



Tour Information



Country Houses and Stately Homes of Derbyshire





The tour commences and concludes at the **Old Hall Hotel, Buxton**. The hotel is situated in the centre of Buxton opposite the Pavilion Gardens and Opera House. They are also located within 5 minutes' walk of the town centre.

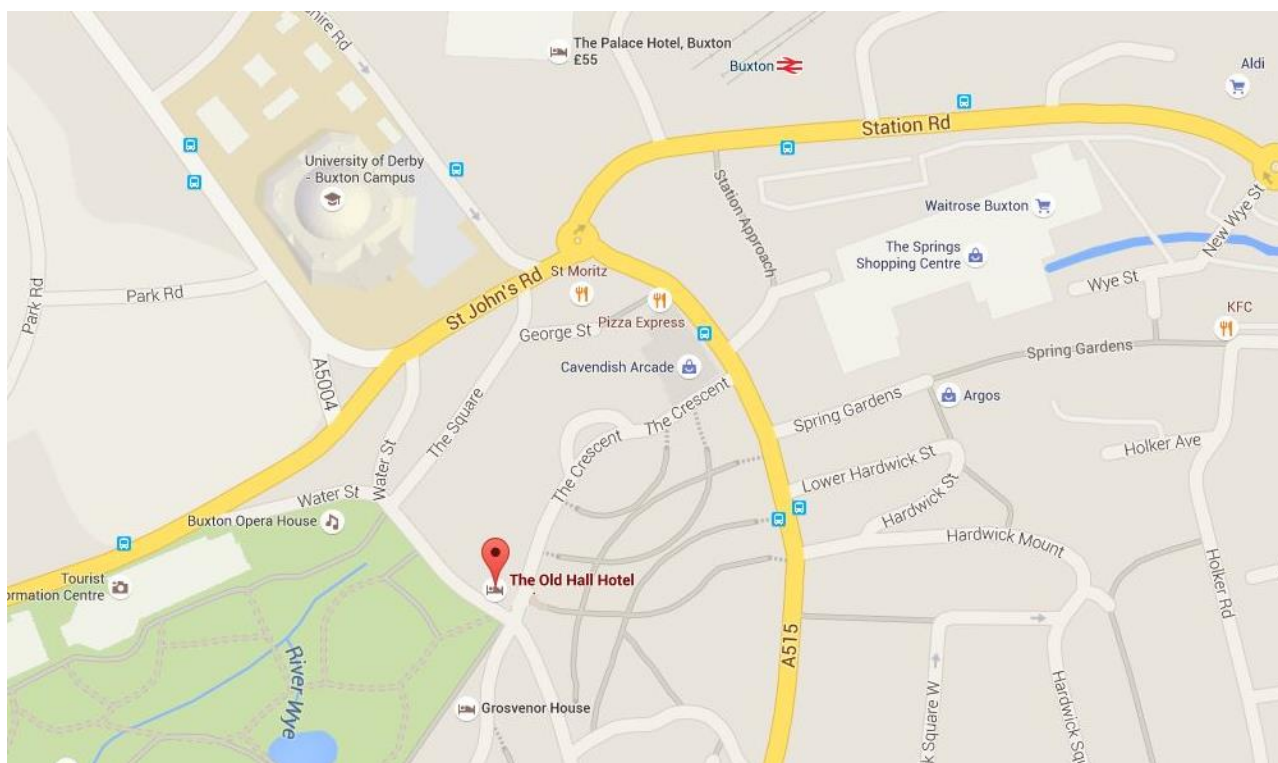
The Old Hall Hotel,
The Square, Buxton,
Derbyshire, England.

SK17 6BD

Tel: 01298 22841

Email: reception@oldhallhotelbuxton.co.uk

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



Transport

If you are travelling by car:

Buxton is easily accessible by road with many of the major motorways less than an hour away, including;

40 minutes, M1/J24 Derby-Ashbourne-Buxton

40 minutes, M1/J28 Matlock-Bakewell-Buxton

40 minutes, M6/J19 Knutsford-Macclesfield-Buxton

30 minutes, A6 Stockport-Buxton

If you are travelling by train: There is a regular train service direct to Buxton via Stockport or Manchester, the hotel is an 8 minute walk from Buxton Train Station. There is a direct train service from London to Macclesfield, Macclesfield is only 20 minutes by car from Buxton.



Accommodation

Old Hall Hotel, Buxton

Reputed to be the oldest hotel in England, the four-star Old Hall Hotel is located in the heart of the market town of Buxton and offers a restaurant, wine bar and comfortable bedrooms with en-suite bathroom with bath/shower, TV, telephone and hairdryer.

Parking outside the hotel: Hotel has no car park. There are public parking spaces opposite the hotel, but they are not guaranteed. Hotel can provide a voucher for the value of £3 for 24 hours parking to be use on the public spaces area, but spaces are not guaranteed.

More information can be found via the hotel's website:

<http://www.oldhallhotelbuxton.co.uk/>

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.

On the last day, the tour will finish at approximately 17.30 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 bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 12:00.

Dining

On the first, second and third night, dinner is provided at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. Breakfast on all days of your stay is included in the price, but meals other than these stated are not included.

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.



Places Visited

Chatsworth House

Chatsworth is home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and has been passed down through 16 generations of the Cavendish family. The house architecture and collection have been evolving for five centuries. Chatsworth has one of Europe's most significant art collections. The diverse collection has grown with each generation to live here, and the Devonshire Collection encompasses Old Masters, contemporary ceramics, artefacts from Ancient Egypt, modern sculpture and computer portraits to name but a few. The Old Master Drawings Cabinet opened in 2012 to showcase selections from over 3000 pieces within the collection, many of which have not been publicly displayed within living memory.

<http://www.chatsworth.org/>

Hardwick Hall

Hardwick Hall, in Derbyshire, is an architecturally significant Elizabethan country house in England. Built between 1590 and 1597 for the formidable Bess of Hardwick, it was designed by the architect Robert Smythson, an exponent of the Renaissance style of architecture. Hardwick Hall is one of the earliest examples of the English interpretation of this style, which came into fashion having slowly spread from Florence.

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardwick/>

Bolsover Castle

Perched on a ridge high above the Vale of Scarsdale, on the site of a medieval fortress, Bolsover Castle is an extraordinary 17th-century aristocratic retreat. The exquisite 'Little Castle' has remarkable wall-paintings and interiors, and the Riding House is the earliest such building in England to survive complete.

The castle was founded in the late 11th century by William Peveril, one of William the Conqueror's knights, but it was neglected from the mid-14th century. Its ruins provided the setting for the Little Castle begun in 1612 by Sir Charles Cavendish as a retreat from his principal seat at Welbeck, a few miles away.

The design of the Little Castle was intended to evoke a Norman great tower, which it clearly resembles viewed from a distance, rising sheer from the cliff. The interior continues the impression, with massive round Romanesque vaults in the basement and pointed Gothic ones on the entrance floor. The great windows of the upper floors were designed to give panoramic views across the landscape.

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/bolsover-castle/>

Haddon Hall

Described by Simon Jenkins in "1000 Best Houses" as "the most perfect house to survive from the middle ages". Set in the heart of the beautiful Peak District National Park, parts of the house date from the 12th Century, sitting like a jewel in its Elizabethan terraced gardens, and overlooking the River Wye. Haddon Hall is probably the finest example of a fortified medieval manor house in existence. Present-day Haddon Hall dates from the 12th Century to the early 17th Century, whereupon it lay dormant for over two hundred years from 1700 until the 1920s, when the 9th Duke and Duchess of Rutland restored the house and gardens, and once again made it habitable.

<http://www.haddonhall.co.uk/>

Tissington Hall

Tissington Hall was built in 1609 by Francis FitzHerbert to replace the moated fortification that guarded the Norman Church of St Mary's in the centre of the village. For over 400 years the Hall has presided over this picturesque Estate Village which is five miles north of the delightful market town of Ashbourne at the southern tip of the Peak District. Sir Richard inherited the estate and hall in 1989. He lives there with his wife Fiona and it is a home to the four children. Tissington, with its rich history dating back to the eleventh century, is unique in that it is one of only 300 homes in the country that can boast that fact that the descendants of the original builder still live there, 400 years later.

<http://www.tissingtonhall.co.uk/about.html>

Your Guide

Nicholas Merchant will be your guide/lecturer throughout the tour. Nicholas is an antique expert who has worked for some of London's major auction houses during his career.

Nicholas will give the following talks during the tour:

"The Duke of Devonshire and the building of Chatsworth"

"The Indomitable Bess of Hardwick"




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.

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 (cobblestones 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

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



Travel Editions

3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB

Tel: Tel: 020 7251 0045

Email: tours@traveleditions.co.uk www.traveleditions.co.uk

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