

ENGLAND – DERBYSHIRE DALES IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

8-day / 7-night one-hotel GUIDED walking tour based at Dovedale in the heart of England



Wonderful and varied walking country is to be found in the very central Derbyshire Dales, in the Peak District National Park. Discover limestone caves, lush valleys and pastures and stone-built villages. The region is very rewarding for walkers, whether through Dove Dale, with its eye-opening rock formations, or along the ancient and modern trails, looking down across the Cheshire Plain and into Wales. Charming villages, pubs and tea-shops and former industrial relics add to the landscape, including textile mills, canals and tin or slate mines.

A typical day will offer a choice of up to three walks of varying length and ascent for walkers of different abilities each day. Terrain for all levels of walks is mostly good paths over a mixture of fields & moorland, often visiting attractive stone-built villages. In the evening you may like to chat with guides and your fellow guests, relax with a drink in the bar, or take part in an optional social activity.

Cost from: \$1855 per person twin share Single supplement on request

Departs: 21st, 28th February; 6th, 27th March; 3rd April; 1st, 15th May; 5th, 12th, 19th June;
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th July; 7th, 21st, 28th August; 4th, 25th September;
2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th October; 6th November, 2020

Includes: 7 nights in comfortable hotel room with ensuite bathrooms, full board (breakfast, picnic lunch & dinner), experienced walks leader, 5 guided walks, transport associated with the walks, evening social activities.

Not Included: Transport to/from Dovedale, drinks, personal expenses, transport/activities on your free day

Accommodation: The Peveril of the Peak is a fine country house, set in a peaceful location in the white peak village of Thorpe, less than a mile from the famous stepping stones at the entrance to Dove Dale gorge. Enjoy the wide-ranging views of the surrounding countryside from the attractive patio and garden. The house boasts a lounge, bar and large dining room, boot room and drying room, and free WiFi. Premium rooms may be available at extra cost – ask for details.



Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

A typical 'Classic Week' of walking – suggested itinerary:

Day 1: Arrival day – plan to arrive at your accommodation mid-afternoon.

Day 2 - 4: Full day walking options

Day 5: Free day without organised walks. Explore the area independently, or relax at the hotel. Visit the show caves in nearby Castleton, tour stately Chatsworth House, or hire a bicycle to ride the Tissington Trail.

Day 6 - 7: Full day walking options

Day 8: Departure day, the tour ends after breakfast.

Walk routes each day are determined by the walk leaders - some possible walking routes may include:

Chatsworth and the Edges – Visit Chatsworth Park to admire Capability Brown's landscape and Chatsworth House, home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. The more challenging walks head high up on the moors for an exhilarating walk along the gritstone edges, then join the easier route in the estate village of Edensor before finishing at Bakewell, home of Bakewell tarts.

The Derwent Valley and Cromford – Start in the village of Crich, home to the National Tramway Museum, and finish at Arkwright's Mill, the world's first water-powered cotton mill, which helped lay the foundations of the Industrial Revolution and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Manifold Valley and Ilam Park – Starting at the village of Wetton we walk above the Manifold Valley to Ilam Park and village. The medium and harder walks both ascend to Blore with its Norman church, taking in the views of the limestone plateau and Dove Dale, before descending to Ilam village, which has a grand hall and a number of alpine-style cottages. We walk through fields and along the valley back to the Peveril of the Peak.

Dovedale – Descend Lin Dale to the famous Stepping Stones, then follow the River Dove upstream past the stunning rock formations of Dovedale. Here we may ascend to Shining Tor or follow field tracks back to the house. Some routes visit the village of Tissington, famous for its well-dressings on Ascension Day.

Dales and Villages of the Upper River Dove – Visit charming Alstonefield and the market town of Hartington, home of Stilton blue cheese. Some walkers will continue via dales and field paths to return to the house.

Robin Hood's Stride – Walks take in the rock formation known as Robin Hood's Stride, a hermit's cave, and the Bronze Age stone circle the Nine Ladies.

The Plague Village of Eyam – Explore the village of Eyam, one of the best-preserved villages of Derbyshire, which went into self-imposed quarantine when bubonic plague was brought to the village in a bolt of cloth infested with plague-ridden fleas. Then walk to Stoney Middleton with its Roman Baths and octagonal toll house, up to Eyam Moor, or along the gritstone escarpment of Stanage Edge.

On alternate weeks different walks are offered for those who want a two-week holiday at Dovedale.

Footpath Information:



Easier Walks: Up to 7½ miles (12km) along well-graded paths. Fairly easy gradients. Up to 1200 feet (360m) of ascent in a day.



Medium Walks: Up to 11 miles (17.5km) on well-graded paths, sometimes rough underfoot. Fairly easy gradients, occasional steeper sections. Up to 1500 feet (450m) of ascent in a day.



Harder Walks: Up to 12½ miles (20.5km) along generally well-graded paths, some rough sections. Moderate gradients, some steeper sections. Up to 2150 feet (660m) of ascent in a day.

Outdoor Travel walking holidays, guided or self-guided are available in many parts of the UK, Ireland and Europe including Wainwright's challenging **Coast-to-Coast** trail, the Cotswolds, the rugged coast of Cornwall, Yorkshire Dales, the **West Highland Way** in Scotland, **Snowdonia** in Wales or the **Ring of Kerry** in Ireland. In France see the Dordogne, Alps, Provence or Riviera Coast, walks too in Austria, Spain or Italy. Walk the **Way of St James** from Le Puy in France to Santiago in Spain or the **Via Francigena** – the pilgrims' Road to Rome.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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