



CANDY TOURS

Excursion Specialists

Ideas for Day Trips

For Groups



Summer 2021

Welcome to our trip ideas brochure

This brochure is for groups looking for ideas for days out. They are suggestions only and we would be pleased to take you to your favourite places instead! We offer to work with you to help develop your itinerary and book your entry tickets.

Our vehicles are stylish 16 passenger seat minibuses and mini-coaches with full ceiling height, air conditioning and reclining seats for your comfort. They are kept in pristine condition and our friendly drivers are fully PSV qualified and DBS checked.

Do give us a call or email to see how we can help.

Your route to memorable experiences!

Enquiries/booking: 01252 265263

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Why book with Candy Tours?

- Tailor-made trips and tours service for group travel organisers
- Whatever your interests we can arrange your day out or tour
- Advice and suggestions for itineraries or follow ours
- Tickets organised for you if required
- Personalised promotional material provided
- Straight forward day / half-day pricing – please ring/email for quote – evening trips welcomed
- Candy Tours is based in North Hampshire and covers adjoining counties and beyond
- With our International licence we often undertake trips to Europe

All trips can be varied to meet your itinerary

Bookings are subject to Candy Tours' Booking Conditions - please see our web site.

Wisley Gardens **RHS members free entry. Private guided tours available.**

This World-renowned garden is the flagship of the Royal Horticultural Society. Known for its plant collections (one of the largest in the World) and beautiful surroundings it is a lovely place to relax. With unforgettable mixed borders and roses, an extensive glasshouse, a stunning Rock Garden, the new Exotic Garden (opened in 2017), the Walled Garden, an Alpine Meadow, the Cottage Garden and many more extensive areas of themed planting it is not to be missed! We suggest a 1 hour 'Wonder of Wisley' tour. Mobility scooters can be reserved free of charge in advance.



Bletchley Park



Explore the award-winning Bletchley Park site that was home to 9000 employees working on code breaking and intelligence work. You see the codebreaking huts and blocks to experience why Bletchley Park was so important to British and allies war effort. You also see the new Visitor Centre, the rebuilt 'Bombe', the Alan Turing gallery, and of course, the Enigma machines.

Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth

A chance to visit this well-known shopping destination which has the benefit of a vast range of places to eat. Try the view from the Spinnaker Tower or ask to be dropped in Southsea if you prefer.



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Abingdon and Thames Boat Trip

Various boat trips but our favourite is Abingdon to Benson Landing Stage

The historic market town of Abingdon-on-Thames claims to be England's oldest continuously occupied town and boasts some 200 listed buildings and a pretty waterfront. See the Abbey Gardens and Abbey Meadow, the Guildhall, the river with its 15th Century bridge and St Helen's Church (wider than it is long). Every Monday the Charter Market is held. Explore the town and have lunch before taking the boat for a picturesque 2.5-hour journey through beautiful rolling Oxfordshire countryside and interesting villages. Highlights include Abingdon Marina, Culham lock cut, the red brick Clifton Hampden bridge, Dorchester Abbey, River Thame and Shillingford House.

Other options include the 2-hour trip on the late morning boat from Abingdon to Oxford with time to look around Oxford in the afternoon.

Scenic Drive to Petworth

You head through the South Downs to the lovely town of Petworth where there is time to explore this beautiful and quintessential English market town. It is known for its antique shops – there are over 20 within a ½ mile radius. There are several tea-rooms and cafes for refreshments. Our return journey follows a different route home over the Downs. You will see traditional Sussex villages and beautiful scenery on this trip and understand why it is a National Park.

American Museum and Gardens + Bath

The American Museum house is set within extensive grounds of 30 acres which include an arboretum of American trees, native American shrubs, perennials, and bulbs as well as the American Rose Collection. The garden is designed to work with the steep terrain and enhance the view over the Limpley Stoke Valley, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It includes a replica of George Washington's garden at Mount Vernon. Café in the orangery. The house shows a remarkable collection of folk and decorative arts including historic American quilts (50 on display), exceptional pieces of Shaker furniture, Native American objects and hundreds of historical maps of the New World from the 12th century to the Renaissance. All of the museum buildings are fully accessible as are the gardens. After we travel to Bath for a few hours to explore.



Hampshire Vineyard Tour and Tasting



Hampshire vineyards produce some of the best white wines in the country due to the chalky soil and mild climate. This trip gives a great insight into Hampshire wine making. We work with various vineyards and typically on the vineyard tour you are introduced to the wine making process from growing the vines to the bottling process and includes the all-important tasting of the wine afterwards. We recommend several different vineyards depending on your location – please call us to discuss. Typically, we undertake a morning tour of the vineyard lasting 2 hours

followed by lunch in a country pub and a scenic tour of some of the South Downs afterwards to see some of the best (and little known) countryside in Hampshire! It is possible to add a second vineyard in the afternoon if required.

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Neasden Temple

This beautiful complex comprises the stone Hindu temple (known as the Mandir – a Hindu place of worship - with 5,000 tonnes of marble and limestone it was hand carved in India and brought to London). You also see the adjacent Haveli, a cultural centre crafted from wood with inner courtyards, beautiful carved friezes, and traditional carpet designs. You learn about the world's oldest living faith and experience a traditional Hindu prayer ceremony at 11:45am. Please note that a strict dress code operates in the complex. Tops must cover the shoulders, chest and upper arms. Leg-wear must be below knee-length. Shoes are to be removed upon entering the complex. No bags - only small purses (palm size) are allowed.



River Hamble Cruise with Fish and Chips

The River Hamble is a mecca for sailing and offers fabulous views with its marinas, yachts and the location for the TV series, Howards' Way. There are also several extensive houses backing on to the river and various wildlife to be seen. A commentary on the River's history is given during the 2-hour cruise which includes a plated fish and chips meal with tea or coffee. Other cruises are available: 3-hour Three Rivers Cruise with fish and chips or Hythe Market Day Cruise with time ashore at the market followed by cruise around Port of Southampton with a cream tea on board.



Guide Dog Breeding Centre & Leamington Spa



Your trip starts with a visit to the spa town of Leamington Spa that grew in the 18th century following the popularisation of its water, reputed to have medicinal qualities. See its Regency Buildings in The Parade or elegant Lansdowne Crescent or visit Jephson Gardens or adjacent Pump Rooms Gardens, both English Heritage Grade II listed. After lunch it is a short journey to the Guide Dog Breeding Centre which provides all the guide dog puppies in the UK, breeding up to 1500 puppies each year. During the 2-hour tour you see some of the puppies playing and socialising through special viewing windows, meet some of the breeding stock and learn about the life-changing work carried out. You will also have an opportunity to take the Sensory Tunnel experience. The tour finishes with refreshments and time to explore the gift shop.



New Forest Drive and Burley Village

Join us for a drive through the New Forest to see this unique landscape with its ponies and donkeys that roam at will! Our first stop is in Lyndhurst, the 'capital' of the New Forest, and a popular tourist attraction, with many independent shops, art galleries, cafés, and home to the New Forest Heritage Museum. After lunch we continue to explore, with stops in Beaulieu and Lymington harbour before travelling to the village of Burley for refreshments.

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Bournemouth/Poole or Scenic River Cruise to Wareham

NB The Wareham boat trip on The Frome River is tidal so the boat only runs on certain days.



We drop off at both Bournemouth and Poole – you choose! The town of Bournemouth is famous for its mix of shopping and sandy beaches and for its 2000 acres of parks and gardens – try the Lower Gardens, renowned for their floral displays using bedding plants. Alternatively, be dropped in Poole to do as you please or take a cruise through Poole Harbour and along the picturesque River Frome to the historic town of Wareham. The trip takes 70 minutes each way and the skipper gives a commentary pointing out places of interest and wildlife. There is time to explore Wareham’s speciality shops, galleries and cafes, or see the ancient walls built by Alfred the Great to protect the town from the Vikings. There is also a Saxon church with a well-known effigy of Lawrence of Arabia. Refreshments and

basic snacks are available on the boat or lunch in Wareham.

Althorpe House and Grounds - 1 July to 31 August

Althorpe is the Spencer family’s 500-year-old ancestral estate and is home to 18 generations of the family. The 500-acre walled park is surrounded by a further 12,500 acres of parkland. The historic grounds were originally designed 350 years ago by Andre Le Notre – King Louis XIV of France’s principal gardener who masterminded the gardens of Versailles. See the State Rooms of the House, discover the beautiful interiors and one of Europe’s finest private collections of furniture, picture and ceramics. Make time to see The Oval Lake where Diana, Princess of Wales was laid to rest in September 1997. Café and gift shop in the Stables.

West Bay (Broadchurch) and Lyme Regis

Visit the harbour village of West Bay where you stop for coffee and a look around to explore the town, harbour and marina. Originally a port for exporting ropes and nets it is now firmly a tourist/holiday destination. The town, harbour and beach were used in the filming of Broadchurch. Then travel on to Lyme Regis where you spend the afternoon exploring at leisure. Known for its historic ‘Cobb’ harbour (Film location for part of The French Lieutenant’s Woman), a bustling place with an array of shops, the lovely Lister Gardens, the Aquarium and, of course, fossil hunting.

Nymans Gardens

Free entry for National Trust members – bring your card!



One of the National Trust’s premier gardens with formal gardens covering 33 acres plus 20 acres of informal garden and 275 acres of ancient woodland. There are many different garden areas to explore (the rose garden is lovely in season) as well as views stretching out across the Sussex Weald. There is a large mock – Tudor stone-built house part of which is open to the public and part of which is a picturesque ruin. The garden is mainly level although there are some steps. Buggy tours of the garden available – please book. Cafe, shop and plant centre on site.

Theatre Trips

We can book tickets for you at all theatres – see the latest plays, musicals and opera. Please call for details.

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Leonardslee Gardens



Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens near Horsham were first planted in 1801 and the Grade I Listed garden is particularly majestic in spring with its azaleas and rhododendrons, camellias, magnolias, bluebells and the beautiful ornamental rock. The elegant 19th-century Italianate-style Mansion House provides a lovely backdrop for the gardens (not currently open). See also the unique dolls' house exhibition depicting the Edwardian estate and nearby villages. Shop and café.

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Founded in 1759 The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew has the largest most diverse collection of living and preserved botanical specimens in the world comprising 30,000 different kinds of plants and over 14,000 trees. Make time to see the Palm House, The Hive, The Prince of Wales Conservatory and the treetop walkway as well! There are free introductory talks at 11am and 1:30pm and also 'Meet the Experts' guided tours at 11:30am on Tuesdays.



Kennet & Avon Canal boat trip, Newbury

This lovely trip takes us along the Kennet and Avon canal through some beautiful Berkshire countryside. Our trip lasts around 1 hours 15 minutes travelling through Newbury town and under historic Newbury bridge, through Newbury lock and then out into the countryside to Northcroft and then returns. Tea coffee and light refreshments available on board. The barge has full weather protection and a toilet. Longer trips of 1.5 hours, 2 ¼ hours or 3.5 hours are available for private bookings of up to 29 people.

Swanage

This lovely English seaside town is always popular with its soft sand and curving bay. There is a pier, beach gardens, heritage centre (free entry), shops and cafes and the Swanage Railway (separate charge), which includes a stop at the iconic Corfe Castle.

John Lewis Water Gardens, farm shop and nursery (Certain summer days only)

Longstock Park Water Garden was created by the Beddington family in the 1930's and further developed by John Spedan Lewis in the 1940's as a place to reflect and relax. The garden is home to over forty different waterlilies and 100 different trees. The River Test flows through its 5.5 acres and there are several serene ponds with delightful interlinking bridges and walkways between them. It is a beautiful and peaceful setting that attracts a variety of wildlife. It has been labelled as one of the best water gardens in the world. Afterwards, visit the Longstock (Waitrose) farm shop, cafe and nursery where there is time for lunch. Why not combine with a visit to Mottisfont Abbey, a historic priory and country on the River Test. Renowned for its walled rose garden (home to the National Collection of ancestral species and 19th-century rose cultivars) the site includes the Grade 1 listed house which features regularly changing art exhibitions.



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Cotswold Tour

The Cotswolds have enchanted visitors for centuries. You see some of the many highlights starting with Arlington Row cottages, one of the most photographed Cotswold scenes. After refreshments you travel to picturesque Bourton-on-the-Water to explore and time for lunch. Then on to Winchcombe and Broadway ('Jewel of the Cotswolds') before stopping in Stow-on-the-Wold for refreshments. You then head home via the pretty town of Burford.



Buckingham Palace (July to October only)

One of the world's most iconic buildings and the focus of national and Royal celebrations. See many magnificent rooms including the Throne Room, the Picture Gallery, Ballroom, Grand Staircase and the Palace Garden. NB the route includes a ½ mile walk through the garden to the exit – wear comfortable shoes! The only toilets are in the garden once you have exited the State Rooms. We recommend stopping beforehand to see The Albert Memorial, the Serpentine Galleries, the Diana Fountain and the Serpentine and visit a café.



Brighton day out

Spend the day exploring Brighton. There is much to see including the Royal Pavilion, Brighton Palace Pier and sea front, Brighton Museum and Art Gallery, the Sea Life Centre and the famous Lanes and North Laine shopping areas to name a few!

Jane Austen Tour

This trip visits Steventon Church and village where Jane Austen was born, followed by Chawton where we see Jane Austen's House Museum as well as Chawton House (home to Jane's brother) and the church where her mother and sister are buried. We then travel to Winchester to see her final resting place in the famous cathedral. You also have the opportunity to explore the city before our return journey.

Isle of Wight

We suggest three options: 1. A tour of the Island visiting Shanklin, Godshill, and then drive 'one of the best coastal drives in the world' to Yarmouth.

2. If it's gardens you like then we recommend Ventnor Botanical Garden - voted No.1 Countryside Wedding Venue by Bridebook it boasts over 30,000 rare and sub-tropical plants spread over 22 acres. Combine with a visit to the valley garden of Mottistone with its attractive Elizabethan Manor House and lovely gardens. 3. Spend the day at Queen Victoria's summer residence, Osborne House – see the State rooms, the Royal Apartment and garden and grounds.



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