

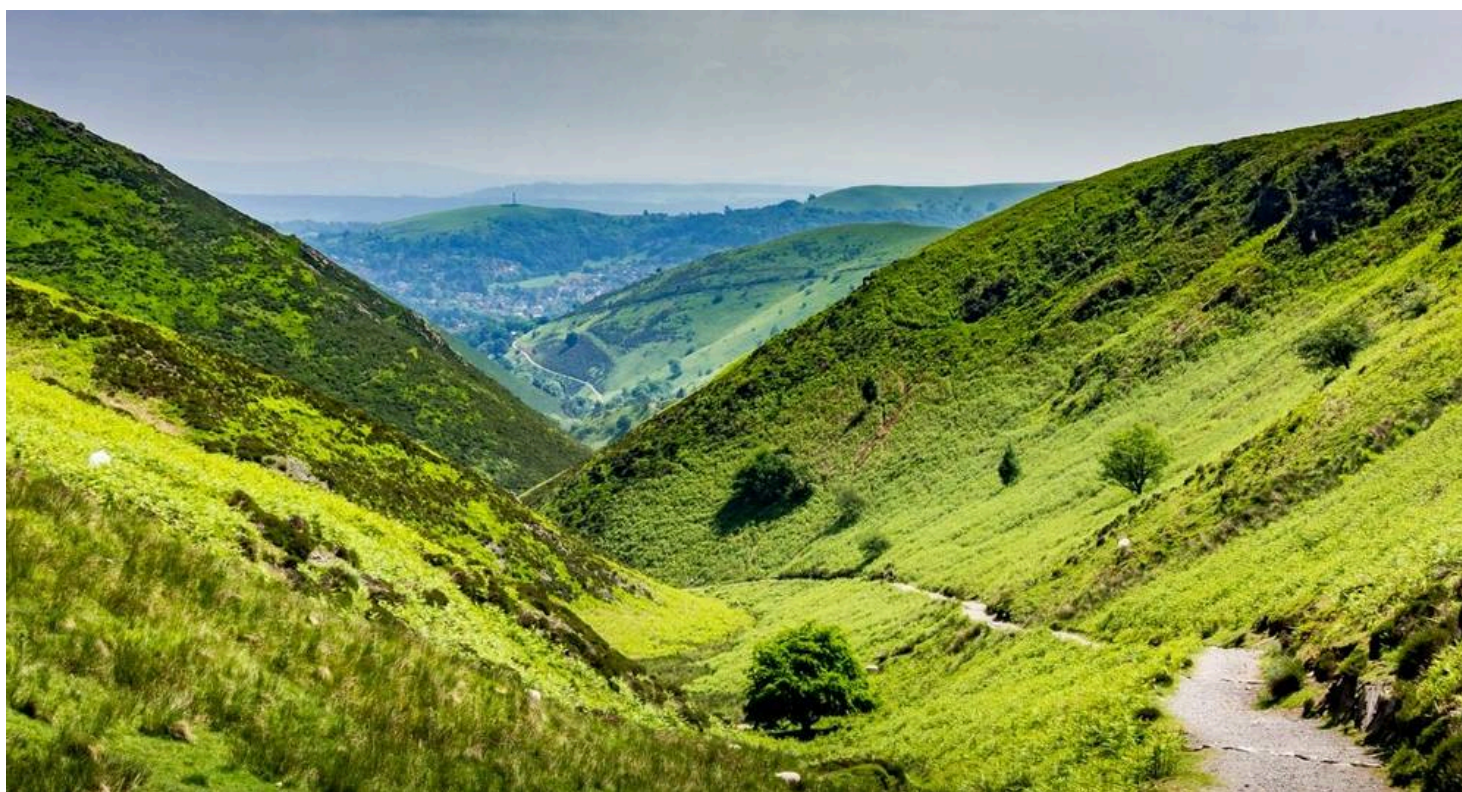
# 7 Night Shropshire Hills Guided Walking Holiday

**Tour Style:** Guided walking

**Destinations:** Shropshire Hills, United Kingdom & England

**Trip code:** CSBOB-7

2, 3 & 4



## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

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There's something enchanting about the Shropshire Hills, the so-called 'Little Switzerland' covering almost a quarter of the county. Every footstep on this guided walking holiday rewards with stunning views; think ruined castles folded into hillsides, rare wildlife roaming the upland heaths, and a selection of postcard-worthy market towns and villages perched on the River Severn.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

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- En-suite accommodation in our 4-star country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walking with experienced HF Holidays Leaders
- Choice of up to three guided walks (on walking days)

- All transport to and from walks where necessary
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

## HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

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- Discovering the immense beauty of the Shropshire Hills on foot
- Visiting picturesque market towns and villages
- Learning more about this National Landscape
- Making the most of the V-shaped valleys and countryside
- Spending time with like-minded people in the great outdoors
- Staying at Longmynd House in Church Stretton

## ITINERARY VERSION 2

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### Day 1: Arrival Day

Check-in at the hotel is available from 4pm. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea on arrival.

### Day 2: CAER CARADOC & THE LAWLEY

#### Option 1 - Slopes Of Caer Caradoc

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Ascent: 1,150 feet (360m)

**In summary:** A lovely route around Church Stretton. Heading across the valley towards the Stretton Hills we wind our way up the Cwms Valley along the scenic path which runs around the slopes of Caer Caradoc Hill.

**Highlight:** Enjoy the panoramic views of Church Stretton, Long Mynd and Stretton Hills.

#### Option 2 - Caer Caradoc And Back

Distance: 9.5 miles (15km)

Ascent: 1,700 feet (520m)

**In summary:** From Longmynd House we descend to Church Stretton and along the Cwms Valley, from here we'll ascend steeply to the summit of Caer Caradoc. Descending to the hamlet of Comley we skirt westwards and return through the Village of All Stretton along country lanes and back to the house.

**Highlight:** Reaching the summit of Caer Caradoc and seeing the Ancient British Iron Age Hill Fort which occupies the entire area.

#### Option 3 - The Stretton Ridges - Caer Caradoc And The Lawley

Distance: 12.5 miles (20km)

Ascent: 2,600 feet (790m)

**In summary:** A walk that takes in the iconic Caer Caradoc, which has the earthworks of an iron age fort on its summit. We continue the day by ascending The Lawley to walk the full length before heading back to Longmynd House.

**Highlight:** Walking the full length of the Lawley providing panoramic extensive views.

## Day 3: THE STIPERSTONES

### Option 1 - Beneath The Stiperstones

**Distance:** 7 miles (11km)

**Ascent:** 850 feet (260m)

**In summary:** We start our walk at the foot of Corndon Hill, with a visit to the Mitchell's Fold Bronze Age Stone Circle. Our route takes us along the border between England and Wales before heading east to reach The Bog. We traverse the lower slopes of the distinctive quartzite Stiperstones ridge before descending to the village of Stiperstones.

**Highlight:** Mitchell's Fold Bronze Age Stone Circle set in dramatic moorland.

### Option 2 - The Stiperstones Ridge

**Distance:** 9 miles (14.5km)

**Ascent:** 1,300 feet (400m)

**In summary:** Our route starts with a visit to Mitchell's Fold Bronze Age Stone Circle. From there we follow paths and tracks eastwards crossing Mucklewick Hill and passing by Nipstone Rock to reach the Stiperstones ridge. We traverse the rugged quartzite ridge and its iconic outcrops before descending steeply to the village of Stiperstones.

**Highlight:** The rocky and spectacular landscape of the Stiperstones ridge.

### Option 3 - Stapeley Hill & The Stiperstones

**Distance:** 10.5 miles (17km)

**Ascent:** 1,500 feet (460m)

**In summary:** A longer route, taking in Mitchell's Fold Bronze Age Stone Circle before crossing Stapeley Hill, Mucklewick Hill and passing by Nipstone rock to reach the geologically significant Stiperstones ridge. We also traverse the rugged quartzite ridge and its iconic outcrops before descending steeply to the village of Stiperstones.

**Highlight:** The Stiperstones summit epitomises the jagged beauty of the ridge.

## Day 4: Free Day - Shropshire Hills

Discover more about [Longmynd House and the local area](#) for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

## Day 5: THE LONG MYND VALLEYS

### Option 1 - Batch Valley & New Pool Hollow

**Distance:** 6 miles (10km)

**Ascent:** 1,350 feet (480m)

**In summary:** Walk around the base of Novers Hill before heading higher up onto the Longmynd itself and visiting the extraordinary golf course found as high as any in England. We enter Cardingmill valley via a gentle path down the northern slope to visit New Pool Hollow with its picturesque reservoir before heading back to

the house, passing through the peaceful Rectory Woods.

**Highlight:** Visit some of the oldest fossils ever discovered in New Pool Hollow.

### Option 2 - All Stretton And Long Mynd

**Distance:** 7.0 miles (11.5km)

**Ascent:** 1,400 feet (430m)

**In summary:** Walking north along the base of The Longmynd, we pass the source of the famous Stretton Mineral Water to ascend steadily to Plush Hill and onto the ancient drover road known as The Portway. Walking along the heather moorland on the ridge of The Longmynd itself and then descending into Carding Mill valley before heading home to Longmynd House.

**Highlight:** Descending into Carding Mill Valley, the most famous valley in South Shropshire.

### Option 3 - Ashes Hollow, Cwmdale And Carding Mill

**Distance:** 10 miles (16.5km)

**Total ascent:** 2050 feet (620m)

**In summary:** Leaving from Longmynd House we head through the amazing Ashes Hollow Valley and take in the summit of Pole Bank. We then carry on heading towards All Stretton taking in Cwmdale and return to the house via Carding Mill.

**Highlight:** Take in multiple valleys on this walk.

## Day 6: The Onny Valley & Ancient Hill Forts

### Option 1 - Norton Camp & Stokesay Castle

**Distance:** 5.5 miles (9.0km)

**Total ascent:** 850 feet (260m)

**In summary:** Leaving the Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, we ascend through beautiful woods to the Iron Age Hill Fort of Norton Camp, renowned for its double rampart and ditch and spectacular views across to the Cleve Hills (the highest point in Shropshire). We then descend through woodland to the Onny Valley and follow field paths to Stokesay Castle (the finest Medieval fortified Manor House in the Country) and back to the Discovery Centre.

**Highlight:** Norton Camp and a chance to visit Stokesay Castle (English Heritage).

### Option 2 - Cheney Longville, Wart Hill Fort & Hopesay Common

**Distance:** 7.5 miles (12.0 km)

**Total ascent:** 850 feet (260m)

**In summary:** We follow a riverside path northwards along the Onny Valley, before heading west across field paths and lanes to Cheney Longville, with its 14<sup>th</sup> century manor house. Ascending through woods we reach the site of a small Iron Age fortified homestead at Wart Hill from where there are impressive views. Our route then traverses Hopesay Common before picking up the Shropshire Way back to Craven Arms.

**Highlight:** Views from Wart Hill and Hopesay Common.

### Option 3 - Hopesay Common, Wart Hill Fort & The Onny Trail

**Distance:** 10.5 miles (17km)

**Total Ascent:** 1440 feet (440m)

**In summary:** Heading west across fields and through woods along sections of the Shropshire Way, we pass Sibdon Castle (built in the 1600s) to reach Hopesay Common (National Trust). We then turn north across the Common to reach the site of a small fortified homestead at Wart Hill. Continuing through woodland, we descend to the Onny Valley where we pick up the Onny Trail (which follows the line of the doomed Bishops Castle railway) back to Craven Arms.

**Highlights:** Wart Hill and the Onny Trail

## Day 7: Exploring The Long Mynd

### Option 1 - Wentnor, Adstone Hill & Across The Long Mynd.

**Distance:** 6.5 miles (14.5km)

**Ascent:** 1100 feet (340m)

**In summary:** Starting on the quiet west side of Long Mynd, at the village of Wentnor we head north along field paths, lanes and an ancient track across Adstone Hill before turning west across the Long Mynd plateau. Our descent takes us down the beautiful Townbrook Valley and through Rectory Woods to reach Longmynd House.

**Highlight:** Crossing the famous Long Mynd plateau from west to east with stunning views throughout.

### Option 2 - Hamperley, Churchmoor Hill, Pole Bank, Townbrook

**Distance:** 8.5 miles (10.5km)

**Ascent:** 1350 feet (420m)

**In summary:** From Hamperley we pass Priors Holt (the Shropshire residence of author Malcolm Saville), ascend Churchmoor Hill with wide ranging views, and follow forestry tracks to the Southern end of the Long Mynd. Passing the gliding club clubhouse we may stop for refreshment there. Continuing North on the Long Mynd we pass Pole Cottage enclosure and reach the summit of Pole Bank. Our descent route is also down Townbrook Valley to Rectory Woods and Longmynd House.

**Highlight:** Walking along the much less visited Southern end of the Long Mynd with wide ranging views..

### Option 3 - Linley, Norbury Hill, Coates, Pole Bank & Ashlet

**Distance:** 9.5 miles (15.5km)

**Ascent:** 1800 feet (550m)

**In summary:** From the pretty village of Norbury we pass through pastoral fields to join the Shropshire Way up Linley Hill. There are fine views West across to the Southern end of the Stiperstones ridge and to the East the Western flank of the whale-like Long Mynd. Further field and woodland paths take us to the Southern end of Adstone Hill. From here we pass Coates Farm and ascend the Long Mynd to Pole Bank summit. Return to Longmynd House is a route skirting Yearlet Hill and crossing Ashlet Hill.

**Highlight:** We walk through the famous avenue of Linley Beeches planted in 1740 by local MP Robert More on

Linley Hill

## Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

## ACCOMMODATION

### Longmynd Hotel

For rural calm in the Shropshire Hills National Landscape, the location of this characterful country house is hard to top. Set in a wooded hillside just a short stroll from the market town of Church Stretton (nicknamed Little Switzerland for its picturesque landscape), you'll be within walking or driving distance of the Stiperstones, Caer Caradoc, Ironbridge Valley of Invention, and the historic towns of Ludlow and Shrewsbury. And then, of course, there's the Long Mynd itself – an area of registered common land that has been cared for by a group of farmers (the self-named commoners) who have grazed sheep and ponies here for generations.

### Country House Accommodation

#### Rooms

Designed with your comfort in mind, Longmynd Hotel has 56 well-appointed guest rooms available in two categories: Classic and Premium.

**Classic Rooms** are comfortable en-suite guest rooms, ideal for a peaceful night's sleep. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, and shower gel), and a TV.

**Premium Rooms** are more spacious en-suite guest rooms\*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

**We love:** For more privacy, the lodges have their own terrace.

The **Choose Your Room** service is available at our UK country houses, allowing you the option of choosing and confirming a specific room for an extra charge of £30 per room. This is subject to availability. Upgrade supplements apply.

#### Check in & check out

You are welcome to check in from **4:00pm at the earliest**. On arrival, you'll enjoy a complimentary cream tea and get to meet your fellow guests, our HF Holidays Leaders, and the rest of the friendly team.

On the day of departure, we kindly ask all guests to check out by **10:00am**. You'll be asked to settle your bill prior to leaving. You may, of course, make a charitable donation to our HF Holidays Pathways Fund if you wish. Please note that we only accept card payments.

#### Room supplements

Premium single	Premium double/twin	Choose your room
£20 pppn	£20 pppn	£30 per room

\*Views and layout reflect each properties unique character and location



## About Your Stay

### A warm welcome

We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

### Evening entertainment

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided walking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

### Walks talks

Our HF Holidays walk leaders host guided walking information briefings before dinner on guided walking holiday arrival days. This is followed by a group Walks Talk for information on the following day's guided walks (held before dinner every evening). Self-guided walking guests are, of course, welcome.

### The walking day

Prior to setting off on guided walks, your HF Holidays Leader will run you through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure you have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

## Food & Drink

Led by experienced chefs, we serve a wide range of dishes made with fresh and seasonal ingredients. We always aim to source the best produce available and use home-grown herbs and vegetables from our own gardens whenever possible. Additionally, we have a licensed bar with beers, soft drinks, and a superb selection of spirits. Full-board comes as standard and includes a cream tea on arrival and a hearty breakfast on departure day.

HF Holidays understands the importance of managing allergens effectively to ensure food is safe for guests with food allergies. Whilst we are always able to confidently inform guests which allergens are present in our ingredients and dishes, we are unable to guarantee absolute freedom from the 14 main allergens in our kitchens. Vegetarian and vegan menu choices are available. If you have allergies, food intolerances, or any special dietary requirements, please inform our reservation team at the time of booking.

## Accessibility

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on [020 3974 8865](tel:02039748865) or view the accessibility information online for [Longmynd Hotel](#)

## TRAVEL DETAILS

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### Address

Longmynd Hotel  
Cunnery Road  
Church Stretton  
Shropshire SY6 6AG

Tel: [+44 \(0\)1694 722244](tel:+44(0)1694722244)

## By Train

The nearest station is Church Stretton. Although Longmynd Hotel is less than a mile from the station, it is at the top of a steep hill and there is no taxi rank at the station. Taxis are in extremely limited supply in the Church Stretton area and drivers usually come from further afield which is reflected in fares.

Shrewsbury has more choice of trains, and you can take a taxi directly to the house from the station (see below).

Check National Rail for train times and routes.

## By Taxi

From Shrewsbury, it's a 15-mile journey taking 30 to 40 minutes.

Single journeys are approx £45 but please contact Shropshire Cars directly for confirmation.

You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended Shrewsbury based company, Shropshire Cars\*. We recommend booking your taxi, including your return journey if needed, at least seven days in advance by contacting via WhatsApp or using their App:

WhatsApp: 07379338526

### APP STORE:

<https://apps.apple.com/app/shropshire-cars/id6578451220>

and

**Google Play:** <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.shropshirecars.passengerapp>

## By Car

There's free car parking at Longmynd Hotel if you decide to drive.

Follow the A49 to Church Stretton. At the traffic lights turn off into town, then at the first junction turn left onto the High Street. Go straight over the mini-roundabout, and then take the next right into Cunnery Road. Follow the road up the steep hill to Longmynd Hotel.

## By Air

The nearest airport is Manchester International Airport.

Trains take about two hours, with a change in Crewe.

You can also fly into London Heathrow airport, but it'll take at least 4 hours to reach Shrewsbury by train.

National Rail has up-to-date routes and train times.

## LOCAL AREA

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Whether you're enjoying a guided or self-guided walking holiday, there's always the opportunity to linger for longer. Here's our pick of the very best things to see and do within easy travelling distance of Longmynd Hotel.



## **Church Stretton**

Just a 10-minute walk downhill, this market town lives up to its Little Switzerland moniker for its dramatic hills on both sides of the valley. It has retained much of its Edwardian charm, tempting with independent shops, traditional tea rooms, pubs, and restaurants.

## **Ludlow**

A 20-minute drive away, this attractive market town rewards with a historic town centre, beautiful period buildings, and a castle dating back to the 11th century. Visit-worthy places include St. Laurence's Church, Ludlow Museum, and Ludlow Millennium Green.

## **Ironbridge Valley Of Invention**

A 45-minute drive away and within the heart of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this collection of award-winning museums stretches along the River Severn. All are within six square miles of the Ironbridge Gorge, hailed as the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution.

## **Severn Valley Railway**

Operating steam-hauled passenger trains between Bridgnorth, Bewdley, and Kidderminster, this 16-mile journey takes you along the beautiful Severn Valley. The nearest station at Bridgnorth is a 40-minute drive from Church Stretton.

## **Shrewsbury**

A 30-minute drive away, Shropshire's country town charms with an imposing redbrick castle, higgledy-piggledy streets, and quirky buildings. Highlights include visiting Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery, relaxing in Shrewsbury Quarry, and following the Darwin Town Trail.

## **Much Wenlock**

A 30-minute drive away, this small Shropshire town was the birthplace Dr William Penny Brookes – the founder of the modern Olympic Games. Highlights include visiting the remains of Wenlock Priory, the site of an Anglo Saxon monastery founded in about AD 680.

## **Hereford**

An hour's drive away, this attractive cathedral city is home to the famous Mappa Mundi, a medieval map of the world dating from the 1300s. Further highlights include the Chained Library, the Black and White House Museum, and the life-sized Hereford Bull Statue.

## **Attingham Park**

A 25-minute drive away, this 18th century estate with 200 acres of parkland is managed by the National Trust. The Mansion has an evolving visitor programme and different areas of the house open throughout the year.

## **Powis Castle**

A 45-minute drive away, this 13th century castle, world-famous garden, and historic collection has been cared for by the National Trust since 1952. The paintings, sculptures, furniture, and tapestries on display throughout the house are rather impressive.

## Chirk Castle

Occupied as a castle and stately home for over 700 years, this fine medieval hilltop fortress is just under an hour's drive away. Highlights include the military displays, elegant state rooms, and award-winning gardens covering 5.5 acres of manicured lawns.

## USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

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### Essential Information

The UK has a famously unpredictable climate so it's best to be prepared for weather that's sunny one minute and raining the next. To make it easier, here's a list of items you should consider packing.

#### Essentials

- Suitable footwear such as waterproof walking boots that provide ankle support and good grip
- Waterproof and windproof jacket
- Comfortable clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable)
- Mid-layer(s) to keep you warm. Fleeces make a good choice
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Gloves and a warm hat
- Rucksack with waterproof liner
- Flask for hot drinks
- Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
- Sunscreen
- UV sunglasses

#### Recommended

- Several base layers (long-sleeve or short-sleeve)
- Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters
- First aid kit, including plasters and insect repellent
- Sit mat
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bag (remember to always leave no trace)
- Wallet/purse
- Camera
- Walking poles

## Safety On Your Holiday

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests.

Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass.

**Please note:** If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you.

If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel section) should you need them in case of emergency.

## TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

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These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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