

Tour
Information



Country Houses of Yorkshire

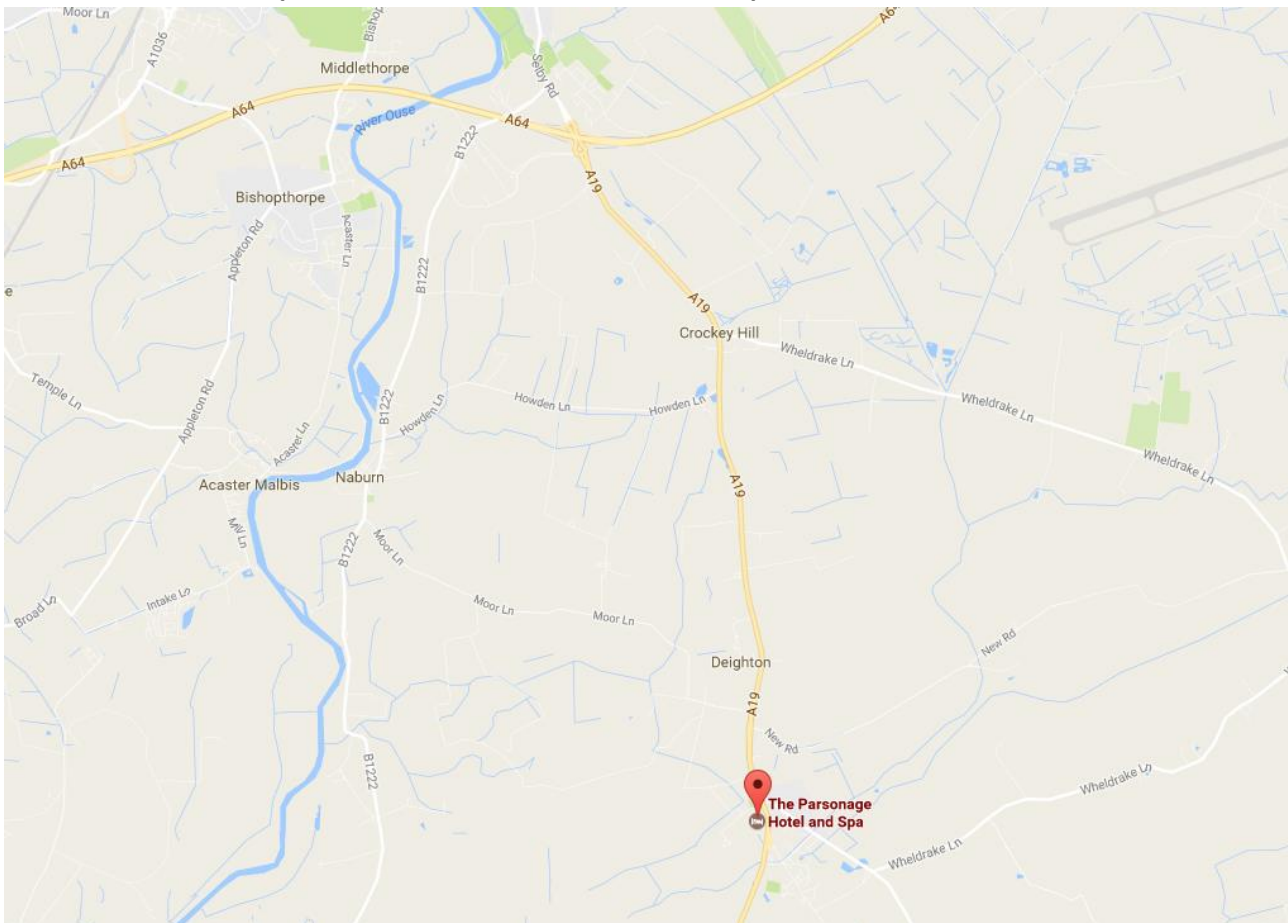




The tour starts and finishes at **Parsonage Hotel - Esrcrick**

The Parsonage Hotel and Spa
Esrcrick
York
YO19 6LF
Tel: **01904 728 111**

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



Transport

Travelling by car:

Located only 15 minutes drive from York's city centre the hotel is conveniently located just off the A19.

Parking at the hotel is free of charge.

By Train:

York Station is just under 6 miles away from the hotel and a taxi fare would cost approximately £10-15.



Accommodation

The Parsonage Hotel and Spa

Set in six acres of beautiful formal gardens and only 15 minutes away from the historic city of York, our spa facilities include 5 treatment rooms, a 16 metre swimming pool, jacuzzi, state-of-the-art gymnasium, sauna, stream room, and aromatherapy salt room.

The hotel boasts 50 stylishly decorated bedrooms, all with en-suite facilities, flat screen digital TV and radio, direct dial telephones, trouser press, hair dryer and tea and coffee making facilities all to make your stay a restful one.

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

<http://www.parsonagehotel.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 of the tour, the tour will not finish until approximately 17.30 – 17.45 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, 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 dinner is provided. During the second evening of the tour, dinner is provided also in the Viewing Gallery. Breakfast on each day of your stay and a buffet lunch is included in the price. All other meals other than these stated are not included.



Places Visited

Wentworth Woodhouse

Wentworth Woodhouse, standing in a park of 250 acres and with its East Front of 615 feet and its courts and buildings covering three acres or more of ground, was ranked as perhaps the very largest of the country palaces created by our 18th Century Whig Magnates. It was the home of Charles 1st's ill-fated administrator, Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford. There were Wentworths at Wentworth in the 13th Century. It remained in the hands of the Fitzwilliam family until 1989. The house and around 90 acres of land were then bought by Mr Wensley Haydon-Baillie, a businessman, who was here for 10 years. In 1999, it was bought by Mr Clifford Newbold and his family, who spent many years in the process of restoring the house to its former glory. The house has recently been purchased by the Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust who will continue to look after and restore the house for the future

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

Lotherton Hall

Lotherton Hall has evolved over the last few centuries. There is evidence that there was a Georgian house on the site and the earliest parts are believed to be Regency. The Chapel dates from the 12th century and once part of the medieval village of Luttrington and is dedicated to St James. The house was extended in late Victorian and in Edwardian times by Colonel Gascoigne to create a country home for his family. Sir Alvary and Lady Gascoigne gave the house and estate to the city of Leeds in 1968.

Collections/Exhibitions

The house contains a fabulous decorative art collection, the Fashion Galleries, and you can get a glimpse of where the house staff once worked in the restored Servants' Rooms. Lotherton Hall hosts a regular exhibition programme in the Fashion Galleries and changing displays in the Servants' Hall.

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/museumsandgalleries/Pages/Lotherton-Hall.aspx>

Castle Howard

Although building work began in 1699, the construction of Castle Howard took over 100 years to complete, spanning the lifetimes of three Earls.

The 3rd Earl of Carlisle enlisted the help of his friend, dramatist John Vanbrugh. Vanbrugh, having never built anything before, recruited Nicholas Hawksmoor to assist him in the practical side of design and construction and between 1699 and 1702 the design evolved.

Built from east to west, the house took shape in just under ten years. By 1725, when an engraving of the house appeared in Vitruvius Britannicus (The British Architect), most of the exterior structure was complete and its interiors opulently finished.

However, at the time of Vanbrugh's death in 1726 the house was incomplete; it lacked a west wing as attention had turned to landscaping the gardens. It was still incomplete when the 3rd Earl died in 1738. Little could both men have guessed that, when the house came to be completed by Carlisle's son-in-law Sir Thomas Robinson, Vanbrugh's flamboyant baroque design would be brought back down to earth by the 4th Earl's conservative Palladian wing.

From the outside, the unbalanced appearance of the house provoked a mixed response, and many visitors noticed the disjointedness.

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

Newby Hall & Gardens

One of Britain's finest Adam Houses Newby Hall, the family home of Mr & Mrs Richard Compton, is one of England's renowned Adam houses and an exceptional example of 18th century interior decoration. Built in the 1690s by Sir Christopher Wren the house was later enlarged and adapted by John Carr and subsequently Robert Adam Newby's award winning gardens, mostly created in the early 1920s, have evolved over the years making a major contribution to 20th century gardening

<http://www.newbyhall.com/>

Harewood House

Harewood sits in the heart of Yorkshire and is one of the Treasure Houses of England. The House was built in the 18th century and has art collections to rival the finest in the land. There are exhibitions of contemporary art, an award-winning educational department, renowned Bird Garden, Farm Experience and over 100 acres of exquisite gardens for visitors to explore and enjoy.

<http://harewood.org/>

Temple Newsam

This fine Tudor-Jacobean mansion, sited on the outskirts of Leeds, lies in 1,500 acres of parkland landscaped by 'Capability' Brown. Its name refers to the Knights Templar, who once owned the lands.

Temple Newsam is famous as the birthplace of Lord Darnley, husband of Mary Queen of Scots, and was owned by the Ingram family for three centuries. It was acquired by the City of Leeds in 1922 and developed as a country house museum. The house has been extensively restored and holds some of the most comprehensive collections of paintings, furniture, silver, ceramics, textiles and wallpapers outside London. In an interview for Radio 4's Front Row in 2004, ex-Culture Minister Mark Fisher placed Temple Newsam House in the top three non-national museums in the country.

The home farm has Europe's largest collection of rare breeds, with over 400 animals. There are six national plant collections and a fine Georgian walled garden. Throughout the year, the grounds provide an ideal setting for open air concerts and fairs.

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/museumsandgalleries/Pages/Temple-Newsam.aspx>

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:

"Some Yorkshire Country Houses"

"Introducing Mr Chippendale"




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 (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 or

020 7987 5910 or

07831 133079 or

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

Travel Editions

3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB

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

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