



# THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

## OUR TRIBUTE TO THE GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY

Inspired by the wonderful, recent best-selling novel, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, here is a tour of the Channel Islands. These lovely islands offer a range of experiences, from wildlife sanctuaries to military museums to breathtaking scenery.

The Channel Islands (Les Iles de la Manche, in French) have a fascinating history, leading to their current semi-independent state. They are not represented in the English Parliament, but are self-governed and thus not subject to UK tax law. Their unique status stems from the fact that they are still considered to be part of the Duchy of Normandy, from the time when William the Conqueror owned both England and Normandy.

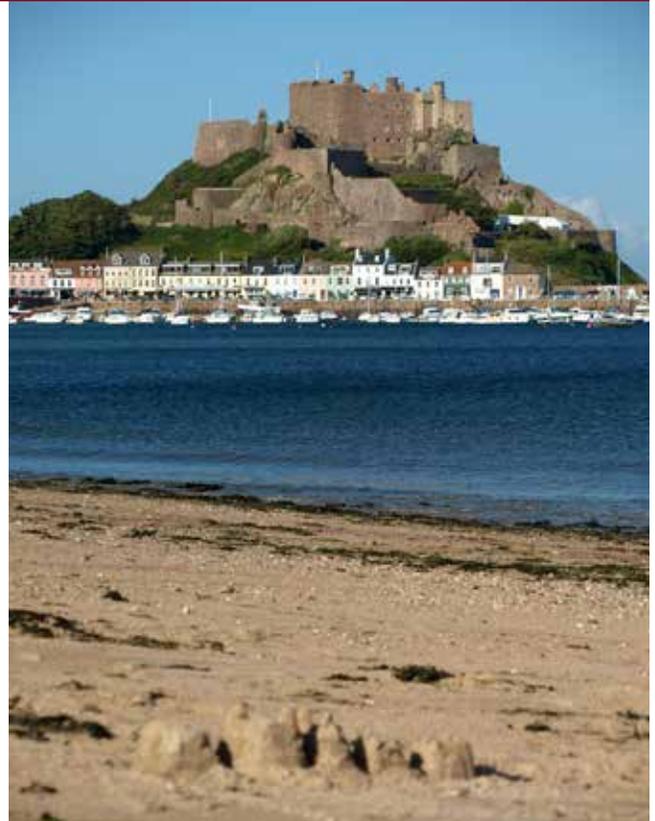
We'll see the vestiges of the occupation during the Second World War, in the underground hospital and the old concrete gun emplacements that still dot the cliff tops. It is, however, hard to really imagine the deprivation of those times when surrounded by such incredible natural scenery. And then there are the gardens. There are four Royal Horticultural Society gardens on Guernsey alone! We divide our stay between the two largest islands – Jersey & Guernsey – and take a short ferry ride from one to the other.

For logistical reasons and to get our feet on the ground after the transatlantic flight, we'll begin our tour in London. The city is a living history book, and we start with a panoramic sightseeing tour accompanied by a local guide, designed to provide an overview of the major sites including Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral, along with some historical background to the major events that have shaped the city's character. Free time will allow you to explore those places that spark your interest with a more in-depth visit, be it an exhibition at the Royal Academy, a tour of the Tate Modern, a ride on the London Eye, or a boat trip down the river to Greenwich. As Dr. Samuel Johnson so famously said, "The man who is tired of London is tired of life!"

This June join us on an exploration of the history and culture of these unique islands.



COVENT GARDEN - THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE



GOREY CASTLE, JERSEY

### THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

**LAND ONLY (NO AIRFARE INCLUDED): \$4380**  
**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$ 980**

*Airfares are available from many U.S. cities. Please call for details.*

### THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

- FLIGHTS:** Round trip airfare between London Gatwick and the Channel Islands. All taxes and service charges included.
- HOTELS:** 8 nights' accommodation in first class hotels. All hotel taxes and service charges included.
- COACHING:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
- MEALS:** Breakfast daily, 5 dinners
- STAFF:** Discover Europe tour guide throughout.
- EXPENSES:** Portage of one large suitcase per person.
- ENTRANCES:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary.
- TICKETS:** Best seats to a major West End production.
- FERRY:** One way ferry journey from Guernsey to Jersey.

PLEASE NOTE THAT TRAVEL INSURANCE IS NOT INCLUDED ON THIS TOUR.

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**THURSDAY, JUNE 9**

**OVERNIGHT: PLANE**

Departure today from your chosen international gateway city.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 10**

**OVERNIGHT: LONDON**

Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport and escorted to your central London hotel. After time to unpack and relax, there will be an arrival briefing, where your hosts will introduce you to the coming adventures. This afternoon you can rest up from the flight or begin exploring the city. This evening we'll gather for drinks and then enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. **(B, D)**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 11**

**OVERNIGHT: LONDON**

The day begins with a sightseeing tour of London designed to give newcomers an overview of this great city and reacquaint returning travelers with its many charms. We'll start in the City of Westminster where our guide introduces us to 1,000 years of English history. Continuing on, we'll view many of London's major monuments, from the Albert Memorial to St. Paul's Cathedral to Trafalgar Square, touring the city from Chelsea to Bloomsbury. The rest of the afternoon and evening you're free to make your own plans--visit the Tower of London and see the Crown Jewels, or take a stroll through the Tate Modern. This evening, sample one of London's great restaurants or sip a quiet pint in a neighborhood pub before we meet up for an evening at the theater. **(B)**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12**

**OVERNIGHT: JERSEY**

Leaving London this morning, we travel south to Gatwick Airport for the short flight to Jersey, the largest of the Channel Islands. Temperate year round, the island has a unique English/French flavor and jet-set/family resort character. We'll transfer to our hotel, check in and have free time to find lunch in the town before setting off for an afternoon tour of the island. Scattered around the island are early Neolithic carvings, remnants of a medieval heritage, and every kind of attraction, from Castles to golden beaches. Dinner at our hotel tonight. **(B, D)**



ST. PETER PORT, CORNET CASTLE

**MONDAY, JUNE 13**

**OVERNIGHT: JERSEY**

This morning we'll discover some of Jersey's sites, including Mont Orgueil's medieval Gorey Castle, built in the 13th century and surrounded by sea and cliffs, and the German Underground Hospital, a series of tunnels built by German forces. You'll have a free afternoon in the capital of St. Helier to explore the town's attractions and shops, which offer everything from lavender to high-quality jewelry, and at prices generally 15 percent less than found in the rest of Europe. You might also check out the Jersey Museum or Elizabeth Castle, built in the harbor by Sir Walter Raleigh. In the evening, sample a local restaurant—perhaps Season's for its beautiful décor and great food, or Bohemia, Jersey's only Michelin Star restaurant. **(B)**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 14**

**OVERNIGHT: JERSEY**

Our day today begins with a visit to La Mare, a working farm and vineyard surrounding a gorgeous 18th-century farmhouse. After a stop for lunch, we'll continue to the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. Celebrating its 55th anniversary this year, the Trust was the brainchild of Gerald Durrell, author of the wonderful book, *My Family and Other Animals*. His older brother was the acclaimed novelist Lawrence Durrell. We'll return to our hotel in St. Helier for dinner. **(B, D)**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15**

**OVERNIGHT: GUERNSEY**

Today we take the ferry to Guernsey, and embark on a tour which will introduce many of the places familiar from the novel *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. We'll visit the 3500 year old Dehus Dolmen, visit the Little Chapel, built in 1914 and reputed to be the smallest chapel in existence, and end in St. Peter Port with a visit to the German Naval Signals HQ in the Hotel Collinette. This evening we gather for dinner in the hotel. **(B, D)**



THE LITTLE CHAPEL, GUERNSEY

**THURSDAY, JUNE 16**

**OVERNIGHT: GUERNSEY**

A completely free day to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of the island. Your tour guide will be available to provide suggestions, directions and advice on the many possibilities available - perhaps even a day trip to Sark, the smallest island. **(B)**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 17**

**OVERNIGHT: GUERNSEY**

A day in the garden. The Channel Islands are renowned for their mild, temperate climate and the profusion of flowers and shrubs that thrive here. We'll begin at Sausmarez Manor. This garden is listed in the book *1001 Gardens to See Before You Die*, and has a wonderful sculpture collection dotted throughout the woodland jungle. After a break for lunch, we'll continue to La Petite Vallée, a mature garden with a wide range of exotic and traditional planting on terraces and slopes leading down to the sea. We return to St. Peter Port in time to visit Hauteville House, the home of Victor Hugo for 14 years, while he was in exile from France. We'll arrive back at our hotel with time to freshen up before our farewell dinner. **(B, D)**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18**

**OVERNIGHT: HOME**

This morning we transfer to Guernsey Airport for the return flight to London Gatwick. A coach transfer is also included from Gatwick to Heathrow Airport for return flights to the US (*Note: If you are arranging your own air transportation, please do not book a flight from Heathrow back to the US on this day departing prior to 1.00 pm*). **(B)**

Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **D** - dinner