

SAMPLE ITINERARY FOR RAIL & PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

11 nights

- Day 1 Arrive Bristol. From the airport you will take a taxi to Bristol Parkway Rail Station where you will take the 11 min train journey to Bath. Departures every 10-20 min. Take 3 minute cab ride from Bath Spa rail station, or catch a number 3 or 14 bus (Bus stops to the left of the station) which will drop you at the door of the guesthouse.
Upon arrival you can drop your bags at your accommodation and then set out to do some sightseeing in Bath. A few of the main places of interest in Bath include The Roman Baths and Pump Room, Royal Crescent and Circus (Britain's most famous intact Georgian terraces), the Jane Austen Centre, the American Museum, Becksford's Tower, and the Museum of Costume (please note: you will not have time to see all of these places).
Overnight in Bath at The Highways House, a 4 star townhouse, an easy walk to the city centre.
Bed and Full English Breakfast included
- Day 2 Today you can take a take the 9:00 am bus to Glastonbury. Arrival time is 10:43. Glastonbury, England's New Age Centre! There are many hippies, new agers and spiritualists who have been drawn to the legends of Arthur. There is a tourist centre at The Tribunal. The main attraction is the Glastonbury Abbey, though no more than a ruin. The ancient gatehouse entry to the abbey is a museum. Open daily 9:30-6:00 pm. The remainder of the town is a typical market town. From Glastonbury you will take the 12:42, 12:53, 1:12 or 1:42 to Wells. This is a 20-25 min journey. Upon arrival you can visit the Wells Cathedral a well preserved 12th century medieval building. The stained glass dates to the 14th century. Free admission. Open 7:am-7:00 pm.
You can take time to wonder around the cloisters to the Bishop's Palace which is surrounded by a moat. The street called Vicar's Close is known as one of the prettiest streets in Europe. You can return to Bath from Wells by bus to Bristol and train to Bath, leaving every 20-25 min, journey lasting 1 hour 35- 2 hours depending upon your departure time.
Overnight Bath, accommodation as above
Bed and Full English Breakfast included
This evening, you can take the Bath Ghost Walking Tour (see signs in the bath for Ticket locations).
Overnight Bath, accommodation as above
Bed and Full English Breakfast included
- Day 3 This morning you will take the Mad Max mini bus tour to Stonehenge, Avebury and Lacock Village. (please note: you must pay at the start of the tour.
You will meet at the Glass House in central Bath at 8:40 am and return at 4:30 pm. You will visit Avebury, the small village and stone circle which has unrestricted viewing of the stones (yes, you can touch them!). The circle is 16 times bigger and 1,000 years older than Stonehenge! You will also visit Silbury Hill, Cherhill White horse and Lacock Village, a National Trust Village and filming location of Pride and Prejudice and Harry Potter (in the abbey). You will most likely have your lunch stop in Lacock. The George Inn is an excellent pub serving a wide variety of food.
From Lacock you will go to Castle Combe, an idyllic Cotswolds village nestled in a small wooded valley with its meandering stream and weaver's cottages. The castle is no longer there, but the stones have been used to make for the buildings and houses as well as the impressive hotel.

Overnight Bath, accommodations as above
Bed and Full English Breakfast included

- Day 4 This morning you will depart Bath by train to Morton-in-Marsh. There is a 8:43 departure, 1 change, 2 hrs 41 min or 10:09 departure, 1 change, 3 hrs 12 min. Upon arrival you will walk to your cottage.
After settling in, you can head out to get some provisions for your stay in the cottage and walking around the village of Moreton.
Overnight Morton-in-Marsh at the Coach House, a lovely small cottage in the middle of the village.
Self Catering
- Day 5 This morning you can take the bus to Stow-on-the-wold, one of the most popular villages in the Cotswolds. Bus departs at 9:15 or 10:45 am, a 15 min journey) (I suggest the 9:15). Stowe has many shops and restaurants to browse in. From Stow (bus departs at 12:25 or 1:55, 10 min journey) you will go to Bourton on the Water where you can visit the Cotswold Perfumery. There are guided tours which start in the perfume garden and include the perfume laboratory, compounding room and packing area. All tours must be pre-booked and last approximately 45 minutes.
Note: The Perfumery is currently closed due to the flood of July 2007. They are still waiting for the concrete floor to dry out before they can lay new flooring. Anticipated reopening will be in April. Therefore we need to wait to make a reservation. Cost of tour is GBP 5.00 per person. Return to Moreton at 2:05, 4:20, 5:35 or 6:35, 20 min journey).
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above
- Day 6 After a leisurely breakfast you can take a bus to Broadway where you can spend time wondering around the town (this is a popular tourist town) and then, if your energy affords you, take the 2.5 mile walk to the village of Snowhill where you can visit Snowhill Manor. The manor was purchased in an auction by Charles Paget Wade, an eccentric collector, who packed the house to its brim with his collections of anything made by hand from all of the globe. It is quite an interesting home and the gardens, however not what normally attract people to the house, are quite lovely due to the view over the Vale of Evesham and the way that it is constructed around the home. It is a lovely setting for photo taking. The village of Snowhill is mainly homes, but gorgeous cottages set up on small hills. This is one of my favorite spots...very peaceful.
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above.
- Day 7 This morning you will take the train to Stratford upon Avon. You will need to leave on the 10:47 am Bus #22, arriving Stratford at 11:47. You can get a bite to eat and then start on your hop on hop off bus tour of Stratford (double decker bus). Travel to all the Shakespearean Houses: Shakespeare's Birthplace, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Mary Arden's House, New Place, Nash's House and Hall's Croft. The Royal Shakespeare Theatre where the Bard's plays are performed for the majority of the year. The Holy Trinity Church where Shakespeare is buried, protected by a cursed tombstone. The Old 15th Century Grammar School where Shakespeare was educated. You also get to enjoy a lovely tour through the scenic Warwickshire countryside, visiting Wilmcote, the village where Mary Arden's House (Shakespeare's mother) can be found. You can take a short taxi ride to Warwick Castle, the best example of a medieval castle in all of England. It has a terrific display of wax people which helps to depict the story of the castle and its famous residents and visitors. The village of Warwick itself is very old and medieval looking. You can spend some time wondering around before taking the train back from Warwick, departing at 2:45, 2:59, 3:44, 4:24, etc. It is a 1 hour 40 min journey with 2 changes.
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above.

- Day 8 Today you can take the bus to Chipping Campden, one of the loveliest villages in the Cotswolds! The houses are picturesque, surrounded by lovely gardens. It is a small village where you can spend time wondering around and looking in the shops. Afterwards, take the bus to Mickleton where you will need to walk 1.7 miles to Hidcote Manor (open 10:00-6:00 pm) or take a taxi. Hidcote is a series of small gardens with hedges. In fall there are red flowers. You will take a taxi back to Mickleton and bus back to Moreton.
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above.
- Day 9 Today you can take the bus to Winchcombe (only operates on Weds) in order to visit Sudeley Castle, open . The castle has a long and distinguished history, including Edward IV, Henry VIII, Henry's wives, Thomas Seymour, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth! There is an excellent exhibit of Henry and his wives along with tapestries and you can visit inside the private quarters of the castle on Wednesdays In Winchcombe there is a nice bakery and wine store where you might pick up some items to take back with you.
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above.
- Day 10 Market day in Moreton! There is supposedly an open air market on Tuesdays. If you desire, you can take a taxi to Chastleton House, 4 miles from Moreton. It is a Jacobean manor built around the turn of the century. The furnishings are also turn of the century. The gardens are very popular due to the Victorian topiary shrubs
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above.
- Day 11 This morning you can take the train from Moreton in Marsh to Oxford (depart at 8:14, 9:19 or 10:18, no changes, 30-40 min) and then bus No. 20 from Oxford to Woodstock (30 min) where you can visit Blenheim Palace(opens at 10:30), childhood home of Winston Churchill. Blenheim is the only historic house in Britain to receive the honor of a World Heritage Site. There is also impressive gardens along with the Marlborough Maze, the largest symbolic hedge maze on earth! On the return to Oxford you can spend some time there walking around the University (there are blue badge guide walking tours that might be very helpful, for there are 39 colleges in all). If you have interested in Harry Potter films sights, there is The Bodleian Library (Sanatorium Scenes, Divinity school, and Duke Humfrey's Library) and Christ's Church College (referred to as "The House"). Return trains run every 40 min up until 11:00 pm
Overnight Moreton-in-Marsh, accommodation as above.
- Day 12 This morning you will depart the Cotswolds and take the train back to Bristol for your return flight.