

7 Night Heritage Trains of Snowdonia

Trip style:

Destination: 📍 Snowdonia

Trip code: DOL07-HRH05



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Ride the rails through Snowdonia's spectacular scenery aboard full-size steam engines, narrow-gauge trains, and cliffside funiculars. This wonderful way of exploring Wales sees you journey through ancient oak woodlands, by thundering waterfalls, and over dramatic ridges aboard the Ffestiniog Railway and Welsh Highland's immaculately restored rail carriages. You'll also enjoy Victorian charm as you chug through the countryside on the Talylyn Railway and top it all by taking the Snowdon Mountain Railway to the dramatic summit of Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon) itself. Please note that, because of the nature of train timetables, the order of your days may change from the published itinerary.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Ride on the Talylyn Railway, the world's first preserved railway
- The scenery in the Vale of Rheidol
- Experience a trip on the Ffestiniog Railway, the world's oldest narrow-gauge railway
- Journey on the Welsh Highland Railway, a stunning highlight of the week
- Taking the Snowdon Mountain Railway up to the summit of Snowdon (weather and season permitting)
- A more personalised experience thanks to small group sizes (maximum 15 people)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- En-suite accommodation in our 4-star country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided sightseeing with an experienced HF Holidays leader
- All transport included in the itinerary
- All entrance fees and rail tickets
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

TRIP SUITABILITY

Our Heritage Tours are your opportunity to immerse yourself in an area of history that interests you, at the same time as exploring the local area with a group of like-minded people. Each day our leaders will provide fascinating commentary on the places visited and share their knowledge with you. This holiday involves active sightseeing so please come prepared to spend most of the day on your feet. We may walk up to 3 miles (5km) each day at the various venues and attractions we visit.

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 4: Free Day - Southern Snowdonia

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

Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

Dolserau Hall

We're delighted to share that Dolserau Hall has now reopened following a significant investment in this much-loved Welsh HF Country House. With beautifully updated social spaces, refreshed bedrooms, and thoughtful enhancements throughout, it's the perfect moment to rediscover this special spot in southern Eryri (Snowdonia). Read more. Dolserau Hall enjoys arresting countryside views at this Victorian manor house at the southern end of Snowdonia (Eryri) National Park. The location is idyllic; think ancient woods and craggy uplands in all directions (parts of the park served as the inspiration for Middle Earth in JRR Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*). There's no shortage of things to do, either, including following the Mawddach Trail along the edge of the Mawddach Estuary, discovering the compact range of hills known as the Rhinogs, and climbing the rugged foothills of Cader Idris – the highest mountain in southern Snowdonia (Eryri) at 893 metres. You'll also be close to Dolgellau, the small market town best known for its once flourishing woollen industry (ruins of the Pandy fulling mills used to remove fats and grease from the wool cloth can still be seen along the Afon Aran River). With only 21 rooms, it's one of HF Holidays' smaller country houses and 40% of its rooms are reserved for singles, making it easier than ever to have your own space.

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.