

MOTIVATE, EDUCATE AND REWARD



# HAMPSHIRE & DORSET

**A**RICH HELPING of naval heritage awaits on this itinerary. From the landmark ships at Portsmouth, spanning 600 years of English history, to dinner aboard an exclusive fort, the sea is never far away, whether slicing through it on a yacht or powerboating over it on an unforgettable treasure hunt.

Back on land, let your guests hunt for fossils along the world-famous Jurassic Coast or uncover the history of England's ancient capital. Or set them free in the picturesque New Forest to indulge in world-class museums or soak up the great outdoors.

Whether teambuilding, motivating or rewarding is your goal, you'll find it on this itinerary.

## LOCATION & ACCESS

The main gateway to Hampshire is Basingstoke. The main gateway to Dorset is Bournemouth.

By road

From London to Basingstoke:  
Approx. 1 hr southwest/50 miles.

From London to Bournemouth:  
Approx. 2 hrs southwest/110 miles.

By air

**Nearest international airport:**

London-Heathrow, London-Gatwick airport.

**Alternative airports:** Southampton airport.

By train

From London-Waterloo to Basingstoke: 45 mins.

From London-Waterloo to Bournemouth: 1.5 hrs.



## Portsmouth



Nowhere is Britain's rich maritime heritage more alive than Portsmouth. Not only is the city the modern-day base of some two-thirds of the Royal Navy's fleet, it is also home to the Historic Dockyard which showcases the ships that helped shape Britain's history.

Among the star attractions are the museum dedicated to Henry VIII's ill-fated flagship the *Mary Rose*, painstakingly raised from the sea, and *HMS Victory*, from which the British Admiral Nelson secured his stunning defeat of the French and Spanish at the Battle of Trafalgar only to fall famously to his death. The futuristic Spinnaker Tower affords unrivalled harbour views.

## Hampshire & The New Forest



Rolling downland, sparkling trout-filled rivers and tranquil villages abound in Hampshire, a county whose firmly middle-class inhabitants inspired the popular novels of 19th-century author Jane Austen.

At its heart lies the historic cathedral city of Winchester, once the capital of ancient Britain. Further south, facing the pretty Isle of Wight, is one of England's newest National Parks, the New Forest. This patchwork of open heathland and ancient woodland once served the kings and queens of England as a royal hunting ground. Still ruled by ancient laws, ponies and cattle continue to roam freely here, alongside holidaymakers who come to enjoy the great outdoors in this beautiful rural landscape.

## Dorset



This beautiful agricultural county is perhaps best known for its spectacular coastline, the fossil-rich Jurassic Coast, a World Heritage Site. Here a succession of extraordinary rock formations are strung out like pearls – from the limestone arch of Durdle Door, created by the pounding of waves over millions of years, to the perfect horseshoe bay of Lulworth Cove.

Inland, narrow lanes, hemmed in by high hedgerows, climb across the chalk downs affording fantastic views. Pretty villages of thatch and stone and country houses abound, together with countless reminders of Dorset's most famous son, author Thomas Hardy, who based his fictional Wessex on the Dorset places he knew and loved.

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## ARRIVAL

You never get a second chance to make a first impression. And what an impression you will make when you transfer your guests by land yacht coach. Equipped to the highest standards, these superb vehicles will transport them effortlessly to your choice of hotel in luxurious comfort. Aside from smooth suspension, comfortable seats and onboard refreshments, many also come with features like tinted windows and Plasma TVs, guaranteeing an instant impact.



## WHERE TO STAY

Rhinefield House, Brockenhurst  
★★★★ 50 rooms and suites



Hidden deep in the New Forest National Park, among tall conifers and scented pines, this grand luxury hotel may come as something of a surprise. With its steeply pitched roof, redbrick chimneys and leaded windows, the design is a blend of Tudor and Gothic, old and new, the romantic and the eccentric.

The hotel is set in 40 acres of beautifully manicured grounds which include a formal lake and outdoor pool. With 50 bedrooms and a small leisure centre and spa, together with an award-winning fine dining restaurant, it provides a luxurious yet relaxed hideaway for enjoying this scenic area.

Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire, Dogmersfield  
★★★★ 133 rooms and suites



This country hotel is set in a former Georgian manor house which has been completely restored to create a luxury estate that seamlessly blends English country living with 21st-century modernity.

With their English country stylings and spacious bathrooms, the 133 guest rooms, including 22 luxury suites, reflect the quiet country elegance of the Georgian era. Outdoors, guests can choose from a range of traditional country activities, or relax in the spa, located in the hotel's 18th-century stable block, complete with linked indoor and outdoor pools. Dining is also a pleasure with the superb restaurant reflecting the hotel's commitment to local produce and country refinement.

Chewton Glen, New Milton  
★★★★ 70 rooms and suites



An English original, Chewton Glen is a luxury country house hotel and spa set in 130 acres of Hampshire countryside, on the edge of the New Forest National Park and just a few minutes' walk from the sea.

One of the finest luxury hotels in England, the property is a proud member of Relais et Châteaux and has been listed as one of the 'World's Best Hotels' by Condé Nast Traveller readers. It's also one of the most innovative, having recently built 12 stunning treehouse suites, set high among the trees of a secluded valley – a unique and unforgettable addition to its existing world-class accommodation.

## ACTIVITIES

RIB Treasure Hunt (Full Day)



On this challenge your guests will fly across the Solent at high speed in RIBs (Rigid Inflatable Boats). Travelling in close formation with opposing teams, en route to various destinations on the Isle of Wight or South Coast, they will be armed with charts, GPS, stopwatches and cameras, together with a waterproof tablet with a live scoreboard, showing the position of the other teams.

This highly enjoyable day offers an amazing experience, with excellent catering culminating in a Pimm's prize-giving reception. Both stretching and entertaining, every team member will be able to take the lead in tasks ranging from the logical to the outrageously creative.

Life on the Ocean Wave – Sailing Day (Full Day)



Sailing is an invigorating sport that offers many rewards; fresh air, teamwork and, most importantly, a great deal of enjoyment.

Imagine white sails billowing against a clear sky, the brisk feel of the breeze on your guests' faces, and the gentle motions of the boat as it slices cleanly through the water.

The south coast, in particular The Solent, the stretch between the mainland and the Isle of Wight, is one of the most popular areas in England for sailing. It encompasses an amazing variety of geography and sailing conditions, which can be experienced on a leisurely cruise or boat-on-boat racing action.



## Mountain Biking in the New Forest (Full Day or Half Day)



The New Forest was set aside as a royal hunting area by William the Conqueror in 1079. With its pretty villages, gentle gradients and over 100 miles of waymarked cycle tracks, this scenic national park is the perfect place to take in some good fresh air from the saddle of a bike.

The vast majority of the routes follow enclosed forest trails or quiet country lanes, suitable for all levels of experience and fitness. A private guide will accompany your group throughout the tour, complete with stop en route at a traditional inn for some sampling of English ale or cider.

## Classic Car Treasure Hunt (Full Day)



Imagine your guests motoring through the glorious New Forest or Hampshire countryside in their favourite classic car. Picture them sitting behind the wheel of an iconic 1960s sports car with the wind in their hair.

Guests can choose from an entire fleet of vintage classic sports cars: 1963 Austin Healey 3000 MkIIa, 1970 Jaguar E-type Roadster, 1969 MG MGB Roadster, to name just a few. Moreover, in contrast to modern day treasure hunts which rely on GPS satellite navigation, we will be going back to basics, with a simple clue book and paperback map, in keeping with the vintage of the cars' era!

## Kayaking on the Beaulieu River (Half Day)



This wonderfully picturesque river is tucked away within the New Forest National Park. One of the few privately-owned rivers in the world, having been given to the Monks of Beaulieu Abbey back in the mists of time, it is now preserved as a National Nature Reserve and its banks are brimming with flora and fauna.

Under the guide of expert tuition, your guests can paddle along while absorbing the peaceful setting and take in many interesting sights. Among them is the tiny shipbuilding hamlet of Buckler's Hard, where many of the nation's most fearsome warships were constructed, including much of Admiral Nelson's fleet.

## Beaulieu Experience (Full Day or Half Day)



Beaulieu means 'beautiful place' and this lovely spot, in the heart of the New Forest, certainly lives up to its name. It is best known as the home of the National Motor Museum, one of the world's finest collections of automobiles, which traces the story of motoring from its origins to Formula 1.

Nearby are the evocative ruins of Beaulieu Abbey, founded in 1204 by the English King John. The abbey gatehouse, now Palace House, has been the home of the Montagu family since 1538 and contains many treasures. Set in glorious gardens sweeping down to the River Beaulieu, it makes for a memorable visit.

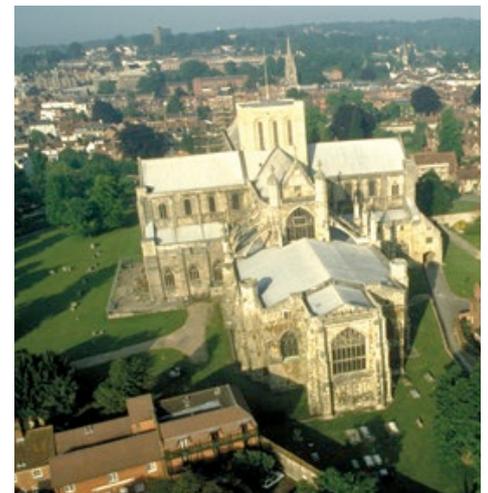
## Jurassic Coast Fossil Hunting (Half Day)



A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2001, the Jurassic Coast presents the finest unbroken record of the Age of Dinosaurs anywhere in the world. The rocks of this remarkable 95-mile coastline, stretching from Dorset to East Devon, are incredibly rich in fossil deposits, encompassing 185 million years of the Earth's history – a geological 'walk through time' spanning the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.

A private guided tour along these prehistoric-rich beaches allows your guests to hunt for their own fossils (they won't leave empty-handed), viewing dinosaur footprints and learning more about this outstanding area along the way.

## Walking Tour of Winchester (Half Day)



Once the capital of ancient England, the cathedral city of Winchester boasts an extraordinary wealth of historic buildings, tucked away within a compact web of medieval streets. Combined with its interesting shops, cafes and welcoming pubs, it makes a wonderful place to explore on foot.

Highlights include the magnificent cathedral, dating back to 1079, resting place of early English kings, as well as the modest grave of author Jane Austen. Visitors can also climb to the Great Hall, all that remains of William the Conqueror's castle and home to the Round Table, famously associated with the legend of King Arthur.

## GALA DINNER OPTIONS

Mary Rose Museum, Portsmouth

Up to 100 dinner guests



The world watched in 1982 as King Henry VIII's favourite flagship, the *Mary Rose*, was raised from the seabed after 437 years underwater. Now housed at Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard, the ship and her treasures tell a fascinating story about Tudor life and lend a unique atmosphere to a gala dinner.

Served by costumed 'wenches', your guests can step back in time and dine on authentic Tudor dishes at this celebratory banquet. As a highlight of the evening they will also receive a special guided tour of the museum by costumed interpreters, with an opportunity to handle original *Mary Rose* artefacts.

The Fort in the Solent

Up to 60 dinner guests



Spitbank Fort is no ordinary gala venue. Set in its own island, lapped by the waves of the Solent, the stretch of water between the mainland and the Isle of Wight, this historic fortress offers the most exclusive setting on the south coast. In fact there are few venues in the world that can offer the same privacy and exclusivity!

What better way to spend a final evening in England than on your own private fort? Your guests will be whisked across to the island by power boat and greeted by costumed sailors who will entertain them in nautical style while they enjoy a champagne reception and dinner.

National Motor Museum, Beaulieu

Up to 170 dinner guests



Classic car fanatics and history buffs alike are in for a treat at Beaulieu's National Motor Museum. Founded in 1952 by Lord Montagu, an avid motor enthusiast, the museum has grown to become one of the world's most respected collections of motor vehicles.

Over 300 vehicles can be seen at close quarters, from some of the earliest cars ever made and film stars like the flying Ford Anglia from the *Harry Potter* films to world speed record-breaking machines such as the famous *Bluebird*, driven by Malcolm and Donald Campbell. An atmospheric and historic venue, sure to rev up your guests' imaginations.

## OTHER DINING OPTIONS

A taste of the wild



The exploits of survival experts Bear Grylls, Ray Mears and chef Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall have led to a revival in foraging. Not only are there clear health benefits associated with eating seasonal food fresh from nature's larder, foraged foods are also free and bring with them a connection to nature that is all too often lost in our modern-day lives.

The countryside of Hampshire and Dorset is rich in foraging possibilities, from wild mushrooms in the New Forest, home to more species of fungi than almost anywhere in England, to woodlands and hedgerows crowded with berries, nuts and edible flowers, and crustaceans and seaweed harvested from the seashore.

Dine in the treetops



Imagine sitting down for dinner in the treetops, with dappled sunlight filtering through the leaves. Trees grow up through the floor, while a viewing platform gives a squirrel's-eye view of the canopy.

These two treehouses in private woods offer seating for up to 90 guests. The larger treehouse has a tower with a viewing platform, while the smaller, more intimate treehouse is connected to the larger one by a rope bridge. Dining in them is a magical experience worthy of a fairy tale, and your guests will never forget this enchanting natural setting.