





#### TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / England

# **Cotswolds Bike Tour**

English Cottage Country: Rural Roads and Verdant Views to Oxford

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the English countryside by bicycle, discovering quirky market towns, rivers framed in gorgeous greenery, and honey-colored cottages
- Take a step back in time at pristine parklands and relive royal history at Sudeley Castle
- Sip a pint in a classic English pub and taste English-made wines at Woodchester Valley estate and vineyards
- Enjoy a fine dining experience that celebrates British farms and artisan producers at a modern inn and restaurant









#### ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

#### **Arrival Details**

- Airport City:
  London, England
- Pick-Up Location: Bath Spa Train Station
- © Pick-Up Time:

### **Departure Details**

- Airport City: London, England
- Drop-Off Location: Oxford Train Station
- © **Drop-Off Time**: 4:00 pm

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

#### **Emergency Assistance**

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.

#### **Travelers Take Note**

Starting January 8, 2025 U.S. citizens will need an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) to enter the United Kingdom. You can apply for the ETA at www.gov.uk





## Tour By Day



## **Bath to the Cotswolds**

Meet your guides in the UNESCO World Heritage town of Bath, named for the healing and thermal waters that have been enjoyed since the times of the Roman Empire. Our journey begins with a brief transfer to the 800-square-mile area in the South of England that comprises the Cotswolds: spanning from Gloucestershire to Oxfordshire counties, the Cotswolds were designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in 1966. It's easy to see why, with peaceful stands of beech trees and limestone bedrock forming a grassland habitat unlike elsewhere in the UK. After a welcome lunch, kick things off with a short ride through the charming little villages of Easton Grey and Leighterton. Then, check in at our home for the next two nights—a traditional country house and spa in Gloucestershire. Settle in by the fireplace before a cozy dinner at the hotel's brasserie.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Bath, Easton Grey

Accomplished: 25 miles / 40 km, elevation gain: 1,167 feet / 355 meters

**Accommodations: Calcot & Spa** 



## Cottage Countryside Loop

Today's countryside loop follows quiet roads completely surrounded by the green expanse that's so unique to the Cotswolds. Our first stop is Brimscombe where we'll pause for coffee at a lovely café right on the banks of the River Frome. Then, ride north, covering miles of rolling countryside and passing the impressive Miserden Estate. Arrive in the peaceful village of Frampton Mansell for lunch at a farm shop where everything is scratch-made onsite. Our final stop is Tetbury, a hilly market town where we'll browse the Highgrove shop, which retails sweet souvenirs and favorite products of His Majesty King Charles III. Pedal the rest of the way back to our hotel and freshen up before we transfer to the Woodchester Valley Vineyard. Taste a few well-earned glasses after a private tour at this boutique winery, which grows a selection of English varietals in a picturesque limestone valley.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner **Destinations**: Tetbury, Miserden, Bisley

Accomplished: 35 miles/56 km; elevation gain: 2,196 feet / 669 meters

**Accommodations: Calcot & Spa** 

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The most iconic trait of the Cotswolds is its beautiful villages and towns built of pale-yellow Cotswold limestone—and today we plan to see as many as we can! Begin in the market town of Cirencester, and at lunchtime we'll picnic in another quintessential Cotswold village outside Bibury. Afterward, ride to Bourton-on-the-Water, often called the Venice of the Cotswolds for the lovely footbridges that span the gentle River Windrush. There will be time to meander this pretty town and pop into a traditional pub to sample some of the local lagers. Continue pedaling to The Slaughters, the heart-achingly picturesque twin villages of Upper and Lower Slaughter. Here, golden stone cottages are reflected in the meandering River Coln and bathed in beautiful light, treating us to some truly idyllic afternoon scenery. Tonight, join your guides for dinner at one of their favorite restaurants.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Stow-on-the-Wold, Bourton-on-the-Water, Upper and Lower Slaughter

**Accomplished**: 42 miles / 67 km, elevation gain: 1,920 feet / 585 meters

**Accommodations: Lords of the Manor Hotel** 



## **English History Ride**

Begin riding right from our hotel through an undulating landscape towards stately Sudeley Castle, just outside the lovely village of Winchcombe. Take a deep dive into the dramatic 1,000-year history of this estate, once home to Queen Katherine Parr—the last (and surviving) wife of King Henry VIII who lies in rest on castle grounds. Our route completes itself at the attractive village of Broadway—so picture-perfect that it's widely known as the "Jewel of the Cotswolds." Enjoy lunch here and take the afternoon to explore this adorable town off the bike, perhaps sampling a locally distilled Cotswold gin or whisky before a short transfer returns us to our charming hotel. Tonight, we're treated to the tasting menu at our hotel's own Atrium restaurant, perhaps the most sophisticated example of fine dining in the Cotswolds.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner **Destinations**: Winchcombe, Broadway

Accomplished: 20 miles / 32 km, elevation gain: 1,220 feet / 372 meters

Accommodations: Lords of the Manor Hotel

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# **Burford and The Windrush Valley**

Our last day also happens to be one of the most memorable: set out towards Burford and cycle past breezy fields, herds of cows, and grazing sheep as we once again follow the River Windrush. Heading north, we ride through Wychwood Forest before meandering beside the River Evenlode. Savor the tranquility of rural England and lean into your riding rhythm before we hit a final stretch through the countryside and villages. The final miles of today's loop ride bring us through picturesque Stow-in-the-Wold before returning to Burford for a quintessential English tradition: afternoon tea! Finish the day with a feast for the eyes—and our stomachs—set amidst a sprawling English lawn and manicured gardens. After lunch, it's time to say goodbye to the Cotswolds with a transfer to Oxford.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch **Destinations**: Burford, Oxford

Accomplished: 27 miles / 44 km, elevation gain: 1,700 feet / 518 meters

