

Warners Thoresby Hall, Derbyshire & Lincoln September 2012

5 days / 4 nights departing **Monday 10.09.12**

Return Executive Coach Travel from selected pick up points

4 nights half board accommodation at Warner's Thoresby Hall in Nottinghamshire

Excursion programme : see sample itinerary below – entrances payable locally.

Cost from £399.00pp Twin / Double share

No single room supplement - limited availability – on request only

Deposit £ 60.00pp (non refundable). Balance due in full by the 27.07.12

Sample Itinerary :

Day 1 - Departing this morning, we travel north making a comfort stop en route before arriving at **Melton Mowbray** where we will visit the famous **Dickinson & Morris Pork Pie Shoppe**. Here you will see a demonstration of the pie making which has taken place since 1851. It also has the dual acclaim of being the oldest pork pie bakery and the last remaining producer of authentic Melton Mowbray pork pies, based in the town centre. You will have some free time in this market town also famous Stilton cheese. Melton's history is still evident today as if you look above the modern shop frontages you will see buildings such as the Anne of Cleves' House, a gift from King Henry VIII to his divorced wife in the mid 16th century. The cathedral-sized St. Mary's Church dates from 1170 and is known as the stateliest and most impressive of all Leicestershire churches with its 100ft tower which dominates the town. Departing here, we continue on to **Thoresby Hall** where having checked in and freshened up, your evening meal is included.

Day 2 – This morning is **at your leisure** at this **Warners property** with its many facilities. This afternoon we will offer an excursion to the **Crich National Tramway Museum** which nestles high up in the heart of Derbyshire overlooking the famous Derwent Valley. This Tramway village is a lovingly restored period village that is also home to the National Tramway Museum and its world renowned archives (entrance payable locally)

Day 3 – Today we travel into the historic city of **Lincoln** where you will have the opportunity of visiting the magnificent Cathedral located in the heart of the old town. This was one of the film locations for the film the 'Da Vinci Code' and it is a truly spectacular building steeped in history. You will have free time for lunch before we continue onto **RAF Scampton**, where your visit will include a **guided tour of the museum**.

RAF Scampton has a long and proud history as an operational Station and the current activities of its personnel match those of their predecessors. The Unit acts as 'parent' to 4 'lodgers': Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team (RAFAT), No 1 Air Control Centre (1ACC), Control and Reporting Centre (CRC) Scampton, and the Mobile Meteorological Unit (MMU). Together these independent units deliver a significant operational and defence output. You will not find any reference anywhere to the exploits of the airmen who served at this station. Their most famous squadron is 617, also known as the Dambusters and post-war Scampton was an extremely important base, housing one of the United Kingdoms nuclear deterrents - the Blue Steel Missile. Even today Scampton leads an interesting life as home to the RAF Aerobatic Team - The Red Arrows. The station museum is housed in one of the original WW2 hangers and contains over 400 artifacts (including a Blue Steel Missile). *Photographic ID i.e. a driving license / passport is required for the RAF visit.* From here, we return to the hotel in time to freshen up before dinner.

Day 4 – This morning we travel west towards the Peak District where we will visit **Chatsworth House** (entrance payable locally). Known as one of the wonders of the Peaks, Chatsworth House is the home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and both the house and gardens have attracted visitors from all over the world, for many generations. The building of Chatsworth house began in 1552 by Bess of Hardwick and her second husband Sir William Cavendish. Their second son, William, was created Earl of Devonshire in 1618. The 4th Earl who was created 1st Duke of Devonshire in 1694 after assisting William of Orange to claim the British throne, began to make improvements at Chatsworth. Eventually he completely remodelled the house and added formal gardens and the famous cascade. Most of the work was completed before he died in 1707 and the park was landscaped by Capability Brown, who reshaped the formal garden into the more natural one you see today. The 6th Duke

engaged Joseph Paxton as the head gardener, resulting in the enrichment of the gardens and the creation of the Emperor Fountain as well as the now demolished Great Conservatory. The house and gardens have remained little changed since the 6th Dukes time. You will have several hours here to explore at your leisure before we return to **Thoresby Hall** where you can relax and enjoy the the facilities on offer to you. Dinner is included this evening.

Day 5 - Departing Thoresby Hall after breakfast as we depart Thoresby Hall, we will make a stop in the city of **Nottingham**. Here you might choose to visit Nottingham Castle - a magnificent 17th century ducal mansion built on the site of the original Medieval Castle, with spectacular views across the city. The vibrant museum and art gallery, which houses a collection of silver, glass, armour and paintings as well as fifteen centuries of Nottinghamshire history. The galleries also bring the best regional, national and international artist's work to the city. There is also **The Galleries of Justice** which depicts three centuries of crime, punishment and law. Located in and around the magnificent Shire Hall, a grade II listed site comprising two Victorian courtrooms, an 1800 prison, prisoners exercise yard, cave cells (known as the pits!), an 1833 prison, women's prison with bath house and laundry, medieval cave system and an Edwardian police station (entrances payable locally). Leaving Nottinghamshire this afternoon, we re-trace our steps towards Buckinghamshire, arriving at your original departure points later in the day.

THORESBY HALL : Everyone should stay here at least once in their lives! Everyone should experience the feeling of strolling through rolling parklands and then heading back for dinner in a majestic 18th century country house. You might choose to take a drink in the imposing Grand Hall, or relax in the library or dine in the exquisitely restored Blue Room. In all this elegant grandeur the friendly and approachable staff will do everything they can to make you feel at home. By day, enjoy a range of wonderful sports and leisure facilities, including a luxurious Spa or stroll in the Victorian rose-garden, have a swim in the pool or try something completely new such as laser clay shooting. By night, enjoy a range of fine live entertainment after your evening meal.