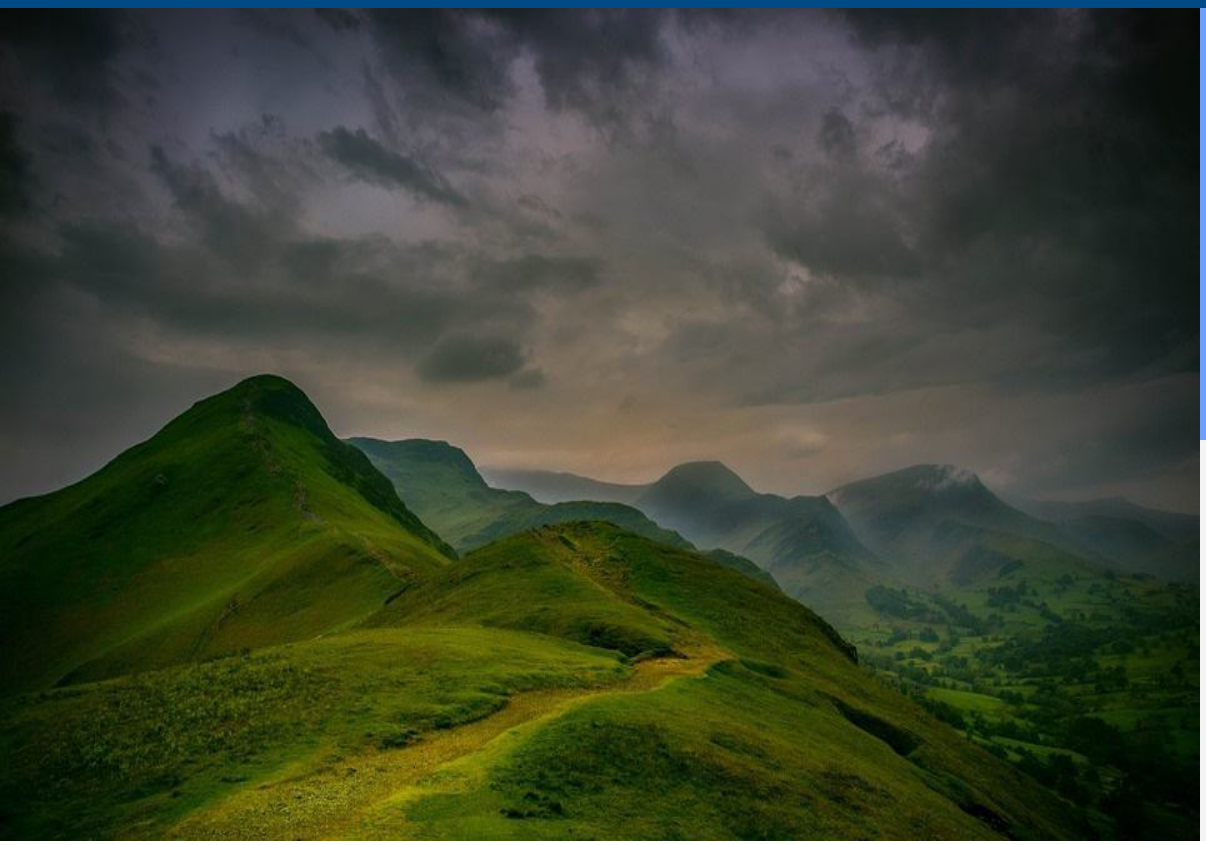
Australia 1300 888 225
New Zealand 0800 440 055
info@odysseytraveller.com



From
£9,423 GBP

Single Room
£10,773 GBP
Twin Room
£9,423 GBP

Prices valid until
30th December 2024

25 days
Duration

England
Destination

Level 2 - Moderate
Activity

Yorkshire, Northumberland and the Lake District

Image not found

Sep 28 2024 to Oct 22 2024

The North of England: Yorkshire, Northumberland and the Lake District small group tour

The North of England, particularly Yorkshire, Northumberland and the Lake District, has much to offer the senior traveller. This fully escorted small group tour is specially designed for those with an interest in fabulous scenery, great architecture and the region's long history in the North of England. It is for those with the time and desire to explore a

relatively small area in some depth. This tour is not for those who need to hurry through a large number of towns in a short period of time. We seek out, and take you to many of these regions' treasures, less familiar to international tourists, though greatly loved by the local Brits. Everyone has heard of the beauty of the Lake District, but how many have sailed across beautiful Coniston Water on an original Victorian steam yacht?



On this tour you will be astounded by more than the the beauty of the Lake District, and the eerie grandeur of the Yorkshire Moors, the home of the Bronte sisters. Our small group tour allows the senior traveller to delve into the history of the Roman Empire in the north, and to explore what each succeeding generation has added to the region. The Lake District had an important Roman naval base, while Yorkshire and Northumberland were vitally important to Britain's political stability during the medieval period, and powerhouses of industry during the Industrial Revolution. The Lake District has long been recognised for its beauty derived from vistas old landscapes and network of dry stone walls creating a visual patchwork linking villages, though you'll find plenty of historic interest there too.



The Architecture of North England

The North of England is home to some of the country's most extraordinary and beautiful buildings, and a number of outstanding art galleries. York Minster is well known as one of the world's great churches, but Carlisle and Durham also have amazing cathedrals, as does little known Ripon, where the lovely cathedral dates back to the 7th century. Northern castles reflect the political importance of keeping the region under firm control during Norman and Tudor times, while magnificent country houses reflect the wealth of the great landowners, and later industrialists. The internationally famous Bowes Museum in Barnard Castle houses a renowned collection of decorative and fine arts, while Newcastle, Leeds and York also have excellent galleries.



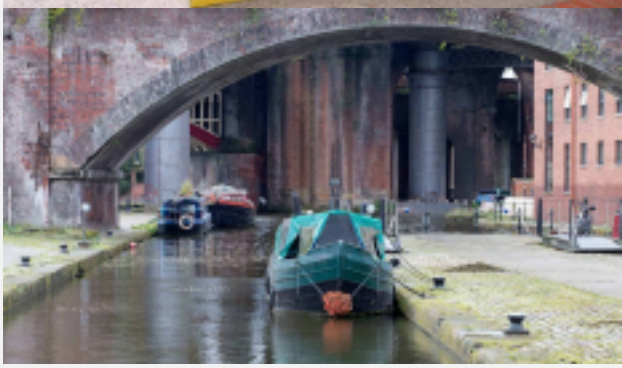
Different cities explored

On this 25 day tour we explore three very different cities in Yorkshire, York and Leeds followed by Manchester. York is known for its fine

medieval centre and buildings. It is surrounded by walls that were begun during the Roman period, and though little of the original Roman Walls remain, much of the extended medieval walls still circle the city. In York we find extensive Viking remains and a Minster that dates back to the 7th century. Leeds also has ancient origins and gets a mention in the Domesday Book, but was not as significant as York during the medieval period. By the 18th century Leeds was a prosperous wool manufacturing town, however, it was not until the 19th century that the city really grew. We spend time looking particularly at its industrial past and fine Victorian Civic buildings, its grandeur and its accompanying poverty. In Manchester, the industrious and the industrial revolutions dominate followed by a shift as a Music and then technology hub.







Whether you travel solo, or with a partner, you will be welcome on an Odyssey small group tour, with like minded companions and a program leader to ensure that you have company when you want it, but the chance to enjoy your own company at other times. You may be surprised by how much more you enjoy the natural beauty of this region, and its historical significance, when you have the chance to discuss what you have seen over a quiet evening drink or a hearty northern meal. This eighteen day tour circles the north of the country, starting in Manchester before heading north to the Scottish border, and then south again via Newcastle and York.

Highlights

1. Sail across Coniston Water in a genuine Victorian Steam Yacht in the Lake District
2. Visit Vindolanda and read (if your Latin is good enough) letters that Roman soldiers wrote
3. Compare two very different Yorkshire cities: York and Leeds.
4. Be amazed by the magnificence of the cathedrals, castles and mansions in Yorkshire and Northumberland
5. Explore the ruined Abbeys of Yorkshire

Itinerary







Day 1

Locations: Manchester

Overview:

Meet with programme leader in the late afternoon, followed by a welcome dinner at our hotel.

If you haven't visited Manchester before, you might like to spend a few days here, either before or after the tour. There is plenty to see in this city which boomed during the Industrial Revolution, and which has seen a recent regeneration, particularly around the Salford Docks.

Day 2

Locations: Ambleside

Overview:

Leave Manchester and head towards Ambleside.

- Visit Lancaster castle and cathedral
- Visit Sizergh castle (National Trust) or Levens Hall. (Levens Hall has great gardens, laid out in 1694. It also has a display of very early English patchwork and a good café.)

Day 3

Locations: Ambleside

Overview:

From our base, today we join our local guide and spend the day enjoying the following activities.

- Victorian Steam Yacht on Coniston Water to Brantwood (home of John Ruskin).
- Meet coach at Brantwood and drive to Hilltop House (home of Beatrix Potter).

- Walk Grasmere Lake Loop (about an hour) or visit Dove Cottage.

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 4

Locations: Ambleside

Overview:

Spend day in region of Ravenglass/ Eskdale:

- Roman Bath House at Eskdale
- Muncaster Castle
- Steam train to Dalegarth for Boot (Meet coach here).
- Eskdale Mill

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 5

Locations: Ambleside

Overview:

Today we explore part of the beauty of the Lake District on foot with a selection of short walks.

- Castlerigg Stone Circle
- Aira Force walk (40 minutes)
- Kendal Quaker Tapestry Museum, also Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry.
- Blackwell House
- Walk, Orrest Head track Windermere (40 minutes).

(As much of this as possible in one day…walks included if the weather is fine and the clients capable!)





Day 6

Locations: Ambleside

Overview:

Today is a leisure day.

Accommodation:

TBA



Day 7

Locations: Newcastle.

Overview:

Leave Ambleside and drive to Newcastle, via Carlisle to visit:

- Carlisle Castle Museum
- Carlisle Cathedral

Continue to Newcastle, via Brampton to visit St Martin's Church designed by Pre-Raphaelite architect Philip Webb and with stained glass windows designed by Edward Burne-Jones.

Accommodation:

TBA



Day 8

Locations: Newcastle

Overview:

- Guided walking tour of Newcastle including a tour of the castle.
- Afternoon free to explore
- Late afternoon visit to the Victorian Tunnel.

Group meal this evening.

Accommodation:

TBA



Day 9

Locations: Newcastle

Overview:

Visit Hadrians Wall

- Vindolanda
- Roman Army Museum

Accommodation:

TBA



Day 10

Locations: Newcastle

Overview:

Drive north to visit:

- Bamburgh Castle
- Cragside House

(Both have links to industrialist William Armstrong.)

Accommodation:

TBA



Day 11

Locations: New Castle

Overview:

Today we head to Durham

Our first stop today is Washington Old Hall (NT). Washington Old Hall is a historic manor house in Washington, Tyne and Wear. It lies in the centre of Washington, being surrounded by other villages. The building was the ancestral home of the family of George Washington, the first president of the United States. The group tours the property before

heading south to Durham.

We pause to view Angel of the North and reach Durham. Here we meet our local guide for a walking tour of Durham including the Cathedral. WE take the train back to Newcastle from Durham.

Accommodation:

TBA







Day 12

Locations: Ripon to York

Overview:

Travel to York via Barnard Castle and Ripon.

Today we travel to York. The groups stops and spends time learning about;

Barnard Castle:

- The Bowes Museum, a French style chateau, with a collection of European and decorative arts.
- Eggleston Hall Gardens, 4.5 acres of garden, if there is time and weather permitting.

We continue on to Ripon the small group tour explores and learns about :

- the Cathedral
- Town Hall

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 13

Locations: York

Overview:

We begin the day with our a guided city tour ending at the Minster. This tour is a mix of coach in the morning and then walking through the city.

The group develops an appreciation of the Romans in York, the Vikings, the impact of the industrial revolution on York, think York Rowntree sweets.

This afternoon we visit the Art gallery

There is a group meal tonight.

Accommodation:

TBA





Day 14

Locations: York

Overview:

Day at your leisure.

Accommodation:

TBA



Day 15

Locations: York

Overview:

The Coach today takes across to Whitby:

We visit the Abbey and the Captain Cook Museum

Later we take the Steam train to Pickering to visit church of St Peter and St. Paul. These churches are known for there medieval frescoes.

We return to York.

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 16

Locations: York

Overview:

Visit with Programme Leader to:

- Merchant Adventurers House
- Jorvik

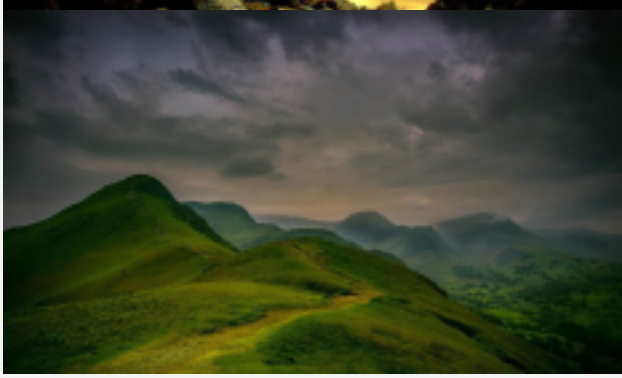
Afternoon free, might like to visit:

- Barley Hall
- Richard III museum
- Fairfax House
- Castle Museum

Accommodation:

TBA





Day 17

Locations: Harrogate

Overview:

Leave York for Leeds via:

- Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal water Gardens.

We join our local guide in Harrogate.

The day is spent in the city centre. Our local guide takes us through the Theatre Royal with a deep history linked to Gilbert and Sullivan and the Doyly -Carte family. We also visit including St Wilfrid's Church and The Pump Rooms Museum with its impressive tiling and Victorian spa.

Group meal in the evening and a walk up into the Victorian gardens.

Accommodation:

TBA







Day 18

Locations: Leeds

Overview:

We depart early for Leeds from Harrogate.

Guided city tour to include Town Hall, Holy Trinity Church, Corn Exchange and Victoria Quarter etc. arcades. Finish at the Royal Armouries Museum. Visit Armoury.

Remainder of day free to explore, might like to visit the Leeds Art Gallery or one of the museums.

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 19

Locations: Leeds

Overview:

Exploring Yorkshire with visits and entrances to;

- Ilkley Moor
- How Stean Gorge
- Nidderdale AONB
- Temple Newsom House (Tudor/Jacobean)

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 20

Locations: Leeds

Overview:

Today we explore Industrial Leeds.

Specific tours included are

- Leeds Industrial Museum
- Thwaite Mill

This afternoon is at your leisure to explore.

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 21

Locations: Buxton

Overview:

Leave York heading to Bakewell area via Hardwick Hall

- Hardwick Hall
- Haddon Hall or Chatsworth

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 22

Locations: Manchester

Overview:

Return to Manchester via NT's Little Moreton Hall.

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 23

Locations: Manchester

Overview:

Walking tour of the city of Manchester.

In the afternoon we examine the railway line and museums – Manchester to Liverpool

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 24

Locations: Manchester

Overview:

Today we continue with a second day exploring Manchester.

Farewell dinner in local restaurant

Accommodation:

TBA

Day 25

Locations: Manchester

Overview:

Tour ends this morning after breakfast

Level 2 - Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, be in good health, mobile and able to participate in 3-5 hours of physical activity per day, the equivalent of walking/hiking up to 8 kilometres on uneven ground.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.