

Highlights of Hampshire



Portsmouth Dockyard

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Winchester Cathedral



New Forest Ponies



Shakespeare's Birthplace

5 days 4 nights £425 per person*

**Departs: Thursday
20th Sept 2018**

The county of Hampshire offers the perfect blend of city, coast and country and is blessed with natural beauty of two National Parks, thriving culture, with history and heritage at its heart. Our varied tour includes the city of Winchester; the Historic Dockyard at Portsmouth, home to The Mary Rose; a scenic drive through the New Forest to visit Beaulieu, including the National Motor Museum, Palace House and Gardens, Beaulieu Abbey and World of Top Gear – plus more!

Norton Park

Just a few miles north of Winchester, Norton Park is a four star hotel with modern, comfortable facilities, set within 54 acres of peaceful grounds. The en-suite bedrooms are equipped with tea and coffee facilities, TV, laptop safe and free internet usage. Use of leisure facilities & pool is included. The hotel has a restaurant and bar.



Our Tour

■ What's included

- Executive touring coach for the duration
- 4 nights half board accommodation
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary overleaf

■ What's not included

- Single supplement - £80 per person (double/twin for sole occupancy) – maximum 11 singles. Additional singles on request and may be at a higher supplement
- Travel insurance for 5 days - £35.00 per person (upper age limit 85 years)
- Meals other than those mentioned



*Based on 40 travellers. Should fewer than 40 travel the price will increase. This is a combined holiday with Aintree / Aughton & Ormskirck.



Palace House, Beaulieu

OUR ITINERARY

Day 1 - We travel southwards to the town of Stratford-upon-Avon, known for its links with Shakespeare. There will be free time here to explore at leisure; perhaps visit Shakespeare's birthplace or New Croft; take a stroll alongside the river and obtain lunch (admissions / lunch not included). Continue to hotel to check in. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 2 - After breakfast we travel south to the maritime city of Portsmouth, where we will explore the sights and attractions of Portsmouth Historic Dockyard with our included 6 sites ticket (The Mary Rose, HMS Victory, HMS Warrior 1860, National Museum of the Royal Navy, Action Stations, HMS M.33, plus a harbour cruise subject to availability / weather). For those who wish to incorporate a bit of retail therapy, a short distance from the dockyard is Gunwharf Quays, a designer shopping outlet and home to over 90 famous brands. Return to hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3 - Our destination today is the nearby city of Winchester, crammed with hidden treasures just waiting

to be explored, where we will have a day to explore individually. The medieval streets of Winchester are dotted with hidden gems, such as St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate Church, in one of the ancient gates in the city walls. Of course, there's Winchester Cathedral, Wolvesey Castle and Winchester City Mill and a stroll along the river will lead to The Hospital of St Cross. Renowned for the tranquillity of its setting and the beauty of its architecture, the Hospital is one of England's oldest continuing almshouses, the fine medieval buildings have provided food and shelter for hundreds of years. The principal activity of the Hospital continues to be the provision of individual, private apartments for a living community of about twenty-five elderly men. Known as 'Brothers' they wear black or red gowns and a trencher hat for daily church and other formal occasions. Return to hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 4 - Today we drive through the scenic New Forest for a visit to Beaulieu, home to The National Motor Museum, renowned for its vintage cars and motorcycles Other

attractions here include the World of Top Gear - with its Reliant Rocket, homemade police cars and crazy amphibious vehicles - or the Secret Army Exhibition for fascinating facts about the spies trained at Beaulieu in the Second World War. Within the museum we can visit Palace House, home to the Montagu family for 500 years, and Beaulieu Abbey, founded by King John in 1204. Return to hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 5 - Checking out of the hotel we travel to the pretty Hampshire town of Alresford, a Georgian town of colour-washed houses, riverside walks and specialist shops. After free time here to explore we travel to Whitchurch Silk Mill a 19th century water mill that weaves English silk fabrics using 19th century machinery. The mill is closing for Heritage Lottery funded improvements until summer 2018, so this visit will be subject to re-opening dates and times. Late afternoon we continue the homeward journey.

The exact order of excursions may be subject to change.