

**To Book:**

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# NORTH WALES & SNOWDONIA



## Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012

### £325 per person

*Price incl: 4 night's Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Accommodation at the Royal Goat Hotel, North Wales with a journey on the Snowdon Mountain Railway, visits to Chester, Betws-y-Coed, Caernarvon, the National Slate Museum, Portmerion Village, Stratford and Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwyll-llantysiliogogoch.  
Not Incl: Single room supplement £50 per person*

**MONDAY** – We leave Bretonside at 7am and make our way to Chester. There will be time to explore this lovely old town, with its unique world famous “rows”, the two-tier medieval half timbered shopping galleries, cathedral and various museums. We continue on the short journey to our hotel.

**TUESDAY** – After breakfast we take a scenic drive, firstly visiting Betws-y-Coed, set in a beautiful valley in the Snowdonia Forest Park alongside the River Conwy. Victorian artists flocked to the area and formed the first artist colony and it has been a mecca ever since. We continue our tour and cross the Menai Strait to the Isle of Anglesey to visit Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwyll-llantysiliogogoch, which has the longest railway station name in the UK. We will then travel on to Caernarfon, home to one of the most famous of Wales's castles. Its sheer scale and commanding presence easily set it apart from the rest, built by Edward I. The castle houses the Regimental Museum of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, Wales's oldest regiment. Caernarfon's position of pre-eminence in historic rankings is recognized in its status as a World Heritage inscribed site.

**WEDNESDAY** – We visit Llanberis for a journey of a lifetime to the rooftop of Wales on the Snowdon Mountain Railway – Britain's only rack and pinion railway. You will travel to the summit of Snowdon, the highest mountain in England and Wales towering at 3,560 ft offering spectacular, awe inspiring views of the National Park. At the summit, you have one of the world's most spectacular panoramas at your feet. On very clear days at the summit you can see as far as the Wicklow Mountains in Ireland and the Isle of Man. We also include a visit to the National Slate Museum, set in a stunning landscape amidst the towering slate mountain of Dinorwig Quarry offering a wonderful insight into the history of slate quarrying in North Wales. Our visit includes the stunning introductory film, 'To Steal a Mountain', which interprets the history of slate and its people and a chance to marvel at one of the largest waterwheels in the world. There are demonstrations of quarry crafts to enjoy, including daily slate splitting and dressing and at other times, the blacksmith and carpenter at work.

**THURSDAY** – Today we visit Portmerion Village & Gardens, a fairy tale Italianate village designed and built between 1925 and 1975 by Sir Clough Williams as a tribute the Mediterranean atmosphere and lifestyle on the coast of Snowdonia. Our guided tour includes a visit to the renowned Portmerion Pottery shop and the building that was used as the lead character's home in ITV's hit 1960's TV show the Prisoner. This is followed by a leisurely afternoon tea in the four star Portmerion hotel, comprising of tea and coffee, scones with clotted cream and a slice of Bara Brith, a locally made fruit cake.

**FRIDAY** – After breakfast we begin our journey home. We travel to Stratford where you may wish to take the open top bus tour, take a boat trip (both will incur extra costs) or just stroll around this charming historic town. We leave at 3.30pm aiming to arrive back into Bretonside early evening.