

7 Night Bridge & Walking Holiday in the Peak District

Trip style:

Destination: 📍 Peak District

Trip code: POP07-BRW05

Grades: 1 & 2

Carbon Footprint: 🌱 107kg CO2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Stay in the comfort of our characterful country houses and exercise both mind and body with this classic combination. You'll have a choice of two guided walks a day (one short and one longer) followed by a bridge competition each evening.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Guided walking with experienced HF Holidays Leaders
- Playing bridge in a relaxed and friendly environment
- Meeting like-minded people
- Being surrounded by the stunning landscape of Peak District
- Evening bridge competitions
- Staying in the comfort of our country house

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All bridge-related materials
- En-suite accommodation in our 3-star country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information available in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

TRIP SUITABILITY

This holiday is suitable for regular players of Duplicate Bridge at club level.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

Day 2-3: Bridge & Walking

Enjoy a choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 4-6 miles or a harder route of around 6-8 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the countryside surrounding your HF country house, and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm.

Walks information: Day 2 - Industrial Derwent Valley Option 1 - The Cromford Canal Distance: 3½ miles (5.5km)

Ascent: Negligible In summary: A stroll along the remains of the Cromford Canal passing Leawood Pumping Station and High Peak Junction to reach the site of Mill, now a World Heritage Site. There will be ample time to take a tour of the mill and the town built for the workers. Highlight: The Derwent Valley was one of birthplaces of the Industrial Revolution, for it was here that Richard Arkwright set up his pioneering cotton mill. Its importance is now recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Option 2 - Middleton Top to Arkwright's Mill Distance: 4½ miles (7km) Ascent: 300 feet (100m) In summary: Today's walk starts at the imposing former engine house at Middleton Top and follows the old trackbed of the Cromford and High Peak Railway to travel back in time at the National Stone Centre. The route continues descending the old railway line to the Cromford Canal to end at Arkwright's Mill. Highlight: The chance to visit the fascinating UNESCO World Heritage Site of Arkwright's Mill - a cornerstone of the Industrial Revolution.

Day 3 - Tissington Option 1 - Tissington Circular Distance: 4½ miles (7km) Ascent: 400 feet (120m) In summary: We walk to Tissington on grassland, through the gates and along the tree lined Avenue. After time to look round the village the walk returns on the Tissington Trail (former London and North Western railway) to the site of Thorpe station Highlight: The charming estate village of Tissington, home of the FitzHerbert family for over 500 years. Option 2 - Tissington Distance: 6 miles (9.5km) Ascent: 600 feet (180m) In summary: From Thorpe we walk along the scenic Tissington Trail (former London and North Western railway) north to the estate village of Tissington, famous for its well dressings. After looking round this charming village we return to the house following the Limestone Way, again with superb views of the surrounding countryside. Highlight: Fantastic views of Thorpe Cloud, 'the mini Matterhorn' from the Tissington Trail.

Day 4: Free Day - Peak District

Discover more about Peveril of the Peak and the local area for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

Day 5-7: Bridge & Walking

Enjoy a choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 4-6 miles or a harder route of around 6-8 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the countryside surrounding your HF country house, and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm.

Walks information Day 5 - Ashbourne Option 1 - Tissington Trail to Ashbourne Distance: 4 miles (6km) Ascent: 200 feet (60m) In summary: We walk from the house and join the Tissington Trail (the former LNWR railway). We follow this to Ashbourne reaching the centre via a tunnel. Highlight: Have a browse around the shops or simply relax with a

coffee and cake in one of the many tea shops in Ashbourne. Option 2 - Thorpe to Ashbourne Distance: 5½ miles (9km) Ascent: 600 feet (180m) In summary: From the house we descend Lin Dale and cross the famous Stepping Stones then head south following the scenic River Dove to historic Coldwall Bridge crossing to continue along the river to Okeover Bridge and Mapleton. We then ascend the hillside to the Tissington Trail and follow this through the tunnel into Ashbourne. Highlight: Explore Ashbourne 'The Gateway to Dovedale' with its many Tudor and Georgian listed buildings. Day 6 - Chatsworth Park Option 1 - Baslow and Chatsworth Park Distance: 3½ miles (5.5km) Ascent: 250 feet (80m) In summary: Starting in the estate village of Baslow we will enter the beautiful Chatsworth Park. We explore the grounds before descending to the house and then to the village of Edensor. Highlight: Take time to admire magnificent Chatsworth House and its expansive landscaped grounds. Option 2 - Curbar Gap and Chatsworth Distance: 4½ miles (7.5km) Ascent: 650 feet (200m) In summary: Starting in the estate village of Baslow we will enter the beautiful Chatsworth Park. Our exploration of the grounds will take in The Jubilee Stone and the Hunting Tower before descending to the house and the village of Edensor. Highlight: Admire the grandeur of Chatsworth House, home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and its surrounding parkland landscaped by Capability Brown. Day 7 - Dovedale Option 1 - River Dove and Coldwall Bridge Distance: 2½ miles (4.5km) Ascent: 400 feet (120m) In summary: Descend round Thorpe Cloud to the River Dove. There is then an option to take a footbridge into Staffordshire and walk to the iconic Stepping Stones. Cross and return if you dare and then return to the footbridge and Derbyshire. The River Dove is then followed to Coldwall Bridge. View this 100 yard long river crossing before ascending on the old coach road and through Thorpe Village back to the house. Highlight: Visiting the beautiful Stepping Stones. Option 2 - Ilam Circular Distance: 5 miles (8km) Ascent: 600 feet (180m) In summary: Taking a route round iconic Thorpe Cloud we then cross the River Dove (bridge) and follow pasture land to the unique village of Ilam. There will be plenty of time to explore the grounds of Ilam Hall before returning by the river on the Manifold Way and then ascending back to Thorpe on an old coaching track now the Limestone Way. Highlight: Beautiful Ilam Park with its Hall and the pseudo Alpine village of Ilam.

Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

The Peveril of the Peak

Named after Sir Walter Scott's Peak District-set novel, this characterful country house is less than a mile from the famous Dovedale Stepping Stones and on the doorstep of Thorpe Cloud - a cone-shaped limestone hill that offers impressive views over the rolling green landscape that forms the Staffordshire/Derbyshire border. Both are easily accessible from the rear of the property. There are plenty of big-name walking destinations nearby including the Roaches, the impressive Stanage Edge, and the Twelve Apostles - a group of rock spires best viewed from the limestone promontory known as Lover's Leap.

A warm welcome

We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

Evening entertainment

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided walking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

Walks talks

Our HF Holidays walk leaders host guided walking information briefings before dinner on guided walking holiday arrival days. This is followed by a group Walks Talk for information on the following day's guided walks (held before dinner every evening). Self-guided walking guests are, of course, welcome.

The walking day

Prior to setting off on guided walks, your HF Holidays Leader will run you through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure you have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

Walking safety - SHARED WITH ALL

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests. Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass. Please note: If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you. If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel section) should you need them in case of emergency.

Packing list - Bridge & Walking

Bridge All your Bridge stationery and equipment will be supplied. You may, however, like to bring a notebook and pen to make your own notes. EBU Members - don't forget to bring your EBU membership number to earn Master Points on this holiday. Walking To enjoy your walking comfortably and safely, it is essential that your footwear, clothing and equipment are suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. Britain is famous for its changeable weather, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities. Bring a rucksack, a thermos flask for a hot drink, a water bottle (at least 1 litre) and spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar, a small torch (in spring, autumn and winter) and first aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed). Many guests find walking poles useful, particularly for descents. Insect repellent, sun hat, sunglasses and protection cream and a camera are all optional extras you may choose to bring.
