



The Arts Society Knole

Norfolk - Monday 11th May – Friday 15th May 2020

£899.00 per person (Cost based on 20 people & two sharing a twin room)

Double bedded room for sole use supplement: £240.00 / Single bedded room supplement: £165.00



Itinerary

DAY 1

Private Coach from Kent to Norwich with en route visit to **Gainsborough House** to explore the museum and art gallery at the birthplace of Thomas Gainsborough in Sudbury, Suffolk. The beautiful gardens here are maintained exclusively with plants available in Gainsborough's lifetime. A guided tour and light lunch will be included here before transferring to Norwich. Check in at hotel and Welcome drink and dinner included at the hotel this evening.



Day 2

This morning visit **East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens** with coffee/tea and biscuits on arrival followed by a guided tour and then lunch (included).

East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens is a notable privately owned garden in the county of Norfolk. The gardens were established in 1973 by Alan Gray and Graham Robeson, who have created a 32-acre design which incorporates exuberant and innovative planting alongside a more traditional formal design.





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In the afternoon transfer back to **Norwich** for a guided city tour. The ancient settlement of 'Northwic' was first recorded in Saxon times. Over a thousand years later the City has survived Norman invasion, rebellion, plague, fire and war. The guided tour will give an insight into the people and events which made Norwich the second greatest City of England. There will also be an opportunity to visit the **Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts**. This inspirational public art museum has spectacular outdoor art by Henry Moore and a sculpture garden as well as Modern art donated by Lord and Lady Sainsbury, including works by Pablo Picasso, Francis Bacon and Edgar Degas, and world art spanning 5,000 years of human creativity. Dinner at a local restaurant included this evening.



Day 3

Morning visit to **Sandringham Estate** including a free flow visit and lunch (not included). The much-loved country retreat of Her Majesty the Queen, Sandringham is set in 24 hectares of stunning gardens and has been the private home of four generations of British monarchs since 1862. There are knowledgeable guides in every room of the house and the Museum houses extraordinary collections of Royal vehicles, rare ceramics, photographs and memorabilia.



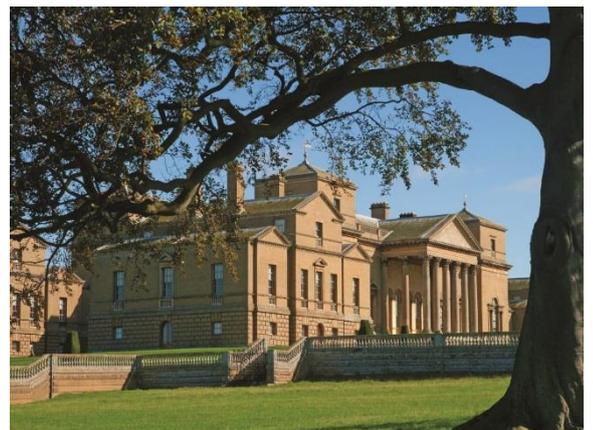
Afternoon visit to **Houghton Hall** including guided tour. This Grade I listed building surrounded by parkland is the home of David Cholmondeley, 7th Marquess of Cholmondeley. It was built for the de facto first British Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole, and it is a key building in the history of Palladian architecture in England. Situated in traditional parkland, Houghton is home to a spectacular herd of white fallow and other exotic deer. Displayed in the grounds is an impressive collection of contemporary sculptures by world-renowned artists.



Dinner at the hotel included this evening.

Day 4

Today the first visit will be to **Holkham Hall**. With a stunning location on the north Norfolk coast and at the heart of a thriving 25,000 acre estate, Holkham Hall is described as an exceptional place, rich in history, architecture and wildlife. The seat of the Earls of Leicester, this elegant 18th century mansion is still very much a lived-in family home and one of England's finest examples of the Palladian revival style of architecture. The Hall is based on designs by William Kent and built by Thomas Coke, 1st Earl of Leicester.





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The Marble Hall is a spectacular introduction to this imposing building, with its 50ft pressed plaster dome ceiling and walls of English alabaster. Stairs lead to magnificent state rooms displaying superb collections of ancient statuary, original furniture, tapestries and paintings by Rubens, Van Dyck, Claude, Gaspard Poussin and Gainsborough.

Lunch at Holkham Hall (not included) before transferring to **Blickling Hall (National Trust)**.

This breath-taking red-brick Jacobean mansion and ancient yew hedges sit at the heart of a magnificent garden and historic park in the beautiful Bure meadows.

The present house was designed in 1616 and was built on the ruins of the original site. During WWII it was used as the Officers Mess from nearby RAF Oulton and then owner Philip Kerr, 11th Marquis of Lothian, left this estate to the National Trust in 1940 where it remains today.

Return to Norwich and dinner at a local restaurant is included this evening.



Day 5

Depart Norwich and transfer to **Dedham Vale (AONB)**. Here a visit will be made to **Flatford (National Trust)**. Flatford lies in the heart of the beautiful Dedham Vale. This charming hamlet was the inspiration for some of John Constable's most famous pictures, for example, the Hay Wain or Boatbuilding near Flatford Mill among many others. While here there will be a guided Constable Tour taking in the key view sites which motivated Constable.

Time for lunch at Flatford (not included) before returning home to Kent arriving early evening.

Please note: The above itinerary may be subject to change

Hotel: The Maids Head Hotel, Norwich

The Maids Head Hotel is known to be the oldest hotel in the UK dating back over 800 years. Situated in the historical centre of Norwich this hotel boasts charm and individual character. Walking through its doors guests embrace the welcoming splendour of a traditional and historical hotel which today boasts elegant contemporary charm. All rooms have en suite bath/shower rooms, tea and coffee facilities, Freeview television, free Wi-Fi and hairdryer. Full details: <https://www.maidsheadhotel.co.uk/>

Please note single bedded rooms all have shower over the bath tub and there is no lift access to the single rooms.





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Included:

- Private coach throughout tour
- 4 nights' bed and breakfast accommodation at the Maids Head Hotel
- Welcome drink on Day 1 / coffee, tea & biscuits on Day 2
- 4 dinners & 2 lunches
- Full Tour itinerary as detailed
- Entrance fees including Blickling Hall & Flatford for National Trust members
- Gratuities (coach driver & local guides)

Not included:

- Meals & drinks not specified
- Holiday insurance
- **Double bedded room for sole use supplement: £240.00 / single bedded room supplement: £165.00**
- Entrance fee to Blickling Hall & Flatford for non-National Trust members
- Personal items such as meals (other than those mentioned) drinks, laundry, telephone calls etc
- Porterage & Gratuities not specified

HOW TO BOOK:

A deposit of £75.00 per person (plus insurance premium, if applicable) is required to secure your booking. Bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis, so please book as soon as possible to ensure your place. To book by credit or debit card, call: 020 7251 0045 quoting 'The Arts Society Knole – Norfolk'.

Should you wish to pay by cheque, please complete the Travel Editions booking form and return to: **Travel Editions Ltd, 3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB.** Cheques should be made payable to **TRAVEL EDITIONS LTD** and we recommend sending any booking forms and cheques via secure mail such as recorded or special delivery, to ensure safe receipt.

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