

**To Book:**

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DOWNTON ABBEY

Sunday 19th – Thursday 23rd August 2012



£299 per person

Price incl: 4 night's Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Accommodation at the 4 star Elcot Park Hotel, Newbury, with visits to Winchester, Hungerford, Oxford, Cirencester, Salisbury and Highclere Castle, the setting for ITV's major drama series 'Downton Abbey'. Also a trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal on a traditional horse drawn barge.

Please Note: There is no single room supplement for the first 2 guests to book, Extra single rooms will be subject to a supplement of £68 per person.

SUNDAY - We depart Bretonside at 8am, making a refreshment stop at Ottery St Mary Garden Centre. We visit the magnificent medieval city of Salisbury, known as "The city in the countryside" with its historic streets and alleyways, charming half-timbered buildings, traditional English eating houses and shopping streets full of character, not to mention a superb range of attractions, including the UK's finest medieval cathedral.

MONDAY - Today we savour the peace of 18th century England with a trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal, on a traditionally painted horse drawn barge pulled by heavy crossed-shire horses, Hannah and daughter Boncella, bedecked in traditional harness.

This afternoon we will visit the town of Hungerford, an historic, rural town set in the beautiful Berkshire countryside. This is a town where you can wine and dine in traditional pubs or modern restaurants; a town which has an intriguing diversity of local shops - you'll find some unusual gift ideas; and a town adjacent to an area of outstanding natural beauty with the unique opportunity to walk through water meadows between the River Dun and the famous Kennet & Avon Canal.

TUESDAY - We spend the day in Oxford today where you will have the day to explore this delightful City. You may choose to take the open top tour bus, admire the stunning architecture on many of the famous colleges or stroll around the vibrant city centre taking in the various shops on offer.

WEDNESDAY - Today we visit Highclere Castle, home to the Carnarvon family since 1679. It is the setting for ITV's major new drama series "Downton Abbey". The present day castle was designed in 1842 by Sir Charles Barry, the architect also responsible for building the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. It is set in 1,000 acres of grounds designed by Capability Brown. We visit the Castle State Rooms, gallery and Castle Gardens and Grounds, and the "Wonderful Things" Egyptian Exhibition which tells the story of the discovery in 1922 of the Tomb of Tutankhamun by the 5th Earl of Carnarvon and Howard Carter.

THURSDAY - After breakfast we begin our journey home. We make a visit to Cirencester, once the second largest town in Britain during Roman times. The town's market town status was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. We leave here early afternoon and continue our journey home, making a coffee stop along the way at Sanders Garden World. We aim to arrive back in Plymouth approx 7pm