# 7 Night Bridge & Walking Holiday in the Cotswolds



| Trip style: | Destination: | Walking Grade | Carbon Footprint: |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cotswolds | 2 & 3 | 180kg CO2 |

## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Stay in the comfort of our characterful country houses and exercise both mind and body with this classic combination. You'll have a choice of two guided walks a day (one short and one longer) followed by a bridge competition each evening.

## WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Guided walking with experienced HF Holidays Leaders
- Playing bridge in a relaxed and friendly environment
- Meeting like-minded people
- Earn EBU Master Points
- Evening bridge competitions
- Staying in the comfort of our country house

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All bridge-related materials

- Comfortable en-suite accommodation in our country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Choice of two different-grade daily walks
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

## ITINERARY - ITINERARY

### Day 1 **Arrival Day**

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

### Day 2–3 **Bridge and Walking**

Enjoy a daily choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 3-5 miles or a harder route of around 5-7 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the surrounding countryside and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm.

## Day 2

### Option 1 - Lower Slaughter

**Distance:** 3 miles (5km)

**Ascent:** 150 feet (60m)

**In summary:** This is a short circular walk from Harrington House to Lower Slaughter, a very attractive village which is one of the most photographed villages in England.

**Highlight:** The twin villages of Upper and Lower Slaughter are just a couple of miles' walk from Bourton-on-the-Water.

### Option 2 - Lower Slaughter and Upper Slaughter

**Distance:** 5.5 miles (9km)

**Ascent:** 480 feet (140m)

**In summary:** An attraction of this walk is that it includes three villages. We start in bustling Bourton-on-the-Water, crossing farmland to idyllic Lower Slaughter with its fine old houses and cottages sitting beside the picturesque Rive Eye and its attractive bridges. With time to visit the church, look at the Mill, and possibly enjoy the tea room, we then cross meadows to the sleepy and unspoilt village of Upper Slaughter before picking up the River Windrush to return to Harrington House.

**Highlight:** The mill at Lower Slaughter and two unspoilt Cotswold villages

## Day 3

### Option 1 - Fish Hill to Broadway

**Distance:** 3 miles (5km)

**Ascent:** 150 ft (40m)

**In summary:** A fine walk starting at Fish Hill we walk past the impressive Broadway tower and partly following the Cotswold Way to Broadway.

**Highlight:** Visiting Broadway a fine show village filled with old cottages and gabled houses

### Option 2 - Along the Cotswold Way to Broadway

**Distance**: 5½ miles (8½km)

**Ascent**: 220 feet (60m)

**Descent:** 820 feet (240m)

**In summary**: A stunning scarp walk along the Cotswold Way, passing the Cotswold landmark of Broadway Tower before descending through fields into Broadway.

**Highlight**: Visit Broadway Tower and enjoy views across the Evesham Vale before taking time to enjoy Broadway, a fine show village filled with ancient cottages and gabled houses.

## Day 4 Free Day - The Cotswolds

Discover more about Harrington House and the local area for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

## Day 5–7 Bridge and Walking

Enjoy a daily choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 3-5 miles or a harder route of around 5-7 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the surrounding countryside and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm.

## Day 5

### Option 1 - Salmonsbury Camp

**Distance:** 4½ miles (7km)

**Ascent:** 100 feet (40m)

**In summary:** Walking from Harrington House, we follow footpaths from Bourton exploring the area directly to the south. Heading back we will follow the Diamond Way.

**Highlight:** The interesting Salmonsbury Camp.

### Option 2 - Couple of Rissingtons

**Distance:** 6 miles (9.5km)

**Ascent:** 270 feet (80m)

**In summary:** Crossing Salmonsbury camp we leave the Windrush valley and head up the first of two Rissington villages, Wyck Rissington and then on to Little Rissington with its memorial to the RAF before dropping back down into the valley and back to the house.

**Highlight:** The moving testament to the memory of RAF serviceman who lost lives in World War II in Little Rissington church.

## Day 6

### Option 1 - Macmillan Way to Chedworth

**Distance**: 3½ miles (5½km)

**Ascent**: 350 feet (100m)

**Descent:** 500 feet (150m)

**In summary**: Starting in the village of Chedworth, this walk follows the Macmillan Way to reach Chedworth Roman Villa via attractive woodland.

**Highlight**: Explore the Roman Villa at Chedworth or simply relax and enjoy the National Trust café.

### Option 2 - Northleach to Chedworth

**Distance:** 5½ miles (9km)

**Ascent:** 600 feet (180m)

**In summary:** The market town of Northleach is our start. Explore the town and its impressive church of St Peter and St Paul one of the finest examples of the Cotswold perpendicular style. We then head towards Hampnett, and follow the same route as the Gentle Walk to Chedworth Villa.

**Highlight:** Our walk finishes at the Chedworth Roman Villa. Now managed by the National Trust, this is one of England's best preserved Roman sites, with fine mosaics dating from AD120-400.

## Day 7

### Option 1 - Lower Swell to Bourton

**Distance:** 5½ miles (9km)

**Ascent:** 600 feet (180m)

**In summary:** The market town of Northleach is our start. Explore the town and its impressive church of St Peter and St Paul one of the finest examples of the Cotswold perpendicular style. We then head towards Hampnett, and follow the same route as the Gentle Walk to Chedworth Villa.

**Highlight:** Our walk finishes at the Chedworth Roman Villa. Now managed by the National Trust, this is one of England's best preserved Roman sites, with fine mosaics dating from AD120-400.

### Option 2 - Monarch's Way to Bourton

**Distance:** 6½ miles (10½km)

**Total ascent:** 550 feet (160m)

**In summary:** A walk along the Monarch's Way from the village of Broadwell to Bourton-on-the-Water. We'll stop to explore Stow-on-the-Wold and the delightful village of Lower Slaughter.

**Highlight:** Timeless Lower Slaughter was voted the 'most romantic street in Britain'. With its idyllic cottages and watermill. This is delightful spot to stop and relax.

### Day 8 Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

## DAILY WALK OPTIONS




**Gentle walking grade 2**

Full or half-day gentle walks on good paths, with plenty of time for rest stops, views, and places of interest. Typically, 3-5 miles (5-8km) with around 350ft (100m) of ascent with few or no stiles.




**Gentle walking grade 3**

Slightly longer walks, mostly on well-trodden paths, with some gentle gradients plus stiles and steps possible. Typically, 5-6 miles (8-10km) with around 650ft (200m) of ascent.

## ACCOMMODATION

### Harrington House

You get the best of all worlds at this Grade II-listed retreat just a skip away from the heart of Bourton-on-the-Water – the impossibly pretty Cotswolds town with chocolate-box cottages, old-fashioned tearooms, and low-arched stone bridges that span the River Windrush. Not only will you be within walking distance of the Cotswold Motoring Museum, the Model Village, and Birdland Wildlife Park & Gardens, but it's an easy drive from village beauties Broadway and Bibury. For walkers and hikers, there's no shortage of thrills, especially for those keen to explore the well-trodden trails and paths around the Windrush Valley, Lower and Upper Slaughter, Gloucestershire Way, Cotswold Way, and Monarch Way.

## About

· 27 well-appointed guest rooms · Exclusive occupancy: 36 guests minimum · Check in from 4:00pm · For members check in from 2:00pm · Full-board (including cream tea on arrival) · Free Wi-Fi · Free on-site parking · Boot room and drying room · Travel cot · Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and information for self-guided walks · Books and games to borrow · Licensed bar · Two lounges · Walled garden and croquet lawn · Landscaped grounds · Electric vehicle charging point - Please note, you will need to bring your own cables to use this EV charging point

## Then & now

Showcasing a mix of Tudor, Palladian, and Georgian architectural styles, this stately property was built in 1662 (records show 'there stands a large cottage with mullioned windows' on the present site during this time). The first owner was most likely Anthony Collett, whose niece Elizabeth inherited the house and extended it to its current glory with her lawyer husband, William Moore. In 1776, Moore's second wife (also Elizabeth), married Sir James Harrington, for whom the house is named. The house remained in the family thereafter and was purchased by Mr Hall in the early 19th century. In 1860, the property was sold to a Mr Mills who ran Jubilee Cottage (currently guest accommodation) as the Jubilee Inn, using the premises opposite as a malting house for brewing beer. The subsequent owner, Alfred Hadley, continued to use the house much in the same way and lived here from 1870 until 1922 when it changed hands yet again. It became part of our HF Holidays line-up in 1947.

Following a refurbishment in 2017, there's a pleasing interior design theme throughout. In addition to interesting plasterwork, a grand stairway, and a cupola at the top of the house built in the 1730s and used by William Moore as a lookout, there's an interesting Rococo ornate ceiling decorated with sunflowers, swallows, monkeys, and flowers. You'll also find 27 well-appointed guest rooms in three categories (Classic, Premium, and Superior), two lounges, a licensed bar, and an attractive dining room for a wide range of dishes made with fresh and seasonal ingredients. Elsewhere, there's a handy boot and drying room, books and games to borrow during your stay, a walled garden, a large croquet lawn, and landscaped grounds. The house also has a Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and easy-to-follow information for self-guided walks.

## Check-In & Check-Out

You are welcome to check in from 4pm at the earliest. HF Members can check in earlier, from 2pm. On arrival, you'll enjoy a complimentary cream tea and get to meet your fellow guests, our HF Holidays Leaders, and the rest of the friendly team. Check out 10am.

## FOOD & DRINK

### Dining

Seasonal dining, tailored for you

Our team of skilled chefs design our dinner menus to showcase the best of each season, from warming winter comfort food to vibrant summer dishes, including vegetarian, vegan and high-protein options. We also source fruit and vegetables within a 40-mile radius of each house, open every break with a Chef's Special menu inspired by dishes and flavours of the local area, and are able to adapt dishes to suit special dietary requirements.

Welcome Cream Tea

What better way to start your stay than with a cream tea, served fresh on arrival to make you feel instantly at home. A quintessentially English tradition, our scones are baked in-house and served with preserves and clotted cream, providing the perfect opportunity to meet fellow walkers.

A hearty breakfast to start the day

Start the day with a freshly-prepared cooked breakfast and a wide choice from our continental buffet, including hot drinks, juices and fresh fruit. Our team offer a quick and friendly service, leaving you fuelled and ready for your day's adventures.

Our famous picnic lunch

Our personalised picnic lunches are perfect for a day out walking, ready to enjoy when hunger strikes. Choose from a large selection of fresh sandwiches and salads, freshly baked cakes and snacks, including the ever-popular Freddos chocolate bar! Everything is designed to fit neatly into your rucksack, and all of the packaging we provide is recyclable or compostable.

3-course evening meals

Our à la carte evening menus feature a wide choice of starters, mains, and desserts, made with seasonal ingredients and, wherever possible, herbs and vegetables from our own gardens. Shared around sociable tables, dinners are relaxed occasions, with drinks available to order at the table or from the bar, and a traditional Sunday roast to round off the week.

## ROOMS

Your room at Harrington House

Designed with your comfort in mind, Harrington House has 27 well-appointed guest rooms available in three categories: Classic, Premium, and Superior.

**Classic Rooms** are comfortable en-suite guest rooms, ideal for a peaceful night's sleep. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, and shower gel), and a TV.

**Premium Rooms** are more spacious en-suite guest rooms*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

**Superior Rooms** are even more spacious en-suite guest rooms offering upgraded views of the surroundings*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

**We love:** Rooms 1 and 2 on the first floor for their master bedrooms, original Palladian design, and lovely views. Room 24 in the Windrush Cottage is a large twin room with its own private garden.

The **Choose Your Room** service is available at our UK country houses, allowing you the option of choosing and confirming a specific room for an extra charge of £30 per room. This is subject to availability. Upgrade supplements apply.

**Room supplements**

| Superior | Premium single | Premium double/twin | Choose your room |
|---|---|---|---|
| £25 pppn | £20 pppn | £20 pppn | £30 per room |

*Views and layout reflect each properties unique character and location

## ACCESSIBILITY

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on 020 3974 8865 or view the accessibility information online for Harrington House

## ABOUT YOUR STAY

**A warm welcome**
We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

**Evening entertainment**

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided waking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

**Helping you enjoy the Great Outdoors - A natural focus on walks**

**Walks talks and Discovery Points**
Our founder, country pastor turned social innovator, Thomas Arthur Leonard, was passionate about encouraging people to explore the countryside. His legacy continues in HF's continued focus on walking. Many guests choose to travel with us on guided or self-guided walking holidays, and as such, evenings at our houses are often busy with walk leaders hosting various briefings and talks. On guided walking holiday arrival days, there are walking information briefings before dinner, and for the duration of any guided walking holiday there will be a Walks Talk before (or on occasion after dinner), to go through the following day's walk options. Self-guided walking guests, and those on special interest holidays (where there is free time to explore independently), are of course welcome to also join in these Walks Talks - please talk to the team locally if you have any queries. Our Discovery Points are filled with handy maps and route notes, designed to ensure everyone, not just those booked on a guided walking holiday, can enjoy the beautiful countryside settings that our HF houses enjoy.

**The walking day**
Prior to setting off on guided walks, our HF Holidays Leaders run through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure walkers have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

## TRAVEL DETAILS

### Address

Harrington House
Sherborne Street
Bourton-on-the-Water
Gloucestershire GL54 2BY

**Tel:** +44 (0)1451 821213

### By train

The nearest station is Moreton-in-Marsh.

However, the nearest mainline station is at Cheltenham Spa.

Check National Rail for train times and routes.

### By taxi

From Moreton-in-Marsh, it's a nine-mile journey taking 20 to 30 minutes.

From Cheltenham Spa, it's an 18-mile journey taking 35 to 45 minutes.

For pricing, please contact Limozena taxis directly.

**Limozena**
You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended company, Limozena*. We recommend booking your taxi at least seven days in advance by contacting:

Tel: +44 (0)1451 820972
Email: denwalmsley@yahoo.co.uk

A return journey can be arranged on your behalf by the HF Holidays House Manager at Harrington House.

*Limozena is not owned or managed by HF Holidays.

### By bus

The 801 bus goes from Moreton-in-Marsh to Bourton-on-the-Water and takes about 30 minutes. Alight next to the Edinburgh Woollen Mill Shop from where it's a short walk to Harrington House.

### By car

There's free car parking at Harrington House if you decide to drive.

Directions
From the A429 take the road into the centre of Bourton-on-the-Water. At the war memorial by the village green, turn into Sherborne Street. Cross the narrow bridge and continue to just before the road forks. You'll find Harrington House on the left.

## By air

The nearest airport is London Heathrow Airport.

From the airport
Take the train to London Paddington station from where there are direct trains to Moreton-in-Marsh, which takes just over two hours. Then you can get the bus or a taxi to Bourton-on-the-Water.

## LOCAL AREA

Places to visit in The Cotswolds

Whether you're enjoying a guided or self-guided walking holiday, there's always the opportunity to linger for longer. Here's our pick of the very best things to see and do within easy travelling distance of Harrington House.

### Bourton-on-the-Water

For chocolate-box cottages, old-fashioned tearooms, and low-arched stone bridges that span the River Windrush, this Cotswolds town is only 100 metres away. Highlights include the Cotswold Motoring Museum, the Model Village, and Birdland Wildlife Park & Gardens.

### Chipping Campden

A 30-minute drive north of Bourton-on-the-Water, this small market town was once at the heart of the Arts and Crafts Movement. A not-to-be missed highlight is the National Trust-owned Hidcote Manor Gardens in the nearby village of Hidcote Bartrim.

### Bibury

Described by William Morris as 'the most beautiful village in England' for good reason, this charming town is just a 20-minute drive away. Don't miss the National Trust-owned Arlington Row – England's most photographed street.

### Broadway

A 30-minute drive away, this lovely town is best known for its horse chestnut tree-lined High Street, Broadway Tower, Broadway Museum & Art Gallery, and Lygon Arms Hotel where Oliver Cromwell spent the night before the Battle of Worcester in1651.

### Cotswold Farm Park - Home of Adam Henson

Established in 1971 by Joe Henson, father of farmer and BBC's Countryfile presenter Adam, this fun-filled park is just a 10-minute drive away. There's over 50 flocks and herds of farm animals, including Gloucestershire Old Spot Pigs and Highland cattle.

### Stratford-Upon-Avon

The birthplace of William Shakespeare, this attractive market town is a 40-minute drive away. Highlights include The Swan Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Shakespeare's Birthplace, Shakespeare's Distillery, and Anne Hathaway's Cottage.

### Blenheim Palace

Home to the 12th Duke of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, this designated UNESCO World Heritage Site is set in extensive parkland. Don't miss the famous Marlborough Tapestries (the 'Victories Series') in the Green Writing Room.

## Cotswold Wildlife Park and Gardens

A 25-minute drive away, this 160-acre park is home to over 260 species of animals. It also has one of the largest reptile collections in the UK; expect to see crocodiles, lizards, frogs, snakes, such as green anacondas, and venomous snakes including black mambas.

## Cheltenham

A 25-minute drive away, this Gloucestershire spa town is most famous for its horseracing, festivals and Regency heritage. Highlights include the award-winning Pittville Park for its magnificent pump room and Montpellier for its independent boutiques.

## Gloucester

Home to one of the UK's most stunning cathedrals, this lovely city on the River Severn is a 35-minute drive away. Don't miss the Gloucester Docks, Robinswood Hill Country Park, Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum, and the Gloucester Quays.

## Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway

This volunteer-operated and lovingly-restored steam and diesel heritage railway uses part of the former Great Western Railway's main line route from Birmingham to Cheltenham (it used to run via Stratford-upon-Avon). It is just a 30-minute drive away.

## Oxford

An hour's drive away, this famous university city offers a wealth of historic attractions and museums. Some of the city's best vantage points can be found at St. Martin's Tower, the University Church of St. Mary the Virgin, and St. Michael Northgate.

# SAFETY ON YOUR HOLIDAY

### Walking safety

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests.

Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass.

**Please note:** If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you.

If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel section) should you need them in case of emergency.

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Packing list

**Bridge**

All your Bridge stationery and equipment will be supplied. You may, however, like to bring a notebook and pen to make your own notes. EBU Members - don't forget to bring your EBU membership number to earn Master Points on this holiday.

**Walking**

To enjoy your walking comfortably and safely, it is essential that your footwear, clothing and equipment are suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. Britain is famous for its changeable weather, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities.

Bring a rucksack, a thermos flask for a hot drink, a water bottle (at least 1 litre) and spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar, a small torch (in spring, autumn and winter) and first aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed). Many guests find walking poles useful, particularly for descents. Insect repellent, sun hat, sunglasses and protection cream and a camera are all optional extras you may choose to bring.

## TRIPNOTE VALIDITY

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred. In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary. The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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