Contents

Boscastle ................. 335
Tintagel .................. 335
Padstow & Rock ......... 337
Newquay ................. 339
St Ives ................... 342
Penzance ................. 348
The Lizard ............... 350
Truro ..................... 354
Bodmin Moor ............ 358
Isles of Scilly .......... 359

CAMBRIDGE & EAST ANGLIA .... 363
Cambridgeshire ........... 366
Cambridge ................. 367
Ely ........................ 379
Essex ...................... 381
Colchester ................. 381
Southend-on-Sea & Around .... 384
 Suffolkl ................. 385
Long Melford .............. 385
Lavenham .................. 386
Bury St Edmunds ......... 387
Southwold ................. 393
Norfolk .................... 394
Norwich ................... 394
King’s Lynn & Around .. 403

BIRMINGHAM, THE MIDLANDS & THE MARCHES .... 405
Birmingham ............... 408
Warwickshire ............. 418
Coventry .................. 418
Warwick ................... 419
Kenilworth ............... 421
Stratford-upon-Avon .... 422
Rugby ...................... 427
Staffordshire ............. 428
Worcestershire ........... 430
Worcester ................ 430
Great Malvern .......... 432
Hereford .................. 434
Ledbury ................... 436
Shropshire ............... 437
Shrewsbury ............... 437
Ironbridge Gorge ....... 440
Ludlow .................... 448
Nottinghamshire ........ 452
Nottingham & Around ... 452
Lincolnshire ............. 459
Lincoln .................... 459
Stamford .................. 464
Boston .................... 465
Northamptonshire ....... 466
Leicestershire ........... 467
Leicester .................. 467
Rutland .................... 472
Derbyshire ............... 473
Derby ...................... 473
Matlock Bath ............. 476
Chesterfield & Around .. 478
Peak District ............. 479
Buxton ..................... 481
Bakewell & Around ..... 488

YORKSHIRE .............. 491
North Yorkshire .......... 495
York ....................... 496
Harrogate ................ 507
Scarborough .............. 510
North York Moors National Park .... 514
Pickering ................ 517
Whitby .................... 518
Robin Hood’s Bay ....... 522
Yorkshire Dales National Park .... 522
Skipton .................... 522
Grassington ............... 524
Richmond ................ 528
West Yorkshire ......... 530
Leeds ..................... 530
Bradford .................. 535
Hebden Bridge ........... 536
Haworth .................. 538
South Yorkshire ........ 539
Sheffield .................. 539
East Riding of Yorkshire .... 541
Hull ....................... 541

MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL & NORTHWEST ENGLAND .... 545
Manchester .............. 548
Chester .................... 559
Liverpool ................ 563
Lancashire ............... 572
Blackpool ................ 572
Lancaster ................ 573
Isle of Man ................ 576

THE LAKE DISTRICT & CUMBRIA .... 580
The Lake District ......... 584
Windermere & Around .. 584
Ambleside ................ 590
Grasmere ................. 593
Hawkshead ............... 595
Coniston .................. 597
Cockermouth .......... 603
Keswick .................. 604
Ullswater & Around .... 608
Kendal .................... 611
Cumbrian Coast ......... 612
Carlisle ................... 614
Penrith .................... 616
NEWCASTLE & NORTHEAST ENGLAND .......... 617
Newcastle-upon-Tyne .......... 621
Durham .......... 630
Barnard Castle .......... 632
Hadrian’s Wall .......... 633
Northumberland National Park .......... 640
Northumberland Coast .......... 642

WALES .......... 649
CARDIFF, PEMBROKESHIRE & SOUTH WALES .......... 651
Cardiff .......... 653
Monmouthshire .......... 665
Chepstow (Cas-gwent) .......... 665
Lower Wye Valley .......... 665
Abergavenny .......... 666
South Wales Valleys .......... 668
Caerphilly (Caerffili) .......... 669
Swansea (Abertawe) .......... 670
The Mumbles (Y Mwmbwls) .......... 674
Gower Peninsula (Y Gŵyr) .......... 675
Carmarthenshire .......... 678
Pembrokeshire .......... 679
Tenby (Dinbych Y Pysgod) .......... 681
Pembroke (Penfro) .......... 684
St Davids (Tyddewi) .......... 686
Newport (Trefdraeth) .......... 694

BRECON BEACONS & MID-WALES .......... 696
Brecon Beacons National Park .......... 698
Hay-on-Wye (Y Gelli Gandyll) .......... 698
Black Mountains (Y Mynyddoedd Duon) .......... 701
Brecon (Aberhonddu) .......... 703
Powys .......... 707
Llanwrtyd Wells (Llanwrtyd) .......... 707
Elan Valley .......... 710
Welshpool (Y Trallwng) .......... 712
Ceredigion .......... 715
Aberystwyth .......... 715
Cardigan (Aberteifi) .......... 719

SNOWDONIA & NORTH WALES .......... 722
North Wales Borderlands .......... 724
Ruthin .......... 724
Llangollen .......... 725
Snowdonia National Park .......... 728
Cader Idris (Cadair Idris) .......... 728
Harlech .......... 734
Blaenau Ffestiniog .......... 735
Betws-y-Coed .......... 735
Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) .......... 739
Llŷn Peninsula .......... 743
Porthmadog .......... 743
The North Coast .......... 746
Caernarfon .......... 746
Bangor .......... 748
Conwy .......... 750
Llandudno .......... 752
Isle of Anglesey .......... 755
Beaumaris (Biwmares) .......... 756
Holyhead (Caergybi) .......... 757

SCOTLAND .......... 759
EDINBURGH .......... 761
GLASGOW & SOUTHERN SCOTLAND .......... 797
Glasgow .......... 800
Lanark & New Lanark .......... 820
Borders Region .......... 821
Peebles .......... 821
Melrose .......... 822
Jedburgh .......... 823
Kelso .......... 824
Ayrshire .......... 826
Ayr .......... 826
Alloway .......... 826
Dumfries & Galloway .......... 828
Dumfries .......... 828
Kirkcudbright .......... 829
Galloway Forest Park .......... 830
The Machars .......... 831
Stranraer .......... 832

STIRLING & CENTRAL SCOTLAND .......... 833
Stirling Region .......... 836
Stirling .......... 836
Fife .......... 842
St Andrews .......... 842
East Neuk .......... 847
Falkland .......... 850
Dunfermline .......... 851
Dundee & Angus .......... 851
Dundee .......... 852
Abroath .......... 855
Aberdeenshire .......... 855
Aberdeen .......... 856
Best of Britain

This circular whistle-stop tour ticks off Britain’s greatest hits in an action-packed fortnight.

Start with a full day in Britain’s greatest city, London, simply walking the streets to admire the world-famous sights: Buckingham Palace, Tower Bridge, Trafalgar Sq and more. Then head southwest to the grand cathedral cities of Winchester and Salisbury, across to the iconic menhirs of Stonehenge and its less well-known counterpart Avebury Stone Circle, then onwards to the beautiful historic city of Bath.

Loop over to Chepstow for its impressive castle, and then continue to Cardiff, the Welsh capital. Retrace slightly, then cruise across the classic English countryside of the Cotswolds to reach the renowned university city of Oxford. Not far away is Stratford-upon-Avon, for everything Shakespeare.

Strike out on the long drive north to Scotland’s capital, Edinburgh, for another great castle, before recrossing the border to York for its glorious cathedral and historic city walls. Keep going south to reach Cambridge, another landmark university city. Then enjoy the last few days back in London, immersed in galleries, museums, luxury shops, street markets, West End shows, East End cafes – or whatever takes your fancy.
This is a trip for those with the time, or the urge to see everything.

After a day or two in London, head southeast to Canterbury, then along the coast to hip and happening Brighton. For a change of pace, divert to the New Forest, then up to historic Winchester and Salisbury with their awe-inspiring cathedrals. Next, religion of a different kind: the ancient stone circles at Stonehenge and Avebury.

Go west to Bath, with its grand Georgian architecture, Roman remains and famous spas, and then over the border to reach Wales. Stop off at the energetic little city of Cardiff, then head north through to the whaleback hills of the Brecon Beacons to reach the quirky book-mad town of Hay-on-Wye.

Then it’s back to England, and east into the Cotswolds, with its rolling hills, quintessential rural scenery and chocolate-box towns like Chipping Norton. Not far away is the famous university town of Oxford, as well as the ancient town of Warwick, with its spectacular castle, and Shakespeare’s birthplace Stratford-upon-Avon.

Continue north to Chester, for its famous city walls, diverting into North Wales for the grand castles at Conwy and Caernarfon, and the stunning mountains of Snowdonia.

Then ferry across the Mersey to Liverpool, with its famous musical heritage and revitalised waterfront, or to Manchester for a taste of big-city life, followed by a total change of scenery in the Lake District mountains. To the north is the sturdy border town of Carlisle, and one of Britain’s most impressive Roman remains, Hadrian’s Wall.

Hop across the border to Scotland, via the tranquil Southern Uplands, to reach good-time Glasgow. Then trek to Fort William (and maybe up Ben Nevis, Britain’s highest mountain), from where it’s easy to reach the beautiful Isle of Skye.

Then it’s time to head south again, via Stirling Castle to Edinburgh, and on through the historic abbey towns of Melrose and Jedburgh.

Back in England, you can marvel at the castle and cathedral of Durham and the ancient Viking capital of York, before taking in the ancient university city of Cambridge and enjoying the last few days of your trip in London.
This route travels through some of Britain’s less well-known and revitalised cities. Kick off in Bristol, a city with fierce pride and a rich historic legacy, then cross over to Cardiff, once a provincial backwater but now the lively Welsh capital. Next stop is Birmingham, oozing transformation, with a renovated waterside, energised museums and a space-age shopping centre. Onwards to Leeds, where rundown factories and warehouses have been turned into loft apartments, ritzy boutiques and stylish department stores.

Shopping not your thing? No problem. Head for Newcastle-upon-Tyne and twin-city Gateshead; both have given up on heavy industries in favour of art and architecture – and are famous for partying.

Still want more? It’s got to be Glasgow, Scotland’s other great city, boasting fabulous galleries and welcoming pubs. Then it’s south to Liverpool, which has reinvented itself as a cultural hot spot, with a famous musical heritage and very lively current scene. Finish your tour in Manchester, a long-time stage for artistic endeavour, with dramatic new architecture and a rather well-known football club.
Top: St Clement’s Church (p938), Harris
Bottom: Kelvingrove Art Gallery (p805), Glasgow
If you like the outdoors, and prefer flocks of birds to crowds of people, try this backwater route along England’s eastern fringe.

Start in Colchester, then head out into the sleepy county of Suffolk, where quaint villages and market towns such as Sudbury and Lavenham dot the landscape, while along the coast are wildlife reserves, shingly beaches, fishing ports such as Aldeburgh, and the delightfully retro seaside resort of Southwold.

Things get even quieter in Norfolk, especially around the misty lakes and windmill-lined rivers of the Broads. For beach strolls or historic country pubs, head for the coastal villages near Wells-next-the-Sea. Across the border in Lincolnshire lies the eerie, pan-flat landscape of the Fens, now a haven for otters and birdlife.

Continue into the heather-clad North York Moors, where humpbacked hills roll all the way to the coast to drop dramatically into the North Sea, and spend some time in the atmospheric seaside town of Whitby.

Enjoy a blustery stroll on the wild coast of Northumberland near the castles of Dunstanburgh and Bamborough, then end your tour at the holy island of Lindisfarne.

This itinerary is a tour of Scotland’s finest and most famous sights.

Naturally it starts in Edinburgh, where highlights include the renowned castle, as well as the Royal Mile, the new parliament and the haunts of the Old Town. For a change of pace, hop over to Glasgow for a day or two as well. Then head northeast to see Scotland’s other great castle at Stirling.

Next stop is Callander, a good base for exploring the hills and lochs of the Trossachs.

Continue north and the landscape becomes ever more impressive, culminating in the grandeur of Glen Coe. Keen hillwalkers will pause for a day at Fort William to trek to the top of Ben Nevis (plus another day to recover!) before taking the ‘Road to the Isles’ past glorious Glenfinnan to the fishing harbour of Mallaig.

Take the ferry to the Isle of Skye, then head back to the mainland via the Skye Bridge to reach pretty Plockton and magnificent Glen Torridon. Onwards, via the outpost of Ullapool, takes you into the British mainland’s furthest reaches, the remote mountain landscape of Scotland’s far north-west, before looping south to finish your tour at the Highland capital, Inverness.

If you like the outdoors, and prefer flocks of birds to crowds of people, try this backwater route along England’s eastern fringe.

Start in Colchester, then head out into the sleepy county of Suffolk, where quaint villages and market towns such as Sudbury and Lavenham dot the landscape, while along the coast are wildlife reserves, shingly beaches, fishing ports such as Aldeburgh, and the delightfully retro seaside resort of Southwold.

Things get even quieter in Norfolk, especially around the misty lakes and windmill-lined rivers of the Broads. For beach strolls or historic country pubs, head for the coastal villages near Wells-next-the-Sea. Across the border in Lincolnshire lies the eerie, pan-flat landscape of the Fens, now a haven for otters and birdlife.

Continue into the heather-clad North York Moors, where humpbacked hills roll all the way to the coast to drop dramatically into the North Sea, and spend some time in the atmospheric seaside town of Whitby.

Enjoy a blustery stroll on the wild coast of Northumberland near the castles of Dunstanburgh and Bamborough, then end your tour at the holy island of Lindisfarne.
The southwest of England takes a bit of effort to reach but repays in full with a rich green landscape dotted with hills and moors, surrounded by glistening seas. Start in Bristol, the capital of the West Country, then saunter south to reach Glastonbury – famous for its annual music festival and the best place to stock up on candles or crystals at any time of year.

West leads to the walking trails of heathery Exmoor, then it’s south to Dorset, where highlights include picturesque Shaftesbury and the fossil-strewn Jurassic Coast.

Onwards into Devon, and there’s a choice of coasts, as well as Dartmoor, the highest and wildest hills in southern Britain.

Cross into Cornwall to explore the space-age biodomes of the Eden Project. Nearby, but in another era entirely, is Tintagel Castle, the legendary birthplace of King Arthur. Depending on your tastes, you can hang-ten in surf-flavoured party-town Newquay, or browse the galleries at artistic St Ives.

The natural finish to this wild west tour is Land’s End, where the British mainland comes to a final full stop.

---

Welsh Wander

The coast and countryside of Wales has long been a favourite with visitors, and this tour includes most of the hot spots. Continue along England’s southwest coast for a longer jaunt along Britain’s Celtic fringe.

Start in Cardiff, with its fantastical castle, gigantic rugby stadium, revitalised waterfront and stunning Millennium Centre. Head west via the beautiful Gower Peninsula to reach the clear waters and sandy beaches of Pembrokeshire. Don’t miss the ancient cathedral at St Davids – Britain’s smallest city. Continue up the coast to Aberystwyth, then through ‘alternative’ Machynlleth to reach Harlech and its ancient castle. Divert to the tranquil Isle of Anglesey and historic Beaumaris Castle, then strike through the mountains of Snowdonia to reach Conwy (another stunning castle) and the seaside resort of Llandudno.

South takes you through Llangollen, with its jolly steam trains and vertiginous aqueduct, then along the England–Wales borderlands to book-mad Hay-on-Wye. Loop inland to the Welsh foodie capital of Abergavenny, then saunter down the Wye Valley to finish at the frontier town of Chepstow – and yet another amazing castle.

---

1 WEEK Welsh Wander

2 WEEKS Southwest Meander
Map Legend

**Sights**
- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

**Activities, Courses & Tours**
- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

**Sleeping**
- Sleeping
- Camping

**Eating**
- Eating

**Drinking & Nightlife**
- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

**Entertainment**
- Entertainment

**Shopping**
- Shopping

**Information**
- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

**Geographic**
- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

**Population**
- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

**Transport**
- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Ferry
- Metro station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- S-Bahn/Subway station
- Taxi
- T-bane/Tunnelbana station
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Tube station
- U-Bahn/Underground station
- Other Transport

**Routes**
- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

**Boundaries**
- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

**Hydrography**
- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

**Areas**
- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

*Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book*
Belinda Dixon
Cambridge & East Anglia, Bath & Southwest England Only happy when her feet are suitably sandy, Belinda has been (gleefully) travelling, researching and writing for Lonely Planet since 2006. See her VideoBlog posts at https://belindadixon.com

Peter Dragicevich
Cardiff, Pembrokeshire & South Wales; Brecon Beacons & Mid-Wales; Snowdonia & North Wales After a successful career in niche newspaper and magazine publishing, both in his native New Zealand and in Australia, Peter finally gave in to Kiwi wanderlust, giving up staff jobs to chase his diverse roots around much of Europe. During the past decade he’s written literally dozens of guidebooks for Lonely Planet on an oddly disparate collection of countries, all of which he’s come to love. He once again calls Auckland, New Zealand his home – although his current nomadic existence means he’s hardly ever there.

Damian Harper
London Damian has been working largely full time as a travel writer (and translator) since 1997 and has also written for National Geographic Traveler, Dorling Kindersley (Where To Go When: Great Britain & Ireland; The Road Less Travelled), Fodor’s (London), The Guardian, The Daily Telegraph, Abbeville Press (Celestial Realm: The Yellow Mountains of China), Lexean, Frequent Traveller, China Ethos and various other magazines and newspapers.

Catherine Le Nevez
Birmingham, the Midlands & the Marches; Newcastle & Northeast England Catherine’s wanderlust kicked in when she roadtripped across Europe from her Parisian base aged four, and she’s been hitting the road at every opportunity since, travelling to around 60 countries. She recommends travelling without any expectations.

Hugh McNaughtan
Brecon Beacons & Mid-Wales; Snowdonia & North Wales A former English lecturer, Hugh swapped grant applications for visa applications, and turned his love of travel intro a full-time thing. A long-time castle tragic with an abiding love of Britain’s Celtic extremities, he jumped at the chance to explore Wales, from the Cambrian Mountains to the tip of Anglesey. He’s never happier than when on the road with his two daughters. Except perhaps on the cricket field....

Isabella Noble
Oxford, Cotswolds & Around Isabella’s travels have taken her across India, Southeast Asia, Australia, North America and Europe. She has lived in southern Spain and Melbourne, though she’s now (loosely) based in London.

Andy Symington
Glasgow & Southern Scotland; Inverness & the Northern Highlands & Islands Andy has written or worked on more than a hundred books and other updates for Lonely Planet (especially in Europe and Latin America) and other publishing companies, and has published articles on numerous subjects for a variety of newspapers, magazines and websites. He part-owns and operates a rock bar, has written a novel and is currently working on several fiction and non-fiction writing projects. Andy, from Australia, moved to northern Spain many years ago. When he’s not off with a backpack in some far-flung corner of the world, he can probably be found watching the tragically poor local football side or tasting local wines after a long walk in the nearby mountains.
OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that’s all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they’d sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony’s belief that ‘a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse’.

OUR WRITERS

Neil Wilson
Yorkshire; Edinburgh; Glasgow & Southern Scotland; Stirling & Central Scotland; Inverness & the Northern Highlands & Islands

Neil was born in Scotland and has lived there most of his life. Based in Perthshire, he has been a full-time writer since 1988, working on more than 80 guidebooks for various publishers, including the Lonely Planet guides to Scotland, England, Ireland and Prague. An outdoors enthusiast since childhood, Neil is an active hill-walker, mountain-biker, sailor, snowboarder, fly-fisher and rock-climber, and has climbed and tramped in four continents, including ascents of Jebel Toubkal in Morocco, Mount Kinabalu in Borneo, the Old Man of Hoy in Scotland’s Orkney Islands and the Northwest Face of Half Dome in California’s Yosemite Valley. Neil also wrote Plan, Understand and Survival guide.

Oliver Berry
Bath & Southwest England; the Lake District & Cumbria

Oliver is a writer and photographer based in Cornwall. His first trip abroad was to the south of France, aged two. Since then he’s travelled to Corsica, New Zealand, the South Pacific and midwestern USA.

Fionn Davenport
Manchester, Liverpool & Northwest England

Irish by birth and conviction, Fionn has been writing about his native country for more than two decades. He was pushed to travel in order to escape Dublin’s comfortable stasis and by the promise of adventure, and this has cemented his belief that Ireland remains his favourite place to visit, if not always live in. These days, he has a weekly commute home to Dublin, from Manchester, where he lives with his partner, Laura, and their car, Trevor. In Dublin he presents *Inside Culture* on RTE Radio 1 and writes travel features for a host of publications, including the *Irish Times*.

Marc Di Duca
Canterbury & Southeast England

A travel author for the past decade, Marc has worked for Lonely Planet in Siberia, Slovakia, Bavaria, England, Ukraine, Austria, Poland, Croatia, Portugal, Madeira and on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Although the authors and Lonely Planet have taken all reasonable care in preparing this book, we make no warranty about the accuracy or completeness of its content and, to the maximum extent permitted, disclaim all liability arising from its use.