Itinerary for Great Britain Christmas Tour • Expat Explore

Start Point:
Outside Hotel Novotel at Greenwich station,
173-185 Greenwich High Road,
London, SE10 8JA
06:30 hrs
Hotel lobby, Holiday Inn Express,
Greenwich,
85 Bugsby Way, Greenwich, London,
SE10 0GD
07:00 hrs

End Point:
Greenwich train station,
173-185 Greenwich High Road,
London, SE10 8JA
17:00 hrs – 19:30 hrs

DAY 1: Cambridge - York

Cambridge - York

Welcome to your Christmas tour of Great Britain! Today you will fill your lungs with fresh, English countryside air, as you depart the city of London, and head to where the grass is greener. Arriving in Cambridge, your first adventure will have you punting along the river in traditional style, taking in the stunning scenery and epic, historical buildings in the most relaxing way. Simply wonderful! The afternoon sees you continuing your rural ‘rovering’, towards York, a mecca for history buffs and lovers of fine architecture and culture. Your walking tour offers fascinating insights, stories and history of the city. Tonight you will enjoy dinner in a traditional Sunday Roast dinner at a British pub - don't forget to try the Yorkshire puddings!

Experiences
Photo stop at Hadrian's Wall - visit the Roman fortification on the border between England and Scotland.

Walking tour of York - take a walking tour around this historic walled city with your Expat Explore tour leader.

**Included Meals**

- Breakfast: ✗
- Lunch: ✗
- Dinner: ✓

**Accommodation**

Ibis York Centre Hotel

---

**DAY 2: Hadrian’s Wall - Gretna Green - Scottish Highlands**

Hadrian's Wall - Gretna Green - Scottish Highlands

This morning we carry on heading north to the iconic Scottish Highlands. Our first stop along the way is Hadrian's Wall, a defensive fortification constructed by emperor Hadrian across the final frontier of the Roman Empire in what was then the Roman province of Britannia. Our next stop is Jedburgh - a historic Scottish border town, where you can explore the streets and admire the impressive architecture. This evening we’ll arrive at our hotel in the Scottish Highlands and enjoy an included dinner.

**Experiences**

Cairngorms National Park: Marvel at the beauty as you drive through the park in the Scottish Highlands.

Scottish Highlands: Enjoy an overnight stay in the iconic Scottish Highlands.

Loch Ness: Enjoy the views surrounding you on the banks of the loch.

Photo stop at Glen Coe: Capture some exquisite views in Scotland’s most scenic valley.
Distillery Tour: Discover how the golden dew is made and taste a dram in the shadow of majestic Ben Nevis mountain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Included Meals</th>
<th>Accommodation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast: ✓ Lunch: ✗</td>
<td>Hotel Arrochar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner: ✓</td>
<td>Macdonald Loch Rannoch Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long Loch Hotel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DAY 3: Glen Coe - Loch Ness - Edinburgh**

If the weather is clear, you may catch a sight of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the British Isles, as we make our way to Glencoe, a spectacular Glen (Scottish for a deep valley in the Highlands) and where the massacre of Glencoe took place in 1692, one of the most fascinating yet saddest stories encompassing Scotland's history. As we travel on to Edinburgh, we'll make a photo stop at Loch Ness - home to ‘Nessie’ the Loch Ness Monster; join the optional cruise excursion and see if you can spot her! On arrival in Edinburgh we'll check in to our hotel and then depart for a driving tour to help you get your bearings for the city and plan your free day tomorrow.

**Experiences**

Glencoe: - Photo stop at one of the most beautiful valleys in the Scottish Highlands, and infamous for the tragic events that happened here!

Loch Ness: Will you be the person to spot the Loch Ness monster, as we make a stop in what is said to be his home? You'll have free time to explore or take an optional cruise to see if you can spot her from the water.

Edinburgh: Join your tour leader as they take you on a driving and walking tour through Edinburgh before the New Year’s festivities start!
Hogmanay: Celebrate the new year with an included ticket to Edinburgh's world-famous Hogmanay celebrations!

### Included Meals
- Breakfast: ✔
- Lunch: ✗
- Dinner: ✗

### Accommodation
- Best Western Braids Hill Hotel
- Hotel Britannia Edinburgh
- Novotel Edinburgh Park
- Holiday Inn City West

### Optional Excursions
- Loch Ness Cruise: £ 15

* Stated prices and availability are subject to change.

### DAY 4: Christmas in Edinburgh: Optional Free Day: Optional Free Day

Christmas in Edinburgh: Optional Free Day: Optional Free Day

Merry Christmas! Today you are free to explore the city as you wish, and there is so much to see and do. Known as the cultural capital of Scotland, Edinburgh is blessed with stunning greystone and gothic architecture. Take a step back in time and wander around the unchanged cobbled streets of the Royal Mile and meander down to the Grass Market, to a row of pubs where public hangings used to ‘entertain’ the crowds. You will also enjoy an included festive lunch this afternoon - time to enjoy some of that legendary Scottish hospitality!

### Included Meals
- Breakfast: ✔
- Lunch: ✔
- Dinner: ✗

### Accommodation
DAY 5: Lake District - Liverpool

Lake District - Liverpool

There are exciting adventures to be had today in England! Your Great Britain tour will take a twist into modern history, as you head across the border, bound for Liverpool - the home of The Beatles and two world-famous premier league football clubs! On the way, you can soak up the last of the Scottish landscape, and visit Gretna Green, a beautiful historic village in southern Scotland that is one of the world’s most popular wedding destinations. Next, we travel to the picturesque Lake District for a lunch stop – the views are simply stunning! We then arrive in Liverpool late afternoon, where you will have the evening free to explore. Upon checking in at the hotel, head to one of the many local pubs for dinner. For Beatles fans, Liverpool was home to Paul, John, George and Ringo. The city inspired such timeless classics including ‘Strawberry Fields’ and ‘Penny Lane’. The Beatles played hundreds of shows at the Cavern Club, the perfect place to enjoy your time in Liverpool.

Experiences

Drive through Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park: Sit back, relax and enjoy the picturesque views of the Scottish landscape.

Comfort stop at World Famous Gretna Green: Found on the Scottish side of the border between England and Scotland - this is where lovers used to get married without their parent’s permission.

Lunch in the English Lake District National Park: This is truly lunch with a view - enjoy the last bit of Scottish landscape before heading back to England.
**Included Meals**

**Accommodation**

- Breakfast: ✓  Lunch: ✗  Dinner: ✗
- Ibis Liverpool Centre Albert Dock
- Ibis Styles Liverpool Dale Street

---

**DAY 6: Stratford-Upon-Avon - Wales**

**Stratford-Upon-Avon - Wales**

This morning, we will take a driving tour of Liverpool, where you will be shown the sights, before we venture on to the birthplace of William Shakespeare - Stratford-upon-Avon. There are numerous Shakespearean attractions and fascinating historical locations to visit. Travelling into south Wales, you'll have the chance to see a medieval castle before we head onwards to the Welsh capital of Cardiff where we will enjoy a driving tour to orientate yourself in the city.

**Experiences**

Liverpool driving tour: Take a driving tour and see some of the city's highlights including the Albert Dock and a variety of locations connected to The Beatles.

Visit to Stratford-Upon-Avon: Visit the birthplace of William Shakespeare. You will have free time to wander the city and visit some of the Shakespearean attractions, such as the historic 16th-Century house where he grew up.

Castle photo stop: Enroute to Cardiff, take a step back in time and enjoy a quick photo stop at a medieval castle.

Orientation driving tour of Cardiff - we continue on to the Welsh capital where we will drive through the city sights before we head to our hotel.

**Included Meals**

- Breakfast: ✓  Lunch: ✗  Dinner: ✓
DAY 7: Bath - Stonehenge - London

This is the last day of your British Tour, and there is no sign of slowing down! First stop for the day is Bath – a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring some of the finest architecture in Europe. Join us on an orientation tour of the town, and learn about the historical significance of the region, including the natural hot springs that supply the Roman Baths - visited by over 1 million international tourists every year! Continuing on the last legs of your journey, you have an optional excursion that could have you unravelling one of the worlds’ greatest mysteries. At Stonehenge, witness an ancient and awe-inspiring structure, which has baffled scientists, tourists and historians for centuries. We arrive back in London this evening at the end of a fantastic week of exploring Great Britain!

Experiences

Bath Orientation tour: learn all about Bath and its top attractions with your tour leader.

Included Meals

- Breakfast: ✓ Lunch: ✗ Dinner: ✗

Optional Excursions

Roman Baths: £ 20
* Stated prices and availability are subject to change.