

England – Stonehenge to Downton Abbey



Trip Summary

This tour encompasses the best of the Cotswolds: Visiting England's stunning palaces and Neolithic monuments, cycling, walking, punting, canoeing/kayaking and stand-up-paddle-boarding down rivers and canals, all in one week. Eat with the locals in the best gastro-pubs the Cotswolds has to offer, try some of the most famous Cotswold ales and stay in the fantastic historic towns. Rest your feet in the evenings in luxurious, four-star hotels and enjoy their award-winning restaurants. With stunning views around every corner, excellent accommodation, wonderful pubs and beautiful cuisine, England will give you an experience you won't forget!

Itinerary

Day 1: Stonehenge / Bath

We collect you at 8:30am from London at Paddington Station, Platform 1, under the clock and take you by bus to the famous Neolithic Stonehenge • You have the option to walk to the Stones, a short two-mile round trip stroll for a nice, gentle start to your holiday • We lunch in the Tythe Barn Café in Bradford-Upon-Avon, with the option to walk or bike along some of Bath's famous canals in the afternoon to your hotel in the centre of Bath • Bath has a wealth of great restaurants to choose from and a vibrant 'foodie' culture • *Overnight at The Bird (L, D)*

Day 2: River Avon / Bath

We kayak or canoe out of Bath along the River Avon and back via the Dundas Aqueduct • There is no better to see the city than from the water and we finish up by the Holburne Museum for lunch • In the afternoon guests have the opportunity to visit the iconic Roman Baths, near complete after 2000 years, and walk to Jane Austen's house and the famous Royal Crescent • Guests stay again in Bath • *Overnight at The Bird (B, L, D)*

Day 3: Cotswolds / Burford

We take a short transfer in the morning for some stand-up paddleboarding in the Cotswolds and then visit the 'The Slaughters', two of the Cotswolds' most picturesque villages, walking through them to Bourton-on-the-Water for lunch • From here we bike through the countryside up to the golden-stoned market town of Burford for an early evening beer-tasting of the Cotswolds' most popular ales • Burford has great gastro-pubs and restaurants to choose from, to dine in the evenings • *Overnight at The Lamb (B, L, D)*

Day 4: Blenheim Palace

We transfer to Blenheim Palace in the morning, for a walk within the 2,000-acre Capability Brown estate • Guests tour the palace, exploring its illustrious history, particularly as the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill • For lunch we have a group picnic outside by the stunning lake, and in the afternoon there is the option to cycle back to Burford and your hotel • *Overnight at The Lamb (B, L, D)*

Day 5: Downton Abbey / Eynsham

We bike out along the beautifully flat valley to the quaint town of Bampton, where the outdoor scenes for the hit TV show Downton Abbey are filmed • After an exploration of the town we take a short transfer to Eynsham where there is the option to walk or paddle along the canals into Oxford, with lunch in a



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riverside pub along the way • We take a tour of the city in the afternoon before punting along the river that runs through the city in the early evening, for a relaxed finish to your day • *Overnight at voco Oxford Spires (B, L, D)*

Day 6: Oxford

Today our guides will meet you during breakfast and help you with your ongoing travel arrangements • Oxford is a mainline train station with frequent departures into London (a short 40-60-minute journey to London Paddington) • *No Overnight (B)*

***Trip itineraries are subject to change without notice due to road, weather and other factors outside of our control, for the safety and enjoyment of our guests, as deemed necessary and appropriate by Austin Adventures.*

Our Partner – Active England

Centered around multisport activities as suggested by their name, Active England delivers memorable holiday getaways with talented, friendly guides. Active England prides themselves on being the most respected active travel brand in England, and originated in the Cotswold. The company focuses on trips in the Cotswolds, Devon and Dartmoor National Park, Cornwall, Kent, Dorset, and the Jurassic Coast areas. Active England enjoys journeying through UNESCO World Heritage Sites and the greater outdoors on foot, bike, paddleboard, and more.

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Activities

Cycling:

Day 1 mileage options: 10-15

Day 3-5 mileage options: 15-20

Walking/Hiking:

Day 1 mileage options: 2-6

Day 2-5 mileage: 4

Kayak or Canoe:

Day 2 mileage options: 4-6, no experience necessary

Paddleboarding:

Day 2 mileage: 2

Day 3 mileage: varies

Day 5 mileage: 2-4

Discovery: Step back into time as you venture through centuries-old locations that have been home to many authors, royals, government officials, and other famous English people. Discover why the Stonehenge is still a mystery today after thousands of years. Ogle at the ornate architecture that lines the cobblestone streets, sip a tea or beer at the many pubs dotting the cities, and indulge in naturally beautiful vistas as you explore the rivers. Learn about the characters that lived in these storied places, including the romantic Jane Austen and the powerful Sir Winston Churchill.

Austin Adventures guides are experienced facilitators and regional experts. They take the time to explain the local history and daily sightseeing and route options. Each route has been carefully planned to include options to please each traveler's interests. Austin Adventures guides are available to help you select the distance that's right for you and to offer advice and assistance as you desire.



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Distinctive Accommodation

Nights 1 & 2: The Bird, Bath Hotel

This boutique hotel will suit anyone's fancy looking to have a quaint, relaxing accommodation. 31 uniquely-designed and decorated rooms are ready for you to nestle in at night. Located in Bath City Centre, this stone-laden accommodation provides easy access to the hustle and bustle of the city and is central to some green spaces within the city.

Nights 3 & 4 The Lamb Inn

Step off the cobbled streets of Burford and into The Lamb Inn where you'll be greeted with dark, warm woodwork, a stoked log fire, and a grandfather clock. This historic accommodation was established in the early 15th century originally as a weaver's cottage. Over time the place has gained contemporary touches and comfortable amenities. Here you'll find a variety of cozy corners and armchairs to choose from before you hit the hay.

Night 5: voco Oxford Spires

This luxuriously stylish modern accommodation features stunning A-frame architecture lined with stone and woodwork along the dormers. The hotel is located near the River Thames and plenty of museums and colleges to discover. A restaurant and bar are also available at this hotel, as well as a heated pool and spa. Inside your rooms you'll have sleek decorations and bright features to welcome you home each evening.

Meals

The hallmark of an Austin Adventures vacation is our exceptional dining. All meals: breakfasts, lunches, snacks, dinners, refreshments and receptions are included as indicated by itinerary. (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner). Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities are not included in the trip price.

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Arrival & Departures

Prior to the trip, arrive at your own convenience in London. On Day 1, we will meet you at Paddington Station, Platform 1 under the clock at 8:30 a.m. After a transfer to the Neolithic Stonehenge, the activities begin. After breakfast on Day 6, we take you to the airport, train station, or the hotel of your choice in Oxford. Alternatively, depending on your travel plans, you can also be dropped off at the London Paddington train station.

Trip Price

\$2,798 (\$580 single supplement)

Trip Length

6 days/5 nights

2021 Dates

June 27 – July 2
September 12 - 17

Host City

London, England
Airport code: LCY

Reservations & Availability

1-800-575-1540

*Step into history as you
explore England's finest locations*



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Trip Reservations

Reservations, Deposits and Balances Due

To make a reservation, contact Austin Adventures with your choice of trip and dates. A \$750 per person deposit is required to confirm your reservation. **Some Custom and International programs may require additional deposits.** Full payment is required at the time of booking if your trip departs within 90 days. Choose one of the following contact methods:

Toll free: 800-575-1540

Phone: 406-655-4591

Online: austinadventures.com

Email: reservations@austinadventures.com

Mail: Austin Adventures, P.O. Box 81025, Billings, MT 59108

* You may also book your Austin Adventure with your preferred travel professional.

** We accept most major credit cards and personal checks (U.S. funds made payable to Austin Adventures). Please do not send cash.

Included in the Trip Price

- Double occupancy rooms with private baths.
- Meals as listed in detailed daily itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner).
- Fully trained, first-aid certified professional guides and knowledgeable local partners.
- Any necessary equipment – all safe and well maintained.
- Vehicle support and land transportation during the trip.
- Austin Adventures T-shirt, water bottle, luggage tags and luggage service.
- Pre-departure and packing information.
- Incidental expenses such as taxes, dining and housekeeping gratuities, local partner and expert gratuities and national park entrance and permit fees.

Not Included in the Trip Price

- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides.
- Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities.
- Pre-and post-trip accommodations and associated expenses.
- Air and land transportation to/from host cities.
- All types of personal insurance.
- Personal expenses.

Pre-departure Information

After receiving your reservation and deposit, we'll send you a pre-trip planner with general information about the area you'll be visiting, a packing list, exercise guidelines, a guest information questionnaire and a liability release agreement for you to sign and return within 10 days.

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Private Custom Trips

Maybe your vacation schedule doesn't fit our list of trips and dates. Or perhaps you'd prefer a slightly different itinerary or level of luxury and activity. A Custom Adventure is the perfect answer. You pick the date and destination and brief us on the size of your group, what activities you want, your "must haves" and just how you like to relax and unwind. No detail is too small, no idea too outrageous. Our staff of experts will help create a tailor-made vacation that's just right for you and your group. In short, if you can dream it, we can make it happen.

Solo Travelers

All trip prices are based on double occupancy. Single rooms are available for an additional charge, referred to as a "single supplement". If you're traveling alone and wish to share a room, make the request at the time of booking. We at Austin Adventures will do our best to match you with a suitable roommate of the same gender before departure. If you book 90 days or more before the trip and we cannot find you a roommate, 50% of the private room cost will be due at final payment time. If you book within 90 days of departure and we cannot find you a roommate, the full private room charge will be applied. If we do find you a roommate between final payment and before the trip departs, we will refund the single supplement amount paid. Some exceptions apply.

Minimum Age

The minimum age on our non-family designated adult and teen adventures is sixteen years old.

Cancellations and Refunds

The following cancellation policies and cancellation fees are in effect:

***As with deposits on some international and custom programs, refund schedule may vary, speak with your Adventure Consultant for details.

Cancellation 91 days or more before trip departure – Full trip payment refunded less a \$300 per person administration fee

Cancellation 61-90 days before trip departure – Full trip payment less 25% per person is refunded

Cancellation 31-60 days before trip departure – 50% of the trip payment is refunded

Cancellation 0-30 days before trip departure – No refund is given

Our Guarantee

Exceeding your expectations is our number one priority. In the unlikely event that you are dissatisfied with something during your trip, immediately notify your guide(s). If he or she is unable to resolve the issue, call our main office and give us the details of the problem, and a chance to correct it. We will do our best to find a resolution. If we are unable to do so during your trip, we will work with you upon your return home to arrive at a fair and equitable solution, including up to a full refund.