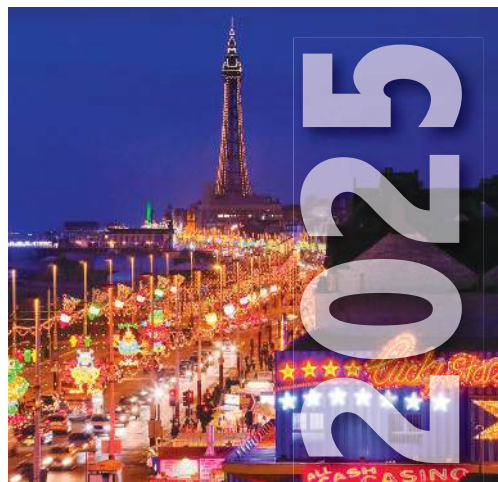
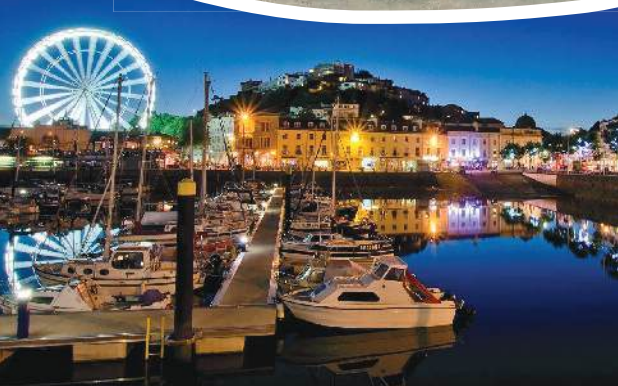


"QUALITY HOLIDAYS FOR QUALITY PEOPLE"

# BENSONS

[www.bensonstravel.com](http://www.bensonstravel.com)

British & Continental Tours





# Welcome

Bensons Travel has great pleasure in announcing the exciting holidays planned for 2025. We offer a wide range of holidays to suit all tastes throughout Britain, Ireland and Europe.

Bensons are a family operated company - large enough to cope but small enough to care for both individual travellers and private groups. Our head office is based in Whitchurch, Shropshire. We operate coach holiday tours to destinations all over the UK & Europe for customers based in the North-West and Midland areas.

Our business ethos is built around being the best rather than being the biggest. Maintaining the long-standing reputation and high regard of our family name means everything to us. We only ever expect you to be a stranger to us when we first meet - thereafter you become



another member of the ever increasing number of friends to whom we serve in providing **"Quality Travel for Quality People"**.

As Managing Director, Clive Benson has been involved in the bus and coach industry from a very early age. In 1992, he became the youngest coach / PCV driver in the UK – just 3

days after his 18th birthday. This was all part of the plan in achieving his own coach travel business – a dream which he has held since the age of 3!

After studying for his bachelor of science degree in "International Logistics" at Huddersfield University, Clive immediately returned to the bus and coach industry. For the majority of the past 30 years, he has been behind the wheel as an international "Tour Driver & Guide" working for some of the country's most respected coach tour operators. To date, Clive has operated over 900 tours as a driver / guide throughout Britain and Europe.

As Managing Director of Bensons Travel Ltd, customers now benefit from Clive's vast experience and knowledge of tourist destinations, hotels, holiday itineraries – where to go, where not to go, what to do and see, and when to do it! The end result being happy customers who never think twice about booking their coach holiday needs with Bensons. Clive is well known for being a "perfectionist" in everything he does, that is why you can be reassured that when booking a Bensons' Coach Tour, you will have the best possible holiday that anyone can offer for the price which you pay.

We do our very best in providing our customers with that *"something extra"* that you cannot get with any of our larger competitors – be it the efficient, ever- friendly and personable booking staff, flexibility of pickup locations and tour itineraries, door to door services, and of course, the luxuries provided by our unique VIP Club-class tour coach.

Much of the time its just those little things that we do which cost so little but are worth so much to so many – and are all important in creating that travel experience for having

**"Fun, friendship & Laughter..... on the move!"**.



The Bensons VIP Club-Class tour coach features;

- Professional, experienced & courteous drivers
- Massive legroom
- Sub-tropical climate controlled air conditioning
- Full Bosch multi-screen entertainment system and smart TV
- WiFi availability
- Front facing road camera
- Fully fitted kitchen with oven, microwave, fridge/freezer and bar
- 42" 'Armchair' seats with individual footrests, armrests & USB charging points
- 3 point inertia seatbelts
- Satellite Navigation system
- Toilet/Washroom facilities
- All tours include Dinner, Bed & Breakfast and Excursions



### Award Winning VIP Coach

Bensons took delivery of 'Fleur' in November 2017. She has the latest Euro VI emission standard engine and was built by Beulas to Clive's exacting specifications. Awarded *"Best Beulas Coach in the UK"* in 2018.





# BENSONS' COACH HOLIDAYS

## 2025 Calendar



Date	Return	Tour	Days	Hotel	Price	Page
Fri 14 Mar	Mon 17 Mar	<b>Soul &amp; Motown on the English Riviera</b>	4	<b>Derwent</b> (Torquay)	£249.50	6
Mon 24 Mar	Fri 28 Mar	<b>Bournemouth</b> (The New Forest & National Trust Delights)	5	<b>Durley Dean</b>	£469.50	6
Mon 31 Mar	Fri 4 Apr	<b>Springtime in the Lakes &amp; Dales</b>	5	<b>Auckland</b>	£469.50	7
Sat 5 Apr	Wed 9 Apr	<b>Sidmouth</b>	5	<b>Royal York &amp; Faulkner</b>	£529.50	7
Fri 18 Apr	Tue 22 Apr	<b>Easter in Paignton</b> Sun, Sand, Sea & Steam	5	<b>Queens Hotel</b> (Paignton)	£469.50	10
Thu 24 Apr	Tue 29 Apr	<b>Tulips &amp; Dutch Delights</b> Sail & Rail amongst Tulips & Windmills	6	<b>Van Der Valk De Bilt</b> (Utrecht)	£849.50	8
Thu 1 May	Mon 5 May	<b>Eastbourne Springtime Special</b> Magnificent Motors & Bluebell Steam Railway	5	<b>Haddon Hall</b> (Eastbourne)	£499.50	10
Fri 9 May	Tue 13 May	<b>Llandudno</b> The Queen of Welsh Seaside Resorts (inc Bodnant Gardens)	5	<b>Tynedale</b>	£549.50	11
Wed 14 May	Sat 17 May	<b>Yorkshire's All Features Great &amp; Small</b>	4	<b>The Crown</b> (Harrogate)	£449.50	11
Sun 18 May	Fri 23 May	<b>Spring into Cornwall Newquay</b>	6	<b>Fistral Beach</b> (Newquay)	£729.50	12
Sat 24 May	Fri 30 May	<b>Ireland's Coastal Causeway</b>	7	<b>Inishowen Gateway</b>	£849.50	14
Mon 2 Jun	Tue 10 Jun	<b>Scotland's North Coast 500 &amp; Royal Castles</b>	9	<b>Various</b>	£1450.00	16
Wed 11 Jun	Sun 15 Jun	<b>Isle of Wight - The Diamond Isle</b>	5	<b>The Brunswick</b>	£549.50	18
Mon 16 Jun	Fri 20 Jun	<b>Constable Country &amp; Suffolk Explorer</b>	5	<b>Stoke By Nayland Golf &amp; Spa</b> (Colchester)	£629.50	18
Sun 22 Jun	Fri 27 Jun	<b>County Mayo &amp; Galway Delights</b>	6	<b>Castlecourt</b> (Westport)	£779.50	19
Tue 1 Jul	Sat 5 Jul	<b>Isle of Man</b>	5	<b>Rutland</b>	£629.50	19
Sun 6 Jul	Sat 12 Jul	<b>Tenby &amp; South West Wales</b>	7	<b>Clarence House</b>	£749.50	20
Sun 13 Jul	Thu 17 Jul	<b>Highlights of Kent</b> "Call the Midwife" to the Garden of England	5	<b>Bridgewood Manor</b>	£629.50	20
Sun 20 Jul	Thu 24 Jul	<b>Co. Durham &amp; The Auckland Project</b>	5	<b>Radisson Blu</b> (Durham)	£575.00	21



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[www.facebook.com/bensonstravel](http://www.facebook.com/bensonstravel)

HOSTESS SERVICE ON ALL TOURS





# Travelling with the best onboard VIP Tour Coach - Fleur

Date	Return	Tour	Days	Hotel	Price	Page
Fri 25 Jul	Thu 31 Jul	<b>Killarney</b> "Gems of Southern Ireland"	7	<b>Killarney Towers</b>	£879.50	<b>21</b>
Sun 3 Aug	Thu 7 Aug	<b>Scenic Rails of Mid Wales</b>	5	<b>Metropole</b> (Llandrindod Wells)	£629.50	<b>22</b>
Sat 9 Aug	Thu 14 Aug	<b>Eastbourne &amp; Sussex Delights</b>	6	<b>Haddon Hall</b>	£609.50	<b>22</b>
Thu 21 Aug	Sun 24 Aug	<b>Edinburgh Tattoo</b> The Falkirk Wheel & The Kelpies	4	<b>Golden Jubilee</b> (Glasgow)	£589.50	<b>23</b>
Tue 26 Aug	Sat 30 Aug	<b>Delights of Norfolk</b>	5	<b>Wensum Valley</b>	£549.50	<b>23</b>
Sun 31 Aug	Sat 6 Sep	<b>Northern Ireland Delights &amp; Antrim Coast</b>	7	<b>Stormont</b> (Belfast)	£959.50	<b>24</b>
Sun 7 Sep	Sat 13 Sep	<b>Ayrshire Coastal Delights &amp; Dumfries House &amp; Isle of Arran</b>	7	<b>South Beach</b> (Troon)	£774.50	<b>24</b>
Thu 18 Sep	Mon 29 Sep	<b>A Taste of Norway</b>	12	<b>Straand Hotel (Vraadal) + overnight hotels</b>	£1975.00	<b>26</b>
Thu 2 Oct	Mon 6 Oct	<b>Sidmouth</b>	5	<b>Royal York &amp; Faulkner</b>	£549.50	<b>28</b>
Tue 7 Oct	Sat 11 Oct	<b>West Country Rail &amp; Sail</b>	5	<b>Tiverton Hotel</b>	£569.50	<b>28</b>
Mon 13 Oct	Fri 17 Oct	<b>Northern Explorer</b> inc. Settle/Carlisle Railway Journey	5	<b>Auckland</b> (Morecambe)	£479.50	<b>29</b>
Mon 20 Oct	Fri 24 Oct	<b>Lincolnshire's Dambusters &amp; Bomber Command Country</b>	5	<b>Petwood</b> (Woodhall Spa)	£589.50	<b>29</b>
Sun 26 Oct	Fri 31 Oct	<b>Isle of Wight</b> inc. Osborne House	6	<b>The Channel View</b>	£599.50	<b>30</b>
<b>Festive Season Tours</b>						
Mon 10 Nov	Fri 14 Nov	<b>Eastbourne Turkey &amp; Tinsel</b>	5	<b>Haddon Hall</b>	£499.50	<b>30</b>
Mon 17 Nov	Fri 21 Nov	<b>Paignton Turkey &amp; Tinsel</b>	5	<b>Queens Hotel</b>	£449.50	<b>31</b>
Mon 24 Nov	Fri 28 Nov	<b>York and Castle Howard</b>	5	<b>Mercure York</b>	£499.50	<b>31</b>
Mon 1 Dec	Sun 7 Dec	<b>German &amp; Belgian Christmas Markets</b>	7	<b>Felsenkeller</b> (Rüdesheim) + Overnight hotels	£949.50	<b>34</b>
Sat 13 Dec	Mon 15 Dec	<b>Royal Albert Hall Xmas Carols</b>	3	<b>Radisson Blu Heathrow</b>	£419.50	<b>35</b>
Tue 23 Dec	Sat 27 Dec	<b>Christmas on the Fylde Coast</b>	5	<b>Doric Hotel</b>	£689.50	<b>36</b>
Tue 30 Dec	Fri 2 Jan	<b>New Year in Torquay</b>	4	<b>Victoria Hotel</b>	£524.50	<b>37</b>
<b>Thursford Christmas Spectacular</b>						
Fri 7 Nov	Sun 9 Nov	<b>Thursford - Norfolk</b>	3	<b>4* Wensum Valley</b>	£369.50	<b>33</b>
Tue 9 Dec	Thu 11 Dec	<b>Thursford - Norfolk</b>	3	<b>4* Wensum Valley</b>	£369.50	<b>33</b>
Wed 17 Dec	Fri 19 Dec	<b>Thursford - Norfolk</b>	3	<b>4* Wensum Valley</b>	£369.50	<b>33</b>

**To Book Telephone: 01948 662016**  
**www.bensonstravel.com**

**Fri 14th - Mon 17th March**



## Torquay

*"Soul & Motown"  
Weekend*

**£249.50**

Single Supp £80

**4 days**



**Unbeatable  
Value**

### Summary

Get rid of your winter blues with a fantastic weekend of live entertainment in Torbay's largest and most sophisticated seaside resort.

### Derwent Hotel 3\* (Torquay)

Lively and informal, the 3\* Derwent Hotel offers lovely accommodation just a short stroll from Torquay's seafont. If entertainment is your thing and you like a proper ballroom dance floor - this is the place for you. The "Starlight Lounge" is the main hub for your evening entertainment and dancing. You might also want to spend time in the fabulous Aztec leisure suite which offers the very best in gymnasium and swimming pool facilities. Extensive indoor leisure facilities

**Fri - Vicky Jo & Sat - Jean Claude** - Soul and Motown top performers pay homage to popular Soul and Motown artists including Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson, Diana Ross and the Supremes, James Brown, Gladys Knight & the Pips, Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder and more!

**Sun** - Party Night with KB Sounds - a one man package of music, dancing, comedy and all-round entertainer.

**A lift serves all floors.**

### Provisional Excursions

- Brixham & Paignton
- Torquay (at leisure)
- Exeter (via homebound journey)

**Mon 24th - Fri 28th March**



## Bournemouth, The New Forest & National Trust Delights

**£469.50**

Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



### Summary

Bournemouth has magnificent Blue Flag beaches, excellent restaurants, bars, scenic walks and all types of events and entertainment. It has a real international flavour making it a superb resort, whatever your tastes. There are many outstanding attractions including museums, an art gallery, two piers and a wealth of evening entertainment venues ranging from classical music to famous name shows / concerts.

### Durley Dean Hotel & Spa 4\*

A historic Victorian townhouse ideally situated for an easy walk to Bournemouth's town centre and its beaches. 112 bright and modern furnished air-conditioned bedrooms together with a lovely indoor swimming pool, spa and fully equipped gym. The hotel restaurant serves excellent food, usually with a carvery / buffet style service.

**Free wi-fi throughout the hotel.**

**A lift serves all floors.**

### Provisional Excursions

- Wimbourne Minster & Kingston Lacy (NT)
- Beaulieu National Motor Museum & New Forest Drive
- Bournemouth (at leisure)
- Inbound via Lacock Abbey (NT)

**Mon 31st March - Fri 4th April**



**Springtime  
in the Lakes  
& Dales**

**£469.50**  
Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



**Sat 5th - Wed 9th April**



**Sidmouth  
& Devon in Spring  
inc. Powderham  
Castle**

**£529.50**  
Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



**Summary**

Morecambe is a small seaside town that appeals to all ages. There is a lovely refurbished promenade to stroll along admiring the wonderful views of the Lakeland hills across Morecambe Bay and not forgetting the statue of Eric Morecambe! The town has shops, cafes and restaurants. It is also an ideal base for trips to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales which we include in our excursions - two of the UK's most popular national parks.

**Auckland Hotel (Morecambe)**

The Auckland Hotel has become a firm favourite to Bensons as it prides itself on providing excellent, friendly service, lovely accommodation and great food. The bar/ballroom has entertainment each night, there is also a TV lounge for those who prefer a quieter environment.

Ground Floor Rooms available (on request)

A lift serves all floors with a few stairs to some rooms.

**Provisional Excursions**

- Hawes (mkt day) & Wensleydale Creamery
- Windermere Lake Cruise • Morecambe (at leisure) & Lakeland Motor Museum
- Oswaldwhistle Mills (via homebound journey)

**Summary**

John Betjeman was one of the many famous people who, over the years, implied that Sidmouth is the loveliest seaside resort in England. Indeed, Sidmouth has always been an extremely chic, elegant and genteel place and is not conformist to the modern day "glitzy party" image which other seaside resorts have. It is situated at the centre of the world heritage Jurassic Coast in Devon and was developed for the richest of Victorian aristocracy.

**Royal York & Faulkner 3\***

This magnificent Regency hotel enjoys an unrivalled position at the centre of Sidmouth's elegant Esplanade, overlooking the sea and adjacent to the picturesque town centre. Owned and personally run by the Hook family, resident proprietors for three generations, the hotel has a long-standing reputation for hospitality and service. The property, having undergone expensive though careful refurbishment, is beautifully appointed with all amenities, excellent facilities and a stunning new spa.

"Excellent" on Trip Advisor. Entertainment some evenings.

A lift serves all floors.

**Provisional Excursions**

- Powderham Castle & Dawlish
- Honiton (Mkt Day) & Lyme Regis
- Sidmouth - at leisure





**Departs:** Thursday 24th April

**Duration:** 6 days

**Price:** £849.50 per person (twin/double) *£150.00 single supplement*

**Thur:** Outbound via York

P&O Superferry (inside "low-bed" ensuite cabin, evening meal & breakfast onboard)

We first visit York before travelling to Hull to catch our P&O "Superferry" for our overnight crossing to Rotterdam. Enjoy a fantastic night on-board as we include your hot & cold buffet evening meal with a vast menu choice. Afterwards, take in a film at the cinema, enjoy the cabaret show and disco, relax in the piano bar, have a flutter at the casino table or perhaps just have an early night!!!!!!

Accommodation is an "inside berth" en-suite cabins with "low-floor" beds (no bunk beds).





# TULIPS & DUTCH *Delights*

## **Fri** - Full day at world famous Keukenhof Gardens

After enjoying a full hot and cold buffet breakfast, we will disembark and make the short distance drive to the town of **Lisse** and **Keukenhof Park**. Also known as **"The Garden of Europe"** Keukenhof is world-renowned for the most magnificent and colourful displays of tulips – Holland's unofficial national flower.

You will have at least 5 hours here to enjoy the most beautiful spring garden in the world, largely created using over 7 million tulip bulbs.

## **Day 2-4:** Van Der Valk De Bilt (Utrecht). (3 nights x dinner, B&B)

## **Sat** - Steam & Sail in Holland's "Historic Triangle"

A full day visiting the 'Historic Triangle' in northern Holland – first boarding a heritage ferry in the pretty town of **Enkhuizen** and sailing across the **IJsselmeer** to **Medemblik**, enjoying a drink and apple pie on board. Later, we take the historic Steamtram through typical Dutch countryside to Hoorn. We end our day at a traditional **cheese and clog makers**.

## **Sun** - Hetloo Palace & Gardens (Apeldoorn)

A 17th century palace built by the House of Orange – now widely regarded as one of Europe's most beautiful museums. Fascinating exhibitions about the House of Orange and the origins of the Netherlands as well as seeing how the palace was originally worked and lived in. In the Stables, view the wonderful collection of cars and carriages before strolling through some of Europe's most beautiful palace gardens.

**Mon - Gouda** – beautiful facades, canals, courtyards and one of the most iconic cheese markets in the world awaits you. You'll never get "cheesed off" here!

Late afternoon, continue to Europort for our overnight P&O crossing to Hull.

**Tue** - We will make our return journey via a visit to **Salford Quays**.

- 2 nights on P&O super-ferry (evening meal, breakfast & ensuite cabin included)
- 3 nights half-board accommodation at Van Der Valk De Bilt (Utrecht).
- FULL DAY at Keukenhof Park
- Visit to local cheese farm & Dutch clog maker
- Steam Train and Boat Cruise in Holland's Historic Triangle
- Hetloo Palace & Gardens
- Gouda



**Fri 18th - Tue 22nd April**



## Easter in Paignton

*Sun, Sand,  
Sea and Steam!*

**£469.50**

Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



**New for  
2025**

**Thur 1st - Mon 5th May**



## Eastbourne

*“Springtime Special”  
Magnificent Motors &  
Bluebell Railway*

**£499.50**

Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



### Summary

Having one of the UK’s biggest zoos, the largest outdoor water park (Splashdown Quaywest), a steam railway with extraordinary views and a seaside resort beachfront with traditional attractions, a pier and a quaint harbour area – Paignton has something for everyone to enjoy!

### Queens Hotel 3\*

Ideally situated just a short walk from Paignton’s town centre and seafront. Widely known for its high standards, relaxed and friendly atmosphere, great food, and nightly entertainment. The hotel also has an indoor heated swimming pool. Ground floor rooms may be available upon request.

- Heated indoor pool
- Live entertainment each evening

A lift serves all floors.

### Provisional Excursions

- Brixham
- Totnes & Dartmouth via “Steam & Cruise” – steam train from Paignton to Kingswear, plus River Dart Cruise from Dartmouth.
- Paignton (at leisure)

### Summary

Thanks to its sheltered position and its claim of “most hours of sunshine” in the UK, Eastbourne has an enviable reputation on the south coast. Its seafront promenade stretches over three miles. During the bank holiday weekend, the seafront is taken over by a fabulous continental market and “Magnificent Motors” of the past. We also include a steam train journey on the Bluebell Railway.

### Haddon Hall

Situated just off the Grand Parade (seafront), very close to the UK’s busiest seaside bandstand, and only a few minutes walk away from the main shopping area. With a great choice of traditional British cuisine and superb evening entertainment, Haddon Hall provides everything needed for a super holiday. The friendly staff of this family owned hotel always provide Bensons with a wonderful, warm welcome.

A lift serves all floors with a few stairs to a small number of rooms.

### Provisional Excursions

- Eastbourne & Magnificent Motors (at leisure)
- Battle and Hastings • Bluebell “Steam” Railway



**Fri 9th - Tue 13th May**



**Llandudno**  
*inc. Bodnant  
Gardens*

**£549.50**

Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



**Wed 14th - Sat 17th May**



**Yorkshire's**  
**All Features**  
**Great & Small**

**£449.50**

Single Supp £85

**4 days**



### Summary

Llandudno has become extremely popular throughout the year thanks to its enviable sheltered position beside the famous Great Orme. With a super-wide, long seafront promenade to stroll along, a popular and well-used pier offering traditional seaside delights, a beautiful long sandy beach, and of course, plenty of town shops all on the flat – Llandudno has got the lot!

### Tynedale Hotel 4\*

Voted number 3 of 52 Llandudno hotels listed on Trip Advisor - "Excellent". A family-run hotel, fabulously furnished and decorated in a modern contemporary style - offering unrivalled levels of service, comfort and hospitality to all guests. Each day an amazing food menu is provided.

Bensons have been waiting over 6 years to get a date here - **DON'T MISS THIS!**

**Nightly Entertainment programme.**

**A lift serves all floors with a few steps to some rooms.**

### Provisional Excursions

- St Asaph Woollen Mills outlet (via outbound journey)
- Beaumaris & Conwy • Llandudno (at leisure)
- Bodnant Gardens, Vale of Conwy to Betws-y-Coed
- Shropshire Ironworks Centre (via inbound journey)

### Summary

Staying in the heart of Harrogate, we have a fabulous itinerary to include a brilliant day out to Thirsk and the multi-award winning attraction "World of James Herriot" – where All Creatures Great & Small all began. We also visit the beautiful historic Harewood House – used for film scenes in Downton Abbey, Gentleman Jack & ITV's Victoria. Since 1997, Harewood Estate has hosted Emmerdale - we include the 90-minute guided tour of Emmerdale's external sets – the backdrop of 50 years of explosive storylines!

### The Crown 3\* (Harrogate)

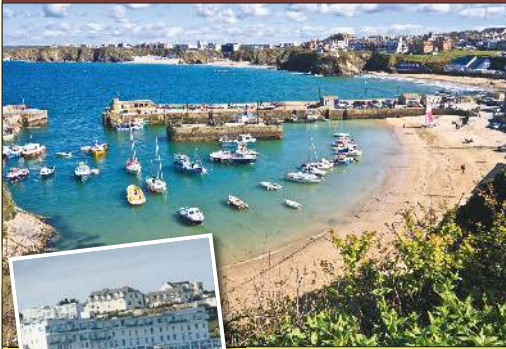
A beautiful Georgian period building in an enviable location, just moments from many of Harrogate's most popular sites – the hotel combines beautiful surroundings with a storied past and luxurious facilities. Breakfast is buffet style and evening meal is waiter serviced.

**A lift serves all floors.**

### Provisional Excursions

- York (via outbound journey)
- Thirsk inc. World of James Herriot & Harrogate
- Harewood House & Emmerdale Tour
- RHS Harlow Carr Gardens (via inbound journey)

Sun 18th - Fri 23rd May



## Newquay Spring into Cornwall

**£729.50**

Single Supp £100

**6 days**



### Summary

Originally a fishing port with its main industry being pilchard fishing and salting. The “new” 15th century quay was built to develop sea trade for the import of coal and export of mined ore during the heyday of the tin and copper mining industries.

Today, Newquay exudes the laidback atmosphere you would expect from a town perched on Cornwall's Atlantic cliffs and is Cornwall's most popular seaside resort. Stretching across 7 miles, a sandy beach exists for every day of the week with glorious open spaces looking out to sea. Attractions include the Blue Reef Aquarium, tropical gardens and Newquay Zoo.

### Fistral Beach Hotel 4\*

Overlooking Fistral Beach with jaw-dropping ocean views, Newquay's highest rated 4\* hotel on Trip Advisor. All bedrooms are bright, airy and modern with top quality beds and cotton linen. Indulge yourself with a spa treatment and / or make use of the extensive luxury spa & gym facilities. The hotel restaurant was awarded 2 AA Rosettes in 2023. **A lift serves all floors**

### Provisional Excursions

- Padstow & Prideaux Place (House & Gardens)
- Truro & Falmouth
- St Ives • Newquay (at leisure)



## WHY BOOK WITH BENSONS?

We are a small family business who care deeply about the relationships we develop with customers, hoteliers and other business partners. Our reputation and reliability is everything - if we were not proud of our business, we would not use our family name!

We are not about being the “cheapest”, we are about offering the “best value for money”.

## “UPFRONT, FRIENDLY & RELIABLE – offering an unbeatable service” – that's BENSONS

- You are a friend to us – not just a name and number.
- Any problems or queries, the boss is only a phone call away.
- Easy booking – we do everything for you except pay!
- Door-2-Door service available or “Local” pick-ups
- Award winning tour coach (April 2018) – one of the highest specification touring coaches currently operating in the United Kingdom. It's all about YOUR COMFORT.
- Highest Safety / Passenger Comfort Standards
- COVID secure operating systems.
- Flexible itineraries – we only ever alter things in order to make it a better day out for you!

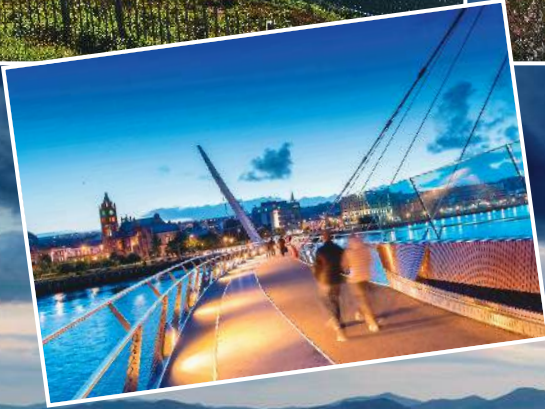
*You can rely on us!*



# Wish you were here .....









# IRELAND'S Coastal Causeway

**Departs:** Saturday 24th May

**Duration:** 7 days

**Price:** £849.50 per person *£175.00 single supplement*  
All hotels on DB&B basis



This exciting tour takes you to the top of Ireland and the stunning Northern shores where we have included a guided tour of Derry and the Inishowen Peninsula. Our main 4\* hotel is situated in Buncrana – one of the most popular holiday resorts in the northwest.

**Sat** - Take the afternoon ferry sailing from Holyhead to Dublin and continue to our overnight hotel.

**Sun** - Drive north to **Buncrana** via Kells and Cavan and up into the beautiful Fermanagh Lakelands. Arrive in Omagh for a visit to the award-winning **Ulster American Folk Park**. One of Northern Ireland's major museums, it brings to life the powerful story of mass emigration as millions of people sailed to America in search of a 'better life'. Follow the emigrant trail as you journey from the thatched cottages of Ulster, on board a full-scale sailing ship leading to the log cabins of the American Frontier. Meet an array of costumed characters on your way with traditional crafts to show and tales to tell.

**Mon** - Accompanied with a professional guide, we drive up to Ireland's northernmost point, **Malin Head**. This region is a protected national park, with wonderful ocean views and rare species of flora and fauna. We continue to **Derry/Londonderry** on the banks of the River Foyle - the only completely walled city in Ireland and enjoying a resurgence following its **2013 crowning as UK City of Culture**. The award-winning Tower Museum provides a full history of this absorbing city; the Guildhall, Bogside Murals and new Peace Bridge are other distinctive monuments.

**Tue** - Morning visit to **Glenveagh National Park** under the shadow of

imposing Mount Errigal. In its fairytale lakeside setting surrounded by forests, Glenveagh Castle provides a truly romantic vision of Ireland. Continue via Bloody Foreland (known locally as the Hill of Blood) and the Rosses. From here we make our way to the attractive village of Meenaleck and Dungloe – famous for the annual Mary of Dungloe Festival. Finally we enjoy the magnificent scenery of the Blue Stack Mountains, before arriving back in Buncrana.

**Wed** - **Full day to Donegal town**. Visits can be made to Donegal Castle, the Abbey ruins or Magee's home of Donegal hand-woven tweeds. This afternoon why not enjoy a waterbus cruise around Donegal Bay (subject to tidal conditions).

**Thur** - Depart the hotel after breakfast and head south to the town of **Carlingford** - a charming harbour village and recent winner of Ireland's European Destinations of Excellence Award. Overlooked by Slieve Foy, known as 'Carlingford Mountain', it contains cobbled streets lined with curiosity shops and cafés. A short walk along the waterfront leads to the impressive ruin of King John's Castle. Free time spent here to explore before continuing our journey to our final overnight stay on half board basis.

**Fri** - Free time in the city of **Dublin** before catching the afternoon return sailing back to Holyhead and home.

# Scotland's

## North Coast 500 & Royal Castles

**Departs:** Monday 2nd June

**Duration:** 9 days

**Price:** £1450.00 per person *£100.00 single supplement*

### **Mon - Local area to Fort William**

(approx. 350 miles). Our route is via Glencoe with suitable comfort stops.

**Hotel: Alexandra 3\* (Fort William)**

### **Tue - Fort William - Ullapool**

(111 miles) Morning time at leisure in "Fort Bill" or join our optional excursion to take the Gondola Cable Car to the top of **Ben Nevis – Britain's Highest Mountain** (1345m). In the afternoon, we continue through the Great Glen to Ullapool via a visit to the Commando Memorial (Spean Bridge) and Fort Augustus on the shore of Loch Ness.

**Hotel: Caledonian 3\* (Ullapool)**  
x 2 nights

### **Wed - Ullapool (at leisure)**

Time to unwind and relax! Simply enjoy the hotel's stunning location which overlooks the harbour and colourful fishing boats nestled on Loch Broom. Alternatively, take a "Summer Isles" boat cruise (approx. 2 ¼ hrs), taking in the stunning scenery and mountains of Coigach and Scoraig peninsulas.

### **Thur - Ullapool - Thurso**

(138 miles) Enjoying spectacular scenery (mountains, moorlands & golden sand beaches) all the way as we venture further north. Our journey goes via Ardvreck Castle on the shores of Loch Assynt, over the Kylesku Bridge, Scourie,

Loch Inchard and then turning east at Durness and going via Loch Enboil, before crossing Tongue Causeway towards Douneray and Thurso.

**Hotel: Pentland 3\* (Thurso) x 3 nights**

### **Fri - Orkney**

Full day tour taking the ferry (90 mins sailing) from Scrabster to Stromness. We are joined by a local guide, visiting the island's major attractions - Skara Brae, Italian Chapel, Ring of Brodgar, Kirkwall (Orkney's capital).

### **Sat - Castle of Mey (admission inc)**

John O Groats & Dunnet Head (most northerly point of mainland Scotland)

### **Sun - Thurso – Perth (220miles)**

via a visit to **Dunrobin Castle** (the largest "great house" in the Northern Highlands with 189 rooms).

### **Mon - Glamis Castle & City of Dundee**

A fabulous visit to the ancestral home of the Lyon family and Earl of Strathmore, Glamis Castle is 1000 years of history in the heart of Angus.

### **Tue - Scone Palace & Gardens**

The crowning place of Scottish Kings (Macbeth, Robert the Bruce & Charles II) and once the seat of government and Stone of Scone.

In the afternoon, we commence our homebound journey.





**Wed 11th - Sun 15th June**



**Isle of Wight**  
*"The Diamond Isle"*

**£549.50**  
Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



**Summary**

Come to the Isle of Wight - the ideal location for relaxation and enjoyment. Only a short ferry trip across the Solent to enjoy the sandy beaches, stunning coastline and rolling countryside - something for everyone. We base ourselves in Shanklin – a charming seaside town famed for its beautiful Chine woodland gorge, as well as its lovely beach, seafront, shops, amenities and historical theatre.

**The Brunswick 3\* (Shanklin)**

Brilliantly situated in a quiet part of Shanklin’s coastal area – a few minutes’ walk from Shanklin’s beach, its chine and the town centre. The hotel’s beautiful garden terrace fronts onto the coastal path and offers wonderful panoramic coastal views. Enjoy a drink from the bar, a delicious cream tea, or even a swim in the outdoor pool. An indoor pool and sauna is also available to enjoy before relishing “fine dining” in the hotel’s Horizon Restaurant.

**Please note: The hotel does not have a lift.**

**Provisional Excursions**

- Shanklin - at leisure
- Island Tour - Ventnor Botanical Gardens, The Needles, Yarmouth
- Solent Boat Cruise & Cowes

**Mon 16th - Fri 20th June**



**Constable Country**  
*& Suffolk Explorer*

**£629.50**  
Single Supp £100

**5 days**



**Summary**

We visit the area made famous by the 18th-century paintings of John Constable, England’s foremost landscape artist of the time. See Flatford Mill, Willy Lott’s House, the site of The Hay Wain painting, and visit the Village of Dedham, where Constable used to go to school. Including a visit to Britain’s first city, Colchester - this is a brilliant tour filled with beautiful historic scenery, art and culture.

**Stoke by Nayland Golf & Spa Hotel 4\* (Colchester)**

A fabulous 4\* Spa & Golf resort offering the ultimate in luxury bedrooms, award-winning dining, beautiful spa & leisure facilities & 2 championship golf courses.

*Fantastic Tour Highlights*

- Newmarket Stud (outbound journey)
- Guided tour of Suffolk’s “prime” villages + Entrance into Lavenham Guildhall
- Constable’s Flatford Mill & Dedham
- Visit to the Suffolk Punch Trust & Aldeburgh
- Colchester – Britain’s first city
- Bury St Edmunds (homebound journey)



**Sun 22nd - Fri 27th June**



**County Mayo  
& Galway  
Delights**

**£779.50**  
Single Supp £150

**6 days**



**Fanstastic Atlantic Coastal Scenery**

**Sun** – outbound via 14:45 hrs ferry (Holyhead – Dublin)

**Talbot Hotel, Stillorgan (outbound o/n)**

**Mon** – Drive to Westport via Athlone (pm)

**Tue** – Connemara, Clifden, scenic “Sky Drive” along some of the most awesome Atlantic coastal scenery and Kylemore Abbey.

**Wed** – Galway & River Corrib boat cruise (with cream tea)

**Thu** – Westport (at leisure)

**Fri** – inbound via 14:50 hrs ferry (Dublin – Holyhead)

**Castlecourt Hotel 4\* (Westport)**

The Castlecourt Hotel is situated just a short walk from Westport centre. It has 146 Bedrooms all with Private Facilities, TV, Telephone and Hairdryer. There is a leisure Centre, Indoor Pool and Hairdressing Salon.

**Entertainment is normally provided.**

**A lift serves all floors.**

- Athlone (Stillorgan-Westport journey)
- Galway & River Corrib Boat Cruise (inc. cream tea)
- Clifden, Connemara Coastline & Kylemore Abbey
- Westport (at leisure)

**Tue 1st - Sat 5th July**



**Isle of Man**

**£629.50**  
Single Supp £50

**5 days**



**Summary**

Douglas is the capital of the island on the East Coast. Its beautiful Victorian seafront is lined with picturesque hotels and restaurants. This year we are including a one day “Go Explore” card which allows you to use every transport mode available – so take the bus, horse-drawn tram, electric tram and mountain railway to the top of Snaefell (highest mountain) – you can do it all!

**Rutland Hotel 3\* (Douglas)**

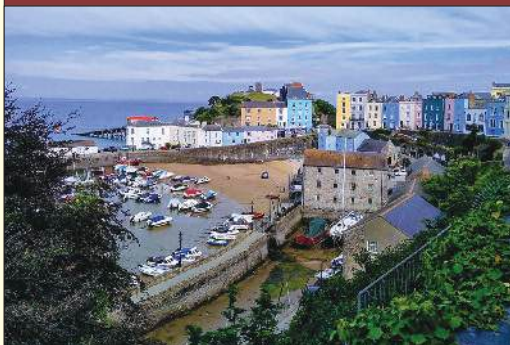
One of the most elegant buildings on the Isle of Man with wonderful sea-views – situated on the quiet side of the Queen’s Promenade, close to the Electric Tram Railway and an easy stroll to Douglas town centre. 64 bedrooms offering comfort, style and quality with a full range of modern facilities and accessories. The Queens Carvery Restaurant offers both a buffet breakfast, and into the evenings a hearty Manx roast with a separate residents bar and entertainment.

**Please note: Steps must be used to access hotel entrance – not suitable for wheelchair users or persons requiring “level access”. A lift serves all floors.**

**Provisional Excursions**

- Ramsey, Point of Ayr, Peel
- St John’s (Tynwald Hill), Port Erin, Cregneash Folk Village, The Sound
- Douglas (at leisure)

Sun 6th - Sat 12th July



## Glorious Tenby & South West Wales

£749.50

Single Supp Nil

7 days



### Summary

Tenby is a charming historic walled town – its cobbled pedestrian streets filled with independent shops, cafes, pubs and colour-washed cottages. The town remains one of the UK’s most popular summer holiday destinations thanks to also having on its doorstep beautiful, big, sandy blue-flag beaches and a charming harbour from where you can take a boat trip to the peaceful haven offered by Caldey Island.

New for 2025, we make a visit to **Aberglasney** – home to 10 acres of **magnificent gardens**.

### Clarence House Hotel

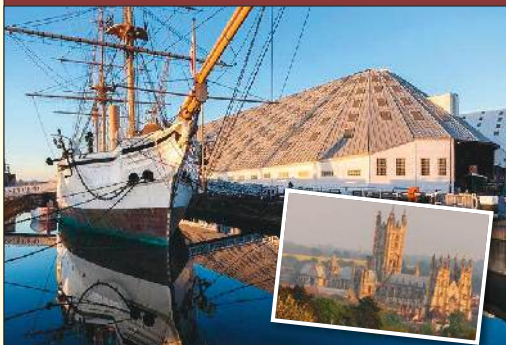
The Clarence House Hotel is the favourite for many of Bensons’ customers with many returning year after year. Great food and super entertainment each evening - what more does one want!

The hotel enjoys an enviable position on the esplanade with sea views over to Caldey Island. The town is a few minutes level walk away. **A lift serves all floors.**

### Provisional Excursions

- Narbeth & St David's
- Cardigan via the Preseli Hills
- Carmarthen (mkt day) & Aberglasney Gardens
- Tenby - at leisure

Sun 13th - Thu 17th July



## Highlights of Kent

*“Call The Midwife”  
to the Garden  
of England*

£629.50

Single Supp £100

5 days



### Summary

If you are a fan of TV series “Call the Midwife” don’t miss doing this tour as we have a full day being guided around the set at Chatham’s Historic Dockyard (the world’s most complete dockyard of the Age of Sail) in addition to the fabulous displays of warships, lifeboats, submarines and the Commissioner’s Garden. This tour is also very much based towards those who love the quintessential “English” summer garden at the same time as loving their history too. Look at what we include!

### Bridgewood Manor Hotel & Spa 4\*

Situated near Rochester. 100 comfortable bedrooms. The fully equipped leisure facilities include a fitness centre, swimming pool, sauna, steam room and gym. Guests can enjoy an invigorating massage, soothing body wrap or even a gel pedicure.

**Ground floor rooms available. A lift serves all floors**

### Provisional Excursions

- Chartwell Manor (via outbound journey)
- Chatham’s Historic Dockyard
- Hever Castle & Gardens & Penshurst Place
- Canterbury • Leeds Castle (via inbound journey)



**Sun 20th - Thu 24th July**



**Delights of Co. Durham**

*Including the Auckland Project*

**£575.00**  
Single Supp £100

**5 days**



**New for 2025**

- Sun** – outbound via **South Tynedale Railway**
- Mon** – Full day to **Beamish open-air museum**. We stop at the famous Angel of the North en-route
- Tue** – Durham (at leisure)
- Wed** – **Bishop Auckland & The Auckland Project**.

A collection of galleries, gardens and museums centred around the magnificent Auckland Palace – telling the stories of the powerful Prince Bishops of Durham, the surprising connection to the Golden Age of Spanish art, and more recently the legacy of coal mining in Co. Durham. We include an “unlimited pass” ticket to all attractions.

**Thu** – inbound via morning visit to **The Bowes Museum**, Barnard Castle.

**Radisson Blu - 4\* (Durham)**

A sophisticated 4\* riverside hotel, overlooking the River Wear on the edge of Durham’s city centre – all attractions being within easy walking distance. This modern hotel has contemporary features throughout including a beautiful restaurant and bar area. All bedrooms are large and well-appointed. A fabulous health and spa leisure club is also available during your stay. **A lift serves all floors**

**Provisional Excursions**

- South Tynedale Railway (via outbound journey)
- Beamish Museum • The Auckland Project
- Durham (at leisure) • The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle (via inbound journey)

**Fri 25th - Thu 31st July**



**Killarney “Gems of Southern Ireland”**

*Including the Ring of Kerry & Dingle Peninsula*

**£879.50**  
Single Supp £175

**7 days**



**Fri** – Outbound via 14.50hrs ferry (Fishguard to Rosslare). Overnight stay at 4\* Dooleys’ Hotel in Waterford.

**Sat** – Drive to **Cobh** via Dungarvan & Youghal, before arriving at Killarney Towers Hotel.

**Sun** – The **Ring of Kerry** with a local tour guide.

**Mon** – The **Dingle Peninsula & Tralee** with a local tour guide.

**Tue** – We include a ride on the famous jaunting cars into the **Killarney National Park** together with a boat cruise.

**Wed** – Killarney to Bray via a visit to city of **Kilkenny**.

**Thu** – Morning visit to **Powerscourt Gardens** before our homebound journey via Dublin / Holyhead 14:50 hrs Stena ferry.

**Killarney Towers Hotel 4\***

Brilliantly situated in the heart of Killarney, this popular 4\* Hotel provides extensive leisure facilities, dining options, bars and evening entertainment whilst having the whole of the town on your doorstep. **A lift serves all floors.**

**Provisional Excursions**

- Waterford • Ring of Kerry (with local guide)
- Dingle Peninsula (with local guide) • Cobh
- Killarney National Park via Jaunting cars and boat cruise • Killarney (at leisure)

**Sun 3rd - Thu 7th August**



## Scenic Rails of Mid Wales

**£629.50**  
Single Supp £50  
**5 days**



**Sat 9th - Thu 14th August**



## Eastbourne & Sussex Delights

**£609.50**  
Single Supp Nil  
**6 days**



**New  
Itinerary for  
2025**

### Summary

**Just look at what we are including below on this amazing holiday.**

Mid Wales is bordered by the two stunning national parks of the Brecon Beacons and Snowdonia and is home to rich, green landscapes, the unspoilt Ceredigion coastline, the stunning Cambrian mountains and glorious castles, gardens and railways – discover just some of them from our base at the fantastic Metropole Hotel.

### Metropole Hotel 4\* (Llandrindrod Wells)

Located in the beautiful Spa town of Llandrindrod Wells and is renowned for its warm and friendly atmosphere, comfortable accommodation and superb cuisine. The hotel facilities include an indoor leisure complex with its 18 metre indoor pool, whirlpool spa, sauna, steamroom and gym -an ideal environment in which to relax.

**A lift serves all floors.**

### Provisional Excursions

- Powis Castle & Gardens (outbound journey)
- Aberyswtwyth & Vale of Rheidol Steam Railway
- Elan Valley & Dam (guided tour) & Powis Castle & Garden • Brecon Mountain Railway & Penderyn Distillery • Ludlow (homebound journey)

**Sat** – outbound journey

**Sun** – **Amberley Open-Air Museum & Arundel**  
Located in the heart of the South Downs National Park on the site of a former lime quarry – something for all ages, the museum shows the industrial heritage of the south-east – 36 acres to explore, over 40 exhibits to visit including traditional crafts people at work and a unique industrial narrow-gauge railway to ride on.

**Mon** – **Royal Tunbridge Wells & Scotney Castle & Gardens (NT)**. Enjoy a relaxed stroll through the famous 17th century spa town which include the famous colonnaded walkway known as The Pantiles. Later, we drive into the scenic area called the High Weald and visit Scotney Castle – an English Victorian mansion house with “picturesque” gardens in the valley of the River Bewl.

**Tue** – **Lewes**. Great shopping opportunities with a super high street and pedestrianised area in addition to historical attractions such as its castle ruins and Anne of Cleves House Museum.

**Wed** – **Eastbourne** (at leisure – market day)

**Thu** – Homeward bound, we visit **Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens**. Famous for its Rock Garden, Doll’s House Museum, a rare colony of wallabies and England’s first Pinotage vineyard – so much to see and do!

**Haddon Hall Hotel** – See Page 10



Thu 21st - Sun 24th August



## Edinburgh Tattoo

*The Falkirk Wheel  
& The Kelpies*

**£589.50**

Single Supp £90

**4 days**



Tue 26th - Sat 30th August



## Delights of Norfolk

**£549.50**

Single Supp £100

**5 days**



### Summary

High above the skyline of Edinburgh's capital on the floodlit Castle esplanade, The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is a stunning international spectacle of music, ceremony, entertainment and theatre - attracting over 250,000 people each year - for many returning visitors, it is "The Greatest Show on Earth". 2025 is "**The Heroes Who Made Us**" - celebrating the heroes of the Tattoo and the greatest hits from its past seven decades. Featuring massed pipes and drums, military bands, display teams and dancers under spectacular lighting and special effects.

**Please note:** Not suitable for persons with walking difficulties.

### Golden Jubilee Hotel 4\*

A 4\* hotel with 168 spacious air-conditioned ensuite bedrooms - all with satellite TV and free Wifi. Centre for Health and Wellbeing with indoor pool, sauna, steam room, whirlpool and gym. Situated in a quiet area close to the River Clyde on the outskirts of Glasgow.

A lift serves all floors.

### Provisional Excursions

- Lake District (outbound journey)
- Stirling (am), Falkirk Wheel (included) & the Kelpies (pm)
- Glasgow
- Edinburgh Tattoo (9.30pm performance)

**Tue** - outbound via Kings Lynn - view the fine old merchants' houses which stretch down to the river between cobbled lanes and the elegant Custom House that overlooks the harbour - evidence of a wealthy and important maritime past.

**Wed** - **Bressingham Steam Museum & Gardens** A fabulous day out! Transport back to the 1940s with a full size street scene, Dad's Army displays, vintage vehicles, traction engines and living vans. Journey on three narrow-gauge railways and stroll through 17 acres of renowned gardens of "horticultural excellence"

**Thu** - City of **Norwich**. Alternatively, stay and relax at the hotel and enjoy its leisure facilities.

**Fri** - **Bure Valley Steam Railway & Norfolk Broads River Cruise**

**Sat** - inbound via visit to **Houghton Hall & Gardens** (home to Lord Cholmondeley) Built in the 1720s for Sir Robert Walpole - a Palladian mansion with an award-winning 5-acre walled garden, a fabulous model soldier museum, contemporary sculptures, and a park famed by white-fallow deer.

### Wensum Valley Golf & Country Club 4\*

Set in 350 acres of breathtaking countryside, facilities include a leisure centre (gym, indoor pool, sauna & Jacuzzi) and a "Spa" treatment room where you can relax. **Please note:** The hotel has no lift but ground floor rooms are available.

Sun 31st Aug - Sat 6th Sept



## Northern Ireland Delights & Antrim Coast

**£959.50**  
Single Supp £200

**7 days**



### Summary

On arrival to Belfast, a professional guide takes us via all of the city's major landmarks on "both sides of the fence / wall". Taking in the beautiful County Antrim coastline, we visit N.Ireland's only UNESCO site - the Giant's Causeway (40000 basalt columns formed around 50 million years ago) famed by Irish Folklore. The fabulous Titanic Exhibition based on the actual shipyard site of the ill-fated liner is a must for all Belfast visitors. New for 2025 is our visit to Hillsborough Castle & Gardens – guided tour included.

### Stormont Hotel 4\*

The one night stopover in Dumfries will be at the 3\* Holiday Inn. The 4\* Stormont Hotel will be the base for the rest of our stay in Northern Ireland. This most luxurious hotel is located just a few miles away from Belfast City Centre, adjacent to Stormont Castle and overlooking the grounds of the Stormont Estate.

A lift serves all floors with ground floor rooms available.

### Provisional Excursions

- Giants Causeway & Antrim Coast
- Titanic Exhibition
- Hillsborough Castle & Gardens & Downpatrick
- Ulster Transport Museum & Folk Museum
- Belfast / Cairnryan (homebound journey)

Sun 7th - Sat 13th September



## Ayrshire Coastal Delights

*inc. Isle of Arran & Dumfries House*

**£774.50**  
Single Supp £100

**7 days**



### Summary

We stay at a fabulous hotel and operate an excursion programme which has "wowed" Bensons' customers for the past 10 years. In 2025 we are including a visit to Culzean Castle which is perched magnificently on top of the Ayrshire coastline, as well as a guided visit to Dumfries House – a beautiful Palladian property famed for its magnificent Chippendale collection, saved for the nation by HM King Charles.

Based in Troon - a peaceful, seaside resort on the north Ayrshire coast which boasts stunning views of the islands of Ailsa Craig and Arran, across its beautiful sandy beach. The town is home to 7 world-class golf courses, Ayrshire's fish market, some charming independent shops and some great ice-cream parlours!

### South Beach Hotel 3\* (Troon)

Privately owned and managed by the Watt family - situated on the outskirts of the town centre and facing onto the sea front. A firm favourite with Bensons.

**Please Note:** The hotel has no lift, but there are a limited number of rooms available on the ground floor.

### Provisional Excursions

- Glasgow
- Dumfries House (incl guided tour)
- Isle of Arran
- Culzean Castle
- Largs
- Troon (at leisure)



# Wish you were here .....









# A Taste of **NORWAY**

A wonderful  
**"TOUR OF A LIFETIME"**  
through one of the world's  
most unique landscapes  
with a rich cultural  
heritage

**Departs:** Thursday 18th September

**Duration:** 12 days

**Price:** £1975.00 per person (twin/double)  
£250.00 single supplement

**Norway's Telemark region offers magnificent scenery with a high mountain plateau, deep valleys, forests, rivers and crystal-clear lakes. Our hotel is in the picturesque lakeside village of Vraadal.**

**Tour Highlights:** \* **The Telemark Canal** \* **Hardangervidda National Park**  
\* **World-famous WWII sabotage site at Vemork** \* **Visit to Oslo**

**Thur** - Journey to Hull for our P&O overnight ferry crossing to Rotterdam.

(inside twin-berth cabins, including evening dinner & breakfast) .

**Fri** - Continue through Holland and into Germany to the Hamburg area.

**Hotel:** Best Western Schmoeker-Hof 4\* (Norderstedt, Germany) x 1 night (DB&B).

**Sat** - Norderstedt – Kolding Northbound into Denmark.

**Hotel:** Scandic Kolding 4\* (Kolding, Denmark) x 1 night (DB&B).

**Sun** - Kolding – Vraadal (via Color Line 12:50 ferry Hirtshals / Larvik).

**Hotel:** Straand Hotel 3\* (Vraadal, Norway) x 5 nights (DB&B).

**Mon** - Vraadal (at leisure). Time to relax and make use of the hotel's wonderful facilities (indoor pool, large panoramic terrace, lounge and a wonderful garden that sweeps down to the lake shore and beach)

**Tue** - "The Heroes of Telemark" – panoramic excursion across the Hardangervidda Plateau (largest mountain plain in Europe) and including the Telemark heavy-water sabotage site at Vemork.

**Wed** - The West Telemark "round trip" – incl Morgedal ("cradle of skiing"), West Telemark Museum, The Dalen Hotel (one of Norway's most famous buildings), mountain journey of Skafsavegen, Lake Nisser.

**Thur** - The Telemark Canal – incl a heritage boat trip on one of the "world's most beautiful waterways".

**Fri** - Depart Vraadal for Norway's capital, Oslo – via a stop at Norway's largest Stave Church at Heddal. We include a tour of the capital city with a local guide as well as free time to explore.

**Hotel:** Thon Hotel Horten 4\* (Horten, Norway)

**Sat** - Norway to Germany (via Color Line 08:00 hrs ferry Larvik / Hirtshals)

**Hotel:** Best Western Hotel Prisma 4\* (Neumuenster, Germany)

**Sun/Mon** - We head for home via P&O Hull / Rotterdam overnight ferry (DB&B).

**FOR MORE  
DETAILED INFORMATION  
PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE  
[www.bensonstravel.com](http://www.bensonstravel.com)**

**Thu 2nd - Mon 6th October**



**Sidmouth  
& Devon**

**£549.50**  
Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



**Summary**

John Betjeman was one of the many famous people who, over the years, implied that Sidmouth is the loveliest seaside resort in England. Indeed, Sidmouth has always been an extremely chic, elegant and genteel place and is not conformist to the modern day “glitzy party” image which other seaside resorts have. It is situated at the centre of the world heritage Jurassic Coast in Devon and was developed for the richest of Victorian aristocracy.

**Royal York & Faulkner 3\***

This magnificent Regency hotel enjoys an unrivalled position at the centre of Sidmouth’s elegant Esplanade, overlooking the sea and adjacent to the picturesque town centre. Owned and personally run by the Hook family, resident proprietors for three generations, the hotel has a long-standing reputation for hospitality and service. The property, having undergone expensive though careful refurbishment, is beautifully appointed with all amenities, excellent facilities and a stunning new spa.

“Excellent” on Trip Advisor. Entertainment some evenings. A lift serves all floors.

**Provisional Excursions**

- Exmouth & Bicton Park Botanical Gardens
- Bridport & Lyme Regis
- Sidmouth - at leisure

**Tue 7th - Sat 11th October**



**West Country  
Rail & Sail**

**£569.50**  
Single Supp £100

**5 days**



**Summary**

Based on nostalgia and relaxation – we’re not rushing on this one! Experience a truly environmentally friendly horse-drawn boat trip along the beautiful and tranquil Grand Western Canal country park and nature reserve – one of the last horse-drawn boats in GB.

We enjoy a stunning 20 miles of steam power on what is the longest standard gauge heritage railway in the UK between Bishops Lydeard and Minehead. Free time in Minehead to shop and stroll – enjoy its beaches, fishing quarter and historic harbour.

We visit the river-port town of Barnstaple – popular for its historic pannier market. Finishing with a fascinating guided visit to a working honey farm – learn all about the importance of the bee, its habitat and important products it provides. Don’t worry – Bensons will never sting you!

**Tiverton Hotel 3\***

Set in the heart of mid-Devon on the edge of Exmoor and on the outskirts of Tiverton town centre.

No lift – rooms are either ground or first floor.

**Provisional Excursions**

- Horse-drawn barge trip on Tiverton Canal & Tiverton
- West Somerset Railway & Minehead
- Barnstaple & Visit to Quince Honey Farm



**Mon 13th - Fri 17th October**



## Northern Explorer

*inc. Settle/Carlisle  
Railway Journey*

**£479.50**

Single Supp Nil

**5 days**



### Summary

Morecambe is a small seaside town that appeals to all ages. There is a lovely refurbished promenade to stroll along admiring the wonderful views of the Lakeland hills across Morecambe Bay and not forgetting the statue of Eric Morecambe! The town has shops, cafes and restaurants. It is also an ideal base for trips to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales which we include in our excursions - two of the UK's most popular national parks.

### Auckland Hotel 3\* (Morecambe)

The Auckland Hotel has become a firm favourite to Bensons as it prides itself on providing excellent, friendly service, lovely accommodation and great food. The bar/ballroom has entertainment each night, there is also a TV lounge for those who prefer a quieter environment.

**A lift serves all floors with a few stairs to some rooms.**

**Disabled rooms available on request.**

### Provisional Excursions

- Carlisle & Settle / Carlisle Railway
- Scenic drive to Skipton (Mkt day) via Trough of Bowland & Boat Cruise • Morecambe (at leisure)
- Bury Market (via homebound journey)

Online: [www.bensonstravel.com](http://www.bensonstravel.com)

**Mon 20th - Fri 24th October**



## Lincolnshire's Dambusters & Bomber Command Country

**£589.50**

Single Supp £60

**5 days**



**New for  
2025**

### Summary

During WWII, Lincolnshire became the Bomber County with 49 airfields by 1945 – home to many Lancaster squadrons and airmen who were awarded the Victoria Cross. This tour visits Lincoln's award-winning attractions which tell the story of Lincolnshire, its citizens and armed forces during WWII and post-war years – particularly focussing on the RAF.

### Petwood Hotel 3\* (Woodhall Spa)

Famously the Officers' Mess for the 617 "Dambusters Squadron" and was remembered by officers as a "splendid place remote from battle". Enjoy a beverage in the Squadron Bar which is home to a range of memorabilia and tributes to Guy Gibson VC, Leonard Cheshire VC and their officers.

**A lift serves all floors.**

### Provisional Excursions

- Lincoln Aviation Heritage Centre
- Lincoln & International Bomber Command Centre
- Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre
- We'll Meet Again WW2 Museum (homebound journey))

Booking: 01948 662016

Sun 26th - Fri 31st October



## Isle of Wight

Incl.

*Osborne House &  
Carisbrooke Castle*

**£599.50**

Single Supp Nil

**6 days**



### Summary

Come to the Isle of Wight - the ideal location for relaxation and enjoyment. Only a short ferry trip across the Solent to enjoy the sandy beaches, stunning coastline and rolling countryside - something for everyone.

Our stay will include live entertainment each evening.

### 3\* Channel View Hotel (Shanklin)

With the most picturesque views of the English Channel, this hotel is sat atop of the cliffs of Shanklin Bay in an idyllic location, within proximity of the beaches that stretch from Luccombe Bay to Yaverland. Perfect for a day of coastal relaxation.

Hotel facilities include a **beautiful indoor heated pool** and spa treatment rooms. The Alverstone Room has a wonderful sprung dance floor on which to dance the night away with some of the island's best entertainers.

The hotel has lift facilities.

### Provisional Excursions

- Newport & Carisbrooke Castle
- Whippingham Church & Osborne House (adm incl)
- Ryde & IOW Steam Train
- Shanklin (at leisure)



## EASTBOURNE TURKEY & TINSEL

**Departs:** Mon 10th Nov  
**Duration:** 5 days  
**Price:** £499.50 per person  
**Hotel:** Haddon Hall  
Nil single supplement

A first-class "turkey & tinsel" holiday awaits your enjoyment.

The Haddon Hall hotel is a firm favourite at this time of year for many of our customers who return here on an annual basis. Producing one of the finest festive entertainment packages – there is always something going on to keep you occupied. As well as live musical entertainment each evening, the hotel's "festive host" will keep you busy with games, quizzes, bingo and an optional fancy dress competition (based on a theme which we will advise you of in advance of your holiday).

Each evening, the restaurant décor is changed to reflect the different festive days and chosen themes.

### Excursions:

- Bexhill Museum & Hastings
- Lewes
- Eastbourne - at leisure





# PAIGNTON TURKEY & TINSOL

**Departs:** Mon 17th November  
**Duration:** 5 days  
**Price:** £449.50 per person  
 Nil single supplement  
**Hotel:** Queens Hotel

Immerse yourself into the joy of a winter wonderland adorned with festive glow and decorations. The Queens Hotel exudes comfort - the restaurant provides specially crafted seasonal menus, the lounge beckons with festive cheer and fun-filled evening entertainment, and a heated swimming pool adds a touch of winter magic.

Our "Christmas" excursion visits the county city of Exeter and Devon's largest Christmas market – set on the Cathedral Green, among a labyrinth of winding paths, festooned with fairy lights and laced with the seasonal sights and smells of festive chalets showcasing a wide range of local, regional, national and international crafts, gifts and food and drink.

### Excursions:

- Exeter & Devon's largest Christmas market
- Newton Abbot & House of Marbles / Trago Mills
- Paignton (at leisure)



# YORK & CASTLE HOWARD

**Departs:** Mon 24th November  
**Duration:** 5 days  
**Price:** £499.50 per person  
 £100 single supplement  
**Hotel:** Mercure York Fairfield Manor 4\*

With its many **world-class attractions** (Minster, Jorvik Viking, National Railway Museum, The Chocolate Story, Castle Museum, The Shambles et al), York is a fabulous visit at any time of the year.

The award-winning Christmas market brings festive cheer to the heart of the city. With around 80 alpine chalets lining Parliament St and St Sampson's Square, the market offers a magical array of local crafts, artisan products and delicious season treats.

A magical day out to **Castle Howard** – where "Brideshead Revisited" is transformed into a festive wonderland with theatrical installations, projections and immersive soundscapes. For 2025, we skip down the yellow brick road to experience the House dressed as scenes from **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz**.

Our outbound and inbound journeys are filled with interest and enjoyment as we visit the **2025 UK City of Culture** (Bradford) and the UK's only surviving complete cloth hall which is now home to local retailers and a Christmas market.

### Excursions:

- **York** (2 days to explore)
- **Castle Howard**
- **Piece Hall** (Halifax – inbound journey)
- **Bradford** – UK City of Culture 2025 (outbound)

# 2025 Festive Season Tours

Date	Tour	Days	Hotel	Price	Supp	
Mon 10 Nov	Fri 14 Nov	<b>Eastbourne Turkey &amp; Tinsel</b>	5	Haddon Hall	£499.50	Nil
Mon 17 Nov	Fri 21 Nov	<b>Paignton Turkey &amp; Tinsel</b>	5	Queens Hotel	£449.50	Nil
Mon 24 Nov	Fri 28 Nov	<b>York &amp; Castle Howard</b>	5	Mercure York	£499.50	£100
Mon 1 Dec	Sun 7 Dec	<b>German &amp; Belgian Xmas Markets</b>	7	Felsenkeller + Overnights	£949.50	£250
Sat 13 Dec	Mon 15 Dec	<b>Royal Albert Hall Xmas Carols</b>	3	Radisson Blu Heathrow	£419.50	£65.00
Tue 23 Dec	Sat 27 Dec	<b>Christmas on the Fylde Coast</b>	5	Doric Hotel	£689.50	Nil
Tue 30 Dec	Fri 2 Jan	<b>New Year in Torquay</b>	4	Victoria Hotel	£524.50	£70.00



WELCOME TO THURSFORD

# THURSFORD

## CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

**TOP PRICE TICKETS on all dates**

**Fri 7 - Sun 9 Nov**

**Tue 9 - Thu 11 Dec**

**Wed 17 - Fri 19 Dec**

**3 days staying at the 4 Star**

**Wensum Valley Golf & Country Club, Near Norwich**

**£369.50 (Single Supplement £40.00)**





# German & Belgian Christmas Markets



**Departs:** Mon 1st December

**Duration:** 7 days

**Price:** £949.50 per person £250 single supplement

**Mon** - outbound via visit to **Hull**. Overnight P&O Hull / Rotterdam (dinner & breakfast incl)

**Tue** - Travel to Rudesheim via visit to **City of Düsseldorf**. As well as the market, take a ride on Düsseldorf's "Wheel of Vision" and enjoy spectacular views over the city and Rhine river.

**Hotel:** Felsenkeller (Rudesheim) x 4 nights (DB&B)

**Wed - Koblenz** – one of Germany's oldest and most beautiful cities with a UNESCO site – the "**Deutches Eck**" is where the Father Rhine meets Daughter Moselle. Discover the city's giant Advent calendar, composed of the colourfully lit dormer windows of the Baroque town hall.

**Thur** - Full-day visit to **Frankfurt**

**Fri - Rudesheim** (at leisure) – we also include a guided tour and wine tasting to a vineyard.

**Sat** - Rudesheim to **Bruges**.

Our hotel is centrally located to enjoy the delights and Christmas market atmosphere of this beautiful "**Venice of the North**" during the evening.

**Hotel:** Hotel Le Bois De Bruges x 1 night (B&B basis)

**Sun** - inbound via DFDS Calais / Dover short sea crossing.







**Departs:** Saturday 13th December  
**Duration:** 3 days

**Price:** £419.50 per person  
**Hotel:** 4\* Radisson Blu Hotel  
(Heathrow)  
*£65.00 single supplement*

**Price Includes:**

Come and join us for a wonderful pre-Christmas weekend in the finest capital city in the world. The highlight being an included ticket to one of the world's greatest concert halls where we join a mass of some 7000 people to sing our hearts out as we enjoy some of the most famous Christmas carols and festive songs, accompanied by one of the world's greatest orchestras.

**Itinerary:**

- **Sat** – afternoon in the Knightsbridge area (Harrods, Natural History Museum, V&A museum et al) or central London (drop off in Piccadilly Circus area).
- **Sun** – guided coach tour of our famous capital landmarks. After having time for lunch, we make our way to the Royal Albert Hall for 3pm concert.
- **Mon** – visit to Windsor (min 3 ½ hrs) before commencing our homebound journey.

# BENSONS

## Bentley Days Out or Special Events



**Our chauffeur driven “Bessie”  
is available for:**

- Wedding hire
- Anniversaries
- Business / Film promotions
- A day out to the races – Ascot, Aintree etc
- Special / Important events / Royal occasions
- Day excursions

**[www.bensonstravel.com](http://www.bensonstravel.com)**



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**01948 662016**

*“Quality Travel  
for Quality People”*



# Christmas on the Fylde Coast

Staying at the Wonderful **Doric Hotel**  
for our seventh year running.

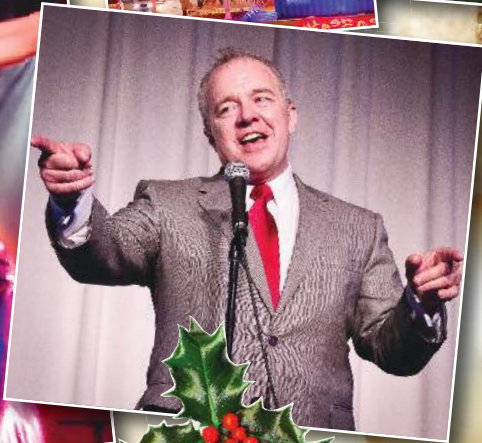
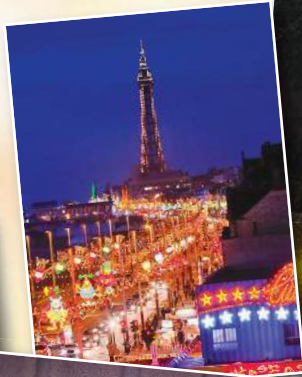
5 days - departs Tue 23rd December.

\* **FREE door to door pickups**

Price: **£689.50** per person



*Full Board,  
Christmas &  
Entertainment Package*







# *New Year* **TORQUAY**

**Departs:** Tuesday 30th December

**Duration:** 4 days

**Price:** £524.50 per person  
(£70.00 single supplement)

**Hotel:** Victoria Hotel 3\*

A sparkling party night with a great celebratory atmosphere is a definite, plus great leisure facilities, amazing food and a packed programme of entertainment for both day and night. There really is no better way to bring in the New Year.

The Victoria Hotel's elegant restaurant has a splendid period feature with its glass-domed roof. It provides a relaxed environment where you can enjoy buffet style breakfasts, including full English or Continental and an extensive evening buffet of tasty dishes.

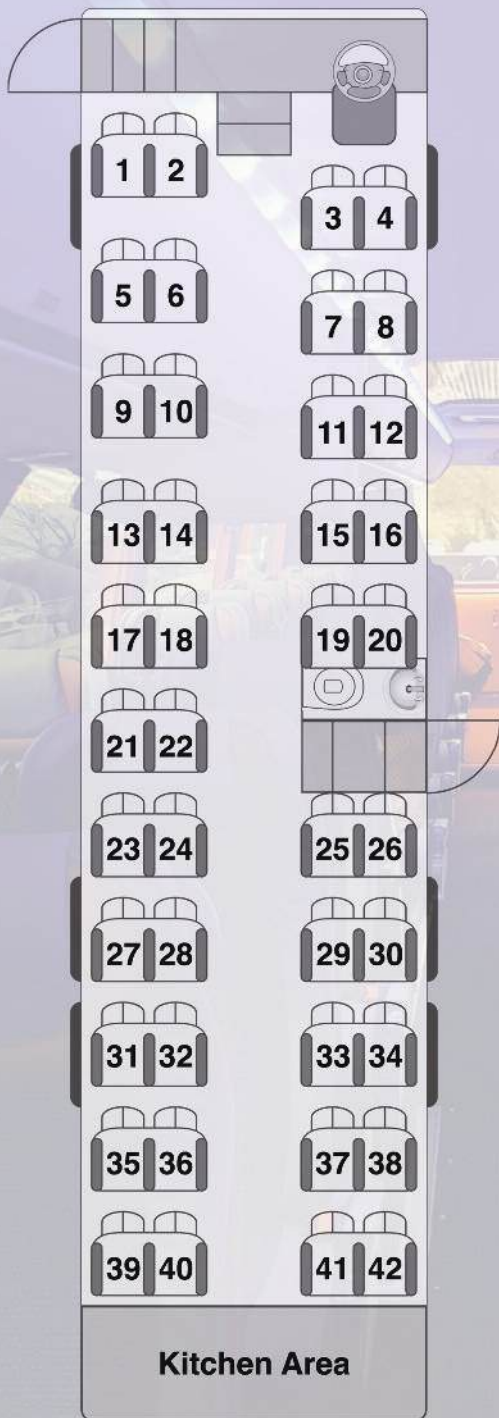
Celebrate the New Year in style.

## **Your holiday includes:**

- 3 nights hotel accommodation on half-board basis
- New Year's Eve celebration dinner & New Year's Day brunch
- Live evening entertainment in the Arlington or Chatsworth Rooms
- Special New Year's Eve celebration with traditional "Auld Lang Syne" and bubbly
- New Years Day - Evening Entertainment in the Arlington
- Daytime activities / entertainment package
- Superb indoor leisure facilities (heated pool & spa facilities)
- Excursions – Exeter.



*So let's party and have a  
Happy New Year everyone!*



## SEAT ALLOCATION

We understand that you may have preferred seat locations when you travel, however seats are allocated on a first come first served basis. In order to ensure that you have your preferred seat(s), please book early to avoid any disappointment.

The seating plan opposite applies to the Benson Travel VIP club class coach. We reserve the right however to make changes to the seat allocation when required. However, we will always seek to minimise any inconvenience to passengers.

## BAGGAGE

Baggage allowance is one medium sized suitcase that weighs no more than 20kgs. We reserve the right to not carry any items that are deemed to be too large or heavy for the driver to load and/or fit into the luggage hold.

It is a condition of travel that you must inform us at the time of booking if you require additional items to be carried along with your luggage such as wheelchairs or walking frames. A space must be reserved for those items and will be confirmed on our correspondence to you. If you arrive at your pickup with additional items that are not listed on our records, we cannot guarantee we will be able to carry them.

## HOTELS

Bensons Travel choose hotels for their location, service and value for money. They range from the smaller family run hotels to some of the larger more well known hotel groups.

We promise to forward your requests to the appropriate hotel. However requests which do not warrant a supplement cannot be guaranteed, and bookings should not be made on the provision of such requests.



All of our tours are provided on a half board basis - breakfast and choice evening dinner menu (unless otherwise stated).

## EXCURSIONS

All excursions are included in the price of the holiday, with the exception of payment of entrance fees to certain places of interest (unless otherwise noted).

Excursions / Itineraries are provisionally advised to customers approximately 2 weeks before departure, together with your travel documents / luggage labels.

**Please note:** Most excursions are listed as "provisional" and we reserve the right to change them without notice so that we can use "common sense" in order to provide the best days out possible - dependent on tour passenger numbers, weather forecasts, local events being scheduled, hotel entertainment programmes and legal obligations (drivers' hours / days off).

On some tours (additional to your normal excursions) there may be an optional excursion offered at an extra charge.

Generally we offer;

Duration	Full Day Excursions	Half Day Excursions	Rest Days
5 Days	2	-	1
6 Days	2	1	1
7 Days	2	1	2
8 Days	3	-	3

## TOUR DEPARTURE POINTS

### "Close to Home" pickups

You will be advised of your departure point approximately 2 weeks before departure. These will be organised within a 10 mile radius of your home.

The worst case scenario being that you are required to travel up to 10 miles to the tour departure /joining point.

The best case scenario is that you are collected from your home free of charge.

As well as for convenience, customer pick-up locations are chosen with customer comfort and safety in mind.

### "Guaranteed Door to Door"

You are collected and delivered back to your door. For this "guaranteed" service an additional charge of £25.00 per person per tour is levied. Please note that you may travel with clients who have been picked up at the door on the "close to home" basis - you have paid for the **GUARANTEE.**

### Free Car Parking

You also have the option, should you wish to utilise our free parking area located at the following address;

Bensons,  
Brook Bank Farm,  
Tattenhall Lanes,  
Chester,  
CH3 9NH.

**Please note:** All vehicles are parked subject to customers' own risk.

## DEPOSITS

### UK Tours

The standard deposit for a domestic tour is £50 per person per tour.

### EUROPEAN TOURS

The deposit amount is £150 per person, per tour. Please ensure that you have a passport which is valid for a further 6 months after the scheduled date of return.

### Eire / Ireland

A passport is not required. However, you are advised to carry some form of identification, eg. driving license, passport or citizenship card.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

You are advised to have travel insurance. It is a mandatory requirement for all European tours.

**Full terms and conditions are sent out automatically with your booking form.**

*Don't Delay . . . Book Today!*

**Tel: 01948 662016**

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**Quality Travel For Quality People**

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