

Vacations Of A Lifetime

Discover “Hidden Britain”



Just waiting to be explored: Many of Britain’s most beautiful attractions lie off-the-beaten-track. Dovey Valley, Machynlleth, Wales.

(NAPS)—Step off the well-trodden tourist trail—and step into adventure: A visit to Britain can be an extraordinary experience and a vacation value for those who discover its many hidden treasures. In doing so, tourists can discover the three “Greats” of Great Britain: Great Countryside, Great Heritage and Great Cities.

Historic houses, beautiful gardens and legendary landscapes feature in 14 itineraries which cover the length and breadth of the country, from the Scottish Highlands to the southern tip of Cornwall. Called “Hidden Britain,” the routes throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are brought together in a lavish brochure and Web site from the British Tourist Authority. “Hidden Britain” can help you uncover some of the British Isles’ best-kept secrets and show you how to create an affordable, “exclusive” British vacation experience, filled with sights many tourists miss:

- In the East of England, travelers can take time to explore the coast and countryside of the “Real” England. In Cambridgeshire, explore the cathedral cities Peterborough and Ely and find the birthplace of Oliver Cromwell in Huntingdon. One can also cycle along the great dykes of the Fens and punt along the river in the university town of Cambridge.

- England’s North Country is a

region of stunning countryside and coastline, historic and fashionable cities, five national parks and its own magical island—The Kingdom of the Isle of Man.

- The Lake District in the heart of Cumbria is an area of outstanding natural beauty with 16 great lakes, from which rise huge mountains and craggy fells. It was here that Wordsworth, Keats and Beatrix Potter found inspiration.

- Scotland’s border country is peppered with dramatic castles and ruined abbeys, reminders of the region’s stormy history. Explore unspoiled market towns, lush seaside gardens and locations associated with Scotland’s national poet, Robert Burns, including his cottage birthplace in the Burns National Heritage Park.

- The beauty of North Wales and the border region with England known as “The Marches” is a contrast of spectacular mountains and coastlines with quaint black-and-white market towns. Noted castles include those of Caernarfon, Conwy and Powis. Steam-hauled “Great Little Trains” wind their way through appealing landscapes.

The 36-page “Hidden Britain” brochure is available free from the British Tourist Authority (BTA) office, by calling toll-free, 1-877-899-8391; sending an e-mail to travelinfo@bta.org.uk; or by visiting the BTA Web site, www.travelbritain.org/tourbritain, for additional information.