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Thursday 30th August
**Highclere Castle
 (Downton Abbey)**

Depart Oxted 9.00am (Route A) for the drive to Highclere Castle, home to the Carnarvon family since 1679 and with a fascinating connection to ancient Egypt, as the 5th Earl, with Howard Carter, discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922. There is an exhibition that commemorates this historic event. Described as the largest occupied mansion in Hampshire and the finest inhabited Victorian residence in all England, the extravagant interiors range from church Gothic through Moorish flamboyance and Rococo revival to solid masculinity in the Long Library. The gardens feature great stretches of glasshouse in a walled garden, magnificent parkland designed by 'Capability' Brown and a Secret Garden with a beautiful curving lawn surrounded by densely planted herbaceous gardens. Downton Abbey, the major drama series from ITV was filmed on location at Highclere Castle. Refreshments available. Return leave 4.15pm. Arriving back at Godstone by approx. 6.00pm.

Adult £41.95 • Child £31.55

(Inclusive of Coach/Entry to Castle/Gardens)

Saturday 1st September

Eurotunnel to Plugstreet, the Pool of Peace & the Last Post

Depart Oxted 5.15am (Route A) for the drive to Folkestone and the Eurotunnel to Coquelles, France. From here we make our way to Ploegsteert, or Plugstreet as it was known by the British soldiers, where we shall have time to visit the Plugstreet 14-18 Experience. This amazing museum uses cutting-edge technology, touch screens and animations to present the British and German positions in Comines-Warneton as well as the civilians and soldiers' life in a region torn by the war and 4 years of occupation. Whilst in the area, we shall also visit the Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing and the Hyde Park Corner Cemetery. From here we make our way to Kemmel, where we shall visit some restored German trenches before continuing on to Spanbroekmolen Mine Crater Memorial – The Pool of Peace. Also known as Lone Tree Crater, it is the site of the largest of 19 mines blown by the British Army in the early hours of the morning of 7th June 1917. This signalled the launch of the Battle of Messines. The last stop of the day is Ypres, where there will be time to enjoy an evening meal (cost not included) before, at 8 o'clock, experiencing the haunting strains of the Last Post. Home late evening. (Passport required.)

Cost £67.50

(Inclusive of Coach/Eurotunnel/Entry to Plugstreet 14-18 Experience)



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DAY EXCURSIONS 2018