

**Train : Britannic Explorer**

**Journey : The Lake District and Wales**

**Journey Duration : 6 nights, 7 days**

**Day to Day Itinerary :**

**Day 1-** Prepare to traverse the glorious English countryside and immerse yourself in the breathtaking landscapes of the Lake District as you step aboard the Britannic Explorer at London Victoria Station. Settle into your private quarters, where the elegant ambience reflects the illustrious landscape through which the train passes. Life on board is an indulgent affair, beginning with a sumptuous Cumbrian Afternoon Tea, curated by Chef Simon Rogan, with his own Cumbrian heritage reflected in the menu. Perhaps you'll try a slice of Kendal mint cake, or some sumptuous Grasmere gingerbread. As the afternoon unfolds, unwind with a restorative treatment in our Wellness Suite, or perhaps enjoy a cocktail or two from the Bar. Our route to the Lake District takes you through the heart of England, winding through the picturesque landscapes of Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, and South Yorkshire.

As night descends, take your seat for an exquisite dinner, once again crafted by Michelin-starred chef Simon Rogan, a true pioneer of the farm-to-fork movement. Anticipate culinary masterpieces that celebrate local, seasonal ingredients and innovative flavours, elevating your dining experience to new heights. After dinner, join us in the Observation Car, where you can dance the night away to music while sipping a small-batch gin and tonic, surrounded by cherished new friends. Finally, retreat to your tranquil suite for a restful night's sleep.

**Day 2-** As you travel along Cumbria's southern coast, let your gaze drift to the stunning panorama of the Irish Sea shimmering in the distance. By early afternoon, we'll arrive in Workington – your gateway to the Lake District. Here, we take a chauffeured journey to the Lingholm Estate, a Grade II listed Victorian mansion where the beloved Beatrix Potter once spent her idyllic summers. Within this exclusive sanctuary, with private quarters open solely to guests of the Britannic Explorer, choose your adventure: immerse yourself in guided open-water swimming, meet the delightful local alpacas, or embark on a scenic hike around the breathtaking nearby fells. For those wishing to explore a little further afield, our onboard concierge is ready to curate your ideal outing.

Reboard the train, now awaiting you at Penrith, just as dinner is being prepared. Tonight's meal is yet another celebration of seasonal British fine dining, followed by lively onboard entertainment with your fellow bon vivants. As the evening draws to a close, the train will rest overnight on the scenic Settle & Carlisle line, nestled in the charming rural market town of Appleby, ready for yet another day of indulgent exploration.

**Day 3-** Awaken to an elegant morning as a leisurely brunch awaits you in the dining car, alongside a freshly crafted Bellini. Savour this gentle time, perhaps with a spirited game of cards among newfound friends as we glide over the iconic Ribbleshead Viaduct on the famed Settle & Carlisle line. Soon, disembark for a sumptuous gala lunch at an exclusive venue.

Return to the train afterward to spend your final night aboard, as we settle amidst the Cotswolds' patchwork tapestry, resting overnight just beyond the lights of London.

**Day 4-** After a scenic journey, gliding through Oxfordshire and the Chilterns, we arrive at London Victoria for an early morning arrival. You have free time here as we collect more passengers, so disembark and stretch your legs to explore the local area – perhaps making the short 15-minute stroll to our sister hotel, The Cadogan, for a spot of lunch or a glass of English sparkling wine on their terrace.

We depart London once more in the afternoon, our journey to Wales commencing with another thoughtfully curated afternoon tea, featuring delightful Welsh teacakes and traditional bara brith fruit cake. As you savour these exquisite treats, the golden hour bathes the patchwork tapestry of the Cotswolds in a warm, enchanting glow, transforming the countryside into a breathtaking panorama of rich hues.

As the evening unfolds, you may choose to indulge in the serenity of the wellness suite, sample the diverse selection of gins in the bar, or engage in a friendly board game with newfound companions. After relishing a masterfully curated dinner by Chef Rogan, retreat to your suite, where you can drift into a peaceful slumber, cradled by the gentle rhythm of this extraordinary journey.

**Day 5-** As the sun rises, illuminating the breathtaking Pembrokeshire coastline, embrace the promise of a day filled with exploration amidst Wales's scenic vistas and verdant valleys. After a leisurely breakfast, disembark at Llandrindod Wells, where a guided hike through the tranquil valleys of the remote Welsh heartland awaits. Relax post-hike at the spectacular Farmers' Welsh Lavender, take a dip in the pond, recharge in the sauna or simply relax by the log fire.

After your invigorating excursion, rejoin the train and continue your journey along the enchanting Heart of Wales Line, which gracefully winds through the rural uplands of Carmarthenshire and Powys. As you travel northward into Eryri National Park (Snowdonia), prepare to be mesmerised by the dramatic transformation of landscapes, where lush valleys rise to meet soaring peaks and cascading waterfalls. This evening's dining experience promises another celebration of seasonal British fine dining, perfectly paired with an enchanting entertainment lineup. Our overnight stabling point for the evening is near the seaside town of Barmouth.

**Day 6** Spend a leisurely morning aboard the train, indulging in a wellness ritual or enjoying a blissful lie-in, followed by a sumptuous brunch. With a freshly made mimosa in hand, take in the passing scenery from the expansive windows of the Observation Car. Our next destination is the vibrant town of Machynlleth, nestled at the southern edge of Eryri National Park (Snowdonia). Renowned for its Museum of Modern Art, Machynlleth is a hub of creativity, sustainability, and exceptional cuisine. Our Concierge's curated black book of excursions offers a range of active pursuits such as clay pigeon shooting.

Back on board, lunch is served as you continue travelling through the greenery of Mid Wales and Montgomeryshire, passing Welshpool before crossing the border into Shropshire. Wind down through the Midlands to reach Moreton-in-Marsh, an idyllic market town celebrated for its charming “chocolate box” cottages.

After dinner on board, disembark for an exclusive party in the quintessential Cotswolds pub, The Fox in Oddington. Recently renovated by Carole Bamford, founder of Daylesford, this honey-coloured, 16th-century pub continues its legacy as a traditional countryside inn for locals and visitors alike. Menus celebrate local producers, and your exuberant evening will include homemade English fare such as Scotch eggs and sausage rolls, local ales and artisan liqueurs, and the chance to learn the art of pouring the perfect pint.

**Day 7** Savour a farewell breakfast as we journey through the picturesque landscapes of Oxfordshire and the enchanting Chilterns. As you reflect on the unforgettable memories from your breathtaking exploration of the United Kingdom, we gracefully arrive at London Victoria in the soft light of early morning.