



Railtrail®

QUALITY ESCORTED HOLIDAYS BY TRAIN

NEW
YEAR
UPDATE



2017

FLIP OVER for
Europe by Rail



Touring the UK by Rail





Happy New Year

Creating a new tours programme is a bit like building a successful football team; each year we add a few new entries to freshen the programme whilst giving a few 'old timers' a rest.

Our 2017 collection offers more choice than ever before, with several new tours to complement many old favourites, some of which have been ever present for three decades or more.

To get the New Year off to a great start we are again offering DOUBLE LOYALTY POINTS for all bookings received from now until the end of January 2017.

Whilst our friendly customer services team is always pleased to hear from you, an ever increasing number of bookings come via our online booking system which is open 24/7. However, our office will also open Mondays to Saturdays 9am-5pm throughout January, should you prefer to call.

Having confidence in your Tour Operator is of paramount importance and it's a great honour that the independent customer feedback company, Feefo, has awarded us their **5 Star Gold Trusted Merchant** status, which reflects the highest standards of customer satisfaction.



Please remember that our UK tours offer the unique option to include travel from any UK station and the full tour itineraries and fares can be viewed online at www.railtrail.co.uk or by calling our office on **01538 382323**.



I trust that you will find both our UK tours, as well as the Classic Continental tours in the flip over European tours section, as exciting as I do. As always, we look forward to having the pleasure of your company soon.

Dave Felstead
Managing Director, Railtrail Tours Ltd



Your Loyalty Scheme –

What it's worth & How it works

Every £1 you pay in tour fare = 1 loyalty point with a value of 1p. Your loyalty points can then be deducted from your next tour fare if you wish.

Even more **BONUS POINTS** for Introducing a Friend

If you are an existing railtrail client and introduce a friend who has not travelled with us previously then, not only do they accrue Railtrail Loyalty points with their booking, you will also get the same number of points added to your loyalty points total.

Focus on Steam

To view our superb collection of steam enthusiast tours please visit our website www.railtrail.co.uk 'Steam Enthusiast Tour calendar'. New tours are added to this list on a regular basis.

DEPARTURES 2017 RAILTRAIL CLASSIC UK TOURS

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SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS MORE INCLUSIVE

**NEW
TOUR**

A brand new tour to an old favourite, the Alexandra Hotel in Fort William, this tour packs in lots of content, with three included excursions, all meals included during your stay at the hotel and some drinks each evening, along with entertainment on two nights on our welcoming winter warmer in the western Highlands.

**Fares
From
£395**



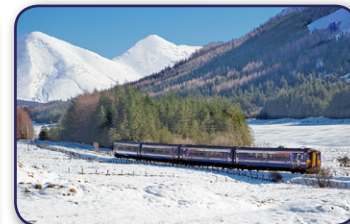
TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ The beautiful West Highland Line from Fort William
- ★ The Nevis Gondola cable car
- ★ Tour of the Ben Nevis Distillery with a wee dram
- ★ Trundle across the Glenfinnan Viaduct en route to Mallaig on the West Highland Line
- ★ Take an original 'Great Rail Journey of the World' on the spectacular Kyle Line
- ★ Coach trip along the Great Glen and Loch Ness
- ★ Dinner every day, plus 4 lunches
- ★ 3 Drinks Vouchers each evening in the hotel
- ★ Entertainment on 2 evenings

DEPARTS

Tuesdays 14 February & 21 March 2017

**5
DAYS**



HOTEL

The Alexandra Hotel, Fort William

Situated close by the railway station this comfortable Victorian villa hotel offers all rooms en suite with TV and radio, telephone and hospitality tray. The dining room is proud of its locally sourced Table d'Hôte menu.

HIGHLAND RAIL VOYAGER



We roam the glorious Highlands and take a “Great Railway Journey of the World” on this all-rail escorted holiday. Relax as magnificent vistas glide past your window and the sensational views unfold.

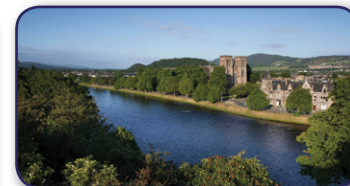
Fares
From
£309



DEPARTS

Saturdays 22 April, 6 May, Mondays 3 July & 10 July, Saturdays 16 September & 30 September 2017

4
DAYS



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ An “All-Rail” holiday
- ★ Spectacular Highland scenery
- ★ The famous railway line to the Kyle of Lochalsh, westwards o’er majestic mountains
- ★ Afternoon tea overlooking the Isle of Skye
- ★ Take the remote ‘Far North’ line to Thurso; en route for Caithness horizons espy fairytale castles, great coastal vistas and dramatic swathes of wilderness
- ★ Based in Inverness, at the heart of the Capital of the Highlands
- ★ Stay in the unique splendour of an original railway hotel

HOTEL

Royal Highland, Inverness

A classic Scottish ‘station hotel’, the Royal Highland offers guests the charm and elegance of a distinguished past, combined with modern facilities. The bedrooms have been tastefully contemporised whilst retaining their unmistakably traditional feel, including satellite television and even a choice of pillows.

Call **01538 382323** – to book or to request a detailed tour itinerary



HIGHLAND ADVENTURE

The Highlands of Scotland are a joy to behold as we combine the glorious West Highland rail route with the fabulous 'Harry Potter' Jacobite steam train, steaming over Glenfinnan Viaduct to Mallaig.

Fares
From
£395



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ A magical Scottish adventure
- ★ Travel the glorious West Highland Line - "Railroad to the Isles"
- ★ Cruise Loch Linnhe, relaxing in search of seals and porpoises
- ★ Take the famous 'Harry Potter' steam train journey aboard the "Jacobite"
- ★ Soar to the heavens - experience stunning views on the Ben Nevis range by cable car
- ★ Enjoy a 'wee dram' at Ben Nevis Distillery: 'Slàinte Mhath' - good health!

DEPARTS

Mondays 15 May, 12 June, 25 September,
& 23 October 2017

4
DAYS



HOTEL

Alexandra Hotel, Fort William

Situated close by the railway station this comfortable Victorian villa hotel offers all rooms en suite with TV and radio, telephone and hospitality tray. The dining room is proud of its locally sourced Table d'Hôte menu.

DEVON RIVIERA BY STEAM

**NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT**



A wonderful short break on the English Riviera to explore the beauty and charm of Devon's magnificent coast by boat and two of Devon's finest steam railways.



**Fares
From
£355**

DEPARTS

Monday 22 May, Thursday 6 July,
Sunday 30 July & Monday 18 September 2017

**4
DAYS**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ A lovely introduction to Devon
- ★ Arrive in Torquay along one of Britain's truly great coastal rail journeys
- ★ Enjoy the South Devon Steam Railway to Buckfastleigh
- ★ Glorious sightseeing around Torquay
- ★ Travel by steam train along the beautiful English Riviera coast line
- ★ Visit Dartmouth, historic naval town
- ★ Idyllic circular cruise viewing sights from the majestic River Dart
- ★ Hotel set in spectacular grounds

HOTEL

The Palace Hotel, Torquay

Situated amongst 25 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens extending to the sea, the Palace Hotel is one of the largest and grandest hotels in Torquay. Founded in 1921 as a hotel, the Palace was the former residence of the Bishop of Exeter and its gardens feature an Italian rose garden, a 9 hole golf course, croquet lawn, and tennis and squash courts. Leisure facilities include heated outdoor and indoor swimming pools, a sauna, and grand spacious public rooms and lounges, affording lovely views of the gardens.

Call **01538 382323** – to book or to request a detailed tour itinerary



SPRINGTIME HIGHLANDER

A circular tour of the spectacular 'Great Railway Journeys of the Scottish Highlands'. You may have seen them on TV; now you too can experience some of the most stunningly beautiful scenery in Europe.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Spectacular Highlands mountain scenery
- ★ The "Great Railway Journey of the World" to Kyle of Lochalsh
- ★ Ride the magical "Harry Potter" line to Mallaig
- ★ Take the fabulous Highland Line climbing through the Cairngorms
- ★ See the Bonnie Prince Charlie monument at the head of Loch Shiel
- ★ Cross magnificent Glenfinnan Viaduct, of Harry Potter movie fame
- ★ Enjoy "monster spotting" at Loch Ness
- ★ By train over Rannoch Moor on the stunning West Highland Line
- ★ Free time to explore Inverness, the capital of the Highlands

DEPARTS

Saturdays 4 March, 18 March & 8 April 2017

5
DAYS



HOTELS

Royal Highland Hotel, Inverness

A classic Scottish 'station hotel', the Royal Highland offers guests the charm and elegance of a distinguished past. The bedrooms have been tastefully contemporised whilst retaining their unmistakably traditional feel, including satellite television and even a choice of pillows.

Alexandra Hotel, Fort William

Situated close by the railway station this comfortable Victorian villa hotel offers all rooms en suite with TV and radio, telephone and hospitality tray. The dining room is proud of its locally sourced Table d'Hôte menu.

DORSET COAST & ISLE OF WIGHT STEAM

**NEW
TOUR**



Explore delightful Dorset by steam train and marvel at the Jurassic Coast from our boat trip along the shoreline. Enjoy Exbury Gardens, ride on the estate's 'Rhododendron Line' narrow-gauge steam railway and relax at our seafront hotel on Bournemouth's east cliff. Round off your holiday in great style with a day's adventure on the Isle of Wight.



Fares
From
£499

DEPARTS

Sundays 14 May & 24 September 2017

**5
DAYS**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Return boat trip along the Jurassic Coast
- ★ Nostalgic steam train journey on the Swanage Railway
- ★ Ride on Exbury's 'Rhododendron Line' narrow-gauge steam railway
- ★ Travel through the New Forest to Exbury Gardens
- ★ Return rail and ferry to the Isle of Wight
- ★ Free time in Shanklin on the Isle of Wight
- ★ Experience the 'Island Line'
- ★ Journey back in time on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway
- ★ Bournemouth seaside hotel with leisure facilities

HOTEL

The Carlton Hotel, Bournemouth

One of Bournemouth's original grand hotels, combining Victorian elegance with modern comfort, the hotel boasts a leisure club featuring swimming pool, gym and sauna. The Carlton was built in 1861 as a private house for a religious minister. Converted into a hotel, it became host to the rich and famous as Bournemouth developed as a bathing resort. Interestingly, the hotel played its part in the D-Day Landings when General Eisenhower and Field Marshall Montgomery discussed landing plans at the hotel, having watched exercises from the East Cliff.

Call **01538 382323** – to book or to request a detailed tour itinerary



WELSH MOUNTAINS, STEAM & COAST RAIL VOYAGER

A beautifully scenic rail short break. Glorious Cambrian seascapes, steam train nostalgia in Ffestiniog, the mountains of Snowdonia, plus the little steam railways of Wales not visited elsewhere in the Railtrail programme, all explored from our base in historic Chester.



Fares
From
£399

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Marvellous rail journeys of great vistas and rich delight
- ★ Magical 'coast & mountains' circular rail odyssey
- ★ Steam nostalgia on the Ffestiniog Railway
- ★ Enjoy the wonderful Cambrian Coast Line
- ★ Rail-cruise along the scenic Conwy Valley Line
- ★ Sightseeing in the historic city of Chester
- ★ Return journey on the Bala Lake Steam Railway
- ★ Steam on the Welshpool & Llanfair Railway

DEPARTS

Thursdays 18 May, 15 June & 10 August 2017

4
DAYS



COMBINE TOURS & SAVE MONEY!

Request details or see website.



HOTEL

Queen Hotel, Chester

Situated in the heart of Chester, directly opposite the railway station, the Queen Hotel is characterised by its elegance and Victorian heritage. The en-suite bedrooms offer modern facilities including direct-dial telephone, satellite TV, tea/coffee making facilities and free Wi-Fi. The hotel features delightful Italian gardens, bar and restaurant.

CANALS, STEAM & HISTORIC CHESTER



HERITAGE & EXPLORER

DEPARTS

Sundays 9 April, 14 May, 11 June, 16 July & 8 October 2017

5
DAYS

On certain departures these two tours can be combined to make an extended 8 DAY tour.



Fares
From
£515

HOTEL

Queen Hotel, Chester

Situated in the heart of Chester, directly opposite the railway station, the Queen Hotel is characterised by its elegance and Victorian heritage. The en-suite bedrooms offer modern facilities including direct-dial telephone, satellite TV, tea/coffee making facilities and free Wi-Fi. The hotel features delightful Italian gardens, bar and restaurant.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Llangollen Steam Railway nostalgia
- ★ 2000 years of history in the beautiful city of Chester
- ★ Relax strolling waterside paths and ancient city walls
- ★ Stay in the heart of Chester, at one of north England's finest grand marquee hotels
- ★ Explore the world of canals at Ellesmere Port, as the heyday of narrow boats comes alive
- ★ Anderton Boat Lift, marvel of Victorian engineering
- ★ Masterpiece of the canals, breathtaking Pontcysyllte Aqueduct

Call 01538 382323 – to book or to request a detailed tour itinerary



NORTH NORFOLK COAST, THE BROADS & STEAM

North Norfolk offers a wealth of nostalgia. From unspoilt beaches to timeless villages, proudly preserved steam railways to majestic broads. Enjoy an easier pace of life, whilst experiencing the best of coast, broads and steam.

Fares
From
£445



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Relax in our North Norfolk hotel with leisure facilities
- ★ Steam along the North Norfolk Railway – the Poppy Line
- ★ Visit Royal Sandringham
- ★ Experience the Bittern Line through rural Norfolk
- ★ Enjoy a second steam experience on the picturesque Bure Valley Railway
- ★ Scenic boat cruise on the Norfolk Broads

DEPARTS

Thursdays 27 April , 22 June & 7 September 2017

5
DAYS



HOTEL

The Links Country Park Hotel

Situated in the heart of Norfolk village life on the fringe of a fabulous golf course, the Links Country Park Hotel, built in 1899, is an unusual example of late Victorian architecture. Leisure facilities include an indoor heated swimming pool. West Runton station is a two minute walk away, providing links to Cromer, Sheringham and Norwich.

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS STEAM & MALT TRAIL



The Western Highlands offer amazing views and this tour promises an action packed few days. Explore both branches of the West Highland Line, visit the Isle of Mull, ride the Jacobite Steam Train to Mallaig, and visit two distilleries for a tour and a 'wee dram'. Not forgetting a cruise on the steamship Sir Walter Scott on idyllic Loch Katrine.



Fares
From
£525

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Enjoy a day in the scenic Trossachs hills
- ★ Cruise aboard the steamship Sir Walter Scott
- ★ Explore both branches of the West Highland Line in all their glory
- ★ Travel through Glencoe to Fort William, returning over Rannoch Moor
- ★ Reach Mallaig at the end of the northern branch by Jacobite Steam Train
- ★ Pass through lochs and glens en route to Oban
- ★ Hop across to the Isle of Mull to visit Duart Castle
- ★ Learn about the distilling process and have a 'wee dram' at the Oban and Glengoyne distilleries

DEPARTS

Thursdays 18 May, 8 June, 20 July &
28 September 2017

5
DAYS



HOTEL

The Crianlarich Hotel

Crianlarich is the junction village where the West Highland Line veers northwards and westwards over moors and through glens to the sea. Our hotel sits a short walk from the station, with 36 bedrooms, an AA rosette restaurant and Scottish snug bar – a great place to relax with a malt after a day's exploring.



HEART OF WALES STEAM & THE BRECON BEACONS

HERITAGE & EXPLORER

Introducing four great preserved steam railways and a scenic mainline on one tour based in the Heart of Wales spa town of Llandrindod Wells. View coastlines, vales, reservoirs and mountains from your window on the Vale of Rheidol Railway, the Heart of Wales Line, the Brecon Mountain Railway, the Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway and, last but not least, the Talylyn, the world's first ever preserved railway.



Fares
From
£499

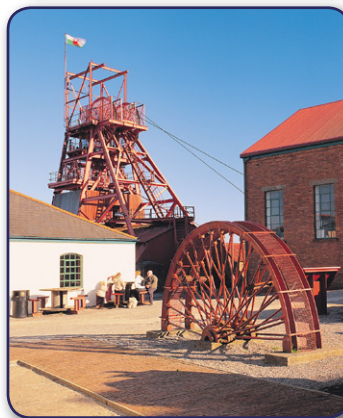
TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Travel along the picturesque Heart of Wales Line
- ★ Enjoy medieval Aberglasney House and Gardens
- ★ Experience the Talylyn Railway, the mother of all preserved lines
- ★ Visit Aberystwyth & Devil's Bridge
- ★ Steam on the Vale of Rheidol Railway – one of the Great Little Trains of Wales
- ★ Explore the unique industrial landscape of the Blaenavon UNESCO World Heritage site
- ★ Ride on the Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway
- ★ Marvel at reservoirs and mountains on the Brecon Mountain Railway

DEPARTS

Thursdays 1 June, 27 July, 10 August & 28 September 2017

5
DAYS



HOTEL

The Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells

Situated in the spa town of Llandrindod Wells, the 4* Metropole Hotel is a great base for exploring the varied attractions of the Heart of Wales. The hotel is also a great place to relax, as its Victorian style conservatory houses an 18 metre pool, thermal suites, Jacuzzi and gymnasium.

ISLE OF MAN EXPLORER

HERITAGE & EXPLORER



The fantastic Isle of Man at its very best! A wonderful sea-front hotel on a traditional promenade, horse drawn trams, steam railways, heritage electric trams, a mountain railway and superb scenery.

Fares
From
£499



DEPARTS

Thursdays 20 April, 4 May, 15 June, 6 July & Thursday 7 September 2017

5
DAYS



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Discover the captivating heritage of this independent isle
- ★ Rover ticket for all the Isle of Man railways
- ★ Laxey Mines private steam charter
- ★ Ride the unique Manx Electric Railway
- ★ Explore the harbourside town of Ramsey
- ★ Steam journey on the Isle of Man Steam Railway
- ★ Discover medieval Castle Rushen
- ★ Fascinating Castletown Old House of Keys
- ★ Spectacular views from Snaefell Mountain Railway
- ★ Steam journey on the Groudle Glen Railway

HOTEL

Empress Hotel, Douglas, Isle of Man

The hotel commands a prime position on the Victorian promenade overlooking Douglas Bay; built at the end of the 19th Century, it has been extensively upgraded and proudly maintains its status as one of the best hotels on the island. All bedrooms have luxurious en-suite marble bathroom, complimentary refreshments, TV, hairdryer, trouser press and Wi-Fi.

Call 01538 382323 – to book or to request a detailed tour itinerary



SHAKESPEARE'S SEVERN

**NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT**

This delightful tour features a day at the popular Severn Valley Railway, the Shakespeare Express vintage steam train to Stratford upon Avon and a canal cruise – all from our base at a 4* hotel with leisure facilities.



**Fares
From
£475**

DEPARTS

Thursdays 3 August & 24 August 2017

**5
DAYS**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ A "Freedom of the Line" ticket for the Severn Valley Steam Railway
- ★ A canal cruise from Birmingham's Gas Street Basin out into the leafy suburbs
- ★ A return steam journey on the Shakespeare Express from Birmingham to Stratford
- ★ A guided walking tour of Stratford-upon-Avon
- ★ Free time in Shakespeare's Stratford and Birmingham
- ★ A 4* hotel with leisure facilities
- ★ No single room supplement!

HOTEL

St John's Hotel, Solihull

Located just a short walk from Solihull railway station, the St John's Hotel is a 4* hotel with 180 comfortable rooms equipped with satellite tv, coffee/tea making facilities, iron and board, and individual climate control. The hotel features a restaurant and bar, plus a leisure club including swimming pool, steam room, sauna, whirlpool and gym.

YORKSHIRE MOORS BY STEAM



Enjoy Harrogate from our hotel across from Betty's, steam across brooding moors to charming Whitby and discover Brontë Country by train. Moors, Dales, Coast and Steam in England's most diverse county!



Fares
From
£395

DEPARTS

Thursdays 13 April, 11 May, 22 June & 14 September 2017*

5
DAYS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ A lovely introduction to Yorkshire
- ★ Discover Harrogate from a hotel just yards from Betty's Tea Room and other attractions
- ★ Steam across the North York Moors to Whitby
- ★ Enjoy free time in Whitby with its abbey, port & the best fish and chips in Yorkshire
- ★ Skirt the Yorkshire Dales en route to Brontë Country
- ★ Journey on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway – the famous 'Railway Children' line
- ★ Discover the lives of the Brontës at Haworth's Brontë Parsonage
- ★ September departure coincides with Harrogate Autumn Flower Show



* *September departure includes the Harrogate Flower Show*



HOTEL

The Yorkshire Hotel, Harrogate

Situated right at the centre of "The English Spa", the Yorkshire Hotel is just footsteps away from Betty's, the Spa, the Royal Pump Room, green parkland and other attractions. The hotel boasts a lounge, bar and brasserie, whereas rooms feature tea/coffee making facilities.



YORKSHIRE DALES STEAM, RAIL & ALE TRAIL

Enjoy a day at the Keighley & Worth Valley Autumn Steam Gala and two other great Yorkshire heritage railways, plus a visit to York and two great breweries. Don't be bitter – hop aboard!



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Discover Harrogate from a hotel just yards from Betty's and other attractions
- ★ Steam to your heart's content at the Keighley & Worth Valley Autumn Gala
- ★ Enjoy Haworth in the heart of Brontë Country
- ★ Spend a day in York to visit the National Railway Museum
- ★ Experience a tour and tasting at the York Brewery
- ★ Steam through the Dales on the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway
- ★ Discover Wensleydale on board the preserved Wensleydale Railway
- ★ Get a taste for Yorkshire at the Black Sheep Brewery

DEPARTS

Thursday 5 October 2017

5
DAYS



HOTEL

The Yorkshire Hotel, Harrogate

Situated right at the centre of "The English Spa", the Yorkshire Hotel is just footsteps away from Betty's, the Spa, the Royal Pump Room, green parkland and other attractions. The hotel boasts a lounge, bar and brasserie, whereas rooms feature tea/coffee making facilities.

WONDERFUL WALES



Steaming through Snowdonia on the new 'wonder of the world' – the Welsh Highland line is just one of many great rail journeys taking you from glorious sea at Llandudno to the peak of Mount Snowdon.



Fares
From
£799

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Stunning scenery, amazing history, nostalgic journeys - and much more...
- ★ Steam through Snowdonia - the Welsh Highland Railway, world famous Ffestiniog Railway and picturesque Llanberis Lake Railway
- ★ Spectacular Snowdon Mountain Railway steam train
- ★ Glorious Bodnant Gardens for tea
- ★ Conwy Valley scenic train journey
- ★ Magnificent Penrhyn Castle and its exotic Gardens
- ★ Enjoy afternoon tea on Victorian Bangor Pier
- ★ Great Orme Mountain tram ride
- ★ Relax at the renowned Empire Hotel, amidst friendly ambience and elegant comfort

DEPARTS

Monday 8 May, Wednesday 5 July &
Monday 4 September 2017

6
DAYS



HOTEL

The Empire Hotel, Llandudno

Faithful to its Victorian character, all rooms are furnished with antiques and beds with down bedding - and have private bathroom, colour TV with satellite, video or DVD player, safe, refrigerator and tea/coffee making facilities. The award-winning Watkins and Co. restaurant offers the finest local produce; a creative chef, elegant surroundings and friendly service all combine to ensure a memorable experience. The indoor heated swimming pool has a sauna, steam room and whirlpool; the small outdoor heated pool has a spa bath.



CORNWALL CLASSIC

A joyful Cornish holiday as we meander by train along scenic branch lines, capturing the cream of the coastal and countryside views, to visit charming ports and wonderful seaside resorts.



Fares
From
£695

DEPARTS

Thursdays 25 May, 29 June, 6 July & 7 September 2017

6
DAYS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Journey along the famous English Riviera coastal route
- ★ Experience spectacular scenic branch lines
- ★ Visit the fabulous Eden Project
- ★ Take in beautiful Padstow, famous for its sea food
- ★ Taste the wines at the Trevibban Vineyard
- ★ Steam nostalgia on the Bodmin & Wenford line
- ★ Explore delightful Looe, Penzance & St Ives
- ★ Stay at Lanhydrock Hotel, close to the lovely House & Gardens



HOTEL

The Lanhydrock Hotel

Located in the the countryside just outside of Bodmin, close to Lanhydrock House & Gardens, the Lanhydrock Hotel overlooks one of Cornwall's finest golf courses amidst an area of parkland. Rooms are well-equipped with tea/coffee, bath and power shower, plus a view over the gentle undulations of the course.

ROMANTIC HIGHLANDER



A delightful tour inspired by the BBC "Great Railway Journeys of the World" TV series which saw Michael Palin travelling through the spectacular Scottish Highlands to the Kyle of Lochalsh.

Fares
From
£775



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Michael Palin's 'Great Railway Journey' to the Kyle of Lochalsh
- ★ Breathtaking train ride to the heights of Cairngorm Mountain
- ★ Nostalgic steam train ride on the Strathspey Railway
- ★ 'Monster spotting' Loch Ness cruise
- ★ Enchanting Loch Garten Ospreys or Ballinalloch Castle
- ★ Sensational mountain scenery of the Highland Line to Inverness
- ★ Historic Urquhart Castle
- ★ Visit legendary Isle of Skye
- ★ Culloden Battlefield & Fort Augustus
- ★ Superb spa hotel leisure facilities

DEPARTS

Mondays 17 April, 1 May, Wednesday 14 June
& Monday 25 September 2017

6
DAYS

View our amazing tour film
of this holiday at
www.railtrail.co.uk



HOTEL

Palace Hotel & Spa, Inverness

Overlooking the River Ness, a short stroll from the city centre, this superior quality, traditional Scottish hotel has well appointed bedrooms all en-suite with hospitality tray, radio, TV and free WiFi. Leisure facilities include indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and beauty salon.



GUERNSEY & SARK – EXPLORE & RELAX

**NEW
ITINERARY**

A relaxing tour to experience the breathtaking vistas and carefree charm of these Channel Isles – part French, part British and totally unique with their rich heritage and wartime occupation history.

**Fares
From
£899**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Travel by train to sail by ferry to Guernsey
- ★ Stay at one of the island's most popular hotels, with stunning sea views and beach walks
- ★ Relax and experience the island life and mild climate
- ★ Horse & carriage tour of idyllic Isle of Sark

- ★ Guided coach tours of Guernsey's most picturesque scenes, rich heritage and horticulture
- ★ Explore Guernsey's wartime history – how the island was shaped by German Occupation
- ★ Relax in beautiful St Peter Port
- ★ Spend your first and final nights in Poole, returning home at leisure

DEPARTS

Sunday 7 May & Wednesday 23 August 2017

**7
DAYS**



HOTEL

Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey

Located on a small peninsula with a wonderful view over Grand Havre Bay, you can stroll to a lovely sheltered sandy beach at the edge of 5 acres of private landscaped gardens. All bedrooms are en-suite and have satellite TV, hair dryer, telephone and tea / coffee making facilities. Leisure facilities include an outdoor swimming pool (heated). WiFi is available in the hotel lobby and bar.



LAKE DISTRICT & CUMBRIAN MOUNTAINS RAIL ROAMER



Explore dramatic landscapes; enjoy spectacular rail journeys over peaks and along coasts, and experience great history and nostalgic charm on this wonderful Lakes & Mountains rail tour.

Fares
From
£775



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Wonderful coast and mountain vistas roaming by rail around Cumbria
- ★ Relax on a leisurely cruise on idyllic Lake Windermere
- ★ Lakeside & Haverthwaite steam train journey through the Vale of Leven
- ★ Explore historic Carlisle
- ★ Hadrian's Wall & Roman Fort
- ★ Travel the famous Settle & Carlisle line
- ★ Steam on "The Railway Children" line
- ★ Sightseeing in the Brontë village of Haworth
- ★ Visit Hexham - Britain's favourite market town
- ★ Scenic Ravenglass & Eskdale Steam Railway
- ★ "Brief Encounter" tearoom

DEPARTS

Mondays 15 May, 19 June &
18 September 2017

7
DAYS



HOTEL

Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle

Situated adjacent to the station and city walls, this historic building has been transformed into a boutique style hotel with a modern mix of luxury furnishings and stylish design whilst retaining all its magnificent Victorian features. All rooms have modern en-suite bathroom, TV and tea & coffee making facilities.



HEBRIDEAN ISLANDS DISCOVERY

Island hop from Skye to Uist and from Harris to Lewis on this magical tour of the Hebridean islands. Every day is different as each sublime, rugged and breathtaking landscape unfolds before you.



Fares
From
£1029

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Cruise betwixt the Isles amidst dream-like seascapes; look out for whales, dolphins & sea eagles
- ★ Both branches of the scenic West Highland Railway
- ★ The Isle of Mull and Duart Castle, home of a Scottish clan
- ★ The romantic 'rail route to the Isles'
- ★ Naturalist's paradise of birds & wildlife of the BBC TV series "Islands on the Edge"
- ★ Discover Hebrides ancient history spanning back 5000 years
- ★ Uists' white shell beaches & freshwater lochs
- ★ Sample the traditional island lifestyle & local cuisine
- ★ Magnificent Highlands scenery, Ullapool to Inverness

DEPARTS

Saturdays 22 April & 30 September 2017

8
DAYS



HOTELS

Hotel Crianlarich

Situated in Crianlarich at the heart of the West Highland Line, relax and enjoy your first evenings in the Highlands.

Dunnollie Hotel, Isle of Skye

Set by the waterside of Broadford Bay on the Isle of Skye and in the foothills that lead to Skye's mighty Cuillin mountains.

Caberfeidh, Stornoway

Considered the best hotel in Stornoway, the restaurant specialises in locally produced and sourced cuisine.

Dark Island, Benbecula

Spectacularly located amidst cornfields, leading to miles of golden sands.

Royal Highland, Inverness

A classic Scottish 'station hotel' offering charm and elegance combined with modern facilities.

ORKNEY & SHETLAND EXPLORER



Discover the peace, tranquility and rich heritage of the beautiful islands of Orkney & Shetland on our two night mini-cruise to the northernmost reaches of the UK, part of a wider grand tour visiting John O'Groats, historic Stirling and Edinburgh, Scotland's proud capital.



DEPARTS

Wednesdays 10 May, 31 May & 20 September 2017

8
DAYS



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Explore historic Orkney at a gentle pace
- ★ Visit the Italian Chapel, Churchill Barriers and Skara Brae
- ★ Tour idyllic Shetland Isle and its Viking past
- ★ Rich archaeology & history combined with beautiful flora & fauna
- ★ Dramatic scenery of the Highland & Far North Lines
- ★ Discover Thurso, John O'Groats and the Castle of Mey
- ★ Fantastic seascape coastline of the Far North
- ★ Relaxing overnight cruising with modern, en-suite cabins
- ★ Scenic rail journey from Aberdeen along the North Sea coast
- ★ Spend time in historic Stirling, a short walk from the castle and Old Town
- ★ Visit Edinburgh, with a guided walking tour of the 'Royal Mile'

HOTELS

Stirling Highland Hotel

Just a short walk from Stirling Castle, the Highland Hotel is 4* and its restaurant boasts an AA Rosette. Its free car park allows you to drive to your holiday and join at tour base, should you wish, whereas the leisure club, including swimming pool, is a great place to relax. Built in the 19th century as the city's High School, this historic building still houses a working observatory in its roof.

Pentland Hotel, Thurso

Conveniently located in central Thurso, the Pentland Hotel is a good base from which to explore Caithness.

Northlink Ferries

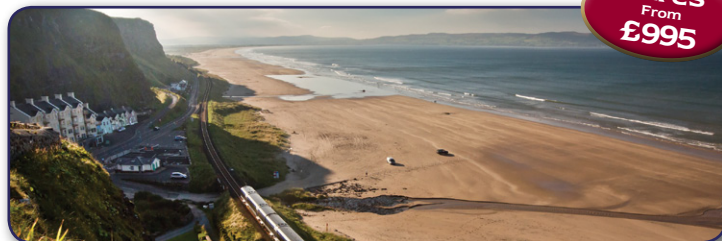
Modern, fully equipped cabins with en-suite washbasin, toilet and shower facilities plus individual temperature control and tea/coffee making facilities.



BURNS COUNTRY, ARRAN & THE CAUSEWAY COAST

**NEW
TOUR**

Two countries, a beautiful island described as 'Scotland in Miniature', two of the great railway journeys of the British Isles, a heritage line, a distillery, magnificent gardens and the UNESCO World Heritage Giant's Causeway – all on one unique new Railtrail tour!



**Fares
From
£995**

DEPARTS

Thursdays 27 April & 21 September 2017

**8
DAYS**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Experience the great scenic rail journey through Burns Country
- ★ Visit the Birthplace Museum of Robert Burns
- ★ Tour the Isle of Arran, known as 'Scotland in Miniature'
- ★ Enjoy Brodick Castle Gardens
- ★ Contrast with Logan Botanic Garden's southern hemisphere plants
- ★ Explore Castle Kennedy's historic gardens
- ★ Marvel at the Giant's Causeway, a unique natural phenomenon
- ★ Arrive at the Causeway aboard the Bushmills Railway
- ★ Taste Bushmills Whiskey at the distillery
- ★ Experience Northern Ireland's great scenic rail journey
- ★ Tour the walls of Derry-Londonderry
- ★ Visit the Titanic Experience in Belfast

HOTELS

North West Castle Hotel, Stranraer

'The Castle' is a 3* hotel, family-run for more than 50 years and former home of famous Arctic explorer, Sir John Ross. Leisure facilities include a swimming pool, sauna, gym and the hotel also boasts its own curling rink!

Londonderry Arms, Carnlough

Built in 1848 as a coaching inn by the Marchioness of Londonderry, the estate and hotel were passed to her second cousin, Sir Winston Churchill, in 1921. Family-owned for the last 60 years, the hotel boasts Georgian architecture and with just 35 rooms it has a cosy, family atmosphere amidst the small seaside village of Carnlough.

QUEEN OF SCOTS

NEW
ITINERARY



A truly magical circular tour of the Highlands of Scotland, also taking in the magnificent Isles of Mull and Iona, along with spectacular rail journeys, sensational scenery and steam train nostalgia.



Fares
From
£1095

DEPARTS

Thursday 18 May & Monday 2 October 2017

8
DAYS



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Explore Fort William and Inverness
- ★ Enjoy a wee dram at Ben Nevis Distillery
- ★ Soar up Aonach Mor on the Nevis Gondola
- ★ Dramatic Eilean Donan Castle
- ★ Tour Mull and cruise to Iona
- ★ Tour the Great Glen & Loch Ness
- ★ Strathspey Railway steam nostalgia
- ★ Speyside whisky distillery tour, with a wee dram
- ★ Heritage train ride with lunch on the charming Keith & Dufftown line
- ★ Begin your Scottish tour at the historic Grand Central Hotel
- ★ Scenic journey over the beautiful West Highland Line to Oban
- ★ Take an original 'Great Rail Journey of the World' on the spectacular Kyle of Lochalsh Line
- ★ Stay on the beautiful Isle of Mull
- ★ Sensational 'Harry Potter' steam train journey to Mallaig on The Jacobite

HOTELS

Grand Central Hotel, Glasgow

One of the great railway hotels and site of the world's first long-distance tv transmission, this stylish hotel was built in 1883 to serve the newly built Central Station.

Isle of Mull Hotel

The Isle of Mull Hotel and Spa is situated on the crescent of Craignure Bay with gardens stretching to the water's edge.

Palace Hotel & Spa, Inverness

Overlooking the River Ness, a short stroll from the city centre, this superior quality, traditional Scottish hotel has well appointed bedrooms all en-suite with hospitality tray, radio, TV and free WiFi. Leisure facilities include indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and beauty salon.



GRAND TOURS BY RAIL – LAND'S END TO JOHN

Travel coast to coast from Land's End to John O'Groats. Explore England, Scotland & Wales on one tour. Stay in two castle hotels, the original Railtrail hotel and a hideaway in the western Highlands. All on a one-off, once in a lifetime grand tour of mainland Britain!



Fares
From
£1725



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Relax at Tregenna Castle Resort near St Ives
- ★ Visit Land's End & Cape Cornwall
- ★ Stay at Ruthin Castle Hotel in North Wales
- ★ Marvel at majestic steam on the Welsh Highland Railway & the Ffestiniog Railway
- ★ Enjoy the Llangollen Railway & a Canal Cruise across Pontcysyllte Aqueduct
- ★ Unwind in the heart of the Highlands at the Bridge of Orchy
- ★ Steam across Glenfinnan Viaduct on the Jacobite Steam Train
- ★ Take in the lovely scenery through the Great Glen alongside Loch Ness
- ★ Stay at the original Railtrail hotel, the Palace in Inverness
- ★ Enjoy Railtrail's original 'Great Railway Journey' on the Kyle Line
- ★ Touch the top of the country at John O'Groats



HOTELS

Tregenna Castle Resort, near St Ives

A 4* hotel and resort with a fabulous range of facilities, including heated outdoor pool, indoor pool, Jacuzzi, steam room and sauna, plus tennis, badminton and squash courts and even an 18 hole golf course. Tregenna's Woodland Walk through some of its 72 acres is also a great place to unwind amidst nature.

Ruthin Castle, Ruthin

Steeped in history, having welcomed royalty and nobility, Ruthin Castle is a beautiful rustic woodland retreat amidst acres of parkland within the Clwydian Range.



DEPARTS

Thursday 28 September 2017



Bridge of Orchy Hotel

Situated on the West Highland Way, overlooked by mighty Beinn Dorain mountain, the recently renovated Bridge of Orchy Hotel occupies a position of remote, untouched beauty.



Palace Hotel & Spa, Inverness

Overlooking the River Ness, a short stroll from the city centre, this superior quality, traditional Scottish hotel has well appointed bedrooms all en-suite with hospitality tray, radio, TV and free WiFi. Leisure facilities include indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and beauty salon.



GRAND TOURS BY RAIL – DERRY TO KERRY

37 years ago Michael Palin's first 'Great Railway Journey' to Kyle of Lochalsh prompted Dave to organize his first tour. We thought now would be a great time to recreate Palin's second 'Great Railway Journey' from 'Derry to Kerry'! Experience the fabulous line from Coleraine to Londonderry and the scenic East Coast Line from Dublin to Wexford, enjoy the contrasts of Belfast, Dublin, Waterford and Tralee, and wonder at the natural beauty of the Causeway Coast and the Ring of Kerry, all rounded off with a final shindig in Dublin. Cead Mile Failte!



Fares
From
£1595



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Marvel at the Giant's Causeway, a unique natural phenomenon
- ★ Arrive at the Causeway aboard the Bushmills Railway
- ★ Taste Bushmills Whiskey at the distillery
- ★ Experience Northern Ireland's great scenic rail journey
- ★ Tour the walls of Derry-Londonderry
- ★ Visit the Titanic Experience in Belfast
- ★ Sightsee in Dublin's fair city
- ★ Take in the Irish Republic's most scenic railway along the East Coast
- ★ Learn about Ireland's emigrant history at Dunbrody Emigrant Ship Museum
- ★ Explore Waterford and visit the famous Waterford Crystal
- ★ Trundle through the Suir Valley on the heritage Suir Valley Railway
- ★ Enjoy the fabulous views of the Ring of Kerry
- ★ Let your hair down with a final night's dinner and Irish Show in Dublin

NEW TOUR



DEPARTS

Thursday 28 September 2017

12
DAYS

HOTELS

Londonderry Arms, Carnlough

Built in 1848 as a coaching inn by Frances Anne Tempest, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Tempests' estate, including the Londonderry Arms, was passed to second cousin, Sir Winston Churchill in 1921. The hotel boasts Georgian architecture and with just 35 rooms it has a cosy, family atmosphere amidst the small seaside village of Carnlough.

Cassidy's Hotel, Dublin

A city centre hotel opposite the Gate Theatre on Upper O'Connell Street and close to Dublin's sights, Cassidy's façade is one of Parnell Square's Georgian terraces.

Tracy's Hotel, Waterford

Tracy's Hotel is a family-run hotel overlooking the River



Suir in the heart of Waterford, Ireland's oldest city, and boasts a traditional Irish pub, restaurant and a heated indoor swimming pool.

Benners Hotel, Tralee

A family-run hotel and gastro-pub in the heart of Tralee, the former capital of the Kingdom of Kerry, Benners has a cosy atmosphere, with just 43 recently refurbished bedrooms.