



NATIONAL COUNTRY LINK SPRING WEEKEND

FRIDAY 10th MAY - MONDAY 13th MAY 2024

HOLIDAY INN TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE

Shropshire Country Link invite you to the Holiday Inn Telford, St Quentin Gate, Telford, Shropshire TF3 4EH which is situated in the centre of Telford just off the M54 (just look for the sign for the Telford International Centre, Holiday Inn is next to it) and with the Railway Station just a short distance away from the Hotel which makes it very accessible.

The Holiday Inn Hotel offers free on-site car parking, free Wi-Fi, plus the use of the leisure facilities which includes an indoor swimming pool. All rooms are air conditioned and the hotel has a lift which services all upper floors. All bedrooms, double, single, and twins, have double beds.

Please note that the Hotel is **CASHLESS** and accepts card payments only.

The basic cost of the weekend is £295 per person for a double/twin room. Single rooms are available for a supplement of £94 for the three nights inclusive. This covers bed/breakfast/evening meals & entertainment for all three evenings plus the cost of the coaches on the Saturday. Not included in the price is the cost of the entrance fees to the venues on Saturday or Sunday or midday meals on either day. Your own transport will be used for the Sunday trips.

If you wish to stay extra nights at the Hotel please contact the Hotel direct on 01952 527000 and advise them you are coming for the Country Link Weekend. Also please advise Caroline if you have booked extra nights at the hotel.

On Friday, the weekend starts with you checking into the Hotel any time after 3.00pm. In the evening we will have a hot fork buffet supper followed by a disco. Friday evening is also Fancy Dress with the theme 'Cowboy/Cowgirl'.

A formal 3 course dinner will be held on Saturday evening (black tie/lounge suits) followed by a disco and raffle to raise money for our two chosen charities which are Breast Cancer & Prostate Cancer. Sunday evening will be a two course meal followed by light entertainment.

Both Saturday & Sunday evening meals are **PRE-ORDER**. Menus are included for your choices which should be returned along with your trip choices & final balance.

The trips are definite at the time of printing but are subject to change depending on circumstances/events.

Saturday 11th May

Trip 1

AM - British Ironwork Centre, near Oswestry (www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk) The Ironwork Centre is an Open Air Museum of Steel Sculpture which provides, in many cases, life size sculptures of wild & domestic animals including elephants, giraffes, lions, and flocks of flamingos to mention a few. It is also renowned for the Knife Angel, Spoon Gorilla, and the Manchester Bee. Lunch & light refreshments are available at the on-site cafe & shop. It is free to visit but the centre appreciates a suggested donation of £3 per person.

PM - We travel to Shrewsbury to board the 'Sabrina' and cruise along the beautiful River Severn. The captain will provide commentary about interesting places while you travel along the river with tea/coffee & biscuits served and included in the price of £9.50 per person.

Trip 2

AM - Farm Visit to Lynn South Farm, Newport, the home of Shropshire Petals. The Bubb family dates back to 1948 at Lynn South Farm, where they grow potatoes, cereals and in later years have diversified into growing flowers for confetti. During the pandemic Shropshire Petals also started dried flower bouquets & DIY Wreaths online for customers to stay in touch with loved ones. Third generation Jim Bubb will take us on a farm tour and show us the petal business including the world's first delphinium planting & weeding robot.
(www.shropshirepetals.com)

Lunch will be available at a local pub en-route to our afternoon visit.

PM - Visit to Sydney House Farm, Telford, where we meet the Moseley family. It is a 4th generation family run farm with a Gin Distillery, Wrekin Spirit. Here we will have a talk & tour of the gin distillery by Sam Moseley followed by the all-important gin tasting! All their gin flavours are derived from the fruits of the farm, including sloe, plum, cherry, rose herb and pumpkins. The cost of this tour/taste is £15 pp to also include tea/coffee & light refreshments.
(www.wrekinspirit.co.uk)

Trip 3

AM - We travel to the Royal Airforce Museum at Cosford where you can immerse yourself in a chronological display of First World War, Interwar, and Second World War aircraft displays. See the oldest Spitfire and stand under the very impressive Avro Vulcan B2 in the national cold war exhibition. There are 3 hangars to explore with many fascinating exhibitions and displays. There are too many to mention. Lunch is available at the Airfield Kitchen in the visitor centre. Admission to the Museum is free.

PM - We travel to Boscobel House & The Royal Oak at Brewood. Boscobel House is a picturesque hunting lodge full of secrets & stories. King Charles II took refuge here in 1651. You can peer into the priest hole where he spent the night and discover the story of his visit as you explore the house. Following a short stroll, you can see a descendant of the oak tree in which Charles II hid away from Cromwell's soldiers. Boscobel also has a Victorian farm with farm animals, a typical 17th century garden plus you may like to take a 20 minute walk to the White Ladies Priory taking in some pretty countryside. A cafe serves light refreshments. Boscobel House is owned by English Heritage. Entry is free to members, the cost to non-members £12.70.

Trip 4

Do your own thing.

Sunday 12th May - OWN TRANSPORT

Trip 1

AM - Return visit to the Oakley family farm to visit their dairy herd at Dorrington, near Shrewsbury. Some of you may remember going to the farm back in 2015, a lot has changed since then.

Trip 2

AM - Walk around the world famous Ironbridge and surrounding area.

Trip 3

Do your own thing.

Ideas and places you may like to visit that are not on our trips:

Blist's Hill Victorian Town,
Sunnycroft at Wellington - NT property
Walk the Wrekin
Wroxeter Roman City - English Heritage
Shrewsbury Castle & Museum
Telford Shopping Centre

Later Sunday afternoon we meet for the National Country Link AGM time & place TBA
On Sunday evening after supper light entertainment will be provided for members.

Monday 13th May

After breakfast it's time to say goodbye

The small print:- Requests for refunds to be made in writing before or during the weekend to the organising committee whose decision is final.

To ensure your place on the weekend please complete the attached booking form, and include your cheque for the deposit of **£150.00** by no later than **14th January 2024**.

Final Balance is due by 1st March 2024.

ALL CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO: SHROPSHIRE COUNTRY LINK

**Please return to: Caroline Heath, Lawley Cross, Farley, Much Wenlock, Shropshire.
TF13 6NY**

**If you have any queries please phone or text Caroline on 07803 955983 or
E-mail carolinelea62@icloud.com**