

## GUIDED COACH TOURS

### **A Half Day Educational Tour of London's Historic West End and City**

Early on in the week we will schedule a half day coach tour of London, similar to the one you will have experienced on site inspection. It will cover as far East as the City of London and Tower Bridge and as far West as Kensington and its famous museums. It will take in the key sights such as Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, London Eye, Buckingham Palace, St Pauls Cathedral and much, much more. There will be time for some photo stops and will also include the LNYDP parade route. If the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace is scheduled on the day of your tour (takes place on alternate days in Winter and will be postponed in inclement weather) we will include this at your request.

Journey time: Starts from your hotel and lasts around three and a half hours.

Entrances: None.

Free time: A couple of photo stops, but otherwise on the coach.

Highlights: Everything!

### **A Short Panoramic Boat Trip on the River Thames**

Your private coach will deliver you to Westminster Pier, adjacent Westminster Bridge, from where you will embark on one of the privately hired Thames River cruisers. The 40 minute cruise will take you upstream, past the Palace of Westminster and the London Eye and downstream to Tower Pier. Your guide will provide a running commentary.

Journey time: Approx 30 minutes to the pier and 45 minutes tour.

Entrance: Privately hired river cruisers.

Free time: None.

Highlights: Palace of Westminster, London Eye and the Tower from the river.

## A Half Day Tour to The Tower of London and the Crown Jewels

This historic landmark has served as a royal palace, fortress, prison, place of execution, arsenal, mint, menagerie and jewel house during its 900 year history. Attractions include the Bloody Tower, Traitors Gate, the Chapel of St. John, the Jewel House, where the Crown Jewels of England are on show, and the Fusilier's Museum. The famous Beefeaters, the Yeoman Warders, have guarded this fortress for centuries. Your guide will tell you stories of prisoners, torture and execution, after which you will have time to explore the Jewel House, with the Crown Jewels, as well as the White Tower, the castle walls and ramparts.

Journey time: Approx 30 minutes along the river.

Entrance: Included to the Tower of London, White Tower and Jewel House.

Free time: Minimum one hour, including entry to the Jewel House.

Highlights: Crown Jewels and Beefeaters.

## A Full Day Tour to Windsor and Windsor Castle

The journey time to Windsor is around one hour by coach from central London. Windsor combines 1,000 years of history with contemporary shopping and fine dining. The town lies to the west of London in the charming countryside of Royal Berkshire, alongside the River Thames. Eton College, founded in 1440, is located just across the river and was where Princes William and Harry went to school. Windsor Castle is the oldest inhabited castle in the country and the preferred London residence of the Royal Family. The castle itself is truly majestic, solid, imposing and at the same time graceful. Your guide will take you on a short orientation tour, after which you will be able to use the audio guides to tour the State Apartments, used for royal events and functions.

One of the best features of the castle is walking around the ramparts, feeling the ancient stone under your feet and looking out over the park.

After your visit there will also be time to explore Windsor for yourself.

Journey time: Approx one hour from central London.

Entrance: Windsor Castle, including audio tour of the Royal Apartments.

Free time: Approx three hours for shopping and sightseeing after the castle.

Highlights: Royal Apartments, town shopping.

## A Full Day Tour to Hampton Court Palace (Option One)

The journey time to Hampton Court Palace from central London is around one hour. It is one of the world's finest royal palaces.

Set in 60 acres of beautiful gardens and home to some of Britain's most famous kings and queens, this magnificent palace was specially built to entertain and impress royal visitors. Its unique history, splendour and sheer scale continues to impress today.

Hampton Court Palace has lots of different routes to explore with the two distinct halves: Tudor and Baroque. From Henry VIII's Great Hall and the Tudor Kitchens to William and Mary's state rooms, this royal palace has a wide variety of eye-catching features which your guide will explain.

Even in winter, it is worth taking the trouble to spend a little time to explore the gardens and the famous maze. There will be time to grab some lunch and wander the palace for yourself.

Journey time: Approx one hour from central London.

Entrance: Hampton Court Palace.

Free time: Around three hours in total, either in the Palace or around the area.

Highlights: The Great Hall, Tudor Kitchens and the garden maze.