

ITINERARY

6-day Walking and Sightseeing Tour

This tour explores the Great West Way through a combination of visits to attractions and a daily walk.

The walks are mainly flat and vary in length from 3-9 miles. There are plenty of pubs and cafés along the route for lunches, afternoon tea or a drink at the end of the day!

Day 1. Hampton Court Palace and Runnymede

Take a walk through 500 years of history in Hampton Court Palace's gardens: including the Great Fountain Garden and the Privy Garden. See the world-famous Great Vine, thought to be the oldest (and largest) in the world.

After lunch drive to the National Trust Magna Carta Tearooms at Runnymede; visit the Magna Carta Memorial and Kennedy Memorial. Join a French Brothers' boat trip on a replica Victorian paddle steamer. Transfer to hotel.

Distance walked approx: 5 miles. Overnight: Reading including dinner theatre performance at The Mill at Sonning.

Day 2. Reading, Mapledurham, Goring and Streatley

A walk around Reading unveils its hidden past with a visit to the Abbey Quarter, reopened in June 2018, following extensive conservation work. The Abbey was once one of Europe's largest royal monasteries and dates back over 900 years. Henry I was buried here and Jane Austen went to the Abbey School.

A visit to Basildon Park National Trust house and gardens is followed by a walk along the Thames Path from Pangbourne to Goring and Streatley. A long bridge connects the two villages. See Insider Tip.

Distance walked approx: 4 miles. Overnight: Queen's Arms, East Garston, near Hungerford.

Day 3. Ancient Avebury and Jone's Mill Nature Reserve

Start the morning with a circular walk combining some of the antiquities of Avebury with views from the North Wessex Downs. In the afternoon visit Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Jone's Mill. Jones's Mill is a beautiful and secluded wetland on the outskirts of the village of Pewsey; perfect for walkers and wildlife watchers.

Distance walked approx: 9 miles. Overnight: The Bear Hotel, Devizes

Day 4. Devizes, The K&A Canal and Bath

Walk through Devizes and up the towpath of the K&A Canal to Caen Hill Locks. On the downward descent marvel at Rennie's feat of engineering. Stop for refreshments at the tea room and visit the Kennet & Avon Canal Museum. Book an 11am tour and tasting at Wadworth Brewery. Transfer to Bath with some free time to explore, before an evening visit to the Great Bath by the light of flickering torches, a truly unique and evocative experience, followed by dinner.

Distance walked approx: 4.2miles. Overnight: Francis Hotel MGallery, Bath.



Leigh Woods,
National Trust

Day 5. Bath

A walk around the city to some of the most important locations in this UNESCO World Heritage Site: Pulteney Bridge, Jane Austen Centre, The Assembly Rooms and The Royal Crescent. After lunch take a short stroll from the city centre and enter another world, onto the skyline hills above Bath and beyond, through 6 miles of meadows and ancient woodlands to secluded valleys.

Distance walked approx: 7 miles. Overnight: Bristol. Quator offers a choice of 4 hotels across Bristol

Day 6 Bristol

Start with a walk in National Trust Leigh Woods with spectacular views, ancient trees and wildlife. Next is a tour of Clifton Suspension Bridge, before heading into Bristol for a harbour tour and SS Great Britain.

Places	Miles/kms by road
Hampton Court to Reading	36miles/58kms
Reading to Sonning	4miles/6kms
Reading to East Garston	35miles/56kms
East Garston to Devizes	49miles/79kms
Devizes to Bath	23miles/37kms
Bath to Bristol	13miles/20kms

INSIDER TIP - FOR GROUPS ONLY

For Groups only (min 30) – PM Book a private tour with the Miller of Mapledurham and his wife which includes the beautiful St Margarets Church, the impressive Archimedes Hydro Turbine, Mapledurham Watermill and Gift Shop, followed by a traditional English cream tea.

