

Tour
Information



Gothic Castles to French Impressionism

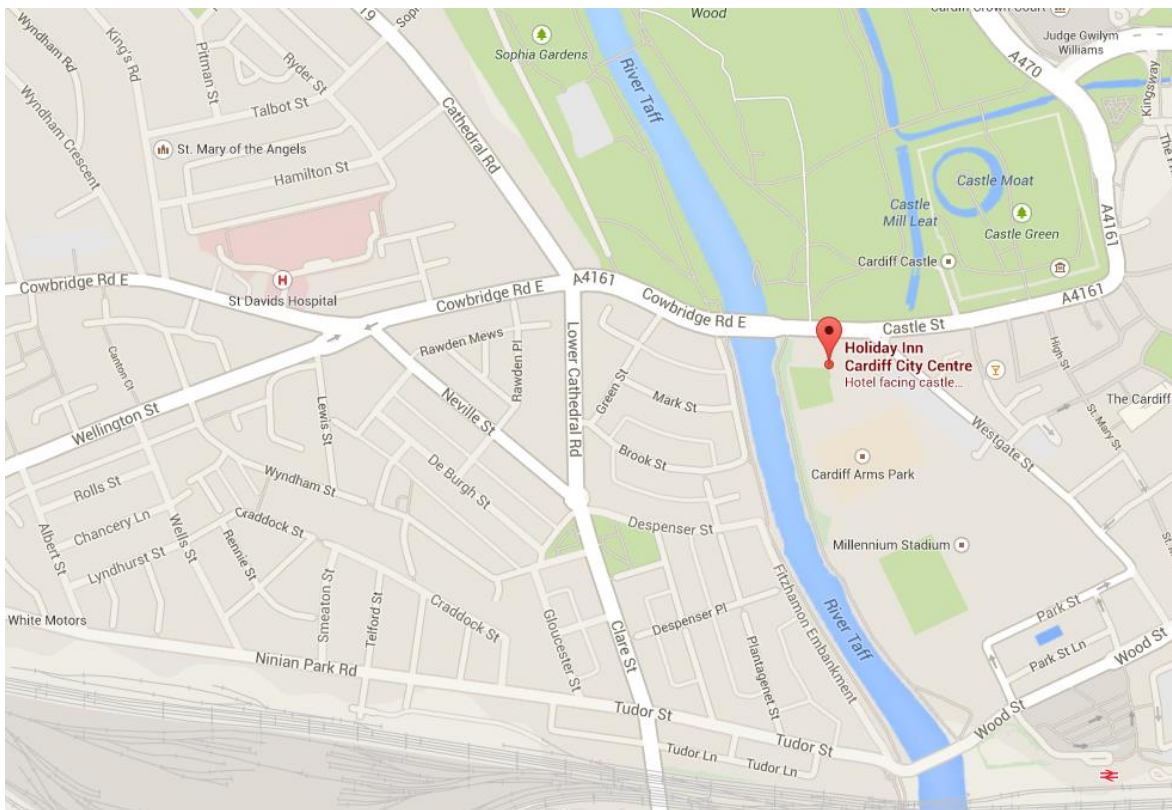




The tour starts and finishes at **Holiday Inn Cardiff City Centre**.

Castle Street
Cardiff,
CF10 1XD
Tel: 0871-9429240
E-mail: reservations-cardiffcity@ihg.com

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



Transport

Travelling by car:

From East: Exit junction 29 of M4, onto the A48 following signs for CITY CENTRE. Turn onto A470 heading into city centre. When in the city, Cardiff Castle will be on your right. The hotel is on the left after the castle.

From West: Exit Junction 33 of M4, onto B4232. Take 2nd exit sign posted Cardiff City Stadium and head to CITY CENTRE. You will pass Cardiff City Stadium on your right, through traffic lights and under rail bridge. At next traffic light junction turn right into Wellington Street, which becomes Cowbridge Road and then Castle Street. Hotel on right as you cross the bridge.

From North and Mid Wales: take A 470 following signs for CARDIFF and then CITY CENTRE. When in the centre the city Cardiff Castle will be on your right. The hotel is on the left after the castle.

Travelling by rail:

The nearest train station is Cardiff Central Railway Station – the cost of a taxi will be approximately £5.00



Accommodation

Holiday Inn Cardiff City Centre

Located centrally in the Welsh capital, the Holiday Inn Cardiff City Centre is situated next to the Millennium Stadium, and a convenient 10 minute walk from Cardiff train station. Bedrooms are comfortable with en-suite bathrooms, TV, telephone, hairdryer and tea/coffee making facilities. Car parking is available at the hotel, charged at 50% off the normal rate, at £6 per day, payable directly to the hotel.

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

<http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/gb/en/cardiff/cdfcy/hoteldetail>

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 17.00 – 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 a bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 12:00.

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 at the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on each day of your stay is included in the price. All other meals other than these stated are not included.

If you have booked to stay an extra night, dinner is not included on your final evening.



Places Visited

Castell Coch

While resting on ancient foundations, Castell Coch (Red Castle) is relatively modern, the by-product of a vivid Victorian imagination, assisted by untold wealth. The Middle Ages fascinated the Victorians as much as the Victorians fascinate us today. High Gothic was the order of the day.

The 'eccentric genius' William Burges was given free rein by his paymaster, John Patrick Crichton-Stuart, the 3rd marquess of Bute, to create a rural retreat to complement the opulence of his main residence, Cardiff Castle. He didn't hold back. Dazzling ceilings, over-the-top furnishings and furniture were liberally applied.

Detailed architectural drawings still survive today and following Burges's death in 1881, colleagues faithfully continued work on the interiors for another ten years. The castle was not suitable for, nor was it intended to be, a permanent residence and the family's visits were infrequent.

<http://cadw.gov.wales/daysout/castell-coch/?lang=en>

Cardiff Castle

In the heart of the capital city is Cardiff Castle, a truly remarkable site with a history that spans over 2000 years. Roman soldiers slept here, noble knights held court here, and the Bute family, with extraordinary wealth and vision, transformed the Castle into a romantic Victorian fantasy. 'Eccentric genius' architect William Burges was given free rein to create the amazingly lavish and opulent interiors; each breathtaking room rich with murals, stained glass, gilding and superb craftsmanship. Recent developments include the opening of the Wartime Shelters, an evocative re-creation of a bygone era when the Castle's tunnels were used as a place of refuge during the Second World War air raids.

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

National Museum of Wales

Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales has the largest public art collection in Wales, most of which is at the National Museum in Cardiff. The displays there contain Welsh, British and European paintings from the Renaissance to the present day, ranging from Tudor portraits and the French Impressionists to cutting-edge contemporary art.

The National Museum received its Royal Charter in 1907 as a museum of natural science, archaeology, history and the arts. The range and quality of the paintings collection was transformed in 1951 and 1963, through the legacy of industrial heiresses Gwendoline and Margaret Davies. Their bequests of Impressionist and early twentieth-century British art find few rivals in the UK.

<http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/cardiff/>

Dyffryn House

The story of Dyffryn dates back to the 7th century. The house was then called the Manor of Worlton and was given to the Bishop Oudaceous of Llandaf. In the 16th century the Button family acquired the manor and the first house was built. The family occupied the estate for a number of generations and the name was changed to Duffryn House.

In 1891 the estate was sold to John Cory, an extremely wealthy coal merchant, who built the present house in 1893. He moved here from Devon with his wife Anne, and two of his four children Florence and Reginald.

Reginald was a passionate horticulturalist and collaborated on the garden design with Thomas Mawson. You can still see evidence of the family's vast wealth today - from the 16th century fireplaces to the commissioned stained glass window.

<http://www.dyffryngardens.org.uk/>

Your Speakers

Your first speaker, **Mr Matthew Williams**, lectures widely on the subject of design, and is especially interested in that of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A recognised expert in the work of the designer William Burges, he has been the Curator of Cardiff Castle in South Wales for over twenty years and has published widely in art and architectural journals. His new book, the result of many years research, is a history of Cardiff Castle.



A long standing member of NADFAS, Matthew has been a Volunteers Representative, a Programme Secretary and a Chairman. He has been a NADFAS lecturer for more than ten years.

Matthew will give the following talk during the tour: *'Cardiff Castle – building a Victorian Camelot'*.

You will also have a talk from Prof Anne Anderson.

Prof Anne Anderson is a recognised authority on the Arts & Crafts movement and is Hon Research Fellow, Exeter University and the Huntington. A writer and broadcaster Anne was a senior lecturer on the Fine Arts Valuation degree courses at Southampton Solent University specialising in the Aesthetic Movement, Arts and Crafts and Art Nouveau. She is a NADFAS lecturer and some of her academic papers have appeared in the Journal of the William Morris Society, Journal of the Pre-Raphaelite Society and many others. Her recent projects include reconstructing the original interiors of Lord Leighton's studio-home and her television credits include BBC's Flog It!




Anne will give the following talk during the tour: *'The Davies Sisters: Modern Art comes to Wales'*

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 5 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 9BD

Tel: 020 7251 0045

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

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