

# Reach for the Sky





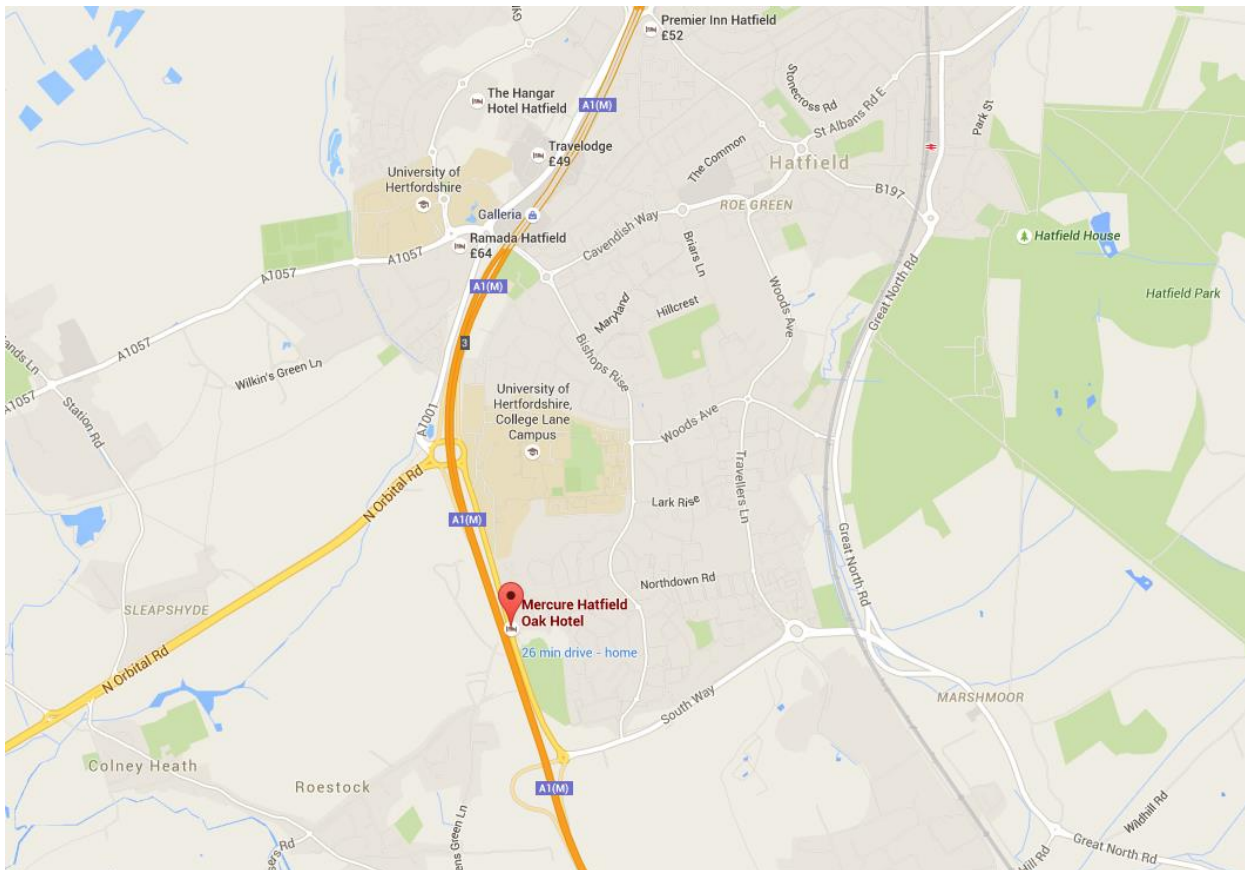
The tour commences and concludes at the **Mercure Hatfield Oak Hotel**.

Roehyde Way  
Hatfield,  
Hertfordshire  
AL10 9AF

Tel: +44 (0) 1707 275701

E-mail: [H8208@accor.com](mailto:H8208@accor.com)

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



## Transport

### If you are travelling by car:

**From the North** exit the M1 at J7, continue along the M10, A414 towards Hatfield. At J3 of the A1(M), turn right at the roundabout onto the A1001 (Roehyde Way). Proceed past the University, continue for approximately 400 yards and the Hotel is on the Left.

**From the South** exit from J23 of the M25 head North on the A1(M). Leave the A1(M) at J2 (signposted for Welham Green), turn left at the roundabout onto the A1001 (Roehyde Way), continue for approximately 400 yards and the Hotel is on the right

**If you are travelling by train:** The nearest train station is Hatfield (3 miles from the hotel)



## Accommodation

### **Mercure Hatfield Oak Hotel**

Located just a few miles from Hatfield House and within easy reach of our London visits, the Ramada Hatfield offers the perfect base for this new tour. The hotel has a restaurant and bar, ideal for relaxing after a long day. All rooms have private bathroom facilities, TV, free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, telephone and tea and coffee making facilities. Parking at the hotel is complimentary for staying guests.

More information can be found via the hotel's website. <http://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-8208-mercure-hatfield-oak-hotel/index.shtml>

### **Check-in and departure from the hotel**

You can check-in at the hotel from 14.00. The tour will start in the evening when the Tour Host Robert Owen will meet you in the Orchard Suite at 18:30 for the welcome reception.

Please note that your rooms may not be ready at 14.00, reception will arrange to store your luggage and put it in your room when it is ready.

On the last day, the tour will not 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 11:00.

### **Dining**

On the first night, a three-course dinner with wine is provided in the Orchard Suite and included in the price of the tour. For the second evening, dinner will also be provided in the Orchard Suite. 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

### **The Battle of Britain Bunker, Uxbridge**

A guided tour of the little known Battle of Britain Bunker at Uxbridge (no lift or disabled access), where you will view the underground operations room from where Air Vice-Marshall Keith Park directed the No. 11 Group.

<http://www.raf.mod.uk/battleofbritainbunker/>

### **Bentley Priory**

At Bentley Priory - the former Headquarters of Fighter Command – you will enjoy a light lunch and a guided tour of parts of the main house including a reconstruction of the filter room and Air Chief Marshall Dowding's office. The Bentley Priory Museum is a permanent living memorial to those who served in the Royal Air Force and fought in the Battle which acknowledges and recognises the sacrifices made by them and others to ensure the freedom of Europe and the World.

<http://bentleypriorymuseum.org.uk/>

### **De Havilland Museum, Salisbury Hall**

A private evening visit to the de Havilland Museum at Salisbury Hall, where the Mosquito was designed and from where it first flew. See three examples of this classic aircraft together with others produced by this outstanding company, one of the pioneers of British aviation.

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

### **RAF & Battle of Britain Museum**

A full day visit to the RAF Museum and the Battle of Britain Museum where you will have a tour with an expert guide, who will point out the machines and weapons used during the Battle of Britain. You will then have the remainder of the day to view the museums extensive collection of aircraft spanning the history of the Royal Air Force.

#### **Important Information:**

The RAF Museum is undergoing significant re-organisation as it prepares to commemorate the Royal Air Force centennial in 2018. As a result the Battle of Britain Hall and some other areas are closed to the public while aircraft are dismantled to re-locate them in new displays. However there is still plenty to see and this work provides a unique opportunity to view the construction of some of these machines in a way not normally possible, demonstrating some of the challenges faced in order to preserve these historic aircraft.

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

## Your Host

Your speaker, **Robert Owen**, is an aviation historian and official historian of the 617 Squadron Aircrew Association and is also an author.

Robert will give a talk 'The Wooden Wonder - the story of the De Havilland Mosquito.'




## 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 3 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**

Tel: 020 7251 0045

Email: [info@traveleditions.co.uk](mailto:info@traveleditions.co.uk) [www.traveleditions.co.uk](http://www.traveleditions.co.uk)

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