INSIGHT VACATIONS

The Art of Travelling in Style

ROMANTIC BRITAIN & IRELAND





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 Hotels + Nights
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Day 1 | Oxford and Stratford-upon-Avon



Meet your Travel Director at 07:45 at the hotel in London. Depart for the famous university town of Oxford with its beautiful spires. With time at leisure, why not visit the world-famous Ashmolean Museum or browse through the local indoor market? Continue via pretty Cotswolds villages to Stratford-upon-Avon. Discover how William Shakespeare and his incredible works continue to shape society today when you visit his birthplace, full of interesting memorabilia and artefacts relating to his life. Join your Travel Director for a warm and friendly Welcome Dinner with drinks at a local pub.

Meals: Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Double Tree by Hilton Stratford-upon-Avon.

Day 2 | Lincoln and Medieval York



Travel through the heart of 'Robin Hood Country' on your way to visit Lincoln. Continue to York, once the Viking capital of Britain and one of England's oldest cities. Saunter along the Shambles to reach the York Minster, in the heart of this medieval gem. Your hotel lies within the walls facing Clifford's Tower.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Hilton York.

Day 3 | The English Lakes to Edinburgh



Drive through the Lake District National Park, a scenic wonderland of rugged mountains and tranquil lakes, inspiring a host of English poets. Stop in Wordsworth's village of Grasmere and see the poet's grave in the churchyard. Cross the border at Gretna Green, where runaway lovers were married, and continue to the Scottish capital.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Virgin Hotels Edinburgh

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Dinner In Edinburgh - Edinburgh has more eateries per head than any other city in the UK and your Travel Director knows which ones shine and which ones to shun! Join your fellow companions for a fun evening out in this vibrant city. Visit a prized local restaurant for a delicious three course dinner with a glass of wine, beer or soft drink included.

Adult: 59.00 GBP

Edinburgh - The Untold Story - Walk Edinburgh's heart with your Local Expert, to hear about the ultimate loyal dog, grave robbers, executions and other untold stories. Stroll through the Wynds and Closes of the real Edinburgh and enjoy a drink in one of this city's most famous pubs.

Adult: 29.00 GBP

Day 4 | Scotland's Capital of Culture



Travel down the Royal Mile to see the Palace of Holyroodhouse — official Scottish residence of His Majesty, The King - before crossing over to New Town. Walk with your Local Expert inside Edinburgh Castle for spectacular views of the town and see the Scottish Crown Jewels, the Stone of Destiny and Mons Meg. The afternoon is free to shop on Princes Street. In the evening, select departures will attend The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo — a colourful mixture of historic battles and military manoeuvres, complete with pipes and drums.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Virgin Hotels Edinburgh

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Royal Edinburgh - We'll enjoy views of the Queen's Park and take in a spectacular panorama of Scotland's Capital before arriving at Holyrood Palace - the King's official home in Scotland. Our Local Expert will bring its ancient stories to life before a leisurely visit through the official rooms of the palace.

Adult: 44.00 GBP

Ceilidh Evening and Dinner at Ghillie Dhu - Experience the best of Scottish tradition at Ghillie Dhu, where we'll be welcomed by a Scottish piper and enjoy a welcome drink before settling in for a delicious three-course meal and live Ceilidh music. And you can't miss the iconic Piping in the Haggis ceremony, a true highlight of the Scottish experience.

Adult: 85.00 GBP

Day 5 | St. Andrews and Inverness



Cross the Firth of Forth into Fife and make your way to St. Andrews, passing the Old Course as you arrive where golf was born in the 15th century. Enjoy free time to explore, perhaps wander to St. Andrews University where the love story of Kate Middleton finding her Prince Charming began when her and Prince William were students there. Alternately, stroll to West Sands Beach where the famous 'Chariots of Fire' scene was filmed. Your travels continue as you cross the Tay and journey to the charming Victorian resort town of Pitlochry, famous for its salmon run. Stop at Atholl Palace and Gardens for a delicious cream tea. Originally opened in Victorian times, the hotel retains many of its traditional features.

Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon Tea, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Blair Castle - Journey into the fascinating past with a visit to the ancestral home of the Dukes of Atholl. Brimming with treasures inside and out, magnificent Blair Castle is set in its own grounds against a backdrop of glorious scenery. During your visit, see how the castle has been transformed through the ages and learn how Queen Victoria's famous stay led to the creation of Europe's only private army. **Adult: 30.00 GBP**

^{*} This experience will only be offered during the summer months April - October.

Day 6 | Across the Sea to Skye



Enjoy a journey of discovery on a Loch Ness cruise. Soak up the scenery, historic monuments and intriguing tales of Nessie in the heart of Scotland's great glen.

Afterwards, pause for a photo of Eilean Donan Castle, set idyllically on a headland on Loch Duich. Listen to tales of Flora MacDonald and her defence of the Bonnie Prince as you cross over the sea to Skye.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: The Dunollie Hotel. Broadford.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Isle Of Skye Tour - A wonderful opportunity to experience the spectacular scenery of the Trotternish Peninsula with a Local Expert. Hear about the way of life on this remote inner Hebridean island, steeped in myth and legend. While touring the 'Isle of Mist' see the Old Man of Storr, the red and black Cuillin Mountains and picturesque Portree, the largest town on the Island. This is an opportunity not to be missed.

Adult: 24.00 GBP

Day 7 | Loch Lomond and Glasgow



Return to the mainland and drive to the World War II Commando Memorial in the shadow of Ben Nevis. Continue through Fort William to absorb the dramatic scenery of Glencoe, the Valley of the Weeping, where the dreadful massacre of the MacDonald's took place in 1692. Enjoy a scenic drive along the Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond, en route to Glasgow. Your Travel Director will show you Glasgow's grand public buildings, including George Square and St. Mungo's Cathedral.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Radisson Blu Hotel, Glasgow.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Glasgow Dinner - In recent years, Glasgow has developed a fearsome culinary reputation. With its elegant and chic atmosphere, tonight's dining experience will feature one of the venues at the forefront of Glasgow's foodie scene. Enjoy an evening of Scottish fayre and experience the city's atmosphere at night.

Adult: 62.00 GBP

Guided Visit and Dinner at The Mackintosh at the Willow - Step inside the stunning surroundings of Mackintosh at the Willow afterhours and relax with a glass of prosecco. Explore the history of the tearoom and Glasgow in a private visit to our onsite interactive exhibition. Let our specialist guide tells you more about the building and immerse yourself in the magic of Mackintosh. Our guide will be on hand to answer any questions. Take a seat in the historic surroundings of the Original Willow Tea Rooms building and enjoy a delicious 3 course menu curated with the best Scottish produce and hand selected wine.

Adult: 73.00 GBP

Day 8 | Across the Irish Sea to Belfast



Bid farewell to Scotland as you cross the Irish Sea and continue your journey to the vibrant capital of Northern Ireland, Belfast. Meet Hilda, your Local Expert, for a passionate city tour of Belfast including views of the City Hall, Queen's University, the Parliament Building at Stormont and murals in different locations indicating political sentiments of local residents. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast **Hotel:** Titanic Hotel

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Titanic Experience - Follow the story of this ill-fated ship and her people, from the launch in this very city. Explore the exhibition in this stunning award-winning building, on the former site of the shipyard where Titanic was built. **Adult: 25.00 GBP**

Exclusive Walk with a Street Artist - An exclusive private tour of Belfast's Street Art, with one of the Artists. Often Street art was used in Belfast to mark territory, but something transformative is happening. This new Art speaks of love, laughter, anger, beauty and defiance, but most of all it speaks of Belfast and the place it is becoming. We finish with a drink in one of the city's most famous pubs.

Adult: 33.00 GBP

Day 9 | Dublin city sightseeing.



Travel alongside the Mountains of Mourne before crossing the historic Boyne Valley, site of the battle where William of Orange defeated the forces of Catholic King James. Continue to Dublin, Ireland's 'fair city where the girls are so pretty,' and see O'Connell Street, Dublin Castle and St. Patrick's Cathedral, with your Local Expert.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Riu Plaza The Gresham

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Dinner & Cabaret - Ireland conjures of images of hearty meals and toe-tapping entertainment. Indulge in a bit of both over an evening of fine food and fun as Ireland's history unfolds with comedy, song and dance. Get in the spirit joining in the show, elevated with a healthy dose of Irish humour. Enhance your evening sipping on an after-dinner Irish coffee.

Adult: 89.00 EUR

Day 10 | A pint of the 'Black Stuff'



Experience Ireland's national and world-famous drink in the Guinness Storehouse. Gain a fascinating insight into the history and traditions behind its production. The rest of the day is yours to shop, continue sightseeing or maybe take an optional drive to the ruined monastic site of Glendalough.

Meals: Breakfast.

Hotel: Riu Plaza The Gresham

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Irish Countryside & Glendalough - An afternoon drive takes you through the rural countryside of County Wicklow - the garden of Ireland. With our Local Expert, we'll pass through the pretty Wicklow Mountains to the picture sque setting of St. Kevin's great 6th Century monastic site at Glendalough. Afterwards, we'll explore the monastic remains before returning to Dublin via the Great Sugar Loaf Mountain.

Adult: 34.00 EUR

Dublin Dinner - Join us for some warm Irish hospitality over a three course dinner in a family run pub, that was formerly the haunt of nobility and notorious highwaymen. Lovely exposed brick walls and dark wood make for a cosy atmosphere in which to enjoy your hearty pub meal.

Adult: 65.00 EUR

Day 11 | Galway, the Cliffs of Moher and Limerick



Travel west to Galway, known as the City of the Tribes. Guided by your Travel Director, enjoy free time in this artsy, bohemian city. Cross the limestone landscape of the Burren, to the Visitor Centre at the Cliffs of Moher for breathtaking vistas of the Clare Coast. Journey to the town of Limerick, nestled on the shores of the River Shannon.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The George Hotel Limerick.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Shannon Castle Banquet - Calling all Lords and Ladies! Please be seated for a delicious banquet in the great hall of the castle. In the splendour of a bygone age, entertainment is provided by the court butler, castle musicians and attendants of the medieval court. It won't be long before you're making merry with the fine music, singing, dancing, good food and laughter. You'll be sure to take home warm memories of this delightful evening.

Adult: 89.00 EUR

Day 12 | The Dingle Peninsula to Killarney



In the morning, your Travel Director will show you the 12th century St. Mary's Cathedral, King John's Castle and the Treaty Stone before setting off to Tralee via the picture sque that ched village of Adare. Enjoy more spectacular scenery as you make your way through the great cliffs, wide skies and ocean views of the Dingle Peninsula to Killarney. For dinner you are treated to a traditional Sunday roast, with all the trimmings.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine **Hotel:** Killarney Plaza Hotel and Spa.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Gaelic Roots - The origins of Irish culture spring to life over a tour de force of traditional Irish song, music and dance at this Gaelic Roots show. Using traditional instruments, Irish dance and time-honoured folk songs, this energetic show will have you tapping your feet and singing along. You'll treasure experiencing the 2,000-year-old Gaelic culture over an evening out.

Adult: 37.00 EUR

Celtic Steps - Enjoy a spectacular evening of Irish music, song and dance performed by champion dancers and musicians and showcasing the music of Kerry and beyond. Beginning with as Irish Classic, 'Siúil a Rún,' thought to have originated in the 1800's, the traditional Irish song tells a bittersweet tale of a woman lamenting her lover after his decision to embark on a military career. The performance then shifts to a series of fast and lively Irish reels with the introduction of the Celtic Steps Dance Troop followed by the waltz and energetic jig.

Adult: 43.00 EUR

Day 13 | Ring of Kerry Experience



A delightful morning excursion will take you around the Ring of Kerry, where mountains, valleys, lakes and sea blend into a landscape that is often breathtaking beyond words. Continue through Ireland's highest mountain range, the MacGillicuddy Reeks, to the three peaceful Lakes of Killarney. Meet John for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience as you visit his family-run seaweed farm on the Ring of Kerry. Learn about sustainable farming practices that protect the wild Irish Atlantic coasts. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to relax and enjoy. Maybe take the opportunity to ride a jaunting car around the lake or through the National Park?

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine **Hotel:** Killarney Plaza Hotel and Spa.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Jaunting Car Ride - Experience the best of the Irish countryside on a traditional pony and trap ride through the beautiful Bourn-Vincent National Park. Formerly known as the Muckross Estate, this area became Ireland's first National Park in 1932. In 1981, the park was designated by UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve, part of a network of natural areas which have conservation, research, education and training as primary objectives. During your journey, your Local Specialist shares insightful anecdotes about the area and Ireland. **Adult: 28.00 EUR**

Day 14 | Blarney Castle and Waterford



Visit the ruined 15th century Blarney Castle. Will you hang upside down from the ramparts to kiss the stone and ensure a lifetime of eloquence? Continue to the walled city of Waterford and see the 11th century Reginald's Tower. On your guided visit of the House of Waterford Crystal, you will meet an artisan and see their fine work

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine **Hotel:** Granville Hotel. Waterford.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Waterford Walking Tour - Join an extremely knowledgeable and entertaining historian for an insightful walking tour of Ireland's oldest city. Meet a range of colourful characters and learn about the town's history from the arrival of the Vikings through to British rule as you stroll to various key sights. Afterwards, rub shoulders with the locals with a drink in a typical pub.

Adult: 28.00 EUR

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Day 15 | Across the Irish Sea to Cardiff



From Rosslare, take the ferry across the Irish Sea to Pembroke and continue on with a pleasant journey through the rural scenery of Pembrokeshire. Travel past the valleys of southern Wales to the capital, Cardiff, famous for its imposing castle and the brilliant Principality Stadium. Enjoy an orientation of the port city, upon the River Taff.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Clayton Hotel, Cardiff.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Cardiff Castle Tour - Take an 'insider' look at this unique Castle started by the Romans 2,000 years ago where we have our own private tour. The refurbishments done in the 1800s have been described as outrageous to opulent, bogus to brilliant and some even say the architect, William Burgess, smoked his opium pipe too much! His influences include Arab and Islamic art, Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales and even Aesop's fables. In addition, we can walk on the battlements and climb the 1,000-year-old Norman keep for superb views over Cardiff.

Adult: 26.00 GBP

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Pub Dinner - Visit a traditional country pub with its stone floors, real ale, and a cosy atmosphere where you can relax and enjoy a mouthwatering meal, featuring freshly-cooked traditional British food. During your meal, you'll enjoy a performance from a Welsh harpist. **Adult: 63.00 GBP**

Welsh Evening - Join us for a lively night celebrating Welsh food and culture at a stunningly-renovated deconsecrated church in the heart of Cardiff. Enjoy a traditional and locally-sourced three-course meal whilst being entertained by Welsh stories, enchanting music and

Day 16 | Bath and Glastonbury



Cross the Severn Bridge to reach the City of Bath, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built above Britain's only thermal, mineral springs. Enjoy an orientation with your Travel Director, through the Georgian streets and crescents. Visit the Roman Baths and learn how this hub of culture is pioneering educational investments to benefit the community, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Your journey continues to mystical Glastonbury where you will see the abbey, reputedly the legendary burial place of King Arthur. Continue south, to reach the seaside town of Torquay.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The Imperial Torquay (Sea view rooms).

Day 17 | The Cornish Coast



Explore Dartmoor with Insight Choice. Choose to join a scenic exploration of Dartmoor National Park. Alternatively, enjoy a relaxing cruise of Plymouth harbour and see the Mayflower Steps, Barbican, Royal Citadel and Plymouth Hoe. In the evening, enjoy a glass of wine with your Celebration Dinner - a fitting finale to your travels.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: The Imperial Torquay (Sea view rooms).

Day 18 | Salisbury Plain and Stonehenge



Start the day by crossing the Salisbury Plain and stop to visit the mysterious megaliths of Stonehenge, the world's most famous prehistoric monument, its true meaning lost in the mists of time. Your escorted journey draws to a close upon return to your hotel in London.

Meals: Breakfast