



DISCOVER ENGLAND'S LAKE DISTRICT

**A CRUISE, RAIL &
WALKING JOURNEY**



**AHI TRAVELER
2012 PROGRAM DATES**

**JULY 2-13
SEPT. 9-20**

AUG. 20-31

800-323-7373

www.ahitravel.com



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Relax for **ten nights** at the **Macdonald Old England Hotel and Spa**, ideally situated on lovely Lake Windermere.
- Soak up jaw-dropping scenery through uniquely designed **walking tours**, leisurely **lake cruises** and scenic **train rides**.
- Enjoy a private poetry reading at **Rydal Mount**, William Wordsworth's glorious family home and garden.
- Visit **Hilltop Farm**, home of Beatrix Potter.
- Witness the frontiers of the Roman Empire as you walk along **Hadrian's Wall**, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Discover the ancient walled city of **York** with a guided tour of its greatest landmarks including the **Jorvic Viking Museum** and the **Minster**, one of northern Europe's greatest cathedrals.
- Deepen your understanding of the Lake District with **enlightening lectures** on architecture; the Romans and the Vikings; famous writers, artists and adventurers of the region and more.

A treasured summer retreat since the days of Queen Victoria, England's enchanting Lake District invites you to explore heather-clad mountains, crystalline lakes and gentle green hillsides dotted with white stone cottages and grazing Herdwick sheep. Partake in a pastoral way of life rich with scenic splendor as you walk in the footsteps of Wordsworth, inhale the sweet scent of lavender and linger in grand castles and cozy pubs with new friends and a few pints of bitter.



*Bowness-on-Windermere
Inset above: Wordsworth's home,
Rydal Mount*

Dear AHI Traveler,

Fresh air, open pastures and rugged beauty await you on this soul-stirring adventure in England's magnificent Lakes District. Experience a landscape that deeply inspired the Romantic Movement and redefined the ways Western culture viewed the world.

With this program, you'll enjoy the worry-free convenience and value of group travel while maintaining your freedom to roam. Throughout the journey, rest easy at the charming Macdonald Old England Hotel and Spa in Bowness-on-Windermere and enjoy sprawling mature lawns and lake views from your guestroom. Sip Twinings tea on the hotel's terrace or dine on home-cured salmon and slow braised Highland lamb in the elegant restaurant.

Share an unforgettable journey with like-minded travelers as you delve into history, linger at great literary landmarks, examine time-honored traditions and savor old English recipes passed down through generations.

As a member of our group, you'll enjoy personalized attention, exceptional service and exclusive extras unavailable to the independent traveler. Your needs and wishes have been anticipated and will be attended to by an experienced staff of travel professionals. This program will fill quickly, so make your reservation today!

Best regards,



Rick Small
Executive Vice President
AHI Travel

AHI Travel

Founded in 1962, AHI designs unique, educational travel opportunities for sophisticated travelers. The principles upon which AHI was founded--innovation, creativity and the highest levels of service and quality--continue to distinguish each AHI travel program. Our goal is to exceed your expectations.

*"I wandered lonely as a Cloud
That floats on high o'er Vales
and Hills, When all at once I
saw a crowd, A host of
dancing Daffodils; Along the
Lake, beneath the trees, Ten
thousand dancing in the
breeze."*

William Wordsworth
English Romantic Poet
1770-1850
"Daffodils"

*"...Lake most fair set round
with mountain-guards, Sweet
birds, swift streams, eternal
waterfall..."*

James Payn
English Author
1830-1898
"Grasmere"

*"An architect should live as
little in cities as a painter.
Send him to our hills, and let
him study there what nature
understands by a buttress,
and what by a dome."*

John Ruskin
English Author and Artist
1819-1900

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DISCOVER THE NATURAL BEAUTY, HISTOR

Embrace the splendor of England's countryside as you ramble along grassy upland fells and explore literary landmarks including the homes of William Wordsworth, Beatrix Potter and John Ruskin. Ride the rails through tranquil valleys to the foot of England's highest mountains. Witness the 5,000-year-old Castlerigg Stone Circle; Bond cars in the Motor Museum; English gardens; and Hadrian's Wall, an awe-inspiring Roman monument and World Heritage Site. Step inside 13th- and 14th-century walls to explore York and its venerable cathedral and much more.

DAY ONE

Depart for Manchester, England aboard scheduled jet service. †

DAY TWO

BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE D

Upon arrival in Manchester, transfer† to the Macdonald Old England Hotel and Spa in Bowness-on-Windemere. Enjoy a brief walk

Hadrian's Wall



Hadrian's Wall in northern England, built on the orders of the Emperor Hadrian around AD 122, is an UNESCO World Heritage site featured in this program. This site is distinguished due to universal scenic, historic, artistic or scientific value.

followed by a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the lakefront hotel.

DAY THREE

KESWICK AND RYDAL B/D

Educational Focus: *The History of the English Lakes.* Examine the fascinating history of the region, from stone circles and Roman roads to the advent of the train.

Excursion: *Ten Lakes Spectacular Tour.*

Immerse yourself in the region during a full-day excursion that includes a lake cruise, a visit to the 5,000-year-old Castlerigg Stone Circle, waterfalls and traditional villages. Enjoy ample time for scenic walks and photography.

Cultural Event: *Inside Wordsworth's Home and Garden.* Tonight, meander

through William Wordsworth's glorious garden and family home at Rydal Mount. Sip wine, enjoy traditional Grasmere gingerbread and enjoy a private poetry reading at this historic property.

DAY FOUR

BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE B/L/D

Excursion: *Windermere on Foot or Windermere Highlights.* Stretch your legs as you explore the three gentle hills behind the villages of Windermere and Bowness-on-Windermere. As you navigate historic footpaths, learn about the many uses of these trails

UNESCO



Castlerigg Stone Circle



Lanercost Priory

RY AND ART OF ENGLAND'S LAKE DISTRICT

through the ages. *Or*, visit the Blackwell Arts & Crafts House, Holehird Gardens and the National Park Visitor Centre at Brockhole.

DAY FIVE

WRYNOSE & HARDKNOTT PASSES, EKSDALE AND RAVENGLASS B/L

Educational Focus: *Romans, Vikings and the History of the Old Roman Road.*

Excursion: *The High Adventure Tour.*

Journey over the Wrynose and Hardknott Passes, the steepest in England. Explore the extraordinary remains of lofty Hardknott Roman Fort, admire the spectacular view of England's highest mountains and ride the famous miniature Ravenglass and Eskdale railway, a seven-mile journey featuring open carriages.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch at a traditional country inn.

Excursion: *The Western Lake District.*

Soak up the sights of Wastwater, England's

most dramatic lake and "favorite view."

Afterward, visit the splendid 14th-century Muncaster Castle. This "haunted" castle is still inhabited. It is surrounded by 70 acres of gardens and is also known for its World Owl Trust.

DAY SIX

BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE B/D

Independent Exploration: Relax and follow your own path today.

DAY SEVEN

LAKE WINDERMERE AND GRANGE-OVER-SANDS B/L

Educational Focus: *Architecture of the English Lake District.* Learn about grand Victorian mansions, stone cottages and other structures in the region.

Excursion: *A Lake Cruise, A Museum & A Stately Home.* Cruise Lake Windermere aboard a famous iron steamboat and then visit the Lakeland Motor Museum with its enormous

Grasmere

Penrith





Shopkeeper in York



Lake District National Park

display of British cars and automotive memorabilia. Continue to Holker Hall, home of the Cavendish family. Enjoy this impressive family home with its lovely gardens and parkland and sample local delicacies. Top off the day with a scenic train ride powered by steam engine.

DAY EIGHT

GRASMERE, CONISTON, BRANTWOOD AND HAWKSHEAD B/L/D

Educational Focus: *Legendary Writers, Poets and Adventurers.*

Excursion: *The Writers of the English Lakes.* Start the morning with a visit to the home of William Wordsworth, Dove Cottage at Grasmere. Then drive to the village of Coniston, home to the 20th century children's writer, Arthur Ransome. Embark on a lake cruise to Brantwood, home of Victorian writer, artist and philosopher John Ruskin.

Drive to the medieval monastic village of Hawkshead, via the picture-perfect Tarn Hows, a site of thick woods and three lakes that once belonged to Peter Rabbit author, Beatrix Potter. Explore Hawkshead before taking a short drive to Hilltop Farm, Potter's lovely home.

Ravenglass and Eskdale railway



DAY NINE

THE BORDERS, BEWCASTLE, BRAMPTON AND ALSTON B/L

Excursion: *Hadrian's Wall, The Borders and The South Tyne Valley.* Drive through St John's in the Vale, and on toward Penrith, Wetheral, Brampton and the Scottish Border. Stop at Lanercost Priory in the Irthing Valley to admire the stained glass windows by Sir Edward Burne-Jones.

Visit Bewcastle Church and Museum and see the well-preserved 7th century cross, all set within the ruins of a hexagonal Roman fort. Walk along Hadrian's Wall with its "milecastles" and towers and view the exhibition and gallery.

Local Flavor: Lunch is served at Birdoswald Fort.

Continue along Hadrian's Wall for 12 miles and see this spectacular part of history. Drive through the South Tyne Valley to Alston, one of

Holker Hall



NATIONAL PARK & INSPIRATION

The Lake District's beguiling scenery deeply inspired the Romantic poets of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. "I wandered lonely as a cloud," wrote poet William Wordsworth in his famous Lake District poem *Daffodils* after walking with his sister Dorothy near Ullswater Lake in 1802. Dorothy, the lesser-known Wordsworth, recorded detailed observations of the land in her own *Grasmere Journal*, documenting the "mossy stones" and daffodils "that verily laughed with the wind." Like other Lake artists, they relished all aspects of the terrain, large and small.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Charlotte Bronte, John Keats, Beatrix Potter and other greats also found inspiration here. As a child, Potter illustrated the Lake District's insects, pets and fossils. In her later years, Potter was devoted to conserving the natural resources of the region.

A national park since 1951, the Lake District is a sprawling expanse of cool, clear lakes, flower-filled meadows, ancient woodlands, jagged mountains, uplands and fells. It is home to abundant wildlife and charming villages. The Lake District National Park has the largest concentration of common land in Britain. Some land is privately owned, but landowners and park officials work closely to ensure that some 1,800 miles of footpaths are open to all.

England's highest market towns and on to the Hartside Pass. Stop for tea and superb views across Cumbria.

DAY TEN

YORK **B/D**

Excursion: *York in a Day*. Travel to the ancient city of York, encircled by 13th and



Hiking in Keswick

14th-century walls. Enjoy a guided city tour including the York Minster, England's largest medieval cathedral, and the Jorvic Viking Museum.

DAY ELEVEN

BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE **B/D**

Independent Exploration

Tonight, enjoy a *Farewell Reception* and *Dinner* at the Old England Hotel.

DAY TWELVE

B

Early this morning, transfer to the Manchester Airport for the return flight to your gateway city.[†]

Note: *Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.*

Included meals indicated each day as B/L/D = Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner.

[†] *Provided for Air Program participants.*

The walled city of York





MACDONALD OLD ENGLAND HOTEL AND SPA

Set on the shores of Lake Windermere, England's largest lake, Macdonald Old England Hotel and Spa captivates visitors with its private gardens, stunning lake views and traditional country house charm. Unwind in the spa, dine in the award-winning Number 23 Church Street Restaurant and enjoy peaceful, refined accommodations with lovely lake views from your private guestroom. To top it off, the pubs, restaurants and shops of charming Bowness-on-Windermere are just steps away.



York

Hardknott Roman Fort



Reserve your England's Lake District trip today!

For Office Use Only: B #: _____ Date: _____
 PSR: _____

Send to: England's Lake District
 AHI Travel
 6400 Shafer Court
 Suite 200
 Rosemont, IL 60018

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this tour or to make a reservation.

Program date desired: _____

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

(2) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home: (_____) _____

Office: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Yes, please e-mail me information about special travel opportunities.

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program

- I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.
- Please call me/us to discuss my/our air options.
- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$495 (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Land and Air Program

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the roundtrip Air Program to Manchester, England, to depart from:

Departure City _____

Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

*Please note: Air prices will be sent to you with your Reservation Confirmation and air schedule sent at 90 days before departure. International flight arrangements can be canceled with **no obligation up to 75 days before departure.***

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full 75 days prior to departure. Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard or Visa. Make checks payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.
- Charge my deposit to: MasterCard Visa

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the Cancellation terms.

NEW ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY- The AHI Travel Passenger Protection Plan now offers a low-cost Any Reason Cancellation feature. Book worry free!

NOT INCLUDED- Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL- The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION- The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

CANCELLATION- In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

BAGGAGE- Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS - On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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Need pre- or post-trip assistance?

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at **800-323-7373** no later than **60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations.

* A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.

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LAND PROGRAM

Full Price

\$4,045

Special Savings

\$250

Special Price

\$3,795*

***Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.**

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are per person, based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated) and are subject to change without notice. Price may vary according to departure date. Please call for further details. Single accommodations are an additional \$495 (limited availability).

AIR PROGRAM

For your convenience, AHI offers a flexible Air Program featuring special air fares available at an additional cost in conjunction with the Land Program. You can request the Air Program on your reservation form. If you need more information please visit us online, email or call and we will be happy to assist you.

A word about your Tour Operator

AHI Travel is the premier operator of deluxe travel programs sponsored by alumni associations. Their experienced, professional staff has offered the highest level of service in **innovative travel programs since 1962.**

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- **An exceptional travel value.** It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- **Unique access to local sites.** Take advantage of their 50 years of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- **Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.** Benefit from the expertise of local guides who possess authoritative knowledge of the region and offer personal insight into the local culture.
- **Flexibility and customization.** Free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests. They will also help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions.
- **Safety and security.** In a country where you might not know the language or culture, their professional staff is on hand to ease your way and get you any help you need.



**Top: Muncaster Castle
Above: English garden**

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Ten nights** in a lakefront guestroom at the **Macdonald Old England Hotel and Spa**.

Meals

- **Enjoy an extensive meal plan** including ten breakfasts, five lunches and seven dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner. Take advantage of independent leisure time to try local cuisine.
- Sample regional specialties at a country inn and other unique locales.
- Attend a special **Welcome Reception and Dinner**.
- Gather for a **Farewell Reception** followed by a **Farewell Dinner**.



Your Exciting Travel Program

(For full details, please refer to the day-by-day itinerary.)

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by **local experts**, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions:**
 - See the 5,000 year-old **Castlerigg Stone Circle**.
 - Enjoy a private poetry reading at **Rydal Mount**.
 - Hike the **historic trails** or visit the **Blackwell Arts & Crafts House** and **Holehird Gardens**.
 - Tour the Western Lake District and a ride the **Ravenglass and Eskdale railway**.
 - Visit **Muncaster Castle**.
 - Cruise **Lake Windermere**.
 - Discover the **Lakeland Motor Museum** and **Holker Hall**.
 - See **Wordsworth's Dove Cottage**, **John Ruskin's home**, and **Beatrix Potter's Hilltop Farm**.
 - Travel along **Hadrian's Wall**.
 - Explore the ancient city of **York**.

Many Included Extras

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of a friendly, professional **Travel Director**.
- **Tipping** of all guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist you in your planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.



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We are pleased to present an exciting new opportunity to connect with and learn about our Travel Program while gaining access to a vast array of savings opportunities and other travel benefits. Sign up today and get the most out of your future with AHI Travel.

Benefits include:

- Get **exclusive offers** for special savings.
- Be among the **first to hear** about travel programs designed exclusively for educated alumni travelers.
- Enjoy **special access** to AHI experts.
- Participate in **special online information sessions**.
- Qualify for **extra amenities tailored to your trip** such as upgraded accommodations at no

extra charge*.

*Where available.

*AHI Travel
6400 Schafer Court
Suite 200
Rosemont, IL 60018*

ENGLAND12 0

Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

**Cover photo: Grasmere
Above left: York Minster**

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