



On this tour we visit the National Memorial Arboretum, the UK's centre of Remembrance, the unique Gladstone Pottery Museum with its cobbled courtyard and bottle kilns and Shugborough Estate, the UK's only complete working historic estate. We shall also visit the historic towns of Chester and Lichfield, home to the only medieval English cathedral with three spires, and have a guided tour of the Peak District National Park.

SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER Departing Oxted 8.00am we make our way to the National Memorial Arboretum, where we shall have time to find lunch and have a look around before continuing on to the Gladstone Pottery Museum, the last complete Victorian Pottery factory. Discover how bone china tableware was made in the original workshops and giant bottle kilns and experience for yourself what conditions were like for the men, women and children who worked at the centre of the world's pottery industry. Following our visit we make our way to our hotel.

MONDAY 22 OCTOBER After breakfast we make our way to the historic town of Chester, the most complete walled city in Britain. Here you will find the 10th Century cathedral and The 'Rows'; black & white half timbered buildings above street level with covered walkways. There is also an extensive shopping area with some lovely cafés to enjoy lunch. Early afternoon we make our way to the Anderton Boat Lift, one of the greatest monuments to Britain's last canal age. Here we shall take a one way guided tour through the Boat Lift, learning about its history, mechanics and restoration. We then board a boat for



a 40-minute round trip from Anderton Boat Lift to Northwich Swing Bridge along the Weaver Navigation.

TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER Today we have a full day guided tour of the Staffordshire Peak District National Park passing through Buxton, Eyam (the plague village), where we shall make our coffee stop. Continuing on we head to Castleton and on to Hathersage, our lunch stop. After lunch we head to Glossop, passing the famous "Dambusters" reservoirs of Derwent and Ladybower and through Snake Pass, one of the most dramatic and rugged parts of the area before continuing on to Leek and then returning to our hotel.

WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER This morning we journey to Lichfield, Staffordshire's premier heritage city, where we shall be at leisure to explore and find lunch. This afternoon we visit Shugborough Estate, ancestral home to the Earls of Lichfield. Set in 900

acres of Staffordshire countryside, Shugborough has rolling swathes of lush green parkland, historic woodlands and Grade I listed formal gardens which frame a perfect riverside setting. Here we shall be free to explore the estate including the private apartments of the Earl of Lichfield. Mrs Bonham, the housekeeper will take us on a tour of the servants' quarters and we shall partake of a cream tea before heading back to our hotel.

THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER Departing after breakfast we head homewards, visiting Aynsley China in Longton, one of the last working fine bone china factories in England. Here we shall have a tour of the factory and time to find lunch and browse in the shop before continuing our homeward journey, arriving in Oxted early evening.

What's included

CREWE HALL HOTEL Crewe

Located in extensive grounds, this Grade I listed building has been attracting refined guests since the 17th century, including our current monarch Queen Elizabeth II. No other hotel in Cheshire displays the mix of historic Jacobean and sharp 21st century architecture like Crewe Hall: with exquisite marble fireplaces, ornate plasterwork, carved wood and stained glass windows.

All bedrooms are en suite with TV, telephone, hairdryer & hospitality tray.

Superb leisure & spa facilities

4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast.

Visit to National Memorial Arboretum

Entry to Gladstone Pottery

Boat trip & ride on Anderton Boat Lift

Full day guided tour through Peak District National Park

Time to explore Chester & Lichfield

Entry to Shugborough Estate,
Housekeeper tour & cream tea

Entry to Aynsley China

£425.00 PER PERSON

Single Room Supp: £96.00

*Nat Trust members less £4.50 but **must** bring card*