

# 7-Night Dorset Coast Walking with Sightseeing Holiday

**Tour Style:** Walks with sightseeing  
**Destinations:** Dorset Coast & England  
**Trip code:** LHWOD-7  
**Trip Walking Grade:** 2



## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

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Take time to discover the landscape and heritage of the Dorset coast with this perfect mix of guided walks with sightseeing visits. Each holiday visits a selection of museums, historic buildings and attractions, whose entrance is optional. Please allow up to £25 for admissions, less if you bring your National Trust card.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

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- Great value: all prices include Full Board en-suite accommodation, a full programme of walks with all transport to and from the walks, plus evening activities
- Great walking: challenge yourself to bagging some of Scotland's finest Munros, in the company of our experienced leaders
- Accommodation: our Country House is equipped with all the essentials – a welcoming bar and relaxing lounge area, a drying room for your boots and kit, an indoor swimming pool, and comfortable en-suite rooms

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## HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

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- Walk on the Jurassic Coast to see the iconic Durdle Door
- Visit the deserted village of Tyneham
- Experience rural Dorset and view the ancient carved giant at Cerne Abbas
- Visit the ruins of Corfe Castle, and ride the steam railway to the Victorian resort of Swanage

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## TRIP SUITABILITY

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This trip is graded Activity Level 3, Walks are up to 5 miles (8km) and 850 feet (260m) of ascent. Some ascents and descents are quite steep.

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## ITINERARY

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### Day 1: Arrival Day

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

### Day 2: South Purbeck Coast And Swanage

Walk on the Isle of Purbeck from Langton Matravers to Swanage, with great views towards the Isle of Wight. Our walk gives us the opportunity to explore the legacy of quarrying in the area, to spend some time at the visitor centre at Durlston Country Park (a recently renovated folly). We continue to the Victorian seaside resort of Swanage, with the chance to visit its heritage centre, enjoy a town trail, or simply relax on the beach.

5 miles (8km) with 650 feet (200m) of ascent.

### Day 3: The Coast Path And The "Lost" Village Of Tyneham

Today we walk from above the little village of Kimmeridge, down to the coast and follow the South West Coast Path to Worbarrow Bay on the Army Ranges. From there we head inland and explore the deserted village of Tyneham. Abandoned for military training during the 2nd World War, this "lost" village is one of the area's hidden gems.

5 miles (8km) with 650 feet (200m) of ascent.

### Day 4: Free Day

### Day 5: Isle Of Purbeck And Old Harry Rocks

We travel to the small village of Studland, on the Isle of Purbeck, where our walk takes us to Swanage, along the stunning South West Coast Path, passing the famous Old Harry Rocks. From Swanage we hop on board the heritage steam train to Corfe, to explore this pretty village and the romantic ruins of Corfe Castle.

4½ miles (7½km) with 500 feet (160m) of ascent.

### Day 6: The Cerne Giant And Max Gate

A chance to escape the crowds and explore a bit of rural Dorset. We walk from Minterne Magna, north west of Dorchester, up onto a ridge with lovely views above the Cerne Valley, then down into Cerne Abbas village, contouring below the famous Cerne Giant. After exploring this picturesque village we transfer to Max Gate,

Thomas Hardy's house, where he wrote many of his famous novels.

4 miles (6kms) with 450ft (140m) of ascent.

## Day 7: Lulworth And Durdle Door

Today we take a circular walk heading above the village of West Lulworth, walking down to the coast and following the South West Coast Path to the much photographed Durdle Door rock arch, before continuing back to Lulworth Cove. We've left the afternoon for you to relax or you could take a trip to Lulworth Castle.

5 miles (8km) with 850ft (260m) of ascent.

## Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

## ACCOMMODATION

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### West Lulworth House

Set just 200 yards from the sea, West Lulworth House has a highly coveted location just above the lake-still expanse of Lulworth Cove on Dorset's iconic Jurassic Coast. Built in 1881 by the then Mayor of Weymouth, it has been perennially popular with walkers, twitchers and fossil hunters. As well as 22 delightful bedrooms, there's a south facing garden and elevated terrace with cracking views, an outdoor heated pool and a pair of lovely lounges, perfect for a relaxing walking holiday exploring the Jurassic Coast. Step out the front door and on to the coast path. To the west lies Middle Beach and the picture perfect Durdle Door, with its massive rock arch and gently sloping beach. East lie the beaches of Mupe Bay and Arish Mell. But you're here for the walking and what adventure you'll have on the coast path or exploring the interior. Then there's Lulworth Castle and the famous ruins of Corfe Castle standing guard over the Purbeck Hills to explore.

## Matchless Country House Accommodation

### Accommodation Info

### Need To Know

### Important Covid-19 Steps We Have Taken For Guest Safety: Please Read

As we slowly reopen in the wake of the Coronavirus lockdown, our country house stays are set to be organised a little differently; extra steps have been taken to keep our guests, house teams and leaders safe while we return to action. We ask all our guests to respect the measures put in place.

Initially the overall capacity of the houses has been reduced. Guests must wear face coverings in public spaces. To adhere to social distancing guidelines, we have taken the necessary steps to space out furniture and seating in public areas. In addition, a one-way system will be in place around the house. Adequate signage will be displayed to support the direction of travel to be followed by guests and house teams.

As a temporary measure, we will not be servicing rooms during a stay. Extra tea, coffee, milk, and toiletries will be made available on request for all guests. It is recommended that guests bring their own toiletries for the duration of their stay. We have removed all non-essential and reusable items from our rooms for the meantime including cushions, hairdryers, bathrobes, bed throws, and printed materials to reduce the number of items that need to be disinfected. Hairdryers will be available on request. Clean towels will be available on request.

We will though be increasing the frequency of cleaning in our public areas providing particular attention to frequently touched items including door handles and handrails.

For now, there is no cream tea on arrival day. We have also adapted our food offering to remove all buffets and open food items. Different sittings may be required for breakfast and dinner due to the occupancy and size of the house. Picnic lunches will now be pre-ordered the night before from an order form in the room. The bar in each country house will be open, and we will be offering a table service for drinks. At this time there is no, or only a very limited, evening social programme available. Outdoor swimming pools at those houses that have them will re-open throughout August, except at Freshwater Bay House, where the pool will remain closed for 2020. Indoor swimming pools will remain closed.

For more information and to see all the steps taken, [visit our page on how house stays will be adapted](#).

## Rooms

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

Stay in one of the main building's bright, beautifully presented rooms or in the adjoining cottage. With 22 bedrooms, West Lulworth House has plenty of space and there's a range of Good, Better and Best Rooms to choose from: each room has an airy feel and the same cosy style. Opt though for Room 4 on the first floor of the main house for its weathered, pastel-painted wood panels and the lovely view looking over the cove, or squirrel yourself away in Room 23 in the cottage to the side of the main house for a large room with more sumptuous views to soak up.

*All 'Good' rooms are ensuite and furnished to a high standard. There are also several 'Better' and 'Best' 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.*

## Facilities

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

After a day walking on the Dorset Coast or hunting for fossils, come back to the house and its specially tailored walkers' facilities. Relax by sitting in the sunny south facing gardens or take a table on the terrace with matchless views of the cove below. Slip in to the heated outdoor pool then surface in time to retire to the cosy lounge and its squishy sofas and seafaring decorations to read up on the area or the attractive bar with its pretty tiled insets for a sundowner.

## 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. Lunch is a chance to stock up on our famous picnic snacks. Food at West Lulworth House is hearty and has a strong emphasis on ingredients from the area and seasonal produce. Once a week the dining room hosts a Local Food Night, when, over a sociable evening, you might tuck in to flavours such as Dorset blue Vinney, pork fillet with Purbeck Cider and apple sauce and New Forest wild mushroom tagliatelle. Settle in under the large roof lantern or beside the panoramic double doors to dine in style – if the sun's out they'll even throw the doors open to let the outside in.

## Accessibility

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on 020 3974 8865

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## TRAVEL DETAILS

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Our address is: West Lulworth House, Lulworth Cove, Dorset BH20 5RJ

Tel: [01929 400253](tel:01929400253)

We recommend getting the train to Wool and then a taxi transfer to West Lulworth House. However if you are planning on driving, please note that you can only park in a public car park. Please check the process below.

### By Train:

The nearest railway station is at Wool. For train times and route planning by train visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or phone 03457 48 49 50.

### By Taxi:

The 5-mile journey from Wool railway station takes approximately 10 minutes. You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended taxi company, Durdle Door Cabs. As a guide price, it costs £12 per 4-seat taxi in 2020. 8-seat taxis are also available at a higher rate. They will arrange shared taxis wherever possible. Please pre-book your taxi at least 7 days in advance by contacting:

Durdle Door Cabs\*

Tel: +44 (0) 1929 444546

Email: [info@durdledoorcabs.com](mailto:info@durdledoorcabs.com)

The return journey can be arranged on your behalf by the West Lulworth House Manager.

\*Durdle Door Cabs is not owned or managed by HF Holidays.

### By Car:

The recommended route is via Bere Regis and Wool – although slightly longer this avoids the traffic through Bournemouth and Poole. From Bere Regis follow signs to Wool. At Wool cross the level crossing and turn left following signs to Lulworth Cove and West Lulworth. Continue for a further 4 miles to Lulworth Cove. As you enter Lulworth Cove Village, there is a slip road on your left to West Lulworth House.

This car park is free for HF Holidays' guests as long as book your car in with House staff within 30 minutes of arriving, failure to do this could result in a fine from the Lulworth Estate.

## Travelling From Overseas

If you're travelling from Europe the most convenient airport is at Southampton. From Southampton Airport Parkway station (adjacent to the airport terminal) there are direct trains every hour to Wool - journey time 1hr 20mins. See [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) for details.

For most guests, travelling to either London Heathrow or London Gatwick airport is the best option. See [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) for onward connections by train to Wool.

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## LOCAL AREA

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Lulworth Cove is a justifiably popular destination, with day-trippers and holiday-makers drawn by the stunning local scenery. The cove itself is a near-perfect semi-circle which has been carved by the soft rocks by the waves. A 20-minute walk along the cliff path will take you to Durdle Door, one of the area's other geological wonders. This impressive natural sea arch was formed from the more resistant limestone. The free Heritage Centre next to the public car park is well worth a visit during your stay.

Facilities in Lulworth Cove are limited to a selection of pubs, cafés and souvenir shops. The nearest towns are

Wareham, Dorchester and Weymouth, which all have a good selection of banks, chemists and supermarkets.

During your visit to Dorset you may enjoy visiting the following places of interest:

## **Bovington Tank Museum**

[The Tank Museum](#) at Bovington, 20 minutes' drive north of Lulworth Cove, houses a particularly impressive collection of tanks from around the world. Trace the history from the tank's origins in the First World War to the present day.

## **Lulworth Castle**

Situated just a couple of miles inland from the cove, [Lulworth Castle](#) is a 17th century mock medieval castle that was once the heart of an extensive estate. Having been gutted by fire in 1929 it was derelict for many years, but has since been completely renovated.

## **Corfe Castle**

The iconic ruins of [Corfe Castle](#) stand guard over a natural gap in the Purbeck Hills, about 30 minutes' drive from Lulworth. Dating from the 11th century it is now maintained by the National Trust.

## **The Etches Collection - Museum Of Jurassic Marine Life**

[The Etches Collection](#) houses the finest single collection of Late Jurassic fossils, all found by Dr Steve Etches MBE in and around Kimmeridge Bay. The museum takes visitors on a journey of the marine flora and fauna which lived here over 150 million years ago. The museum is located in Kimmeridge village, some 8 miles from Lulworth Cove. It can be reached in around 21 minutes by road or on foot (if the Lulworth Range Walks are open) – which takes somewhat longer!

## **Swanage Railway**

Ride on this lovingly restored [Swanage Railway](#) branch line through the glorious Purbeck countryside. Steam hauled trains run throughout the year. You may want to leave your car in the Park & Ride at Norden, about 30 minutes' drive from Lulworth, and use the railway to visit the attractive seaside resort of Swanage.

## **Monkey World**

Located near Wool, 20 minutes' drive north of Lulworth Cove, [Monkey World](#) is a world-renowned ape rescue centre familiar to many from the TV programme 'Monkey Life'. Monkey World provides a home for apes rescued from mistreatment in the pet trade, circuses and used in medical laboratories. Apes are rescued from all over the world. Residents include four separate groups of chimpanzees, three groups of orang-utans, capuchin monkeys and several species of gibbon.

## **Abbotsbury Swannery**

[Abbotsbury Swannery](#) is the world's only managed colony of Mute Swans. Some 600 of them live and breed here, nesting unusually close to each other. Visitors can walk through the colony and help feed the birds. Visit from mid-May to the end of June to see hundreds of adorable cygnets. The swannery is near Weymouth, about 20 miles from Lulworth Cove (40 minutes' drive).

## **Brownsea Island**

[Brownsea Island](#) is located in the middle of Poole Harbour; boats depart from Poole Quay and Sandbanks, about 40 minutes' drive from Lulworth Cove. The island is now a nature reserve, managed by the National Trust and one of the last remaining places to spot red squirrels in the UK. Brownsea is also famous as the location of the

world's first scout camp in 1907.

## Weymouth

Weymouth is a fine Regency seaside resort with an ever-popular beach and bustling harbour. Visitors can learn about the town's fascinating history in the [Weymouth Museum](#).

## Thomas Hardy's Cottage

The writer Thomas Hardy was one of Dorset's most celebrated residents who used the local towns and villages around Dorchester as the setting for many of his novels. His [birthplace near Dorchester](#) is around 30 minutes' drive away and now owned by the National Trust.

## Cerne Abbas Giant

This 180ft figure carved into a hill just outside the village of Cerne Abbas is one of the UK's most famous chalk hill figures – and the largest. His exact age and purpose is still debated; you decide if you think he once held a cloak over his arm and a severed head in his hand! The [Cerne Abbas Giant](#) is near Dorchester, about a 45-minute drive from Lulworth Cove.

## Athelhampton House & Gardens

Located near Dorchester, about 30 minutes' drive away, [Athelhampton House](#) is a fine Tudor manor house dating from 1485. The surrounding formal gardens are also impressive and were created between 1891 - 1899.

## Kingston Lacy

This fine country house and estate is located near Wimborne Minster, about 45 minutes' drive from Lulworth Cove. Dating from 1665, and now managed by the [National Trust](#), it houses a fine collection of antiques, with many notable examples from the Middle East and Egypt.

## USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

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### Essential Information

*"There's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong type of clothing!"* goes the adage. Come prepared for all eventualities and you'll walk in comfort as well as safety. Britain's famous for its changeable weather, so here's our advice on what to wear and bring.

#### Essentials

- Waterproof walking boots providing ankle support and good grip.
  - A waterproof jacket and over-trousers
  - Gloves and a warm hat (it can be chilly at any time of the year)
  - Rucksack
  - Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
  - A small torch (everywhere in winter, year round in mountains)
  - Sun hat and sunscreen
- Denim jeans and waterproof capes are not suitable on any walks.*

#### Recommended

- Several layers of clothing, which can be added or removed
- Specialist walking socks to avoid blisters.
- A first aid kit inc plasters– your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication

- Sit mat (insulated pad to sit on when you stop for a break)

## You Might Also Want

- Walking poles, particularly useful for descents.
- Insect repellent
- Flask for hot drinks
- Rigid lunch box
- Gaiters
- Blister kit (eg Compeed) just in case
- Waterproof rucksack liner

## Safety On Your Holiday

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 while 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.

## HOW TO BOOK

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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 – 7pm 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 £20 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit [hfholidays.co.uk/membership](http://hfholidays.co.uk/membership) for details.

### BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

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

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. 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 or visit [hfholidays.co.uk/insurance](http://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](http://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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