

Britain & Ireland Explorer

Experience the regal heritage of Edinburgh Castle, learn the secrets of Guinness, go jaunting and see the beauty of England's Lake District.

13 DAYS | 4 COUNTRIES | 19 MEALS | BALANCED



4.5/5

feefo

Guest Review Rating



Trip code: B904

DEPARTURE MONTHS

April - September

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

DAY 1 | STRATFORD-UPON-AVON AND MEDIEVAL YORK

Meet your Travel Director at the trip hotel in London and journey to Stratford-upon-Avon to visit the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Continue on to York, where you walk within the old city walls to the crooked houses of the Shambles and see York Minster, England's largest medieval cathedral. This evening, join your Travel Director for the opportunity to mingle over a pleasant evening of dinner and wine. (D)

Hotel: Hilton, York

WELCOME: Meet your Travel Director for an early morning departure.

DAYS 2 - 3 | SCOTLAND'S CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Stop in Durham to see the castle and Romanesque cathedral. Then view part of Hadrian's Wall, Britain's most renowned Roman monument. Head to the elegant Scottish capital, Edinburgh. Journey down the Royal Mile to see the Palace of Holyroodhouse before crossing over to New Town. Walk with your Local Expert inside Edinburgh Castle and see the Scottish Crown Jewels and Mons Meg. The afternoon is free to shop on Princes Street or visit one of the historical museums or artistic galleries that fill this city. In the evening, select departures will enjoy the spectacle of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Hotel: Leonardo Royal, Edinburgh

DAY 4 | ST. ANDREWS AND INVERNESS

Cross the Firth of Forth into Fife. Make your way to St. Andrews, home to the Old Course and birthplace of golf. Enjoy free time to explore. Perhaps stroll to West Sands Beach where the famous 'Chariots of Fire' scene was filmed? Your travels continue as you cross the Tay river. Journey via Blair Atholl and past the Grampian Mountains to the sparkling Spey Valley. Later, continue to Inverness and your hotel. (B) (D)

Hotel: Pentahotel/AC by Marriott, Inverness

DAY 5 | LOCH NESS AND GLENCOE

In the morning, travel along Loch Ness and hear tales of the famous Nessie. Continue past Glencoe to reach the bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond. Admire the incredible scenery as you cruise what is arguably one of Scotland's most beautiful lochs, whilst enjoying a light lunch.

(B) (L) (D)

Hotel: AC by Marriott/Hotel B&B, Inverness

DAY 6 | THE ENGLISH LAKES TO LIVERPOOL

In the morning, discover the beauty of the Lake District. Continue to your hotel in Liverpool. (B) (RS)

Hotel: Maldron, Liverpool

INCLUDED MEALS: Breakfast (B) Lunch (L) Dinner (D)
RELAXED STARTS: (RS)

HOTELS: On occasion, hotels of a similar standard and location may be used.



HIGHLIGHT INCLUSIONS

Premium Experiences

Stratford-upon-Avon | Learn about the life of William Shakespeare, arguably history's most famous writer, when you visit his birthplace.

Blarney | *Insight Choice* Take your turn to kiss the Blarney Stone, the famous stone of eloquence sourced from 330-million-year-old limestone, or explore the gardens of the Blarney Castle estate which are brought to life on a guided tour with a senior gardener.

Waterford | Visit Waterford Crystal and see master crafters utilise traditional cutting and blowing methods in the art of crystal carving.

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

Bath | Visit the Roman Baths and discover 2,000 years of history. Learn how this hub of culture is pioneering new educational investments to benefit the community. Your visit directly supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education.

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® EXPERIENCE



Premium Dining

York | Enjoy a traditional Yorkshire dinner and the chance to get to know your fellow travellers.

Loch Lomond | Savour a light lunch whilst you admire the woodlands and incredible scenery during a cruise of one of Scotland's most beautiful lochs.

Killarney | Choose from a fine selection of local restaurants on your Dine-Around evening.

For all inclusions see tour page online.

DAYS 7 - 8 | NORTH WALES AND OVER TO DUBLIN

Step back into Roman times in Chester, where you see the city's ancient encircling walls and remarkable 13th-century black-and-white Rows. Continue through Wales, passing the massive Conwy Castle before crossing over to the Isle of Anglesey. From the port of Holyhead, set sail for Dublin in Ireland. Head to the Guinness Storehouse and enjoy a tasting of Ireland's world famous drink. With your Local Expert see the famous O'Connell Street, the Custom House and Dublin Castle.

Hotel: Trinity City/Riu Plaza The Gresham, Dublin

DAYS 9 - 10 | KILLARNEY AND THE RING OF KERRY

Travel to Ireland's premier thoroughbred horse breeding region for a fascinating, behind-the-scenes visit of the National Stud with an equine professional, and visit the Japanese Gardens. Cross the rolling pastures that encircle Tipperary to Brookfield Farm and join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Meet Ailbhe Gerrard, a passionate farmer and beekeeper, who shares her secrets to crafting the most delicious and sustainable honey of the island. Indulge in a delicious Farm-to-Table lunch. Continue to Killarney. Explore Killarney with Insight Choice. Choose a memorable ride on a horse-drawn jaunting car with the local jarveys. Alternatively, join a gentle hike with a Local Expert through the National Park. Your Dine-Around evening offers authentic and intimate dining with your friends, from a hand-picked selection of fine local restaurants.

Hotel: The Gleneagle, Killarney

DAY 11 | BLARNEY CASTLE AND WATERFORD

Explore Blarney with Insight Choice. Choose to climb up the ramparts and see the famous Stone of Eloquence. Alternatively, visit the lush gardens of the estate with a senior gardener. Travel to the historic walled city of Waterford, for a guided visit of the world-famous House of Waterford Crystal and see artisans at work. After miles of fun and fascinating sights, spirits will be high during dinner. Toast to your newfound friends — Sláinte! **(B) (D)**

Hotel: Granville, Waterford

DAY 12 | ACROSS THE IRISH SEA TO CARDIFF

From the port of Rosslare, board your ferry to cross the Irish Sea. A pleasant drive takes you to the Welsh capital, Cardiff, famous for its imposing castle and the brilliant Principality Stadium. **(B)**

Hotel: Clayton, Cardiff

DAY 13 | ROMAN BATHS, STONEHENGE AND LONDON

Visit the well-preserved Roman Baths, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, pioneering new educational investments to benefit the community. Continue across Salisbury Plain to visit the ancient site of Stonehenge. Your exploration of Britain and Ireland draws to a close upon your return to the hotel in London. **(B)**



KEY

- Join/Leave Options
- UNESCO Heritage Site
- Hotels and Nights
- Place Visited
- Cruise