



Itinerary

8 Day London to Edinburgh Small Group Tour

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.

Day 1: London ~ Stratford-upon-Avon ~ Shrewsbury

Welcome to England! Depart London at 09:00 and travel to Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Often regarded as England's national poet, Shakespeare remains one of the country's most celebrated literary figures, renowned for his mastery of language and enduring insight into human nature. Travel through the picturesque Chiltern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, known for its rolling chalk hills, charming historic villages, beautiful countryside and rich biodiversity. Arrive in Stratford-upon-Avon and enjoy free time to explore this charming market town and have lunch at one of its many restaurants, cafés or riverside pubs. Discover the town's iconic timber-framed buildings and historic landmarks, or perhaps visit Shakespeare's birthplace, Anne Hathaway's Cottage or Holy Trinity Church, where Shakespeare and his wife, Anne Hathaway, are buried.

Continue your journey to Ironbridge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to the world's first bridge constructed entirely from iron. Built during the Industrial Revolution, the iconic Iron Bridge offers a fascinating insight into Britain's industrial heritage. Take time to explore the area and admire the historic bridge spanning the River Severn, while enjoying the peaceful surroundings and picturesque riverside views.

Continue to the historic county town of Shrewsbury, beautifully situated within a loop of the River Severn. Famous as the birthplace of Charles Darwin, Shrewsbury is renowned for its charming medieval streets, historic market town atmosphere and distinctive black-and-white Tudor buildings. Arrive at your hotel and spend the remainder of the evening at leisure, with time to relax or explore the historic town centre at your own pace.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Nil

OVERNIGHT: , Shrewsbury

Day 2: Shrewsbury ~ Wales Day Tour

After breakfast, journey into the heart of North Wales, a land of dramatic landscapes, ancient castles and fascinating Welsh heritage. With its distinctive language and spectacular scenery, Wales offers a

wonderful blend of history, culture and natural beauty. Your first stop is the picturesque harbour town of Conwy, home to its impressive medieval castle perched by the sea. Enjoy free time to explore the historic town, discover its ancient streets and perhaps enjoy lunch at one of the local restaurants or traditional eateries.

Following lunch, continue into the spectacular Eryri National Park (Snowdonia), travelling through its dramatic mountains and valleys, historic slate quarries and the beautiful Llanberis Pass, with views towards Yr Wyddfa (Mount Snowdon), the highest peak in Wales. Continue to the charming village of Betws-y-Coed, surrounded by forests and rugged mountains. Take a stroll through the village and visit the ancient Pont-y-Pair stone bridge, known for its picturesque views of the cascading river.

In the late afternoon, cross back into England and return to Shrewsbury. Enjoy another free evening to explore at your leisure, perhaps taking a stroll along the River Severn followed by dining at a traditional restaurant.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4-5 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Shrewsbury

Day 3: Shrewsbury ~ Chatsworth House ~ York

After breakfast, journey to the Peak District National Park, travelling through a spectacular landscape of rugged moorlands, rolling hills, wooded valleys and charming villages. Continue to the elegant spa town of Buxton, which has attracted visitors to its natural thermal springs since Roman times. Take some time to explore the town and perhaps fill your bottle with crystal-clear water from the famous natural spring.

Continue to Chatsworth House, the magnificent stately home of the Duke of Devonshire. Enjoy several hours of free time to explore the beautiful estate and gardens, or discover its impressive art collection featuring works by renowned artists including Rembrandt, Reynolds and Veronese. There are also several cafés and restaurants where you can enjoy lunch or a refreshing break.

Later, continue north through the historic industrial heartlands of northern England before arriving in the ancient walled city of York. Check into your hotel and enjoy a free evening to explore at your own pace. Wander through the atmospheric cobbled streets of The Shambles, relax in a traditional pub or take an evening stroll along York's medieval city walls.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , York

Day 4: York Free Day / Optional Tour

After breakfast, enjoy a free day to explore the historic city of York at your own pace, or join an optional half-day excursion through the beautiful Yorkshire Dales to the charming market town of Knaresborough. York offers a fascinating blend of Roman, Viking and medieval history, with plenty to discover throughout its ancient streets.

If joining the excursion, travel to Knaresborough, where winding streets, picturesque houses and the spectacular stone viaduct spanning the River Nidd create a truly enchanting setting. Explore the market town, discover the remains of its historic castle and enjoy beautiful views across the river before continuing through the Yorkshire Dales to the delightful village of Pateley Bridge. Nestled in Nidderdale, this picturesque village is known for its historic streets, riverside scenery and the famous Oldest Sweet Shop in England.

Return to York for lunch and a free afternoon to explore more of the city. Visit the magnificent York Minster, discover the city's Viking heritage, explore a chocolate museum or take a stroll along the ancient city walls. As the first leg of your tour comes to an end, enjoy the remainder of the day and evening at leisure in York. Perhaps join a local ghost tour, relax with a drink in one of the city's historic pubs or simply soak up the atmosphere of this fascinating medieval city.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , York

Day 5: York Free Day / Optional Tour

After breakfast, enjoy free time to explore York at your own pace before joining meeting your new driver-guide and fellow travellers on the second leg of your tour. Discover more of the city's fascinating Roman, Viking and medieval heritage, perhaps visiting the Viking attractions, exploring a chocolate museum or strolling along the ancient city walls. Later, meet your new driver-guide and fellow travellers as you begin the next part of your journey.

Alternatively, join an optional half-day excursion into the spectacular North York Moors National Park. Continue to the historic fishing port of Whitby, famous for its connection to Bram Stoker's Dracula. Enjoy free time to explore the town, take in the harbour views and perhaps enjoy lunch before travelling to the picturesque fishing village of Robin Hood's Bay. Wander through its narrow streets and historic cottages, admire the beautiful North Sea coastline and discover the village's fascinating stories of smugglers and seafaring.

Return to York in the early evening and enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , York

Day 6: York ~ Keswick

After breakfast, depart your accommodation and journey west into the beautiful Yorkshire Dales National Park, renowned for its spectacular scenery, rich cultural heritage and abundant wildlife. Explore some of the park's hidden gems, including the romantic ruins of Jervaulx Abbey, before continuing to the dramatic Aysgarth Falls. Enjoy an optional walk to the three cascading waterfalls, which famously featured in the film Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, while taking in the surrounding Yorkshire Dales scenery.

Continue to the charming town of Hawes, the home of Wensleydale cheese, where you can enjoy lunch and perhaps visit the Wensleydale Creamery to learn about traditional cheese-making and sample some local produce. Travel through the picturesque countryside, stopping for photos along the way, before reaching the historic market town of Appleby-in-Westmorland, known for its sandstone cottages and impressive Appleby Castle.

Continue into the Lake District National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its dramatic mountains, peaceful lakes and landscapes that inspired the famous Lake Poets. Arrive in the vibrant market town of Keswick, beautifully situated beside Derwentwater, and enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure. Take a stroll along the lake, enjoy the sunset, catch a show at Theatre by the Lake or relax with dinner at one of the town's restaurants or traditional pubs.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 3 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Keswick

Day 7: Keswick Day Tour

After breakfast, begin the day at the mysterious Castlerigg Stone Circle, believed to date back more than 5,000 years. Continue into the beautiful Lake District with an optional woodland walk to Aira Force, a spectacular 65-foot waterfall surrounded by peaceful forests and stunning scenery. Travel along scenic country lanes through charming villages and dramatic mountain landscapes to Lake Windermere and the picturesque village of Bowness-on-Windermere. Enjoy free time for lunch and to explore the lakeside at your own pace. Perhaps take a relaxing cruise on the lake or visit the Beatrix Potter attraction, celebrating the life and work of the much-loved author and conservationist.

Continue to the charming village of Hawkshead, where William Wordsworth attended school. Explore its cobbled streets, whitewashed cottages and quaint shops before travelling to Grasmere, famously described by Wordsworth as “the loveliest spot that man hath found.” Enjoy free time to visit Dove Cottage, sample the village’s famous gingerbread or relax in the Wordsworth Daffodil Garden.

Return to Keswick in the early evening and enjoy your second evening at leisure. Relax with dinner at one of the town’s welcoming pubs or restaurants, many offering locally sourced produce and craft ales.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 3 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Keswick

Day 8: Keswick ~ Edinburgh

After breakfast, bid farewell to the Lake District and journey north through the dramatic landscapes of the North Pennines, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty known for its rugged moorlands and peaceful valleys. Continue to Hadrian’s Wall and stop at Steel Rigg, where you can walk alongside this remarkable Roman frontier and take in the surrounding scenery. Your guide will also highlight some of the most interesting sites along the wall.

Continue to Vindolanda, an important Roman archaeological site, where you can enjoy free time to explore the remarkably preserved remains and discover fascinating artefacts uncovered during years of excavation. After lunch, travel north across the border into Scotland, stopping at Carter Bar on the edge of the Cheviot Hills. Continue through the scenic Scottish Borders to Jedburgh, home to the impressive 12th-century Jedburgh Abbey.

Continue north through the rolling landscapes of the Scottish Borders before arriving in Edinburgh at around 7pm, bringing your tour and adventure across England, Scotland and Wales to an end.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 5 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast