

Richardson Travel Ltd

Academic & Specialist Tours

Russell House
Bepton Road
Midhurst
West Sussex
GU29 9NB

www.richardson-travel.co.uk

Phone:
01730 813304
01730 812867
Fax Only:
01730 815985

Dear Subscriber

30th January 2010

What a welcome to 2010!! Needless to say, the weather made a real "hash" of the first couple of weeks of office work as we struggled to keep going against the odds out on the road to keep services running.

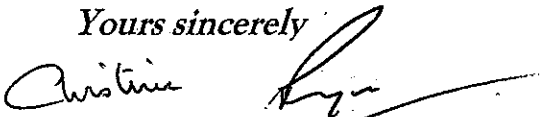
We survived 2009 (unlike some operators who have gone under) with increased turnover but slimmer profit margins. "Post Snows", the figures are picking up again but nobody can be under any illusions that there may be worse to come, whoever wins the Election. Therefore, in 2010 we are going to be watching every penny and speculative "Excursions" are likely to be our weakest market.

We have kept the faith with all of you who have shown support by becoming "subscribers" and actually booking on the trips. In the autumn, we ran ALL the advertised excursions although the loadings were unprofitable (an average of only 19) rather than cancel them. However, at the beginning of January, with only 13 booked for the RA "Van Gogh" and even less for the Calais Shopper, we regretfully made the decision to cancel these final two.

*Therefore, effective with this modest new list for the Spring / Early Summer, we will apply an earlier cut-off date to when we make a decision to persevere with any particular Excursion. This will generally be 28 days out, so that we can return the vehicle allocated to the open market for general hire. The message is therefore clear; in fairness to everyone, **BOOK EARLY !!***

We will be targeting another mailing for around 1st June, by which time many of the current uncertainties will, hopefully, be resolved. We hope you will find something of interest in this current list of "Excursions" and "Short Breaks" and we look forward to your company on one or more of them.

Yours sincerely



Christine & Roger Richardson
DIRECTORS

PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR BOOKING INFORMATION FOR "SUBSCRIBERS"

Email: sales@richardson-travel.co.uk

Registered in England No: 1251020 . VAT No 174 0429 73
Registered Office: Russell House, Bepton Road, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9NB
Directors: C Richardson BA, R W Richardson BSc, J E Richardson MA PhD (USA)

Important Notes for AST "Subscribers"

You are deemed to be a "Subscriber" because you have either

- a) Paid your £2.50 annual subscription, or
- b) Booked two seats at full list price since September 2009, or
- c) You have Hired one of our Coaches during the last 12 months.

As a "Subscriber" you benefit from a £1.50 discount on the cost of **EVERY Excursion Seat you book for yourself and others, on the same ticket**, during the period you qualify as above.

How To Book Your Seat(s):

Phone 01730 812867 (3 lines) between 09:30 & 16:00 Mon. – Fri.

Don't forget to claim your subscriber discount!

You will be given your seat number(s) and a unique booking reference.

Payment can be made by Credit / Debit Card at the same time as booking or by Cheque within five working days.

CHEQUES SHOULD STILL BE MADE PAYABLE TO RICHARDSON TRAVEL LTD.

On receipt of your payment, your ticket(s) will be posted to you.

We have tried to give as much detail as possible for each Excursion; Fares EXCLUDE Admission(s) except where stated. Please study carefully and deduct your £1.50 "subscriber discount".

PICK-UP POINTS: In order to reduce time spent travelling for everyone and keep fares to a reasonable level, each Excursion is listed with the THREE PRINCIPLE POINTS that determines the route of the Excursion Coach. "Feeder(s)" to the main coach will be available at a cost of £3.00 per person; if more than 6 passengers book from the same point "off MAIN route", your feeder service will be FREE!!

All times given are provisional and are best estimates at time of printing.

TERMS FOR CANCELLATION BY THE CUSTOMER:

Customers cancelling more than 14 days before the date of an Excursion will receive full refund less £3.00 per seat. Cancellations less than 14 days will not qualify for a refund unless the seats can be resold, the refund being on the same basis as above. Refunds of less than ten pounds in value will be by a Credit Voucher redeemable within 12 months.

TERMS FOR CANCELLATION BY THE COMPANY DUE TO LACK OF DEMAND:

We will only cancel an excursion when bookings are far below an economical figure (usually 25 passengers) and always with at least 7 days notice. All monies will be refunded by Cheque. An additional £2.00 per ticket will be added towards any costs involved in banking your cheque. On the occasions we have cancelled an excursion, we usually have disappointed customers who left booking to the last moment.

Had they booked earlier, the excursion would have been viable and been run as advertised!

**Richardson Travel Ltd (Dept AST)
Russell House, Bepton Road, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9NB**

AST Excursions: Spring / Early Summer 2010

Fares show "Adult / Senior Citizen or Child", Excluding "Subscriber Discount"
For availability of other pick-ups (Bognor, Petersfield, Liss & Liphook) please enquire when booking.

Thurs. 8th April V&A or Royal Academy (Real Van Gogh) £16.50 / £15.00

First to the South Kensington Museums, dropping outside the Victoria & Albert. Your choice of FREE Exhibitions, too numerous to mention, but which range from "British Fairy-tale Illustrations", thro' "Gothic Architecture & Victorian Photography" to "Digital Pioneers" at the V&A alone. Harrods is just up the road. Your Coach will then move onto the Royal Academy. We are giving you one more opportunity to book for this Exhibition that has received rave reviews. Billed as the first "major Van Gogh exhibition in 40 years"; around 65 paintings, 30 drawings plus 35 original letters and the links between them. Aspley House and the Handel House Museum are just two of the other cultural attractions within yards of the RA as well as Bond Street, the Burlington Arcade and Shepherd Market for shopping. Chi. 08:00 (19:10), Mid. 08:30 (18:40), Hasle 09:00 (18:15)

Sun. 11th April RHS Wisley OR Cobham Bus Rally £7.50 / £6.50

Regulars will know we always go to RHS Wisley in "Spring Time" with a minority going across the road to the Bus Rally. This year we have no "brand new" vehicles to show off so we are taking the latest of our YP Project vehicles (A YELLOW SCHOOL BUS). Its "austerity" is reflected in the LOW PRICE (not a misprint) for the transport to Wisley only. A sense of humour will be required! Chi. 08:35 (18:35), Mid. 09:05 (17:55), Hasle 09:30 (17:30).

Tues. 13th April Bletchley Park Revealed (INCL ADMISSION) £26.50 / £25.00

One of our most popular group destinations this year. This is an opportunity for individuals to visit all the updated and expanded exhibits (too numerous to list) relating to this once secret Code Breaking Centre. Basic Entrance is INCLUDED in the price above which allows access to all the exhibits and an "audio wand" to guide you round at your own pace.

At no extra charge you can join a "public" guided tour after lunch. Choice of Refreshment facilities.
Chi. 07:30 (18:55), Mid. 07:55 (18:30), Hasle. 08:15 (18:05). Motorway Comfort Stop each way.

Fri. 16th April Tate Britain OR Tate Modern £15.50 / £14.50

Henry Moore at Tate Britain or Gorky at Tate Modern plus all the other exhibitions at these two contrasting and iconic Galleries. Alternatively, feel free to do explore all the other sights and attractions within easy walking distance of either dropping point. To help, we will even provide you with a list and free map! If we cannot sell "Cultural London" at these prices, then perhaps we should give up on the Capital once and for all! Chi. 08:00 (19:15), Mid. 08:30 (18:45), Hasle. 08:55 (18:15).

Sun. 2nd May Oxford or Didcot GWR175 Festival £17.50 / £16.00

Predictably, we are celebrating the 175 Anniversary of the creation of the Great Western Railway and where better than at the Didcot Railway Centre for their major event of 2010. Up to 13 locomotives (many visiting) in steam plus the "broad" range of other exhibits, including virtually free access to the workshops. (If you would like to visit NRM York, see our enclosed Leeds Tour publicity. After dropping off at Didcot, the coach will go onto Oxford for the day for those inclined to a different level (sic) of culture! We may be too late for the "May Morning Celebrations" but there is always the "CS Lewis & JRR Tolkien Tour" starting from the TIC at 13:30. Chi. 07:35 (19:55), Mid. 08:05 (19:25), Hasle. 08:30 (19:00). (Motorway Comfort Stop each way.)

Tues. 18th May Salisbury OR Stourhead House & Gdns. £17.50 / £16.00

Spend the whole day in the Cathedral City of Salisbury OR stay on the coach to visit Stourhead House & Gardens (NT). A Palladian Mansion set in a world famous 18th Century landscape garden and park, complete with exotic trees, classical temples and a folly, King Alfred's Tower, which you climb for the superb view. Excellent large restaurant. Chi. 08:45 (18:30), Mid. 08:15 (19:00), Hasle. 07:50 (19:25).

Wed. 2nd June Canterbury or Dover Castle £18.50 / £17.00

For many, the premier Cathedral City; spend the whole day in Canterbury with its multiplicity of attractions or stay on the coach to Dover. (Join our Yorkshire Tour on Friday 4th June and you can "see" York Cathedral during the weekend) English Heritage at Dover Castle has received much (mostly favourable) media coverage of the transformation of the interior of the Great Tower to its (POSSIBLE) state when completed in 1186. However, why not judge for yourself, if this is (our) money well spent; it is certainly spectacular. Time to explore this vast fortress including the "secret" wartime tunnels of both WWII conflict and the 13th Century sieges. Indicate at time of booking if you wish to pre-book the underground tour. Chi. 07:15 (20:15), Mid. 07:40 (19:45), Hasle. 08:05 (19:20). (Motorway Comfort Stop each way.)

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Wed. 16th June

Kenilworth OR Warwick Castles

£22.50 / £21.00

One of the most spectacular ruins in England, Kenilworth Castle (EH) now has the superb restored Elizabethan Garden (as featured on TV) laid out by Dudley, the Earl of Leicester, suitor to the first Queen Elizabeth. As an alternative, spend the day in Warwick visiting the town, museums etc. and if inclined, the famous Castle. Reduced Group admissions will be gained if numbers are sufficient. A block booking from Chichester U3A already guarantees that this will GO

Chi. 07:00 (20:15), Mid. 07:25 (19:45), Hasle. 07:45 (19:20). (Motorway Comfort Stop each way.)

Mon. 19th July

Down House & Lullingstone Roman Villa

£18.50 / £17.00

As promised, a visit to the home of Charles Darwin. The updated exhibitions were "heaving" last year for the 150 anniversary of the Origin of Species. This year we have managed to obtain a slot. Time to browse the House, Gardens and fascinating collection of material putting his theories in context. Lunchtime refreshments available before moving onto Lullingstone. More than comparable with Fishbourne & Bignor, these magnificent remains are a must for anyone who wishes to experience the "real thing" rather than a TV image and voice-over! Entrance at both properties is free to English Heritage members.

Chi. 07:45 (19:15), Mid. 08:15 (18:45), Hasle. 08:40 (18:15).

CONTINENTAL STUDY EXCURSION

Sunday 23rd May

The Normandy Invasion Beaches; An Overview

£29.50 / £28.00

Revised timetables from Brittany Ferries facilitates going over to Cherbourg on the EARLY (!) Fastcraft, driving down viewing each of the Beaches in turn, before returning from Ouistreham in the early evening, again by Fastcraft. Selected Museums will be visited and there will be a longer stop for lunch. Given there is so much to see, this is intended as just a "taster" to another possible FOUR DAY tour later in the year to study the area in more detail. Chi. 05:15 (19:15), Mid. 04:45 (18:45), Hasle. 04:20 (18:15).

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Calais Shopping Excursions (via P&O Ferries *).**

Saturday 8th May 2010

Saturday 19th June 2010

All Seats: £29.50 (less £1.50 subscriber discount if applicable)

By popular demand, we are continuing our regular visits to the giant Cite Europe Complex. Not only is there the Giant Carrefour Hypermarket and the Tesco Wine Store but also a multiplicity of stores, shops and eating places appealing to all generations. The Pound has nearly stabilised against the Euro, because of "la crise generale des affaires", the very heavy discounting that is prevalent across the retail sector in Europe has helped to compensate for the lower level.

Arguably, food quality and variety provides another incentive to make the occasional foray across the Channel.

(visit www.citeeurope.com for more information on all shops and useful links).

Because there are no TABAC at Cite Europe, we offer an OPTIONAL short trip up to Adinkerke, over the Belgian Border, for a choice of Warehouse Outlets for only a £5.00 supplement (payable at time of booking), before returning to Cite Europe for the rest of your shopping.

Within 150 yards of Cite Europe is the "Marques Avenue" Factory Outlet Shopping Centre. If it is designer fashion bargains you are after, it is well worth a visit for the amazing discounts.

*** Because we are using the Ferry, we are able to offer a dropping off point in Calais Town Centre on our way to Cite Europe for those who wish to shop and eat in Calais itself.

Sailings are 10:45 out and a return of 18:55 (19:55 French Time) giving a full five hours in France

Departure Times: Chichester: 06:30 Midhurst: 07:00 Haslemere: 07:25

Other Pick-up Points (fare supplement of £3.00 per person) please enquire when booking.

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"MORE YORKSHIRE VARIETY"

4th - 7th June 2010

Based at the Novotel Leeds (AA 4), located in the very centre of the City.*

Accommodation will be on a Bed & English Breakfast basis in en suite rooms containing twin / double beds. Transport by fully air-conditioned "Executive" Coach.

Claimed by some to be the County chosen by the Deity, Yorkshire is undoubtedly the County of contrasts. Our aim is to provide for a broad spectrum of interests; planned itinerary as follows:-

*Friday: Travel via the Motorway Network to arrive at BELTON HOUSE (NT) for Lunch
Entrance not included: Castle & Gardens: £8.50, NT Members Free.*

Onto our Hotel in Leeds, unload, and evening meal (in or out, not included).

Saturday: A drive up Wharfedale, to Skipton (Castle, Market or "Canalside" before moving onto Haworth for lunch. A choice Steam Trains or follow in the footsteps of the Bronte Family.

Sunday: Spend the day in the Cathedral (& Railway) City of YORK or go further east to visit CASTLE HOWARD (Entrance not included).

Monday: Return home via CALKE ABBEY (NT) (Entrance not included) with time to view and have lunch. Arrive back in Sussex early evening.

£195.00 per person sharing (Sole Occupancy Supplement: £35.00)

Booking Deposit: £45.00 per person (by 1st April please)

Transport ONLY Option (to / from Leeds only): £69.00 Return

Pick-up Points: Chichester, Midhurst & Haslemere. Other points by negotiation.

All Payments are covered by our Bonding in accordance with the Package Travel Regulations.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND DETACH THE FORM BELOW TO RESERVE ONE OR MORE PLACES ON THIS TOUR. SEND WITH YOUR DEPOSIT CHEQUE, £45.00 PER PERSON (PAYABLE TO RICHARDSON TRAVEL LTD) AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE.

NAME: (Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms) _____ PHONE NO: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

POST CODE: _____ E MAIL ADDRESS _____

I request _____ places for the Yorkshire Varieties Tour on behalf of the persons listed below: -

Title _____ First Name(s) _____ Surname _____ Room (S/T/D) _____

Title _____ First Name(s) _____ Surname _____ Room (S/T/D) _____

Title _____ First Name(s) _____ Surname _____ Room (S/T/D) _____

I enclose my / our deposit cheque(s) to the total value of _____ and on behalf of the persons named above and accept that once presented, there will be no refund of this amount unless the Tour is cancelled due to low numbers.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Insurance Proposal Form Required (Y/N) _____

Email: sales@richardson-travel.co.uk

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Directors: C Richardson BA, R W Richardson BSc, J E Richardson MA PhD (USA)