

7 Night Peak District Discovery Tour

Trip style:

Destination:  Peak District

Trip code: POP07-HCR05

Carbon Footprint:  106kg CO2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Our 7-night Peak District Discovery Tour packs in plenty of highlights. You'll hear the history of the 11th century Haddon Hall, find out about the industrial revolution at Cromford Mills, and uncover the warts-and-all history of Eyam and its battle against the Great Plague in 1665. And if you've still got an appetite, top it all with a slice of Bakewell pudding or Bakewell tart in the town that gave both treats their name.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Learning about the Peak District's industrial heritage
- Spending time in Castleton, the charming village crowned by Peveril Castle
- Treating yourself to a slice of cake or an authentic Bakewell tart
- Visiting the remarkable Haddon Hall
- Discovering the history of Eyam and the Great Plague
- Staying in the comfort of our country house in Dovedale

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Tickets for the Cromford Canal Trip
- 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
- Guided sightseeing with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from sites of interest
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

Please note - Entrance fees are not included. See More Info tab for details.

TRIP SUITABILITY

Trip suitability

Our Discovery holidays give you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture of the local area through **active sightseeing**.

On each Discovery day, you will be walking throughout the course of the day as you explore the venues and locations we visit. You'll also be hopping on and off the coach throughout - you should expect to spend the majority of the day on your feet. Most of this walking will be at attractions but some may be across country tracks or footpaths so be sure to **bring sturdy shoes**. There will also be stairs to climb in the majority of the venues you visit, though other more accessible options may be available. At some venues, there may also be uneven surfaces, such as cobbles or rocky paths.

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: Dovedale, Ilam & Haddon Hall

After a morning stroll around Dovedale, a short drive this morning brings us to the pseudo-alpine village of Ilam where we can take a gentle walk through the wooded grounds of Ilam Hall before travelling to Haddon Hall, arguably the best-preserved Medieval manor house in the country with some stunning medieval and Elizabethan interiors, and small but exquisite gardens.

Day 3: Dambusters & Plague in Eyam

Today, we hover on the boundary of the Dark and White Peaks as we arrive in Castleton. We'll spend a short while here before venturing north to Derwent Dams, famous today for their connection to the heroic RAF 617 squadron, a.k.a. the Dambusters. In the afternoon, we travel on to Eyam, one of the places worst-affected by the Black Death in the 17th century.

Day 4: Free Day

A free day for you to explore the local area or to relax in the Country House. Our Discovery Points help you make the most out of your free day. There's plenty of maps and a selection of the best local walking routes, as well as weather forecasts and public transport options – plus details about other places to visit.

Day 5: Tissington, Kedleston & Ashbourne

We kick off our day with a short stop in the village of Tissington before continuing to 18th-century Kedleston Hall, known for its fabulous interiors, designed for entertaining in style. Alongside its extensive gardens and parkland, there's lots to see here. To round off our day, we'll stretch our legs in Ashbourne, also known as the 'Gateway to Dovedale'.

Day 6: Bakewell & Chatsworth Hall

After a morning stop in the market town of Bakewell, we make the short journey to Chatsworth House. It would be remiss of us to tour the Peak District and not stop at this icon of the area, which is home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire – try saying that five times fast! Its numerous appearances on the small and big screen have given Chatsworth one of the most recognisable frontages in the country, if not world. Behind the façade though, there's a vast collection of artworks, regal state rooms, and perfectly-appointed spaces.

Day 7: Cromford Canals & Mills

On our final morning, we'll enjoy a return boat trip along the Cromford Canal, from the Wharf to Leawood Pump House and back. Later, we'll be arriving at Cromford Mills, a World Heritage Site and the cradle of the Industrial Revolution for the textile industry worldwide. There are various options for guests at the Mills so the time is yours to explore at will.

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.