

# Splendours of the Lake District

29 Jul – 3 Aug

*This lovely tour explores the Lake District, an area of outstanding natural beauty and home to the five tallest mountains, the deepest lake in England and two national parks. We see breath-taking views as we drive over the Kirkstone Pass (weather permitting), take in the spectacular scenery of Ullswater as we cruise the lake & have a tour (& tasting) at the Lakes Distillery. We also visit Levens Hall, home to some amazing topiary and take a ride on the South Tynedale Railway into the North Pennines AONB.*



**£598.00 PER PERSON**

Single Room Supp: £75.00  
HHA members less £11.50,  
but must bring card

## What's Included

- ✓ 5 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ All bedrooms are en suite with TV, WiFi telephone & hospitality tray.
- ✓ Boat trip on Ullswater Steamer
- ✓ Ride on South Tynedale Railway
- ✓ Entry to Levens Hall & Gardens
- ✓ Tour & tasting at Lakes Distillery
- ✓ Time to explore Glenridding, Alston, Bowness-on-Windermere & Keswick

## SHAP WELLS HOTEL

### Shap

The hotel is situated in a secluded, wooded valley, high in the Shap Fells and surrounded by mountain streams. Many rooms have breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside and fells.

### Sunday 29 July

Departing from Oxted, and making refreshment stops along the way, we journey to the Shap Wells Hotel, near Penrith, our home for the next five nights.



### Monday 30 July

After breakfast we travel through some of the most stunning scenery seen anywhere in England as (weather permitting) we drive over the fantastic Kirkstone Pass to Glenridding. Here we shall have a little time to find lunch and explore before boarding a Steamer for a cruise the length of Ullswater through expansive vistas of Lakeland's highest mountains to Pooley Bridge where we re-join the coach and return to our hotel.

### Tuesday 31 July

This morning we make our way to Alston, England's highest market town, with its cobbled streets and traditional shop fronts. Here we shall have some time to find morning coffee and explore before taking a return trip on the South Tynedale Railway. The north of England's highest narrow gauge railway, hauled by vintage steam or diesel locomotives, runs through the stunning landscape of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Our journey takes us along the newly opened section of track between Lintley Halt and Slaggyford. As we travel, keep an eye out for deer, soaring birds of prey, and maybe even glimpse a red squirrel. Following our ride, we shall have time to visit the Discovery Centre, the old Railway Shop and find lunch before taking a scenic tour through the North Pennines AONB, passing Middleton-in-Teesdale back to our hotel.

### Wednesday 1 August

We start the day with a scenic drive to Bowness-on-Windermere, where we shall be free to explore and find lunch. You may wish to visit the World of Beatrix Potter, do some shopping or watch the boats on the lake. Early afternoon we continue on to Levens Hall, a magnificent Elizabethan mansion built around a 13th Century pele tower that has been in continual family ownership since 1590. Inside the hall, see the ornate Italian plaster ceilings, a collection of paintings and historical artefacts, whilst in the garden, marvel at the world renowned Topiary, sculpted over hundreds of years.

### Thursday 2 August

Departing after breakfast we take a scenic drive past Lake Windermere and Thirlmere to Keswick, where we shall be free to explore and find lunch before, early afternoon, driving the short distance to the Lakes Distillery. Here we shall have a guided tour and discover how they make their whisky, gin and vodka, and why the place is so very special. Our tour finishes in the tasting room where we shall have the opportunity to sample all three of their spirits.

### Friday 3 August

This morning we say goodbye to the Lake District and, making refreshment stops en route make our way home, arriving back in Oxted early evening.

