

Falmouth

1 – 8 October



Falmouth is Britain's most southerly resort and the third largest natural harbour in the world surrounded by a beautiful coastline, wooded creeks and craggy inlets. The magnificent Pendennis Castle stands proudly overlooking the harbour, sheltered beaches and glorious parks and gardens complete the picture. In the narrow streets of the bustling town centre you will find a wide selection of shops and art galleries, cobbled alleys and ancient inns.

MONDAY 1 OCTOBER Departing from Oxted 8.30am and making stops for refreshments along the way we arrive at our Falmouth hotel late afternoon.

TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER A day at leisure to explore Falmouth's shops, harbour, sheltered creeks, beaches and gardens. The port of Falmouth stands at the entrance to Carrick Roads, a magnificent natural harbour formed at the junction of several estuaries. The castles of Pendennis and St Mawes, which face each other across the Roads, were built by Henry VIII and gave protection against marauders.

WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER Today we drive

westwards to Penzance, a bustling town and harbour with a climate so mild that palm trees and other sub-tropical plants thrive. Later we take a scenic drive along the North Cornish coast to the picturesque town, and once busy fishing port, of St. Ives with its gaily-coloured stone cottages, cobbled alleys and array of cafes, unusual shops and artists' studios; enjoy a walk alongside the harbour, or if you are feeling cultural, visit the Tate St Ives and the Barbara Hepworth Sculpture garden.

THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER Departing from the Prince of Wales Pier in Falmouth, we take a boat trip up the



river to Truro, where we shall alight at the Town Quay, tides permitting, or the waterside village of Malpas, from where there is a classic double decker bus waiting to take us to the town centre. Here there will be time to browse and shop or maybe visit the cathedral or the Royal Cornwall Museum before returning to the hotel by coach.

FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER A full day scenic tour of the rugged North Cornwall coast, making a stop in the harbour town of Padstow, built on a hillside overlooking the Camel Estuary with its many medieval buildings. Padstow is the home of one of TV's top chefs – restaurateur Rick Stein.

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER A further day at leisure. You may wish to take a boat trip up the Helford River – see Frenchman's Creek, famed by Daphne du Maurier.

SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER After breakfast, we make our way to Marazion, from where we cross to the

iconic island of St Michael's Mount by boat. Meander around the historic village, climb to the island's summit where the vision of St Michael appeared, or marvel at the engineering of the underground tram that carries supplies from the harbour to the castle. Early afternoon we make our way to the historic Trevarno Estate where you can explore the magnificent gardens, grounds and Woodland walks which date back to 1246. Enjoy the abundant wildlife, follow the progress of major restoration projects and visit the remarkable National Museum of Gardening.

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER Departing from the hotel after breakfast we make our way homewards, making stops en route and arriving back early evening.

What's included

ROYAL DUCHY HOTEL Falmouth

One of Cornwall's most respected Hotels, the Royal Duchy enjoys dramatic views across Falmouth Bay to the towers of Pendennis Castle and the headland beyond. Standing in its own grounds, the Hotel has an indoor swimming pool, spa bath and games room.

All bedrooms are en suite with TV, telephone & hospitality tray.

7 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast.

Time to explore Falmouth, Truro & St Ives

Boat trip from Falmouth to Truro

Scenic tour of North Cornwall coast including Padstow

Entry to Trevarno Gardens

Scenic tour of West Cornwall including St Ives

£835.00 PER PERSON

Single Room Supp: £147.00

*Nat Trust members less £6.50, but **must** bring card.*

Please note: *Requiring a steep climb up a cobbled path, access to the castle on St Michael's Mount is difficult for visitors with limited mobility.*