

Isle of Man

11th to 16th May

In the heart of the Irish Sea off the north west coast of England lies the Isle of Man, a unique self-governing kingdom with its own parliament, renowned for its relaxed pace of life. Our holiday base is the resort of Douglas, the capital of the island. A lively town with a magnificent bay and promenade, colourful gardens, plus the award winning Manx museum.



£660.00 PER PERSON

Single Room Supp: £50.00

What's Included

- ✓ 5 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ All rooms are en-suite with TV, telephone, WiFi, hairdryer & hospitality tray
- ✓ Full day guided tour of the south part of the island
- ✓ Ride on Isle of Man Steam Railway
- ✓ Entry to Milntown House
- ✓ Entry to Laxey Wheel & Mines
- ✓ Ride on the Snaefell Mountain Railway
- ✓ Time to explore Douglas

EMPRESS HOTEL

Douglas

The hotel commands a prime location on the Victorian Promenade, overlooking Douglas Bay and a short walk from the town centre. The hotel has a sauna & steam room.

Thursday 11 May Departing Oxted we make our way to Heysham where we board the Steam Packet ferry for an afternoon sailing to Douglas on the Isle of Man. On arrival we make the short journey along the promenade to the Empress Hotel where we stay for the next five nights.



Friday 12 May After breakfast we are joined by a guide who will take us on a tour of the southern part of the island, making lunch and comfort stops. We return to Douglas from Port Erin by steam train.

Saturday 13 May This morning we make our way to Milntown House, the former family home of the Christian family who lived in the imposing building from the early 16th century. The house and grounds were left in trust by the last owner of the estate, Sir Clive Edwards, with the express wish that they be made available to the public. Here we shall be free to look round the house, which has a collection of books and magazines associated with motor racing as well as paintings, ceramics and silverware. The 15 acres of gardens are also well worth a visit, with herbaceous borders, woodland walks, the mill pond, and the kitchen garden, which provides traditional, heritage and modern varieties of vegetables, herbs and flowers

for the cafe. Early afternoon we shall make our way back to Douglas via the northern end of the island.

Sunday 14 May After breakfast we visit Laxey, an historic mining village, where set high on the hillside looking out over the village is the 'Lady Isabella', the largest working water wheel in the world and perhaps the island's best known landmark. If you wish you can climb the steep spiral staircase to the viewing platform above the wheel, walk the picturesque trails and even enter a section of the mine. Early afternoon we take a journey on the century old mountain railway for a breath-taking, but gentle ride to the summit of the Island's highest mountain, Snaefell where we can enjoy the magnificent view of the six kingdoms – Mann, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Heaven. We return to Douglas via the coast road.

Monday 15 May Enjoy a relaxing day in the grand Victorian resort of Douglas, the Island's lively capital, set in a wide bay with a sweeping promenade. Take in the sea views from the Victorian promenade or visit the excellent Manx Museum for a journey through the island's history. Its beautiful sea front is lined with picturesque buildings, and the high street is filled with familiar names as well as many locally owned stores.

Tuesday 16 May After breakfast we board our ferry for the return crossing to Heysham and then continue our journey home to Oxted, arriving early evening.

