

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

AT **10am sharp**, the Coach will leave from Elm Tree Avenue, at the Bus Lay bye opposite Titford's. Please aim to be there well before that time, say 9.30am latest to allow for loading cases.

If we are all there early we can depart early.

There will be a stop long enough for lunch and a quick look round at The Polhill Garden Centre, near to Sevenoaks, just off the M25.

If there are no hold-ups our estimated time for arrival at the Hotel should easily be mid afternoon.

Please make sure that you are back on the coach at the time requested by our driver.



The hotel is close to numerous attractions. It benefits from being right on the seafront and that the area is easy for walking, being fairly flat in all the directions (Including the Sea!). Optional, chargeable room service until 9pm. The Hotel has three lifts internally and an external one in case of fire. The higher floors will be well served and your rooms should offer superb views whichever way they may face.

MEALS: For all guests: please note, the Hotel owners are currently building a brand new restaurant. During this time all guests will be using the Horizon Suite as a restaurant. It has amazing views across the English Channel. We can look at this as a bonus (Excuse the pun).

The included Buffet Breakfast is served from before 8am, however the Hotel suggested the best time for us is 8.30am to 10am - This may save conflicting with conference delegates.

We are booked in at 6pm to have our Three Course Table d'hote Dinner (Tea or Coffee included) as it will not clash conference guests.

This will be in an informal, relaxed atmosphere.

ORIENTATION:

NOTE: All distances are approximate, measured from the maps.

Near the hotel are local landmarks you can find on your maps;



Looking out to sea west west is to the right with
'The Wish Tower' at 440 yards.

Eastwards to the left is
'The Bandstand' at 300 yards
and the Pier at 600 yards.



The Town Centre is a leisurely walk of 800 yards. Take the road immediately on the west side of our Hotel (Lacelles Terrace), pass The Devonshire Park Theatre about 250 yards on the left, into Chiswick Place taking you past 'How we lived then -The Museum of Shops'. Continue to the roundabout where on the left is South Street.

South Street and Grove road are part of 'The Little Chelsea Quarter' where there are a host of independent and unusual shops, coffee shops and restaurants.

The Main Town Centre is straight on.

ALTERNATIVELY you can go to the Town via the seafront:

Go east from the Hotel, past the Bandstand and 'Carpet Gardens' which should be lovely at this time. Then turn left before the pier into Terminus Road (Harry Ramsden's Fish & Chip shop on the corner).

The Town Centre is straight down Terminus Road, as is the Bus Terminus and Railway Station.

There are some nice coffee shops on the way if wish to stop, rest and watch the world go by.

On this route, between T.J.Hughes and Debenhams there is a Market on Wednesday mornings.

The Arndale Shopping Centre is off the pedestrianised area.

Further down, near the Railway Station The Enterprise Centre is a quaint mix of all types of interesting shops and Cafe's, well worth a look.

A longer walk East along the promenade will take you to the Bowling Greens, The Redoubt Fortress, Summerdown Camp and the Pavillion which are about one and a half miles away from the hotel. For those who are really fit the Sovereign Harbour Complex is about three miles. Unfortunately the 'Dotto' Train only runs at weekends and not during our stay so that is a disappointment. The good news is the Open Top Bus 'Hop On Hop Off' Tour (See Later info.), includes in it's loop the far eastern end of the promenade to Princes Park and Fort Fun. This stop looks to be under a mile from the Sovereign Harbour complex.



Coming out of the Hotel and heading West, you can turn second right off the Sea Front (Grand Parade) into Carlisle Road.

After a few yards you will be at the junction with Compton Street. Here you will find The Heritage Centre on the right hand near corner, on the left hand side is a very nice Italian Style Coffee / Ice Cream Establishment called Favaloso, which serves some very nice cakes, pastries, coffee or light lunches.

Across the road you will see the Buccaneer, a lively Pub serving food and real ales. The Pub is tucked between the Winter Garden and Devonshire Park Theatre stage door, the rear overlooking the Tennis Courts.



Turning to the left on Compton Street walking 100 yards will take you past The Congress Theatre to The Towner Art Gallery, where entry is free.

It has a coffee shop and also overlooks the Tennis Courts.

From the Hotel you could choose to walk Westward towards Beachy Head (2.5 miles) or, you can take a short stroll option of a quarter of mile to visit the Wish Tower with it's new Cafe, The Western View.

If you carry on in that direction to Holywell you will have travelled about a mile, but the Italian Gardens are well regarded and there is also food and drinks available at that end of the promenade.



Bus passes can be used on most local service buses. These can take you to the Sovereign Harbour Centre, Pevensey Bay, Hastings, Rye, Or West to Brighton etc. If you have the desire.



The 'Hop On Hop Off' Tour mentioned earlier travels past our Hotel in a loop via Beachy Head and some picturesque locations. Stopping at; Holywell Garden and Tea Room; Foot of Beachy Head; Beachy Head Cliffs and The Countryside Visitor Centre; Belle Tout Light House, now in danger from coastal erosion. In 1986 it was used for filming of 'The Life and Loves of a She Devil' starring Dennis Waterman, Julie. Wallace and Patricia Hodge; Birling Gap Beach and the remaining clifftop building

which are another example of coastal erosion. It has a visitor centre and refreshments are available from The Birling Gap Hotel; The Sheep Centre; East Dean Village, with it's popular pub The Tiger Inn; Warren Hill viewpoint; St. Bede's. The Bus returns to the seafront passing the View Hotel and on to the eastern end of Royal Parade including stops at Princes Park, Fort Fun and then heads back along Marine Parade (B2106) and again to our Hotel in Grand Parade.

Bus stops nearest to our Hotel for this tour are near the Wish Tower and The Bandstand.

A seniors all-day ticket costs £7.00 (With bus pass).

This is a 'Hop on - Hop off' Tour. Buses rotate at intervals of 30 to 60 minutes and the whole route takes about an hour if you don't 'Hop-off'.

Please note this runs between the hours of 10am to 5pm only, so Hop back on before 4pm or walk back to the Hotel.



We have seats booked for each of you at the Wednesday Matinee performance of Alan Ayckbourn's humorous play 'Absent Friends'. These are included in the cost of your holiday. This production is by The London Classic Theatre with Eastbourne being the first venue of their UK tour. We will be seeing their second performance at the Devonshire. We hope that you all enjoy this afternoons gentle diversion.

At 12.30pm please meet in The View Hotel Lounge Bar for a light lunch. We will then leave together at 1.45pm on the short walk of approximately 250 yards to The Devonshire Park Theatre. Curtain goes up at 2.30pm. The play should conclude at around 5pm, leaving time for a return stroll and our Dinner at 6.00pm. So no rush to get your evening meal or late night out, just a leisurely evening to enjoy afterwards.



THE HOTEL STANDARD ROOMS all have:

- Free Wifi
- Luxurious beds with cosy duvets.
- Flat screen TV with lots of channels to select from.
- Dressing table area that can be used for work - Though no work will be allowed on our trip.
- Power shower and toiletries, with big fluffy towels.
- Iron and ironing board - Any guest found taking in ironing for cash will be sent home.
- Hairdryer.
- Safe that will comfortably fit a laptop and your other gadgets.

GOING HOME:

We expect to leave at 10am on Friday 1st May, with a return stop at The Polhill Garden Centre. Ongoing to arrive back at Elm Tree Avenue mid afternoon (Est. ETA. 3pm).

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) Gratuities for the driver(s) will be provided, however gratuities for the Hotel Staff, housekeeping, waiters, etc. will be left to your discretion.
- 2) The moneys paid to The Probus Club of Frinton, Walton & District in respect of this holiday, does not include Holiday Insurance. As there can be no refunds you are advised to obtain this independently if you feel it is appropriate.

Please speak to myself, Alan Eldret or Ken Furlong if you are not sure of something or need advice during the day on our holiday. Hotel Reception is open 24 hours and staff are very helpful, please use them - ask them first if there is any problem with your room or other hotel service. Please let us know if the problem is not resolved. This is intended to be an opportunity to choose what you do, independently or in a group. If we mention that we are planning to do something and you would like to join us, please come along. Enjoy your break. Derek.