

Buckingham Palace

ENGLAND

FEATURING DOWNTON ABBEY

9 DAYS • MARCH 28 - APRIL 05, 2016

\$2,915* per person twin share*\$515 Single Supplement,**\$45 per person Triple Supplement.*

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy an exclusive visit to Highclere Castle, famous for its use in Downton Abbey, with access to the castle's public rooms, including the magnificent main hall, dining room, library, and sitting rooms as well as the Egyptian Exhibition.
- Explore the villages of the Cotswolds where most of Downton Abbey's outdoor scenes were filmed: St Mary's Church, the village pub, the Library, and Matthew Crawley's House.
- See London's top sights on a panoramic tour with a Local Expert – Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace. Later, trace the locations of Downton Abbey fame – see where characters dined, lived and explored on the show.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: 28 MARCH 2016 - DEPART USA**DAY 2: 29 MARCH 2016 - ARRIVE LONDON**

Welcome to England! Check in to your hotel, then there is time to relax, explore or browse the department stores. In the evening join your Tour Director for a warm and friendly welcome drink. **Meal:** Welcome Drink. **Hotel:** Amba Hotel Marble Arch.

DAY 3: 30 MARCH 2016 – HIGHCLERE CASTLE

Today you will embark on your journey to Oxford and your highlight visit to Highclere Castle, the 'real' Downton Abbey. Built in the Victorian Gothic style this is the country seat of the distinguished Earls of Carnarvon, renowned for their influence abroad as well as in Britain. Enjoy an exclusive visit to the castle's public rooms, including the magnificent main hall, dining room, library, and sitting rooms as well as the Egyptian Exhibition. As a special treat, you will receive a copy of the souvenir guide book. After some free time strolling the parkland and garden stop for afternoon tea on your way back to Oxford. **Meals:** Breakfast, Afternoon Tea. **Hotel:** Randolph Hotel.

DAY 4: 31 MARCH 2016 – DOWNTON ABBEY 'ON LOCATION' VISITS

Today will begin with 'on location visits' to the Oxfordshire Cotswold villages of Swinbrook and Shilton and a walk around the picturesque village of Brampton where most of Downton Abbey's outdoor scenes were filmed. Here you will see St. Mary's Church, the village pub, the Library, and Matthew Crawley's House. Visit Yew Tree Farm (Cogges) which first appeared in series 4 of Downton Abbey with Mr. Drewe as the tenant farmer. Visit The Swan Inn which hosted the elopement of Lady Sybil with Branson the family chauffeur. Later, visit the stunning Blenheim Palace, the ancestral home of the Dukes of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. There is time to stroll through the beautiful Italian Garden and admire the surrounding landscape. **Meal:** Breakfast.

DAY 5: 01 APRIL 2016 - OXFORD - STONEHENGE - BATH - BRISTOL

Your journey continues to the prehistoric Stonehenge, perhaps the most famous prehistoric monument in the world. From here continue to Bath where legend has it that Bladud, father of Shakespeare's King Lear, discovered the hot water springs and the local Celts began to worship here. In the 1st century the Romans built the magnificent Roman public bath complex and the Roman Temple. Head to your next overnight stop, Bristol, where an orientation tour includes views of the Clifton Suspension Bridge and Brunel's SS Great Britain, the worlds' first ocean-going, propeller driven, iron ship. Dinner is enjoyed at a local restaurant this evening. **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner. **Hotel:** Bristol Marriott City Centre.

DAY 6: 02 APRIL 2016 - BRISTOL - LONDON

Upon returning to London today enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour and see all the main sights – Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Trafalgar Square, and Buckingham Palace. Also visit the Tower of London, one of the world's most famous fortresses and home to her majesty's Crown Jewels. **Meal:** Breakfast. **Hotel:** Amba Hotel Marble Arch.

DAY 7: 03 APRIL 2016 - LONDON – DOWNTON ABBEY FILM SITES

Today is dedicated to Downton Abbey film sites – see world famous sites and quaint historic streets where this award winning TV series was filmed. During the tour, relive tense moments with Anna retracing Bates' movements in London and the steps that Edith takes when she discovers she is expecting Gregson's baby! You will also see where Cora and art historian Simon Bricker admired the paintings of Piero della Francesca, stand outside the Crawley's London residence, and see the restaurant where Edith dined with Gregson. **Meal:** Breakfast.

DAY 8: 04 APRIL 2016 - LONDON

Savor some time at leisure and enjoy more of London. Later, at dusk, relax on a Thames river cruise before enjoying a Celebration Dinner at a local restaurant. **Meals:** Breakfast, Celebration Dinner.

DAY 9: 05 APRIL 2016 - LONDON - USA

Sadly, your journey comes to a close with a group departure transfer to the London's Heathrow Airport. **Meal:** Breakfast.