

NORTHUMBERLAND – CASTLES, COAST & COUNTRY HOUSES 2022

DATES: 23rd – 27th June 2022

DURATION: 4 nights / 5 days

HOTEL: Macdonald Linden Hall Hotel - <https://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/north-england/northumberland/macdonald-linden-hall-golf-country-club>

MEALS/

DRINKS: Welcome drink on Day 1, breakfast and dinner daily and wine with dinner on Day 1

ITINERARY:

Day 1 – Thursday 23rd June

Depart Dorking by private coach and travel to Northumberland with stop at Nostell Priory NT *en-route* (free flow visit) and time for lunch (not included)

Transfer to the Macdonald Linden Hall Hotel and check in for 4 nights

Welcome drink and dinner with wine included this evening at the hotel and a talk by your host Julian Humphrys – 'Reivers and Raiders: Life and death on the borders'.

Day 2 – Friday 24th June

Holy Island, Lindisfarne Priory & Lindisfarne Castle NT and Lady Waterford Hall

A rich and varied day to start the tour first takes us north to Holy Island and the remains of Lindisfarne Priory, which dates back some 1400 years and is one of the most important centres of early Christianity in the country and a wonderfully remote and atmospheric place. There will also be the opportunity of visiting Lindisfarne Castle.

After time for lunch (not included) it's off to Lady Waterford Hall, which now doubles as a village hall, and houses an unusual art collection painted by the Marchioness of Waterford in the late 19th century.

Transfer back to hotel.

This evening there will be a second talk from Julian, 'Sieges and Castles' and dinner included at the hotel.

Day 3 – Saturday 25th June

Alnwick Castle and Cragside NT

Two marvellous architectural wonders today: a guided tour of Alnwick Castle, which dates back to the 11th century, and remains the home of the Duke of Northumberland to this day, and is the second largest inhabited castle in England after Windsor. Lunch (not included) followed by an afternoon at Cragside (National Trust), a monument to the Industrial Revolution and home of Cragside House armaments manufacturer Lord Armstrong and the first house in the world to be lit by hydroelectric power. Transfer back to hotel.

Dinner included at the hotel this evening.

Day 4 – Sunday 26th June**Bamburgh and Warkworth Castles**

Today we will travel along the Northumberland Heritage Coast, first of all to lovely Bamburgh Castle, which sits on a rocky outcrop looking out to the Farne Islands. Dating back to the 11th century, the castle enjoys a spectacular setting and has been used as a location in many films including Ivanhoe, Elizabeth and Macbeth. Lunch (not included) then we head along the coast to Warkworth Castle, which sits on a hilltop above the Coquet River and the pretty village. Dating back to the turn of the 13th century, it was once home to 'Harry Hotspur', immortalised by Shakespeare. Transfer back to hotel. Dinner included at the hotel this evening

Day 5 – Monday 27th June

Check out and depart hotel for return journey to Dorking with *en-route* stop at Wentworth Woodhouse. Guided tour included and time for lunch (not included). Evening arrival back in Dorking

PRICES

PRICE PER PERSON: £1,095.00

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: £265.00

PLEASE NOTE: The above costs are based on a minimum of 25 paying guests

INCLUDED:

- Return coach transfers from Dorking to Northumberland
- 4 nights' dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation as specified
- Welcome drink on Day 1 and wine with dinner on Day 1
- Full Tour itinerary as detailed and entrance fees (please note that entrance to Nostell Priory, Lindisfarne Castle and Cragside for NT members is included)
- Gratuities (coach driver, local guides, Julian Humphrys and tour manager)
- One free place for group organizer

NOT INCLUDED:

- Holiday insurance
- Single room supplement
- Personal items such as meals (other than those mentioned) drinks, laundry, telephone calls etc
- Entrance fee to Nostell Priory, Lindisfarne Castle and Cragside for non-NT members
- Porterage
- Gratuities not specified