

The Magic of England
London, Stonehenge, Bath, Leeds Castle, Canterbury Cathedral, Dover
5 days/4 nights
(History & Culture)

This program may be operated for individual or for groups
This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize

Legend has it that Merlin brought the Stonehenge stones from Ireland in one night. Today, even if we have relegated the magician to the storybook, we still do not know exactly how the builders of the megalithic monument could have brought more than 80 "blue stones" of 3 or 4 tons each from the country of Wales, a journey of more than 300 kilometers in rugged terrain, more than 41 centuries ago. Or how, a hundred years later, they transported other 50-ton blocks of massive sandstone over 20 miles. And this is only one of the many mysteries of this sacred site, amazing monument, place of worship, burials and solar observatory. But Stonehenge was not just a stone circle set in the middle of the countryside, and we're just beginning to notice it. Recently, a team of archaeologists discovered bones proving that this area was a hunting ground and a place of life for prehistoric men for at least 9000 years. On June 21st, the day of the summer solstice, men and women dressed in long white hooded dresses gather at the foot of the immense dolmens on the plain of Salisbury, in the south of England. One of them draws a circle using a wooden stick, delimiting a sacred space for spirits. A horn sounds three times. The ceremony can begin. All members of the Order of the Bards, Oats and Druids of England have made an appointment at Stonehenge to celebrate the fertility of Mother Earth.

Day 1: London

Upon arrival in London you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free for you to rest and adjust to the jetlag. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 2: London

The tour begins with a panoramic drive around Parliament Square to see the magnificent Westminster Abbey, where Prince William and Kate Middleton were married continuing to Kensington Palace, former home of Diana, Princess of Wales. After that, we'll see the Royal Albert Hall and Albert Memorial before heading to St James' Park and Buckingham Palace to see the colorful ceremony of the Changing of the Guard. Accompanied by a military band, a detachment of the Queen's Foot Guard march to Buckingham Palace to change with the old guard. Then have a chance to enjoy lunch at a traditional London Pub (not included). We take you on a guided tour of St Paul's Cathedral, Sir Christopher Wren's masterpiece with its magnificent dome. The Cathedral was rebuilt after the Great Fire of London in 1666. In recent years it has seen the wedding of Charles, Prince of Wales, to Lady Diana Spencer and, more recently, the thanksgiving services for both the Diamond Jubilee and 80th Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen. Founded by William the Conqueror in 1066-7 and enlarged by successive sovereigns, the Tower of London is one of the world's most famous and spectacular fortresses. Over the past 1000 years it has been a Royal Palace, an armory and a place of imprisonment and execution. The Beefeaters who guard the Tower will regale you with stories of its past. We will visit the Crown Jewels, including the magnificent solid-gold crown used at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, the enormous Cullinan diamonds and the extraordinary Koh-I-Noor. City Cruises operate a regular service between the Tower of London and Westminster Pier. You have the choice to take the River Cruise and end your tour at Westminster Pier, or take the cruise on another day and go with your guide back to Victoria. River Cruise Tickets are one-way from Tower Pier to Westminster Pier (or vice versa). [B]

Day 3: Stonehenge, Bath

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before you board today's tour. Your first stop this morning is mysterious Stonehenge, as one of the first visitors of the day you will beat the queues with our fast track entrance tickets. The true meaning of this ancient, awe-inspiring creation has been lost in the mists of time. Was Stonehenge a temple for sun worship, a healing center, a burial site or perhaps a huge calendar?

How did our ancestors manage to carry the mighty stones from so far away and then, using only the most primitive of tools, build this amazing structure? Surrounded by mystery, Stonehenge never fails to impress. After time for lunch, not included, you'll have a whole afternoon to discover Bath's major sights; our tour will show you Pulteney Bridge and the Circus, and you will get a fascinating insight into how Bath became the world-class attraction it is today. Bath offers a unique experience with stunning architecture, great shopping and iconic attractions. You will have plenty of time to discover the Jane Austen Visitors Centre, Bath Abbey or the Roman Baths. There is so much to see in this beautiful city. Return to London for overnight at your hotel. [B]

Day 4: Leeds Castle, Canterbury Cathedral. Dover

Have you breakfast at the hotel and start the day heading out to Leeds Castle, passing through Greenwich, home of the famous 'Cutty Sark' tea clipper and the Royal Observatory, and crossing over the Greenwich Meridian. Leeds Castle was described by Lord Conway as 'the loveliest castle in the world' and is set in the middle of a natural lake, surrounded by 500 acres of parkland and gardens. Experience its magic in an atmosphere of still tranquility. There will also be time to explore the castle's grounds where you will find the 'Lady Baillie Garden' with views over the lake, an aviary and maze. Traveling through Kent, the county known as the 'Garden of England', we make our way to Canterbury to visit the Cathedral. This magnificent Cathedral is the most important church within the worldwide Anglican faith. The central 'Bell Harry Tower' dates back to 1498 and the crypt to the 11th Century. It is here where your guide will tell the story of the shocking murder of Archbishop Thomas Beckett in 1170 and there will also be time to explore the narrow streets of Canterbury. We continue our tour through the picturesque landscape of Kent, dotted with unusual buildings and quaint little villages to Dover, where you'll see the famous White Cliffs standing 400 feet above sea level. Brooding above the White Cliffs is the sprawling Dover Castle still watching over the town 800 years on. After the tour of Dover return to London for overnight at your hotel. [B]

Day 5: London, USA

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and get ready to be picked-up for your transfer to the airport and board the flight for your next destination. [B]

[B] = Breakfast

Note: *Additional nights in London available upon request
During the winter (Nov-Dec) the order of the visits may change*

Your Tour Includes:

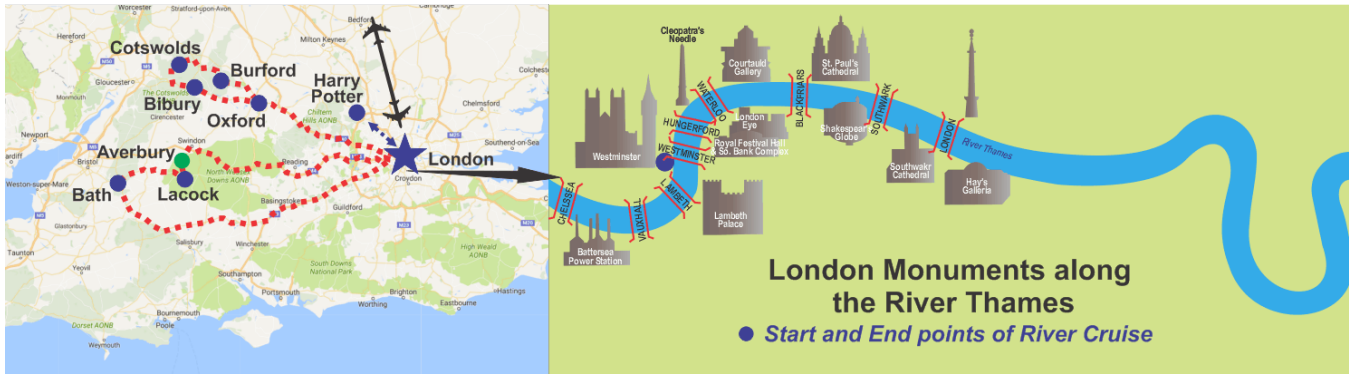
- Round-trip airfare USA-London
- Round-trip Private Transfers
- 4 nights accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- Panoramic tour of London, including Parliament Square and Westminster Abbey
- Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace
- Opportunity for a traditional Pub Lunch
- Guided Tour of St Paul's Cathedral
- Guided Tour of Tower of London and time to explore
- See the magnificent Crown Jewels
- Thames River Cruise
- Fast track tickets into Stonehenge
- A panoramic tour of Georgian Bath

- Free time to explore Bath
- See Historic Greenwich
- Visit the fairy-tale Leeds Castle and its beautiful Gardens
- In-depth insight into the rich, and sometimes murderous, history of the Canterbury Cathedral.
- See the White Cliffs of Dover
- First-class luxury Motor-coach and the services of a professional Tour Guide
- Personal Audio Headsets

Tour does not include:

- Airfare taxes & fees
- Meals not mentioned under inclusions
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as "Included"

Note: All included tours may be replaced by private tours with driver/guide



Suggested Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
Tourist Class		
London	Arosfa	4.5
	The Hide	4.5
	Luna & Simone	4.5
First Class		
London	Montague on the Gardens	5
	Nadler Soho	5
	Radisson Blu Edwardian Mercer St.	4.5
Deluxe		
London	Chesterfield Mayfair	5
	Ambar Hotel Charing Cross	5
	9 Hertford St.	

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

Note: Additional nights in London available upon request

Tour Prices:

From: \$1,165 including airfare

Add-ons available from all US gateways.

Prices are per person and may change without notice

This program can be customized for individuals and groups.

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

• **Airfare**

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

• **Program**

You may add or remove;

- o Trip days
- o Cities and sites
- o Meals

• **Other options**

- o The program was designed with private services; however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
- o If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private

guide and concierge service.

- **Quotation**

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

Tour Code: GB04LON21VT

Options:

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

Group Quotations

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.