

sharpes of nottingham

The Isle of Man Experience

Monday 26th - Friday 30th July 2021

The Isle of Man is a self-governing British Crown dependency in the Irish Sea between England and Ireland. It is known for its rugged coastline, medieval castles and rural landscape, rising to a mountainous centre. In the capital, Douglas, the Manx Museum traces the island's Celtic and Viking heritage. There is so much to love about the Isle of Man, you will be racing back faster than a TT rider.



The Ramsey Park Hotel at Ramsey



Set in the historic town of Ramsey, the second largest town on the Isle of Man commands stunning views over Mooragh Lake and the island's coastline. All bedrooms feature en suite bathrooms with toiletries, flat screen TV, telephone, hairdryer, hospitality tray and free WiFi. There is a bar and restaurant serving a full

Bistro-style menu that features homemade, simple, seasonal food using fresh, local Manx produce, freshly prepared in our kitchen. On warm days, make the most of the Terrace with stunning lake views.

The Isle of Man Steam Packet Company

This is the oldest continually operating passenger shipping company in the world, having begun operations in 1830. Two vessels, Ben-my-Chree and the fast craft Manannan, operate regular ferry services between Heysham and the Isle of Man. The Coast to Coast Café is located in the centre of the craft, offering a delicious range of freshly prepared hot meals and daily meal specials. As a lighter option they provide a selection of sandwiches, salads, snacks, fresh baked pastries, cookies and muffins.



Monday 26th July



We depart the Nottingham area this morning and travel to Heysham for an afternoon ferry crossing to Douglas. On arrival we disembark and travel to Ramsey and the Ramsey Park Hotel where after check in time to unpack and relax in your room before dinner this evening.

Tuesday 27th July

We travel to Douglas this morning and meet with the local guide who will introduce you to the delights of this Victorian style seaside town with horse-drawn trams clip-clopping along the promenade, a reminder of days gone by. As the capital of the Isle of Man, Douglas, is a busy financial centre with thriving shops, cafes and bars. A stroll around the town will reveal places of historical interest from the Tynwald buildings, the Gaiety Theatre, the Manx award winning Museum and the Quayside pubs, to the many memorials of sailors lost at sea.

This afternoon we board The Isle of Man Steam Railway for a scenic ride along the coast through the Manx countryside to Port Erin, the largest resort in the South. We take time for a stroll along the lovely promenade which overlooks one of the most scenic bays on the island, surrounded by the rugged coastline (cameras at the ready!) We re-join the coach and continue to Castletown, once the Island's capital. Explore the historic town centre with its impressive quayside medieval castle, once home to the Kings and Lords of Mann, the small Nautical Museum where you can hear tales of smugglers and a chance to see the preserved "Peggy"? or "The Old House of Keys" a Manx parliamentary building. If you are a member of the National Trust or English Heritage all museums and castles are free to enter.



Wednesday 28th July

We set out on the highlight of our tour today, a scenic ride on the Snaefell Mountain Railway. This unique Victorian enterprise, which is around 5 miles long, has been in operation since 1895 and is the only electric mountain railway in the British Isles. We start our journey in the pretty village of Laxey with the services of a local guide. We board our train for this thrilling mountain ride. Simply sit back and relax as you are transported through the beautiful Manx countryside. En-route you will be able to see the Laxey glens and Lady Isabella – Laxey's water wheel – as well as "The Bungalow".



Once you have reached Snaefell's summit, at 2036 feet above sea level, you may be able to see some, or all, of the Seven Kingdoms – England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland, The Isle of Man and the kingdoms of Heaven and Sea. There are no roads to the summit of Snaefell but there are several paths that lead to The Bungalow and Laxey for those visitors who wish to make their own way up or down the mountain, any takers? We return to Laxey and the village with a history forged by the sweat and toil of mining. See right up close the Laxey Wheel "Lady Isabella". This giant wheel was constructed to keep the lead mines free from water. Today Laxey is so different with its lovely glen with beautiful gardens and a pretty harbour. We then take you for a coach drive on the famous TT Course.



Thursday 29th July

This morning we visit The Isle of Man Motor Museum at Jurby. Discover the amazing stories behind a collection of over 400 unique exhibits from around the world, including classic cars, motor vehicles and rarely seen private motorcycles. It is not just cars and bikes at the Museum as they also feature trucks, buses, fire engines, a traction engine, a road roller, a hovercraft, a charabanc, hearses, flower cars, airport limousines, agricultural equipment and even a self-propelled gun!



Situated next door to the Museum is The Guard House Coffeehouse in the recently restored WWII era building that was the original Guard House for RAF Jurby. They serve light bites, cakes, tea and coffee for refreshments.

We travel on to Peel, whose three claims to fame are its Castle, Cathedral and Kippers. The old, twisting streets lead down to the once busy fishing quay and across the harbour, St Patrick's

Isle, the site of the ancient ruins of Peel Castle and Cathedral. After, we visit Moore's Smoked Kipper factory for a tour relaying a fishy story. We continue to St Johns, an attractive village, visiting Tynwald Hill, seat of this ancient parliament.

Friday 30th July

We leave the Isle of Man and Ramsey today as we travel to Douglas where we board the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company ferry for a morning sailing to Heysham. The Coast-to-Coast Café is available for Refreshments.

We disembark and continue our journey home arriving in the Nottingham area in the evening. Refreshments and comfort breaks will be made en-route.



Tour includes: Door to door taxi/minibus, executive coach travel with courier/hostess service, 4 nights at The Ramsey Park Hotel with half-board accommodation, return ferry crossings, full excursion programme with morning visit to Douglas with an introduction by a local guide, Isle of Man Steam Train ride to Port Erin, visit to Castletown, Visit to Laxey with the services of a local guide, the Snaefell Mountain Railway (weather permitting), a coach drive on the famous TT Course, The Isle of Man Motor Museum Jurby, visit to Peel and Moore's Kipper Factory tour, visit to St John's and Tynwald Hill the ancient meeting place of the Manx Parliament

Tour extras: *Any fees, fares, lunches or refreshments en-route are not included in the above tour.*

Tour cost: £570.00 per person sharing a twin/double room

Single supplement: £150.00

Deposit: £100.00 per person

NT and EH members please bring card for free entry to Castles and Museums.



PLEASE NOTE: The above itinerary may be subject to change – terms and conditions are available on request and we recommend that as our clients you take out insurance against any eventuality, medical or otherwise on all our holidays on booking.

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