

ALTON CAMERA CLUB and FRIENDS

A CAMBRIDGESHIRE WEEKEND

Friday 25th – Monday 28th May 2012

Our 2012 spring break takes us to Cambridgeshire, with a modern hotel on the outskirts of Cambridge, free time in this fascinating university city, admission to the Duxford Air Museum, a visit to Wimpole Hall and a drive around the Fenland countryside. During the course of the weekend we also include visits to the historic towns of Bury St Edmunds and Stamford. Our weekend away is a couple of weeks later than usual, but avoids the Bank Holiday weekend which is in early June to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Friday 25th May 2012 Departing from Winchester/Alton around 08.00 – 09.00, we head around London with a comfort break on the motorway, then travel on through Essex and Suffolk, reaching Bury St Edmunds for a lunch break by about 13.00. Free time to explore the Abbey Gardens, St Edmundsbury Cathedral with its recently completed Gothic-style tower, and the narrow streets and alleyways of this historic town. Into Cambridgeshire we head past Newmarket and arrive at the Menzies Cambridge Hotel by about 17.30.

Saturday 26th May 2012 A visit to the Imperial War Museum's Duxford Museum with its collection of civilian and military aeroplanes and aviation artefacts from the UK, Europe and the United States. During the afternoon we travel the short distance into Cambridge with free time for you to explore the city's museums including the Fitzwilliam with its fine art collection, the architecture of the University buildings, the Backs grounds and gardens flanking the River Cam with punts plying their trade and a good range of shops and cafes around the city centre.

Sunday 27th May 2012 A leisurely drive around the Cambridgeshire Fens, across the Old and New Bedford Rivers and on to St Ives on the River Great Ouse. Time in this market town with its 15th century River Bridge and Chapel of St Leger, a statue to Oliver Cromwell who lived in the town, plus many more historic buildings around the town and quayside. In the afternoon we travel to Wimpole Hall, a unique working estate with an impressive mansion at its heart with beautiful interiors, formal gardens with herbaceous borders and extensive Pleasure Grounds (admission extra to this NT property).

Monday 28th May 2012 From our hotel we travel north to Stamford, a fascinating town with five medieval churches, a 12th century priory, 15th century hospital, the famous George Hotel arch and a well-preserved town centre used in the filming of the TV series "Middlemarch". Leaving Stamford after lunch we begin our homeward journey through Northampton and Oxford, reaching the Winchester/Alton area by early evening.

Menzies Cambridge Hotel & Golf Club - A 4-star hotel and golf club set in 200 acres about 7 miles outside Cambridge. The hotel has a lift to all floors, a lounge, 2 bars, brasserie restaurant and well-appointed en-suite bedrooms. There is also a leisure centre with indoor pool, sauna, steam room, spa and solarium.

PRICE	£240 per person
DEPOSIT	£30 per person
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	Nil
TRAVEL INSURANCE	£21 per person (if required)

Holiday includes:- 3 nights dinner, bed and breakfast, air-conditioned coach travel, admission to Duxford. Admission to Wimpole Hall (National Trust property) is £10 payable on the day

For bookings please call Eric Bennett on 01420 88743. We would like reservations confirmed with deposits and travel insurance if required by the end of January 2012. Please make cheques payable to Truemans Travel