

4-Night Cotswolds Discovery Tour

Destinations: Cotswolds & England

Trip code: BNHCR-4



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

The beautiful honey-coloured stone buildings of the Cotswolds stand out against the picturesque backdrop of gently rolling countryside. Stroll around the Roman city of Cirencester, explore the 17th-century market hall in Chipping Campden and wander through the stunning gardens of Sudeley Castle – the famous estate where Catherine Parr lived and is buried. There's also a visit to the spectacular Blenheim Palace, the gardens at Hidcote Manor and time in the picturesque Bibury village.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- High-quality Full Board en-suite accommodation and excellent food in our country house
- The services of our knowledgeable HF Holidays' leader, ensuring you get the most from your holiday
- Full-day excursions with all transport on touring days in a good-quality, comfortable mini-coach

For 2022 departures, all admission costs are included on Discovery tours, including National Trust & English Heritage.

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit classic Cotswolds towns such as Bibury and Burford

- Spend an afternoon at the wonderful Hidcote Manor Gardens
- Explore the wool town of Chipping Camden
- Stop at Stanway House - a marvellous Jacobean home

TRIP SUITABILITY

Our Discovery holidays give you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture of the local area through **active sightseeing**.

On each Discovery day, you will be walking roughly 3-5 miles (5-8km) throughout the course of the day as you explore the venues and locations we visit. You'll also be hopping on and off the coach throughout - you should expect to spend the majority of the day on your feet. Most of this walking will be at attractions but some may be across country tracks or footpaths so be sure to **bring sturdy shoes**. There will also be stairs to climb in the majority of the venues you visit, though other more accessible options may be available. At some venues, there may also be uneven surfaces, such as cobbles or rocky paths.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

You're welcome to check in from 4pm onwards.

Enjoy a complimentary Afternoon Tea on arrival.

Day 2: Bibury, Burford & Blenheim Palace

Our day starts with a couple of shorter visits, firstly to the picture-postcard village of Bibury which was once described by William Morris as "the most beautiful village in England." Here, we can stretch our legs and can snap a photo of the iconic Arlington Row too. We'll stop again in Burford - a historic Cotswold village - before continuing on to Blenheim Palace, which is where we'll spend our afternoon exploring the spectacular house and stunning grounds.

Day 3: Batsford Arboretum & Hidcote Manor Gardens

Our first visit today takes us to the famous Batsford Arboretum which houses the National Collection of Japanese Flowering Cherries. We shall follow this up with a visit to Broadway Tower, set high on the Cotswold escarpment. In the afternoon we'll explore the Arts & Crafts gardens of Hidcote Manor with their many garden 'rooms'.

Day 4: Chipping Campden & Stanway House

Today we'll drive through a myriad of charming Cotswold villages, stopping at Adlestrop and Stow-on-the-Wold to stretch our legs and explore! In the afternoon, we shall travel on to Chipping Campden before arriving at the highlight of the day - Stanway House. This fine example of unspoilt Jacobean architecture was once the old summer haunt of J M Barrie in the 1920s.

Day 5: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

ACCOMMODATION

Harrington House

In one of the prettiest spots in the Cotswolds, Harrington House provides a stylish escape in the form of a traditional country retreat, with the trimmings and flourishes you'd expect. All set in a stately Georgian house that mirrors the mellow architectural styles of the Cotswolds and retains many of its original features; the most breathtaking is the sunny walled garden, surrounded by attractive landscaped gardens. As well as 29 bedrooms, two lounges, a cosy bar and pleasant dining room, there are further feathers in this handsome house's hat. Quintessential English countryside, described by JB Priestly as, 'the most English and least spoiled of all our countryside', is just a short stroll away with pretty villages such as Chipping Campden and the Slaughters, rolling landscapes and classic trails from the Cotswold Way to the Gloucestershire Way and Monarch Way waiting for you to discover them.

Country House Accommodation

Accommodation Info

Need To Know

We appreciate that COVID-19 continues to impact the nations. The English, Scottish and Welsh governments are not always in sync, so measures in our country houses may vary between the nations. We thank all guests for adhering to the measures we have introduced to keep our guests, leaders and team members safe.

You can see our latest FAQs and guarantees at <https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/coronavirus-travel-advice>

Ventilation, Physical Distancing Measures and Group Sizes around the Houses

We will keep our public areas well ventilated; for your comfort you might want to pack an extra layer to keep you comfortable.

With the relaxation of physical distancing, we will be allowing larger groups to dine and relax in the bar together.

Hand sanitiser stations will be made available in frequently used public areas for guests and staff use. It is advisable to bring additional hand sanitiser for whilst you are out walking.

We always follow the latest regional government advice, but our one recommendation is don't forget your face mask! There is no requirement to wear a face covering in communal areas, but you may of course choose to. Some places throughout the UK may still require you to wear a mask even if the government legislation does not. With this in mind we suggest you bring a personal supply of face coverings for the duration of your stay.

Servicing Bedrooms:

At this stage we are not reintroducing our daily room servicing. Extra tea, coffee, milk, towels and toiletries will be available on request from our team. Bins can be left outside your door for emptying.

COVID-19 Symptoms or Cases

If a guest has symptoms of COVID-19 then they should inform the house team and immediately self-isolate to minimise any risk of transmission and make arrangements to request a COVID test. If a guest receives a positive test result, they should return home if they reasonably can. They should where possible use private transport but only drive themselves if they can do so safely. If a guest cannot reasonably return home, they should discuss

their circumstances with the House Manager. Additional charges may be levied if a guest needs to self-isolate for longer than their planned holiday.

What can you do to help keep everyone safe?

- Wear a face mask/covering where required and please bring plenty of face coverings for the duration of your stay
- Carry/use hand sanitiser
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water when possible
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze
- Avoid passing round objects such as cameras & phones
- If you are displaying symptoms of Coronavirus, please do not travel to an HF Holidays House

Rooms

Tea & coffee-making facilities, TV, Hairdryer, Toiletries, Wi-Fi

Stay in one of the main building's beautifully presented rooms or in the adjacent cottages. With 26 bright and airy bedrooms, Harrington House has plenty of space and there's a range of Classic, Premium and Superior Rooms to choose from: for a stylish stay opt for rooms 1 or 2, both large master bedrooms located on the first floor that come complete with some of the original Palladian features dating back to 1730, pretty feature wallpaper and views out of the front of the building of classic Cotswolds scenery. Alternatively, for a romantic hideaway, plump for Room 24 in the Windrush Cottage and toast your good taste in the private garden that adjoins this large twin room.

All 'Classic' rooms are ensuite and furnished to a high standard. There are also several 'Premium' and 'Superior' Rooms that are either larger or have a desirable view, a more luxurious mattress and larger television – upgrade your stay for just an extra £15-25 per person per night. You can choose a specific room for an extra £30 per room, subject to availability. Upgrade supplements still apply.

Check in:

Check in opens at **4pm** for all guests. Guests will be unable to access any of the Country House facilities, including leaving luggage before 4pm.

We are delighted to invite you to enjoy a complimentary Afternoon Tea on arrival. Relax and meet your fellow guests and leaders.

Check out:

Check out time: **10am**

Please note, you will need to settle your bill before departure and payment will only be possible by card. Gratuities and donations to the Pathway Fund can also be made by card.

Facilities

Free Wi-Fi, boot room and drying room, attractive garden, multi-purpose activity room, lounge, library and board games to borrow

After a day ambling through the Cotswolds, come back to the house and its specially tailored walkers' facilities. Relax by sitting in the gardens or having a game of croquet on the lawn. Retire to either of the two lounges or climb the sweeping stately staircase to the very top of the house where there's an observatory looking out across the rooftops of the village. Then pop in to the snug bar for a pint of local ale and a chin wag with fellow guests about their discoveries.

Welcome Information

A Welcome Information Pack providing details about the Country House and your holiday will be available in

each bedroom. This personal pack of information will detail what to expect during your stay in the house, the menu for the duration of your stay, dinner & picnic lunch order forms and the guest registration form for completion.

Our houses are locked at night-time and accessible with a door code which is available in the Welcome Pack. However, we also recommend making a note of the Duty Manager number on arrival, in case of an emergency or getting locked out.

Evenings

Join our team after dinner on Wednesday evenings to see if you've got the knowledge to triumph in the HF Big Pub Quiz! There will also be another evening of entertainment at the beginning of the week which will vary depending on the house you are visiting.

If there are leaders resident, they will be available to chat to guests about self-guided walks. You can borrow walking route notes and maps from our Discovery Point.

Walks Talks – Guided Walking Information Briefings

Self-Guided guests are always welcome to join our Guided Walking briefings to hear about the local conditions.

Our leaders will deliver a Guided Walking Information Briefing on each arrival day before and after dinner followed by a group Walks Talk to let guests know about the following day's walks. Walks Talks are usually before and after dinner prior to each walking day. The information is repeated so you can join whichever time suits you.

If you are undecided which walk to do, our leaders will be available in the bar or lounge to answer any questions you might have. Our website contains up-to-date information about the walks for each holiday.

Before you leave for your walk your leader will run through a short safety briefing for the day.

Each day, the latest weather forecast will be displayed for all guests to check to ensure appropriate clothing is worn for the walks.

Please note, if you decide to do your own walks, or you are on a self-guided walking holiday, you must complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

Food & Drink

As at all our country houses, holidays are full board, from afternoon tea served as a welcome treat through that evening's meal to a hearty breakfast on the day of departure. Food at Harrington House is varied with a strong emphasis on the use of seasonal British produce. Our experienced chefs create each dish using only the freshest ingredients and, when in season, use home grown herbs and vegetables taken from our own gardens to give a true taste of the local area.

Along with many hospitality business across the UK we are presently experiencing disruption to our food and drink supply chain. COVID continues to limit the ability of suppliers to deliver and the war in Ukraine (along with several other global challenges) is impacting availability of many basic products. We are working hard to ensure that these challenges do not negatively impact your holiday but ask for your understanding should we need to make last minute changes to dishes or menus.

Accessibility

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on [020 3974 8865](tel:02039748865) or view the accessibility information online for [Harrington House](#)

TRAVEL DETAILS

Our address is: Harrington House, Sherborne Street, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, GL54 2BY
Tel: [01451 821213](tel:01451821213)

By Train:

The nearest railway station to Harrington House is Moreton-in-Marsh. However, the nearest mainline station is at Cheltenham Spa which may be more convenient. For train times and route planning by train visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or phone [03457 48 49 50](tel:03457484950).

By Taxi:

The 9-mile journey from Moreton-in-Marsh station by taxi takes approximately 20 to 30 minutes and costs £24 if pre-booked. From Cheltenham Spa station a taxi takes around 35 to 45 minutes for the 18-mile journey and costs £44 if pre-booked. Please note these are 2022 prices for a 4-seat taxi. 8-seater taxis are available at a higher rate. A shared taxi will be arranged wherever possible. Please pre-book your taxi at least 7 days in advance by contacting:

Limozena*

Tel: [+44 \(0\) 1451 820972](tel:+44(0)1451820972)

Email: denwalmsley@yahoo.co.uk

The return taxi journey can be arranged with the taxi company or on your behalf by the Harrington House Manager.

*Limozena is not owned or managed by HF Holidays

By Bus:

From Moreton-in-Marsh station catch the 801 bus to Bourton-on-the-Water. The journey takes approximately 30 minutes. Alight next to the Edinburgh Woollen Mill Shop from where it is a short walk to our house. Cross the road to the war memorial and continue across the bridge. Follow this road for 150 metres until the road forks. Harrington House is on the left.

By Car:

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 for approximately 100yds. Just before the road forks, Harrington House is on the left. Look out for our sign. A car park is available in the grounds with free parking.

Travelling From Overseas

For most guests, travelling to London Heathrow airport is the most convenient option.

From Heathrow first take the train to London Paddington station. From here there are direct trains to Moreton-in-Marsh. It's a relatively straightforward journey - just over 2 hours. See www.nationalrail.co.uk for train times.

From Moreton-in-Marsh you can travel on to Bourton-on-the-Water by bus or taxi (see above).

LOCAL AREA

Bourton-on-the-Water is situated at the heart of the Cotswolds, a beautiful area of rolling green hills and attractive stone towns and villages.

Harrington House is located in a quiet street, just 100 metres from the centre of Bourton. This is one of the most popular villages in the Cotswolds, frequently busy with visitors. The River Windrush winds its way through the central village green and is crossed by a series of attractive stone bridges.

Bourton-on-the-Water is a popular destination in its own right with its specialist shops and attractive village green. Local attractions include the [Cotswold Motoring Museum](#), [Model Village](#) and [Birdland Wildlife Park](#), all within easy walking distance.

The village has a good range of facilities including a small supermarket, post office, newsagent, pubs and bank.

During your stay at Harrington House you may enjoy visiting the following places of interest:

Chipping Campden

The mellow market town of Chipping Campden, about 30 minutes' drive north of Bourton-on-the-Water, is one of the most visited towns in the Cotswolds.

Hidcote Manor Gardens

Owned by the National Trust, [Hidcote](#) is a small manor house with an exceptional garden designed in the Arts and Crafts style. Around 35 minutes' north from Bourton-on-the-Water.

Bibury

William Morris – one of the key figures in the Arts & Craft Movement – once described [Bibury](#) as 'the most beautiful village in England'. Its most famous part is the row of stone weavers' cottages in Arlington Row next to the River Coln which date back to 1380; a more attractive set of buildings is hard to imagine. Bibury is 12 miles from Harrington House.

Broadway

Considered as one of the most beautiful villages in Britain, it is easy to see why so many visitors are attracted to Broadway. Take a walk to [Broadway Tower](#) for stunning views of the Vale of Evesham. Around 30 minutes' drive from Bourton.

Cotswold Farm Park - Adam Henson's Farm

[Cotswold Farm Park](#) was set up in 1971 by Joe Henson – father of Adam Henson, one of the presenters of the BBC's Countryfile programme. The park is a centre for rare breeds which can be seen in the animal barns and on the rare breed trail. The park is about 5 miles from Harrington House – a ten-minute drive by car.

Stratford-upon-Avon

Famous for its Shakespeare connections, Stratford is an attractive town spanning the River Avon. Of particular interest are the [Royal Shakespeare Theatre](#) and the [Shakespeare's Birthplace Museum](#). Around 40 minutes' drive from Bourton.

Blenheim Palace

[Blenheim Palace](#) is one of the grandest and best-known stately homes in Britain. It sits in extensive parkland and is also famous as being the ancestral home of Winston Churchill.

Cotswold Wildlife Park And Gardens

Set in 160 acres of beautiful parklands, the [Cotswold Wildlife Park](#) is home to an astonishing array of animals from large mammals and primates to birds and reptiles. It is one of the UK's largest zoological collections. The park is divided into four sections, each with its own team of keepers. The park is about 12 miles from Harrington House and can be reached in about 22 minutes by car.

Cheltenham

The fine Regency spa town of Cheltenham has an excellent range of shops and facilities. Cheltenham is around 25 minutes' drive from Bourton, and can also be reached by an hourly local bus.

Gloucester

The Cathedral city of Gloucester is about 35 minutes' drive to the west of Bourton. The fine [Norman cathedral](#) is well worth visiting, as is the [National Waterways Museum](#).

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway

Ride the [GWSR steam railway](#) through attractive Cotswold countryside from Cheltenham to Toddington about 30 minutes' drive from Bourton. Now restored, this was once the Great Western main line to Birmingham.

Oxford

The famous university city of Oxford is about an hour's drive from Bourton-on-the-Water. You may wish to stroll through the historic colleges or visit the [Ashmolean Museum](#), the University of Oxford's museum of art and archaeology founded in 1683.

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Essential Information

To enjoy your holiday comfortably and safely, it's essential that your clothing and footwear is suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. Changeable weather is possible throughout the year, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities – hot, cold, wet or dry.

All of our Discovery tours involve active sightseeing and you should therefore be prepared for walking between the sights and wear flat, comfortable shoes. In the evening most guests wear casual clothing. You will probably find a small rucksack or cross-body bag useful for carrying spare clothing, a camera and drinks (at least 1 litre) during the day.

Please note: For 2022 departures, all admission costs are included on Discovery tours, including National Trust & English Heritage.

HOW TO BOOK

When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 5.30pm, Saturday: 9am – 1pm, Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday: closed

PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £30 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit hfholidays.co.uk/membership for details.

BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: National Westminster Bank, Account Name: HF Holidays Limited, Account Number: 48904805, Sort Code: 60-00-01, IBAN: GB90NWBK60000148904805

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the [Manage My Booking](#) function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

YOUR FINAL BALANCE

Your final balance payment is due 6 weeks before departure if you are staying in an HF Holidays UK country house, 8 weeks before departure if you are travelling on one of our holidays in Europe and 10 weeks before departure if you are on a Guided Trail staying in one of our partner hotels or are travelling on a Worldwide holiday. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on [01702 427 236](tel:01702427236) or visit hfholidays.co.uk/insurance

PEACE OF MIND

ATOL:

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL-protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 710. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for advance bookings. For further information visit the ATOL website atol.org.uk

MEMBER OF ABTOT:

HF Holidays is a member of ABTOT (The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited) which provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for HF Holidays Ltd and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following: 1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK; 2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; 3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland, which are sold to customers outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland. 1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you

have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK and Republic of Ireland are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with HF Holidays Ltd.

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.

PRICE GUARANTEE

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

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