

**ANNOUNCING THE ASSOCIATION'S LATE SUMMER HOLIDAY 2025
5 DAYS FROM THURSDAY 28TH AUGUST TO MONDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER**

"DISCOVER THE ISLE OF MAN"

Embrace island life and explore peaceful harbour towns and much more

We will stay in the island's capital, Douglas, at the 4* Sefton Hotel designed and built in the 1890s and extended to include a swimming pool and a large atrium area – see www.seftonhotel.co.im. Included are breakfast and evening meal with all the facilities you would expect, also a small fridge in the bedrooms.

- ❖ Day 1: Our coach will depart Hollinsheads in Biddulph (Albion Way ST8 6GA) at 8.15am where you can board it, get on in Brunswick Street, Newcastle at 8.45, or from St Francis's church car park in Meir Heath (free car parking) at 9.15. We'll drive north, stopping at Barton Grange Garden Centre for a comfort stop and a coffee. Then we'll depart for the mid-afternoon ferry from Heysham. After dinner at the hotel we will have a short introductory talk by Trevor Gibbs, a local Blue Badge guide.
- ❖ Day 2: Today we will visit the south of the island and ride on the Isle of Man Steam Railway from Douglas to Port Erin, then drive down to the Sound for some wonderful views and marine life of the Calf of Man. On the way back we will visit Port St Mary and Castletown.
- ❖ Day 3: With a local guide on board, our coach will take us to the north and west of the island, visiting the former mining village of Laxey with its iconic wheel, the largest working water wheel in the world. At 72 feet 6 inches in diameter it has brought tourists flocking in for 170 years. We will visit Ramsey in the north and Peel on the west coast where we'll find a castle and the House of Manannan both part of Manx National Heritage (the equivalent of the National Trust).
- ❖ Day 4: You are free to take the electric railway to Snaefell (own expense) or the local Manx Museum including the TT motor bike gallery (free to NT members) and/or take a ride on the horse tram along the promenade. Or you could explore the shopping street and perhaps the North Quay with its wonderful restaurants for lunch. The possibilities are endless. We may arrange a mystery tour or a tour of the Gaiety Theatre.
- ❖ Day 5: We'll catch the early morning return ferry and, once back on the mainland, visit Carnforth for the railway station featured in the film "Brief Encounter" and also stop for lunch.

This tour will be managed and escorted by Cynthia and David Dumbelton in conjunction with Hollinshead Coaches.

Cost: for a double or twin bedded room - £535pp Single rooms carry a £100 supplement

A deposit of £150pp is required to reserve your place on this tour (the hotel requires an immediate deposit to secure the booking). We will pay the hotel once we have 30 bookings, not before.

NOTE A discount of £30 is offered for early booking by 28th June 2024.

Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

Please send your cheque made out to North Staffs National Trust Association together with a booking form and sae to Cynthia at 32 The Lea ST4 8DY. Any queries, please ring 01782 641765.