

Swanland U3A presents

South Wales & the Wye Valley

5 days from £634 Departing 5th May 2020



Wye Valley



FEATURES

- 4* hotel
- Four dinners & one light lunch included
- All excursions & guided tours included
- Most entrance fees included
- Blue Badge guided included on Days 2, 3 & 4
- Executive coach throughout

WHAT WE WILL SEE

- Bourton House Garden – light lunch included
- Museum of Welsh Life in St Fagans
- Tredegar House
- Scenic drive through the Wye Valley
- Tintern Abbey
- Berkeley Castle
- Cardiff & Cardiff Bay – guided tour
- Senedd, National Assembly Building – guided tour
- Royal Mint Visitor Centre – guided factory experience
- SS Great Britain & Being Brunel

ACCOMMODATION

We stay four nights on a half board basis at the 4* St Pierre Marriott Hotel and Country Club on the outskirts of Chepstow (www.marriott.com). Facilities at the hotel include a restaurant, bar, indoor swimming pool, gymnasium, steam room, spa pool and a sauna. All rooms are en suite and feature a hairdryer, television, telephone, and tea & coffee making facilities.

EXTRAS TO YOUR TOUR

- Single room supplement £99
- Insurance £24
- Entrance fee to Tredegar House (free to National Trust members)
- Gratuities

Price based on twin/double share. Minimum numbers required. Normal booking conditions

For more information on this tour contact your Group Organiser

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Tailored Travel's ATOL number is 5605



Tredegar House

View and share this tour online - click on **View Your Tour** at www.tailored-travel.co.uk and quote **swlu201**

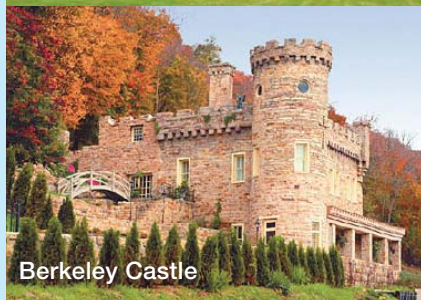
South Wales & the Wye Valley

WHAT WE WILL SEE

Bourton House Garden
Museum of Welsh Life in St Fagans
Tredegar House
Scenic drive through the Wye Valley
Tintern Abbey
Berkeley Castle
Guided tour of Cardiff & Cardiff Bay
Senedd, National Assembly Building
Royal Mint Visitor Centre
SS Great Britain & Being Brunel



Tintern Abbey



Berkeley Castle



Millennium Centre, Cardiff



SS Great Britain

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Day 1

We board our private executive coach and depart from Swanland Pond. En route to our hotel we visit Bourton House Garden in the Cotswolds. The award winning three acre garden surrounds a fine 18th century Manor House. The garden features luxuriant terraces and wide herbaceous borders with stunning plant, texture and colour combinations. Imaginative topiary includes a knot garden, parterre and topiary walk and there are several spring fed water features including a raised basket pond from the Great Exhibition of 1851. During our visit we enjoy an included light lunch consisting of sandwiches, and tea or coffee. We continue to the 4* St Pierre Marriott Hotel and Country Club on the outskirts of Chepstow for a four night stay on a half board basis.

Day 2

Our Blue Badge guide meets us at our hotel this morning and accompanies us throughout the day. We firstly visit the Museum of Welsh Life in St Fagans, which was recently voted museum of the year 2019. Set in 100 acres of parkland, with over 40 original buildings, the Museum shows how the people of Wales have lived, worked and spent their leisure time over the last five hundred years. This afternoon we visit the National Trust's Tredegar House near Newport. Set in a beautiful 90 acre park, this is one of the best examples of a 17th century Charles II mansion in Britain, the earliest surviving part of which dates back to the early 1500's.

Day 3

We enjoy a scenic drive through the Wye Valley with our Blue Badge guide this morning. During our tour we see the remains of Tintern Abbey, the best preserved abbey in Wales and ranking among Britain's most beautiful historic sites. Turner sketched and painted here, whilst Wordsworth drew inspiration from the surroundings. This afternoon we visit Berkeley Castle. This beautiful and historic castle, begun in 1117, still remains the home of the famous family who gave their name to numerous locations all over the world, notably Berkeley Square in London, Berkeley Hundred in Virginia and Berkeley University in California. The State Apartments contain magnificent collections of furniture, rare paintings by primarily English and Dutch masters, and tapestries.

Day 4

After meeting our Blue Badge guide at our hotel, we have a morning guided tour of Cardiff. Our guided tour includes a visit to the Senedd, the National Assembly Building, and the exterior of the Norwegian Sailor's Church, established in 1868 to provide religious and social care to thousands of Norwegian sailors that were employed in the Norwegian merchant fleet. During our tour, we also see the exterior of the Wales Millennium Centre. Opened in 2004 and locally known as 'the Armadillo', the centre is home to the national orchestra and opera, dance, theatre and literature companies. This afternoon we visit the Royal Mint Visitor Centre. During our guided factory experience, we enter one of the manufacturing areas to discover how blank pieces of metal are made before being struck to become coins. From a viewing area, we see the striking hall where thousands of coins are produced, 24 hours a day.

Day 5

After checking out of our hotel and en route home we visit Brunel's SS Great Britain at Bristol, the world's first great ocean liner and explore the beautifully recreated First Class Dining Saloon, steerage quarters and new Engine Room. During our visit we have time to visit Being Brunel, a newly opened attraction that contemplates the life and legacy of Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

NB:- Please note we reserve the right to alter the above itinerary if required for operational reasons. Given the historic nature of the places visited, a certain degree of walking will be involved, and this tour may not be suitable for those with mobility problems.