

## Oxford and the Cotswolds Short Break

Day 1 Travel to Oxford.

Day 2 Oxford and Blenheim Palace.

Blenheim Palace is a Baroque gem built for the 1st Duke of Marlborough in 1704. Winston Churchill was born here and it is one of England's grandest stately homes. In the afternoon we return to Oxford for a walking tour and a visit to one of the Oxford colleges.

Day 3 Cotswolds. Designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Cotswolds is a stretch of rolling hills lying mostly in Gloucestershire. The picturesque towns and villages, full of charming limestone cottages, were built as the result of wealth created from the wool trade in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries and the area has kept its wonderful old world charm. We tour the area stopping in Chipping Camden and a visit to Hidcote Manor Garden and to Broadway and Burford can be included.

Day 4 Kelmscott Manor and the Cotswolds.

Today we continue our exploration of the Cotswolds and begin by visiting Kelmscott Manor which belonged to William Morris who developed the Arts and Crafts movement as a response to the loss of craft skills caused by the Industrial Revolution. In the afternoon we continue to explore the Cotswolds including, Bibury and Stow in the Wold and travelling through the beautiful Coln Valley.

Day 5 return to London

4 nights in an Oxford hotel.

This tour is designed for travel in a minibus. Routes may need to be altered slightly if using a coach.