



Tour Information



The Gunpowder Plot: The Truth about Guy Fawkes





The tour commences and concludes at the **Marriott Hotel, Northampton.**

Eagle Drive,

Northampton,

NN4 7HW

United Kingdom

Tel: 44-1604-768700

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

Transport



If you are travelling by car:

From central London – Take the M1 out of central London towards Northampton. Exit at A45 (junction 15). Follow this road (London Road) to Eagle Drive in Northampton.

If you are travelling by train: The nearest rail station is Northampton which is 12 min from the Hotel.



Accommodation

Marriott Hotel, Northampton

Located on the outskirts of the city centre, the 4-star Marriott Hotel offers a Bar & Grill, indoor pool and gymnasium. All contemporary designed bedrooms boast private bath/shower, air-conditioning, TV, telephone and tea/coffee making facilities. Car parking is available at the hotel.

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

<https://www.marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/ormnh-northampton-marriott-hotel/>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15.00, and the tour manager will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

Please note that your rooms may not be ready at 15.00, reception will arrange to store your luggage.

On the last day, the tour will not finish until 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 night, a private 3-course dinner with wine is served, and the second evening meal will be served in the main restaurant – both are included in the price of the tour. Breakfast on all days of your stay is included in the price. There is a light lunch included on Sunday and Monday and Afternoon Tea on Monday 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

Kirby Hall

Kirby Hall is one of England's greatest Elizabethan and 17th-century houses, once owned by Sir Christopher Hatton, Lord Chancellor to Queen Elizabeth I.

Although this vast mansion is partly roofless, the walls show the exceptionally rich decoration that proclaims that its successive owners were always at the forefront of new ideas about architecture and design.

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/kirby-hall/>

Harrowden Hall

The present Harrowden Hall was built in 1719 by Thomas Watson Wentworth, a son of Lord Rockingham, but there has been a house on this site since the 15th century. For much of the time it has been the home of the Vaux family who were created barons by Henry VIII in 1523. In 1975 it was bought by Wellingborough Golf Club to be its new Clubhouse after it had been saved from almost certain demolition by Mr. A.J. Macdonald Buchanan.

The Vaux family owned the Hall until 1695 when they sold it to Thomas Watson Wentworth, a son of Lord Rockingham of Rockingham Castle. Two centuries later, the 7th Lord Vaux was able to buy back the Hall. He left the estate virtually untouched apart from a chapel he had built in the grounds. Lord Vaux died in 1935 and his daughter became Baroness Vaux of Harrowden. She was married to William Gordon Gilbey, the owner of a wine and spirits group.

On her death in 1958 the ownership passed to her eldest son, Father Gabriel Gilbey, a Benedictine monk. In 1962 he took his seat in the House of Lords as the 9th Lord Vaux, the first Benedictine monk to do so since 1559.

Sir Nicholas Vaux, a man "of a generous, liberal and festive disposition, and equally fitted for the camp or the court", entertained King Henry VIII at Harrowden Hall.

During the Civil War, Charles I came frequently to Harrowden to play bowls with the then Lord Vaux. "A quaint old summer house" (gazebo) close to the bowling green is where he and his courtiers used to refresh themselves after their games." The restored summer house now stands proudly in the middle of the first fairway.

In 1876, a girls' school was established here. Probably the most celebrated of the pupils was Princess Kaiulani of Hawaii, who was being groomed for a royal future but died tragically at the age of twenty-three.

<https://www.wellingboroughgolfclub.com/default.asp>

<https://www.harrowdenhall.com/>

The Manor House, Ashby St Ledgers – outside view only

The Manor House, Ashby St Ledgers, is one of the most intriguing and historic houses in England. From 1375 to 1611 it was the home of the Catesby family. In 1605 Robert Catesby and his fellow conspirators, including Guy Fawkes, gathered regularly in the Manor's gatehouse. There they conspired to assassinate King James I and his courtiers by blowing up the Houses of Parliament in one of England's most notorious acts of treason, the Gunpowder Plot. The Manor House comprises diverse architectural periods and styles, masterfully integrated in the early 20th century by renowned architect Sir Edwin Lutyens under the patronage of industrialist Ivor Guest, 1st Viscount Wimborne.

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

Boughton House

One of Britain's grandest and best-preserved stately homes. As well as the splendours of the House, you can also enjoy the 18th century landscaped gardens, woodlands and a grand country park. At Boughton you can also see one of Britain's most outstanding collections of fine art, furniture, tapestries, porcelain and carpets. Visitors can view a magnificent range of paintings by great artists, including The Adoration of the Shepherds by El Greco, Gainsborough's portrait of Mary Montagu, grisailles and portraits by Van Dyck, and Breaking Cover by John Wootton.

Boughton also has some of the best-preserved baroque State Rooms in the British Isles. Here you can walk through grand apartments of contrasting character decorated in extravagant yet elegant taste with the finest artworks of the House's golden era.

Once you've had your tour of the House, you can step out into the surrounding country park. Its tranquil delights have been carefully restored over the last decade, and now there are wide sculptured lawns to survey, serene lakes, waterways, woods and avenues of trees to be strolled down.

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

Rushton Triangular Lodge

Built by a wealthy heir called Thomas Tresham, a devout Catholic politician for whom three was most definitely the magic number, this was the most eccentric building to look at – a visual thrill that demands you walk around it again and again. As the name suggests, it's triangular-shaped and there's so much detail that it almost needs an aerial view to take it all in.

Completed in 1596, it's a celebration of the Holy Trinity; God as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Three sides, three storeys, three gables, and windows in rows of three. The building is even 33 feet wide – the age at which Christ was said to have died on the cross. There are three Latin texts (each 33 letters long) running around the building.

Tresham was a devout Catholic living under Queen Elizabeth I's Protestant reign and his beliefs cost him liberty and money. He designed the lodge while he was in prison for his dogmas and he lost a large part of his fortune paying off fines.

Despite its rebellious ciphers, thankfully the Triangular Lodge survived persecution to feed our imagination and curiosity today. <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/rushton-triangular-lodge/>

Rushton Hall

Rushton Hall was the ancestral home of the Tresham family from 1438, when William Tresham bought the estate. In the 20th century the house became a private school and it has now been converted to a luxury hotel. The estate is about 227 acres of which 30 acres are formal gardens. The River Ise flows from west to east south of the Hall.

<https://www.rushtonhall.com/>

Your Guide

Mike Ingram is a medieval historian, author and lecturer. He regularly leads tours around medieval battlefields and is also chairman of the Northampton Battlefields Society. His book *Battle Story: Bosworth 1485* was published in 2012.

Mike will give the following talk:

'The truth about Guy Fawkes'.

Michael Hodgetts is a former editor and chairman of the Catholic Record Society, is the author of *Secret Hiding-Places* (1989) and of numerous research articles on that subject and on the Gunpowder Plot.

Second Nights talk by Michael:

'Priest Holes'.

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.

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