

CULTURAL WALKING ADVENTURE

Cornwall

England's Rugged Coast & Land's End



CLASSIC JOURNEYS
THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



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*Classic Journeys
provides unbeatable
access to experiences
around the globe.”*

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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? Well-established footpaths here offer some of the finest walking 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.

The Classic Journeys Difference

- ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- PREMIERE HOTELS
- FOODIE FOCUSED
- HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- MORE IS INCLUDED

What's Included

- All breakfasts, 2 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

→ INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

→ WINE ON US

In many regions, we uncork wonderful local wines at every dinner, compliments of Classic Journeys.

→ PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

Terrain

Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths; with mini-van support.

CLASSIC JOURNEYS ITINERARIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO SLIGHT CHANGES, HOTEL SUBSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER MODIFICATIONS.

DAY 1 »

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.

We then end our day with a welcome dinner among these ancient streets, diving deeper into the landscape through local cuisine.

MEALS: D

OVERNIGHT: ST. IVES

DAY 2 »

Carn Euny / Land's End

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.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: ST. IVES

DAY 3 »

Zennor / St. Ives

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.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: ST. IVES

DAY 4 »

Truro / 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.

MEALS: B, D OVERNIGHT: FOWEY

DAY 5 »

Fowey

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.

MEALS: B OVERNIGHT: FOWEY

DAY 6 »

Tintagel Castle

Today you'll venture to the renowned Tintagel Castle, where according to legend, King Arthur was born. Explore on foot at eye level where conquering Normans reached the westernmost land of England, hearing that the ancient seat of Cornwall's kings had stood atop this soaring promontory. Walk among the ruins that cling to the cliffs where Earl Richard of Cornwall, younger brother of Henry III, constructed this castle in the 1230s. Learn about its famed history and folklore while taking in the dramatic coastline all around you.

Continue to Port Isaac, a charming fishing village and the set for the British TV series 'Doc Martin'. Strolling through the picturesque Cornish scenery, it's easy to see why this seaside town was chosen for filming. Pause along the coastal footpath for a sweet treat, savoring the views with some homemade ice cream.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: FOWEY

DAY 7 »

Lanhydrock House / Bodmin

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 Parkway Station, where trains leave hourly to London.

MEALS: B

Tour Hotels



[St Ives Harbour Hotel & Spa](#)

Perfectly located just steps away from Porthminster Beach, this Cornish hotel is a charming seaside retreat. Offering modern amenities, a luxurious spa and friendly hospitality, a stay at St. Ives Harbour Hotel is truly memorable.

NIGHTS: 3 nights



[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.

NIGHTS: 3 nights

Arrival & Departure

→ ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: **Lobby of St. Ives Harbour Hotel**

START CITY: **St. Ives**

START TIME: **3:00 PM**

→ DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: **Bodmin Parkway Rail Station**

END CITY: **Bodmin**

END TIME: **2:00 PM**