



THINKERS & Writers

5 Days / 4 Nights
Self-Drive Itinerary



ENGLAND ORIGINALS



FROM ENGLAND'S HISTORIC CITIES

LOSE YOURSELF

This 5 days / 4 nights itinerary encourages you to lose yourself in academia, ancient and modern. Spend time in the beautiful city of Oxford, marvelling at its prestigious University heritage. Delve into the beauty of iconic British landmarks such as Blenheim Palace and Warwick Castle. Delight in the natural beauty of the Cotswolds – admire the endless rolling hills and lush green landscape as you traverse the British countryside. Enjoy a trip to the home of Worcestershire Sauce, you will visit the tomb of one of England's most hated kings and enjoy a historic pub crawl. Then at Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon; you will stand where the greatest English writer was born, lived and is buried

SURPRISE YOURSELF

Feel England in close-up as you drive straight into the heart of our beautiful historic cities; each one a vibrant, richly cultural, beautiful and surprising place with a story to tell and your own to write



VisitEngland



Iconic Experiences

(not to be missed)

You're coming to England (finally!) and you need to make sure you tick those all-important things off your list.

We'll show you the highlights of England's Historic cities – with an ASA twist – and ensure you are always in the best place, at the right time, for that Instagram-perfect moment



Explore **Oxford** – City of the Dreaming Spires



Visit **The Cotswolds** – see some of England's most beautiful countryside



Discover **Stratford-upon-Avon** – the birthplace of Shakespeare



TOP TIP:

Enjoy lunch at The Bear Inn, Oxford - marvel at the pub's collection of over 4,500 snippets of club ties (clipped with a pair of scissors in exchange for half a pint of beer!)

HIGHLIGHTS**CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE**

Discover Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll during a tour of Christ Church College at Oxford University. Founded in 1546 by King Henry VIII, Christ Church College is one of Oxford's largest colleges and with a number of architecturally significant buildings including Tom Quad, the largest quadrangle in Oxford, and the Great Dining Hall

THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Explore the world's oldest public museum, founded by Elias Ashmole in 1677, with a rooftop restaurant.

**LONDON - OXFORD**

1 HR

Leaving London, drive towards **Oxford**, and spend the morning exploring this stunning University town. Be sure to leave time to explore **Christ Church Cathedral**.

Grab a bite of lunch at one of the many traditional English pubs in Oxford. This afternoon, visit **The Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology**, or take time to enjoy a punt on the river



Christ Church Cathedral - used in the background of many scenes in the Harry Potter movie



Corpus Christi College - look for two charming tortoises, named after the college founders - Fox and Oldham



New College - built in 1379 as a miniature version of Windsor Castle



Overnight Oxford:

The Randolph Hotel, by Graduate Hotels



TOP TIP:

Download the 'England Originals' App to your phone for some awesome virtual reality experiences in England's Historic Cities!

**HIGHLIGHTS****BLENHEIM PALACE**

Blenheim Palace is Britain's greatest palace and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. A masterpiece of Baroque architecture, Blenheim Palace provides an awe-inspiring experience for visitors

BODLEIAN LIBRARY

A tour of the Old Bodleian Library allows visitors to see inside its historic rooms including the 15th-century Divinity School, medieval Duke Humfrey's Library, and the impressive Radcliffe Camera.

**OXFORD - BLENHEIM PALACE**

20 MINS

This morning, drive to **Blenheim Palace** (free parking available on site) and spend the first part of your day exploring Britain's greatest Palace, also the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill.

Drive back to **Oxford** for the afternoon, stopping off to enjoy lunch, then visit **Bodleian Library** - the main research library of the University of Oxford, and one of the oldest libraries in Europe. Time permitting, why not stop off at **Oxford Castle & Prison** for an interactive, guided tour?



The Palace State Rooms - explore the gilded State Rooms at Blenheim Palace with their priceless collections of portraits, tapestries and furniture.



Bodleian Library - Duke Humfrey's Library was used as the Hogwarts library and the Divinity School as the infirmary in the Harry Potter movies



Overnight Oxford:

The Randolph Hotel, by Graduate Hotels



TOP TIP:

Get a true taste of Worcester and try a cocktail with Worcester Sauce at the Tonic Bar

HIGHLIGHTS**CASTLE WALLS**

Wander down Friar Street with its black and white buildings and quaint cobbled streets. Discover museums and National Trust gardens and at the bottom, you'll see Edgar Tower, the last remaining part of the Castle Walls.

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

The dramatic Worcester Cathedral rises above the city landscape along the banks of the River Severn, with magnificent views over Worcestershire from the top of the tower

**OXFORD - WORCESTER**

1 HR 35 MINS

Your day starts with a drive to **Worcester** - one of the oldest cities in England with evidence of settlements here dating back to 700BC.

Upon arrival in Worcester, your day of discovery begins at **The Commandery Encounter** - a beautiful Grade 1 listed building with an 800-year history. Check out the beautifully dramatic **Worcester Cathedral**, the remains of the Castle Walls and not forgetting to sample some piquant **Worcestershire Sauce!**



Royal Tombs at **Worcester Cathedral**; the most notorious is 'bad' King John, famed for signing Magna Carta over 800 years ago.



Be sure to plan time to experience the stunning **choral evening song** at Worcester Cathedral



Overnight Stratford-upon-Avon:
Stratford Manor Hotel



TOP TIP:

Take advantage of your "Shakespeare's Family Homes Pass" to see a collection of Shakespeare's heritage in Stratford-upon-Avon

HIGHLIGHTS**ANNE HATHAWAY'S HOUSE**

Visit Anne Hathaway's Cottage, the beautiful 500 year old cottage where Shakespeare courted his bride-to-be. See original furniture including the Hathaway bed and uncover five centuries of stories in this picturesque cottage and 13 generations of the family who lived there

SHAKESPEARE'S SCHOOLROOM & GUILDHALL

See where William Shakespeare spent his schooldays, discovered theatre for the first time and was educated and inspired to become the world's greatest playwright.

**STRATFORD-UPON-AVON**

45 MINS

Begin your day with a visit to **Shakespeare's Birthplace** - a restored 16th-century half-timbered house William Shakespeare was born in 1564 and spent his childhood years. Spend the afternoon exploring this town further, with a visit to **Anne Hathaway's House + Shakespeare Guildhall**.

Finish the day with a pre-theatre dinner at the **RSC Rooftop Restaurant** followed by a play at the world-famous **Royal Shakespeare Theatre**



Anne Hathaway's House - look out for witches' marks carved into the beam at the top of the staircase leading to the cellar



At the **Guildhall**, step back in time and explore the Medieval guildhall, the heart of bustling civil life



Overnight Stratford-upon-Avon:
Stratford Manor Hotel



TOP TIP:

Stop off for a sumptuous Afternoon Tea at 'Tisanes Tea Rooms' in Broadway.

HIGHLIGHTS**THE COTSWOLDS**

The Cotswolds is one of the most 'quintessentially English' and unspoiled regions of England where you cannot help but fall in love with the uniqueness of it.

SUDELEY CASTLE

Sudeley Castle & Gardens has played an important role in England's history for over 1,000 years

CIRENCESTER

Cirencester (often referred to as the Capital of the Cotswolds) was the second largest town in Britain during Roman times.

**THE COTSWOLDS - LONDON**

Experience a full day driving through the magnificent **Cotswolds**, prepare to be intrigued by the rich unique history, culture and the natural beauty of ancient limestone villages, rolling wolds countryside, beautiful gardens and magnificent historic castles and stately homes.

Visit the town of **Broadway** and see it's pretty High Street - lined with horse chestnut trees and includes a mixture of period houses and picturesque honey coloured Cotswold stone cottages centuries.

Return to **London** for your departing flight or overnight



Chipping Campden: Graham Greene wrote his first successful novel there, Stamboul train, which was later turned into a famous movie, the Orient Express



Additional Option:
Overnight London