



## COLOURFUL COTSWOLDS, OXFORD & BATH 30 September – 4 October 2019

### Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019

09.30hrs – group will be picked up at the Archway of the Quadrangle at NUIG and we will start the journey to Dublin where we need to arrive at 12.50hrs to board the ferry which departs at 13.50hrs for Holyhead. On arrival in Holyhead at 16.05hrs we continue to Cheltenham with a stop en-route arriving at the hotel at approximately 22.00hrs when we will check in for our 4 night stay. ***Please note that arrival time will not allow for any traffic delays there may be en-route. If you take this afternoon ferry option then it would be better for the group to have their main meal on the ferry and then just stop at a Service Area en-route to the hotel.***  
(B&B)

### Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019

We depart the hotel after breakfast and set off on a full day excursion through the charming Cotswold countryside. Our route takes us to Broadway, one of the Cotswolds' most famous villages with Elizabethan houses surrounding the village green. We continue to picturesque Chipping Campden with its honey-coloured Cotswold stone buildings dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Next stop is Stow-on-the-Wold, the highest town in the area, nowadays known for its antique trade, and our final visit is to Bourton-on-the-Water. The village sits astride the River Windrush with small bridges linking tree-lined greens. There are many traditional Cotswold houses in this wonderful setting. We return to the hotel in time for dinner.  
(D,B&B)

### Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

We depart the hotel after breakfast and today's full day excursion is to Bath, one of England's finest cities for a walking tour. With its Roman Baths, built around Britain's only hot spring, the Georgian Royal Crescent, famous Pulteney Bridge and the 15<sup>th</sup> century Abbey, there is so much to see and do here. After the tour, there will be time at your own leisure for visiting some or all of the well-known sights before we return to the hotel with time to freshen up before going to a nearby restaurant for dinner as a group. (B&B)

### Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

We set off this morning for Blenheim Palace, the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Set in over 2000 acres of parkland, in the village of Woodstock near Oxford, the palace is a fine example of Baroque architecture and contains amazing collections of porcelain, paintings and tapestries. The grounds were landscaped by 'Capability' Brown and contain wide lawns, formal gardens and a lake. After a relaxed visit, we return via the 'city of dreaming spires', Oxford. We have free time to wander amongst the University colleges and perhaps visit one of the world-renowned attractions - the Bodleian Library, the Ashmolean Museum, the Botanic Gardens or Christ Church Cathedral. Return to the hotel. (B&B)

## **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

After breakfast, we check out of the hotel and travel to Holyhead for our afternoon ferry back to Dublin. After disembarking, we transfer you back to Galway.

### **Tour Includes**

Luxury coach throughout with experienced driver  
Return ferry Dublin – Holyhead (Swift ferry on outward journey)  
4 night's hotel accommodation with (B&B - except 2<sup>nd</sup> night D,B&B)  
Dinner in a local restaurant on one night.  
Guide for Walking Tour of Bath  
Guide for tour of Cotswolds  
Entrance to Blenheim Palace, Park & Gardens

### **Cost of Tour**

€600 per person sharing  
€175 single supplement

### **Hotel:**

Holiday Inn Express, Cheltenham Town Centre  
33 Dunalley St, Cheltenham, GL50 4AP

With modern, en suite rooms and a bar, lounge and courtyard, this town-centre hotel is opposite The Brewery Quarter and 1.6 km from Cheltenham Racecourse.

Guests have free use of health facilities at the nearby Fitness First gym, and up to 25% off food at some well-known restaurants opposite the hotel. The bright, spacious guest rooms are equipped with power showers and air conditioning, ensuring a refreshing and comfortable stay. Catch up on email with free WiFi at a dedicated workspace, or watch a show on satellite TV.