



South West Area Tour to Northamptonshire

Five Nights at the Northampton Marriott

(based on two people sharing)

Thursday, 29th August to Tuesday, 3rd September 2019

Tour Price : £505 per person**

To include all coach travel, five nights dinner, bed & breakfast,
portorage and entrance to various venues.

Daily Itinerary:

Thursday, 29th August

We leave Taunton to travel to Northampton Marriott where we will stay for five nights on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis.

Our lunch stop will be Milletts Farm Shop and Garden Centre. The restaurant caters for hot and cold food as well as many sandwiches, soup and other tasty treats.

Friday, 30th August

Boughton House and Gardens is located at the heart of England being a blend of the intimate and the grand having drawn inspiration from the Palace of Versailles. It earned the title "The English Versailles" and thus inspired Universal film makers to use Boughton in the latest film adaptation of Les Miserables.

Boughton is also home to many works of art by great masters such as El Greco, Van Dyck, Batoni and Gainsborough. There are also many examples of Huguenot craftsmanship with the house.

The gardens include a rose garden and a walled kitchen garden.

Saturday, 31st August

Althorp House is our destination today, this house is said to be one of the most beautiful stately homes in England. Althorp was built in 1508, by the Spencers, for the Spencers, and that is how it has remained for over 500 year. The present Earl Spencer said "Sometimes I forget what a magnificent, historic place Althorp is: because for me, it is simply 'home'"

Althorp has wonderful treasures to explore from magnificent state rooms, works of art and an extensive display of porcelain from oriental, european and English factories.

The gardens and grounds are extensive and The Round Oval is now known as the resting place of the late Diana, Princess of Wales.

Sunday 1st September

Lampport House and Gardens are today's destination. Lampport has been the home of the Isham family for over 400 years. The historic house is filled with a wonderful collection of furniture and paintings. There is a medieval parish church and a Museum of Rural Life.

The historic ten acre gardens, which include a two acre walled flower garden with no fewer than 250 rows of perennial flowers!, give colour year round and has some curious features which include the world's oldest garden gnome!

Monday 2nd September

We visit **Kelmarsh Hall** and Gardens today. The Hall is a Palladian mansion built in 1732 and is attributed to James Gibb. The Hall is alive with stories about the past resident in the 1920-1930s and doyenne of the "country House Style" Nancy Lancaster.

The Gardens run to some 25 acres and were laid out by Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe and Norah Lindsay for Nancy Lancaster. There is also an unusual triangular shaped walled garden.

Tuesday, 3rd September

After breakfast and the luggage is safely stored away we make a visit to **Drayton House** which is not open to the public but we have been given permission to visit this remarkable property which has been a family home for over a thousand years. The core of the house built by Simon de Drayton about 1300 survives but the house is especially important for the transformation it had during the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

The house passed to the Sackville family in 1770, but only two rooms were changed, being decorated in the Adam manner. The house, therefore, reflects its medieval origins and taste of the Baroque period while remaining very much a family home.

We will have lunch nearby and then commence our journey home.

Tour Price:

The tour price is £505 based on two people sharing. Where available single rooms carry a supplement of £20 per night. The price includes all coach travel, five night's dinner, bed and breakfast at the Northampton Marriot Hotel.

Admission to Boughton, Althorp, Lamport House, Kelmars Hall and Drayton House together with a small charge for the driver's gratuity.

PLEASE NOTE: The right to amend the venue or alter the order of itinerary is reserved. The information given was correct at the time of printing this itinerary.

Members living outside the Taunton area contact Mary Ginger:

(☎ 01823 490527) regarding their travel arrangements please.

A non-refundable deposit of £75 is payable by 29th March 2019 the balance Will be due and payable not later than 18th July 2019 please.

Please note: If you are going to be away when payment is due will you be so kind as to let me have a post-dated cheque for this date please. I have a deadline to keep with the hotel and failure to pay on the due date could result in our losing the booking or a penalty to the paid.

NO FURTHER REMINDERS WILL BE SENT