens



Bodnant Garden



Ickworth House



Sissinghurst Castle Garden



Costumed Interpreters at Hardwick Hall

Terms & Conditions

It is important that you read the following booking conditions. These Booking Conditions form the basis of your contract with us. Please read these sections carefully as they apply to all bookings you make with us unless otherwise specified. All vacations are operated by Just Go Holidays Ltd trading as Albion Journeys.

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
\$750	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 cancelled by you and apply cancellation charges as set out in clause 3. For bookings made after the balance due date, the full amount is due at the time of booking.

Please note if you booked a vacation with a booking date in 2019 or 2020, your contract is with Albion Journeys Llc. All bookings have now been taken over by Just Go Holidays Ltd trading as Albion Journeys and your booking has moved over to be contracted with Just Go Holidays Ltd. Any balances that are due will be paid to Just Go Holidays Ltd trading as Albion Journeys.

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:

365 to 182 days prior to departure	\$500
181 to 91 days prior to departure	\$750
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.

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Journeys Inspired By Heritage