

PORTMEIRION

July 4th – 8th 2021



The four-night stay in Portmeirion, the magical Italianate village nestling on the edge of the Dwyryd estuary and used as the setting for the sixties TV series *The Prisoner*, has been organised after the great success of the stopover during the recent Dragon Trail through Wales.

The eccentric vision of the architect Clough Williams-Ellis has been a favoured haunt of many famous people who have stayed over the years, including George Harrison, Paul McCartney, Noel Coward, George Bernard Shaw, Ingrid Bergman - the list goes on! Noel Coward reputedly wrote *Blithe Spirit* while a guest here.

Each day we take advantage of great driving roads, including Bwlch-y-Groes and Llanberis passes, stunning scenery ranging from seascapes to mountains, and leisurely daily mileages. This is an event not to miss!

Routes take in interesting attractions, just one of which is a train journey to the summit of Snowdon, and the usual *Country Lane Tours* detailed road book ensures stress-free navigation.

The event is restricted to just twenty-five rooms, some being in the quaint village houses, but all main meals are in the hotel.



The itinerary is as follows:

Sunday, July 4th. Arrival at Portmeirion during the day. Cars have exclusive reserved parking in the village. There will be a champagne reception on the terrace before dinner at 7.30pm.

Monday, July 5th. The day starts with a scenic run via the Aberglaslyn, Nant Gwynant, and Llanberis Passes to the Snowdon Mountain Railway for a trip to the top of the highest peak in Wales. Its rugged features were used as training by Sir Edmund Hillary for the expedition to Everest in 1953, and the views from the 3,560 feet summit are amazing.

After descending back down lunch will be at the Victoria Hotel before we drive a short distance to the fascinating Llanberis Slate Museum where you can get an insight into how the industry flourished in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The original quarry went bust in 1969 and the Receiver took one look, realised it was a hundred years behind the times, and had the foresight to recognise the equipment needed to be saved as it was. It reopened as a museum in 1972.

The vast collection includes the largest working waterwheel on the UK mainland.

The scenic route back to Portmeirion runs through picturesque Beddgelert where you have the opportunity to stop and wander along the river bank, or maybe browse some of the craft shops.

Dinner is 7.30pm.

Tuesday, July 6th. We start the day with visit to the ancestral home of Hedd Wyn, the celebrated Welsh shepherd poet who was killed at Passchendaele in 1917 and posthumously awarded the black bardic chair at the National Eisteddfod later that year. I think you'll find the history fascinating!

Next we ascend the notorious Bwlch-y-Groes Pass, also known as Hellfire Pass (next page), and famous in the early days of motoring as a testing ground for cars' hill climbing abilities.



Lunch is at Palé Hall, a magnificent Victorian house and now a hotel on the outskirts of Bala. The afternoon route skirts Llyn Celyn reservoir, where in 1965 the valley and a village (see below) were flooded to provide

water for Liverpool, and detours via the slate town of Blaenau Ffestiniog before returning to Portmeirion. Dinner 7.30pm.



Wednesday, July 7th. Today's itinerary includes Caernarfon Castle, Dinas Dinlle aircraft museum, lunch at Nant Gwrtheyrn (below), a quarry village once only reached by foot or sea and now restored as a Welsh Language Centre, and the David Lloyd George Museum. Of course our wander along the Llyn Peninsula could lead to sensory overload as you're treated to more of the picturesque scenery North Wales has to offer.

Dinner 7.30pm



Thursday July 8th. Departure for home.

The leisurely daily schedule is designed to allow you to enjoy the sights and attractions, as well as leaving plenty of time to explore the extensive grounds of Portmeirion, the eccentricities of the buildings, or to simply chill out on the terrace with a glass of wine.

What's included in the price?

- Four nights' dinner bed and breakfast at the exclusive Portmeirion Hotel
- Champagne reception on the terrace on Sunday evening
- Snowdon Mountain Railway
- Buffet lunch at Victoria Hotel, Llanberis
- Entry to Yr Ysgwrn, the family home of Hedd Wyn, Shepherd Poet killed in 1917, with guided tour
- Morning coffee / tea & cake at Yr Ysgwrn
- Buffet lunch at Palé Hall Country House Hotel
- Entry to Caernarfon Castle
- Entry to Dinas Dinlle Aircraft Museum
- Buffet lunch at Nant Gwrtheyrn
- Entry to Lloyd George Museum
- Detailed road book with route instructions
- Rally plates and windscreen stickers
- Individual name lanyards
- Tour organiser present throughout to sort any queries or problems
- Various other additions

The cost for this inclusive tour is £1,225 per person based on two people sharing and £225 **PER PERSON** deposit, refundable until March 29th less £5 admin fee secures a place.

The balance is payable by March 30th - an invoice will be sent.



BOOKING FORM - PORTMEIRION

Name (driver).....Co-driver.....

Address.....

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Post Code.....

Phone number(landline).....Mobile.....

Email Address.....Date.....

Car Make/Model.....Year.....

Reg. No.....

Number of people in party.....Amount of payment included.....

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS? (double / twin beds, bath, diet, etc). This is very important and will be treated in strictest confidence. If **ANY** mobility problems please let me know so I can arrange rooms close to lifts, etc.

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Please send completed form and payment to *Country Lane Tours*, Tirionfa, Bodfari

Road, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HP. For more details email

countrylanetours@gmail.com, or call me, Ian Glass, on 01824 790280 for a chat.

If you wish to pay by transfer the bank details are as follows:

Bank: Santander

Account Name: Country Lane Tours

Account Number: 02149028

Sort Code:09-01-50

**PLEASE NOTE!!! IT IS VERY IMPORTANT IF PAYING BY
TRANSFER THAT YOU MARK THE ENTRY FORM
TRANSFER AND THE AMOUNT!**