

ITINERARY

A Luxury Break

Indulgence and style are the signatures of this seven-day tour, which is the very best that England's Great West Way has to offer.

Day 1 – Surrey & Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

Hampton Court Palace was built by Cardinal Wolsey in 1515 and home to Henry VIII and all six of his wives. Explore this Royal Palace in all its grandeur, marvel at the Great Kitchens walk in the beautiful formal gardens and get lost in the hedge maze.

For an experience groups won't forget, take an out of hours private tour of the State Apartments at **Windsor Castle** with an expert guide. This behind-the-ropes tour takes visitors on a journey through 1,000 years of royal history. Includes tour, glass of champagne and an official guidebook.

Overnight: The Langley, alternatively stay at The Royal Berkshire or Monkey Island Estate

Day 2 – Henley-on-Thames / Reading

In the morning take time to float on over to **Henley-on-Thames**. There's no better way to experience the town's rich, rowing heritage and riverside culture than on the water. **Hobbs of Henley** offer public cruises, self-drive chauffeur driven days out or Midsomer Murder Tours. Have a go at rowing at the **Henley Rowing Association** or visit the **River and Rowing Museum** situated in the town.

In the afternoon, head to **Reading**. Visit **The Abbey Quarter**, to see the extensive Abbey Ruins, founded by King Henry 1, which tells the story of 900 years of history.

Reading is a waterways town so take a Thames river trip aboard a **Thames River Cruise** circular tour or stretch your legs along the Thames Path on the longest stretch of the river of any local authority in England.

If you're keen to find out more about Reading's historic rural past you can explore the **Reading Museum**, situated in the Victorian Town Hall, with its ten galleries of historic and artistic objects. Or visit **The Museum of English Rural Life (MERL)**, which is England's most extensive museum dedicated to farming, food, craft, rural life and countryside issues.

Overnight: Roseate Reading or Henley Greenlands Hotel

Day 3 – Malmesbury / Gloucestershire

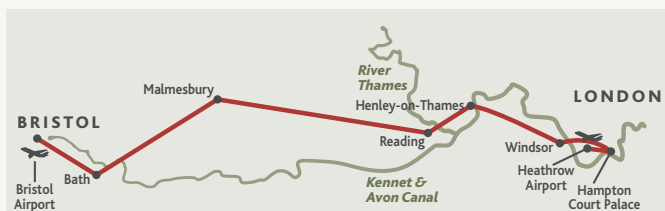
Start the day exploring **Malmesbury** with its rich history as England's oldest borough. The stunning 12th Century Abbey still very much in use today and alongside is the beautiful Abbey House Gardens.

Within easy reach of the route are the Southern Cotswolds in **Gloucestershire** where you can visit the National Trust's **Newark Park** and **Berkeley Castle** – the oldest castle in England and home to the Berley family who built it in the late 12th Century.

Overnight: The Whatley Manor Hotel & Spa or Old Bell Hotel, Malmesbury

Day 4 and 5 – Bath

Treat yourself at **Thermae Bath Spa** where you can bath in the only natural warm, mineral-rich waters in Britain. Enjoy a range of spa



Thermae Bath Spa Rooftop Pool

experiences, including the beautiful Minerva Baths and Wellness Suite – and relax under the stars in the warm open-air Rooftop Pool, with a spectacular view of the city of Bath.

The Roman Baths is a must-see attraction, as this extraordinary site is where Roman bathers relaxed more than 1,600 years ago. It is even more breathtaking on a summer torchlight tour, which visitors can also combine with a glass of champagne or a three-course dinner.

Overnight: The Royal Crescent, Bath

INSIDER TIP

Journey to Melksham to hire a **Vintage Classic** car. Explore the beautiful and picturesque rural landscape at your own pace in a classic car from the 1960's 70's 80's or 90's. Available as two seater sports cars or four seater saloon.

Day 6-7 – Explore Bristol

Busy, buzzing Bristol is packed with things to see and do – from the historic - **Brunel's SS Great Britain**, **Clifton Suspension Bridge** or **Bristol Cathedral**; to the natural **University of Bristol Botanic Gardens**, or **Bristol Zoo**.

Enjoy a contemporary cultural experience with a street art tour, get a top-down look at the city with a balloon ride with **Bailey Balloons** or take a first-class tour to see the last flying Concorde at **Aerospace**.

Bristol Packet Boat Trips offer harbour tours and river cruises with award winning commentaries. Arrange a private charter and enjoy an afternoon tea on board. Or take a ride on a high spec tandem bicycle with **Bristol Tandem Hire** where you can explore the cities at your own pace.

Overnight: Brooks Guest House, Bristol

Places	Miles/kms by road*
Heathrow to Hampton Court	6 miles / 9.6 km
Hampton Court to Windsor	16 miles / 25.8 km
Windsor to Henley-on-Thames	15 miles / 24.1km
Henley-on-Thames to Reading	8 miles / 12.9 km
Reading to Malmesbury	53 miles / 85.3 km
Malmesbury - Bath	24 miles / 38.6 km
Bath to Bristol	14 miles / 22.5 kms

*These are the total distances for the day.