

relax, explore, discover . . . new friendships!



Head Office
Level 1, 361 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

T 1300 885 255

hayley@sisterhoodwomenstravel.com.au

www.sisterhoodwomenstravel.com.au

a unique travel experience just for women

Castles, Gardens & Palaces of the United Kingdom

22 Days | Departing Monday 21st May 2018 and returning Monday 11th June 2018

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Full day guided sightseeing tour of London including Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guards
- One day entry to the famous Chelsea Flower Show
- A ride on the iconic London Eye including a glass of champagne
- Afternoon tea at iconic Fortnum and Mason
- Visit to Wisely Gardens
- Visit to Hampton Court Palace
- Explore the quaint village of Westerham
- Visit to Chartwell House
- Visit to Hever Castle
- Visit to Compton Acres Gardens
- View Agatha Christie's house
- Visit to Dartmoor National Park
- Visit to Port Isaac - the picturesque village of Doc Martin fame!
- Visit to sophisticated market town of Crickhowell
- Visit to Hereford Cathedral
- Visit and free time at pretty village of Llangollen
- Overnight stay at Ruthin Castle Hotel & Spa in the beautiful Clwydian Ranges
- 3 night stay in the beautiful Lakes District
- Visit to Hoker Hall Gardens
- Visit to Beatrix Potter's farmhouse - Top Hill
- Visit to the quaint village of Hawkshead home of William Wordsworth
- Cruise on Lake Windermere
- Visit to Gretna Green
- Visit to Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh
- Taste of Scotland Dinner and Show at Prestonfield House
- Full day guided sightseeing tour of Edinburgh
- Visit to Abbotsford House in Melrose
- Visit Hadrian's Wall and Housesteads Roman Fort
- Visit to York Minster and the Shambles
- Visit to Castle House and gardens
- Visit to Shakespeares birthplace in Stratford Upon Avon
- Visit to Blenheim Palace and gardens
- Visit to Windsor Castle
- Visit to Kew Gardens
- Farewell Jazz Dinner on the Thames



PRICE: \$15,699.00 per person twin share
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$2,850.00

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Fully Escorted Tour – your Sisterhood Tour Hostess is on hand to assist with making your holiday a memorable one
- Return flights with Singapore Airlines including taxes (other departure cities available upon request)
- All meals as described in itinerary
- All sightseeing as described in itinerary
- Comfortable coach transportation as detailed in itinerary
- Tour Manager throughout and specialist tour guides in London, Edinburgh and York
- Quality accommodation as per itinerary including a unique castle stay
- Willing to share option for solo travellers
- Document distribution day subject to minimum numbers

Upgrade to Premium Economy from \$2225 per person

Upgrade to Business Class from \$5790 per person

**** Upgrade prices are subject to availability**

itinerary

NOTICE: This is a beautiful itinerary that has been designed to showcase some of the UK's prettiest towns and cities. With a mix of Gardens including entry into the Chelsea Flower Show, Castles and Palaces this tour is sure to delight travellers who are looking for a more off the beaten track small group experience!

DAY 1 Monday 21 May 2018 **Melbourne – Singapore – London**

Welcome to Sisterhood Womens Travel. Your tour hostess and fellow travellers will meet you at the designated departure point at Melbourne Airport for your flight to London via Singapore. Sit back, relax and enjoy your flight.

DAY 2 Tuesday 22 May 2018 **Welcome to London ~ (D)**

An early morning arrival we will be met and transferred to our hotel where the remainder of the day will be at leisure. Later this evening we will enjoy a welcome drink followed by a 3 course dinner.

4 Nights Accommodation - Novotel Greenwich (or similar)

DAY 3 Wednesday 23 May 2018 **London Sightseeing ~ (B,AT)**

This morning we will be setting off with our Tour Manager for a full day of sightseeing. We will view Big Ben, The Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus and the changing of the guards at Buckingham Palace. We will also enjoy an afternoon tea at Fortnum and Mason or similar. Then return to our hotel for an evening at our leisure.

Overnight - Novotel Greenwich

DAY 4 Thursday 24 May 2018 **Chelsea Flower Show ~ (B,D)**

After breakfast we will head to the famous RHS Chelsea Flower Show, the most prestigious flower show in the world showcasing the most up to date and innovative garden designs.

Later we will enjoy some evening sightseeing and a ride on the iconic London Eye, admire breathtaking views of London whilst enjoying a glass of champagne followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight - Novotel Greenwich

DAY 5 Friday 25 May 2018 **London Sightseeing ~ (B)**

Today we visit Wisley Gardens historic home of the RHS and undoubtedly one of the finest gardens in the world.

Continue on to Hampton Court Palace where we will discover the magnificence of Henry VIII's favourite royal residence. Later we will take a sightseeing cruise on the river Thames to Richmond where we will enjoy a unique view of London. This evening is at leisure.

Overnight - Novotel Greenwich

DAY 6 Saturday 26 May 2018 **London Sightseeing ~ (B,D)**

This morning we head to Westerham, there will be some free time to explore the village. Continue on to Chartwell where we will visit Chartwell House once the principal residence of Winston Churchill. Later we will get the opportunity to visit Hever Castle the childhood home of Anne Boleyn before continuing on to Poole where we will visit Compton Acres Gardens one of the finest privately owned gardens in England.

Our final stop will be in Dorchester where we will spend the night at the Duchess of Cornwall hotel and enjoy a 2 course meal.

Overnight - Duchess of Cornwall Country House

DAY 7 Sunday 27 May 2018 **Dorchester – Maenporth ~ (B,D)**

Today en-route to the Dartmouth Ferry we will view Agatha Christie's house with some free time to explore the town.

Travel by ferry to Dartmoor National Park. We will make a stop at Two Bridges for photos before lunch (own expense) at Two Bridges Hotel. Continue on to Maenporth and enjoy a 3 course dinner this evening at our hotel.

2 Nights Accommodation - Hotel Meudon Country House - Nestled in 8.5 acres of gardens, sweeping down to the property's private beach Bream Cove.

DAY 8 Monday 28 May 2018 **Sightseeing from Maenporth ~ (B,d)**

This morning we will enjoy a walk around Port Isaac, the picturesque village where Doc Martin was filmed. Port Isaac has been an attractive fishing village since the early fourteenth century. Its narrow, winding streets are lined with old white-washed cottages and traditional granite, slate-fronted Cornish houses, many of which are listed as of architectural or historic importance.

Afternoon at leisure before enjoying a 2 course dinner in a local restaurant.

Overnight - Hotel Meudon Country House

DAY 9 Tuesday 29 May 2018 **Maenporth – Wales ~ (B,D)**

Today travelling to Bristol, we will get the opportunity to view the Clifton Suspension Bridge spanning the picturesque Avon Gorge from the coach. A brief stop will be made in Bristol before continuing on to Crickhowell in Wales.

Wales is known for its natural beauty and quaint Welsh charm. The scenic countryside features rugged windswept coastlines, deep lush valleys and ancient castles.

Tonight we'll be staying at the Manor Hotel situated in possibly the most beautiful valley in the Brecon Beacons National Park, on the fringes of the pretty and sophisticated market town of Crickhowell. Dinner Tonight is included.

Overnight - Manor Hotel

DAY 10 Wednesday 30 May 2018 **Ruthin Castle Hotel & Spa, Clywydian Range ~ (B,D)**

This morning we travel to Hereford to enjoy a guided tour of Hereford Cathedral. We'll then continue through the Shropshire Hills and make a stop in Llangollen with free time to explore this pretty little town. We'll then travel over the picturesque Horseshoe Pass before arriving at our destination. Tonight a real treat we'll be staying in a 'real' castle!

Overnight - Ruthin Castle is a beautiful retreat, steeped in history and nestled in acres of parkland beside the Clwydian Range in North Wales.

Dinner tonight is included.

itinerary

DAY 11 Thursday 31 May 2018 **Chester – Lake District ~ (B,D)**

This morning is ours to enjoy at leisure.

This afternoon we'll continue our journey to Watermillock, located in the Lake District.

The spectacularly scenic Lake District is a popular holiday destination in Cumbria, North West England, attracting countless visitors with its exquisite lakes and its lush, forest-clad mountains. The area is protected by the nation's largest national park and is a hiker's dream with many excellent hiking trails available.

History enthusiasts will be equally well sated with more than 200 ancient monuments. There are numerous charming towns and villages to explore, discover local castles and historic houses, cruise by wooded islands on the magnificent lake Derwentwater, ascending the thrilling fell walk of Striding Edge, or catching a glimpse of the life of Wordsworth at Dove Cottage on the outskirts of the picturesque village of Grasmere.

3 Nights Accommodation - Macdonald Leeming House with stunning views of the Cumbrian Fells. The hotel has 22 acres of grounds and offers croquet on the lawn and private fishing on the river. Indoors, there is a drawing room, library and sitting room with log fires in the winter.

Dinner tonight is included.

DAY 12 Friday 1 June 2018 **Lake District – Sightseeing ~ (B,L)**

This morning we'll be visiting Holker Hall and Gardens where lunch is also included. Holker

Hall is the home of the Cavendish family who welcome visitors to one of the best-loved stately homes in Britain. Magnificently situated only a short distance from Grange-over-Sands and the expanse of Morecambe Bay. Holker Hall is set in exceptionally beautiful countryside with gardens that merge into parkland framed by the Lakeland Hills.

This afternoon we'll have at leisure including dinner.

Overnight - Macdonald Leeming House

DAY 13 Saturday 2 June 2018 **Lake District – Sightseeing ~ (B,D)**

Today we will visit Hill Top – Beatrix Potter's farmhouse before continuing on to Hawkshead where you will have some free time to explore the town.

The prettiest village set in the magnificent vale of Esthwaite, in the heart of the English Lake District, Hawkshead is a truly historic and wonderfully picturesque village characterised by its cluster of whitewashed houses, archways and alleys, courtyards and squares.

Hawkshead has flourished since its beginnings as a medieval market town. Today, with its car-free village centre, it's the perfect place for the visitor to experience the 'real' Lake District. The cobbled streets, squares and courtyards and the beautiful whitewashed cottages, topped with local Lakeland slate, give this little place a magical feel.

The village is steeped in history and heritage, from the ruins of Hawkshead Hall (built by medieval monks) and the 15th-century St Michael's parish church and court house, to later buildings such as the grammar school (1855) which poet William Wordsworth attended. Take a walk in William Wordsworth's path and then transfer to Bowness on Windermere where we will enjoy a lovely lake cruise.

The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Dinner included at our hotel tonight.

Overnight - Macdonald Leeming House

DAY 14 Sunday 3 June 2018 **Lake District – Edinburgh ~ (B,D)**

Today we farewell the gorgeous Lake District and head north to the famous town of Gretna Green, where we will have free time to explore.

Gretna Green is one of the world's most popular wedding destinations due to its romantic wedding traditions dating back over centuries, which originated from cross-border elopements stemming from differences between Scottish marriage laws and those in neighbouring countries.

From here we'll continue on through the Low Lands to Edinburgh where we enjoy a visit to the Botanical Gardens before transferring to our hotel.

Tonight a Taste of Scotland Dinner and Show at Prestonfield House.

2 Nights Accommodation - Novotel Edinburgh Centre.

DAY 15 Monday 4 June 2018 **Edinburgh Sightseeing ~ (B)**

Today we'll enjoy a full day sightseeing tour of Edinburgh.

Edinburgh is an architectural treasure trove with enough neoclassical terraces, Georgian grandeur, and late-medieval monuments to thrill even the most avid architecture enthusiast. On our tour we'll view the Victorian Gothic Monument to Sir Walter Scott, The New Town and The Old Town. Entrance to Edinburgh Castle is also included. We'll walk the Royal Mile and visit Drummond Castle Gardens.

Dinner at leisure tonight with an array of excellent pubs to choose from.

Overnight at Novotel Edinburgh Centre

DAY 16 Tuesday 5 June 2018 **Edinburgh – Harrogate ~ (B,D)**

Heading south today after breakfast we'll make a stop at Rosslyn Chapel (Da Vinci Code Film) to enjoy a guided tour.

One of Scotland's most remarkable buildings, Rosslyn Chapel has been in the ownership of the Earl and Countess of Rosslyn since its foundation in 1446 and is still used today as a place of worship.

We'll then continue to Melrose where we have arranged a guided tour of Abbotsford House, home of Sir Walter Scott. We'll explore the historic house and discover a treasure trove of intriguing objects and unusual artefacts which inspired Scott's greatest poems and novels. Later we'll stop to view Hadrian's Wall before visiting Housesteads Roman Fort – UNESCO heritage site.

Enjoy dinner in a local restaurant tonight.

2 Nights Accommodation - Crown Plaza Harrogate

DAY 17 Wednesday 6 June 2018 **Harrogate ~ (B,D)**

After breakfast we will drive to York where we will visit York Minster and the Shambles. York's world-class cathedral with its medieval stained glass and stone masterpieces and foundations rooted in the nation's earliest history.

York Minster's vast spaces come alive with the sanctity and tradition of worship and heavenly music, but you can also find quiet corners revealing great treasures, unexpected stories and human inspiration. 'The Shambles' is sometimes used as a general term for the maze of twisting, narrow lanes which make York so charming. At its heart is the lane actually called the Shambles, arguably the best preserved medieval street in the world. It was mentioned in the Doomsday

itinerary

Book of William the Conqueror in 1086. Many of the buildings on the street today date back to the late fourteenth and fifteenth century (around 1350-1475).

This afternoon we will also visit Castle Howard including the beautiful house and gardens. With 1,000 acres to explore, Castle Howard is a haven of peace and tranquility with extensive woodland walks, temples, lakes and fountains. The monumental landscape offers breathtaking views at every turn, taking in the countryside of the Howardian Hills, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Dinner tonight will be served at your hotel.

Overnight - Crown Plaza Harrogate

DAY 18 Thursday 7 June 2018

Harrogate – Oxford ~ (B)

Today we depart Harrogate and head south to Stratford-Upon-Avon where we'll view the main sights of this gorgeous hamlet town.

Stratford-upon-Avon is steeped in the history of its most famous resident, William Shakespeare. This Warwickshire country town contains the home where Shakespeare was born, the cottage where Anne Hathaway resided before their marriage and the church where the couple is buried. Entrance to Shakespeare's birthplace is included.

We'll continue on through the pretty villages in the Cotswolds making a stop in Bourton-on-the-Water – regularly voted one of the prettiest villages in England and often referred to as the 'Venice of the Cotswolds' because of the attractive little bridges that cross the gently flowing River Windrush running through the centre of the village.

This village is home to the Cotswolds Perfumery makers of fine English fragrances and the Queen is amongst one of their valued customers!

Woodstock will be our next stop where entrance to Blenheim Palace and Gardens is included. The palace, one of England's largest houses, was built between 1705 and circa 1722 and was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987.

We'll arrive into Oxford our last stop for the day with dinner at leisure.

Overnight - Holiday Inn Oxford

DAY 19 Friday 8 June 2018

Oxford – London ~ (B)

This morning after breakfast we travel to Bicester where we will enjoy some shopping time in the village which is home to more than 130 fashion and lifestyle boutiques. Continue on to Windsor where we will visit the Iconic Windsor Castle, later continue on to London and enjoy an evening at leisure.

2 Nights Accommodation - London - Tower Hotel

DAY 20 Saturday 9 June 2018

London (B,D)

Today we will visit Kew Gardens, home to the largest and most diverse botanical and mycological collections in the world .

The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight we bid farewell to London with a dinner cruise on the Thames where we will be entertained with jazz music and a enjoy a welcome drink.

Overnight - Tower Hotel London

DAY 21 Sunday 10 June 2018

London – Melbourne (B)

Today is a day of leisure for last minute packing and shopping, Later we will transfer to London Heathrow for our evening flight to Australia via Singapore. Sit back, relax and reminisce about great times shared with new friends. Enjoy the inflight entertainment and hospitality of Singapore Airlines.

DAY 22 Monday 11 June 2018

Welcome Home

Welcome Home! Arriving into Melbourne late in the afternoon.

Thank you for travelling with Sisterhood Womens Travel and we look forward to welcoming you back for your next adventure!

NOTES

terms and conditions

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Please read through our full terms and conditions for this tour on the website www.sisterhoodwomenstravel.com.au. It is a condition that upon booking this tour you have read and fully understood this important information. Minimum numbers are required to operate this tour. Travel Insurance is mandatory.