Dover and the Cinque Ports
Travel

The tour starts and finishes at Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa
Waterloo Crescent
Dover
CT17 9BP
Tel: 01304 203633

Please note that transport to Dover Marina Hotel is not included in the price of the tour.

Transport

Driving directions to the hotel:
Take the M20 towards Dover and merge onto the A20 at Folkestone. Continue on the A20 into Dover and at the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto Archcliffe, then at the roundabout take the 1st exit and stay on the A20. Keep left to stay on the A20 and at the roundabout take the 3rd exit and turn left onto Wellesley Road, then right onto Marine Parade. Continue onto Waterloo Crescent and your destination will be on the right.

If you are travelling by train: The nearest railway station is Dover Priory Station which is approx. 2 miles from the hotel.
Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa

With its stunning seafront location, beautiful Victorian building, sophisticated and boutique interiors, The Dover Marina Hotel & Spa is the best hotel in Dover and beyond. You will have everything you need, from good food to great facilities at Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, including the gym and health club and spa, 2 restaurants, bar and a terrace overlooking the sea. Each of the comfortable bedrooms feature air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi, TV, tea and coffee making facilities, hairdryer, iron and ironing board, safe and complimentary toiletries.

Parking is free for hotel guests in the De Bradelei Wharf Shopping Centre just behind the hotel. When you arrive just pull into the loading bay at the back of the hotel in Cambridge road, collect a car park pass from reception, and then proceed and park your car in the De Bradelei Wharf car park opposite at the back of the hotel. Please make sure you display your pass when you park your car.

Additional details can be found via the hotel website: https://www.dovermarinahotel.co.uk/

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival, you will be able to check-in 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, this is on a bed and breakfast basis and check out 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 three-course dinner with wine will be served. Breakfast on both days of your stay is included in the price and High Tea will be served at the hotel on the second day before departing the hotel late afternoon for the Hythe Venetian Fete, but meals other than these stated are not included.
Places Visited

**Guildhall Museum, Sandwich**
From priceless documents to Roman relics, ancient coins and gold insignia to the town’s role as a safe haven, the newly refurbished Sandwich Guildhall Museum offer visitors a unique opportunity to appreciate and admire the fascinating story of this ancient Cinque Port town. There’s also a very rare opportunity to see one of the most celebrated documents in history - the Magna Carta - together with its sister document, the Charter of the Forest dating from 1300.
https://www.sandwichtowncouncil.gov.uk/guildhall/museum.htm

**Dover Castle**
Commanding the shortest sea crossing between England and the continent, Dover Castle has a long and immensely eventful history. Known as the ‘key to England’, this great fortress has played a crucial role in the defence of the realm for over nine centuries, a span equalled only by the Tower of London and Windsor Castle. The chalk of Castle Hill has been shaped and reshaped over the centuries into massive earthworks, ditches and mounds. Imposing walls and towers have been raised and networks of tunnels excavated beneath them. Henry II began the building of the present castle in the 1180s, and ever since its buildings and defences have been adapted to meet the changing demands of weapons and warfare. Within the walls of the medieval castle stands a much older building, dating from a time when Britain was an outpost of the Roman Empire. The Romans built a lighthouse here after they invaded in AD 43, to guide ships into the harbour. The Dover pharos is now one of only three Roman lighthouses to survive from the whole of the former Roman Empire. It is also the most complete standing Roman building in England.
https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/dover-castle/history-and-stories/

**Hythe Venetian Fete**
The Hythe Venetian Fete is a tableau of decorated floats in various themes held on the Royal Military Canal in the town of Hythe every other year on the third Wednesday in August. The Fete attracts an audience of thousands from far and wide to see the two processions of up to 40 floats, first in daylight, and then again after dark when illuminated. At dusk between the two parades there is a grand firework display. Although aquatic events were held on the canal during the middle of the 19th century it was not until 1890 that Edward Palmer (founder of the Hythe Reporter) suggested a parade of illuminated boats on the canal and on Wednesday 27th August of that year the first parade took place. Palmer coined the name ‘Venetian Fete’ when he reported the event in his newspaper and the name stuck and has been used ever since.
http://hythevenetianfete.co.uk/fete-history

**Castle Museum, Rye – Ypres Tower**
The Ypres Tower is thought to have been built in the early 14th century as part of the town’s defences and is the second oldest building open to the public in Rye. (The oldest is St Mary’s church.) The Tower has had a chequered history and as you look round the inside you can see some of those changes in the blocked windows and doorways. From the balcony you can look over what was once one of the largest and most important harbours in the country. In the C16th it was England’s seventh busiest port; now there is farmland where once there was sea. There are good views from the balcony in all directions, and guides to tell you what you are seeing. In the Tower are various exhibits, the newest is a replica of the gibbet with skull of John Breads. Other recent additions are a new model of the changes in the local shoreline and the
Ypres Tower Embroidery, created by a team of stitchers over a period of several years and depicting the Tower’s roles through nine centuries of history — as defence, private home, prison, mortuary and museum. https://www.ryemuseum.co.uk/home/ypres-tower/

**Hastings Castle**

Immediately after landing in England in 1066, William of Normandy ordered three fortifications to be built, Pevensey Castle in September 1066, Hastings (before the Battle of Hastings) and Dover. Hastings Castle was originally built as a motte-and-bailey castle near the sea. Later that year, the famous Battle of Hastings took place near the Hastings castle, in which William was victorious. In 1070, William issued orders for the Castle to be rebuilt in stone, along with the St Mary's Chapel. The Count of Eu held the castle for most of the Norman period, beginning with Robert, but King John ordered that the castle be destroyed to prevent it falling into the hands of the Dauphin Louis. In 1220, Henry III re-fortified the castle. In 1287, violent storms battered the south coast for many months and the soft sandstone cliffs eventually succumbed to the elements. Large sections of the face fell into the sea along with parts of the castle. In both 1339 and 1377, the town was attacked by the French leaving many burnt buildings which included homes. Throughout the next century erosion was unchecked and gradually more of the castle was lost to the sea. The mid-16th century saw the castle receive another blow as Henry VIII commissioned that all Catholic monasteries were to be destroyed and this left the site in decay for many years. The site was purchased by Thomas Pelham on 23 June 1591.[2] After the purchase, the site was purchased by the Pelham family and used for farming until the ruins had become so overgrown they were lost from memory. During World War II, the castle received more damage as Hastings was a target for bombing raids. In 1951, the Hastings Corporation purchased the site and converted it into a tourist attraction. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hastings_Castle

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**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. 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.

**1st night – A Talk by Julian Humphrys**

‘The History or the Cinque Ports’
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:

| Vary 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.