



THE GEMS OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

NOVEMBER 1 - 9, 2023

FROM **\$3,299** AIR & LAND

9 DAYS, 7 NIGHTS INCLUDING HOTELS, MEALS, DAY TRIPS,
AND AIRFARE FROM KANSAS CITY



**Early-Bird
Special!**
~~\$3,399~~, **\$3,299**
if reserved by March 23, 2023.
**Hurry, at this price
the trip will sell
out quickly.**

We have designed this inspired two-destination center program in Southern England just for you, brimming with outstanding experiences you will surely love! Chock-full of captivating attractions, and interactive and insightful excursions, you set the pace for your ultimate adventure. Get ready to live it up from lively London on a four-night stay. Experience the postcard-perfect charming villages of the Cotswolds and beyond to world-renown places like Oxford, Stratford Upon Avon, and Wales. Travel back to medieval times with a visit to Warwick Castle and explore Shakespeare's Tudor-era cottage home. Step into the actual World War II Codebreakers Huts at Bletchley Park and enjoy a Bombay Sapphire gin tasting and distillery tour. Stay longer? Choose to extend your trip with a stay in Portsmouth and enjoy the unique opportunity to visit jaw-dropping Stonehenge, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, Salisbury Cathedral, the Magna Carta, and World War II history. Join us to share magical moments and memories of a lifetime every step of the way.

For more details and reservations contact:
Sherri Lund at Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce
E-mail: sherri@ottawakansas.org • Telephone: (785) 242-1000

Reservations can also be made on our online booking engine
www.aventuraworld.com/booking. The group booking code is: IQPZEL



We recommend Cancel For Any Reason Insurance - see registration form for details

THE GEMS OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

9 Days

from **\$3,299** air & land

(4) LONDON • (3) SWINDON



DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS

A relaxing two destination program • Delve into London full day city tour • Enjoy cruise along the Thames River • Explore famed Oxford • Learn about the World War II codebreakers at Bletchley Park • Travel back to medieval times with a visit to Warwick Castle • Visit Shakespeare's cottage in Stratford-upon-Avon • Join in a guided tour of Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum • Enjoy gin tasting experience & tour at the Bombay Sapphire Distillery • Discover the natural beauty of the Cotswolds • Delight in postcard-perfect, countryside villages of Gloucester & Tewkesbury • Discover beautiful Wales • Tour Bath with its UK's only hot springs • Take excursion to old world meets modern Cardiff • Experience Stonehenge, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World • Experience a traditional English Pub • Marvel at Salisbury Cathedral • Explore the port city of Portsmouth

TOUR FEATURES

- **ROUND TRIP AIR TRANSPORTATION** - Air transportation from Kansas City
- **FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS** - Hotel accommodations for 7 nights
- **SUPERB CUISINE** - 12 included meals consisting of 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 3 dinners.
- **SIGHTSEEING TOUR PROGRAM** - Sightseeing, including local guide and all entrance fees as follows: panoramic visit of the West End of London, Full-Day Tour of London and River Thames Cruise, Full-Day to of Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Club/Museum and Bombay Sapphire Gin Distillery, Full-Day Tour to Gloucester, Cotswolds, and Tewkesbury. Optional tours available
- **CULTURAL DISCOVERY SERIES** - Our program encompasses cultural connections, in-depth learning on the local economy and social systems, and interaction with locals such as lunch in a traditional English Pub, The All-England Lawn Tennis Club, and the Bombay Sapphire Gin Distillery
- **PROFESSIONAL TOUR DIRECTOR** - Assistance of a professional Tour Director for the entire length of the tour upon arrival in London
- **DELUXE MOTORCOACHES** - Touring by private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- **BAGGAGE HANDLING AND TRANSFERS** - Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage outside of the airport

OPTIONAL PORTSMOUTH EXTENSION TOUR FEATURES

- **FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS** - Hotel accommodations for 2 nights
- **SUPERB CUISINE** - 4 included meals consisting of 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- **SIGHTSEEING TOUR PROGRAM** - Sightseeing, including local guide and all entrance fees as follows: Full-Day Tour of Stonehenge and Salisbury Cathedral, Full-Day Tour of Portsmouth, the Historic Dockyard, and the D-Day Story Museum.
- **PROFESSIONAL TOUR DIRECTOR** - Assistance of a professional Tour Director for the entire length of the tour
- **BAGGAGE HANDLING AND TRANSFERS** - Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage outside of the airport

Day 1 Depart USA Depart from the United States on an overnight flight to London, England. Meals and refreshments are served on board.

Day 2 Arrive London, England Welcome to England! This green and pleasant land, this sceptred isle, this cauldron of empire and pioneer of parliamentary democracy, awaits you. England, with a story stretching back over 5000 years, is a place where the past is constantly present. It's eccentric, exhilarating, and eternally captivating. Upon arrival at Heathrow Airport, you will be greeted by our representative and transferred to central London. Along the way to your hotel, enjoy a panoramic visit of the West End of London led by a local professional guide. Savor an included two-course lunch with coffee at the Old Bank of England Pub (or similar). Traditional English pubs are woven into the land's culture, an important social meeting place, somewhere to relax, where people eat, drink, talk, and traditionally play games like cards, darts, or even billiards. Afterward, you will check into your hotel for your four-night extended stay and relax. (L)

Day 3 London - City Tour & River Thames Cruise Start the day off right with breakfast at your hotel. Then it's off to discover London on a full-day city tour. London, the capital of England and the United Kingdom, is a 21st-century city with a history stretching back to Roman times. This insightful excursion takes you to outstanding landmarks like Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, the House of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, and Trafalgar Square. Then you head on to view London from her breathtaking waterways. Cruise along the Thames River from Westminster Pier to Greenwich, reveling in the city's many must-see sites, including Shakespeare's Globe, Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, and Thames House. This is the headquarters of the United Kingdom's Internal Security Service, commonly known as MI5. Yes, James Bond! (B)

Day 4 London After breakfast at your hotel, head out for a day at leisure exploring London's all-time chart-topping destinations steeped in history and its iconic landmarks. The day is yours. Alternately, join in an optional tour to Oxford and Bletchley Park. Get the insider's perspective of Oxford on a walking tour of its top landmarks and the world-renowned university as you step along the paths of some of its most famous former residents, like Albert Einstein, C.S. Lewis, and J.R.R. Tolkien. There is evidence that education started in Oxford as early as 1096, making it the oldest university in the English-speaking world and the world's second-oldest university in continuous operation.



Cotswold Gloucestershire

While here you visit Christ Church College. It's Oxford's largest college and owes much of its size and importance to Henry VIII who in 1532 found it as King Henry VIII's College. For a king, it had to be bigger and grander than the other colleges. Today many people know Christ Church, Oxford more for its literary connections, including Harry Potter and Lewis Carroll. Then onwards to the home of the World War II Codebreakers, Bletchley Park. Now an interactive attraction where you can visit the actual Codebreaking Huts and the National Radio Centre and take time to stroll through the picturesque gardens of the 19th-century mansion situated on the grounds. The intelligence produced at Bletchley shortened the war by two to four years, and without it, the outcome of the war would have been uncertain (B)

Day 5 London Rise and shine with breakfast at your hotel, then head out for a day at leisure in the city or choose to join in an optional tour to Warwick Castle and Stratford-upon-Avon. Travel back to medieval times with a visit to Warwick Castle and its gardens. This castle was built by William the Conqueror from a wooden fort back in 1068. Here immerse yourself in a thousand years of history and climb the Castles walls and interact with live demonstrations and talks throughout the day. Next, it's on to the charmingly postcard-perfect town Stratford-upon-Avon. A medieval market town in England's West Midlands is the 16th-century birthplace of William Shakespeare. Possibly the most famous writer in the English language, Shakespeare is known for his sonnets and plays such as Romeo and Juliet and Hamlet. Here you will tour the Tudor-era cottage where William Shakespeare was born in 1564 and spent his childhood years. (B)

Day 6 London - Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Tour - Bombay Sapphire Distillery Tour - Swindon Enjoy breakfast at your hotel to power up for a day of discovery. Then, join in a guided tour of Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum, the largest tennis museum in the world. The All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club is a private members' club. It is best known as the venue for the Wimbledon Championships, the only Grand Slam tennis event still held on grass. Learn about English tennis dating back to 1555 from many famous players from Victorian times to the present day. Experience the atmosphere of Centre Court and a behind-the-scenes view of the All-England Lawn Tennis Club. The day continues with an included two-course lunch with coffee at a local pub or restaurant. After lunch, head to the home of the ultra-popular gin, Bombay Sapphire. The proud history of Laverstoke distillery is recorded as far back as 1086 and listed in the Domesday Book. The plant has been under the ownership of William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, and enjoyed four royal visits. Learn of the exotic botanicals from the neutral grain spirit, an artisanal distillation process now known as Vapor Infusion that is still used by Bombay Sapphire today. Afterward, enjoy a gin-tasting experience. This afternoon you arrive in Swindon. Swindon is a cozy town in the county of Wiltshire, southwest England. This town is the ideal location for your extended three-night stay. The town boasts numerous pubs, restaurants, and all types of shopping and is the home of the Museum of the Great Western Railway. Check into your hotel, relax, visit the local pub, and enjoy. (B, L, D)

Day 7 London - Cotswolds Tour - Swindon After breakfast today, you enjoy a spectacular scenic tour visiting the heart of Gloucestershire, known for the Cotswolds, and limestone hills that set the stage for the area's gorgeous towns and villages. On your excursion, discover Gloucester, situated on the River Severn between the Cotswolds and the Forest of Dean. You will see its Norman and Gothic-inspired cathedral built between the 12th and 15th centuries. Next, it's on to Tewkesbury with its half-timbered Tudor houses, the Tewkesbury Abbey – featuring the largest Norman tower in England, and Mythe Bridge that crosses the Severn. Drive along and see some of the idyllic villages and the Cotswold's hills that rise to more than 300 meters and culminate at the Cotswolds Edge in the west. This evening, return to Swindon for dinner and overnight stay. (B, D)

Day 8 Swindon Have breakfast at your hotel, then take the day to explore at your own pace or opt to join in a tour of Royal Bath and Cardiff, Wales. Your optional tour includes an exploration of Bath. Bath is a world-famous city, and one of the best places to visit in Southwest England. Renowned for its ancient Roman history, Georgian buildings, and Medieval cathedral. Bath is acclaimed for its well-preserved complex of ancient Roman baths, featuring the United Kingdom's only thermal hot springs which you will see up close as the entrance is included. Next on the day's exciting agenda is a visit to bustling Cardiff. The old world meets the contemporary capital of Wales. Known for its ornate gothic castle in the city center and its modern allure, including a vibrant food scene and modern waterfront. This afternoon you head back to Swindon. (B, D)

Day 9 Swindon to USA or extend your stay with an optional extension to Portsmouth This morning depart your hotel and transfer to Heathrow Airport for your flight home. (B)

OPTIONAL PORTSMOUTH EXTENSION

Day 9 Swindon - Stonehenge and Salisbury Cathedral Tour - Portsmouth Enjoy breakfast at your hotel and prepare for your optional extension adventure. Today you have the exceptional opportunity to visit Stonehenge, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. This prehistoric structure of standing stones, surrounded by hundreds of burial mounds, is said to have been created between 3,000 and 2,000 BC. Later you will see England's tallest spire at Salisbury Cathedral, where you will also see the world's oldest mechanical clock. Also, you see the Magna Carta on display, one of only four surviving original copies. This historic agreement in 1215 between King John and his barons acknowledged the fundamental principle that the monarch was not above the law. It's still a powerful document, beautifully written in Latin and remarkably well preserved. Onwards Portsmouth welcomes you for a two-night stay. This port city is known for its maritime heritage and historic dockyard. The dockyard is home to the Historic National Museum of the Royal Navy, where you will see the wooden warship HMS Victory, where Nelson died in the Battle of Trafalgar. Check in to your hotel, relax, and enjoy dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

Day 10 Portsmouth - City Tour After breakfast at your hotel, embark on a Portsmouth City Tour that showcases its more than 800-year history. Your tour takes you to Old Portsmouth, where you will follow in the last steps of Admiral Horatio Nelson before he boarded HMS Victory for his fateful last voyage in 1805. Your guide will take you to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard to hear about life on board Nelson's flagship – then step onboard the actual vessel that is moored right there. Next, history comes to life today at the D-Day Story Museum, dedicated to the Allied Invasion in June 1944. Here you will explore the exhibit and marvel at over 10,000 items that depict the story of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. (B, D)

Day 11 Portsmouth to USA This morning depart your hotel and transfer to Heathrow Airport for your flight home, delighted with memories to share and moments you will cherish of your vacation in England. (B)

(B) – Breakfast, (L) – Lunch, (D) – Dinner

Hotel and itinerary are subject to change.



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL EASY 1 2 ③ 4 5 ACTIVE

TOUR PRICE

Tour price is **\$3,299** per person, double occupancy.

For single occupancy, add \$699 (limited availability).

Fuel surcharges of \$350 per person are included in the price. Taxes and other fees are currently \$150 per person and are additional. Fuel surcharges and taxes are valid at the time of printing but are subject to change.

The price of \$3,299 is an early bird special if the program is reserved with a deposit by March 23, 2023. The price increases by \$100 per person (\$3,399) after this date.

Please note: Though rare, it may be necessary to substitute hotels and adjust itineraries at guide's discretion due to local conditions.

OPTIONAL PORTSMOUTH EXTENSION

Portsmouth Extension: \$699 Double Occupancy or \$998 Single