

Cotswold Secret Tours

It's no wonder that the region of the Cotswolds has been suitably named as an area of outstanding natural beauty in England. The region is well-known for the beautiful Jurassic limestone, a honey-coloured pale-yellow stone that encases many of the buildings throughout the area. The Cotswolds is perhaps one of the most picturesque places in England, famously known for its stunning rolling hills, the incredible views and many of the most historical market towns in the UK. The Cotswolds stretches 800 square miles across a natural landscape in the south-west of England, covering several counties including Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Oxfordshire.

Autumn in the Cotswolds

Autumn colours in the Cotswolds are deep reds, greens, yellows and browns, providing a stunning array of colour to the Cotswold views. Batsford Arboretum near Moreton-in-Marsh has over 2850 specimens on show, giving visitors a breath-taking place to see. There are 1300 different types of trees and shrubs including Japanese Maples which have been flowering since 2002. The beautiful Cotswold arboretum has red data plant material for many other gardens in England, including Westonbirt, Bedgebury and Kew Gardens and it is involved in the International Conifer Conservation Project, run by the World Botanic Garden in Edinburgh. The arboretum takes your breath away whether you visit in autumn, in the spring, summer or winter. Depending on what time of year you go there, you will see daffodils, snowdrops, aconites, narcissi and blossoms of cherries and magnolia flowers.



The Famous Wool Trade

The Cotswolds is well-known for the once famous wool trade, when the Cotswolds was known as one of the largest suppliers of wool to the European wool trade. Cotswold Market towns were busy every week with sheep markets where local farmers would come to sell their sheep. Cotswold sheep were known as 'Cotswold Lions', famous for their beautiful golden thick wool carpeting the Cotswold landscape wherever you looked. At this time, the region was a wealthy place to live, with wool and tweed mills throughout the area. The cloth trade moved to the north of England after the Industrial Revolution, so the Cotswolds remained unspoilt, avoiding overdevelopment. The Cotswolds have since stayed idyllic, peaceful and an area of true outstanding natural beauty.

The Cotswold Falconry Centre

Near to Batsford Arboretum is The Cotswold Falconry Centre where a huge range of rare birds including hawks, vultures,

eagles, buzzards, owls, falcons, harriers and secretary birds reside. The centre is open daily, running experiences for people who have an interest in all sorts of different species of birds. They also hold special days such as the eagle day and owl evenings where visitors can get up and close with the birds. There are also fantastic flying displays that take place every day, with over 130 birds flying free. The experts will tell you about the birds, how they hunt for their prey and where they live in their natural habitat. They also showcase the native birds from the Cotswolds, including common buzzards, sparrow hawks, red kites, common kestrels, peregrine Falcons and beautiful barn owls that reside and breed at the centre every year.



The Secret Cottage Tour

If you're visiting England or planning a trip to the Cotswolds, then there are many stunning attractions you can discover alongside the beautiful countryside. Book a magical tour with the Secret Cottage Tour where you can enjoy a 6-hour

tour of the Cotswolds and a special visit to the Secret Cottage, our home. If you're travelling from London, you can take a direct train to our local station in Moreton-in-Marsh from London Paddington. We will pick you up in our luxury 7-seater Mercedes minibus and show you one of the most beautiful parts of England. We promise a look at magnificent Cotswold stately homes, some of the most interesting Cotswold attractions, quaint villages and the prettiest market towns in the area. Perhaps one of the highlights of our daytrip is a tour around our 400-year old cottage and a delicious homemade buffet in our cottage kitchen. We also provide a tasty Cotswold cream tea for our guests in the afternoon. We will drop you back at the station in time for your train home so you are back in London for the evening! Don't miss out on this wonderful day in the Cotswolds – book your places now to avoid disappointment!