Shakespeare's ENGLAND

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON | ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA | KENILWORTH | WARWICK



# **TRAVEL TRADE**

www.shakespeares-england.co.uk



#### www.shakespeares-england.co.uk

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#### Only two hours from London and minutes from Birmingham Airport, Shakespeare's England offers you and your group the chance to experience quintessential England.

Home to world famous attractions including the **Royal Shakespeare Company, Warwick Castle** and **Shakespeare's Birthplace** this is where history and heritage comes to life. This idyllic destination encompasses parts of the Cotswolds and some of England's most famous towns, such as Stratford-upon-Avon and Warwick.

Shakespeare's England is also home to some of the best hotels England has to offer, including **The Arden Hotel** which overlooks the River Avon with a chic Waterside Brasserie and stylish Champagne Bar. There is also the **Wroxall Abbey Hotel and Estate**, nestled in 27 acres of open parkland it is situated in a unique setting amidst the peace and tranquillity of the Warwickshire countryside. In nearby Royal Learnington Spa is **Mallory Court Hotel** which is surrounded by landscaped gardens and provides all of the top class amenities your travellers expect.

For those groups who are looking to take a little more time to relax and enjoy the beauty of the River Avon, you can take a trip with **Avon Boating** with departures in the heart of Stratford-upon-Avon.

With so much to see and do, Shakespeare's England is an enchanting destination perfectly placed to meet the needs of group travellers.

To find out more information on our group travel offer and the attractions and hotels in our area please visit www.shakespeares-england.co.uk

#### Royal Shakespeare Company

One of the world's best known theatre ensembles, the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) perform the work of Shakespeare, his contemporaries and new writing throughout the year in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The RSC campus was recently redeveloped and the newly-transformed building houses two thrust stage auditoria: the 1000 seat Royal Shakespeare Theatre and the 450 seat Swan Theatre. With a viewing Tower, regular guided theatre tours, free exhibitions and freshly prepared classic British food in the Rooftop Restaurant and Bar there are many ways to experience the RSC. The RSC has a vast archive of costumes, art and props, many of which are used in public exhibitions.





www.rsc.org.uk

@ welcome@rsc.org.uk

🔄 0844 800 1110

#### Shakespeare's Family Homes

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust has a long and famous tradition of welcoming groups to the five Shakespeare houses and gardens in Stratford-upon-Avon, each place with its own fascinating stories to tell.

Special options for groups include discounts on admission prices and guide books and exclusive talks, tours and after-hours events.

Whether you are organising visits for tour parties, special interest groups or students, get in touch for some truly inspirational ideas for a dramatic day out!

www.shakespeare.org.uk
groups@shakespeare.org.uk
01789 201806







#### Warwick Castle

Join us for a celebration of 1,100 years of Britain's Ultimate Castle, where you'll be surrounded by jaw-dropping history, magic, myth and adventure come rain or shine.

Our Anniversary year will see more action, drama and the finest entertainment as we take you on a journey to discover ancient myths and spell-binding tales that will set your imagination alight! Experience the heat of battle at such close quarters you'll almost smell the fear, as winners become true heroes and losers are confined to dark, dank dungeons to be forgotten for eternity.

We offer groups up to 40% off tickets and packages.

www.warwick-castle.com
 trade@warwick-castle.com
 0871 222 6688





#### Wroxall Abbey Hotel & Estate

Once the seat of Sir Christopher Wren and nestled in 27 acres of parkland, Wroxall occupies a unique setting in a county steeped in history. Close to Warwick and Kenilworth Castles and Shakespeare's Stratford, Wroxall is the ideal base for visitors to explore the area.

The Grade II listed Mansion and Wroxall Court offer 72 bedrooms abundant with period features.

Guests can relax in the Broadwood Bar and experience the culinary delights of Sonnets Restaurant and the Spa with pool, Steam, Sauna, Jacuzzi and treatment rooms make the hotel a comfortable place to unwind.

www.wroxall.com
 reservation@wroxall.com
 01926 484470

#### Avon Boating

Avon Boating is Stratford-upon-Avon's oldest boating company offering the finest cruises on Shakespeare's Avon. Regular public departures adjacent to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre: on our fleet of classic Edwardian passenger vessels. New for 2014 – an all-weather 56 seat vessel, 'Titania' for private charter including live commentary from knowledgeable staff.



Group discounts off our standard rates. Rowing boat, punt and canoe hire for individuals and groups from our traditional Boathouse. Activities and functions can be arranged at our town centre riverside setting.

www.avon-boating.co.uk
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#### The Arden Hotel

🔄 01789 267073

Located in the heart of historic Stratford-upon-Avon, directly opposite the world-renowned Royal Shakespeare Company Theatres, the Arden Hotel has undergone a multi-million pound refurbishment to create an elegant and sophisticated 45-bedroom luxury hotel.

The beautifully renovated Arden boasts the chic Waterside Brasserie, stylish Champagne Bar and spacious suites with fabulous views over the River Avon, providing an inspirational backdrop for your trip. The luxury hotel, with its large car park, is an ideal base for exploring some of England's most famous and picturesque countryside.

www.theardenhotelstratford.comEnquiries@theardenhotelstratford.com01789 298682

# THE ARDEN HOTEL

BAR • BRASSERIE • TERRACE







#### Mallory Court Hotel

Located on the outskirts of historic Royal Leamington Spa and Warwick in the heart of the Warwickshire countryside, Mallory Court is one of the Midland's finest luxury hotels, conference and wedding venues. This magnificent 31 bedroom manor house, set in 10 acres of grounds, is the epitome of a quintessential English country house hotel. A visit to Mallory Court is hard to forget. One of the top 200 hotels in the country, and a long standing member of the revered Relais and Châteaux group, Mallory charm's guests with handsome bedrooms, breathtaking grounds, unobtrusive service and simply exquisite food.

- www.mallory.co.uk
- reception@mallory.co.uk
- 💿 01926 330214



#### THE KINGS HOTEL



#### Kings Hotel

The Kings Hotel is a charming 18th century town house boasting distinctive and stylish accommodation. Sympathetic and careful renovation means guests can enjoy all the modern day comforts they need yet still soak up the character and history of a Cotswold stone building.

Nestled in the heart of picturesque Chipping Campden, it is the perfect location to experience the beauty of the Cotswolds. The Kings combines traditional character with contemporary style to create a relaxed and welcoming home away from home for every guest.

- www.kingscampden.co.uk info@kingscampden.co.uk
- 🔄 01386 840256

#### Kenilworth Castle & Elizabethan Gardens

A vast medieval fortress which became an Elizabethan palace, Kenilworth Castle is one of Britain's largest and most impressive historic sites. The castle is rich in associations with medieval monarchs, King Henry VIII, and most famously the royal love story of Queen Elizabeth I and her favourite Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.

Follow in the footsteps of the Queen in the Elizabethan garden, and immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of live-action historical events.

Groups of 11 or more receive a 15% discount at Kenilworth Castle and all English Heritage properties.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/kenilworth
 traveltrade@english-heritage.org.uk
 020 7973 3529





#### **Stoneleigh Abbey**

Step back into a time of country gentility. Join us for a landmark year at Stoneleigh Abbey as we launch the Repton Walk. Enjoy an idyllic stroll onto the Grove to take in Humphry Repton's stunning view.

Commemorate the Centenary of the First World War with our mini exhibition entitled 'Anxious to do Something - the Leigh family of Stoneleigh Abbey and their contribution to the War Effort'. Celebrate the bicentenary of the publication of Mansfield Park by enjoying a Jane Austen tour. Enjoy a cream tea in the Orangery tea room with beautiful views of the River Avon or view the beautiful Georgian State rooms on a guided tour.

www.stoneleighabbey.org enquire@stoneleighabbey.org 01926 858535









#### Hill Close Gardens, Warwick

The sixteen restored Victorian gardens overlooking the racecourse at Warwick have delightful brick summerhouses, a wide variety of spring bulbs, colourful herbaceous borders and unusual fruit trees. The gardens were created by Victorian tradesmen looking for an escape from the cramped, noisy living conditions in the town centre. Large glasshouse for tender plants and modern visitor centre with plants and produce, gift shop and light refreshments available.

Reduced rate of admission of £2.50 offered to groups of over 30 people.

- www.hillclosegardens.com
- @ centremanager@hcgt.org.uk
- 💽 01926 493339





#### Mill Dene Garden

Fifty shades of...green and much more: Mill Dene Garden is a beautiful RHS Partner garden and offers cream teas by the millpond, plant sales and an unusual garden created over the years by the owner. In the two and a half-acre garden there's a stream with a grotto, a cricket lawn with tiny pavilion plus herb garden with the Church as a backdrop.

A perfect day out for groups!

- www.milldenegarden.co.uk
- Info@milldenegarden.co.uk
- 01386 700457

#### El Greco, Stratford-upon-Avon

Award winning restaurant just yards from Shakespeare's Birthplace. Famous for its fabulous food and friendly staff, including its Bards Banquet - a 22 dish themed Mezzes.

Prix Fixe Menus £12.50 - £18.50 Mezzes £22.95 - £24.95

Specialists in group/tour/party bookings (up to 100). Private dining, meetings and small conferences, pre & post theatre, entertainment, coach drop off, disabled facilities on (ground floor) all available.

Open 10am-10pm (later on request), 7 days a week.

www.el-greco.co.uk
 info@el-greco.co.uk
 01789 290505







For information on other attractions and accommodation in our area visit www.shakespeares-england.co.uk



#### Suggested itineraries

### From historic houses and stately homes, to magnificent castles, churches and unique museums and beautiful gardens, groups will not be short of things to see in Shakespeare's England.

# Heritage

For heritage enthusiasts the beautiful **Ragley Hall** is one of Warwickshire's most stunning and magnificent stately homes and the **Heritage Motor Centre** is home to the world's largest collection of historic British cars. Alternatively why not make a trip to see a hidden jewel in Warwick's crown at the **Lord Leycester Hospital**.

## Countryside

Shakespeare's England is the perfect place to enjoy England's beautiful countryside at its rural best. With beautiful countryside weaved together by rivers and canals, villages and hamlets bursting with character alongside historic houses and glorious gardens and woodlands.

# Gardens

Prepare to be impressed with the spectacular array of gardens in Shakespeare's England. From the award winning **Batsford Arboretum and Garden Centre** to the unique history of the gardens at **Anne Hathaway's Cottage**, there is something for gardeners and garden enthusiasts everywhere to enjoy.

# Culture

Why not combine culture with countryside and visit Warwickshire's award winning art gallery **Compton Verney**. This fantastic art gallery offers an exciting international programme of exhibitions and events, alongside a diverse collection of art from around the world, set in stunning parkland.

For more itinerary ideas and suggestions of places to stay visit www.shakespeares-england.co.uk/travel-trade

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#### How we can help you

Shakespeare's England is located right in the heart of England, making it easily accessible for many other destinations around the UK. With so much to see and experience our travel trade team will work with you to discover the most fascinating and rewarding destinations and attractions for you and your groups.

#### Services we provide include:-

- A first point of call for help and advice on visiting Shakespeare's England
- A hotel, venue and attractions information service
- Itinerary ideas and suggestions or unique group tours
- Advice on ground handler contacts and guides
- Helping you to find that unique experience for your touring groups

#### Contact us

For more information on how you can include Shakespeare's England on your next group itinerary please contact Robin Tjolle

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- robin@shakespeares-england.co.uk
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  - www.twitter.com/Shakespeareseng