



THE CLASSIC  
STEAM EXPERIENCE  
2026



# WELCOME ABOARD

Welcome to the 2026 edition of our Directory offering a brief overview of classic steam experience tours operated by Saphos Trains. For full information and further details please refer to our website [saphostrains.com](http://saphostrains.com)



## EXPERIENCES

We are delighted to present an exclusive programme of steam hauled excursions to transport the discerning traveller to interesting and varied destinations in luxurious comfort and style. Being the custodians of numerous immaculately restored world-famous steam engines we are pleased to provide an exciting series of trains offering trips in fabulous vintage carriages, refurbished to an exacting standard and reminiscent of the great golden days of railway travel.

## DINING & HOSPITALITY

Whether you opt for our exceptional Pullman Dining with the balance of the finest regional food and drink or First Class with that edge of luxury, comfort and style, the journey and destination all carry equal importance. We guarantee you will be served by our solicitous stewards, while the most stunning British scenery gently passes by.



## DESTINATIONS

Our excursions take you to some of Britain's most fascinating places and travel through spectacular scenery. Choose from trips to heritage cities like Bath, York and Cardiff, or head for the country's beautiful fells, moors and coasts. Wherever you go, you'll arrive in style.



# ONBOARD

All tours will be hauled by one of our immaculately restored world-famous steam locomotives including:

- 71000 'DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'
- SOUTHERN 34046 'BRAUNTON'
- BR 70000 'BRITANNIA'
- LNOR 60007 'SIR NIGEL GRESLEY'
- LNOR 60532 'BLUE PETER'
- 5029 'NUNNEY CASTLE'

## FIRST CLASS (NON DINING)

Our First Class carriages are beautifully appointed, with large picture windows, wide cushioned seats, and plenty of room around our tables for two or four. Your steward will serve you complimentary tea, coffee and light snack items. Many passengers in First Class choose to bring on board their own picnic hampers. Additional light snacks, hot and cold drinks, and a fine selection of wine, beer and spirits can be purchased from your steward. Why not enhance your travel experience with our 'Saphos Traditional Afternoon Tea' that can be purchased in advance when making your online booking.

## PULLMAN DINING

Seating is in our beautifully restored wood panelled vintage carriages at tables of 4 or 2 laid with crisp linen and fully dressed in fine crockery, fresh flowers, and glassware. The day starts as you settle into your seat with a glass of chilled bucks' fizz, followed by a full English breakfast and late morning tea/coffee service with pastries prior to the arrival at our destination. Following an afternoon sightseeing break, you will be welcomed aboard by your attentive liveried steward and offered a refreshing glass of chilled champagne and selection of canapes as you relax in anticipation of the gastronomic journey ahead.

A sumptuous five course seasonal dinner, created by our Executive Chef, will be served including the Great British cheese board, biscuits, and chutneys – all accompanied by our Sommelier's choice of a half-bottle of wine per person. The memorable journey concludes with a service of coffee and homemade petits fours

## TICKETS & TIMINGS

The departure/arrival times shown in this publication and our website are approximate, based on the best information available when the tour was first planned so they should be treated

as a rough guide only. However, please be aware that these timings can vary considerably when the confirmed timings are received from Network Rail and we are unable to consider a cancellation, refund or transfer due to the confirmed timings being different to the approximate ones previously advised. Travel documents and tickets will be sent to you by email usually no later than 7 days prior to departure.

For more information and to book online please visit: [saphostrains.com](http://saphostrains.com) or for general enquiries call 0800 038 5320



# OUR IMMACULATEDLY RESTORED WORLD-FAMOUS STEAM LOCOMOTIVES



## 71000 'DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'

Duke of Gloucester is a British Railways Standard Class 8P locomotive built at Crewe Works in 1954. Duke of Gloucester has undergone extensive restoration work and triumphantly returned to mainline operation in 2024 — once again showcasing the brilliance of British steam engineering.



## 70000 'BRITANNIA'

The first of its class of 55 Pacific locomotives built by British Railways, 'Britannia' entered service in 1951 and worked crack express trains from London to East Anglia. In 1952 she had the honour of hauling the funeral train of King George VI from Kings Lynn to London and in 2012 the Royal train with HRH Prince Charles on board.



## 5029 'NUNNEY CASTLE'

Nunney Castle was completed at Swindon Works in May 1934 as No. 5029. It is one of a class of 171 locomotives built between 1923 and 1950. The design of the 'Castle' was based on a previous GWR locomotive the 'Star'.



## 34046 'BRAUNTON'

Built by the Southern Railway in 1946, 'Branton', a member of the West Country class, was designed to work some of the fastest and most celebrated trains on the South coast including the Bournemouth Belle and Atlantic Coast Express.



## 60007 'SIR NIGEL GRESLEY'

Built at Doncaster in 1937 to haul the crack express trains operating between London and Edinburgh, 60007 was named after her designer and is now one of only six A4 Pacific's in existence. She had the honour of hauling the Royal Train in 1956 and in 1959 gained the post-war speed record for steam having attained 112mph.



## 60532 'BLUE PETER'

Blue Peter is the last remaining L.N.E.R. Class A2 Pacific and was one of the most powerful express passenger locomotives in the UK. She was one of 15 of the class designed by Arthur H Peppercorn and entered service in 1948 just weeks after the amalgamation of the Big Four railway companies into the newly nationalised British Railways.

# GOLDEN ARROW

## WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL - DEPARTING FROM

PETERBOROUGH (05.50/22.45) / MARCH (06.10/22.25) / ELY (06.30/22.05)  
CAMBRIDGE (06.50/21.45) / ROYSTON (07.25/21.25)  
LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY (07.50/21.10) / STEVENAGE (08.00/21.00)  
WELWYN GARDEN CITY (08.10/20.50) / POTTERS BAR (08.20/20.40)

## WEDNESDAY 20 MAY - DEPARTING FROM

BRISTOL TEMPLE MEADS (06.10/23.10) / BATH SPA (06.40/22.50)  
BRADFORD ON AVON (07.05/22.35) / TROWBRIDGE (07.15/22.25) / PEWSEY (07.30/21.50)  
HUNGERFORD (07.50/21.30) / NEWBURY (08.05/21.10) / READING (08.35/20.45)  
MAIDENHEAD (08.55/20.30)

## WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER - DEPARTING FROM

NORWICH (06.00/23.25) / DISS (06.15/23.10) / STOWMARKET (06.35/22.50)  
IPSWICH (06.40/22.40) / MANNINGTREE (07.00/22.30) / COLCHESTER (07.10/22.20)  
CHELMSFORD (07.20/22.00) / SHENFIELD (07.30/21.40)



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**CLICK ON THE DATE TO VIEW ONLINE**



This is a train with a real 'wow' factor offering a circular steam tour over the same route as the legendary 'Golden Arrow' boat train. Features include the journey through the picturesque Garden of England and around the beautiful Kent coast with the impressive white cliffs towering above the train – the highlight of the day being an afternoon break for sightseeing in historic Canterbury.

After making our way through the London suburbs we continue into open countryside and through the pretty Garden of England, rich with an abundance of Oast Houses and Hop Fields. Passing Ashford, we soon arrive at historic Canterbury for an afternoon break of about three hours in this city of narrow streets and ancient buildings, the incomparable cathedral, setting for so many dramatic events stand at its heart.

Travelling through the beautiful Kent countryside the engine works hard to haul the train over the stiff gradients along the coastal line through Dover and Folkestone with dramatic white cliffs and spectacular views across the English Channel. Continuing along the high-speed route through Tonbridge recreating the former 'Golden Arrow' from the glory days of rail travel.



# WELSH MARCHES EXPRESS (Shrewsbury)

**SATURDAY 13 MAY - DEPARTING FROM**

BOURNEMOUTH (05.30/23.45) / BROCKENHURST (05.55/23.20)  
SOUTHAMPTON (06.20/22.55) / EASTLEIGH (06.30/22.35) ROMSEY (06.55/22.10)  
SALISBURY (07.25/21.30) / WARMINSTER (07.50/20.55) / WESTBURY (08.05/20.45)  
BATH SPA (08.30/20.20) / BRISTOL TEMPLE MEADS (09.20/19.25)

**WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE - DEPARTING FROM**

PAIGNTON (06.10/23.30) / TORQUAY (06.20/23.20) / NEWTON ABBOT (06.30/23.10)  
DAWLISH (06.40/23.00) / EXETER ST DAVID'S (07.10/22.30)  
TIVERTON PARKWAY (07.25/22.15) / TAUNTON (07.40/22.00)  
BRIDGWATER (07.50/21.50) / BRISTOL TEMPLE MEADS (09.10/20.30)



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Traversing the breath-taking beauty of the Welsh Marches route our steam hauled train offers a totally unique day out as we travel through the rolling hills of the pretty Shropshire countryside dividing England and Wales for a visit to historic Shrewsbury.

Passing through the Severn Tunnel we take the fast line to Newport where we cross the river Usk with superb views of the Brecon Beacons as the black mountains tower above the train. Continuing through the historic towns of Hereford and Ludlow we pass magnificent Stokesay Castle and through Church Stretton with outstanding views of the Long Mynd – we then arrive at Shrewsbury for an afternoon break.

## SHREWSBURY

Founded by the Saxons and most extensively developed by the Tudors the town lies within a giant loop of the River Severn, and is famed for its castle, spires, abbey, parklands, and half-timbered medieval houses. There are gorgeous black & white buildings, remaining just the way they have always been. Shrewsbury is stunning historic town with over 660 listed buildings and some very strange street names - Dogpole and Mardol, Gullet Passage and Grope Lane. There are beautiful walks beside the river and perhaps take a boat trip or just unwind in the stunning parks and gardens.



# WELSH MARCHES EXPRESS (Cardiff)

## WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL - DEPARTING FROM

ULVERSTON (05.50/22.30) / GRANGE-OVER-SANDS (06.00/22.20)  
ARNSIDE (06.10/22.10) / CARNFORTH (06.25/21.55) / LANCASTER (06.40/21.40)  
PRESTON (07.00/21.20) / WIGAN NORTH WESTERN (07.20/21.00)  
WARRINGTON BANK QUAY (07.40/20.40) / CREWE (08.40/19.45)

## WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST - DEPARTING FROM

CHESTERFIELD (06.15/22.05) / BELPER (06.30/21.50) / DERBY (06.45/21.35)  
TUTBURY & HATTON (07.00/21.20) / UTTOXETER (07.10/21.10)  
STOKE-ON-TRENT (07.40/20.40) / KIDSGROVE (07.50/20.30)  
CREWE (08.40/19.45)



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Traversing the breath-taking beauty of the Welsh Marches route our steam hauled train offers a totally unique tour as we travel through the rolling hills of the pretty Shropshire and Herefordshire countryside dividing England and Wales for a visit to the capital city of Cardiff.

Crossing the Cheshire Plain and through historic Shrewsbury we join the Welsh Marches line and at Church Stretton there are outstanding views of the Long Mynd, continuing past magnificent Stokesay Castle and the historic towns of Ludlow and Hereford we enter South Wales and the county of Monmouthshire with superb views of the Brecon Beacons as the black mountains tower over the train. At Newport we cross the river Usk, continuing to Cardiff for an afternoon break.



### CARDIFF

The capital city of Wales offers spectacular shopping, museums, dining, and entertainment. Easy to explore on foot and close to the station you can visit the free Welsh National Museum and spectacular Cardiff Castle all within the city centre Cardiff Bay has restaurants, waterside views and Wales Millenium Centre and there is plenty to see and do in the three hours whilst our train is prepared for the return journey.



# ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS

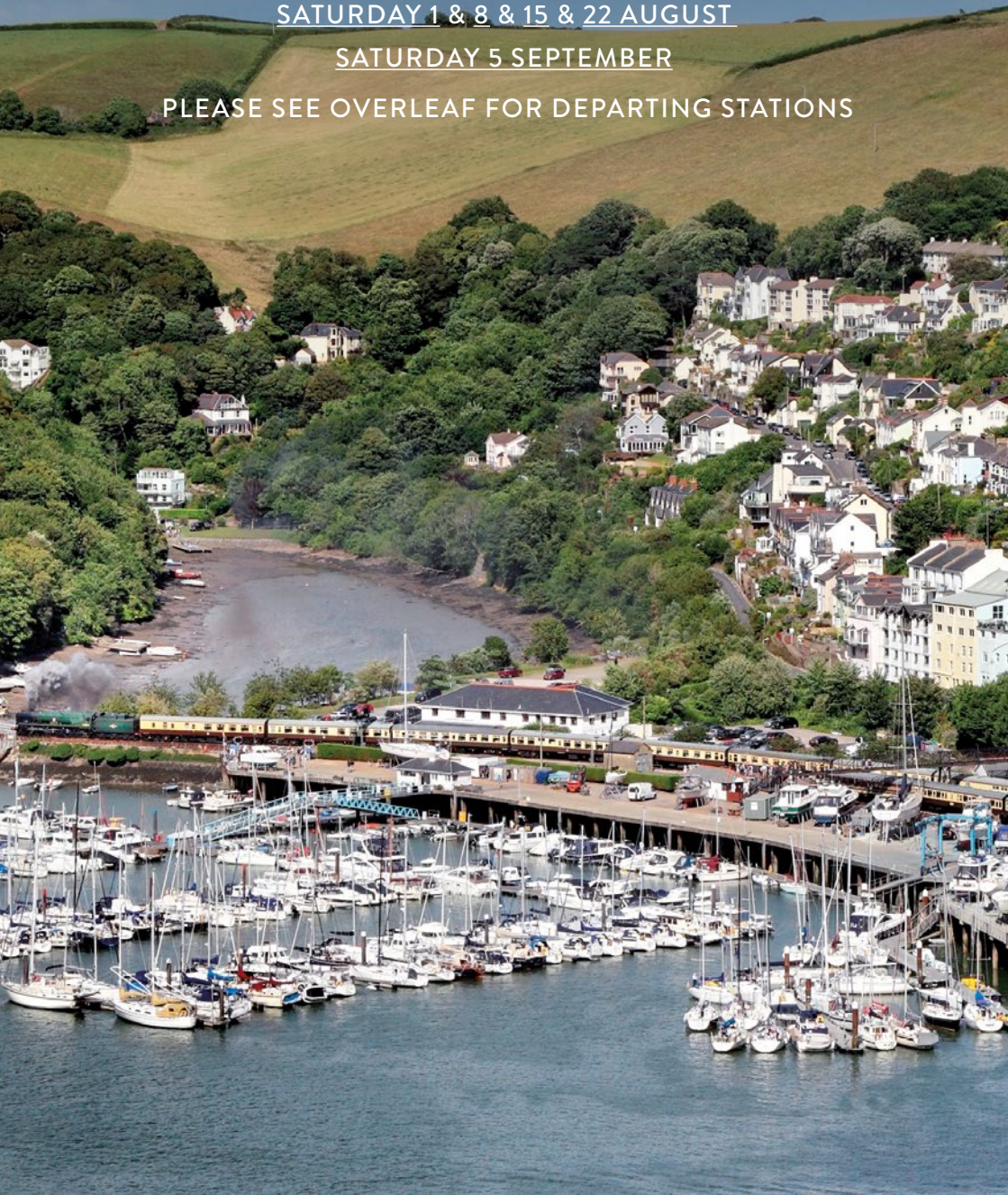
SATURDAY 2 & 9 & 30 MAY

SATURDAY 11 & 18 JULY

SATURDAY 1 & 8 & 15 & 22 AUGUST

SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

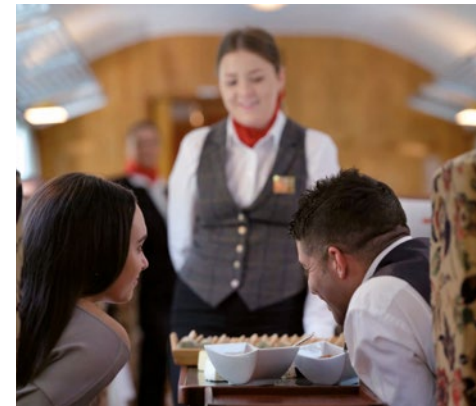
PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR DEPARTING STATIONS



We recreate one of the great holiday trains of the golden age of railway travel for a steam hauled journey on our luxury train through Somerset and around the beautiful Devon coast with time available to discover the many charms of the pretty 'English Riviera' resort of Dartmouth.

Travelling through the remote Blackdown hills and along the Exe Valley to Exeter, before heading beside the estuary with its pretty fishing boats and stunning views across to Exmouth and the Jurassic coast. Continuing past Powderham Castle and along the famous sea wall line we race through tunnels and cuttings of red rock at Dawlish and beside beaches and coves with the sea keeping company with the train.

At Paignton we join the steeply graded heritage line and travel alongside the beautiful River Dart with views of HMS Britannia – not a ship but the college that has trained generations of naval officers. We soon arrive at the riverside terminus at Kingswear, where it is a short crossing on the ferry (price included) to the historic and romantic port of Dartmouth – there are antique shops, galleries, and cafes to explore or perhaps take a leisurely cruise on the river Dart. There should be around three hours at leisure before we return in the late afternoon.





# ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS

## SATURDAY 2 MAY - DEPARTING FROM

CREWE (05.45/23.55) / STAFFORD (06.10/23.30) / PENKRIDGE (06.20/23.15)  
 WOLVERHAMPTON (06.35/23.15) / SANDWELL & DUDLEY / (06.45/22.55) BIRMINGHAM  
 NEW STREET (06.55/22.45) / BARNT GREEN (07.35/22.10)  
 WORCESTERSHIRE PARKWAY (08.05/21.45) / CHELTENHAM SPA (08.25/21.25)

## SATURDAY 9 MAY - DEPARTING FROM

NORTHAMPTON (05.20/00.10) / MILTON KEYNES (05.40/23.55)  
 LEIGHTON BUZZARD (06.00/23.40) / BERKHAMSTED (06.15/23.25)  
 HEMEL HEMPSTEAD (06.20/23.15) / WATFORD JUNCTION (06.30/23.05)  
 SLOUGH (07.30/22.10) / MAIDENHEAD (07.40/22.05) / READING (08.05/21.45)

## SATURDAY 30 MAY - DEPARTING FROM

WOLVERHAMPTON (06.40/23.35) / TAME BRIDGE PARKWAY (06.55/23.20)  
 STOURBRIDGE JUNCTION (07.35/22.45) / KIDDERMINSTER (07.45/22.30)  
 DROITWICH SPA (08.00/22.10) / WORCESTER SHRUB HILL (08.15/21.50)  
 CHELTENHAM SPA (08.40/21.25) / CAM & DURSLEY (09.15/20.50)  
 BRISTOL PARKWAY (09.35/20.25)

## SATURDAY 11 JULY - DEPARTING FROM

HIGH WYCOMBE (05.40/23.00) / PRINCES RISBOROUGH (05.55/2.45)  
 HADDENHAM & THAME (06.05/22.30) / BICESTER VILLAGE (06.20/22.15)  
 OXFORD PARKWAY (06.35/22.05) / OXFORD (06.45/21.55) / SWINDON (07.45/21.10)  
 CHIPPENHAM (08.05/20.40) / BATH SPA (09.20/20.25)  
 BRISTOL TEMPLE MEADS (09.35/20.05)

## SATURDAY 18 JULY - DEPARTING FROM

WOKING (06.55/22.25) / GUILDFORD (07.05/22.15) / HASLEMERE (07.25/21.55)  
 PETERSFIELD (07.40/21.40) / HAVANT (07.55/21.25) / COSHAM (08.05/21.15)  
 FAREHAM (08.15/21.05) / EASTLEIGH (08.35/20.45) / SALISBURY (08.50/20.30)

## SATURDAY 1 AUGUST - DEPARTING FROM

SHREWSBURY (05.50/22.50) / CHURCH STRETTON (06.15/22.30)  
 CRAVEN ARMS (06.30/22.15) / LUDLOW (06.40/22.05) / LEOMINSTER (07.00/21.55)  
 HEREFORD (07.25/21.40) / ABERGAVENNY (07.50/21.10) / CWMBRAN (08.10/20.55)  
 SEVERN TUNNEL JUNCTION (08.35/20.35)

## SATURDAY 8 AUGUST - DEPARTING FROM

ELY (05.40/23.55) / CAMBRIDGE (06.10/23.40) / ROYSTON (06.30/23.20)  
 LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY (06.50/23.00) / STEVENAGE (07.10/22.40)  
 WELWYN GARDEN CITY (07.30/22.20) / POTTERS BAR (07.50/22.00)

## SATURDAY 15 AUGUST - DEPARTING FROM

THREE BRIDGES (06.15/23.05) / HAYWARDS HEATH (06.25/22.55)  
 BURGESS HILL (06.35/22.45) / HOVE (06.50/22.30) / WORTHING (07.10/22.10)  
 BARNHAM (07.30/21.50) / CHICHESTER (07.40/21.40)

## SATURDAY 22 AUGUST - DEPARTING FROM

BEDFORD (05.30/23.25) / LUTON (06.00/23.00) / ST ALBANS (06.15/22.40)  
 SLOUGH (07.30/21.20) / MAIDENHEAD (07.40/21.10) / READING (08.05/21.45)  
 NEWBURY (08.45/21.15) / HUNGERFORD (09.00/21.00) / PEWSEY (09.15/20.45)

## SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER - DEPARTING FROM

POOLE (06.35/22.55) / BOURNEMOUTH (06.50/22.40) / BROCKENHURST (07.20/22.20)  
 SOUTHAMPTON (07.40/22.00) / EASTLEIGH (08.00/21.45) / SALISBURY (09.00/20.50)  
 WARMINSTER (09.25/20.30) / WESTBURY (09.40/20.05)



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# THE LAKELANDER

(Returns via the Settle & Carlisle line)

## SATURDAY 23 MAY - DEPARTING FROM

RUGBY (05.50/23.45) / COVENTRY (06.05/23.25)  
BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL (06.20/23.10) / TAME BRIDGE PARKWAY (06.50/22.45)  
WOLVERHAMPTON (07.10/22.30) / PENKRIDGE (07.20/22.20) / CREWE (08.20/21.40)  
WARRINGTON BANK QUAY (08.50/21.10) / PRESTON (09.58/20.30)

## SATURDAY 4 JULY - DEPARTING FROM

NOTTINGHAM (05.40/23.55) / ATTENBOROUGH (05.50/23.50) / DERBY (06.10/23.30)  
BELPER (06.20/23.15) / CHESTERFIELD (06.40/23.00) / CHINLEY (07.15/22.20)  
STOCKPORT (07.30/22.10) / MANCHESTER PICCADILLY (08.20/21.30)  
PRESTON (09.58/20.30)

## SATURDAY 29 AUGUST - DEPARTING FROM

LEICESTER (06.35/23.15) / NARBOROUGH (06.45/23.05) / HINCKLEY (06.55/22.55)  
NUNEATON (07.05/22.45) / TAMWORTH (07.20/22.30)  
LICHFIELD TRENT VALLEY (07.30/22.20) / RUGELEY TRENT VALLEY (07.40/22.10)  
STAFFORD (08.00/21.50) / CREWE (08.20/21.30) / PRESTON (09.58/20.30)



Enjoy a fabulous steam hauled day tour offering spectacular views of the Cumbrian mountains and high Pennines as we climb over the Lakeland fells to the historic border city of Carlisle for a lunchtime sightseeing break and return over the famous Settle & Carlisle line.

Travelling through the county town of Lancaster our steam locomotive works hard to climb the severe gradients of Grayrigg and Shap Summit with splendid views over the Cumbrian Fells before we descend to Penrith, and head for Carlisle. There will be around two hours available to explore this ancient border city with its castle, cathedral, Tullie House Museum, and shopping centre.

Our return journey takes the stunningly beautiful Settle & Carlisle route across the roof of England as the engine works hard to haul the train up the steep gradient to Ais Gill Summit and over the iconic Ribbleshead Viaduct with views of the three peaks and Yorkshire Dales before passing through the beautiful Ribble Valley and the steep climb of Wilpshire Bank.




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# SETTLE & CARLISLE FELLSMAN



The popular 'Fellsman' runs again in summer 2026 for its 18th season offering a return steam hauled journey on the spectacular 'Settle to Carlisle Railway' as we travel through the Yorkshire Dales and climb high towards the roof of England. With great limestone peaks and deep valleys, the legendary 'Settle to Carlisle' line is a masterpiece of Victorian engineering including the magnificent 24 arch viaduct at Ribbleshead. Time will be available for sightseeing in the historic border city of Carlisle.

# SETTLE & CARLISLE FELLSMAN

WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST

WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

DEPARTING FROM

CREWE (07.00/21.35) / CHESTER (07.40/20.45) / FRODSHAM (07.55/20.30)  
WARRINGTON BANK QUAY (08.05/20.15) / WIGAN NORTH WESTERN (08.20/20.00)  
LEYLAND (08.35/19.45) / BLACKBURN (09.10/19.10) / CLITHEROE (09.35/18.40)



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The Settle & Carlisle line is known for its magnificent scenery and steep gradient, so our engine will be working hard as we climb to the magnificent Ribbleshead Viaduct with stunning views of the three peaks. Passengers get a marvellous view down Dent Dale as the train emerges from Blea Moor tunnel and approaching Garsdale you will see sweeping views of Wensleydale - with our engine in full flight we climb at 1 in 100 towards the summit of the line at Ais Gill. Travelling on through the lush Eden Valley to the historic border city of Carlisle where we arrive about 13.10. You may choose to stroll between the castle and cathedral or perhaps visit the famous Tullie House Museum - all surrounded by great places to shop, eat, or be entertained so creating the perfect way to spend an afternoon.

Returning from Carlisle about 15.45 we travel over the same spectacular route giving another opportunity to experience the beauty of the high Pennines and pretty Ribble Valley as our locomotive works hard up the steep and taxing climb of Wilpshire Bank being a fitting end to a perfect day.



# WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE EXPRESS

**WEDNESDAY 8 JULY** - DEPARTING FROM

BARROW-IN-FURNESS (06.50/23.10) / DALTON (07.10/23.00) / ULVERSTON (07.30/22.50)  
GRANGE-OVER-SANDS (07.40/22.40) / ARNSIDE (07.50/22.30) /  
CARNFORTH (08.05/22.15) / LANCASTER (08.20/22.00) / PRESTON (08.40/21.40)  
WIGAN NORTH WESTERN (09.00/21.20) / WARRINGTON BANK QUAY (09.20/21.00)



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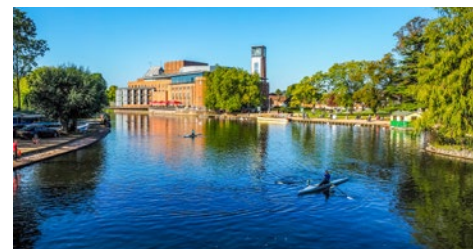
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Travel in style on our steam hauled train to enjoy a wonderful day out to Stratford-upon-Avon, one of England's most historic and vibrant towns. Situated in the heart of the Midlands on the River Avon Stratford is today most famous as the home of Elizabethan playwright William Shakespeare.

Travel in style on our steam hauled train to enjoy a wonderful day out to Stratford-upon-Avon, one of England's most historic and vibrant towns. Situated in the heart of the Midlands on the River Avon Stratford is today most famous as the home of Elizabethan playwright William Shakespeare.

The train is diesel hauled by a heritage locomotive to Crewe where one of our famous steam locomotives takes over for a fast run down the West Coast main line passing Stafford and Walsall and then through the beautiful Warwickshire countryside for a lunchtime arrival at historic Stratford-upon-Avon.



Dating from Tudor times, Stratford still looks like a small half-timbered market town and there are many fantastic areas to explore, all within easy walking distance of the station which is why visitors flock back year after year. From quaint side streets with unique curio shops to open parkland along the river, there is something for everyone. Perhaps enjoy one of the numerous tea rooms for a traditional afternoon tea or why not visit the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford Butterfly Farm or take an open top bus tour.



# THE CHRISTMAS WHITE ROSE

MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER - DEPARTING FROM

HEREFORD (06.00/23.50) / LEOMINSTER (06.15/23.35) LUDLOW / (06.30/23.20)  
CRAVEN ARMS (06.40/23.00) / CHURCH STRETTON (06.50/23.00)  
SHREWSBURY (07.10/22.40) / WHITCHURCH (07.30/22.20) / CREWE (08.15/21.30)  
WARRINGTON BANK QUAY (08.50/20.50) / MANCHESTER VICTORIA (09.50/20.00)



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Enjoy a fabulous day tour travelling through the impressive Pennines over two very different routes with the outward journey taking the spectacular Vale of Edale through the Peak District National Park to historic York for a sightseeing afternoon break. We return through Wakefield and the rugged Calder Valley.

Travelling through Manchester our train takes the taxing climb up Miles Platting bank and threads its way through the suburbs to join the spectacular line across the Peak District. This route is particularly scenic and encompasses several long tunnels, before passing through Sheffield.

Nowhere in England says 'medieval' quite like York especially in the festive season with the famous St Nicholas Market in full swing. A magnificent circuit of 13th-century walls encloses a medieval spider's web of narrow streets and at the heart of the city lies the immense, awe-inspiring Minster, one of the most beautiful Gothic cathedrals in the world. York's long history and rich heritage is woven into the modern, tourist-oriented city – with attractions including the Jorvik Centre and superb National Railway Museum.

We return in the late afternoon through Wakefield and the true Pennine scenery of the Calder Valley

passing the preserved Lancashire & Yorkshire railway station at Hebden Bridge thence through Todmorden and Rochdale.

The train is steam hauled from Crewe by one of our immaculately restored pool of engines including: the world famous

- LMS Royal Scot Class, No.46100 'Royal Scot'
- West Country Class, No. 34046 'Braunton'
- Britannia Pacific Class, No 70000 'Britannia'.



# BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET EXPRESS

**FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER** - DEPARTING FROM

THREE BRIDGES (08.00/21.25) / HAYWARDS HEATH (08.15/21.10) / BURGESS HILL (08.30/20.50)  
HOVE (08.50/20.30) / SHOREHAM BY SEA (09.05/20.20) / WORTHING (09.25/20.05)  
BARNHAM (09.45/19.45) / CHICHESTER (10.00/19.30)

**FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER** - DEPARTING FROM

PETERBOROUGH (06.00/23.00) / MARCH (06.20/22.40) / ELY (07.00/22.20)  
CAMBRIDGE (07.20/22.00) / ROYSTON (07.40/21.50)  
LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY (07.50/21.40) STEVENAGE (08.05/21.25)  
WELWYN GARDEN CITY (08.20/21.00)



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**FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES CALL 0800 038 5320**  
**CLICK ON THE DATE TO VIEW ONLINE**



This is a unique steam hauled tour offering a journey through the heart of England and rolling hills and gentle scenery of beautiful Wiltshire, then along the glorious countryside of the Avon Valley to visit the elegant Georgian city of Bath for an afternoon break of around three-hours at this festive time of year with the famous Christmas Market in full swing.

At Christmas the beautiful Somerset city comes alive with its unique Christmas market where over 150 chalet style stalls offer quality products and brilliant gift ideas. The famous Abbey and Roman Baths provide an amazing backdrop to the city's festive event offering seasonal shopping, fine foods with stalls showcasing the talents of retailers from Britain and the Continent.

The train is diesel hauled to West London where one of our immaculately restored steam engines takes over. The featured locomotive could include the world famous

- LMS Royal Scot Class, No.46100 'Royal Scot'
- West Country Class, No. 34046 'Braunton'
- Britannia Pacific Class, No 70000 'Britannia'.

If Christmas shopping is not your thing there is always the elegant and unforgettable city to discover which has attracted visitors since Roman times the highlights include the Pump Rooms, Carriage Museum and Royal Crescent along with the opportunity to take an open top bus tour.



# PENNINE PEAKS CHRISTMAS EXPLORER

**THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER** - DEPARTING FROM

RUGBY (09.00/20.00) / COVENTRY (09.10/19.50) / BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL (09.30/19.30)  
BIRMINGHAM NEW STREET (10.00/19.00) / WOLVERHAMPTON (10.15/18.45)  
PENKRIDGE (10.30/18.30) / STAFFORD (10.45/18.15) / CREWE (11.45/17.15)

**WEDNESDAY 23 DECEMBER** - DEPARTING FROM

BANGOR (09.20/19.40) / LLANDUDNO JUNCTION (09.40/19.20)  
COLWYN BAY (09.50/19.10) / RHYL (10.05/18.55) / FLINT (10.25/18.35)  
CHESTER (10.45/18.15) / CREWE (11.45/17.15)



We are pleased to present a truly memorable steam hauled circular tour through the magnificent Pennines and the spectacular Yorkshire Dales offering outstanding views and steep climbs to make the engine work hard.

Following the last passenger boarding station at Crewe our train joins the West Coast Main line and passes through Preston, then travelling north past imposing Lancaster Castle we cross the River Lune and at Bolton-le-Sands there are spectacular views across Morecambe Bay toward the Lakeland mountains. At Carnforth we pass the famous station used in the 1945 movie 'Brief Encounter' and take the secondary line into open countryside and through dramatic scenery on the edge of the forest of Bowland towards the beautiful Yorkshire Dales crossing rivers and moorland as we climb through Wennington and Giggleswick to Settle Junction with amazing views of the three peaks. At Hellifield we join the normally freight only line along the Ribble Valley with Pendle Hill, home to the Lancashire witches, towering over the route.

back from the surrounding hills. Travelling onward through Blackburn we take the line to Leyland and re-join the West Coast main line to our homeward stations.

The train is steam hauled from Crewe by LNER Pacific class No 60007 'Sir Nigel Gresley' (subject to availability).



Passing historic Clitheroe we cross the 48-arch viaduct, and the engine works hard to climb the taxing Wilpshire Bank with the sounds echoing

STANDARD CLASS FROM £135 / FIRST CLASS FROM £185  
PULLMAN DINING FROM £395

Seating at a private window table for two is available at a supplement of £60 per person, or a larger superior private table for two at £150 per person available in First Class and Pullman Dining

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# PENNINE MOORS CHRISTMAS EXPRESS

MONDAY 21 DECEMBER - DEPARTING FROM

LEICESTER (09.00/19.50) / NARBOROUGH (09.15/19.35) / HINCKLEY (09.30/19.20)  
NUNEATON (09.40/19.10) / TAMWORTH (09.55/18.55) / LICHFIELD TRENT VALLEY (10.05/18.45)  
RUGELEY TRENT VALLEY (10.25/18.35) / CREWE (11.45/17.15)



STANDARD CLASS FROM £135 / FIRST CLASS FROM £185  
PULLMAN DINING FROM £395

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CLICK ON THE DATE TO VIEW ONLINE



We are pleased to present a truly memorable steam hauled circular tour as we travel in vintage carriages through deep valleys and over wild Pennine moors with taxing climbs to make the engine work hard.

Our train crosses Chat Moss heading toward Manchester and after passing Victoria station there is the first of two steep inclines as the engine opens up to climb the 1 in 48 Miles Platting bank with the sounds echoing back from the surrounding buildings.

Travelling through Stalybridge we continue into true Pennine scenery with the rugged and steep sided Diggle Valley towering over the train with its stone architecture clinging to the hillside as we pass through the 3-mile long Standedge Tunnel and past historic Hebden Bridge to commence the taxing 1 in 65 climb crossing viaducts and bridges, passing former Victorian textile mills. Our driver and fireman work hard to haul the heavy train as we climb over the Pennines to the summit at Copy Pit, located some 749 feet above sea level.

On more favourable gradients, we continue westward along the former Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway through Burnley and Accrington to

Blackburn, where we take the line via Hoghton Bank to Leyland onto the West Coast main line for an anticipated fast run through Wigan on this varied and interesting circular tour across the spectacular Pennines.

The train is steam hauled from Crewe by LNER Pacific class No 60532 'Blue Peter' (subject to availability)



# 2026 TOURS

For your convenience, please find a list of 2026 tours in date order.  
For further information and full details of each tour please refer to  
our website [saphostrains.com](http://saphostrains.com)

WED 22 APRIL	GOLDEN ARROW
WED 29 APRIL	WELSH MARCHES EXPRESS (Cardiff)
SAT 2 MAY	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
SAT 9 MAY	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
SAT 13 MAY	WELSH MARCHES EXPRESS (Shrewsbury)
WED 20 MAY	GOLDEN ARROW
SAT 23 MAY	THE LAKELANDER
SAT 30 MAY	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
WED 3 JUNE	SETTLE & CARLISLE FELLSMAN
WED 22 JUNE	WELSH MARCHES EXPRESS (Shrewsbury)
WED 1 JULY	SETTLE & CARLISLE FELLSMAN
SAT 4 JULY	THE LAKELANDER
WED 8 JULY	WILLIAM SHAKESPEAR EXPRESS
SAT 11 JULY	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
SAT 18 JULY	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
SAT 1 AUG	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
WED 5 AUG	SETTLE & CARLISLE FELLSMAN
SAT 8 AUG	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
SAT 15 AUG	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
SAT 22 AUG	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
WED 26 AUG	WELSH MARCHES EXPRESS (Cardiff)
SAT 29 AUG	THE LAKELANDER
WED 2 SEPTEMBER	SETTLE & CARLISLE FELLSMAN
SAT 5 SEPTEMBER	ENGLISH RIVIERA EXPRESS
WED 30 SEPTEMBER	GOLDEN ARROW

MON 23 NOVEMBER	THE CHRISTMAS WHITE ROSE
FRI 4 DECEMBER	BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET EXPRESS
FRI 11 DECEMBER	BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET EXPRESS
THU 17 DECEMBER	PENINE PEAKS CHRISTMAS EXPLORER
MON 21 DECEMBER	PENINE MOORS CHRISTMAS EXPRESS
WED 23 DECEMBER	PENINE PEAKS CHRISTMAS EXPLORER





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PHOTO: Jamie Squibbs

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