

MERIDIAN
School of English. Since 1979

OUTSIDE THE
CLASSROOM
THE LEARNING
CONTINUES

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INTRODUCTION

Meridian School of English is lucky enough to be located in one of the most beautiful regions in England. This means we can offer a wide range of trips to suit all interests from famous landmarks to coastal walks with breathtaking views.

Our trips not only give students the opportunity to explore the surrounding areas but also allow them to apply their improved English language skills to real life scenarios.

Our prices include transport, entrances where stated, booking and admin fees and an accompanying member of Meridian staff.

**“
Exploring the surrounding countryside was totally amazing
– it’s really beautiful here and my English also improved!”**

Niklas, Germany

NATIONAL MARINE AQUARIUM

The National Marine Aquarium is located in the historic Barbican area of Plymouth. It is the largest aquarium in the United Kingdom, and also features the deepest tank. There is a wide selection of creatures to see from sharks to octopuses and exhibits showing what lurks beneath in Plymouth Sound.

Journey time:
15 minutes walk
HALF DAY TRIP



DARTMOOR ZOO

The family run zoo inspired a novel, 'We Bought a Zoo' which was the basis for the film of the same name starring Matt Damon. The small zoo rose to fame after its release. Many creatures call Dartmoor zoo home, notably big cats including lions, tigers, lynx and jaguars.

A day at the zoo also features events and talks from the staff; you might get to see a falconry display or watch the keepers feeding the otters, coatis, or bears, a great way to find out more about your favourite animals.

Journey time:
30 minutes by
coach or bus
HALF DAY
TRIP



MOUNT EDGCUMBE

Mount Edgcumbe is a country park, accessible from Plymouth by a short ferry ride. The grounds boast lots to see and do including landscaped gardens, shingle beaches and walking along the coast path. You can also explore the grounds of Mount Edgcumbe Stately Home which overlooks Plymouth Sound.

Various events and exhibitions take place here year round and there are several cafes and shops to visit, with the opportunity to see local artisans at work.

Journey time:
40 minutes
by ferry and bus
**HALF DAY
TRIP**



SALTRAM HOUSE

Saltram House is a Georgian mansion set in the beautiful landscape of Saltram Park, which overlooks the River Plym and offers stunning views. The parkland is still a working estate and provides a range of different habitats for local wildlife. The inside is elegantly decorated and possesses an impressive collection of objects from around the world.

The house was used as a setting in the film 'Sense and Sensibility' based on the novel by Jane Austen. Watch out for ghosts – supposedly Saltram is haunted by the ghosts of a murdered maid and a child!

Journey time:
40 minutes
by coach or bus
**HALF DAY
TRIP**



MORWELLHAM QUAY

A small town built around Cornwall's tin mining industry, and situated by the River Tamar, Morwellham Quay brings history to life. Interactive exhibits show life in a Victorian school, rope making and making your own chocolate. Staff dressed in traditional period costume demonstrate blacksmithing and what child labourers did, and you can also try on similar clothing.

The site has been awarded World Heritage Site status. The Edwardian Farm cottage was featured in a TV series and you can see how people would have lived in that era and meet some of the farm animals.

Journey time:

40 minutes
by coach
FULL DAY
TRIP



TORQUAY

Torquay is one of three towns that make up Torbay, known as the 'English Riviera'. Torquay is a traditional seaside resort with a palm tree lined promenade overlooking the harbour, and its own beach.

Many tourists visit for both the coastal location, and to see Kents Cavern, which is a must-see for geology enthusiasts but also offers an interesting look at the local prehistory. Some of the oldest human remains in Europe have been discovered in this cave system.

Journey time:

40 minutes
by coach or train
FULL DAY
TRIP



TOTNES

Totnes is a market town known for its unique shops and alternative community. There are many historic buildings and monuments plus beautiful gardens around the town centre, as well as the castle. The town is situated along the picturesque River Dart and is a great place for countryside walks to charming villages and gardens.



Journey time:

40 minutes
by coach
FULL DAY
TRIP

DARTMOOR

Dartmoor has inspired the imagination for centuries and is the basis of many myths, legends and works of literature. The Sherlock Holmes novel 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' was set on Dartmoor, as are many local legends. It is also a site of important ecological significance, with a variety of species calling it home, such as the famous Dartmoor ponies.

Highlights of Dartmoor include the magnificent Buckland Abbey and market town of Tavistock, and a walk around the moors to take in spectacular sights where the view doesn't disappoint.



EDEN PROJECT

Built in a reclaimed clay pit, the iconic biomes of the Eden Project are set against beautiful scenery in Cornwall and house one of the largest botanical collections in the world consisting of over 100,000 plants representing over 5000 species. The plants come from a variety of different habitats all over the world, displayed in tropical and Mediterranean biomes. The attraction explores themes such as art, culture and sustainable living in the uniquely designed Core building which showcases many interactive exhibits for all ages.

Journey time:

1 hour by coach
FULL DAY
TRIP



Journey time:

1 hour
by coach or train
FULL DAY
TRIP

EXETER

Originally a Roman settlement, Exeter is the county town of Devon.

The Cathedral was founded in the 11th century and is a popular tourist destination in the city. Things to see in the Cathedral include the Astronomical Clock, Minstrels' Gallery, square Norman towers, and the vaulted ceiling which is the longest continuous one in the world.

There are many places of interest in the city including the quay, the museum, the guildhall, the castle, and lots of shops!

LOOE

Looe is a town in Cornwall, part of the South West coast path. It grew from a small fishing village that was also used by smugglers and is today a popular tourist destination. The sandy beach is a fantastic place to relax and enjoy the sunshine or coastal views.

Looe has lots of restaurants and cafes that allow you to sample traditional British food such as fish and chips or Cornish pasties. You can also visit one of the many old pubs that were once used as hideouts by smugglers and pirates.

Journey time:

1 hour 20 minutes
by coach or train

**FULL DAY
TRIP**



TINTAGEL CASTLE and BOSCASTLE

Tintagel Castle is steeped in legend surrounding the mythical King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. It is an important archaeological site set on a dramatic stretch of Cornish coastline where in good weather the views are second to none.

Boscastle is a small fishing village on the North Cornish Coast. The harbour was once very important for trade but today attracts tourists with its picturesque valley location, tea rooms and stone cottages.

Journey time:

1 hour 20 minutes
by coach

**FULL DAY
TRIP**



TRURO

Truro is Cornwall's only city. The main landmark is the beautiful Gothic style cathedral, which is one of the country's most recently built cathedrals. Truro is a popular destination for shopping, which is fitting for a historic market town.

The Royal Cornwall Museum celebrates Cornwall's mining heritage, and in addition it holds collections of Egyptian, Roman and Greek objects supported by the British Museum of London.

Journey time:
1 hour 20 minutes
by coach or train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



PAIGNTON ZOO

Over 2000 animals of 250 species can be found at Paignton Zoo in specially designed habitats including grasslands, wetlands and rainforest. Indoor exhibits include a tropical house, desert house and reptile house so there is always something to see no matter what the weather. The jungle express train offers even closer views of the animals for a small charge.

Paignton Zoo has been awarded third best zoo in the UK and houses all kinds of rare and interesting animals, and runs vital conservation projects overseas.

Journey time:
1 hour 30 minutes
by coach or train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



ST IVES

St Ives is one of the most famous Cornish holiday towns and has previously won a 'Best UK Seaside Town' award in 2010 and 2011. The harbour is central to the town and still important to the fishing industry. The town features cobbled streets, fishermen's cottages and is home to many art galleries and artists.

The village of Marazion is an area of outstanding natural beauty which overlooks the island of St Michael's Mount. With favourable weather and tides the island can be reached by a manmade causeway.

Journey time:
2 hours
by coach or train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



LAND'S END and MINACK THEATRE

Located in Cornwall, Land's End is the most south-westerly point in England and for over two hundred years tourists have visited the landmark. The landscape consists of rocky shorelines and the Scilly Isles or Longships Lighthouse. Due to its rare flora, the site is designated an Important Plant Area.

The Minack Theatre has been listed as one of the world's most spectacular theatres. A visit gives you access to the open air venue to wander the terraces, admire more breathtaking views, or visit the exhibition.

Journey time:
2 hours 15 minutes
by coach
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



BATH and ROMAN BATHS

Bath is famous for being the home of Britain's only hot spring. The Roman Baths are a world heritage site and one of the best preserved examples of Roman architecture; with an extensive museum collection of Roman artefacts you can find out what life was like in 'Aquae Sulis' and sample the spa waters on your visit.

A trip to Bath includes entrance to the Roman Baths and seeing famous sites in the city such as Bath Abbey, Pulteney Bridge, the Assembly Rooms, and the Royal Crescent and Circus, as well as Bath's beautiful open spaces set among classic Georgian architecture and Clifton Suspension Bridge, and keep your eyes open for the work of Graffiti artist Banksy.

**Journey time
from Plymouth:
2 hours 45 minutes
by coach
FULL DAY
TRIP**

**Journey time
from Portsmouth:
2 hours by coach
FULL DAY
TRIP**



PORTSMOUTH HISTORIC DOCKYARD

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard is today both a working dockyard and a tourist attraction open to the public. Showcased on the site are several ships including HMS Victory, the famous flagship of Admiral Nelson; HMS Warrior, the world's first iron clad warship; M33, a World War I warship and only surviving ship from the Gallipoli Campaign; and the Mary Rose, warship of Henry VIII which was raised in 1982.

Accompanying museums offer history on the Royal Navy and Action Stations is an interactive area showing with hands on activities.

Journey time:
10 minutes
on foot
**FULL DAY
TRIP**

SPINNAKER TOWER

At 170 m high, the Spinnaker tower is a distinctive landmark of Portsmouth. The design was inspired by ship sails, which reflects Portsmouth's maritime history. An observation tower with three viewing decks, it offers views stretching from across the Solent to the South Downs and to the forts in the sea towards the Isle of Wight.

Get the most out of your visit by using the interactive touch screen with lots of information, visiting the café or walking across the glass viewing deck if you dare!

Journey time:
15 minutes
on foot
**HALF DAY
TRIP**



FORT NELSON

Fort Nelson was built in the 1860s, one of several forts constructed for defence. They were built to defend the Portsmouth Dockyard from the threat of a French invasion, but were never attacked. It belongs to the Royal Armouries and houses a collection of artillery from around the world.

Points of interest include live firings of historic weapons, the barracks where soldiers lived, and many famous pieces of artillery. Other exhibits are available to see depending on the time of year.

Journey time:
20 minutes
by coach or bus
**HALF DAY
TRIP**



© Julian Colander

PORTCHESTER CASTLE

Overlooking the Solent, Portchester Castle was originally the site of a Roman fort, which has been adapted over the centuries to create the castle as seen today. The walls and towers are 1700 years old and the most well preserved example of a Roman fort in Northern Europe.

Within the outer walls a medieval castle was constructed which was a key defensive site. It has also been used as a place for kings and queens to visit, a prison and hospital.

Walking around the top of the walls offers great views over the surrounding areas and extensive grounds which house a church. The castle features in the Shakespeare play 'Henry V'.

Journey time:
20 minutes
by coach
**HALF DAY
TRIP**



CHICHESTER and CATHEDRAL

Chichester is a cathedral city, which was originally established by the Romans, and developed during Anglo-Saxon and Medieval times. Some of the oldest churches in Britain are found here and the medieval city walls still remain in places.

The Novium Museum lets you find out more about the history of the city and surrounding areas, featuring displays of the Chichester Roman Baths and many objects from its Roman past. The stunning harbour is itself an area of natural beauty, and the city is set against a backdrop of the magnificent South Downs.



Journey time:

25 minutes
by coach or train
**HALF DAY
TRIP**



ARUNDEL CASTLE

Arundel Castle consists of a castle, garden and stately home which have been passed down through noble families since 1138.

Features of the castle include the Fitzalan Chapel, an armoury filled with antique weaponry, intricate craftsmanship and decadent Regency style interiors in the library, while outside the walled garden has been open to visitors since 1800 and is home to many beautiful and rare plants, with many artfully designed decorative touches.



Journey time:

40 minutes
by coach or train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



MARWELL ZOO

Located in 140 acres of parkland with over 1000 animals, Marwell Zoo is run by a conservation charity with a focus on African animals, and also has the UK's largest collection of ungulates (a group which includes zebras, giraffes, rhinos, antelope and horses).

It has an active focus on conservation and several of its captive bred species have been reintroduced back into the wild. The attraction features its own railway and has many indoor exhibits making it a perfect rainy day activity.

Journey time:

40 minutes
by coach
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



WINCHESTER

Winchester is rated one of the best places to live in the UK, and has been an important city since before the Romans came to Britain.

Winchester Cathedral, one of its finest landmarks, is among the largest cathedrals in Europe. Winchester Great Hall is all that remains of the castle, which many people visit to see the round table. The table was allegedly the round table of King Arthur and his knights, however it has been shown to be a replica from the 13th century.

Journey time:

40 minutes
by train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



BEAULIEU NATIONAL MOTOR MUSEUM

Beaulieu is small village located in the scenic New Forest National Park in Hampshire. There are many attractions to visit, including the National Motor Museum, Palace House and Beaulieu Abbey. Over 250 vehicles are on display in the museum with lots of information on the history of motoring.

Beaulieu Palace House was once part of the Abbey and is now a Victorian country house and one of the best English stately homes open to the public, but also supposedly one of the most haunted places in Britain!

Journey time:

45 minutes
by coach
FULL DAY
TRIP



SOUTHAMPTON and SEA CITY MUSEUM

Southampton is a port city, also known as Solent City, which is appropriate as the river has played a key role in its maritime history. It was one of the locations where soldiers set off for the D-day landings in World War II. It is also famous for its association with the Titanic, and you can find out more at the Sea City Museum or see berth 44 where the ill-fated ship set sail from.

Some of the largest luxury cruise liners in the world dock in Southampton where there is lots to enjoy in the city. It has been rated one of the top places in the UK for shopping.

Journey time:

45 minutes
by coach or train
FULL DAY
TRIP



STONEHENGE and SALISBURY

The iconic stone circle is a must-see in England. Despite lots of archaeological research, much about this site's origins remains a mystery. Globally it is one of the most important prehistoric sites; as well as the famous stones there are many other features nearby such as burial sites. It is also popular with the New Age community and whilst the stones are not accessible most of the year, people can get up close to the stone circle during the solstices and equinoxes.

A visit to the city of Salisbury is a must. There are lots of historic buildings to see, including the majestic Salisbury Cathedral.

Journey time:

1 hour
by coach
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



BRIGHTON and ROYAL PAVILION

A well-known tourist destination, the city is characterised by its beach and pier. Building of the Brighton Royal Pavilion started in 1787 to provide a seaside resort for George VI. Queen Victoria later sold it to the City of Brighton and since then has been used as a concert hall, assembly rooms and even as a hospital during World War I. Today it is a very popular tourist attraction. The style and architectural features such as domes and minarets were inspired by more exotic designs from India, China and the Islamic world.



Journey time:

1 hour 30 minutes
by train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



BRIGHTON (NO PAVILION)

Brighton is the ultimate British seaside resort, made popular by visits from English royalty. The Lanes shopping district is located in the old fishing village, containing a range of independent shops. The pier features rides and attractions.

The town has everything you need for a day trip to the seaside. Brighton is a very culturally diverse town and hosts its own Pride festival every year. It is supposedly one of the happiest places to live in the UK.

Journey time:

1 hour 30 minutes
by train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



LONDON

London is one of the world's most famous and fascinating cities. A trip to London involves sightseeing landmarks such as Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, London Eye, and Downing Street.

There is plenty to do in the capital; over 100 museums and galleries including the British Museum, Natural History Museum and National Gallery, and many places to go shopping such as Oxford Street, Covent Garden and Camden Town.

Journey time:

2 hours
by coach or train
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



OXFORD

Oxford is arguably most famous for Oxford University, and is nicknamed the 'City of Dreaming Spires'. Oxford may look familiar, having been used as a filming location for many films and TV shows, perhaps most notably the Harry Potter films, where the Great Hall of Christ Church College was used as the Hogwarts dining hall.

Thanks to its rich academic history there is no shortage of interesting things to see, including the Bridge of Sighs, Bodleian Library, Radcliffe Camera, and many museums such as the Ashmolean.

Journey time:

2 hours
by coach
**FULL DAY
TRIP**



ISLE OF WIGHT

The Isle of Wight is the largest island in the UK, made famous from Queen Victoria.

- The Needles – one of the island's landmark attraction with stunning views.
- Osborne – Queen Victoria's summer palace filled with royal collections and beautiful gardens offering a glimpse of royal family life.

The Isle of Wight hosts sailing events during Cowes Week and is the home of music festivals Bestival and the Isle of Wight festival.

Journey time:

3 hours
by bus and ferry
**FULL DAY
TRIP**





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