

Mayflower Explorer

6 day guided and self-guided walking and cycling tours.
London, Southampton, Dartmouth, Plymouth

This Mayflower tour is provided by

ACTIVEENGLAND



This Active England Mayflower themed tour is designed with the active traveller in mind and there are biking and walking options the majority of days.

There are a variety of routes to suit all ages and fitness levels. We also welcome guests who do not want to travel in an active way.

The tour is fully supported and can be guided or self guided. The price is inclusive of four nights accommodation on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. (Additional nights can be booked on request). Also included are all bikes and equipment and entry into all the points of interest.

In fact the only time guests need to put their hands in their pockets is for lunch, normally informal in pubs and cafés and for dinner drinks.

For more information, please contact Active England Tours on +44 (1865) 513007 or email hello@activeenglandtours.com.

Day 1 Southwark, London

Home port of the Mayflower and captain Christopher Jones before the voyage to the New World.

Image: Mayflower pub



The tour starts in London, in the afternoon, where we meet guests at Tower Hill tube station in Central London before heading across the river to Southwark and Rotherhithe, from where the Mayflower set sail for Southampton. We visit Southwark cathedral, where Shakespeare's brother was buried and the John Harvard Chapel, dedicated to the visionary who went on to found Harvard University and also see the Golden Hinde which Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe in 1577-80. We will have dinner at the Mayflower Pub in Rotherhithe and give guests a full briefing on the rest of the tour.

Guests can stay in accommodation of your choice in London. Active England can book rooms if required.

Day 2 Southampton and the New Forest

Where the Mayflower and Speedwell were prepared for their voyage.



We travel out of London to Southampton, to visit the Tudor House and Garden and the Medieval Merchants House. Biking and walking is organised in the afternoon when we arrive in the stunning New Forest, the old hunting ground of Kings and Aristocracy, where the ponies roam free and traffic is restricted. We stay in the stunning Burley Manor, with its beautiful grounds looking over a deer park.

 10-20 miles  Gently Rolling

 4-8 miles  Gently Rolling

Day 3–6 Plymouth, the final departure point of the Mayflower



After an early morning walk or bike through the stunning New Forest, we set off for Plymouth. Arriving in Plymouth in the late afternoon, you will have free time to explore Britain's Ocean City and the departure point of the Mayflower ship.

 10-20 miles  Gently Rolling

 4-6 miles  Gently Rolling

The hotel for the evening will either be Holiday Inn, Jury's Inn or the Copthorne.

Day 4 Dartmouth

Where the leaky Speedwell stopped for essential repairs.



After a morning cycle up the Drake's trail towards the beautiful Dartmoor or walk from the stunning village of Dittisham into Dartmouth itself, the tour visits Pilgrim Hill where the Mayflower was moored whilst the Speedwell was being repaired as well as Dartmouth Castle which guards the beautiful estuary. Dartmouth is a stunning town where guests can either take a boat trip around the harbour, a ride on a steam train or just soak up the atmosphere in the town where the Duke of Edinburgh first met the Queen! We travel back to Plymouth for the evening.

 20-40 miles  Gently Rolling
 3-8 miles  Gently Rolling

Day 5 Plymouth

Britain's Ocean City



After the aborted first voyage, both the Speedwell and the Mayflower turned about for Plymouth and finally the Mayflower set sail with up to 30 crew and 102 passengers on board. Visit buildings, familiar to the Pilgrims which survive to this day including the Island House where Pilgrims are thought to have lodged, The Elizabethan House and Gardens, Black Friars (a gin distillery since 1793 but prior to that 'The Refectory' is believed to be the room where the Pilgrim Fathers spent their last night before setting sail for the New World), the Mayflower steps, the Jacka Bakery, Custom House and the Mayflower Museum ('The Box' will open in 2020 telling the Mayflower story).

 20-30 miles  Rolling
 4-8 miles  Flat

A final night celebration dinner is held at the hotel giving guests a chance to unwind at the end of a memorable tour. Cycling is arranged on Dartmoor for those who would like a ½ day in the saddle and there is plenty of walking in and around Plymouth for those who would like to walk.

Day 6 Plymouth

The end of the tour



Guests are free to further explore Plymouth and surrounding area with many taking the trip over to Cornwall and the magnificent Mount Edgcombe house and park. The tour finishes at lunchtime where guests are free to either stay on in the South West or transit back to London where we will aim to arrive by later afternoon. Many guests may also want to take a trip to Leiden in Holland which can be organised with prior notice.

Pricing

There are two pricing options which are inclusive of the following.

Guided Tours

- Four nights accommodation in a 4* hotel on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis (based on two people sharing)
- Bikes, either road, hybrid or ebikes (from Giant)
- Helmets and all other cycling equipment
- GPS / maps / written instructions for each route
- Mechanical support and back-up
- Guides who will be with the group at all times who are local and experts in the region
- Transfers on a daily basis
- An extra night (day 1) can be booked if guests have not already planned hotel accommodation at an extra cost.

Per person for Walking = \$US2599

Per person for Cycling = \$US2999

Group rates (from 10 people) for Walking = from \$US1999

Group rates (from 10 people) for Cycling = from \$2399

Self-Guided Tours

- Four nights accommodation in a 4* hotel on a bed and breakfast basis
- Bikes, either road, hybrid or ebikes (from Giant)
- Helmets and all other cycling equipment
- GPS / maps / written instructions for each route
- Mechanical support and back-up
- Transfers on a daily basis
- An extra night (day 1) can be booked if guests have not already planned hotel accommodation at an extra cost.

Per person for Walking = \$US1829

Per person for Cycling = \$US2149

Group rates (from 10 people) for Walking = from \$US1449

Group rates (from 10 people) for Cycling = from \$US1719

Additional pricing for coach travel and transfers from airports, ports to be quoted on a group basis and not included in the pricing guidelines above.

