

The Arts Society Ribble & Craven presents

# The Historic Houses, Heritage & Art of Northumbria & the Scottish Borders

5 days from £579 Departing 18th September 2023



Cragside House & Gardens



## FEATURES

- Half board accommodation
- A full programme of included excursion travel & guided tours
- Blue Badge guide included on Days 2 to 5
- Executive coach throughout

## WHAT WE WILL SEE

- The Spanish Gallery – guided tour
- Alnwick Gardens
- Cragside House & Gardens
- Floors Castle
- The Angel of the North
- Lindisfarne Castle
- Bamburgh
- Durham – guided tour
- Durham Cathedral

## OPTIONAL

- Boat trip to the Farn Islands on Day 4

## ACCOMMODATION

We stay four nights on a half board basis at the 3\* Best Western Plus Gibside Hotel ([www.gibsidehotel.co.uk](http://www.gibsidehotel.co.uk)) at Wickham, four miles south west of Newcastle. Located in the centre of this historic village, facilities at the hotel include Paco's Restaurant that offers a high standard of cuisine and the Egyptian style Sphinx Bar with its superb panoramic views over the Tyne Valley. All rooms are en suite and feature telephone, television, tea & coffee making facilities and a hairdryer.

## EXTRAS TO YOUR TOUR

- Single room supplement £99
- Insurance (including Covid cover) £29
- Entrance fees to places visited as part of this itinerary (National Trust properties free to NT members)
- Optional boat trip on Day 4
- Gratuities

Price based on twin share. Minimum numbers required. Normal booking conditions apply.

For more information on this tour contact your Group Organiser

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Tailored Travel's ATOL number is 5605



Lindisfarne Castle

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## The Historic Houses, Heritage & Art of Northumbria & the Scottish Borders

### WHAT WE WILL SEE

The Spanish Gallery  
Alnwick Gardens  
Cragside House & Gardens  
Floors Castle  
The Angel of the North  
Lindisfarne Castle  
Bamburgh  
Guided tour of Durham  
Durham Cathedral



The Angel of the North



Alnwick Gardens



Floors Castle



Durham Cathedral

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#### Day 1

We board our private executive coach and depart from our designated pick up points. En route to our hotel we enjoy a guided tour (subject to availability) at The Spanish Gallery at Bishop Auckland. The gallery depicts a story of Golden Age Spanish art during the 16th and 17th centuries, exploring how its artists expressed the tension between man's yearning for eternity and the transience of life. We continue to the 3\* Best Western Plus Gibside Hotel at Whickham where we stay four nights on a half board basis.

#### Day 2

Our Blue Badge guide meets us at our hotel this morning and accompanies us throughout the day. Alnwick Gardens is our destination this morning. The Duchess of Northumberland's vision was to create a beautiful public space accessible to everyone, and the garden is now halfway to completion featuring spectacular water displays, wonderful gardens and one of the largest tree houses in the world. This afternoon we visit Cragside House and Gardens, a wonderful Victorian mansion dating from the 19th century and described as 'the palace of a modern magician'. Its interior features state of the art hydraulics powering a revolutionary lift system and internal telephones which mesmerised visitors in its time.

#### Day 3

With our Blue Badge guide we travel to the Scottish Borders today. Here we visit Floors Castle, originally built for the 1st Duke of Roxburghe in 1721, and home to a fine collection of priceless European paintings, tapestries and furnishings. On arrival back in Newcastle this afternoon we visit Antony Gormley's The Angel of the North. Since spreading its wings in February 1998, The Angel of the North has become one of the most talked about and recognisable pieces of public art ever produced, winning many accolades and awards along the way.

#### Day 4

Our Blue Badge guide accompanies us on a visit to the National Trust's Lindisfarne Castle on Holy Island, a romantic 16th century castle with spectacular views that was transformed by Lutyens into an Edwardian holiday home. This afternoon you may choose to join our optional boat trip to Farne Island, one of Britain's most important bird sanctuaries. For those not choosing to join the optional boat trip, the afternoon will be at leisure in Bamburgh where you may wish to visit the Castle.

#### Day 5

Our guided walking tour of Durham with our Blue Badge guide this morning incorporates a visit to the Cathedral, once described as 'one of the great architectural experiences of Europe' and a renowned masterpiece of Norman architecture. Taking carefully selected comfort stops en route, we return back to our original pick up points.

NB:- Please note we reserve the right to alter the above itinerary if required for operational reasons. Given the historic nature of the places visited, a certain degree of walking will be involved, and this tour may not be suitable for those with mobility problems.