

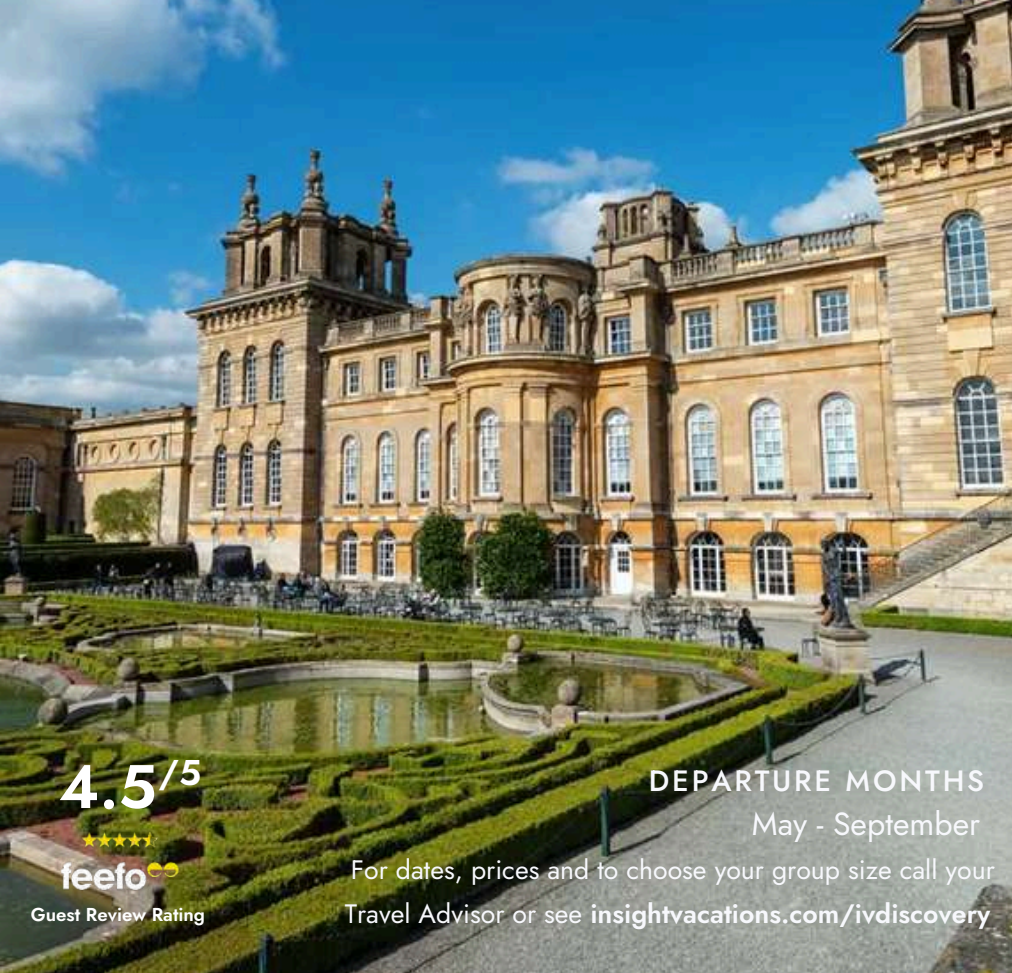
INSIGHT VACATIONS

# Elegance of Great Britain

Classic Group

11 DAYS | 2 COUNTRIES | 15 MEALS | BALANCED

Explore Edinburgh's jewels and Ardgowan Castle. Cruise the Lake District, visit Shakespeare's birthplace, and see Stonehenge. Dine at York's historic Thirsk Hall.



4.5/5

★★★★★

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Guest Review Rating

DEPARTURE MONTHS

May - September

For dates, prices and to choose your group size call your Travel Advisor or see [insightvacations.com/ivdiscovery](https://www.insightvacations.com/ivdiscovery)

## DAY 1 | WELCOME TO EDINBURGH

Welcome to Scotland - land of legends and romance, from the great cultural cities in the south, to the dramatic mountains and misty lochs of the Highlands. After a transfer to your Edinburgh hotel, the rest of the day is yours to relax before meeting your Travel Director and fellow travelers. (D)

**Hotel: Apex Waterloo Place, Edinburgh**

## DAY 2 | EDINBURGH, THE CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Join a local expert to explore Edinburgh highlights like Princes Street, the Scott Memorial, New Town, Holyroodhouse Palace, and Edinburgh Castle with its Crown Jewels. Enjoy free time in the afternoon or visit the National Gallery. On select dates, attend the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. (B)

**Hotel: Apex Waterloo Place, Edinburgh**

## DAYS 3 | ARDGOWAN AND GRENA GREEN

Journey to Ardgowan, set on a stunning 10,000-acre coastal estate. Sir Ludovic Shaw Stewart welcomes you to his family castle. Learn the history of the area, the Shaw Stewart Family and the conversation efforts to protect the land on this MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences, followed by a degustation of traditional Scottish tea and scones. Visit Gretna Green before continuing to the picturesque English Lake District. (B) (D)

## DAY 4 | ENGLISH POETS AND THE LAKE DISTRICT EXPERIENCE

Spend the day exploring the stunning English Lake District, known for its mountains and lakes that inspired famous poets. Visit Wordsworth's grave in Grasmere, then enjoy a relaxing cruise with views of rugged peaks, wooded islands, and peaceful bays. Later, take a nostalgic steam train ride along the scenic River Leven. (B)

**Hotel: The Ro, Windermere**

## DAYS 5 | WINDERMERE TO YORK

Start your day with leisure time before traveling through the scenic Yorkshire Dales to the village of Haworth. Visit the Brontë Parsonage Museum, set in the Brontë family home, and discover the inspiration behind their literary works. Continue to the historic city of York, then in the evening, enjoy a special Dine-at-Home Experience with a local family at Thirsk Hall, a historic 18th-century townhouse. (B) (D)

**Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton, York**

## DAY 6 | THE VIKING CITY OF YORK

Explore the historic city of York, once controlled by Vikings and known for its stunning architecture. Walk the town walls with a Local Expert to see the York Minster and the charming Shambles. In the afternoon, enjoy an Insight Choice: visit the National Railway Museum or explore more of the magnificent York Minster. (B)

**INCLUDED MEALS:** Breakfast (B) Lunch (L) Dinner (D) **RELAXED STARTS:** (RS) **HOTELS:** On occasion, hotels of a similar standard and location may be used.

**DAY 6 | THE VIKING CITY OF YORK**

Explore one of Britain's most historic cities, once controlled by the Vikings. Walk within the town walls with a Local Expert to see the York Minster, Britain's largest medieval cathedral. Explore the tangle of narrow, cobbled streets and see the Shambles. Spend the afternoon with Insight Choice. Choose to visit the National Railway Museum housing over 300 years of history, or the magnificent York Minster, one of the largest in Northern Europe. **(B) (RS)**

**DAY 7 | LINCOLN'S MAGNA CARTA**

Visit Lincoln Castle, one of the finest Norman castles in England. Your tour will include a chance to see one of the four remaining copies of the Magna Carta. Continue to Stratford, beautifully situated on the River Avon. **(B)**

**Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton, Stratford-upon-Avon**

**DAY 8 | SHAKESPEARE'S STRATFORD UPON-AVON**

Discover how William Shakespeare and his incredible works continue to delight audiences today when you visit his birthplace, full of interesting memorabilia and artefacts relating to his life. Later, join your Travel Director for dinner. **(B) (D) (RS)**

**DAY 9 | THE COTSWOLDS, BLENHEIM PALACE AND BATH**

Cross the beautiful Cotswold hills and visit the magnificent stately home and gardens of Blenheim Palace. Learn more about Churchill's life at Blenheim during a talk by a historian. Continue to the elegant Georgian city of Bath,

built in amphitheatre style on the surrounding hills. Your Travel Director introduces you to the Pulteney Bridge, built in mellow local stone. **(B) Hotel: Lansdown Grove, Bath**

**DAY 10 | BATH**

The City of Bath is a UNESCO World Heritage Site built above one of Britain's thermal, mineral springs. Enjoy a visit to its well-preserved Roman Baths. With the rest of the day at leisure, why not relax with a visit to Thermae Spa? In the evening, join your Travel Director and fellow travelers as you raise a glass over dinner to toast your journey. **(B) (D) (RS)**

**DAY 11 | ANCIENT STONEHENGE TO LONDON**

Travel across Salisbury Plain to visit the prehistoric and mysterious Stonehenge, where the strange and awe-inspiring megaliths are reputed to be up to 5,000 years old. Continue into the heart of Wiltshire to reach the city of Salisbury where you have time at leisure to enjoy lunch and explore the city. See the tallest spire in England, atop the medieval cathedral and walk the streets to observe an architectural timeline from the city's medieval walls and half-timbered Tudor town houses to Georgian mansions and Victorian villas. Watch the rolling countryside scenery gradually change into buzzing cityscape scenes as you continue to the capital and the country's most populous city. Your journey concludes upon arrival at the London trip hotel. **(B)**

**HIGHLIGHT INCLUSIONS***Premium Experiences*

**Bowness-on-Windermere** | The best way to enjoy the Lake District is by cruise, relax as you admire the magnificent views.

**Haworth** | A visit to the Brontë Parsonage Museum provides a fascinating insight into the life of the Brontë family.

**York** | *Insight Choice* Delve into the historical and human stories of York Minster, from the conversion of Christianity to the fires that almost destroyed the cathedral, or visit the National Railway Museum to explore over 300 years of railway history, featuring iconic locomotives and groundbreaking engineering achievements.

**York** | Walk with your Local Expert to see the majestic York Minster and wander the maze of cobbled streets to see the Shambles.

**Blenheim Palace** | Learn about the life of Winston Churchill at his family home, a masterpiece of the English Baroque period.

**Stonehenge** | Walk around the strange and awe-inspiring megaliths that have reputedly stood for 5,000 years

**Ardgowan House** | Join Sir Ludovic for a tour of his family home, Ardgowan Estate, and savour a traditional Scottish tea made from local ingredients. Your visit directly supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 7 & 12: Affordable and Clean Energy & Responsible Consumption and Production.

**MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®**  
EXPERIENCE

*Premium Dining*

**Edinburgh** | Get to know your fellow travellers over dinner of modern European cuisine, at a quirky bistro tucked away in Leith.

**York** | Join your hosts for dinner at the historic Thirsk Hall. The building was extended in 1770 by famous English architect John Carr.

