

ASHFORD PROBUS / 9th - 14th MAY 2027

THE LINCOLNSHIRE WOLDS

5-DAYS
£895

FEATURING LINCOLN CATHEDRAL, BELTON HOUSE, THE IBCC,
DODDINGTON HOUSE & GARDENS & BLETCHLEY PARK

STAYING AT THE PETWOOD HOTEL, ONCE THE OFFICERS MESS OF THE FAMOUS 617 DAMBUSTERS SQUADRON



We strongly believe that every county and corner in England makes a wonderful destination for a short break holiday, and Lincolnshire is certainly no exception.

For this holiday we have aimed to offer a variety of sightseeing highlights, while keeping the pace nice and relaxed. Star-billing on the holiday is shared between the following tour highlights.



Belton House, which is run by the National Trust and which you may recognise from the much loved 1995 BBC adaptation of *Pride & Prejudice* when it served as 'Rosings', the splendid home of Lady Catherine de Burgh.



Lincoln's Gothic Cathedral, for 237 years, from 1311 to 1548 the world's tallest building, taking over that accolade from the Great Pyramid of Giza. You also spend time in **Lincoln's picturesque Mediaval Quarter**.

The **Humber Bridge** and **Lincolnshire Wolds**, the former an engineering miracle, the latter a designated 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'. The city of **Hull** is also included in the programme, with a visit that is focussed on its reinvigorated and surprising **Museum Quarter**.



The **International Bomber Command Centre** that opened in 2018 as a memorial and interpretation centre that tells the story of Bomber Command using a combination of traditional and interactive displays.

Doddington Hall & Gardens is a Tudor 'prodigy' house was especially recommended to us, and your visit will tell you why.

Then finally, on the way home, the group visit **Bletchley Park** the base for our brilliant WW2 Code Breakers, and now one of the best museums in the UK.



THE PETWOOD HOTEL (WOODALL SPA)

The Petwood is a unique hotel by dint of its remarkable history (see below). Originally built as an extravagant private home, it served the nation in both World Wars, and subsequently became a country house style hotel that continues to welcome guests attracted by the peaceful setting, wonderful gardens and, more recently, its AA rosetted restaurant. As you would expect, all bedrooms offer a high level of comfort, and the hotel social spaces, especially the large terrace, make it an ideal choice for a group such as ours.



OUTLINE ITINERARY

Sun - After leaving Ashford the coach drives to the hotel via an extended break at the National Trust's Belton House.

Mon - The programme today is focused on a visit to Lincoln with time to visit the cathedral, castle and explore the mediaeval centre.

Tue - A day of contrast combines the Lincolnshire Wolds, the Humber Bridge and Hull's surprising Museum Quarter.

Wed - The programme is centred on visit to the International Bomber Command Centre and the new unveiled 'Wings of Freedom' sculpture.

Thu - The Tudor Doddington Hall and its splendid gardens are the star attractions today.

Fri - The group travel home via a visit to Bletchley Park the home of Britain's wartime codebreakers. The expected time back in Asford 17.00.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE PRICE

Luxury coach travel throughout
5-nights hotel accommodation
Full English Breakfasts each day
Three course dinners each evening
Full sightseeing programme
Visit to Belton House (NT)
Tour of the Lincolnshire Wolds
Visit to Lincoln

Visit to the International Bomber Command Centre
Ticket for Doddington Hall & Garden
Return journey via Bletchley Park

Optional supplements
Single Supplement - See booking form
Possible room upgrades - see booking form

The Petworth's Hotel's Remarkable History

Back in 1811 the businessman John Parkinson was intending to sink a coal mine on the site, but his plans were scuppered by a profusion of underground springs. Twenty years later the local Lord of the Manor realised the value of mineral rich spring water and subsequently developed a Spa Baths, quite the fashion in Victorian England. But fashions come and go, and in the early 20th century the site was acquired by a wealthy heiress, Baroness Grace van Eckhardstein, who instructed her architect, the renowned Frank Peck, to create an extravagant country residence for her newly divorced self. He chose a style that has since been referred to as 'Tudor / Jacobean' and, until the First World War, the house entertained many of the great and good of Edwardian society.

During the Great War the house became a convalescent home for soldiers, before being returned, much changed and scuffed around the edges to private ownership at the end of the conflict. The house was sold in 1933 and converted into a hotel, until the Second World War when it was requisitioned by the RAF and became the Officers Mess of the famous 671 Dambusters Squadron that operated from nearby RAF Scampton.

After the war it reverted to being a hotel and it continues to attract guests, many regularly, who come for the hotel's outdoor theatre, to attend the horse racing at nearby Market Rasen, play golf on the several good courses in the area and/or to simply relax and enjoy peace and quiet in the hotel's delightful setting, amidst the 30-acres wonderfully tended gardens designed by the world-renowned Harold Peto.