Variety is the key to the abiding fascination of Britain. Take a journey through Britain in practically any direction and you will find that you cannot help but fall under the magic spell of its history, culture, friendly people, pageantry and landscapes.

Britain is a land where dreams come true. Whether your dream is to go shopping in the chic stores of Knightsbridge or to watch the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace; whether it’s to see a band of pipers at a Scottish Highland Gathering or to visit one of the castles in the principality of Wales, you can do it all here.

It’s such a compact country, too, with excellent road, rail and air links, so you can be adventurous and plan to visit the farthest corners of the land with ease.

London, of course, with its theatres, nightclubs, discos, cocktail bars and cabaret-restaurants, is one of Europe’s greatest centres of entertainment, but it doesn’t have a monopoly. Wherever you go, you are never far from an enjoyable night out, should you want clubs and pop concerts, an evening at the theatre, or a table for two in a quiet, romantic restaurant.

If you plan to come outside the peak summer months, it will be well worthwhile. Each season has its own unique appeal and, in the next few pages, we highlight the attractions of Britain for all seasons. If you decide on a trip in romantic springtime, colourful autumn — or in winter, with all its festivities and entertainment, you will find yourself in a more rewarding and more revealing Britain...so read on.

Below: The topiary garden at Levens Hall, Cumbria, which was laid out in 1682.

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Further information can be obtained from the British Tourist Authority office at the address shown. However, for all travel arrangements, accommodation reservation, bus tours, theatre tickets and so on, please see your travel agent.

Marketing Department (OA)
British Tourist Authority
Thames Tower
Black’s Road
London W6 9EL

Prices. All prices quoted in this publication should be taken as a useful guide, not as definite costs. Always confirm rates before making firm bookings. Prices quoted were current in mid-1987.

Telephoning. When calling numbers listed in this brochure from outside Britain, you will first need to dial an international access code, followed by the UK access code (44), followed by the complete number as printed with the exception of the first ‘0’ given in brackets. E.g. for the number (011) 246 8641, you would dial: International Access Code + 44 + 11 + 246 8641.

Editor: Julie Burton
Designer: Peter Sanders
Editorial Assistant: Carolyn Dunster
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British Travel Centre, London

Open 7 days a week, Monday to Friday 09.00-18.30; Saturday and Sunday 10.00-15.00 at 32 Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, London W1Y 4PQ.

Telephone Information Service on 01-328 3400 Monday to Friday 09.00-18.30; Saturday 10.00-16.00.
The summer months (June, July and August) are spent out of doors. Towns and villages come alive with music and dance festivals, open air theatre and street carnivals. Every visitor must, of course, experience the great British picnic for there is nothing more enjoyable than a lazy day spent on the river with cucumber sandwiches or strawberries and cream as sustenance washed down with cool drinks like Pimm's or Bucks Fizz.

CUSTOMS

As the summer solstice and mid-summer's day approach, the British celebrate by holding fairs, sometimes in medieval costume, throughout the country. On June 11, Queen Elizabeth II takes the salute at the ceremony of Trooping the Colour on Horse Guard's Parade, London.

ATTRACTIONS

The Derby (June 1) and Royal Ascot (June 14 to 17) are the big horse racing events of the season. In Scotland, traditional Highland Games and Gatherings are held from June to September.

SPORT

Summer is the season for sailing. More than two hundred yachts race from Plymouth to Newport in the Caribbean Single-handed Transatlantic Sailing Race (June 5) and Cowes Week is in the first week of August. For tennis fans, June 26 to July 3 is Wimbledon fortnight and the 'Glorious Twelfth' of August marks the opening of Scotland's grouse shooting season, so there is something for everyone. This is the best time of year to go pony trekking in Wales, hill walking in the Lake District or canal cruising on the Norfolk Broads.

Above: A young girl wears the traditional dress of her Welsh ancestors
Right: Chatworth, Derbysire, is one of the great stately homes of England

For right: There are many pretty public houses
The golden months of autumn (September, October and November) are breathtaking and this is a perfect time to visit Britain. You can see the colours of the trees and hedgerows turn from green to blazing oranges and reds, and in Scotland the hills and moors take on a beautiful purple hue. The harvesting of crops and fruit make this a season of activity before winter sets in. The evenings draw in and turn chilly and smoke begins to rise from chimneys as welcoming, warming fires are lit in both country cottages and town terraces.

CUSTOMS

When the harvesting is over, churches are decorated with flowers, fruit and other offerings for their annual harvest festival. On Hallowe'en (October 31), witches' hats are donned, children dress up as goblins, and apples and pumpkin lanterns are lit — traditionally to drive away the witches.

On Guy Fawkes night (November 5) bonfire parties and organised firework displays take place everywhere, commemorating the unsuccessful attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605. On the second Saturday of November the Lord Mayor's show and procession makes its way through the city of London. It is a grand affair of pomp and ceremony as the new Lord Mayor is taken through the streets in his golden coach followed by liveried footmen, bands and a magnificent parade of floats.

ATTRACTIONS

At the beginning of September the seaside resorts of Blackpool and Morecambe on the north-west coast, switch on their electrical illuminations. In Scotland, members of the Royal Family attend the best known Highland Gathering at Braemar (September 3).
Winter does not mean that activity in Britain comes to a grinding halt. In fact, throughout the months of December, January and February, the situation is quite the reverse. The cities are magical and exciting and provide every kind of entertainment you care to sample. Choose from the best of opera, ballet and theatre. It is also worth getting out to the country and taking the opportunity of exploring England’s towns and villages when they are free from the summer crowds. You can pay a visit to a typical oak-beamed country pub and sit by a roaring log fire sipping glasses of stong warming ale or mulled wine. Regional dishes such as Lancashire hot pot, Scotch broth or Welsh ‘caul cennin’ (leek broth) will certainly keep out the cold.

CUSTOMS

Christmas is the highlight of the year. Carol concerts and nativity plays are held in churches and cathedrals throughout the country. The streets sparkle with fairy lights and brightly decorated Christmas trees. Many hotels offer a special Christmas package with all the fun of a traditional Christmas but none of the work. New Year’s Eve is an occasion for much revelry and merrymaking, particularly in Scotland where the Hogmanay festivities may last several days. In this part of the country January 25 is also a day for celebration. This is the birthday of the poet Robert Burns and traditionally known as Burns’ Night, when supper consists of haggis, bashed neeps (turnips) and plenty of whisky.

ATTRACTIONS

There is just as much to see and do in Britain in winter as in summer. The majority of our hotels are open throughout the winter months, many with good facilities such as indoor swimming pools, saunas and solariums so guests need hardly know it’s winter. In the big cities our great art galleries and museums are open all year, some of the other tourist attractions and stately homes do close down by early October but hundreds remain open, usually with shorter opening hours, so there is plenty to see. Windsor Castle, Longleat House, Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh and Shakespeare’s birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon are just some of the places to visit during the winter.

To check the opening hours of all these places and for guidance on accommodation in the winter, call in at a Tourist Information Centre (see page 10).

SPORT

The football (soccer) and rugby matches resume with international games at Twickenham in London, Cardiff Arms Park in Wales and Murrayfield in Edinburgh. In January skiing gets underway in the Scottish Highlands although there are also facilities at dry slopes around the country at all times.
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Spring (March, April and May) is perhaps England's most beautiful season. As clusters of primroses glisten in the hedgerows and tulips and daffodils come into bloom, the days get longer and warmer and everything comes alive again with a promise of newness and freshness.

CUSTOMS

March 1 is St. David's Day. It is a celebration to the patron saint of Wales, who is loyally toasted in pubs, restaurants and hotels throughout Wales and anywhere else his countrymen gather. In the days before Easter visitors can enjoy eating cinnamon biscuits or spicy hot cross buns which are delicious when toasted and dripping in butter. On Easter Monday, a public holiday, local fairs are held in towns and villages throughout the county.

Spring is the season traditionally associated with re-birth and fertility. On May Day the ancient pagan rites of fertility are celebrated by 'Maypole dancing' around poles bedecked in garlands and ribbons. Morris dancing, a type of folk dancing, is another ritual celebration taking place on village greens and in market squares to the accompaniment of the fiddle and accordion.

In the Peak District of Central England throughout May and into June, the theme of fertility is continued and many villages ceremonially 'dress' their wells with flowers and fruit. Spring Bank Holiday (the last Monday in May) is the time for Whitsunside events which include country fairs, 'miracle plays' and morris dancing.

ATTRACTIONS

At Easter many of the great English country houses and stately homes which closed for the winter, open their doors again to welcome visitors for the start of the season. This is the time of year to see their glorious gardens burst into flower.

Although many houses and museums in England remain open throughout the year, the visitor has the pick of the tourist attractions from Easter onwards, plus the added advantage of uncrowded hotels, roads and public transport in scenic areas.

SPORT

Both the football (soccer) and rugby seasons are in full swing until the beginning of May, with exciting matches, particularly internationals, to be seen all over the country on Saturday afternoons. There are point-to-points, steeplechases and flat race meetings for all horse racing enthusiasts. The fresh water trout season begins in mid March and runs until the end of September but May is the best month on many rivers. Finally, for all visitors who come equipped with their golf clubs, conditions are excellent on hundreds of golf courses, where, of course, you can also hire the necessary equipment.
EVENTS

SUMMER EVENTS '88

June 14: Horse Racing: The Derby (1st); Coronation Cup (2nd); International Day (3rd); Oasis Stakes (14th)
Epsom Racecourse, Epsom, Surrey
June 6, 8, 10: International TT Motorcycle Races
Isle of Man
June 5: Carlsberg Single-handed Transatlantic Yacht Race
From Plymouth Sound, Plymouth, Devon, to Newport, Rhode Island
June 10-18: Alderley Festival of Music and the Arts
Alderley, Cheshire
June 11: 'Tropming the Colour' - The Queen's Official Birthday Parade
Heaton Park, Manchester, Greater Manchester
June 27-28: Alderley Festival of Music and the Arts
Alderley, Cheshire
June 27-30: Appleby Horse Fair
Appleby, Eden Valley, Cumbria

AUTUMN EVENTS '88

September 2-October 30*: Blackpool Illuminations
The Promenade, Blackpool, Lancashire
September 2: Braemar Royal Highland Gathering
Princess Royal and Duke of Fife Memorial Park, Braemar, Grampian
September 7-8: Horse Racing: Gold Cup Meeting
Polo St Leger Festival Meeting
Dorchester Racecourse, Dorset, South West
September 8-9: Burghley Horse Trials
Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire
September 9-11: Parnham International - Aerospace Exhibition and Flying Display
Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, Hampshire
September 10-11: Llandrindod Wells International Music Festival
Llandrindod Wells, Powys
September 11-12: Chelsea Horse Trials
Chelsea Old Town Hall, Kings Road, Chelsea, London SW3
September 16-20: National Geocic Mod
Glasgow, Strathclyde
September 26-28: Southampton International Boat Show
Mayflower Park, Southampton, Hampshire
September 29-October 2: Swansea Musical Festival
Various venues, Swansea, Gwent
October 1-2: Chelsea Festival of Literature
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
October 3-8: Horse of the Year Show
Wembley Arena, Wembley, London
October 11-23: Norwich International Festival of Music and the Arts
Various venues, Norwich, Norfolk
October 19-20: International Boat Show
National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, West Midlands
November 6: London to Brighton Veteran Car Run
Hyde Park, London to Brighton, East Sussex
November 9-29: Belfas Festival of Arts at Queen's
In and around Queen's University, Belfast, County Antrim
November 12: Lord Mayor's Procession and Show
The City, London

WINTER EVENTS '88-'89

December 5-8: Royal Smithfield Show and Agricultural Machinery Exhibition
Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London W5
December 15-19: Olympia International Showjumping Championships
Olympia, Hammersmith Road, London W14
January 4-15*: London International Boat Show
Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London W5
January 21: Rugby Union: Scotland v Ireland
Murrayfield, Edinburgh, Lothian
February 4: Rugby Union: Wales v Ireland
Cardiff Arms Park, Cardiff, South Glamorgan
February 12: Rugby Union: England v Scotland
Rugby Football Union Ground, Twickenham, London
February 18: Rugby Union: Wales v England
Cardiff Arms Park, Cardiff, South Glamorgan

SPRING EVENTS '88

March-December: Shakespeare Theatre Season
Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire
March 10: Rugby Union: Scotland v Ireland
Murrayfield, Edinburgh, Lothian
March 10: Rugby Union: England v France
Rugby Football Union Ground, Twickenham, London
March 7-24*: Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition
Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London W5
March 10: Olympic Games
Sydney, Australia
March 22-29: Harrogate International Youth Music Festival
Various venues, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
March 30-April 1: Horse Racing: Grand National Meeting
Aintree Racecourse, Liverpool, Merseyside
April 20-23*: Badminton Horse Trials
Badminton, Avon
May-August: Glyndebourne Festival
Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex
May-September: Chichester Festival Theatre Season
Chichester, West Sussex
May-October: Pitlochry Festival Theatre Season
Pitlochry and Tayside

*Provisional Dates
Britain's sporting calendar is filled with exciting occasions and spectacular international events. Here you can enjoy such sports as football, horse-racing, motor-racing and golf. Greyhound racing is popular too, and there are several tracks in and around London.

Britain's number one spectator sport is Association Football (or Soccer) and most large towns have their own teams. Matches generally take place on Saturday afternoons from August to May. Two football championships are held throughout the season: the League Cup and the Football Association Cup. For many of the championship games, except the finals, tickets are sold at the ground gates on the day of the game.

HORSE RACING

Horse-racing is very much part of the British scene and there’s a programme of events throughout the year. The annual National Hunt season (comprising steeplechasing and hurdles races) begins in August and continues until late April/May, when the jockey's interest turns to 'flat racing'.

The best-known racecourses have modern facilities, superb restaurants and play-areas for children. Here are some which are within easy reach of London: Ascot, near Windsor, Berkshire. Tel: Ascot (0900) 2201. Epsom, Surrey, Tel: Epsom (0322 27) 9031. Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey. Tel: Esher (0372) 43072.

SELECTED MAJOR HORSE-RACING EVENTS IN 1988


July 26-30 — Goodwood Races at Goodwood Racecourse, West Sussex. September 7-10 — St. Leger Festival Meeting at Doncaster Racecourse, Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

PROVISIONAL DATES

MOTOR RACING

Probably the two best-known motor-racing venues in Britain are Brands Hatch, near Dartford in Kent, and Silverstone, at Towcester in Northamptonshire. The British Grand Prix will be held at Silverstone in 1988, provisionally on July 10.

GOLF

There are hundreds of golf courses to choose from in Britain. Scotland is where the game developed in the 16th century and is where many world-famous courses are to be found, such as St. Andrews Old Course (the legendary home of golf); Gleneagles Hotel; Turnberry; and Royal Troon Old Course.

In 1988 the Open Golf Championships are being held at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Course, Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire from July 14 to 17.

It is possible for the visitor to arrange play at any course in Britain — even the championship ones. Green fees are reasonable, even on championship courses, ranging from about £5 to £7 per day, rising to £15 at some top courses.

It is advisable to bring a letter of introduction from your local golf club secretary. Booking is not usually necessary, except for the world-famous courses mentioned above (even these places often have other courses to choose from). Some superb hotels overlook the above-mentioned Scottish courses, and a stay in one of them will be an enjoyable part of your golfing holiday. Information on golf courses and hotels with golf is available from BTA overseas offices.

More sporting events are listed in the seasonal sections of this brochure. The publications London Planner and Britain's Fortcoming Events both list sporting events and are available free from BTA overseas offices.
LONDON—BRITAIN'S LIVELY CAPITAL

London is the place to be if you like your days packed with interest and excitement, and your nights late. Britain’s colourful capital is full of things to see and do, with superb shopping, world-famous sights and excellent entertainment and nightlife.

To many people, London is best-known for its wealth of historic buildings and monuments. Among the most famous sights of all are St. Paul’s Cathedral, the greatest church in the historic City, Tower Bridge, and next to it the mighty medieval fortress, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, London home of Her Majesty The Queen; the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, where the nation’s monarchs are crowned; and Trafalgar Square, positively alive with its pigeons and dominated by Nelson’s Column, nearly 180ft-high (66 metres) and built in honour of Britain’s famous naval hero, Admiral Lord Nelson.

An ideal introduction to these and many other sights is to take a guided bus tour, such as London Transport’s Original London Sightseeing Tour. This 1½-hour, 18-miles (29km) trip passes all the capital’s principal sights and runs at frequent intervals from Victoria (Victoria Street), Piccadilly Circus (Haymarket), Marble Arch (Park Lane), and Baker Street Underground Station. The fare is £5.00 for adults and £3.00 for children if bought on the bus (50p cheaper if booked in advance). Other companies offering London tours include Frames Rickards (01-837 3111), Evan Evans (01-930 2877), and National Crusader (Trafalgar Square—no advance booking).

An independent way of seeing the sights is to board the yellow Culture Bus, which runs a circular route around the capital departing every 30 minutes with stops en route. For a fare of £4.00 per day (£2.00 for children) you can board and re-board the bus as many times as you like.

A leisurely way of seeing the sights is by taking a pleasure trip on the river Thames. Cruises leave at regular intervals from Westminster Pier and Charing Cross Pier. See the Thames Flood Barrier at Woolwich, designed to save London from flooding, and visit St. Katharine’s Dock—a modern yachting marina near the Tower of London, with restaurants, shops and pubs.
LONDON'S TRANSPORT

London's famous red 'double-decker' buses go almost everywhere. They are a great value-for-money mode of transport and, from the top deck, offer an unbeatable way of seeing the sights. For speed, however, use the Underground (subway trains).

London Regional Transport operate bus and Underground services in the capital and provide a 24-hour travel information service on 01-222 1234. They also operate Travel Information Centres at all four Heathrow Airport terminals and in these Underground stations: Victoria, Oxford Circus, Piccadilly Circus, St. James's Park, King's Cross, Euston and Charing Cross.

Bargain tickets for bus and Underground travel, such as the Travel Card, which allow unlimited travel are available from underground stations in London. A photo card, with passport-size photograph, obtainable from Underground stations, is necessary for use with Travel Cards (except for the one-day Travel Card) and is also required by children, aged 14 and 15 years, using ordinary tickets and wishing to qualify for child fares.

London's black taxis are almost as famous as its buses. They may be hired by telephone or hailed in the street when the yellow 'For Hire' or 'Taxi' sign is lit up.

COLOURFUL PAGEANTRY

Well worth seeing is the colour and spectacle of the capital's great ceremonial occasions, performed with great pomp and pageantry. Some, like Changing The Guard, are performed regularly, others only happen once a year.

Here are some details: Changing The Guard. At Buckingham Palace, 11.30 (subject to alteration) daily from early April to mid-August and on every other day from mid-August to early April at Horse Guards, Whitehall. Weekdays at 11.00, Sunday at 10.00 (subject to alteration). Get there early for a good view. State Opening of Parliament. On the opening day of Parliament HM The Queen rides in state from Buckingham Palace to Westminster. Large crowds gather on route to see the royal procession. Held in early November, The Lord Mayor's Show is a colourful procession in which the newly-elected Lord Mayor of London rides in a magnificent golden coach from Guildhall to the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand. It takes place on the second Saturday in November.
Above: St Paul’s Cathedral, Sir Christopher Wren’s majestic masterpiece
Above right: Musicians of the Welsh Guards
Below: Covent Garden has a lively and exciting atmosphere
Right: Polka dot in St James’s Park are particular favourite with Londoners

MAGNIFICENT MUSEUMS
London is renowned for its museums and art galleries and they are well worth exploring, admission to most is free. The Geological Museum, Natural History Museum, Science Museum and Victoria and Albert Museum are all situated in a compact area in South Kensington. The British Museum, one of the world’s largest museums, is in Great Russell Street, WC1.

Smaller, but equally interesting museums include the London Transport Museum (buses, trains and trams) and the Theatre Museum (historical theatre memorabilia) both in Covent Garden. Madame Tussaud’s (waxworks and chamber of horrors) in Marylebone Road, the Cabinet War Rooms in King Charles Street, SW1 (preserved since the days of Winston Churchill) and the Museum of London at London Wall (illuminating the history of London from prehistoric times to the present day).

At the Guinness World of Records, The Trocadero, Piccadilly, W1, facts from the Guinness Book of Records are brought to life using the latest audio-
visual techniques. Also at The Trocadero is the London Experience — an impressive multi-media presentation capturing London in a show of history, nostalgia and fun, and the Light Fantastic World of Holography.

SUPERB SHOPPING

London is a shopper’s paradise. Here are fascinating, long-established shops selling luxury goods, glittering boutiques, world-famous department stores and chain stores where the accent is on good quality and excellent value.

Much of the finest shopping can be found in two compact areas. One, the “West End”, takes in Oxford Street (lively boutiques and large department stores, such as Selfridges); Regent Street (Hamley’s toy shop and elegant stores like Liberty’s, famous for its beautiful fabrics); and Piccadilly, where you can find Fortnum and Mason, with its proudly-displayed Royal Arms — showing that it has supplied the Royal Family with food and groceries.

Also in the West End you’ll find Burlington Arcade, an elegant shopping promenade off Piccadilly; Jermyn Street with its long-established specialist shops and Bond Street, synonymous with the very best in luxury goods.

The other main shopping area of London is Knightsbridge, centred around Harrods, the largest department store in Europe. Don’t miss Sloane Street (fashionable shops including Harvey Nichols department store and Laura Ashley’s fabrics), or Kensington High Street (young fashions and antiques).

Covent Garden, once a fruit, flower and vegetable market, is now a pedestrian area of unusual shops, intimate bistros, restaurants and wine bars. Under the roof of the old central market are stalls selling all sorts of goods, and street entertainers perform here at lunchtimes and at weekends.

Normal shopping hours are 09.00-17.30 Mondays to Saturdays, shops in the West End and Kensington High Street stay open until 19.00 on Thursdays. In Knightsbridge and Chelsea late closing is on Wednesdays.

MARKETS

There are dozens of street markets where goods are sold from stalls and barrows; ideal places in which to rummage for souvenirs, trinkets and unusual items (often at good-value prices).

Portobello Road, W11: Monday to Saturday (half day Thursday) — clothes, food, bric-a-brac, antiques (Saturday only) underground: Notting Hill Gate.

Camden Passage, Islington: Wednesday and Saturday — antiques, Thursday — books, prints, drawings, underground: Angel, New Caledonian Antiques Market, Tower Bridge Road, SE1: Friday, best time before noon, underground: London Bridge.

Camden Lock, Chalk Farm, NW1: Saturday and Sunday — crafts, antiques, bric-a-brac, jewellery, clothes, underground: Camden Town, Petticoat Lane.

Middlesex Street, E1: Sunday — clothes, household goods, finishes about 14.00, underground: Aldgate.

Above: The fairy-lights of Christmas add festive cheer to London’s Regent Street.

LONDON ENTERTAINS

For more details of the wide range of entertainment and nightlife that can be enjoyed in the capital, buy one of the weekly magazines — *Time Out*, *City Limits*, BTA overseas offices can supply the free monthly magazine *London Planner*, and the quarterly *London Restaurant Guide*.

EATING AND DRINKING

When it comes to food and drink you are really spoilt for choice in Britain's capital. Apart from the traditional pub the city now has many cocktail and wine bars which are becoming increasingly popular. Many of these places, which play the latest music and have imaginative decor, operate a 'happy hour' in the early evening, when drinks are at a reduced price — worth remembering if you want a pre-theatre, movie or concert drink.

Examples of cocktail bars are:

- **Peppermint Park**, 13 Upper St.

   **Left:** Theatre Royal, Haymarket
   **Below:** Dancing to the latest beat at Stringfellow's

   **Bottom:** The Three Penny Opera at the National Theatre

MUSIC AND NIGHTLIFE

London is a city of music. It has five of the world's finest orchestras and three main concert halls — the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican Hall and the Royal Albert Hall — setting for the unique Henry Wood Promenade Concerts.

London is also a leader in the field of pop music. Many famous pop groups have risen to world fame and fortune after touring the small clubs. See top British (and American) bands in concert at Hammersmith Odeon and Wembley Arena — the capital's major pop concert venues.

If you prefer dancing the night away rather than merely listening to music, then there are scores of lively discos and clubs to choose from — here you can see all the latest dance trends and fashions, which are often totally outrageous, such as at the Wagon Club (35 Wardour Street, W1). The Hippodrome (Charing Cross Road, WC2) boasts an impressive light and sound system, and at Stringfellows (16 Upper St. Martin's Lane, WC2) you can often spot celebrities on the mirrored dance floor. There are dozens of other venues to choose from, too numerous to list here.

Many discos have some kind of restaurant attached, but if you want good food in relaxed surroundings, with a dance between courses, choose a diners-and-dance venue. Examples include the Hilton Roof Restaurant, Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, W1 (01-480 8080) offering spectacular views over night-time London and dancing to two live bands, and the Talk of London, a luxurious theatre-restaurant in Parker Street, Drury Lane, WC2 (01-408 1001). Or you may like to try your luck at one of the capital's casinos — you should register with the club 48 hours in advance unless you are the guest of a member.

London really comes alive at night — there's a huge choice of entertainment and dining to suit each and every taste, and nightlife to match any other capital city — from lively discos and pop concerts to dine-and-dance venues or a night at the opera.

The city is theatre capital of the world and most theatres are situated within a short walk of Trafalgar Square. Notable exceptions are the National Theatre complex on the South Bank, next to the Royal Festival Hall, and the Barbican Theatre and The Pit in the modern Barbican Arts Centre in the City, London base of the Royal Shakespeare Company. In the West End, around Trafalgar Square, you can find every kind of show imaginable, from bright musicals and classics to contemporary comedies and revues. If you prefer opera, go to the London Coliseum in St Martin's Lane, home of the English National Opera, or the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, home of the Royal Opera and the Royal Ballet.

For theatre ticket bargains try the Half Price Ticket Booth in Leicester Square which offers all tickets for half price (plus £1.00 service charge), if unsold on the day of the performance. The booth opens at noon for matinees and 14.30 for evening performances. For information on advance or group bookings, theatre transport and backstage tours, telephone the Society of West End Theatre (01-836 3190).

For those who like their theatre small, intimate and sometimes controversial, there is the so-called 'fringe' theatre, a network of pubs and clubs where little-known or new plays are performed. There is a central Fringe Box Office at the Duke of York's Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2.

you want to sample the traditional taste of British food, there are plenty of first-class establishments, such as the elegant Simpson’s-in-the-Strand, the magnificent Ritz Hotel, or Richoux, which is also one of the many places offering afternoon tea. Or, for something rather different, how about a historical banquet with entertainment from minstrels and other characters from British history?

Below we only have space to list a few examples from the vast choice available to diners in London.

Gaylord (Indian)
10 Albermarle Street, W1. Tel: 01-629 4825
Kashmiri specialities

Lal Qila (Indian)
17 Tottenham Court Road, W1. Tel: 01-327 4579

Maharaja (Indian)
59 Queen’s Way, NW1. Tel: 01-727 1313

Mumtaz (Indian)
4-10 Park Road, NW1. Tel: 01-724 0404

Ken Lo’s Memories of China (Chinese)
67 Ebury Street, SW1. Tel: 01-737 7244

Peking Duck (Chinese)
29 Temple Fortune Parade, NW1. Tel: 01-435 9444

Poons of Covent Garden (Indian)
41 King Street, WC2. Tel: 01-240 7743

Tai Pan (Chinese)
5 Egerton Gardens Mews, SW7. Tel: 01-938 5267

Bali (Indonesian)
101 Edgeware Road, W2. Tel: 01-723 3838

Boba Thai (Thai)
35 Marine Road, W8. Tel: 01-437 9000

Kaya (Korean)
22 Dean Street, W1. Tel: 01-437 0320

The Stam (Thai)
12 St. Albans Grove, W8. Tel: 01-937 6756

Ajinor (Japanese)
33-35 Shelton Street, WC2. Tel: 01-240 0758

Fujin (Japanese)
36 Brewer Street, W1. Tel: 01-730 0577

Sakura (Japanese)
8 Hanover Street, W1. Tel: 01-629 2661

Shogun (Japanese)
British Inter-Continental Hotel, Adana Row, Drapers’ Square, W1. Tel: 01-435 8577

Don Pepe (Spanish)
99 reclaimed Street, NW8. Tel: 01-932 3834

Seafood specialties

Martins (Spanish)
25 Sloane Street, W1. Tel: 01-724 6006

La Cucaracha (Mexican)
12 Greek Street, W1. Tel: 01-240 7253

Caravela (Portuguese)
39 Hanover Place, SW3. Tel: 01-431 2461

O Fudo (Portuguese)
39 Hanover Place, SW3. Tel: 01-738 0925

Live entertainment

Paulos (Greek)
59 Greyhound Road, W6. Tel: 01-386 5264

Chez Zorba (Greek)
11 Charlotte Street, W1. Tel: 01-589 0848

Greek music and belly dancers

Cepopora Taverna (Greek)
140-150 Notting Hill Gate, W2. Tel: 01-727 4020

Greek music and dancing

Cousins Tavern (Greek)
29 Goodge Street, W1. Tel: 01-436 1872

Dancing, cabaret and belly dancing

Martin’s Lane, WC2, and the bar at the Dorchaster, Park Lane — exquisitely decorated and truly splendid surroundings.

Wine bars are usually small, tastefully decorated and less noisy and crowded than pubs. A wide variety of wines are sold by the glass and bottle, and there is good food, too.

It is the pub, however, that is traditionally associated with Londoners at leisure. There are thousands to choose from — on virtually every street corner. And what better place in which to meet people, drink, and have a good time, at modest cost? In most pubs you can also get a lunchtime meal for around £3.90.

A number of pubs are renowned for the entertainment they offer, either free or for a small charge, such as the Bull’s Head, Barnes Bridge, SW19, famous for its live jazz. One pub even offers old-time music-hall entertainment with Cockney singers, just like London used to be! It is the Water Rats, 228 Gray’s Inn Road, W1C. (They take party bookings only, call 01-722 5365.)

Plenty of pubs are worth a visit for their historical links, or their attractive riverside settings. The Prospect of Whitby, 57 Wapping Wall, E1, is the capital’s oldest riverside pub, built in 1520 and once associated with thieves and smugglers; and in the heart of newspaperland, Pilot Street, is the Olde Cheshire Cheese, a historic pub which has been frequented by famous writers for over 300 years.

RESTAURANTS

There are restaurants to suit every palate and every pocket. London is truly cosmopolitan when it comes to dining, with a wide range of restaurants to choose from, including Indian, Chinese, Greek, Japanese and South American. If

NIGHT SPOTS WITH FLOOR SHOW

Eve
189 Regent Street, W1. Open Monday to Saturday 20.00-03.30 hrs. Established for some 30 years. French cuisine. Tel: 01-734 0557

Paramount City
Great Windmill Street, W1. Open Monday to Saturday 19.00-02.00 hrs. Restaurant, cabaret shows, disco dancing. Tel: 01-437 7012

L’Hérodode
Swallow Street, off Regent Street, W1. Open Monday to Saturday 20.30-03.00 hrs. Small and sophisticated, with lavish decor. International cuisine. Tel: 01-734 3399

Storci Club
99 Regent Street, W1. Open Monday to Saturday 22.00-03.00 hrs. International cuisine. Tel: 01-734 3395

The New Georgian Club
4 Mill Street, off Conduit Street, W1. Open Monday to Saturday 21.00-00.00 hrs. Old-established club with elegant decor. French cuisine. Tel: 01-938 3342

CABARET

Elysée
18 Percy Street, W1. Tel: 01-636 8400
Open Monday to Friday 20.00 — after 18.00 hrs. Bouzouki music and dancing from 21.00 hrs. Cabaret from 23.00 hrs. Greek food.

Gallipoli
Bolatopogos Churchyard, Old Broad Street, EC2. Tel: 01-636 1622
Open Monday to Saturday 17.00-03.00 hrs. Food and dancing at 20.00 hrs. Italian cuisine. Tel: 01-938 3342

DINE AND DANCE

Barbara I
428 Fulham Road, SW6. Tel: 01-385 9777
Open Monday to Saturday 19.00-03.00 hrs (last order 01.00 hrs). Intimate Italian restaurant with discotheque dance floor.

Bizzarro
18-22 Craven Road, W2. Tel: 01-723 8292
Open Monday to Saturday 18.00-01.15 hrs. Dancing from 22.00 hrs to a live band. Italian cuisine.

La Russola
42-45 St. Martin’s Lane, WC2. Tel: 01-240 1440
Open Monday to Friday 18.00-01.30 hrs (last order at midnight). Saturday from 18.00-02.00 hrs. "Elegant Mediterranean decor. Live music. Italian cuisine."

Concorde Notte
27 Craven Road, W2. Tel: 01-382 6895
Open Monday to Saturday 20.00-02.30 hrs (last order 22.15 hrs). Roman-style restaurant offering live music and Italian cuisine.

Entrecote
124 Southamptom Row, WC1.
Tel: 01-493 1499
Open Monday to Saturday 17.30-01.00 hrs, Sunday 18.00-23.30 hrs. Dinner by candlelight. Dancing to a trio and guitar music. Anglo-French cuisine.

Hamilton’s
Hotel Inter-Continental, 1 Hamilton Place, Hyde Park Corner, W1. Tel: 01-439 1131
Open Tuesday to Saturday 19.00-00.00 hrs (last order 03.00 hrs). On seventh floor of the Hotel Inter-Continental; live music 19.00-23.30 hrs; discos 23.30-03.00 hrs.
GREAT TOWNS AND CITIES

You will naturally wish to begin exploring England in London, but there are many other fascinating cities that you should visit during your stay. Only an hour or so from the capital is Oxford, home of the second-oldest university in Europe. There are many museums, colleges open to the public, good shops, walks along the river Thames and boats for hire.

To the north-west lies Stratford-upon-Avon, an attractive town, famous as the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Spend a day there and take in a play performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Swan Theatre.

Canterbury, to the south-east of London, is the centre of Britain's Christian heritage. The cathedral dates from the 11th century and is renowned for its medieval stained glass. The city itself has preserved its medieval character with some lofty overhanging houses and stretches of 11th-century town walls.

In Eastern England is Norwich, a proud city with narrow, winding alleyways, antique shops, a large outdoor market, cosy pubs and coffee shops. The city's cathedral is magnificent, and there is even a castle complete with dungeons.

One of the jewels of Southern England is Salisbury. This is a city to explore in a leisurely fashion—there is plenty to see and you’ll find some of the oldest pubs in the country in which to eat and drink. The centrepiece is the cathedral (it boasts England's tallest spire) and another favourite among visitors is the large market, held on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Venture to the west of the country and you come upon Exeter, an important city since Roman times. Enjoy tea and cream cakes in the pretty Cathedral Close, looking across well-kept lawns to Exeter Cathedral. Shopping is excellent here, and there is a fascinating maritime museum with sailing and steam-boats from around the world.

In Northern England, in Durham, a massive 11th-century castle stands opposite a beautiful cathedral. Both are situated on cliffs, high above the river Wear, which snakes around them. There are also narrow, cobbled streets, ancient shops and other buildings, and a market square which comes to life each Saturday.

These are just a few of England’s beautiful cities. As you tour the country you will discover many other treasures—traces of history and heritage: Chester, Cheltenham, Winchester, York...the list goes on.

The British Tourist Authority can supply free publications which cover specific regions of England in more detail.
SCOTLAND, LAND OF TARTANS

Breath-takingly beautiful scenery, excellent food, superb shopping, friendly people—all combine to make Scotland a fascinating place for a holiday. The country has something special to offer at all times of the year.

Scotland's biggest event in 1988 is the Glasgow Garden Festival—truly a festival for everyone. Flowers, shrubs and trees create an exotic setting for a celebration of a big city and the Scotland that lies all around. Within a hundred acres on the banks of the river Clyde you can enjoy gardens, pavilions and displays based on themes like landscape and scenery, water and maritme, and recreation and sport. Trails follow other themes such as culture, horticulture, history and heritage, portraying ancient and modern aspects of Scotland's heritage. Yet the Garden Festival will also be international, presenting subjects common to all countries—like science and technology, health and well-being, plants and food—in an exciting and innovative way.

FARTHER AFIELD FROM GLASGOW

Even though so much of Scotland will be portrayed in one place, a nation with such variety needs further exploring. Glasgow and its Garden Festival make the perfect starting point. Generations of Glaswegians have known how easy it is to reach some of Scotland's most outstanding scenic attractions by road and rail. The beauty of Loch Lomond, for instance, lies barely half an hour by car from the Festival ground.

Northwards, the scenic Trossachs take only a little longer, while the Ayrshire coastal resorts and the countryside of Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns, are likewise a short journey away. To the east Edinburgh has motorway connections with Glasgow and a train service taking less than an hour.

Edinburgh is one of the finest capitals in the world. You need only walk down the Royal Mile from the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Queen's official residence in Scotland, to the great castle perched high on its crag, to realise why. Princes Street is justly famous as one of the most elegant shopping thoroughfares in Europe. Quality goods for sale everywhere include tweeds and tartans, Fair Isle knittedwear, Edinburgh lead crystal and...
Caitness Glass, as well as Shetland and cashmere sweaters. Edinburgh is also an antique-hunter's paradise. Sundays in Edinburgh heralds the entertainment scene with concerts, folk clubs and discotheques in full swing.

The Glasgow Garden Festival in 1988 makes the city not only a focal point but also the starting point of day trips and longer tours to see the rest of the country — and to make the most of 1988, Scotland's Festive Year.

TRADITIONS AND CRAFTS

How about a game of golf? St. Andrews is the international birthplace of the game, and headquarters of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. There are around 400 courses in Scotland! Luxurious golfing hotels, too, such as Gleneagles and Turnberry.

Maybe you'd prefer to go monster-hunting. If so, go to Loch Ness, the long, narrow stretch of water near Inverness. Its silent depths are said to be the home of a mysterious water-monster. Every year, visitors come from all over the world in the hope of spotting the beast, affectionately known as 'Nessie'.

Scottish tweed is known for its quality, and there are shops specialising in knitwear and tartans in all the popular touring centres. On the island of Harris, tweed is still hand-woven in the traditional way, and the weavers welcome visitors. There are scores of fascinating craft shops throughout the country, selling items in pottery, wood, silver, glass and leather — here, too, you can often watch the craftsmen at work.

Tartans are, of course, the uniquely Scottish patterned cloths most usually seen in the kilt, which forms part of the national dress for both men and women. Each of the Scottish clans — the great family groups whose fighting and feuding have coloured Scottish history for hundreds of years — proudly wears its own tartan. Go to the Museum of Scottish Tartans in Comrie, Perthshire and you may even discover you are entitled to wear one yourself!

For the real glory of Scottish traditions, you must visit one of the 70odd Highland Games or Clan Gatherings held each year between May and September. Each of them offers a colourful mixture of music, dance and traditional sports. Most famous is the Royal Highland Gathering at Braemar on September 3, usually attended by the Queen.

Many hotels hold Scottish evenings (or ceilidhs) during the summer season, with a traditional dinner, followed by dancing, the sound of bagpipes, and other entertainment. They're great fun!
Welcome to Wales — to the land of scenic beauty and wide open spaces, of castles and valleys, of steam trains and farmhouses — and of warm, friendly people.

Wales is an old and gentle land, full of mystery and beauty. Snow-capped mountain ranges yield place to valleys so green and lush that you could not believe they are connected by the same rivers which take their birth in the mountains and meander through the valleys to refresh them. Underlying the green vegetation is a stone as hard as the pride of a people who have seldom stayed vanquished, who roll the musical Welsh language over their tongues and who love to sing and to recite their own poetry in festivals called 'eisteddfodau'.

If you like space in which to breathe and thick, or if you enjoy the challenge of arduous terrain against which to pit yourself, Wales is for you. Wales offers you a holiday with a difference, with a hint of mystery, so that after the Wales experience you will return different and enriched. But we feel it is only fair to warn you — you will want to come back again!

HOME IN ON WALES

Visiting Wales is like coming home — even if you have never set foot in the country before. So warm and friendly are the Welsh people, and so proud of their lovely country, that they go out of their way to welcome you, help you, show you round, and generally treat you like a pampered guest.

Now this tremendous fund of goodwill has been organised. When you arrive in Wales, call in at any Tourist Information Centre in the town where you are staying, and say "Home in on Wales" to them. You will be put in touch with a 'host family' who will adopt you. You won't have to pay anything — you will not be living with them — they have volunteered to show you all that's best in the area they know and love.

This is your chance to discover the real Wales. A land of song — a visit to a local choir concert or informal rehearsal, or perhaps there will be an eisteddfod (musical festival). A land of history — which has left tangible traces in the castles, abbeys, wooden mills, slate and coal mines. A land of fun — folk dancing, carnivals, amateur theatre and operatics, and tasty Welsh food.

After a day's touring in the mountains of Snowdonia in the north, among the larch, rolling hills of mid Wales, or the lovely western and southern coasts, you can find plenty of evening entertainment with that distinctive Welsh flavour. Your hosts will be able to guide you, or even accompany you, to the best of local evenings.

But perhaps you are not looking for organised entertainment, and would rather tour the glorious countryside: either walking in refreshing solitude or taking part in the activity holidays for
which Wales is famous. Your hosts will tell you the best ways ‘off the beaten track’ and direct you to the best inns and country hotels for a taste of traditional Welsh fare.

UNFORGETTABLE PLACES

Wales is a land of grand scenery and places that you will always remember. Places like St. David’s, Britain’s smallest city, with its medieval cathedral and the ruins of the Bishop’s Palace. Or the imposing ruins of Tintern Abbey, superbly sited on a bend in the wooded valley of the Wye — an unforgettable sight. Or the delightful Italianate village of Portmeirion — a fantasy as if straight out of a fairy-tale — built on a rhododendron-clad promontory, commanding breathtaking views across tidal shallows.

Wales has been christened the ‘land of castles’. Among the best-known are Caernarfon, where Prince Charles was invested as Prince of Wales in 1969, Conwy, a superb walled town resting at the water’s edge, and Harlech, standing on a rocky cliff overlooking the mountains of Snowdonia.

In several castles you can re-live past times with a Welsh medieval banquet, complete with wine and mead in goldlids, and entertainment from singers, harpists and other musicians. (Examples are Caldicot, Cardiff and Ruthin Castles — the last named is also an hotel!) Many industrial attractions have been preserved as working examples of the places that helped make the British Empire great. For example, you can descend hundreds of feet into a real coal mine at the Big Pit, Blaenavon in South Wales. At Blaenau Ffestinog, in North Wales, you can see how slate was mined in Victorian times; visitors travel into vast underground caverns on a miners’ tramway.

Below: Enjoy a ride on the Talyllyn steam train.

Right: The decorative murals of Castle Coch depict scenes from Mab’s tales and Greek myths.
TRAVELLING AROUND BRITAIN

TOURING BY TRAIN

Travel by British Rail is fast, comfortable and easy. On the InterCity network services operate frequently and at speeds up to 125mph (200kph).

On most long distance trains seats can be reserved in advance, but it is not compulsory except on a few services, in order to prevent overcrowding.

Most long distance trains have both first class and standard class carriages and InterCity trains usually have a restaurant and/or buffet car, where hot meals or, in the case of buffet cars, light snacks and drinks are served.

Overnight sleeping car trains are an ideal way to gain a day and save on hotel charges. On sleepers the supplementary charge is £15.00 per journey, for first class and standard class. Reservations should be made well in advance.

If you only want to make a few journeys, single or return (round trip) tickets can be bought in Britain at any station. British Rail Travel Centre or rail appointed travel agent. First class tickets cost about 20 per cent more than standard. For many journeys, cheap return tickets (with limitations on times and day of travel) are often available at a considerable saving on normal standard class fares. If you plan a lot of travelling, a bargain-buy is the BritRail Pass. This pass which must be purchased from travel agents in your own country — it cannot be bought in Britain — will give you unlimited rail travel for 4, 6, 9, 12 or 1 month (5, 15, 22 days or one month if bought in North America). Get full details from travel agents.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BRITAIN — BY RAIL

This rail itinerary features many of the country’s highlights and is a relaxing way to see a great deal of Britain.

Start by going to King’s Cross station in the centre of London, easily reached by Underground train from all parts of the city. From here, a fast British Rail train will speed you north to York (journey time 2hr 30min). York is one of Britain’s most historic places — a walled city with many fine buildings, notably its vast Minster. Within the city, shopping, dining and entertainment facilities are superb.

Return to the station and continue your travels north to Edinburgh (journey time 2hr 30min). This is the capital of Scotland, a beautiful city overlooked by its castle, which stands on a great rock. The city has a large number of hotels, stores, shops and museums — and a world-famous zoological park.

Leaving Edinburgh for Perth, your train crosses the river Forth on one of the longest rail bridges in Britain. Perth is reached in 1hr 20min, and from here you can get a taxi to nearby Scone Palace, ancient coronation site of Scottish kings and a superb stately home, rich in works of art.

Back at Perth, board another train to take you through the rugged Highland scenery to Inverness (reached in 1hr 30min). See the castle and St. Andrew’s Cathedral. Inverness is a good place in which to buy traditional Scottish gifts.

The next part of the itinerary takes you through some of Europe’s most breathtaking countryside, with views of lakes, mountains and forests, to the Atlantic coast. The train leaves Inverness and makes its spectacular journey to the small ferry port of Kyle of Lochalsh (hotel). (Journey time from Inverness 1hr 45min). Board a CalMacion MacBrayne ferry which will take you cruising down the scenic Sound of Sleat to Mallaig (hotel). Note the ferry normally operates in this direction on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only, from May to September. The harbour-town of Mallaig is terminus of another scenic railway service to the peaceful lakeside resort of Fort William (Journey time from Mallaig 1hr 15min) situated at the foot of Britain’s highest mountain, Ben Nevis.

Head south, past lovely Loch Lomond (trains available from Balloch Pier), to Glasgow (Journey time from Fort William 1hr 15min). Glasgow, the commercial heart of Scotland, has a wide selection of hotels, excellent museums and exciting nightlife.

Though you will have arrived at Glasgow’s Queen Street rail terminus, departure is from near-by Central Station. Journey south, back into England, to Oxenholme. Here you transfer to a local train for the short ride to Kendal (total journey time from Glasgow 3hr 30min). This friendly resort in the heart of the Lake District is surrounded by woods and hills and there are pleasure cruises on England’s largest lake.

Return to Oxenholme and travel south to Preston, to catch a train to Blackpool (Journey time 1hr 30min). Britain’s largest and liveliest seaside resort, Blackpool has a vast fairground, theatres, piers and discos, and there are seven miles of sandy beaches.

The next stop on the itinerary is Cheltenham Spa, an elegant town renowned for its arts festival, cricket and horse-racing. To get there, you change trains at both Preston and Birmingham New Street (Journey time from Blackpool 1hr 15min). Then you complete the journey to Cheltenham (50min), where you can stroll the avenues of grand 19th-century houses, and shop in the fashionable precinct known as The Promenade.

Your next train journey takes you to Cardiff (Journey time 1hr 30min). This city, the Welsh capital, offers excellent shopping and nightlife. Visit the impressive castle and the National Museum of Wales.

From Cardiff, take the train to Bristol Temple Meads station (Journey time 50min). Bristol is a busy city-port where old and new meet — walk along narrow passageways lined with antique shops, drink in one of the old pubs and shop in the large, modern shopping centre.

Return the 123km to London in just 1hr 30min, journeying through rolling green hills and lush farmland, with fine views of the river Thames. Arrival London is at the Paddington terminus, which is linked by Underground to the rest of the capital.

Note: On most routes there are several train services to choose from every day, though north of Perth and Glasgow trains are generally less frequent. If your time is limited, you can cut short the itinerary by travelling between Glasgow (Queen Street) and Edinburgh direct (Journey time 50min).

TOURING BY COACH

Sit back, relax, and watch the British countryside roll by, through big picture windows. There is an incredible variety of tours available, ranging from a one-day trip into London’s countryside, to comprehensive touring holidays of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Your travel agent can supply a selection of ideas to choose from.

MINI-TOURS

If you don’t want to be tied to a schedule throughout your stay, a good idea is to book one or two mini-tours to complement your independent sightseeing. Mini-tours last from two to four days (one to three nights) and are a perfect way of getting the big picture. Even shorter, but just as much fun,
Highlands, taking in historic places in between. On a seven-day exploration of Scotland, visiting Edinburgh, the Trossachs and the beautiful coastal, mountain and lake scenery of the Highlands, including the Isle of Skye. These are just three examples — your travel agent will give you many others. Whatever tour you take, rest assured that British coaches are modern, comfortable and operated by an experienced, qualified driver/courier. Hotels are carefully selected, and very often you will find a private bathroom attached to your room.

**SCHEDULED COACH SERVICES**

Maybe you are an adventurer and want to plan your own route, and take it at your own pace? Then Britain's long-distance coach network is just for you. Scheduled coaches run at regular intervals to every major town and city, and this is the most economical method of public transport. National Express is the largest operator, based at Victoria Coach Station, Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1 (tel: 01 783 2002). For services in Scotland contact Scottish Citylink at The Bus Station, St Andrew Square, Edinburgh (tel: 031 556 8464).

You can buy individual tickets for each journey, but if you plan to do a lot of travelling, then a wise purchase is the British Express Card. Purchase of this card, which is valid for 90 consecutive days, entitles you to up to one-third off standard fares on all National Express coach services in England and Wales, selected services to and within Scotland, and some other services of associated companies. Get the card from your travel agent or, upon presentation of your passport, at the Victoria Coach Station, Travel Centre, Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1; the Coach Travel Centre, 12 Regent Street, London SW1; London Heathrow Airport; London Gatwick Airport; Manchester International Airport; Birmingham Digbeth coach station; and Glasgow and Edinburgh bus stations.

**AROUND BRITAIN BY AIR**

Within Britain there is a good network of domestic air routes. Scheduled flights connect major cities and islands. British Airways operate Shuttle flights between London and Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester and Belfast. Passengers on these flights need check in only ten minutes before departure. A wide range of discount fares is available — travel agents have details. For example, most airlines offer standby fares, usually restricted to "off-peak" flights on weekdays and at weekends. Ask your travel agent for details.

**Journey Times**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>By air</th>
<th>By coach</th>
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<tr>
<td>Edinburgh to Manchester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manchester to York</td>
<td>1hr 40m</td>
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*Prices quoted are for general guidance only. For further details, see your travel agent.*

**OPEN TO VIEW TICKET**

Touring by car is probably the best way to travel to see Britain’s historic houses, stately homes and gardens. The British have always had a passion for gardens. Nowhere does this deep national love of horticulture find more eloquent expression than in the superbly laid-out gardens that adorn so many stately homes. And the Open to View ticket is the best way to see them at a time to suit you. Open to View provides unlimited entry into over 600 national stately homes and historic sites, for one bargain price. The ticket is valid for one month or 15 days. The British Tourist Authority's Marketing Department at Thames Tower, Black's Road, London W2 5JL, England, will service orders by mail providing they are accompanied by an appropriate money order. The price of a one-month ticket is £23.00. The ticket is also available from selected Tourist Information Centres in Britain. Many Open to View properties are open all year round, though opening hours are reduced between October and March.
s English not your first
language? Then come to
perfect your command of it in
Britain. There are excellent
schools throughout Britain,
offering a wide variety of courses to suit
different needs; from those of the
beginner to those of the professional
man or woman who wants to learn
business or technical English.

English is the international
language of communication and is
spoken by ten per cent of the world's
population in 34 countries. A command
of the language is, therefore, a
tremendous asset.

WHY LEARN IN BRITAIN?
The best place to learn a language is in
the country of origin. No amount of
studying in your own country will
produce the same results — or the same
confidence in usage — as learning in
Britain. For centuries, Britain has been
renowned as the centre of learning —
not just for language but for virtually
every school subject. Britain's
language schools are among the finest in
the world.

You may be a student with a fairly
good background knowledge of English
but lack the confidence to speak it, for
fear of making mistakes. In Britain, the
school's task is made considerably easier
by the fact that you will be living and
studying in surroundings where you will
speak English all the time and therefore
soon lose any hesitation in expressing
yourself.

Language courses are available to
suit all requirements and budgets.
Choose from general courses, teachers'
courses, summer schools or business
courses. Study full or part-time. Choose,
too, from schools located in lively cities
or in the beautiful and peaceful British
countryside.

OTHER ACTIVITIES
Most schools arrange programmes of
cultural, touristic and social visits. Some
have up-to-date computer equipment
which can be used by pupils. Others
offer outdoor activities such as riding,
tennis or sailing. If you wish, you can
live with a British family while you are
studying so you can experience the
British way of life at first hand.

As schools take students from many
countries, English is used the whole
time, both inside and outside the
classroom. Classes are usually small —
about 10 to 16 students — so everyone
gets individual attention. Modern aids to
teaching such as audio-visual equipment
and language laboratories are often used.

OFFICIAL ORGANISATIONS
ARELS-FELCO Ltd is the professional
body representing schools of English in
Britain. Its members have all been
'recognised as efficient' by the British
Council.

The aim of the organisation is to
ensure that standards of administration,
wellfare and teaching are maintained at a
level which is entirely satisfactory to
parents and students seeking reputable
institutions for holidays combined with
language learning. The address is:
ARELS-FELCO Ltd., 125 High
Holborn, London WC1Y 6QD.

TYPICAL COURSES
A typical school in London offers general
study courses at all levels with about 15
hours tuition per week. It has courses
which prepare students for Cambridge
First Certificate, Proficiency, ARELS
and other examinations and may offer
supplementary lectures. There are also
courses for foreign teachers of English,
vacation courses and courses for
business and professional people.
Accommodation may be arranged with
host families or at residential centres in
hotels or hostels. Excursions and social
events are arranged.

Courses held out of London may
cater for a wide range of extra activities
such as tennis, golf, squash, swimming
and football, and typical courses are held
at a school in Oxford, where they have
three-week summer courses in July,
August and September. There are
concentrated language lessons in the
morning and optional activities in the
afternoons such as conversation groups,
language laboratory practice and talks
on British regions and art, or you can
join excursions to Stratford-upon-Avon,
Blenheim Palace, or the cities of
Cambridge and Bath. Accommodation is
either in private homes or in the school's
own residential house.

BUSINESS COURSES
Many schools organise courses designed
for the busy executive. These schools
know that the executive's time is limited
and that he or she cannot be away from
their business for long periods. The
courses are intensive, hard work and
offer good value for money because of
the impressive results they achieve.

Tuition is available on a one-to-one
basis, if required, and group tuition is
carried out with classes small enough for
tutors to give personal attention to each
pupil. If a professional group requires
English tuition in a specialised subject,
some schools will provide tuition by an
expert in that field or will supply
teaching material on that subject.

FURTHER INFORMATION
A comprehensive list of English
language schools and courses is available
in the British Council's
Learning English — available free from
BTA overseas offices. Offices of the
British Council can advise on all aspects
of study in Britain and can also provide
information on language schools and
courses.
BRITAIN FOR BUSINESS

Britain has long been a major world centre for business and commerce and has much to offer the businessman — it is an ideal destination for incentive travel, has modern and expansive conference facilities that are among the world’s finest, and can provide excellent professional training in management skills.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Many organisations take advantage of the training and allied consultancy services available in Britain. Members of the British Management Training Council offer an extensive range of courses and consultancy services. They normally work in English, but training can be provided in other languages.

Contact: The British Management Training Export Council, Keswick House, A Greatway, London NW9 8BE, Tel: 01-441 5556, Fax: 01-242 3427.

CONFERENCES

If you are organising a conference or exhibition, then Britain has all the facilities you could wish for—perfectly-equipped hotels and conference centres, and specialist companies who take care of everything from display arranging to interpretation services. For information and guidance write to "Business Travel Department, British Tourist Authority" (address under "Useful Publications").

You may also write to the British Conference and Exhibition Centres Export Council, c/o Business Travel Department, BTA. They represent the nine main centres: Barrie Centre, London; Beannachta International Centre, Harrogate; Harrogate International Conference and Exhibition Centre, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham; Royal Centre, Nottingham; St. David’s Hall, Cardiff; Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow and Wembley Conference Centre, London. (A booklet on these centres is available from BTA and British Airways local offices.)

Useful contacts: The London Tourist Board and Convention Bureau, 36 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1, ODU, Tel: 01-730 3450, Fax: 01-9301 4446. Information and advice on conference and exhibition facilities in London. The Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau, 3 The Wharf, Bridge Street, Birmingham B1 2JF, Tel: 021-601 2401, Fax: 021-83971. Information and advice on conference and exhibition facilities in Birmingham. Also hotel booklets for events at the National Exhibition Centre: Tel: 01-780 4321, Fax: 01-780 3427.

The British Association of Conference Towns, International House, 12 Dudley Road, Trowbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1LB, Tel: Trowbridge Wells (0892) 73442. An association of approximately 80 British conference towns, which exists to help conference organisers find the best location for their event. The British Universities

Accommodation Consortium Limited, Box C66, University Park, Notingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0602-604571, Fax: 0602-333570. Handbook and information on conference facilities and accommodation available at the majority of Britain’s Universities.

The Higher Education Accommodation Consortium, 36 Collegiate Crescent, Sheffield S10 2EP. Tel: 0114-2866576, Fax: 0114-2866576. Can provide a listing of conference facilities and accommodation available in many of Britain’s Polytechnics and Colleges of Further Education.

INCENTIVE TRAVEL

Britain is a leading incentive travel destination with a unique range of attractions, as you can see by reading the rest of this brochure. Incentive travel houses are experts in putting together detailed programmes — BTA has excellent contacts in the British incentive travel industry. BTA also produces a range of promotional items to enable you to put together a programme on Britain easily. Contact: The Business Travel Department, BTA (London address below).

USEFUL PUBLICATIONS

The British Tourist Authority produces a number of business travel publications, which are listed in "Business Travel Publications and Promotional Materials," and can be obtained from: Business Travel Department, BTA, Thames Tower, Black’s Road, Hammersmith, London W6 8LW, Tel: 01-848 9000, Fax: 01-848 2121, BTA ADM G.

TRADE FAIRS 1988/1989

A selection of major trade fairs in Britain 1988


January 29-February 3: British International Toy and Hobby Fair, Earl’s Court, London.

March 8-11: OceanoEx International ’88 Exhibition and Conference, Metropole Exhibition Hall, Brighton.

May 29-31: RADIOLY ’88, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow.

September 5-8: Offshore Europe ’89, Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre.

September 22-27: World Congress of Philosophy, Brighton Centre.

Organiser: Conference Services Ltd, Aldine House, 9-13 Aldine Street, London W12 8AW, Tel: 01-440 8121, Fax: 01-9625 7472.

September 24-29: 5th World Congress of Project Management—INTERNET ’88, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow.

Organiser: Congress Secretary, Internet ’88, 4th Floor, 43-44 Great Windmill Street, London W1V 7PA.

September 26-27: IPPEX ’88 — 15th International Printing Machinery and Allied Trades Exhibition, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

Organiser: Industrial and Trade Fairs Ltd, Radda House, Blenheim Court, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2DG, Tel: 021-766 6797, Fax: 021-766 6797.

September 12-16: 2nd International Conference on Infection Control, Harrogate Centre.

Organiser: Mrs M Wolery, Infection Control Nursing Officer, North Manchester Health Authority, Central Drive, Crumpsall, Manchester M8 6RL.

September 16-20: International Broadcasting Convention and Exhibition, Brighton Centre and Hotel.

Organiser: Ms Suzanne Hall, IEBC-IEC Secretary, Savoy Place, London WC2R OBL, Tel: 01-240 8871.


Organiser: British Blood Transfusion Society, Regional Transfusion and Immunohaematology Centre, Long Road, Cambridge CB2 2PT.

December 4-8: Royal Smithfield and Agricultural Machinery Exhibition, Earls Court, London.

Organiser: Smithfield Show Joint Committee, Forbes House, Hallam Street, London SW1X 7DE, Tel: 01-285 6518, Fax: 01-1828 3636.
ACCOMMODATION—
AND EATING OUT

Farmhouse: one week bed, breakfast and evening meal: £89.00 per person.

Holiday home accommodation: £89.00 to £900.00 per cottage for four, per week.

Canal boat: £211.00 to £278.00 per person, per week.

Prices (which exclude tax) are for guidance only.

COMMENDED ESTABLISHMENTS

Some hotels, guest houses and restaurants in country areas have been Commended by the British Tourist Authority for the very special extra touch they offer in the way of service, food and hospitality. All establishments have one thing in common: excellent value for money. Look for the BTA blue-and-silver plaque which denotes a Commended establishment. Ask the BTA for their free publication BTA Commended Country Hotels, Guesthouses and Restaurants.

HOW TO BOOK

You can book accommodation through your local travel agent or direct with hotels or hotel group representatives. Most Tourist Information Centres in Britain can book accommodation for you on arrival, and there are hotel booking desks at airports and main railway stations. Also, the British Travel Centre in London offers an accommodation booking service and can provide up-to-the-minute information on availability.

Many hotels belong to groups which have networks of establishments covering the whole of Britain, or large areas of it. Rooms at hotels in the same group can be booked through the following addresses. These companies may have offices in your own country, too.

CENTRAL RESERVATION OFFICE

Crest Hotels, Bridge Street, Banbury, Oxfordshire. Tel: 01295 232320; Telex: 525555. Telex: 857328.

Lindisfarne Hotels, PO Box 137, Millbrook House, Clerndown Road, Warfield, Berkshire. Tel: 01344 8000. Telex: 857328.

THF: Thatch House Forte Hotels, 24-30 New Street, Micklefield, Millbrook House, Clerndown Road, Warfield, Berkshire. Tel: 01344 8000. Telex: 857328.

Foram Hotels, 2 Queen’s Gate, London SW1. Tel: 01-937 9999. Telex: 9999.

Barbican Hotels, 54 Queen Street, London SW1. Tel: 01-937 9999. Telex: 9999.

The Bell at Aston Clinton

Above: Rent a cottage during your stay in Britain
Before right: The Bell at Aston Clinton

The choice of accommodation available in Britain is vast. It includes hotels, inns, 'bed and breakfasts', farmhouses and self-catering establishments — the list goes on. Stay at a castle that's been converted into an hotel, or at an historic country inn, with low, wood-beamed ceilings — at some establishments you can even sleep in a four-poster bed! Wherever you stay, you'll be pleased with the quality, friendly service and value-for-money.

HOTELS

Britain's large town and city hotels offer every comfort that you'd expect — central heating, bedside radio, TV, coffee-making facilities and private bathrooms. There will be a restaurant and bar (sometimes several) on the premises. An increasing number of hotels have leisure facilities for their guests — swimming pools, tennis courts, small golf courses and saunas for example. Others have local arrangements for pony-trekking, golf, fishing, sailing and so on.

Hotels and restaurants are obliged by law to display current prices prominently.

PRICE GUIDE

Apartment in London, for four people, per week: from £55.00 to £450.00.

Bed and breakfast: £2.00 to £10.00 per person.

Bed and breakfast (outside London): £2.50 to £10.00 per person.

Bed and breakfast (outside London): £2.50 to £10.00 per person.

HOTEL RESERVATION AGENCIES


Kings: Victoria Station (platform 9). Tel: 01-928 8400.

Kings: Gatwick Airport (Arrivals Terminal). Tel: 0236 943051.

33 Hotel and Studio Reserves, Sydney Hall, 230 Oval Road, London NW1. Tel: 01-961 9612. Telex: 985480.

Hotel Finder, 20 Bell Lane, London NW4 2AD. Tel: 01-267 7000. Telex: 526386.

WATERWAY HOLIDAYS

A great way to discover the British coast is by hiring your own traditional narrow-boat for a self-drive cruise along some of our 3,000 km of picturesque canals. No previous boating experience is necessary. Get free operators' brochures from BTA offices.

VALUE FOR MONEY

Britain offers a wide range of good-value accommodation — Tourist Information Centres can advise you on bargains available in their area. Generally, charges are lower outside the major cities, though even in London it is possible to get very competitive rates.

An ideal way to cut your holiday costs is to stay at a 'Bed and Breakfast' establishment (B&B for short), which is usually a private house with several bedrooms to let. Guest houses are similar but offer more bedrooms and bathrooms, and cost a little more. In both types of establishment, private bathrooms are generally not available.

EATING OUT

Good British dining starts early in the day with a hearty breakfast of bacon, eggs, tomato and sausage which is served in hotels, B&B's and cafes everywhere.

At luncheon the most popular venue is the local 'pub', where you can usually get a good meal for around £1.50. Come mid-afternoon, it's time to stop at

a cozy tea-shop or hotel for tea. Choose your favourite variety of tea, which is usually accompanied by a mouth-watering assortment of home-made cakes and scones.

For dinner, try some succulent English roast beef, served with Yorkshire pudding, or salmon from Scotland, or tender Welsh lamb with mint sauce. You'll be surprised how many exciting regional dishes there are as you travel from one part of the country to another.

Britain has a fantastic variety of ethnic restaurants, particularly in the cities. Indian and Chinese restaurants are especially numerous.

Prices vary considerably. You could pay £50 or more per person for a delicious three-course dinner à la carte, with wine, at a good restaurant. Or you could enjoy a steak and chips at one of the eating house chains such as Bella Italia (870 establishments in Britain) for about £10, including a glass of wine.

Useful publications available free from BTA offices: Britain: Holiday Homes (self-catering accommodation); Britain: Stay with a British Family; Britain: Stay at an Inn; Britain: Stay in a Farm; Young Britain (incorporating Youth and Group Accommodation).

APARTMENTS IN LONDON

Many visitors coming to London choose self-catering accommodation. There is a wide range of apartments to choose from, but be sure to book well in advance. Household requisites are sometimes supplied and a deposit is payable before occupying the premises. Sometimes the full balance has to be paid before occupation. When booking, make sure that you are aware of the procedure regarding cancellations, and are clear as to what is included in the price. Charges vary according to season, location and number in party.

Should there be any reason for dissatisfaction with your apartment, make your complaint immediately to the manager or owner so that action can be taken on the spot.

Here is a list of agencies that specialise in apartment rental in London. Other useful sources are British newspapers such as The Times, Sunday Times and the London Standard. Ask the BTA for their free booklet Apartments in London.

A/W1 Flats, 1 White Horse Street, London W1. Tel: 01-499 9712. Various properties in Central London. Deposit Subject to negotiation.


Holiday Flats Service Ltd, 178 Gower Street, London NW1 6NE. Tel: 01-982 7412. T/F: 01-982 7418. Numerous properties located throughout London. Deposit: £100. Balance to be paid four weeks prior to occupation.

Londonettes, 76 Old Brompton Road, South Kensington, London SW7 3LQ. Tel: 01-599 4555. T/F: 09625 3182. Numerous properties located throughout London. Deposit: £100. Balance to be paid four weeks prior to occupation.

INFORMATION FOR HOLIDAY TRAVELLERS

What travel documents do I need?

On arrival in the United Kingdom, you must produce a valid national passport or other document satisfactorily establishing your identity and nationality.

The foreign nationals specified below must produce to the Immigration Officer a passport or other identity document endorsed with a valid United Kingdom visa for the purpose for which they seek entry:

Europe. Nationals of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, USSR.

Asia. Nationals of all countries except the British Commonwealth*, Bahrain, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Republic of Korea, Qatar, Turkey and United Arab Emirates. *Citizens of Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan normally require visas, unless settled in the United Kingdom and returning within two years, and in other limited circumstances.


Do I need an International Certificate of Vaccination?

No, but you should check if any is needed on your re-entry into your own country.

What are the customs procedures?

A green and red 'Clearway System' is in operation at most ports and airports in Britain. Go through the Green Channel (which is subject to spot-checks by a customs officer) if you have nothing to declare over the duty and tax-free allowances permitted to overseas visitors; the Red Channel if you have goods to declare (or if you are unsure of importation restrictions). Where the 'Clearway System' is not in operation, report to the customs officer in the Baggage Hall. You must declare anything you intend to leave or sell in Britain.

Can I bring pets with me?

Due to quarantine requirements for animals and birds entering Great Britain (six months for animals, 35 days for birds, or if the stay is shorter, until taken back out of the country), bringing pets with you on holiday is not recommended. If you do bring an animal or bird to Britain, you must apply for an import licence at least six weeks in advance from The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Hook Rise South, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7NP. Tel: 01-337 6611.

If you do not obtain a licence you will be breaking the law, and must accept the consequences. The penalties for illegally landing an animal or bird without a licence are severe — the maximum penalty is an unlimited fine and/or up to one year's imprisonment.

There are no exceptions to this rule — it is enforced to keep rabies and Newcastle disease out of Great Britain. Vaccinations against rabies does not alter these requirements. Any illegally imported animal is liable to be destroyed.

Do I need medical insurance?

Yes. Holidaymakers who become ill while in Britain are only eligible for free emergency treatment at National Health Service Accident and Emergency departments of hospitals. If, however, you have to stay overnight or longer in hospital, you will probably be asked to pay. You are therefore strongly advised to take out adequate insurance cover before travelling to Britain. Your travel agent will be able to suggest a suitable policy.

Are there restrictions on importing and exporting goods?

Visitors should note that many items are subject to import and/or export control. The following are some of the more frequently met items: controlled drugs, firearms, fireworks, animals and birds, articles derived from protected species (eg furskins and ivory), flesh knives, counterfeit currency, horror, pornographic material, plants and plant produce, meat and poultry, certain works of art and wooden collectors' items/archaeological, photographic material and certain radio transmitters.

Further details regarding licences or import/export restrictions may be obtained from HM Customs and Excise, Desert House, Stamford Street, London SE1 1PS. Tel: 01-292 0555.

The United Kingdom has severe penalties against drug smuggling. Drug traffickers may try to trick travellers. If you are travelling to the United Kingdom, avoid any involvement with drugs. Never carry luggage or parcels through customs for someone else.

Can I get tax relief?

In Britain, Value Added Tax (VAT) is charged on most goods bought in shops at a standard rate of 15 per cent, at the time of going to press. Obtaining relief from VAT can therefore affect quite a saving. VAT is also charged at a standard rate of 15 per cent on services you may receive, for example in hotels, bed and breakfast and on car hire. VAT on services, however, may not be claimed.

Note: VAT is not charged in the Channel Islands (Jersey, Guernsey, Jersey, Herm and Sark).

How do visitors reclaim VAT?

Many visitors will find it worthwhile to take advantage of the Retail Export Scheme, whereby they can reclaim VAT on goods purchased for export. Please note that not all shops operate the scheme, and there is often a minimum purchase price. There are also minimum values which apply to travellers from EEC countries, which now include Spain and Portugal. Shops on the scheme will ask to see your passport before completing the VAT form. This form must be presented, with the goods, within three months of purchase, to the Customs at the point of departure from the U.K., if you qualify as an overseas visitor, or if you qualify as a Community Traveller, to Customs at the point of entry into the EEC country where you normally reside. After the Customs office has certified the form it should be returned to the shopkeeper, who will then send you the VAT refund, from which a small administration fee may be deducted.

You can avoid bank charges usually encountered when cashing sterling cheques by using your credit cards for purchases and requesting that your VAT refund is credited to your credit card account. There are now also new companies operating simplified VAT refund schemes in Britain for non-EEC visitors. Shops which participate display a sign in their window and issue vouchers for purchases over £20. After getting the vouchers signed by Customs and Excise on leaving the UK, the shopkeeper then returns them to the refund company. That company will then issue a single cheque for the VAT refund in the shopper's own currency (less an administrative fee) and mail it to his home address.

What are my duty- and tax-free allowances?

You are entitled to the allowances in either of the categories below (but not both) for each category of goods (categories are divided by horizontal lines). Passengers under 17 are not entitled to tobacco and drinks allowances.

Duty and tax free allowances

Goods obtained duty and tax free in the EEC (European Community), duty and tax free on a ship or aircraft, or goods obtained outside the EEC.

Tobacco products

200 cigarettes or 500g of tobacco

100 cigars or 250g of tobacco

50 rolls of tobacco

Alcoholic drinks

2 litres of still table wine

plus 1 litre of alcoholic drinks over 22% vol. or 3 litres of alcoholic drinks not over 22% vol.

3 litres of molasses or rum or spirits (eg fortified or sparkling wine) or any other 3 litres of still table wine

plus 1½ litres of still table wine

2 litres of still table wine

of wine

3 litres of alcoholic drinks over 22% vol.
**Perfume**
75 grammes (90cc or 2 fl oz)
28p

**Toilet water**
75 grammes (90cc or 2 fl oz)
25p

**Other goods**
£2.00 worth, but no more than—
—50 litres of beer
—25 mechanical lighters

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**How much money can I bring?**
You may bring in and take out bank notes, travellers' cheques, letters of credit etc. in any currency and up to any amount. There is no restriction on the amount of travellers' cheques changed.

**Can you explain the British money system?**
British money is based on the decimal system; there are one hundred pence to each pound sterling (£). Notes are issued to the value of £50, £20, £10 and £5. Very few £1 notes are still in circulation (except in Scotland, where Scottish £1 notes are still readily available). Coins are issued to the value of £1, 50p, 20p, 10p, 5p, 2p, and 1p. Some of the pre-decimal silver coins are still in circulation—these are the same size as their decimal equivalents. Major credit cards are widely accepted.

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**What are the opening hours of banks and post offices?**
Some of the major banks operate a limited service at some branches on Saturdays, all are closed on Sundays and public holidays. Generally, weekday opening hours are 09.30 to 15.30 hours. Some banks in Scotland and all in Northern Ireland close for an hour at lunchtime. Post offices, generally, are open from 09.00 until 17.30 from Monday to Friday, 09.00 until 12.30 on Saturday.

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**Wherever possible you are advised to use a bank or Bureau de Change which conforms to the BTA Code of Conduct. In most cases this is indicated by display of the Code.**

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**What are the road regulations?**
Road regulations are given in the Highway Code, obtainable from offices of the Automobile Association (AA) or Royal Automobile Club (RAC) at most ports of entry. The majority of British traffic signs are to international standards. In Britain, you must drive on the left and overtake on the right. The wearing of seat belts is compulsory for driver and front-seat passenger.

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**Do I need a special driving licence?**
No, you can use your own driving licence to drive in Britain for up to 12 months from the date of your last entry into the country. *But don’t forget to bring it!* Or a current International Driving Permit can be used.

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**What are the speed limits?**
Unless signs indicate otherwise: 30 miles per hour (48kph) in built-up areas, 60 miles per hour (96kph) on single carriageways, and 70 miles per hour (113kph) on motorways and dual carriageways.

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**How much does petrol (gas) cost?**
At the time of going to press, the approximate cost of an Imperial gallon of petrol was £1.74. A British gallon of petrol equals 1.2 North American gallons or 4.5 Litres. Petrol is graded by a star system: 2 star (90 octane), 3 star (94 octane) and 4 star (97 octane). Lead free petrol is available at an increasing number of service stations at approximately £1.80 per Imperial gallon.

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**Where can I get a taxi?**
You will find taxi ranks at railway stations and other convenient pick-up points; or in London, Edinburgh and other major cities they may be hailed in the street. ‘Taxi’ or ‘for hire’ sign is illuminated. The approximate fare from London (Heathrow) Airport to Piccadilly Circus is £19. See How much should I tip?

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**How much should I tip?**
The following is intended only as a guide to customary practice.

**Hotels:** Most hotel bills include a service charge, usually 10-12½ per cent, but in some larger hotels, 15 per cent. Where a service charge is not included, it is customary to give 10 to 15 per cent of the restaurant bill to the staff who have served you and an optional amount to room staff.

**Restaurants:** Some restaurant bills include a service charge, where a service charge is not included it is customary to leave a tip of 10 to 15 per cent of the bill. Porterage: 30-50p per suitcase.

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**Taxis:** 10 to 15 per cent of the fare.

**Hairdressers:** £2, plus about 50p to the assistant who washes your hair.

**Theatres/cinemas and petrol stations:** Tips are not expected.

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**When are the ‘pubs’ open?**
Pubs are generally open for the sale of alcoholic drinks between 11.00 and 16.00 (14.30 in Scotland) and between 17.30 (17.00 in Scotland) and 22.30 (23.00 in London and some other cities, and in Scotland). On Sundays the licensing hours are somewhat shorter. In Scotland and Northern Ireland you may find a number of pubs also open throughout the afternoon and later in the evening, especially in larger cities.

Children of 14 years and over may be admitted legally to a bar and may consume non-alcoholic drinks. Customers must be 18 or over to buy or consume alcoholic drinks in a bar. Where premises have a room set aside from the bar for the service of meals, children 16 and over may purchase certain alcoholic drinks for consumption with a meal. Drinks can be served continuously from lunch-time through evening service. Children of all ages are usually admitted to licensed restaurants; they are also admitted to ‘beer gardens’ which many pubs have.

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**What facilities are there for the disabled?**
Britain extends a warm welcome to the disabled visitor. Many cities and restaurants are happy to accommodate people with disabilities. Free information and advice on suitable accommodation and other facilities is available from the Holiday Care Service, 2 Old Bank Chambers, Station Road, Horley, Surrey RH6 9GW. Tel: Horley (0203) 774838.

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**What is the voltage?**
The standard voltage throughout the country is 240v, AC, 50HZ. An adaptor, or converter, is necessary on appliances in Britain.

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**When are the public holidays in 1988?**
1 January, New Year’s Day. 4 January, Bank Holiday Scotland. (As 2 January falls on a Saturday, the following Monday will be declared a holiday.) 17 March, St. Patrick’s Day (Northern Ireland). 1 April, Good Friday Holiday. 4 April, Easter Monday Bank Holiday (except Scotland). 2 May, May Day Bank Holiday. 12 July, Battle of the Boyne Holiday (Northern Ireland). 1 August, Bank Holiday Scotland). 28 August, Summer Bank Holiday. 25 December, Christmas Day. 26 December, Boxing Day Bank Holiday. An 25th falls on a Sunday, Tuesday 21 December will be a holiday.

Most banks, shops and a number of museums, historic houses and other places of interest are closed on Christmas and on other public holidays. Public transport services are reduced.
Any comments?

BTA welcomes your comments on any aspect of your stay in Britain, whether favourable or otherwise. We hope that you will not have cause to complain, but if you do, the best advice is to take up the complaint immediately with the management of the enterprise concerned, for example the hotel, shop or transport company. If you cannot obtain satisfaction in this way, please let us know and the BTA will investigate or suggest what action you might take.

Important note

Every effort has been made by the British Tourist Authority to ensure accuracy in this publication at the time of going to press. However, as changes often occur after press date, it is advisable to confirm the information given.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Further information may be obtained from:
Marketing Department (OA)
British Tourist Authority
Thames Tower, Black's Road
London W6 9EL

England

Tourist organisations in Britain

In addition to the following, most towns have a Tourist Information Centre—see the TIC map on pages 16-17.
- Personal callers only, + Written and telephone enquiries only.

London
- British Travel Centre
5 Regent Street
Piccadilly Circus, SW1Y 4PQ
Tel: 01-730 3400

Tourist Information Centre
Victoria Station Forecourt, SW1
Tel: 01-730 8488 (Information on London and England. Personal callers and telephone enquiries only).

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Tourist Board
11 Berkeley Street, W1X 6BU
Tel: 01-433 0601

Scottish Tourist Board
10 Cockspur Street, SW1Y 9BL
Tel: 01-699 2961

Wales Tourist Board
51 Piccadilly, W1, Tel: 01-409 0969

English Tourist Board
Thames Tower, Black's Road, London W6 9EL

Scotland

Scottish Tourist Board has a substantial network of local tourist boards, backed up by more than 140 Tourist Information Centres.

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Tourist Board
River House, 48 High Street, Belfast BT1 2DS
Tel: (0232) 231221

Scotland

The Scottish Tourist Board is a network of local tourist boards, backed up by more than 140 Tourist Information Centres.

Wales

Wales has 15 Regional Tourism Councils and a network of more than 50 information centres to help you.

Wales Tourist Board
PO Box 1, Cardiff CF1 2XN
Tel: (0222) 27281

Published by the British Tourist Authority, Thames Tower, Black's Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9EL, England, and printed in Great Britain by Cripplegate Printing Co. Ltd. (ISBN 0 7285 1205 0)

Below: Modern or the age of the Highlander?

What's the weather like?

Each month has its own climatic appeal, so let’s look at the four seasons in turn. Though snow is sometimes a feature of early spring (March, April, May), and rain showers are inevitable, temperatures are ideal for touring. Bring light woolens and a raincoat. Most summer days (June, July, August) are pleasantly warm—it’s shirt-sleeve weather, but bring a light cardigan or medium jacket for the cooler times of day, plus rainwear. Autumn (September, October, November) is one of the best seasons. The early mornings and evenings begin to get a little chillier, though September is often just like a summer month. Heavy woolens are not usually a daily requirement until late October. Winter (December, January, February) sees Britain’s shortest days and coldest weather, though as you can see from our chart, the country doesn’t suffer from severe winters. Many days are crisp, bright and exhilarating.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Climate</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average daily temperature °C</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average rainfall millimetres</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average daily sunshine-hours</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Meteorological Office

+ States of Guernsey Tourist Board
PO Box 21, St Peter Port, Guernsey.
Tel: Guernsey (0481) 25352

Horn Island Administrative Office
Horn Island, Via Guernsey.
Tel: Horn (0481) 25377

States of Jersey Tourist Committee
Weighbridge, St Helier, Jersey.
Tel: Jersey (0334) 78000

 Sark Tourist Information Office
Sark, Tel: Sark (0485) 883262

Isle of Man

Isle of Man Tourist Board
13 Victoria Street, Douglas, Isle of Man.
Tel: Douglas (0624) 74233

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Tourist Board
River House, 48 High Street, Belfast BT1 2DS
Tel: Belfast (0232) 231221

Scotland

The Scottish Tourist Board has a substantial network of local tourist boards, backed up by more than 140 Tourist Information Centres.

Scottish Tourist Board
23 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh EH4 3EU
Tel: 0131-322 2433

Wales

Wales has three Regional Tourism Councils and a network of more than 50 information centres to help you.

Wales Tourist Board
PO Box 1, Cardiff CF1 2XN
Tel: Cardiff (0222) 27281

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