

Rebels, Royalty and Religion

A new religious power-base for England's royalty

St. Wilfrid's Church, Scrooby



What's included:



6-day itinerary



Starts in Nottinghamshire



Independent traveller



Suitable for groups



Tour guides advised



Rail and bus access to most destinations



London Plus



London and all regional airports.

Travel back to a time when, with royalty at its head, the church was all-powerful with grand hierarchies and stunning cathedrals. England's Puritans sought to soften this control - but the Separatists wanted more.

Discover the stories of royal power and the religious conflict that the Mayflower Pilgrims desired to find freedom from and learn where Congregationalism, Baptist, Quaker and Methodist denominations originated.

Tour Highlights:

- Explore the ancient English villages and churches where the influential Pilgrims, William Bradford and William Brewster shaped their Separatist beliefs
- Visit Epworth, the home of John and Charles Wesley – the founders of Methodism
- See Gainsborough Old Hall, one of the best preserved medieval manor houses in England, where Thomas Helwys would meet in secret with John Smyth and the Separatist congregation.
- Visit Nottingham and learn of England's Civil War and the Mayflower Pilgrims who returned to their home country to fight in it. Learn of later religious radical, William Booth, founder of the world-wide Salvation Army.
- Walk the cobbled streets of historic Lincoln, visit Lincoln Castle and see King John's 1215 Magna Carta and Lincoln Cathedral – a seat of religious power
- Visit Boston Guildhall and the cells where the fleeing Separatists were held and tried - a town from where, in the 1630's, the Rev. John Cotton influenced mass migration to America
- Discover historic Rotherhithe and Southwark – once a district of religious dissent now a thriving cultural destination

1620—2020

Mayflower
400™

Steering our future,
inspired by the past.

Day 1 Nottinghamshire

Mainline railway stations at Newark and Nottingham with frequent connections between the two.



Robin Hood

National Civil War Centre, Newark

England's Civil war was a brutal 17th century clash between Crown and Parliament. At the National Civil War Centre hear the story of the Mayflower Pilgrims who returned back to England from America to fight for freedom. Visit Newark Castle.

William Booth Birthplace Museum, Nottingham

Learn about the life of the young William and discover what made Booth choose the path that would lead him to become

Nottingham's most famous preacher, social reformer and leader of the Salvation Army - a worldwide movement that is active in 128 countries today.

Nottingham Castle

Explore this historic site - the starting point for the English Civil War.

Sherwood Forest

Try your hand at archery in Sherwood Forest. Discover the legendary home of Robin Hood, once part of a royal hunting forest, now an awe-inspiring national nature reserve of 450 acres of ancient oak trees.

Lunch & Coffee Stops

The city of Nottingham has many restaurants and coffee shops around the centre and the historic Lace Market area or take a break at the Café Bar in the Nottingham Contemporary.

Dine at the Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem, Britain's oldest pub.

The Kitchen Garden at Kelham House.

George's Great British Kitchen.

Tours & Guides

Pilgrims & Prophets – Provide tailored Christian Heritage Tours.

Mayflower Maid – Guided Pilgrim tours with historian Sue Allen.

Brackenbury's Britain – Themed walking tours
Robin Hood- Character-led tours by Ezekial Bone.

Self-guided tours include the Civil War walking trail (Newark); The Pilgrims Country driving trail and the William Booth Salvation Army trail.

Accommodation Suggestions

Nottingham Hilton Hotel, Crowne Plaza, Jurys Inn or the Historic Lace Market Hotel. Plus a wide range of hotels in Nottingham city centre.

Ye Olde Bell Hotel and Spa at Barnby Moor near Retford.

Forest Holidays – self-catering luxury lodges nestled in Sherwood Forest.



Find out more at www.Mayflower400UK.org

Civil War Centre, Newark



Sherwood Forest

Day 2 Pilgrim Roots:

Birthplace of rebels and religion.



The leading religious Separatists who voyaged to Holland and then on to America in 1620 were originally from 'Pilgrim Country' – the counties of Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire where a culture of independent thinking, passion and tolerance shaped their beliefs.

Discover the roots of the Mayflower voyage where the future leaders of the Plymouth Colony and signatories of the Mayflower Compact, William Brewster and William Bradford lived, worked and worshipped with Rev Richard Clifton.

Learn how preachers John Smyth and Thomas Helwys, founders of the Baptist movement, met in secret with other non-conformists.

Babworth Church

Closely connected with the origins of religious separatism this is where Richard Clifton preached.

St. Wilfrid's Church, Scrooby

Sit in the original wooden pews at St. Wilfred's Church. Brewster had long been attracted by separatism and was fined for non-attendance at St. Wilfred's Church - where he was likely baptised and married.

The Manor House, Scrooby

Point of interest. The former home of William Brewster where the Scrooby Separatist congregation met in secret. Now a private home.

St. Helena's Church, Austerfield

See the font where William Bradford - the second Governor of the Plymouth Colony - was baptised. Explore nearby Bawtry, a 12th Century ancient port and today an attractive market town with places to eat, shop and stay.

Gainsborough Old Hall

A fine example of a large timber framed medieval manor house, the Hall was home to the Hickman family who were sympathetic to the Separatist movement and allowed regular meetings to be held here. John Smyth preached at the nearby All Saints church before fleeing to Holland along with non-conformist Thomas Helwys who was raised in nearby Nottingham and with whom he created the Baptist denomination.

Immingham

Visit the monument in Pilgrim Park and, in nearby St Andrew's Church, discover the grave of Francis Hawkin who died before the boat departed. The Scrooby Separatists fled to Holland from Immingham Creek.

Lunch & Coffee Stops

The attractive towns of Bawtry and Retford offer a range of cafés, tea rooms and restaurants.

The Separatist Inn, Torworth.

The Pilgrim Fathers Inn, Scrooby.

Ye Olde Bell at Barnby Moor – a famous old posting house.

Gainsborough Old Hall.

Tours & Guides

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Accommodation Suggestions

Ye Olde Bell Hotel and Spa at Barnby Moor – ideal for groups. Traditional hotel.

The Separatist Inn, Torworth – ideal for FITs. Boutique, themed accommodation.

Hampton by Hilton at Humberside Airport - group rates offered.



St. Andrews Church, Immingham

Sturton Le Steeple

Visit the birthplace of the first Baptist – John Smyth who attended the same school in the Church as John Robinson, Pastor of the Pilgrims.

Epworth

Discover the fine Queen Anne style Epworth Old Rectory, childhood home of John and Charles Wesley, founders of Methodism; the nearby St. Andrews church and St. Pancras church at Wroot.

Day 3 Boston, Lincolnshire.

Visit the historic city of Lincoln then travel onwards to Boston from where the Separatists made their first attempt to escape to Holland.



St. Botolph's Church and Bostons sweeping market place

Lincoln: Cathedral, Castle, and Magna Carta

Explore the cobbled streets of the historic city of Lincoln, see Lincoln Castle, home to King John's 1215 Magna Carta, and visit the magnificent Lincoln Cathedral, with its Wren library and the Chapter House where the first formally accounted parliament was held.

Boston Guildhall & Market Town

In the Autumn of 1607 Brewster, Bradford & other Scrooby Separatists made their first attempt to escape to Holland but were betrayed, and held and tried at Boston Guildhall. Visit the memorial to their courage at Scotia Creek.

Admire the beauty of the "Stump", St Botolph's Church, where the Rev John Cotton attracted people from far and wide to hear his sermons challenging the established church and inspiring the later 1630s migration of some 300 Bostonians to America.



Boston Guildhall

This group of powerful and educated individuals shaped the colony and established the first American school, the Latin Free School, based on the original Boston Grammar School.

Lunch & Coffee Stops

Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa. Between Lincoln & Boston steeped in history this timber framed hotel is the perfect lunch (and overnight) stop.

Tours & Guides

Blue & Green Badge guides available on request.

Group and private tours of the Boston Guildhall & Boston Stump available (pre-booking required).

Accommodation Suggestions

The White Hart Hotel, Boston - a coaching inn. Ideal for groups.

Luxury self-catering at Elms Farm Cottages.

Lincoln city centre hotels include Holiday Inn; Double Tree by Hilton; The White Hart Hotel, a coaching inn with views of castle and cathedral.



Day 4 Droitwich Spa & Worcester

The Hive, Worcester



Droitwich Spa & Worcester

Explore the charming spa town of Droitwich Spa with its “black and white” buildings and a good base for exploring the Heart of England.

Pilgrim Edward Winslow was born in Droitwich Spa in 1595. Three times Governor of the Plymouth Mass.

Colony he is the only Pilgrim of which a contemporary portrait exists (in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, Mass).

A copy of this portrait now hangs in the Droitwich Spa Town Council chamber. Edward Winslow was baptised in St Peter’s Church, Droitwich Spa where the church vestry is now dedicated to Winslow.

Lunch & Coffee Stops

Experience an afternoon tea or fine dining at Stanbrook Abbey Hotel. Dine at St Andrews Town Hotel in a relaxed yet formal setting or after a day of shopping in Worcester, head to Crowngate Kitchen where you will find a wide range of restaurant chains.

Tours & Guides

Worcester Cathedral – Pilgrim themed, general and private tours available.

Discover History – Talks, guided tours, costumed tours.

Worcester Walks.

Accommodation Suggestions

Overnight in Worcester town centre at The Cardinals Hat, Worcester’s oldest inn with 6 Georgian styled rooms. Escape to the Worcestershire, countryside at the Bank House Hotel and spa near Worcester or Hogarths Stone Manor just north of Droitwich Spa.



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Winslow was educated at the Cathedral in Kings School in Worcester before he was apprenticed to a London printer.

Winslow returned from New England to support Oliver Cromwell and the Parliamentarians.

Worcester, which saw the first and last battles of the Civil War, is renowned as ‘The Faithful City’, being the last city to support King Charles II in the Battle of Worcester.

Visit the Archives and Archaeology Service within the Hive and as well as researching family history you could also see Edward Winslow’s baptism record, William Shakespeare’s Marriage Bond and discover it is believed William Shakespeare married within the city walls of Worcester.

Follow the Elgar driving trail to see the countryside that inspired the work of another son of the city, Edward Elgar, the celebrated composer of “The Graduation March”

Day 5 & 6 London



London, Southwark and Rotherhithe

London is rich in tales of royalty, religion and rebellion.

Visit St Mary's Church, Rotherhithe, where the reverend Thomas Gataker, a man of puritan leanings, may well have influenced Master Christopher Jones' decision to take his ship, Mayflower, on the perilous transatlantic voyage. Jones had based himself in Rotherhithe from 1611, his children were baptised at St Mary's and his body buried in the churchyard.

Explore historic Southwark and relive the gruesome history of The Clink Museum, the prison where those refusing to obey the religious laws of Elizabeth I would find themselves. Dissenters such as cleric John Greenwood and Henry Barrowe, whose ideas would have inspired the Pilgrims leaving London in 1620.

Spend time in stately Southwark Cathedral and see the tomb of Shakespeare's brother and the John Harvard Chapel, dedicated to the local boy who went on to endow Harvard University. Join the "groundlings" at the reconstructed Globe Theatre and watch Shakespeare's timeless tales of kings performed in the open air.

At the Museum of London learn how religion, royalty and rebellion influenced London's development to become one of the wealthiest and most important cities in Europe.

At the nearby Museum of Methodism follow the history of Methodism from John Wesley to the present day and its contribution to shaping Britain's political and social history. Visit John Wesley's House, his home for over a decade, and one of the finest surviving small Georgian town houses in London.

Accommodation

Overnight in London. Suggestions:

Hilton London Bankside

The Tower, Tower Hill

Citizen M, Tower of London

LSE Bankside House (open summer only)

Double Tree Hilton Hotel, Docklands Riverside

Travelodge London Docklands Hotel

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Experience 1,000 years of religious and royal history in Westminster Abbey, the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs.

Visit Hampton Court Palace, where at the Hampton Court conference in 1604, King James authorised the translation of the bible into English.

Optional Day Cambridge



Cambridge is a University City that boasts stunning architecture and majestic college buildings. William Brewster is recorded as entering Peterhouse College in Cambridge in 1580 – it is here where he acquired his early Separatist ideas. John Harvard studied at Emmanuel College.

Punting on the River Cam is a popular and unique way to see the city and some of the University buildings. The Parker Library at Corpus Christi College has books including the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, the sixth century Gospels of Saint Augustine and the Bury Bible.

John Harvard, an English Minister in America and recognised as the founder of Harvard College studied at Emmanuel College, Cambridge in the 1630's.

Cambridge is known as the cradle of the English Reformation, where the first reformed gospel was preached and where 3 prominent reformers, Cranmer, Ridley and Latimer worked and studied before being martyred at Oxford.

One of the most renowned puritans and The Lord Protector of England, Oliver Cromwell was also the Member of Parliament for Cambridge – His head is buried in a secret place in his old College.

Highly trained green and blue badge tour guides offer guided tours of the city and are permitted to deliver tours inside the University of Cambridge colleges.

Nearby: Some passengers of the Mayflower Ship came from the Cambridgeshire region – including John Howland who was born in 1599 in Fenstanton. Dorothy Bradford (wife of William Bradford) was born in Wisbech.

With extra time...

England is a small country with a big story. If you're time is flexible and you want to see more of England, here are some ideas:

- In Nottingham visit the home of romantic rebel, Lord Byron. Dating from the 12th century, Newstead Abbey is a beautiful historic house set in a glorious landscape of gardens and parkland.
- From Immingham, visit the seaside resort of Cleethorpes with its pier, fish and chip shops, shopping and leisure offer. Visit the Fishing Heritage Centre at Grimsby – a fun, hands on award winning interactive museum that tells the story of fishing heritage in England.
- From Boston drive into Norfolk and visit the picturesque village of Thetford, birthplace of the “friend of humanity and enemy of kings”, Thomas Paine and to Hingham Church to look at the bust of Abraham Lincoln’s fore-father. Spend time at Sandringham, the country retreat of our current Queen.
- From Worcester drive to Stratford Upon Avon to discover more of William Shakespeare’s life after his visit to Worcester Cathedral to petition to marry Anne Hathaway.
- Nearby Gloucester boasts a Cathedral built on 1300 years of Christian worship and was the birth-place of George Whitfield, a founder of the Methodist movement who travelled throughout the American colonies preaching to large open air gatherings.
- Visit Salisbury and Winchester Cathedrals. The former, built in the 1300s, has the tallest spire in England and the latter has been an important centre for Christianity since the 7th century. Stephen Hopkins, hailing from near Winchester, was one of the few Pilgrims with previous experience of life in the “new world”.
- Visit Cornwall – it is thought that the Mayflower may have had to unexpectedly make a final stop at Newlyn Old Quay for fear that the barrels of water they had taken were contaminated with cholera.

Mayflower Destinations

The story of the Mayflower Pilgrims continues onto Leiden in Holland and then south, following the coast of England to the final departure point of the ship – Plymouth. The following destinations can be added onto your itinerary.

Leiden	Where the Pilgrims lived for over a decade. Visit St. Peters Church.
Harwich	The Mayflower ship was built here and Christopher Jones lived and was twice wed in the town.

Southampton The Speedwell from Holland and the Mayflower from London met in Southampton to prepare for the voyage.

Dartmouth When the Speedwell spring a leak, both ships spent time in Dartmouth while the ship underwent essential repairs.

Plymouth The final departure point of the ship; the Mayflower finally set sail on 16th September 1620.



Mayflower Steps

Events

West Lindsey Churches Festival
94 churches provide a celebration of Lincolnshire’s rich, ecclesiastical and architectural heritage.
May every year

Christian Heritage Conference
Acclaimed speakers and professionals will present at the annual Bassetlaw Christian Heritage Conference in Retford, Nottinghamshire.
March every year

Religious Tolerance Forum
Mayflower themed religious tolerance event in Retford, Nottinghamshire. Run by Bassetlaw Christian Heritage.
March every year

Illuminate.
Every November, Mayflower destinations in England commemorate Thanksgiving with cultural events, lantern parades and light shows. Visit **Mayflower400UK.org** for full event details.

Worcester Cathedral Winslow Mayflower Conference 2020
24 – 25 April 2020. Hear guest speakers, academics and historians talk on subjects relating to Edward Winslow and the Mayflower Pilgrims. Including tours of the Medieval Library at the Cathedral housing books dating back to the 10th Century.

More Events
For details of the Mayflower events programme, visit **Mayflower400UK.org**



Retford, Nottinghamshire

Travel Information

Getting here and getting around

Travel Options

Airports

Regional airports provide a convenient way to access the regional Mayflower product. Flights from regional gateways to the Netherlands are frequent and the flight time average is just 60 minutes. (From Schiphol there are then direct flights onto the US). From outside of London, direct flights to the US are available from Manchester. Gatwick and Heathrow (the main London airports) connect to central London via train and coach.

Rail

Travelling by rail is a scenic and relaxing way to explore England. Most Mayflower destinations have a mainline railway station within easy reach. For international visitors, the BritRail pass offers a value for money rail travel pass that can be used on any train on the English rail network. www.britrail.net Check luggage allowance on trains before you book.

By Car

In England, cars drive on the right hand side of the road. Hire cars tend to be manual – so be sure to request an automatic on booking. All of the Mayflower destinations are very easily accessible by road. Seek a driver guide if you don't want the hassle of driving!

By Coach

For independent travellers, the largest British coach operators is National Express who offer great value coach travel across England. Megabus also offers tickets to destinations across Britain.

Tour operators

For further information, advice, itinerary ideas, images and contact details:

Contact Emma Tatlow –

emma.tatlow@plymouth.gov.uk

Find out more at www.Mayflower400UK.org



Map is not to scale