

A Visit to Liverpool



Monday 22 - Friday 26 April 2024

The wealth of history and cultural heritage to explore in Liverpool is astonishing. From the industry of the Albert Dock to the dramatic modern architecture of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King to the works of Rubens, Rembrandt and Poussin housed in the Walker Art Gallery, it is a city brimming with impressive art and architecture. Our tour will highlight the very best Liverpool, and the surrounding region, has to offer.

MONDAY 22 APRIL 2024

We will depart from our local pick-up point and travel by coach to **Alrewas**, Lichfield for a visit to the **National Memorial Arboretum**. The Arboretum is made up of 150 acres of trees and memorials devoted to a theme of remembrance. Since 2007 it has also been the home of the Armed Forces Memorial. Designed by Liam O'Connor, it is of national significance in providing recognition for all those who have given their lives in the service of their country since the Second World War. There will be free time for lunch on arrival followed by a **guided tour** with a resident guide.

Following the visit we will continue to **Liverpool**. On arrival we will check into the 4 star **Leonardo Hotel Liverpool** for 4 nights' dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation. After a little time to freshen up, a **welcome dinner** will be served in the hotel restaurant.

TUESDAY 23 APRIL 2024

After breakfast at the hotel we will meet our local guide and embark on a full day of visits in **Liverpool**. This morning we will have a **guided tour** of **St George's Hall** (*subject to availability*). Designed by Harvey Lonsdale Elmes and opened in 1854, St George's Hall is one of the best assembly halls in England and represents the prosperity of Liverpool in the 19th century.



St George's Hall

We will continue to Hope Street to take **refreshments** at one of the most ornate pubs in England, the dazzling and flamboyant **Philharmonic Public House**. It was commissioned between 1898 and 1900 and features an extremely ornate Art Deco interior. Further exploration of the city will uncover an array of wonderful architecture revealing the past wealth of this prosperous city.

After refreshments we will continue to the **Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King**, a modern cathedral built in a dramatic circular style with a multi-coloured glass lantern tower bathing the interior in a pool of light. There will be free time to take lunch.

We will conclude our day with a visit to the **Walker Art Gallery**. Founded in 1873 by Sir Andrew Barclay Walker, a local brewer and Mayor of Liverpool, the gallery houses one of the finest art collections in the North. Paintings range from early Italian and Flemish works to Rubens, Rembrandt, Poussin, and French Impressionists such as Degas. Among the strong collection of British artists from the 18th century onwards are works by Millais, Turner and Gainsborough. We will return to our hotel this evening and **dinner** will be taken in the hotel restaurant.

WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2024

After breakfast at the hotel we will travel by coach to the seaside town of **Great Crosby** to view a piece of modern sculpture, '**Another Place**' by Antony Gormley. The sculpture consists of 100 cast iron figures, which are replicas of the artist's own body looking out to sea, spread over a 2 mile stretch of beach. As the tide ebbs and flows, so the figures emerge and submerge in the water.

We will continue to **Port Sunlight village** at Bebington. William Hesketh Lever came to the Wirral area looking for a suitable site to build a new factory for his expanding soap business. His vision was to build not only the factory, but also houses for his workers. The construction of Port Sunlight village began in 1889 with 28 houses, and eventually grew to 800 houses by 1914.



'Another Place' by Antony Gormley

Today we see the picturesque garden village, named after Lever's famous Sunlight soap, which is now a conservation area and tourist attraction, featuring the Lady Lever Art Gallery as its centrepiece. On arrival at Port Sunlight there will be an **introductory talk** with a **local guide**, followed by a **coach tour** of the village.

Following our tour we will have a free-flow visit of the **Lady Lever Art Gallery**, which is named in memory of Lord Leverhulme's late wife. The collection boasts romantic masterpieces by the great Pre-Raphaelites including Burne-Jones and Rossetti, and dramatic landscape paintings by Constable and Turner. In addition, the gallery houses Chippendale furniture, sculpture, tapestries, delicate Chinese porcelain and English Wedgwood. We will return to our hotel where **dinner** will be taken in the hotel restaurant.

THURSDAY 25 APRIL 2024

After breakfast at the hotel we will meet our local guide to spend the morning exploring Liverpool's **Albert Dock**. We will have a **panoramic tour** en-route to Mersey Ferries terminal, where we will board a boat for a **boat cruise** along the River Mersey.

Following the boat cruise we will have a **guided walking tour** through **Albert Dock**, to include an explanation of the rebuilding of Liverpool. The five warehouses surrounding the dock were designed by Jesse Hartley in 1846, but by the early 1900s the importance of the docks had diminished, and in 1972 they closed.

The Grade I listed buildings were restored in a development which includes television studios,

museums, galleries, shops, restaurants, businesses and a tourist information centre.

Following our tour the remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure. Members may wish to visit the **Museum of Liverpool**, located on the waterfront. Offering free entrance, the museum houses an eclectic range of collections spanning social and community history, regional archaeology, land transport and even the Beatles!

We will enjoy a final **dinner together**, which will be served in a local restaurant this evening.

FRIDAY 26 APRIL 2024

We will check out of the hotel after breakfast and travel to **Speke Hall** (National Trust). Speke Hall, built in 1530, is one of the most famous Tudor Manor houses in the country. Its magnificent half timbered façade stands majestically over attractive landscaped gardens offering vivid floral displays and lovely countryside walks. The interior boasts a Great Hall, Oak Parlour and fully equipped Victorian kitchen and servants' hall in addition to fine Jacobean plasterwork and intricately carved furniture. There will be free time for lunch.

Following the visit we will continue our homeward journey to our original pick-up point arriving in the early evening.

Please note that as this tour has been planned many months in advance, the final itinerary may vary slightly from the above.

Heritage
GROUP TRAVEL

The Arts Society Beckenham

A Visit to Liverpool

TOUR PRICE

£985 per person sharing a twin/double room
£75 single supplement (*for the first 15 rooms, £100 thereafter*)

PRICE INCLUDES

Executive coach travel throughout
4 nights' bed and breakfast accommodation
3 dinners in the hotel restaurant
Dinner on the final evening in a local restaurant
Refreshments at the Philharmonic Public House
Services of a local guide for two full days
and one half day
Guided visit of the National Memorial Arboretum
Guided tour of St George's Hall (*subject to availability*)
Guided coach tour of Port Sunlight
Boat cruise on the River Mersey
All entrance charges and fees
(excluding National Trust properties)

Please note that entrance charges to National Trust properties are not included as these are free of charge to National Trust members upon production of a valid membership card.

HOTEL DETAILS

Leonardo Hotel Liverpool (4 star)
31 Keel Wharf
Liverpool, L3 4FN

For further details please visit their website:
www.leonardohotels.co.uk/hotels/liverpool

MINIMUM NUMBERS

The price of the tour is based on a minimum of
25 paying participants.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

ABTOT provides protection for your booking as set out
in the Financial Protection clause of our
Booking Conditions.

OPTIONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is not mandatory for the UK, but we strongly recommend that you have adequate insurance in place to cover any COVID-related issues. We have arranged a scheme with specialists Brokersure Limited who are fully authorised and regulated by the FCA (firm reference number 501719) full details of which can be found on the FCA website www.fca.org.uk. Please call Brokersure on 0330 880 3625 for a quote.

Please ensure that any policy has adequate cover for COVID-19 related issues.

PAYMENT DETAILS

A deposit of **£250 per person** is due **as soon as possible** and no later than **Friday 17 November 2023**. Please note that as places on the tour are limited, bookings will be accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis. The final balance will be due by **Friday 23 February 2024**.

BOOKING & FINAL TRAVEL DETAILS

To reserve your place on the tour, please send your completed booking form and deposit to Heritage Group Travel. You will receive a confirmation of your booking combined with an invoice for the final balance. The final travel details (itinerary, hotel details and luggage label) will be available approximately 10-14 days prior to travel.

Heritage
GROUP TRAVEL

Charlotte House, 12 Charlotte Street,
Bath BA1 2NE
Tel: **01225 466620**
heritage@grouptravel.co.uk

