

A Tale of 2 Cities

The North West Highlights

We stay at the 3-star **Mercure Haydock Hotel**, which is set in a traditional Georgian mansion-style building, built around a central courtyard. The hotel is surrounded by its own beautifully landscaped grounds, There is a n indoor swimming pool. Friendly staff and good food make this an ideal base for our stay in the area.

We leave on **Sunday** morning and head north west. Comfort stop en route. arriving at **Quarry Bank Mill (NT)** late morning. **Quarry Bank Mill** (also known as **Styal Mill**) is one of the best preserved textile mills of the Industrial Revolution and is now a museum of the cotton industry. It is recorded in the National Heritage List for England as a designated Grade II* listed building and inspired the 2013 television series *The Mill*. You can take a guided tour of the **Apprentice House**, which housed the pauper children who worked in the mill and learn about their working and home lives .Refreshments available. Hopefully we will be able to arrange a guided tour of the Mill. Continuing onto our hotel we arrive late afternoon. Time to relax before dinner, evening at leisure and overnight at the hotel

Monday – Today we enjoy Liverpool! We drive into **Liverpool** where our **guide** will meet us for a half day **guided tour of the city** taking in the main sights, Albert Dock, Walker Gallery, Liver Building, Beatle connections plus so much more. Free time for lunch. We finish the day with a **Ferry Cross the Mersey**. Return to the hotel for dinner, evening at leisure and overnight.

Tuesday We leave after breakfast and drive to **Manchester** for a full day in the company of our local **Blue Badge Guide Kate**. Kate will bring the city to life with an overview of some of the main sights. Free time for lunch at the Lowry Centre – your chance to see so many of Lowry’s paintings. We have also included a guided tour of **The Victoria Baths**. Return to the hotel for dinner, evening at leisure and overnight.

Wednesday – Leaving after breakfast we begin our homeward journey. Comfort stop en route we arrive in **Leicester** late morning. Time to explore the **King Richard III Visitor Centre**. **We have included a buffet lunch and an introductory talk**. We then head for home arriving at our original pick up point late afternoon.