

**ENGLAND – THE COTSWOLDS**

8-day / 7-night Bourton-on-the-Water – one-hotel easy to moderate guided walking tour



The Cotswold Way in central England provides some of the countries most scenic walking with medieval churches, country estates, ancient sites and Roman villas. The region is famous for all that is quintessentially English, with traditional stone cottages, handsome manor houses, rolling hills, cornfields and lush green valleys.

Our guided Classic Walking holidays here are perfect for beginners and serious walkers alike, allowing you to discover this most English of landscapes. There are village-to-village walks as well as delightful paths through woodlands, beside farm pastures and grazing meadows and across the Cotswold plateau. Walk through lush green fields, past rolling hills along ancient trails, see stately homes, traditional and unique ancient golden-stone villages and country market towns. Explore the Cotswold Way National Trail through the very heart of England.

**Holiday highlights:**

- Enchanting Cotswold villages and market towns; unique in their appearance
- Visit nearby Chipping Campden, Stow-on-the-Wold and Broadway, all built from golden Cotswold stone
- Only two hours from London; easy to reach from most centres
- Nearby is Blenheim Palace, ancestral home of Winston Churchill, the historic university city of Oxford and Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare’s birthplace

**Cost:** AU\$1235 per person twin share Single room supplement \$120

**Departs:** 12<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> Jun, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Jul, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2012

**Tour includes:** 7-nights in comfortable hotel room with ensuite bathrooms, full board, experienced walks leader, 5-guided walks, transport associated with the walks & free-day activity.

**A typical Classic Walking day:** Will offer you a choice of 2 or 3-guided walks, each of varying length and ascent. All our different graded walks use a combination of riverside, field and woodland paths, with some stiles and kissing gates, to reach picturesque towns and villages.

A walking holiday based at Bourton-on-the-Water is particularly recommended if you are new to walking or prefer easier terrain. If you are new to walking, start at the easier level, where the pace is the gentlest. We have plenty of stops to enjoy the views and to rest. As your holiday progresses you may feel confident to try a more challenging level, or stick to the same level - it's entirely your choice.

**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**



**Our unique accommodation:** Harrington House at Bourton-on-the-Water is of considerable architectural interest, dates from Tudor times and was enlarged during 1730-40, and again in the 1920's. Built of traditional Cotswold stone it is quietly tucked away just a few metres from the heart of the popular tourist village of Bourton-on-the-Water. This is one of the showpiece villages of the Cotswolds, with its green bisected by the clear waters of the River Windrush. There is plenty of shopping, banks, cafes, a model village and railway station in the town.

### **Suggested itinerary:**

**Day 1:** Arrival day –plan to arrive by mid afternoon.

**Day 2 – 4:** Full day walking options

**Day 5:** There are no organised walks today to allow you to explore the area independently or just relax.

**Day 6 – 7:** Full day walking options

**Day 8:** Departure day – tour ends after breakfast



**Easier Walks:** 5 to 7 miles with easy gradients. Up to 1,000ft of ascent in a day.

**Highlights include:** Walking from Bourton-on-the-Water through the meadows to the chocolate-box villages of Upper and Lower Slaughter. Wander along the delightful valley of the River Windrush. Visit the picturesque market towns such as Stow-on-the-Wold, whose golden stone houses so epitomise the area



**Medium Walks:** 7 to 9 miles on well graded paths. Up to 1,250ft of ascent in a day.

**Highlights include:** Sample all the elements of the enchanting Cotswold landscape by walking over gentle undulating green hills, past historic hamlets and churches to Broadway, perhaps the most picturesque of all the Cotswold villages. Soak up the panoramic views as we cross the gently undulating hills to the fascinating town of Chipping Campden



**Harder Walks:** 9½ to 11½ miles with gently undulating gradients. Up to 1,650ft of ascent.

**Highlights include:** Trace the route of King Charles II's escape from the Battle of Worcester along the 'Monarch's Way', or walk over Ilmington Down to Chipping Campden. Other walks in the area can take us down the limestone escarpment to Winchcombe or to the Roman town of Cirencester

**Other walking holidays** – guided in small groups or self-guided (with inn-to-inn luggage transfers & meals) are available in many parts of the UK Ireland & Europe including the **Coast-to-Coast** trail, **St Cuthbert's Way** from Scotland into England; walks in the **Lake District**, Ireland's **Ring of Kerry**, the Dordogne or Provence in France or walks in Austria, Spain or Italy. Also pilgrimage walks such as the **Way of St James** or **Camino De Santiago**, from Le Puy to Santiago, France to Spain or the **Via Francigena** – the pilgrims Road to Rome.

Contact **Outdoor Travel** or your travel agent for more details, travel brochures and reservations:

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