

UK - Flamingos to Fossils

7th – 19th September 2020



Wildlife, Nature and Coast

Enjoy a September tour in the south of the UK. We start at wonderful Slimbridge on the banks of the Gloucester-Sharpness canal close to the River Severn. From our campsite the amazing Slimbridge Wetlands Centre is just 800m walk away. Also from here take the opportunity to visit the fascinating Purton Ships' graveyard.

Our first journey is along the North Somerset coast to Porlock, where our campsite sits close to the South West Coast path. Take time during our stay to visit Porlock Weir and its boat shed museum.

For our next drive we cross Exmoor on route towards Taunton, where hopefully we can arrange a ride on the West Somerset Railway.

Our final stop is on the Jurassic south coast where West Bay, featured in TV crime drama 'Broadchurch' and Eype Bay are near-by. On Eype beach spend time looking for your own piece of natural history, it is here that many of the best recent fossil finds have been made.

This tour offers travel in your own motorhome in lovely locations whilst remaining socially distanced. You will be travelling with like-minded people, with everything organised for you and have the services of our Tour Directors throughout. Included in the tour are two socially distanced group meals and two drinks receptions.

12 Nights

Day One – Monday 7th September

We meet at a well-appointed campsite in Slimbridge, Gloucestershire. This evening the Tour Directors will host a welcome drinks reception outside of their motorhome.

Day Two – Tuesday 8th September

From our campsite 800m walk brings you to the truly amazing Slimbridge Wetlands Centre. Located on the banks of the River Severn there are 100 acres of wildlife, gardens and lakes to explore. Beautiful ducks, geese and fabulous flamingos can all be seen.

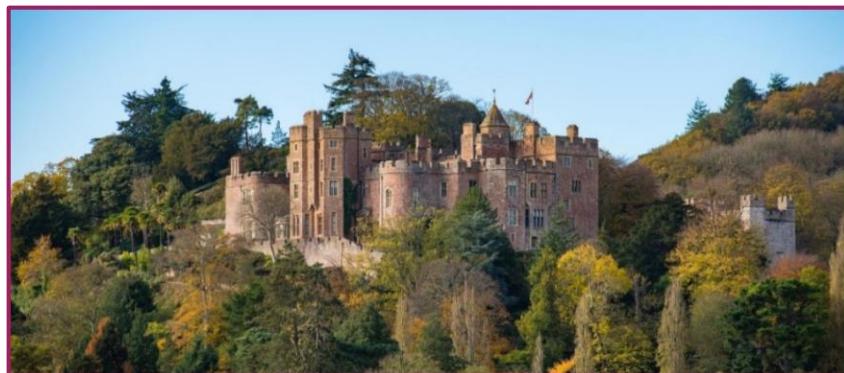


Day Three – Wednesday 9th September

Our campsite is located on the banks of the Gloucester-Sharpness canal offering numerous walks, cycling and relaxing opportunities. A very good visit around 1 hours walk along the canal is to Purton Ships' Graveyard. Here throughout the 20th Century ships coming to the end of their lifespan were grounded into the banks of the River Severn to shore up the narrow strip of land that separates the river from the canal. When you've had enough of being energetic, relax by making use of the near-by Tudor Arms or Black Shed café, both offering quality food and drinks in outside settings with views of the canal.

Day Four – Thursday 10th September

Move on today towards North Devon. Our journey takes us along the North Somerset coast route as far as Porlock. On the way stop off at Dunster Village for both a wander in this fascinating old town along with a visit to the National Trust site of Dunster Castle and Watermill. **90 miles**



Day Five and Six – Friday 11th and Saturday 12th September

An opportunity to enjoy the tranquillity and scenery of the Coast with Exmoor National Park in the background. A good visit is Porlock Weir with its small boat shed museum.



Day Seven – Sunday 13th September

Drive today to our next campsite near Taunton, Somerset. Take the opportunity to make a scenic drive across Exmoor National Park, one of the least populated areas of the UK. **30 miles direct or 50 miles via Exmoor**

Day Eight – Monday 14th September

Our campsite is located next to the West Somerset Railway, a Heritage line running for 23 miles through the Quantock Hills to the North Somerset seaside town of Minehead. The Tour Directors will aim to arrange a group booking for those who would like to make the journey today (payable locally and subject to the train operating).

Day Nine – Tuesday 15th September

Move on today to a well-appointed campsite overlooking the sea on the Jurassic south coast. With just a short journey distance, take time on route to visit Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens. **35 miles**

Day Ten and Eleven – Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th September

Our campsite sits directly on the South West Coast Path with walks to West Bay, famous for its beach that featured in the TV crime drama ‘Broadchurch’. In West Bay you will also find the 240m Jurassic Pier. Eype Beach is another option walkable from the campsite. Here wonderful conditions are found for fossil hunting. Some magnificent finds have been unearthed along this stretch of coastline, maybe you will find your own piece of natural history.



Day Twelve – Friday 18th September

Relax and enjoy the views along with the facilities of the campsite throughout the day. This evening the Tour Directors will host a Farewell Drinks reception outside their motorhome.

Day Thirteen – Saturday 19th September

This morning our tour ends. You may choose to independently explore more along the south coast or make your way home.

VISITS TO PLACES OF INTEREST

- All visits are left for individuals to decide which they would like to make and are not arranged/included in the tour. Within the printed tour pack will be all the necessary information to make the arrangements for everything suggested in the itinerary, and throughout the time away the Tour Directors will be on hand to assist with any bookings. Note some attractions require online pre-booking/paying.

PRICE

TOUR DEPOSIT £250 WITH BALANCE DUE 14/08/2020

Motorhome with 2 people = £449 per person

Motorhome with 1 person = £729

INCLUDED IN PRICE

- 12 Campsite nights with electric hook-ups
- Tour information pack with suggested routes and GPS Co-ordinates
- Information relating to all suggested visits from campsites and on-route drives
- Services of Tour Directors travelling in their own motorhome

Drinks and Meals included

- Welcome drinks with Tour Directors
- Two socially distanced group meals with wine *
- Farewell drinks with Tour Directors

* Days and locations to be arranged whilst on the tour to aim for the correct weather, meals will be planned outdoors. If meals are moved inside they will proceed only where social distancing guidelines can be adhered to.

