



Tour Information



Christmas in Rutland

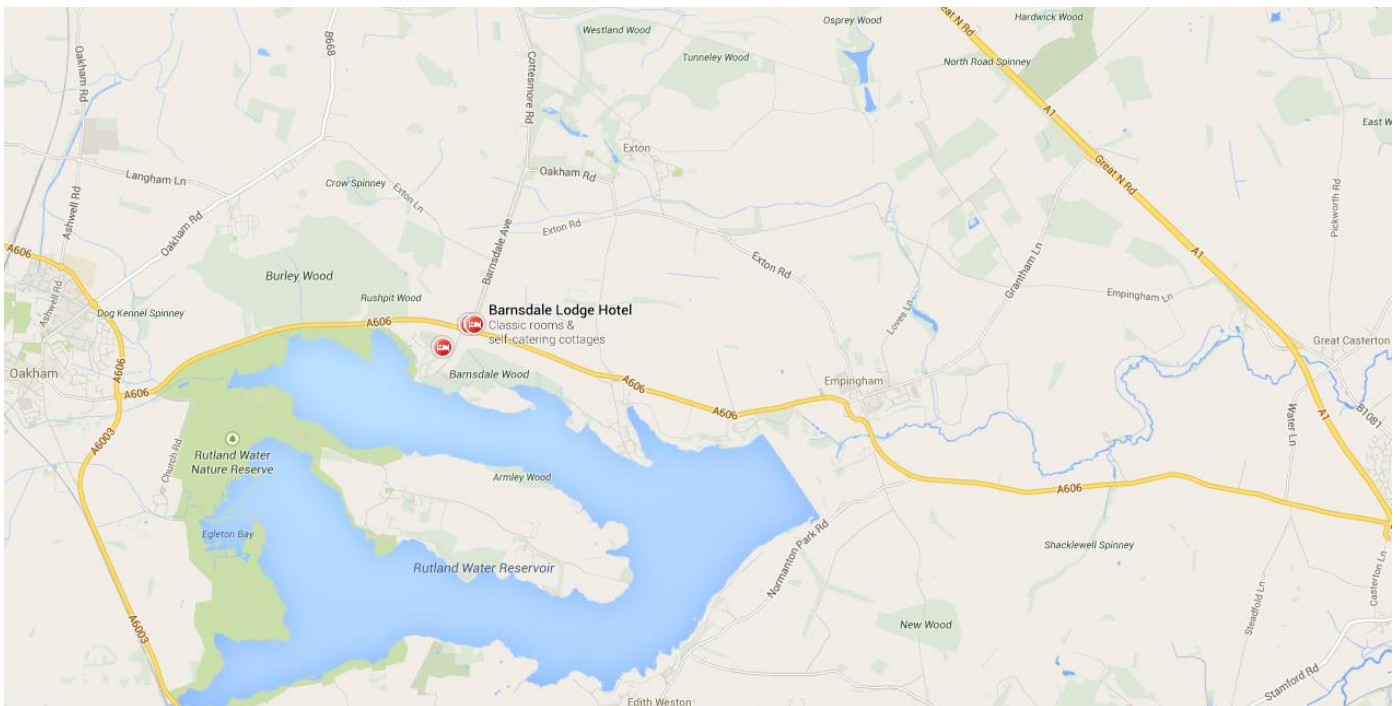




The tour starts and finishes at **Barnsdale Lodge, Rutland Water.**

Barnsdale Lodge Hotel
The Avenue
Exton
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 8AH
Tel: 01572 724678

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



Transport

Travelling by car: From Oakham, take the A606 towards Stamford and Barnsdale Lodge is approximately 3 miles on the left-hand side. From London, take the A606 exit towards Oakham for approximately 5 miles and Barnsdale Lodge is on the right-hand side after the village of Whitwell.

Travelling by train: The nearest station is Oakham, approximately 4 miles away.



Accommodation

Barnsdale Lodge Hotel

Converted from an historic farmhouse that has been in the owner's family since 1760, the three-star Barnsdale Lodge offers comfortable accommodation, excellent food and a warm, friendly welcome. All bedrooms are en-suite and individually furnished with TV, telephone, tea/coffee making facilities, hairdryer and have views of the surrounding countryside or the picturesque courtyard. Facilities at the hotel include a restaurant where dinner will be served each evening. Complimentary car parking is available at the hotel. Please note that the hotel has no lift.

For more information, additional details can be found on the website

<http://www.barnsdalelodge.co.uk/default.asp>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15.00, and take cream tea at 15.30.

On the last day of the tour, the tour will not finish until approximately 16.30 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on a dinner and bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 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 the remaining evenings of the tour, dinner is provided at the hotel restaurant. There will be a Gala Christmas Eve Dinner and Christmas Day lunch at the hotel plus lunch on Boxing Day. We are also including a pub lunch on day 2 and lunch at Boughton House on day 3. Breakfast on each day of your stay is included in the price.



Places Visited

Rutland Water

Rutland Water Park is set around beautiful Rutland Water and covering 4,200 acres of open countryside, the park offers everything from walking and cycling to fishing and water sports. There is also the fantastic nature reserve, managed by the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust and home to the Rutland Osprey Project. A SSSI, SPA and RAMSAR site this internationally famous nature reserve is managed by Anglian Water in partnership with the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust and provides one of the most important wildfowl sanctuaries in Great Britain, regularly holding in excess of 25,000 waterfowl. The reserve occupies shore line and shallow water lagoons along 9 miles of the western end of Rutland Water and covers a total area of 1000 acres. It was created in the 1970s with the construction of the reservoir. There are over 30 bird watching hides and nature trails from two visitor centres with experts to help you with identification.

<https://anglianwaterparks.co.uk/rutland-water>

Boughton House

Boughton House as it stands today is largely the work of Ralph Montagu, later 1st Duke of Montagu, who inherited what was then a simpler Tudor building, in 1683. Montagu had been an English ambassador to France, and he was keen to bring French beauty and style to an English landscape. He expanded his home using contemporary French architectural influences and the resulting masterpiece is often referred to as 'The English Versailles'.

www.boughtonhouse.co.uk

Lampport Hall

Developed from a Tudor manor house, architecturally the hall has been worked on by Smith of Warwick and William Burn but is best known for its John Webb classical frontage. The Hall's fine rooms, including the High Room of 1655 and 18th century library, are filled with a wealth of outstanding furniture, books, china and paintings collected by the Isham family. Most were bought during the 3rd Baronet's Grand Tour of Europe, in the 1670s. The first floor has undergone lengthy restoration, allowing further paintings and furniture to be displayed. The ravages of two world wars and economic depression meant that the twentieth century was not kind to many of Britain's country houses. At different times during the last century Lampport Hall has been a family home, divided into flats, a hunting box, a country club, a home for the Northamptonshire Records Office, a British and Czech army base and an Italian prisoner of war camp. Years of poor maintenance resulted in an outbreak of dry rot which, during the 1970s, saw large sections of the house gutted. The Isham family lived at Lampport for over 400 years, until Sir Gyles Isham, the 12th Baronet, died in 1976. In his will he bequeathed the Hall, with its contents and Estate, to the Lampport Hall Preservation Trust which he set up to carry on the lengthy restoration programme of the hall, environs and estate, ensuring Lampport's survival for the enjoyment of visitors and as a centre of culture and education.

<https://www.lamporthall.co.uk/>

Richard III Visitor Centre

In August 2012, Leicester City Council purchased an old school with the aim of creating a centre that would tell the story of the remarkable search for –and at that point unconfirmed discovery of – King Richard III. The incredible transformation of the former Alderman Newton's School, located right next to the spot where the king's remains were found, was completed in record time and the King Richard III Visitor Centre opened its doors to the public on 26 July 2014. The centre tells the fascinating and moving story of the king's life and death and reveals one of the greatest archaeological detective stories ever told. The centre is divided into three sections – dynasty, death and discovery, each providing a unique insight into various aspects of this engaging and fascinating topic. Exhibits include both a partial and the full facial

reconstruction, giving visitors the chance to see the work in progress and the final reconstruction of Richard. There is also a replica of Richard's skeleton, printed using 3D technology.

<http://kriii.com/>

Stamford

Stamford is widely regarded as one of the finest stone towns in England. The pretty facades of the town are favourites with film and television producers - Stamford was used as Meryton in the 2005 *Pride & Prejudice* film and has also appeared in *Middlemarch*, *The Da Vinci Code* and the *Golden Bowl*. Experience Stamford's quieter side by seeking out tranquillity on the banks of the River Welland.

Kirby Hall

Step back in time through the new interactive exhibition 'Kirby Hall: Rise and Fall' and discover its intriguing past, including once being owned by Sir Christopher Hatton, Lord Chancellor, and the visits of King James I when on royal progress. A must-see is the stunning hand-painted four-poster bed, inspired by a real bed listed on the Hall's inventory. Wander through The Great Hall, restored to its historical colour palette, and take in the sounds of the blazing fire and guests arriving in the grand reception room. Described in the late 17th century as 'ye finest garden in England', Kirby Hall's Garden has been recreated as it may have appeared in the 1690s. Stroll through the parterres with their elaborate period style 'cutwork,' statues, urns, seating and topiary.

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/kirby-hall/>

Fotheringhay: St Mary & All Saints Church

The beautiful Perpendicular style Church of St Mary and All Saints, with its distinctive tall tower, is situated above the River Nene at the village of Fotheringhay in Northamptonshire. It contains memorials to many of the members of the House of York. The present church was built by King Edward III who was also responsible for the building of a college as a cloister on the church's southern side.



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 (cobble 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 1000-1600), telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807

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

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