

The Heritage Tour

Sample programme based on 8 nights

Day	9.30am – 12.45pm (inc. 15 min break)	Break	Afternoon / Evening excursions
Saturday	Arrival in the UK, transfer to Truro. Orientation tour of Truro + Spanish tapas at Bodega 18		
Sunday	Explore Falmouth: + including river cruise on the River Fal + Pendennis Castle		
Monday	English classes		St Michael's Mount & Newlyn
Tuesday	English classes		Tintagel Castle & King Arthur
Wednesday	English classes		Porthcurno Telegraph Museum and Minack Theatre
Thursday	English classes		Shopping in Truro + Truro Cathedral
Friday	English classes		Lanhydrock House & cream tea
Saturday	Geevor Mine, coast walk to Botallack & Cornish Pasties		
Sunday	Farewell breakfast & Return home		

Programme Overview:

- 1. English classes** Each morning starts with our engaging and interesting English language classes.

During these lessons you will get to practice and develop your English language skills in a small group with students of a similar level to you.

Our qualified and enthusiastic teachers provide lessons focused on practising all four skills: reading, writing, speaking & listening. The main focus will be on speaking and natural English. Through the classes, you will learn lots about the history and culture of the UK and in particular, Cornwall.



- 2. River Cruise to Falmouth & Pendennis Castle** Cornwall has always been a key strategic maritime location throughout British history.

Pendennis Castle was built by Henry VIII to defend England (and the harbour of Falmouth in particular) against the Spanish Armada. Spanish cannonballs have been found around Falmouth from these times.

The castle has been carefully restored and provides spectacular views across Falmouth and out to sea. It has the perfect strategic location to protect the harbour. During the summer, English Heritage put on some great events to recreate life at the castle in medieval times.





3. St Michael's Mount & Newlyn St Michael's Mount has a fascinating history and has been visited by both Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria.

Visitors can explore this wonderful house and listen to the guides giving lots of details about its illustrious history over the years.

After visiting the mount, we will go to the other end of the bay to Newlyn. This small town is one of the most important fishing harbours in the UK. Huge amounts of fish are landed in Newlyn every day which are then exported all across the UK and abroad.

As part of our excursion, we will explore this traditional fishing village and enjoy some tasty fish in a local restaurant



4. Tintagel Castle & King Arthur This is one of the oldest and most famous legends in English history.

There is much dispute about where King Arthur was born and exactly who he was. However, it is clear that the remains of this castle have a magical history.

The location of the castle could not be more dramatic and that has only been enhanced by the new bridge that connects the mainland to the island where the castle ruins are located.

Over the years, many archaeological remains have been found to link King Arthur to this island. A stroll through

the town is also an amazing way to take a trip back in time and soak up the spirit of the legend.



5. Porthcurno Telegraph Museum & the Minack There are few places as special and dramatic as Porthcurno & the Minack Theatre, a theatre that has been carved out of the cliff near Land's End.

During the day, you will have the opportunity to learn about the history of transatlantic communication. The Telegraph Museum is the home of where the first international communications between the UK and the USA were made it is a fascinating history and a brilliant interactive museum and tour.

Then, we will take the scenic walk up the cliff steps to the magical Minack Theatre itself. While watching the show, there is the backdrop of the sunset over the Atlantic Ocean with birds diving for fish and, if we are really lucky, you will see dolphins jumping in the bay.



6. Truro & Truro Cathedral As the capital city of Cornwall, there is always plenty to do in Truro. Of course, Language Tree is based here and there is a great selection of shops to browse for souvenirs and gifts.

However, as you will have also noticed, it is home to one of the newest cathedrals in the UK. Still over 100 years old, it provides a dramatic centrepiece to the city of Truro. We will try to coordinate your visit to include one of the spectacular music performances they host throughout the year. The acoustics within the cathedral are something special to enjoy.

7. Lanhydrock Throughout Cornwall, there are a selection of magnificent houses, now all protected and opened to the public by the National Trust.

This brilliant organization preserves the best of British heritage and presents the story for the public to enjoy.

Lanhydrock is one of the best examples of a house and large estate from Victorian times when some families became incredibly rich through the Industrial Revolution. Most wealth in Cornwall came from tin mining.



Lanhydrock house has been preserved almost exactly as it was when the original family were living there. It is a wonderful experience to step back in time to feel what the house would have been like. There are always National Trust guides on hand to tell you some great stories from the past too!

8. Geevor & Botallack mines For our final adventure, in our Heritage Tour, you will get right to the heart of Cornish heritage.

Geevor Mine is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Cornwall. It tells you the gruelling history of how people have been extracting minerals from Cornish rocks for at least 2000 years.

During the guided tour you get to go inside a mine dug by hand 500 years ago. Like all miners of the past, after your trip down the mine, you will also get to eat the most delicious handmade Cornish pasty in the café looking out to sea.



To finish off, we will take a walk along the coastline where you will be able to see the ruins of various mines that, in their heyday, were the very beginnings of the Industrial Revolution that changed the world.

Heritage Tour options:

The sample programme gives you a taste of the typical Heritage Tour programme we offer.

However, as a UNESCO world heritage site, there are so many interesting places to visit within the UNESCO region. Based on your particular interests, we can provide you with a bespoke itinerary to visit the places you are most interested in.

Essentially Cornwall's cultural and historical heritage divides into three categories:

- **Ancient history** – there is evidence of people living in Cornwall from 4000 years ago
- **Mining history** – going back to ancient times, people have been exploiting the mineral wealth in the rocks in Cornwall.
- **Maritime history** – Surrounded by ocean, Cornwall has been a key location as part of the UK's naval history.

Here are some options you could choose for your Heritage Tour:

- **National Trust properties** – We have included Lanhydrock in our sample programme here. However, there are several other magnificent houses to visit. Each has their own particular features and heritage. More information about these can be found on the National Trust website.
- **Mines** – While Geevor is by far the most complete mine to explore with a wide range of activities and things to see, there are some other mines that are well worth including if you are particularly interested in the industrial heritage of Cornwall.
- **Ancient Cornwall** – We have not included any ancient Cornwall excursions in our sample tour itinerary but there are some great places to visit that we would be very happy to include. Most of these work best when combined with a walk as they are usually quite hard to reach just by driving.

We also find that the walk to the ancient monuments is a really important part of appreciating these very old places in context:

- Chysauster – one of the oldest stone age settlements in the UK
- Seven Sisters – an amazing stone circle as part of a beautiful coast walk
- Men-an-tol – a famous set of stones, including a circular stone that aids fertility if you climb through it
- **Maritime History** – Cornwall has a fantastic maritime history with links to pirates and global exploration as well as fishing.
 - **National Maritime Museum** – based in Falmouth and a key starting point if you are interested in exploring Cornwall's maritime history. We would also recommend linking this excursion to a tour of Falmouth and some time in the town's local pubs so you can really experience Falmouth from a sailor's perspective
 - **Fishing villages** – While Falmouth may be the centre of Cornwall's maritime history, its fishing villages provide many wonderful stories and the beating heart of real history. To name just a few:
 - **Fowey**
 - **Polperro**
 - **Charlestown** – including the Shipwreck Museum and the opportunity to sail on a traditional sailing boat