



Tour Information



1066

And All That





The tour starts and finishes at the **Rose and Crown Hotel, Tonbridge**

125 High Street, Tonbridge

TN9 1DD

United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)3330 034292

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



Transport

Driving directions to the hotel:

Take exit 2A from M26, A20 to A25/A227, and follow the A227 to Tonbridge High Street. at the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto London Road/A20 and then turn right onto Maidstone Road/A25. Continue to follow A25 for 2.5 miles and at the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto Borough Green Road/A227, continue onto the High Street and the hotel will be on the left.

If you are travelling by **train**: Tonbridge railway station is the closest to the hotel, ½ mile away.



Accommodation

Rose and Crown Hotel, Tonbridge

The Best Western Rose & Crown Hotel in the heart of Tonbridge is full of old-world charm. Opposite Tonbridge Castle, it offers traditional hospitality, with the warmest of welcomes guaranteed. Retaining the unique feel of the original building, you'll be treated to oak beams and Jacobean panels, while all renovations and extensions have been sympathetic to the its original design. There is free parking on-site.

Additional details can be found via the hotel website:

<https://www.bestwestern.co.uk/hotels/best-western-rose-and-crown-hotel-83792>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 14.00, and the tour manager will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is by 11.00.

Special Requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Dining

On the first night of your stay, a private three course dinner with wine is provided. On your second evening, dinner will be served at the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on both days of your stay is included in the price but meals other than these stated are not included.

Places Visited

Pevensey Castle

With a history stretching back over 16 centuries, Pevensey Castle chronicles more graphically than any other fortress the story of Britain's south coast defences. Beginning in the 4th century as one of the last and strongest of the Roman 'Saxon Shore' forts, two-thirds of whose towered walls still stand. It was the landing place of William the Conqueror's army in 1066. During the century after the Conquest a full-scale Norman castle, with a great square keep and a powerful gatehouse, was built within one corner of the fort. In the 1250s the towered bailey wall was constructed, and soon put to the test during the great siege of 1264.

Battle Abbey

On this spot in the year 1066, the armies of King Harold and William the Conqueror clashed at the Battle of Hastings. Explore the abbey ruins and the 1066 battlefield site with Julian giving a full explanation. Enjoy the gatehouse exhibition revealing the abbey's role in the country's future, then head to the roof for stunning views of the battlefield.

Tonbridge Castle

Following the Norman Conquest, Richard Fitz Gilbert was granted land in Kent to guard the crossing of the River Medway. He erected a simple Motte-and-bailey castle on the site. In 1088, the de Clare family (descendants of Fitz Gilbert) rebelled against King William II. His army besieged the castle. After holding for two days the castle fell and as punishment the king had both the castle and the town of Tonbridge burnt to the ground. Both castle and adjoining mansion are Grade I listed buildings.

Rochester Castle

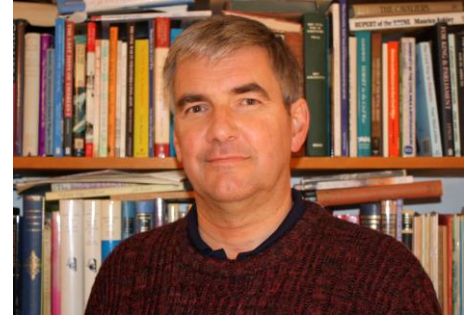
Strategically placed astride the London Road, guarding an important crossing of the River Medway, this imposing fortress has a complex history of destruction and rebuilding. Its Norman tower-keep of Kentish ragstone was built about 1127 by William of Corbeil, Archbishop of Canterbury, with the encouragement of Henry I. Consisting of three floors above a basement, it still stands 113 feet high. In 1215, garrisoned by rebel barons, the castle endured an epic siege by King John. Having first undermined the outer wall, John used the fat of 40 pigs to fire a mine under the keep, bringing its southern corner crashing down. Even then the defenders held on, until they were eventually starved out after resisting for two months. Rebuilt under Henry III and Edward I, the castle remained as a viable fortress until the sixteenth century.

Rochester Cathedral

Rochester Cathedral is England's second oldest, having been founded in AD604 by Bishop Justus. The present building dates back to the work of the French monk, Gundulf, in 1080. The Cathedral became a major place of pilgrimage in the 13th century, following the death of William of Perth, a Scottish baker who was murdered nearby. His body was brought to the Cathedral and at his shrine, of which no trace remains, miracles were reported. Modern pilgrims who journey to the Cathedral still climb the Pilgrim Steps, now worn by the many thousands of medieval pilgrims visiting the shrine, often lighting candles at the William of Perth prayer-station in front of the oratory. Visitors who journey to the Cathedral today are direct descendants of those early pilgrims.

Your Guide

Julian Humphrys will be your guide/lecturer throughout the tour. After reading history at the University of Cambridge, Julian has had a long and impressive career relating to the themes and issues explored throughout this trip. He is the Development Officer at the Battlefields Trust, an experienced battlefields guide, an author of a number of books on English battles and a regular contributor to BBC History Magazine. Julian's input aims to enhance and develop your understanding of this fascinating subject and exciting period of history.



1st night – A Talk by Julian Humphrys

'The Norman Conquest'

'William the Conqueror'

Practical Information






Tour manager – Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping – To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional payment and this information is given purely to answer any questions you may have about it.

Walking Content – This tour has been graded a 4 out of 5 for walking difficulty.

Walking difficulty: 

Please see the key below for an explanation of the footprint symbols:

Very little walking involved	
Relaxed easy pace, mainly walking from coach to site	
Some walking between sites, good, flat walking surfaces	
Walking between sites, lots of standing for viewings	
On your feet all day, uneven terrain (cobbles etc)	



Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700), telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807 or

020 7987 5910 or

07831 133079

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

Travel Editions

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