

THE BRITSBURGH TRAVEL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO VISIT ENGLAND FOR

Jane Austen, the Brontes, Wordsworth & Beatrix Potter Literary Tour

October 6-14, 2020

Member
Price from **\$3700** per person

Non-Member
Price from **\$3950** per person

BASED ON 16 PEOPLE TRAVELING. PLEASE CALL FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY RATES.
THIS RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE AIRFARE. PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL FOR RATES.
A NON REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$500.00 PER PERSON IS DUE BY AUG 7, 2020
- FINAL BALANCE BY CHECK ONLY DUE BY SEP 9, 2020

A tour of their worlds. Literary small group tour of England
What better way to see England than to spend time with like-minded people who share your interest and passion? Spend a week in Jane Austen's world . . . includes a visit to Chawton Great House and Chawton Cottage. Explore the unique habitat of the moors, passing Haworth and many places of interest to lovers of the three Brontë sisters literary works. The scenic Lake District includes a visit to Beatrix Potters Hilltop.

- Visit Jane Austen's 17th century home at Chawton
- Regency Costumed Promenade through the streets of Bath
- Visit Beatrix Potter's Hill Top
- Visit the Wordsworth Home and Garden
- See what inspired Bronte at the Parsonage and Brontë Museum at Haworth
- Visit to Harrogate and take part in a Mystery dinner theatre



YOUR COACH TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Arrival (Heathrow) and departure (Manchester) group airport transfers.
- Deluxe private motorcoach transportation.
- Services of a driver/guide (1 person). A literary guide for 8 persons or more.
- Hotel accommodation with private bath.
- Your 3 and 4 star hotels or similar
- Portsmouth Royal Beach 1 night
- Bath Abbey Hotel 2 nights
- Grasmere Red Lion 2 nights
- Harrogate Swan 2 nights
- Full breakfast daily
- Three dinners (including mystery dinner theatre)
- Admission charges and entrance fees to: Jane Austen, Beatrix Potter and the Brontes and Wordsworth
- Scenic drives countryside villages
- Tips to bellmen for one bag per person at all hotels.
- All taxes and service charges.

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR A FULL ITINERARY

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Name as it appears on passport _____

Date of Birth _____

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Sharing with _____

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Literary tour England - FULL ITINERARY

Day 1 DEPART USA. - You board your overseas flight. DESTINATION: LONDON. Dinner and breakfast served aloft.

Day 2 ARRIVE LONDON GATWICK/PORTSMOUTH - Arrive by 10AM for a transfer. The Regency world of Jane Austen's novels and later life reflects a tension between the ideals of the enlightenment and the newly emerging romanticism and dramatic challenges to social mores. Visit Jane's important biographical sites. Today see Chawton. At Chawton, she was at her most prolific, producing and publishing four novels, *Pride & Prejudice* (revised), *Mansfield Park*, *Emma* and *Persuasion*, the unfinished *Sanditon* and revising *Northanger Abbey*. The pretty 17th century building is now a museum for items connected with the author and her family. There are some very personal possessions on show, including jewelry, letters and her will. Continue to Portsmouth (which is connected with her sailor-brothers and the novel *Persuasion* and *Mansfield Park*). Dinner this evening to get acquainted with your fellow travelers. (D)

Day 3 - WINCHESTER/BATH - See Steventon Church. The 12th century Steventon Church where Jane worshipped, stands almost unchanged from those days. Here there are memorial tablets to James Austen, Jane's eldest brother, who took over the parish from her father, his two wives and some of his relations. Their graves are in the churchyard. Visit Winchester, Jane Austen's final resting place, and travel to Bath. Discover the architectural marvels of the spa city of Bath. (B)

Day 4 - BATH - Afternoon tea - Spend a day in Bath with a guided walk. Take tea on the second floor of the lovely Georgian town-house, where you can escape the hustle and bustle of Bath's busy streets. Choice of 15 varieties of loose leaf tea, Belgian hot chocolate and fresh coffee as well as a selection of luscious cakes, sandwiches, toasties, soup and rolls. When you join our September departure during the Jane Austen Festival, you'll see more people dressing in Regency costume celebrating the life and works of Jane Austen. The most spectacular day each year is the first Saturday, when the festival officially 'opens' with the Regency Costumed Promenade through the streets of Bath. Promenaders from all over the world dress in 18th Century attire led by our Town Crier and accompanied by soldiers and sailors adding extra color to the proceedings. (B,T)

Day 5 - LAKE DISTRICT BEATRIX POTTER - Today is a travel day. Magnificent lakes, fells and mountains border the winding roads in this area loved by poets, writers and painters, including Beatrix Potter. Some of the most dramatic scenery in England is here. Perfectly kept cottages trimmed with fuschia hedges, black and white cows and bulls, and butter-golden gorse dot the hillsides. Visit the home of Beatrix Potter, author of many children's books, including *Peter Rabbit*. As you make your way through the delightful villages, you will discover the shops are filled with collectibles and gifts in the distinctive style of the characters made famous by British author, Beatrix Potter. Her charming cottage and home are located at Hill Top, this little 17th century stone house, near the village of Sawrey at the North end of Lake Windermere. Beatrix Potter (1866 - 1943) purchased this little farm with the earnings from her first book "*The Tale of Peter Rabbit*", and as one overlooks the garden adjacent to the cottage, you almost anticipate *Peter Rabbit* popping up from behind a shrub! There is a good example of traditional cottage garden, containing mainly old-fashioned flowers such as honeysuckle, foxgloves, sweet cicely, lupins, peonies, lavender and philadelphus. Roses grow ground the front door. Fruit still plays an important role in the garden - strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries and rhubarb. Beatrix Potter furnished Hill Top with her favorite things. The illustrations she painted from the classic tales of *Tom Kitten*, *Jemima Puddle-Duck*, and *Samuel Whiskers* all contain views of Hill Top and scenes from Sawrey and

the immediate area. On her marriage in 1913, Beatrix Potter moved to a nearby home and kept her beloved Hill Top as a studio. She was famed as a childrens' author, but recognized locally as a sheep farmer and devoted much of her time to that occupation. Seven of her books are based in or around Hill Top. *Tom Kitten* and *Samuel Whiskers* lived there. Because of her foresight in preserving this cottage and its contents, it enables visitors to almost literally step back in time and and experience the warmth and charm present in every room. (B)

Day 6 - ANOTHER WONDERFUL DAY IN THE LAKE DISTRICT - Visit the Wordsworth House and Garden.

Explore the working 18th-century kitchen and other hands-on rooms at your own pace, or take in a guided or audio tour - or join a talk - to find out more about the happiness and heartache that shaped the original wild child.

Relax in the garden that inspired William's love of the natural world, listen to his poetry in the summerhouse, enjoy a light lunch or teatime treat in the cosy café, then browse for souvenirs in the gift shop.

Overnight in Lake District(B)

Day 7 - YORKSHIRE THE BRONTES - The Beatrix Potter Gallery in Hawkshead is one of the National Trust's more unusual properties in that it has an interesting link with Beatrix Potter herself. The 17th Century building, which was once the office of her husband, local solicitor William Heelis, has remained largely unaltered since his day. The Gallery houses an annually changing exhibition of a selection of Beatrix Potter's original drawings and illustrations. Beatrix Potter was however much more than a gifted artist and author. She was, without question, a determined preserver of her beloved Lake District and a great believer in the aims of the fledgling National Trust, bequeathing her numerous farms and land to the Trust in 1943. The Gallery also contains a display covering the story of her life through its various stages, which offers an unique insight into her life and times. There is a reconstruction of part of William Heelis' office.

The dramatic moorland inspired the Bronte Sisters to pen novels which are classics of English literature. Overnight in Harrogate. (B)

Day 8 - THE BRONTES - We offer an introduction to the family through visits to sites connected with them including Thornton, the Parsonage and Brontë Museum at Haworth, the Red House used as a model in *Shirley*, Wycoller, Norton Conyers Hall, Cowan Bridge School and Tunstall Church. Haworth Parsonage was once the home of the Brontë family and is where Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë wrote the books which have made them world famous, including *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*. The Parsonage Museum now provides a fascinating glimpse into the lives of the three sisters and of Victorian Haworth. Imagine the everyday lives of the Bronte Sisters as you walk round Haworth Church The cobbled Main Street in Haworth has a host of specialist shops. Discover antique books, paintings & tearooms, hotels (including the "Black Bull" - where Branwell Brontë's demise into alcoholism and opium addiction allegedly began). Many public footpaths lead out of the village, and there is much scope for rambling, though perhaps the most famous walk leads past Lower Laithe Reservoir to the picturesque (but unspectacular) Bronte Falls, the Bronte Bridge, and the Bronte Stone Chair in which (it is said) the sisters took turns to sit and write their first stories. Overnight in Harrogate. Mystery Dinner Theatre (B,D)

Day 8 - HOMEWARD FROM MANCHESTER - Travel 1 1/2 hours to Manchester where you depart for home, with memories of many new-found friends(B)