



Tour Information



The Ultimate Royal Experience





The tour commences and concludes at the **Talbot Hotel, Ripley.**

High Street,

Ripley

Woking

Surrey GU23 6BB

Tel: 01483 225188

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.

Transport



If you are travelling by car:

From London, follow the A3 via Wimbledon. At the Ripley bypass, take Portsmouth Road to the High Street and the Talbot Hotel is on the left-hand side – approx. 30-40 mins journey time.

For other routes, the hotel is conveniently located just off the M25 (junction 10).

If you are travelling by train: The nearest railway station is Woking which is approx. 4km away.



Accommodation

Talbot Ripley Hotel

Nestled in the heart of the picturesque Surrey village of Ripley, the Talbot stands as one of the country's most storied and historic coaching inns. Their stylish and contemporary bedrooms boast en-suite facilities, hairdryer, TV and telephone. Free car parking is available at the hotel.

More information can be found via the hotel's website:

<https://www.thetalbotripley.com/>

Check in and departure from hotel

On the day of arrival, the tour manager will meet you at 14.30 for cream tea.

Please note that your room is not guaranteed to be ready until after 15.00. The hotel reception will look after your luggage until your return from the evening visit.

On the last day of the tour, the tour will not finish until approximately 18.00 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is by 11.00.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Dining

A cream tea and a late 2-course hot/cold buffet dinner is provided on Day 1. During the second evening of the tour, a 3-course dinner with two glasses of wine will be provided by the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on both days of your stay is included in the price, but meals other than these stated are not included.



Places Visited

Windsor Castle

Windsor Castle is the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world. It has been the family home of British kings and queens for almost 1,000 years. It was an official residence of the late Queen, whose standard used to fly from the Round Tower when she was in residence. Windsor is still very much a working royal palace. The Castle is used regularly for ceremonial and State occasions. It is here that His Majesty The King often hosts State Visits from overseas monarchs and presidents. St George's Hall makes a spectacular setting for a State Banquet, when a single table, stretching the length of the hall and seating 160 people, is decorated with porcelain, and silver-gilt from the Royal Collection.

<http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/visit/windsorcastle>

Westminster Abbey

Westminster Abbey is steeped in more than a thousand years of history. Benedictine monks first came to this site in the middle of the tenth century, establishing a tradition of daily worship which continues to this day. The Abbey has been the coronation church since 1066 and is the final resting place of seventeen monarchs. The present church, begun by Henry III in 1245, is one of the most important Gothic buildings in the country, with the medieval shrine of an Anglo-Saxon saint still at its heart. A treasure house of paintings, stained glass, pavements, textiles and other artefacts, Westminster Abbey is also the place where some of the most significant people in the nation's history are buried or commemorated. Taken as a whole the tombs and memorials comprise the most significant single collection of monumental sculpture anywhere in the United Kingdom.

<http://www.westminster-abbey.org/>

The State Rooms at Buckingham Palace

The term 'State Rooms' is applied to those rooms that were designed and built as the public rooms of the Palace, in which monarchs receive, reward and entertain their subjects and visiting dignitaries. Today the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace are used extensively by The King and members of the Royal Family to receive and entertain their guests on State, ceremonial and official occasions.

The Palace's nineteen State Rooms predominantly reflect the taste George IV (r.1820-30), who commissioned the architect John Nash to transform what had previously been known as Buckingham House into a grand palace. Many of the pieces of furniture, sparkling chandeliers, candelabra and other works of art in these rooms were bought or made for Carlton House, George IV's London home when he was Prince of Wales. Today the State Rooms are furnished with many of the greatest treasures from the Royal Collection, including paintings by Van Dyck and Canaletto, sculpture by Canova, exquisite pieces of Sèvres porcelain, and some of the finest English and French furniture in the world.

<http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/visit/the-state-rooms-buckingham-palace>

The Tower of London

One of Britain's greatest and most iconic buildings, the Tower of London was established by William Conqueror in 1066 to keep hostile Londoners at bay. The mighty Tower of London has been the scene of Britain's most dramatic, fascinating and surprising history and houses the world-famous Crown Jewels.

<https://www.hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london/#gs.t8b7du>

Hampton Court Palace

Dating back to 1515 when it was commissioned by Cardinal Wolsey, who later gifted it to Henry VIII. It is one of only two of Henry VIII's palaces still in existence. The original Tudor palace was begun by Cardinal Wolsey in the early 16th century, but it soon attracted the attention of Henry VIII, who brought all his six wives here. Surrounded by gorgeous gardens and famous features such as the Maze and the Great Vine, the palace has been the setting for many nationally important events. When William III and Mary II (1689-1702) took the throne in 1689, they commissioned Sir Christopher Wren to build an elegant new baroque

palace. Later, Georgian kings and princes occupied the splendid interiors. When the royals left in 1737, impoverished 'grace and favour' aristocrats moved in.

<https://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace>

Practical Information

Tour manager - Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services.

Grading – This tour has been graded as **Moderate**: Walking between sites, lots of standing for viewing.



Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday, please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason, you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900 – 1700) telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807 or 07441 343850

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

Travel Editions

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