



Cotswolds Escape

Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Soak up the romance, history and charms of the **Cotswolds**, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- ▶ Travel through millennia to Roman times in **Bath**, lauded for its elegant Georgian architecture and majestic bathing complex.
- ▶ Uncover the life and legacy of William Shakespeare in **Stratford-upon-Avon**.
- ▶ Tour the stately **Blenheim Palace** where Sir Winston Churchill was born and raised.
- ▶ Explore England's unspoiled countryside, **handsome Cotswolds villages and sleepy hamlets**.
- ▶ Visit a **Cotswolds family farm** to enjoy a slice of traditional English country life.
- ▶ Enlighten your inner scholar beneath the ivory towers of the **University of Oxford**.
- ▶ Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage sites and a UNESCO Memory of the World**.

ALUMNI CAMPUS
ABROAD®



Monument of Shakespeare, Stratford-Upon-Avon

Discover the distinctive charms of rural England! Stay in the Georgian town of Woodstock and thrill to the storybook Cotswolds, a vision of floral pathways and unspoiled scenery. Venture out each day to visit honey-colored villages and stroll through customary gardens, cast together with centuries-old tales. Travel to Oxford to explore its storied university, and witness the quintessential architecture of sweet villages in the Cotswolds. Follow in the footsteps of Shakespeare and Winston Churchill in Stratford-upon-Avon and Blenheim Palace. Plus, engage with a local family at their traditional farm, and unravel the magic of Bath!

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for London, England. 🚗

Day 2 | London, England | Woodstock

Arrive in London, transfer 🚗 to Woodstock and check in to the Macdonald Bear Hotel. Later today, join us for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Oxford | Woodstock

Oxford Discovery. Witness the oldest university in the English-speaking world. Four British kings, 47 Nobel Prize winners, one pope and many other notable students graduated from Oxford. Join a walking tour of the town and visit one of the colleges for a closer look.

Blenheim Palace. Continue to Blenheim Palace, the birthplace of Winston Churchill and a celebrated UNESCO World Heritage site. Located in a park designed by "Capability" Brown, this stately palace was built in the 18th century to celebrate victory over the French in the War of the Spanish Succession. Uncover history as you explore the palace's elegant staterooms and formal gardens.

Day 4 | Stratford-Upon-Avon

Enrichment: English Writing Tradition. Join an expert who shares the fascinating life of English writers.

Stratford-Upon-Avon. Unravel the storied life of William Shakespeare. Begin at the family house of Shakespeare's true love, Anne Hathaway, viewing heirlooms, furniture and more. Next, visit the home where William Shakespeare grew up before becoming the world's greatest dramatist. Step into the rooms where he daydreamed as a child, a teenager and a newly married man, and where he perhaps conjured up his acclaimed stories of human emotion and conflict. Next, enjoy exclusive access to the UNESCO-listed Shakespeare Documents. During your viewing, chief archivists and Shakespeare experts share insights into the writer's life and noteworthy contributions.



Day 5 | **Stow-on-the-Wold | Bourton-on-the-Water | Minster Lovell**

Cotswolds ~ Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Delight in breathtaking rural England during an outing to charming Cotswolds villages, each with its own unique history and character. Enjoy visits to Stow-on-the-Wold, designed with narrow lanes that allowed for easy shepherding during the wool trade era, and Bourton-on-the-Water, famous for its ancient stone bridges. Drive through Moreton-in-Marsh, which dates from the Saxon era, and Chipping Campden, famous for its unusual High Street. You may also stop by Minster Lovell, nestled along the romantic River Windrush.

Enrichment: Contemporary England. A local expert discusses modern England, including current events and significant historical moments.

Day 6 | **Cotswolds**

AHI Connects: Traditional Cotswolds Life. Visit a large rural family farm located in the heart of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Tour the property and learn about the farm's traditions and operations. Enjoy chatting with the owners and sit down to lunch.

Free Time: Return to Woodstock and make your own plans during an afternoon at leisure.

Day 7 | **Bath**

Bath. Trace rich history as you walk through the well-preserved city of Bath, a beautiful UNESCO World Heritage site nestled along the River Avon. Bath was built around the only natural hot spring in Great Britain, and the city was originally an exclusive spa getaway for European aristocrats. View the Roman Baths and see artifacts offered to Sulis, the healing goddess as well as remnants of an ancient heating system. Also, admire the stunning architecture of Bath Abbey, Pulteney Bridge and the 18th-century Georgian Royal Crescent, a row of 30 terraced houses with Georgian façades and Romanesque columns.

Free Time: Enjoy lunch and follow your own path in sophisticated Bath. You may wish to relax at the Thermae Bath Spa or visit Bath's Fashion Museum.



Day 8 | **Woodstock**

PYJ | Choose one of the following excursions:

•**Blenheim Park Circular.** Head to Blenheim Park and stretch your legs on a brisk walk around the beautiful gardens. Along the way, take in the lovely scenery and views of the River Glyme and relax over refreshments at a local café or pub. *(Active)*

•**Rousham House and Gardens.** Drive to the Rousham House and Gardens for a tour of the Gothic manor house and perfectly appointed grounds. Designed by British architect William Kent, the property is the purest example of an Augustan landscape garden. Enjoy the property's sights, such as the lovely pigeon house, espalier apple trees and lush woodlands.

Free Time: After your adventure, return to Woodstock for an afternoon at leisure. Enjoy one final stroll through town or relax at a pub with a cocktail.

Raise a toast as you cap off your final evening at tonight's Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | **In Transit**

Transfer to the airport in London for the return flight to your gateway city.

Included Features

Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- 7 nights in Woodstock, England, at the first-class Macdonald Bear Hotel.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance** plan covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **PYJ | Personalize Your Journey** A choice of excursions in selected locales.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



2024 Departures & Pricing

May 30 – June 7, 2024

Full Price from	\$4,245
Special Savings	\$250
Special Price from	\$3,995*

*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details. VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$395 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$895 (limited availability). Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://id.ahitravel.com/destinations/1802A?schoolId=67>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. **Note:** Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions. Flights and transfers provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

Above: City of Bath on the Avon River | Above right: Blenheim Palace