

Tour
Information



Three Choirs Festival





The tour commences and concludes at the **Doubletree by Hilton, Cheltenham**.

Cirencester Road

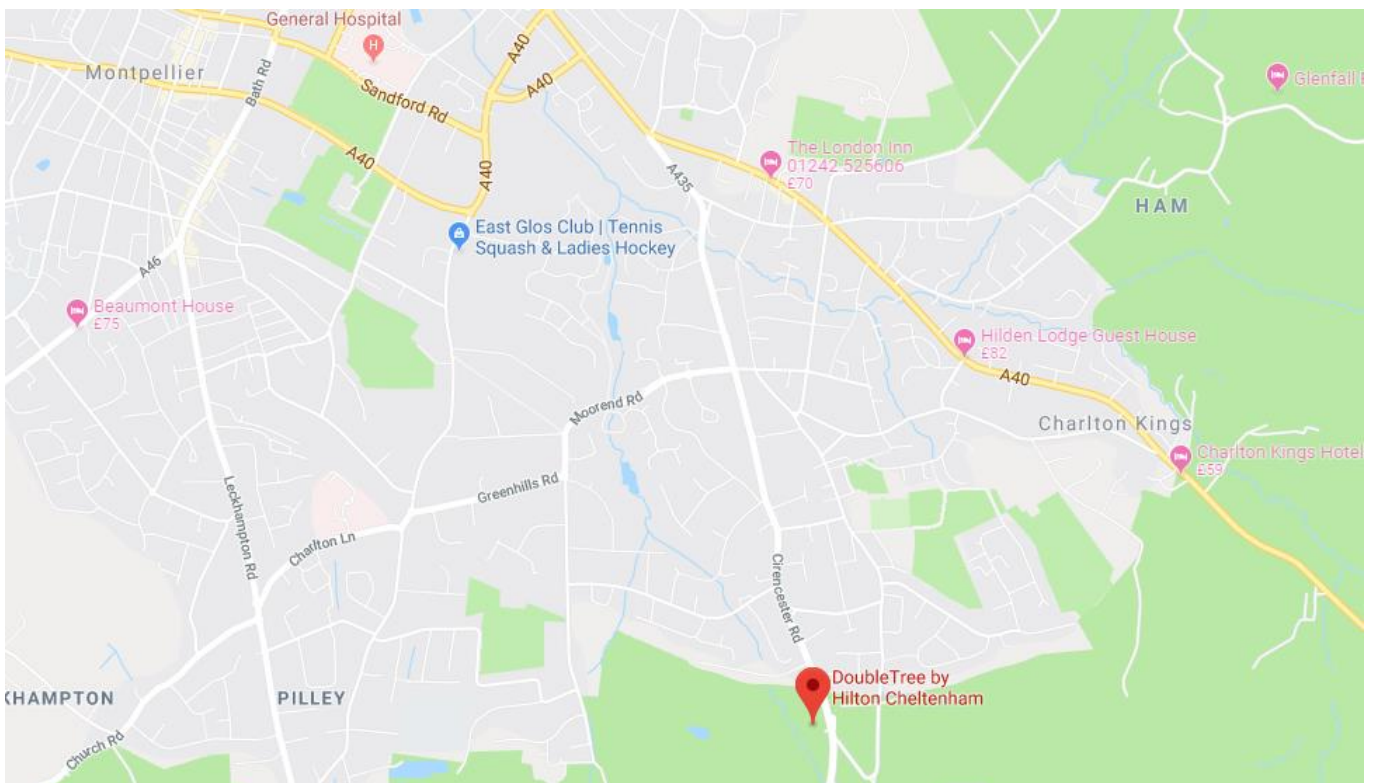
Charlton Kings

Cheltenham

GL53 8EA

Tel: 01242 222021

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



Transport

If you are travelling by car: Leave the M5 at junction 11A and follow signs for the A417 to Cirencester. At the roundabout (next to the Air Balloon Pub), take the first exit and follow- A436- East Cheltenham/Stow on the Wold (ignore the immediate left to Leckhampton.) At the mini-roundabout, turn left onto the A435. Go straight over the next mini-roundabout towards Cheltenham. The hotel is situated at the bottom of the hill on the left-hand side past the Lilley Brook golf course.

If you are travelling by train: Cheltenham Spa railway station is 3.5 miles from the hotel.



Accommodation

Doubletree by Hilton, Cheltenham

Located in the Cotswolds, close to the historic town of Cheltenham, this Georgian-style Manor House is set within its own landscaped gardens, the hotel offers a restaurant, bar, indoor pool and fitness room. Bedrooms include a flat-screen TV, hospitality tray, ample USB charging points, laptop-sized safe and complimentary WiFi. The sleek, en-suite bathroom features a power shower, deluxe bath products, hairdryer and heated towel rail. Complimentary car parking is available on-site at the hotel.

The Doubletree by Hilton Cheltenham is a character property. It has no lift and as such many guest rooms are only accessible via stairs. We are also unable to offer air conditioning.

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

<https://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/united-kingdom/doubletree-by-hilton-cheltenham>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

You can check-in at the hotel from 15.00. The tour will start in the evening when Rita Adam will meet you in at 18:30 for the welcome reception along with our expert speaker Dr Timothy Brain.

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 dinner bed and breakfast basis including the concert and coach transfers. Check out from the hotel is at 12:00.

Dining

On the first, a private dinner with wine is provided at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. 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 Three Choirs Festival, held every year since the early eighteenth century, and rotating between the three great cathedral cities of Worcester, Hereford and Gloucester, is one of the world's oldest classical choral music festivals. This heritage has long established the Festival as a firm fixture in the British music calendar and a must-visit for lovers of the great choral works from across the world. In 2019 the festival is based in Gloucester and the programme on this itinerary includes the opening service, an evening concert to hear Berlioz's *La Damnation of Faust* featuring Susan Bickley, Peter Hoare, Christopher Purves, and David Ireland. You will also have the opportunity to enjoy Madeleine Mitchell violin and Clare Hammond piano reviving a trio of unpublished works by famed Gloucestershire composer Ivor Gurney and gives us a rare chance to hear Grace Williams' *Lyrical Sonata*, alongside a varied selection of works written specially for Madeleine, including the world premiere of a lively new suite by Robert Saxton.

<http://www.3choirs.org/>

Berkeley Castle

The Berkeley Family are the only English family still in existence in England that can trace its ancestors from father to son back to Saxon times. The Castle is the oldest building in the country to be inhabited by the same family who built it. For centuries, the Berkeleys were close to the throne, able administrators and fighters who supported their king or queen (as long as they could), backed the winning side, and married well. The Castle, naturally enough, is full of stories. The contents of the castle have been chosen and collected by members of the Berkeley family throughout the centuries and reflect the history of their home. Located within 6,000 acres, the castle also has a medieval deer park.

<http://www.berkeley-castle.com/index.php>



Your Speaker

Your speaker, Dr Timothy Brain, was Chief Constable of Gloucestershire from 2001 until his retirement in January 2010 and was Deputy Chief Constable of Gloucestershire from 1998 to 2001. He is Chairman of the Three Choirs Festival and Deputy Chairman of Gloucestershire County Cricket Club. He is active as a speaker at community organisations in Gloucestershire, and a patron of Meningitis Now, Cheltenham Street Pastors, Girlguiding in Gloucestershire and the St Cecilia Singers, Gloucester. He is a committee member and trustee of the Friends of the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum, and the Nature in Art Trust, Twigworth and has been President of the Gloucestershire Institute of Advanced Motorists since 2001. Also he is a member of Stroud Choral Society, a founding member of the Honourable Company of Gloucestershire and a friend of Gloucester Cathedral.

Timothy's talk will cover an outline of the history of the festival.

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 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

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



Travel Editions

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