

A Visit to Liverpool



Monday 21 - Thursday 24 March 2022

The wealth of history and cultural heritage to explore in Liverpool is astonishing. From the industry of the Albert Dock to the dramatic modern architecture of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King to the works of Rubens, Rembrandt and Poussin housed in the Walker Art Gallery, it is a city brimming with impressive art and architecture. Our tour will highlight the very best Liverpool and the surrounding region has to offer.

MONDAY 21 MARCH 2022

We will depart from our local pick up point, at the top of Parry's Lane, and travel by coach to **Wolverhampton** for a visit to **Wightwick Manor and Gardens** (National Trust). This Victorian manor house, located on Wightwick Bank, is one of only a few surviving examples of a house built and furnished under the Arts and Crafts Movement. Acquired by the National Trust in 1937, the house now contains a wonderful collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings by Rossetti, Burne-Jones and their followers. *Please note that there will be a short walk from the coach to the house.* Lunch may be taken on an individual basis during our free-flow visit.

This afternoon we will continue to **Liverpool**, where we will check in to the 4 star **Jurys Inn Liverpool Hotel** for 3 nights' bed and breakfast accommodation. After a little time to freshen up, **dinner** will be served in the hotel restaurant.

TUESDAY 22 MARCH 2022

After breakfast at the hotel we will meet our **local guide** and embark on a full day of visits in **Liverpool**, beginning with a **guided visit** of **St George's Hall**. Designed by Harvey Lonsdale Elmes and opened in 1854, St George's Hall is one of the best assembly halls in England and represents the prosperity of Liverpool in the 19th century. We will stop for **coffee** at perhaps the most ornate pub in England, the dazzling and flamboyant **Philharmonic Public House**. It was commissioned between 1898 and 1900 and features an extremely ornate Art Deco interior. Further exploration of the heart of the city tour will uncover an array of wonderful architecture revealing the past wealth of this prosperous city. We will continue with a visit to the **Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King**, a very modern cathedral built in a dramatic circular style with a multi-coloured glass lantern tower bathing the interior in a pool of light. Our visit will include access to **Lutyens' Crypt**, the only part of the Cathedral built to Lutyens' grand designs, to rival St Peter's Basilica in Rome, which proved too costly.

There will be free time for lunch.

This afternoon we will visit the largest Anglican cathedral in Britain, the neo-gothic **Liverpool Cathedral**. Designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the cathedral holds an important collection of church embroidery.

Our final visit this afternoon will be the **Walker Art Gallery**. Founded in 1873 by Sir Andrew Barclay Walker, a local brewer and Mayor of Liverpool, this gallery houses one of the finest art collections in the North. Paintings range from early Italian and Flemish works to Rubens, Rembrandt, Poussin, and French Impressionists such as Degas' *Women Ironing*. Among the strong collection of British artists from the 18th century onwards are works by Millais, Turner and Gainsborough. We will return to our hotel for an evening at leisure. Independent arrangements for dinner.

WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH 2022

After breakfast at the hotel, we will travel by coach to the seaside town of Great Crosby, where we will view a piece of modern sculpture, '**Another Place**', by Antony Gormley. The sculpture consists of 100 cast iron figures, which are replicas of the artist's own body looking out to sea, spread over a 2 mile stretch of beach. As the tide ebbs and flows, so the figures emerge and submerge in the water. We will continue to **Port Sunlight village** at Bebington. William Hesketh Lever came to the Wirral area looking for a suitable site to build a new factory for his expanding soap business. His vision was to build not only the factory, but also houses for his workers. The construction of Port Sunlight village began in 1889 with 28 houses, and eventually grew to 800 houses by 1914. Today we see the picturesque garden village, named after Lever's famous Sunlight soap, which is now a conservation area and tourist attraction, featuring the Lady Lever Art Gallery as its centrepiece.

On arrival at Port Sunlight, there will be an **introduction from a local guide** followed by a **coach tour** of the village. This will be followed by a free-flow visit of the **Lady Lever Art Gallery**, which is named in memory of Lord Leverhulme's late wife. The

THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2022

magnificent collection boasts romantic masterpieces by the great Pre-Raphaelites including Burne-Jones and Rossetti, and dramatic landscape paintings by Constable and Turner. In addition, the gallery houses Chippendale furniture, sculpture, tapestries, delicate Chinese porcelain and English Wedgwood. The new South End galleries have recently re-opened following a £2.8million major development project including the Chinese Rooms - two interlinked rooms demonstrating the importance and influence of Chinese ceramics on European art and taste. During the visit lunch may be taken in the gallery café. This afternoon we will return by coach to central Liverpool and there will be some free time in the city for independent exploration.

This evening **dinner** will be taken in a local restaurant.

Please note that the order of visits will be subject to change, and is dependent upon tide times

We will check out of the hotel after breakfast and travel to Stoke-on-Trent a visit to local pottery manufacturer, **Middleport Pottery**. World famous Burleigh pottery has been created here using traditional methods since 1889. Much of the original machinery and processes are still used today. Unique to 'Burleigh' is the process of underglaze tissue printing, creating patterns using hand-engraved copper rollers. We will be met on arrival by a resident guide for a **factory tour** and a tour of the Pottery's Heritage, including the Victorian Offices, Grade II* listed bottle kiln and Europe's largest ceramic design archive.

A **light lunch** will be served in the Pottery Tearooms. This afternoon we will continue our homeward journey to our original pick-up point, at the top of Parry's Lane.

Please note as this tour has been planned many months in advance, and due to the various Covid-19 related measures and restrictions that may be in place at the time of your visit, the final itinerary may vary slightly from the above.

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking and standing and may not be suitable for those with mobility issues.



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A Visit to Liverpool

TOUR PRICE

£635 per person sharing a twin/double room
£135 single room supplement

PRICE INCLUDES

Executive coach travel throughout
3 nights' bed and breakfast accommodation
Dinner in the hotel restaurant on the first evening
Dinner in a local restaurant on the final evening
Light lunch at Middleport Pottery
Coffee/tea at the Philharmonic Public House
Services of a local guide for one full day and one half day
Guided visit of St George's Hall
Guided coach tour of Port Sunlight
Guided visit of Middleport Pottery
All booking and entrance charges as per the itinerary
(excluding National Trust properties)
VOX audio-guides

Please note that entrance charges to National Trust properties are not included as these are free of charge to National Trust members upon production of a valid membership card

HOTEL DETAILS

3 nights' bed and breakfast accommodation at:
Jurys Inn Liverpool Hotel (4 star)
No. 31 Keel Wharf
Liverpool, L3 4FN

For further details please visit their website:
www.jurysinns.com

MINIMUM NUMBERS

The price of the tour is based on a minimum of
25 paying participants.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

ABTOT provides protection for your booking as set out
in the Financial Protection clause of our Booking
Conditions.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have adequate
insurance for this tour. We have arranged a scheme with
specialists Brokersure Limited who are fully authorised
and regulated by the FCA (firm reference number
501719) full details of which can be found on the FCA
website www.fca.org.uk. Please call Brokersure on 0330
880 3625 for a quote. *Please note that although insurance is
not mandatory for UK travel we strongly recommend that you
take insurance to safeguard the cost of the holiday. Please
ensure that any policy has adequate cover for COVID related
issues.*

PAYMENT DETAILS

Payment in full is due **as soon as possible** and no later
than **Monday 10 January 2022**. Please note that as
places on the tour are limited, bookings will be accepted
on a 'first come, first served' basis.

BOOKING & FINAL TRAVEL DETAILS

To reserve your place on the tour, please send your
completed booking form and deposit to Heritage Group
Travel. You will receive a confirmation of your booking
combined with an invoice for the final balance. The final
travel details (itinerary, hotel details and luggage label) will
be available approximately 10-14 days prior to travel.