

England's Cornwall Coast to Land's End

England Cultural Walking Adventure



CLASSIC JOURNEYS
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“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

Quiet Coves, Cream Tea & King Arthur

When the British decide to stride out on a country walk, they're likely to head for Cornwall. Who are we to disagree? On our Cornwall walking tours, the well-established footpaths are some of the finest in the civilized world. The sea is Mediterranean blue. The headlands offer fine trails with terrific views punctuated by lighthouses. This is, after all, the neighborhood of Land's End where quiet coves once harbored infamous pirates and smugglers. You'll find history and legend around every Cornish corner. There's Tintagel, according to legend the birthplace of King Arthur. Like an offshore mirage, St. Michael's Mount rises above the bay, drawing pilgrims (and us). And everywhere, cozy villages, warm friends and—we confess—the occasional cream tea with scones and jam and clotted cream always leave us feeling very at home.

DAY 1

MOUSEHOLE

- **Exploration of a cobblestoned village**
- **Walk a scenic causeway to St. Michael's Mount—the famous monastery now in the care of the National Trust**

Penzance is the train's last stop from London before the Atlantic and just a short cab ride from Mousehole. On our first afternoon, we enjoy a walking exploration of this vibrant Cornish community, with its cobbled alleyways and maze-like streets. We set out to explore St. Michael's Mount—the famous monastery now in the care of the National Trust. Depending on the tides, we either ferry or walk across the causeway dating back to the reign of Henry V. The grandeur of St. Michael's Mount and its glorious setting in the northeastern corner of Mount's Bay has made it a place of pilgrimage since the Middle Ages. Once the Iron Age site of the Ictis, it's said that in 495 A.D. the archangel St. Michael appeared to a group of fishermen on the seaward side of the Mount, thus guaranteeing its sanctity and fame forever. Edward the Confessor granted the Mount to the Benedictines of Mont St. Michel in Normandy, and in 1133 A.D., a priory was founded on its summit. Returning to our seaside hotel, we have time to relax before a festive welcome dinner.

Overnight: Mousehole

Meals: D

DAY 2

CARN EUNY / LAND'S END

- **Visit a preserved Iron Age village**
- **Take in an evening performance at a classical amphitheater overlooking the sea**

This morning, we set out to explore the Iron Age sites that are abundant in this part of England. Our first stop is the Merry Maidens stone circle, one of just a few true stone circles in Cornwall. Also known as the "dancing stones", these 19 ceremonial stones rise out of Cornwall's Neolithic and Bronze Age landscape. We journey a short distance to Land's End—the most westerly point of land in England. Heading north and east along the coast, we walk past magnificent cliff-side scenery of wildflowers and turquoise water. On the horizon are the Isles of Scilly—legend has it that the body of water between Land's End and Scilly hides the Lost Lands of Lyonesse. This evening - in season - join our guide to take in a performance at the Minack Outdoor Theater, carved out of the rock to resemble a classical amphitheater and situated with spectacular views out to the ocean.

Overnight: Mousehole

Meals: B, D

DAY 3

ZENNOR / ST. IVES

- **Enjoy a coastal walk that displays Celtic Cornwall at its best with bracken-covered cliffs and turquoise sea**
- **Revel in stories shared with us by a local ecologist and surfer**

Our morning walk follows a magnificent stretch of coast from Botallack to Zennor. This area is Celtic Cornwall at its finest, with granite tors sloping down to the bracken-covered cliffs and the sea. Weather permitting, a local ecologist meets us for a walk along the coastline regaling us with Cornwall's renowned copper and tin mining past, renowned for its submarine mining in the 19th century. The cottages, inns and shops of St. Ives hug the golden sand of the gently curving crescent shaped beach, and overlook the harbor with its brightly painted fishing boats bobbing with the tide. The village is a haven for fishermen and artists alike, where the light is clear and golden, and the sea a Mediterranean blue. Here we can admire the glorious views across the water to Godrevy Lighthouse, which so inspired Virginia Woolf. We spend time exploring the Barbara Hepworth Gallery, home and garden of the famous 1930's European artist.

Overnight: Mousehole

Meals: B, D

DAY 4

TRURO / HELIGAN

- Wander with your guide through the mysterious and ancient Lost Gardens of Heligan

Truro, which derives its name from the Cornish *Tri-veru*—which means three rivers—originally developed as a tin port between the Truro, Kenwyn and Allen Rivers. This cathedral city is also the seat of Cornwall's government and considered by some as the London of Cornwall. Our choices for an afternoon exploration are numerous, and include views of the flowing rivers, ambling along picturesque Georgian streets and visiting the magnificent Victorian Cathedral. We stop for lunch today at Heligan, seat of the Tremayne family for more than 400 years, where we explore its mysterious lost gardens and ancient woodlands on foot. From here we travel along the coast road to Fowey and take a leisurely stroll along the Esplanade to Readymoney Cove. We follow the Saint's Way from St. Catherine's Castle and take in the picturesque views afforded by Fowey Harbor.

Overnight: Fowey

Meals: B, D

DAY 5

FOWEY

- Follow in the footsteps of acclaimed writers through charming fishing villages
- Enjoy a river cruise to experience the trade and wildlife firsthand

If we assigned a topic to this morning, we'd call it "writers of Cornwall". Described by many as a first-rate storyteller, Daphne du Maurier claimed that her novels were inspired by her love of Cornwall, where she spent much time visiting and writing. We explore Fowey (pronounced Foy), considered a haven for yachtsmen and the major port on the Cornish coast for the export of China clay. Later in the morning, we ferry across the bay to the neighboring village of Bodinnick. Ambling along the famous "Hall Walk" brings us to Polruan, a quaint fishing village surrounded by cottages clinging to hillsides. This is also a site where many local fishing boats were constructed, and we may have the opportunity this afternoon to enjoy a river cruise to experience the region's trade and wildlife firsthand.

Overnight: Fowey

Meals: B

DAY 6

TINTAGEL CASTLE

- Explore Tintagel Castle, where according to legend, King Arthur was born

Today we visit Tintagel Castle, where according to legend, King Arthur was born. When the conquering Normans reached the westernmost land of England, they heard that the ancient seat of Cornwall's kings had stood atop this soaring headland, surrounded on three sides by the ceaseless surge of the Atlantic. Earl Richard of Cornwall, younger brother of Henry III, decided to build a castle on the spot where his legendary predecessors had held court. There are many reasons to stay in the village of Tintagel, but we can also walk further along the dramatic coast, or follow in Thomas Hardy's footsteps to Boscastle, where he found his true love.

Overnight: Fowey

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

LANHYDROCK HOUSE / BODMIN

- Enjoy a final morning visit to spectacular Lanhydrock House, surrendered to Henry VIII in 1539

Our last morning together, we make our way along typically narrow Cornish lanes with their high-banked hedges to Lostwithiel, the capital of the Duchy of Cornwall during the 13th century. We enjoy a short walk to the remains of Restormel Castle, a medieval stronghold of Edward the Black Prince. From Lostwithiel we continue on to visit spectacular Lanhydrock House. Surrendered to Henry VIII in 1539, the grounds are a mass of color in the spring and summer. We explore both the 17th century mansion and the formal gardens, before we end our trip at Bodmin Railway Station, where trains leave hourly to London.

Meals: B

DAILY ITINERARY

England: England's Cornwall Coast to Land's End | Cultural Walking Adventure



Tour Hotels



St Ives Harbour Hotel & Spa

Set against a seemingly endless turquoise sea and just a short palm tree lined walk to the golden sands below, the Cornish beachside hotel and spa is a totally tropical retreat. Standing grandly above the award-winning Porthminster Beach.

OVERNIGHT: Saint Ives | **NIGHTS:** 3



Fowey Hotel

This is the quintessential Cornish hotel, sitting majestically above the River Fowey estuary. Comfortable rooms offer great views. The property is known and loved for its friendly, relaxed atmosphere, and the food from its award-winning restaurant.

OVERNIGHT: Fowey | **NIGHTS:** 3

Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking [here](#).

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about Private Journeys.

Trip Essentials

TRIP LENGTH	7 Days, 6 Nights
START	Lobby of St Ives Harbour Hotel, Cornwall, England
END	Bodmin Parkway Rail Station, Bodmin, England
TERRAIN	Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths; with mini-van support.

What's Included

- Award-winning boutique hotels that provide you unlimited access to the people and places, culture and history you came to experience
- All breakfasts, 1 lunch and 5 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

- Privileged Access Events
- Invisible Check-In

READY TO BOOK?
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Or give us a call

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As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to [a whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

**Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

THE Classic Journeys Difference



HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.

At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

Samuel Kim
President & Founder



You can expect the highest standards:



Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in England...

- Attending an evening performance at the outdoor Minack Theatre
- Exploring bronze and stone age villages
- Walk scenic coastal paths along Land's End with a local ecologist and surfer
- Watching the sailboats from your riverfront hotel in Fowey
- Unraveling the mysteries of Cornwall with expert local guides who share the area's legends about King Arthur and pirates

"When I mention Cornwall, more friends have been there than I ever realized. They say, 'Yes, we've been there.' But when our eyes light up and we go on and on about the view, the flowers, the people, I notice a look they all get like, 'Uh, well yes, we went but maybe we missed things you saw. How was it we did?'"

-Frances F., Orange Park, FL.