

WEDNESDAY 2ND JUNE

MONKEY WORLD – APE RESCUE CENTRE

Depart Oxted 7.30am (Route A) for the drive to Wareham, Dorset and the Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre, the unique sanctuary in the heart of the Dorset countryside which has recently been the subject of the Monkey World television documentary series. This 65-acre woodland park is home to over 230 rescued or endangered primates and is a haven for 15 different species, where they are free to be themselves in a natural environment and in the company of their own kind. Some have been neglected or kept in unnatural conditions, others have experienced unbelievable cruelty. Monkey World was set up in 1987 by the late Jim Cronin to provide a permanent, stable home for abused Spanish beach chimps. Today, his widow, Dr. Alison Cronin, continues his work with foreign governments worldwide to stop the illegal smuggling of apes from Africa and Asia. Here you will be at leisure to wander and view the enclosures where, amongst others, you will find Woolly Monkeys, Marmosets, Orang-utans, Gibbons, Chimpanzees, Ring-Tailed Lemurs and a Chimpanzee Nursery. From 12 noon until 4.00pm half-hourly talks will be given by the team of dedicated keepers who love to share their knowledge of the primates. Refreshments available. Return leave 4.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx. 7.30pm.

Adult: - £35.85

Sen Cit: - £32.75

Child: - £24.50

(Inclusive Coach/Entry to Monkey World)

THURSDAY 3RD JUNE

THE LAKE AND THE GRAPE

Depart Oxted 9.00am (Route A) for Bewl Water the largest inland water in the south east, with a perimeter of 17 miles, lying in a gentle valley within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty between the villages of Lamberhurst, Wadhurst and Ticehurst. On arrival we shall board 'Swallow' for a 40 minute cruise on Bewl Water, followed by a fork buffet lunch before making our way to Biddenden Vineyard, situated just 1½ miles from the lovely old Wealden Village of Biddenden. Established by the Barnes family in 1969, Biddenden is Kent's oldest Commercial Vineyard and planting that began with one third of an acre has now reached 22 acres, with nine varieties of grape producing White, Red, Rosé and Quality Sparkling wines. Traditional Kentish Ciders have also been made here for over 15 years using farm pressed apples. Upon arrival we shall be taken on a guided tour of the vineyard. There will also be the opportunity to taste a selection of the vineyard's range of award winning products and to browse in the shop to pick up a "liquid souvenir" or other memento of your visit. Whilst at the vineyard we shall enjoy a cream tea. Return leave approx 5.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx 6.30pm.

Cost: - £38.85

(Inclusive of Coach/Boat Fare/Lunch/Vineyard Tour/Cream Tea)

FRIDAY 4TH JUNE

EAGLE HEIGHTS WILDLIFE PARK

Depart Oxted 10.15am (Route A) for the drive to the Eagle Heights Wildlife Park situated in Eynsford, Kent with views over the Darent Valley. Eagle Heights is one of the UK's largest bird of prey centres with a collection of approximately 150 raptors, from over 50 species, many of which are now breeding at the centre or can be seen flying in daily demonstrations. The centre provides sanctuary for wild, injured raptors, with the intention of rehabilitating them back to the wild when they are recovered. The centre also has an increasing collection of reptiles and mammals, including Meerkats, Otters, a Cheetah and Huskys. Here you will be at leisure to explore the park and enjoy the flying demonstrations and the reptile and mammal shows which take place daily between 12.00 noon and 4.30pm. Light refreshments available. Return leave 4.45pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx. 5.30pm.

Adult: - £21.00

Sen Cit: - £19.45

Child: - £15.50

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Wildlife Park)

SATURDAY 5TH JUNE

KEW GARDENS, KEW PALACE, QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S COTTAGE & SUMMER IN THE TREETOPS

An opportunity to visit the recently opened Queen Charlotte's cottage, an early example of a 'cottage orné' a rustic cottage built as a country retreat, but not as a residence.

Depart Oxted 9.00am (Route A) for Kew Gardens and Kew Palace. The Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew developed into the fabulous attraction we know today under 'Farmer George' (George III) who was fascinated by horticulture. Those who wish may join us on a state of the art audio tour of the Palace, and gain a fascinating insight into the family life of George, his devoted wife and their six wilful daughters. Visit Queen Charlotte's Cottage, used by the royal family in the late 18th century for resting and taking tea during walks in the gardens. The cottage overlooked a new menagerie, which must have delighted the growing number of royal children. It was first home to pheasants and other exotic birds, but by 1792 also contained some of the first kangaroos to arrive in Britain. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to explore the gardens. Get a birds' eye view of Kew from the Xstrata Treetop Walkway, see the famous Palm House, with many rainforest species and plants useful to man; the elegant and airy Temperate House holding citrus fruits, tea and other exotic species; the Evolution House with prehistoric sights, scents and sounds; the traditional Japanese Minka house; the Princess of Wales Conservatory with 10 different climatic zones and Museum No. 1, home to the exhibition 'Plants and People'. See the Shirley Sherwood Gallery, the first public gallery in the world dedicated to botanical art. Kew holds one of the world's greatest collections of botanical art, totalling over 200,000 items. It includes illustrations of species already lost to mankind for which artwork may be the only surviving record. Wander through Kew's collection of over 35,000 different types of plants and discover inspiration in every corner, or take advantage of the 'Kew Explorer' (*cost not included*) a hop-on/hop-off "train" which circles the gardens all day. The restaurant and shop can be found behind the Orangery. Return leave 4.30pm. Arriving back in Godstone approx. 5.30pm.

Adult: - £29.35 **Sen Cit:** - £27.60 **Child:** - £15.25
(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Kew Gardens only)

Adult: - £31.75 **Sen Cit:** - £29.80 **Child:** - £15.25
(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Kew Gardens/Kew Palace/Queen Charlotte's Cottage)

SUNDAY 6TH JUNE

COLUMBIA ROAD FLOWER MARKET

Depart Oxted 8.00am (Route C) for the drive to Columbia Road, London where, tucked away in the heart of London's East End you'll find the capital's most colourful and sweet-smelling market. Flowers, shrubs, bedding plants and other horticultural delights are all for sale. As well as cut flowers, there are topiary trees, pot plants, hanging baskets, bulbs and bouquets turning the street to blossom. The 52 stalls and surrounding shops sell everything to cater for that English obsession - gardening. With most of the traders being based in Essex, many of the plants and flowers are grown and produced locally. The market has a number of shops selling bread and cheeses, antiques and garden accessories and a number of outlets selling unusual international edibles, soap, candlesticks and Buddhist artefacts as well as cafés, restaurants and pubs. Refreshments available. Return leave 2.00pm. Arriving back at Sanderstead by approx. 3.30pm.

Adult: - £17.25

Child: - £15.25

MONDAY 7TH JUNE

TITSEY PLACE

Depart Oxted 1.15pm (Route A) for the drive to Titsey Place, Limpsfield one of the largest surviving historic estates in Surrey, dating back to the mid-16th century, though the first impression now is of a comfortable early 19th-century house in a picturesque park at the foot of the North Downs. The estate was originally bought in 1534 by Sir John Gresham, of the famous London merchant dynasty, and descended in the early-19th century through the female line to the Leveson Gowers, (pronounced Looson Gores), who lived at Titsey until the death of Thomas Leveson Gower in 1992. The last generation of Leveson Gowers, being bachelors and having no close relatives, had given much thought to the future of Titsey and set up the Titsey Foundation, a charitable trust, to preserve the estate for public benefit. The surroundings of Titsey, as they are today, are largely the work of William and Granville Leveson Gower in the 19th century. They planted the park and laid out the garden. William was responsible in particular for the hillside beech plantation, which covers 210 acres. The interior of the main part of the house has well-proportioned rooms with Regency plaster cornices, panelled doors, and simple marble chimneypieces. Titsey is especially noted for its fine collection of family portraits. Here we shall be taken on a guided tour of the house, enjoy a cream tea in their tearooms and be at leisure to explore the gardens. Return leave 5.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx 5.20pm.

Cost: - £25.00

(Inclusive of Coach/Guided tour of House/Entry to Gardens/Cream Tea)

TUESDAY 8TH JUNE

WARWICK AND KENILWORTH CASTLE & ELIZABETHAN GARDEN

Depart Oxted 7.30am (Route A) for the medieval walled town of Warwick, with its Queen Anne houses and gabled and timber-framed buildings. Here you will be at leisure to browse the quality independent shops and fine restaurants nestled between historic buildings and beautiful parks and gardens. Above the River Avon rises the majestic walls and turrets of Warwick Castle (entry not included), created as a fortification in AD914, to protect the small hilltop settlement from Danish invaders who posed a threat to the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia. Early afternoon, for those who wish we shall take the short drive to Kenilworth Castle, now magnificently enhanced by a sumptuous Elizabethan Garden. One of England's most impressive castle ruins, Kenilworth has a past rich in associations with medieval monarchs; King Henry VIII; and of course the royal love story of Queen Elizabeth I and her favourite, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Leicester transformed the mighty medieval castle into a palace fit for a queen, and it was here that he hosted Elizabeth's lavish royal 'progresses'. Like the queen in 1575, visitors can now marvel at the extravagant garden Dudley created to woo and impress her and to score off political rivals. Lovingly brought back to life with its arbours, towering fountain and bejewelled aviary, it presents the most complete impression of an Elizabethan garden anywhere in the world. Visit Dudley's beautiful Elizabethan gatehouse. Tour its rooms, furnished as they were in the 1930s, when the gatehouse was last inhabited as a home. View the top floor exhibition, telling the story of Elizabeth and Dudley. Explore the 900-year history of the castle in a fascinating exhibition in the Tudor Stables and relax in the attractively-sited tearoom.

Return leave: Kenilworth - 4.00pm
 Warwick - 4.30pm.

Arriving back at Godstone by approx. 8.00pm.

Adult: - £28.95 **Child:** - £19.95
(Warwick only)

Adult: - £36.55 **Sen Cit:** - £35.10 **Child:** - £22.65

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Kenilworth Castle Gardens)

(Eng Heritage members less; Adult: £5.95 Sen Cit: £5.10 Child: £3.00 but **must** bring card)

TUESDAY 8TH JUNE

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Depart Oxted 7.30am (Route A) for Stratford-upon-Avon, birthplace of William Shakespeare. The town, although the largest tourist centre in England after London, retains its identity as a small, mellow, old market community with memorable buildings, broad streets, meadow-flanked river and canal bright with boats. Here you will be at leisure to explore and shop. Take an open-top 'hop-on/hop-off' City Sightseeing bus tour visiting Shakespearian Houses - including his birthplace, Anne Hathaway's Cottage and Mary Arden's House, along with the Royal Shakespeare Theatre; Holy Trinity Church where he is buried, protected by a cursed tombstone and the 15th-century Grammar School where he was educated. Visit Shakespearience at the Waterside Theatre, (entry not included, please allow at least an hour for your visit) a multi-sensory attraction that presents the life and legacy of William Shakespeare in a spectacular and exciting way. Using the very latest developments in show technology and special effects, Shakespearience is a groundbreaking attraction that reveals the man behind the well-known face and provides an exciting introduction to some of his greatest works. Return leave 5.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx. 8.00pm.

Adult: - £28.95

Child: - £19.95

THURSDAY 10TH JUNE

WHITSTABLE AND MOUNT EPHRAIM GARDENS

Depart Oxted 9.15am (Route A) for the drive to the picturesque coastal town of Whitstable where you will be at leisure to explore and find lunch. See the harbour, built in 1832 by the Canterbury and Whitstable Railway Company in order to serve the 'Crab and Winkle' line, the world's first passenger railway service; the harbour fish markets, which sell all manner of fresh sea food including the famous Whitstable oysters; the multitude of alley ways, that run between the High Street and the sea, developed by locals who needed greater access to the sea and which also served as convenient escape routes for smugglers, all with interesting names, such as 'Squeeze Gut Alley', 'Collar's Alley' and 'The Old Favourite', derived from who lived there or their purpose. You may choose to relax on one of Whitstable's five traditionally English pebble beaches. See the pretty wooden clad beach front houses and beach huts. Be sure to take a stroll along charming Harbour Street with its pretty little shop fronts, boutiques and restaurants. Early afternoon we take the short drive to Mount Ephraim Gardens a ten acre Edwardian Garden, magically set to give fine views of sloping orchards and pasture to the Thames Estuary. Here you will be at leisure to enjoy the elaborate and unusual topiary garden with its miscellany of birds, animals and First World War memorabilia in clipped yew; view the wide herbaceous borders; see the Japanese style rock garden, based on a series of pools and ornamented with a Japanese stone bridge and lanterns; the grass maze, based on a medieval design and filled with wonderful grasses; the Millennium Rose Garden and the Arboretum, planted to commemorate Mary Dawes' 80th birthday and also to celebrate 300 years of the family's ownership of Mount Ephraim. The gardens are at the heart of an 800-acre estate comprising the house and gardens, a progressive fruit farm, small vineyard and grazing. Return leave 4.30pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx.5.45pm.

Cost: - £26.60

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Gardens)

FRIDAY 11TH JUNE

SOUTH OF ENGLAND SHOW, ARDINGLY

Depart Oxted 9.00am (Route A) for our visit to Ardingly and the South of England Agricultural/Country Show - the largest in Southern England - an interesting and exciting day out for all the family. Soak up the atmosphere, browse the multitude of trade stands selling anything from agricultural machinery and tools to clothes, many at bargain prices; visit the food market selling speciality foods - everything from cheese to chocolate, from meats to freshly baked bread, many produced in the local area. Gain inspiration from the extensive craft area - maybe buy a new outfit, that finishing touch to a room or a special gift; visit the W I Market, the spectacular Horticultural marquee with its beautiful floral arrangements, not forgetting the chance to mingle with our farmyard friends, and enjoy the non-stop programme of displays and events in the main ring. Return leave 5.00pm. Arriving back in Godstone by approx. 5.45pm.

Adult: - £30.95 **Sen Cit:** - £26.95 **Child:** - £15.15

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Show)

SATURDAY 12TH JUNE

EUROTUNNEL TO OSTEND

Depart Oxted 6.30am (Route A) for the drive to Folkestone where we shall board the Eurotunnel to Calais and thereafter drive on to the Belgian coastal resort of Ostend, an important port since the Middle Ages. It became a favourite resort of Belgian royalty in the 19th century and developed into a fashionable town with a casino and other elegant buildings. Though no longer visited by royalty, Ostend is still a bustling beach town with excellent fish restaurants and comfortable cafés. The Belgian Expressionist James Ensor lived in Ostend: his former home, which is crammed with curious hats and seashells, is now a museum. Here there will be time to perhaps enjoy a meal or simply soak up the atmosphere of this Belgian seaside town. Arriving back in Godstone approx. 9.15pm. (Passports required.)

Cost: - £43.50

(Inclusive of Coach/Eurotunnel Fare)

MONDAY 14TH JUNE

WISLEY GARDENS

Enjoy a day of horticultural heaven at one of the world's most cherished gardens

Depart Oxted 10.00am (Route A) for our drive to the Royal Horticultural Society Gardens at Wisley. The flagship garden of the RHS, Wisley, captures the imagination with richly planted borders, luscious rose gardens and of course, the state-of-the-art Glasshouse. Enjoy the 250 acres of glorious garden, with its wooded slopes and pinetum, rock garden, herbaceous borders, alpine house, model fruit and vegetable gardens and range of greenhouse displays. The Plant Centre has on offer thousands of plant varieties, together with a wide selection of bulbs, seeds, shrubs, trees, houseplants and garden accessories, and whether you are looking for garden gift ideas, the perfect present for any special occasion or simply want to treat yourself, the Wisley Shop offers a wide range of merchandise including crafts, textiles and toiletries and an extensive collection of books including one of the finest selections of horticultural publications in the world. Refreshments available in the Conservatory Café and the Terrace Restaurant. Return leave 4.30pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx. 5.15pm.

Adult: - £23.95 **Child:** - £12.95

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Gardens)

(RHS members less: Adult: £7.50 Child: £1.60 but **must** bring card)

THURSDAY 17TH JUNE

LOSELEY PARK

Depart Oxted 10.00am (Route A) for the drive to Loseley Park, nr. Guildford. The house, a fine example of Elizabethan architecture, was built in 1562 by Sir William More, for Queen Elizabeth I to stay in. Here we shall be taken on a guided tour of the house, discovering the multitude of wonderful, fascinating artefacts contained within, including many fine works of art, furniture from the 16th century onwards and special items such as the panelling from Henry VIII's Nonsuch Palace. We shall also learn more about the More-Molyneux family and its connections with royalty. The 2½ acre walled garden is based on a design by Gertrude Jekyll. Its series of 'rooms', include the rose garden containing over 1,000 rose bushes, the flower garden with its maze of pathways, the white garden and an extensive herb garden. You will also find a plant sales area where you can purchase plants grown in the garden. Refreshments available in the Courtyard Tea Room and in the Gift Shop you will find a wide range of gifts and Loseley food products to suit all pockets. Return leave 4.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone approx. 5.30pm.

Cost: - £23.75

(Inclusive of Coach/Guided Tour of House/Entry to Gardens)

SATURDAY 19TH JUNE

MARGATE, BROADSTAIRS (DICKENS FESTIVAL) OR RAMSGATE

Depart Oxted 9.00am (Route A) for our drive to the Kent coast stopping at the seaside town of Margate with its sandy beach, or on to Broadstairs where this week they are holding their Dickens Festival. Here you can sample the elegance as you mix with crinolined ladies and their top-hatted escorts. Watch them partake of their leisure pursuits and see them promenade in Dickensian splendour. Charles Dickens visited Broadstairs between 1837 and 1859 - he named it "Our English Watering Place" and enjoyed its sun, sea and air. It is still the quaint town that he encouraged his friends to visit; or, if you prefer, journey on to Ramsgate with its sandy beaches sheltered by chalk cliffs and its busy harbour/marina. You may choose in which seaside town you wish to spend the day.

Return leave: Ramsgate - 5.00pm
 Broadstairs - 5.10pm
 Margate - 5.30pm

Arriving back at Godstone approx. 7.30pm.

Adult: - £23.00 **Child:** - £15.50

TUESDAY 22ND JUNE

EASTBOURNE

Depart Oxted 9.15am (Route B) for Eastbourne where you can enjoy a day by the Sea and/or visit the Arndale Shopping Centre. Eastbourne is one of the largest resorts on the South Coast enjoying a wonderful position on the edge of the English Channel. Return leave the Pierhead 5.15pm. Returning to Limpsfield Chart by approx. 7.00pm.

Adult: - £17.10 **Child:** - £15.20

THURSDAY 24TH JUNE

LEEDS CASTLE

Depart Oxted 10.15am (Route A) for the drive to this fairytale castle set on two islands on the River Len in the heart of Kent. Journey through more than 900 years of fascinating history as you explore the castle; a treasure house of paintings, tapestries and antiques. Listed in the Domesday Book and originally the site of a Saxon manor, Leeds Castle has been a Norman stronghold, a royal residence for six of the medieval Queens of England, palace of Henry VIII, and a 1920s country house. As you go round the castle, you move through history, with rooms showing life at the castle in medieval, Tudor and modern times. The castle's last private owner, Lady Baillie, lovingly restored the castle and established the Leeds Castle Foundation in 1974 to preserve it for future generations. Relax in 500 acres of rolling parkland, woodland walks and formal gardens including the Mediterranean terraced Lady Baillie garden with stunning sub-tropical and exotic plants and flowers and the quintessentially English Culpeper garden. Try your hand at the maze and secret grotto; visit the aviary – an international breeding and conservation centre for rare and endangered species and see the breathtaking free flying bird displays featuring birds from five continents (weather dependent). Refreshments available. Return leave 5.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone approx. 6.00pm.

Adult: - £31.00 **Sen Cit:** - £30.50 **Child:** - £21.00
(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Castle and Gardens)

SATURDAY 26TH JUNE

**BEAULIEU INCLUDING THE WORLD OF TOP GEAR EXHIBITION
AND BUCKLER'S HARD**

Depart Oxted 8.00am (Route A) for Beaulieu in the heart of the New Forest. Discover the Palace House, the home of the Montagu family since 1538 and housing the Montagu family treasures, portraits and photographs. History comes alive with Victorian characters; tales from the butler, cook and housemaids give a fascinating account of the workings of a Victorian household. Beaulieu Abbey was founded in 1204 and although much of it was ruined during the reign of Henry VIII, several buildings remain intact; the monks refectory, now the Parish Church and the Domus which was the lay brother's dormitory. Explore the extensive gardens and take a leisurely stroll along the meandering pathways beside the Beaulieu River and Monks' Mill Pond. Visit the National Motor Museum which houses a unique collection of over 250 vehicles which tell the story of motoring in Britain from the 1890s to the present day. See the Motorsport Gallery where Formula 1 and Le Mans cars are suspended on sweeping steel trackways and the landspeed record breakers such as Bluebird. Visit Jack Tucker's Garage which recreates the sights and sounds of a typical country garage of the 1930s and take a ride on 'Wheels' a pod ride taking you on a voyage through 100 years of motoring. Have you ever wondered what happened to the amphibious Toyota, the Alfa/Saab stretch limo and the Reliant Robin rocket that were drowned/cut in half/fired into space by Jeremy, James and Richard in the good name of Top Gear? Since not even the dodgiest used car dealers would buy them, Beaulieu have collected all the battered, modified and generally ruined cars from the world's biggest car show and gathered them together in... the Top Gear Enormodrome! Take a look around the cars from the challenges, get a rare behind-the-scenes view into the show's production office, and enjoy clips of some of the best Top Gear moments. The display includes the Amphibious Cars, the Double-Decker Cars, the Stretch Limos, the Reliant Rocket and the Toyota Arctic Hilux. Later we visit Buckler's Hard on the banks of the Beaulieu River. A village where time has almost stood still since the days when they built wooden ships here for Nelson's fleet. Visit the Buckler's Hard Story - the history of the Village, from its origins as a port importing sugar cane from the West Indies, to its shipbuilding history. The Historic Cottage displays give an insight into the life of the village workers, comparing lifestyle differences of families in the 18th-century with those of today. Refreshments available at both venues. Return leave 5.00pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx 8.30pm.

Adult: - £36.95 **Child:** - £23.95

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Beaulieu and Buckler's Hard)

TUESDAY 29TH JUNE

CHICHESTER & CANAL CRUISE

Depart Oxted 9.00am (Route A) for the historic cathedral city of Chichester where you will have the choice of either spending the day in Chichester or joining us on an afternoon cruise on the Chichester Canal. Chichester has some of the best shopping in West Sussex with many famous name stores, and smaller unique specialist shops that can cater for virtually all requirements. Early afternoon, we shall enjoy a relaxing two hour cruise on the Chichester Canal between Chichester and Donnington. Whilst on board we shall be served with a traditional cream tea. The canal is maintained by the Chichester Ship Canal Trust, whose aim is the preservation, maintenance and improvement of the navigation between Chichester and the harbour. All services on the canal are manned by volunteers who crew the boats, run the shop and carry out the maintenance and restoration work. Return leave 4.30pm. Returning to Godstone approx. 6.00pm.

Adult: - £21.60 **Child:** - £14.25

(Chichester only)

Cost: - £34.75

(Inclusive of Coach/Canal Cruise with Cream Tea – max 42 persons)