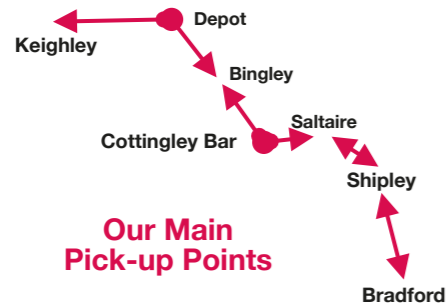


### Pick Up Run

There is some confusion on how our pick up runs are organised. Our published depart times are always for Bradford, Nelson Street. It then depends whether the times are for an 'A Run' or a 'B Run'.



A stands for AFTER Bradford.  
B stands for BEFORE Bradford.  
So if your trip is a B run, all times will be before the stated time with Bradford being the last pick up.  
If your trip is an A run, all times will be after the stated time, with Bradford being the first pick up. Our pick up to/from Bradford, starts or finishes at Keighley, and takes around 45 minutes and we hope we can meet up at convenient points with many bus services, be near train services, plus with free car parking offered at our premises, give good coverage for a reasonable amount of pick up time.  
We have been complemented on many occasions that once you are on our coach you are quickly on your way for the trip, and not trailing round for hours loading up. We have been asked for years why don't we pick up in Skipton, Ilkley, Otley, Cleckheaton, Huddersfield, Halifax, Brighouse - with a geographical spread like that we'd lose the very thing we are complimented for.

### Mobile Numbers and Email Address

If you have a mobile phone number it would be helpful if you wouldn't mind us having a note of it. Land line phone numbers are fine provided you are at home, and not on one of our trips. It becomes very useful if you are delayed (or if we are) getting to a pick up point, we can make contact with each other. Plus if you are missing during a trip, again we can make contact and perhaps provide peace of mind. Following on from last years disruptions caused by the postage strikes it has made us think that perhaps we need to reduce our reliance on the postal service, especially for sending out tickets and receipts. So, if you have an email address and wish us to send tickets this way please advise us. Brochures and final confirmations with labels will always be sent by post, as we know from comments received, a paper copy is always preferred for browsing, standing a cup of coffee on etc.

### Seating Capacities

Since the pandemic we have continued to restrict sitting unknown travelling companions together on our pairs of seats. With all restrictions being lifted we will be taking our coaches back to 100% capacity if required. We will though continue to review the situation should further advice be forthcoming.

### Lost Your Ticket?

If you should happen to misplace your ticket before a trip, please do not think you cannot travel without it. The ticket is more for your benefit than ours (ie a reminder of dates, times etc.), as our computerised booking system automatically puts you on our pick up, and rooming lists. Once you are booked, you are on our lists, and we are then looking out for you at your designated pick up point. This is also why we like to have a note of your mobile phone number, so if we cannot see you where we are expecting you to join us, we have a better chance of making contact to find out where you are.



Welcome to our latest newsletter, where you can catch up with what has happened during the year, and also see what is planned for the future holiday tours and day excursions.

Most importantly, we hope you are all safe, fit and well, and looking forward to getting out meeting old and new friends. Perhaps visiting somewhere familiar, or perhaps trying something new. As always we try to provide a variety of geographical locations, as well as a variety of themes in order to stimulate, educate and amuse. With a greater awareness of the importance of mental health, we like to think we are at least doing our little bit to help improve mental health - it is good to get out, and meet people!

It is gratifying to receive the number of compliments we get about the contents of our tours and excursions. We are aware not to rest upon our laurels, and always look out to see if we can improve itineraries, that is why some tours and excursions are never direct copies time after time.

We hope you like what we currently have advertised, plus you will enjoy the next Day Excursion programme (July to October) included with this newsletter. Also included is our Festive Season Tour programme for 2024. If you require another copy of current publications, then please call the office, and we will be glad to post one, or look at our website ([www.jaktravel.co.uk](http://www.jaktravel.co.uk)) for an online version.

Plans for the 2025 Holiday Tour programme are currently underway, which already has the office working title of "The Isles Tours" - what will be included? You will have to wait and see. We hope to publish by the end of September, along with the Day Excursion programme (November 2024 to June 2025). The conveyor belt never stops, and perhaps you can see why we never know what year it is, never mind the day, and what we are doing next! Did 2023 go by in a flash or was that just me?

As always, we look forward to seeing you travelling with us, whether you are one of our many regular travelling friends, or someone we have yet to meet.

Bon Voyage.



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# Looking Backwards and Forwards

As 2023 recedes as a distant memory, it certainly was a year where we were pleased to see many of the tours and excursions well supported, so thank you for that. The past year was not without its challenges with increased occasions of unpredictable weather causing disruption, and suppliers struggling with staffing issues meaning they might not have the quantity or quality of staff desirable. Administration functions at many of our suppliers are reduced, meaning we cannot get quick responses to questions like we used to. We have also found hotel prices have risen sharply in the last year, probably a reflection of their energy bills and food supplies. Hopefully, we can look forward to a more stable 2024 and beyond. Hotels and attractions are restricting the number of coach groups they will accept, and are requiring earlier

“confirmation of number” dates – which is why some tours have to be cancelled earlier than in previous years if minimum numbers have not been reached to make it viable to run the tour or excursion. So if you are interested in a trip, let us know early rather than leave it to the last minute. Obviously we would rather run trips, than cancel them and cause disappointment. Over the years here at JAK Travel we like to think we have built a small, reliable, friendly and efficient team to run the business, but like everywhere else we are not without our challenges. There have always been challenges in businesses, they are just different, but we believe we do our best to provide an attractive programme, with an efficient and friendly service – and that is what we strive to achieve during 2024 and beyond.

With the new year well underway, we hope you have enjoyed the January to February excursions which have had a north, south, east and west theme to them, something that we try to keep going through the rest of the year, though going further afield, and not just undertaking scenic drives either.

The current programme takes in some popular stately homes like Nunnington Hall, Dunham Massey and Wallington – all National Trust properties, so if you are a member of the NT a discount applies. Other attractions include heritage railways like the East Lancashire, Wensleydale, and the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. Canals and river trips

# Day Excursions

have proved popular, so we are off to the Judith Mary in the Peak District, the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct (head for heights required) in North Wales, and the River Tees in the North East. Some of these have meals included, so you will not go hungry travelling with us, look out for the ones with fish and chips included as well!

Some popular day excursions from the past have been revived like visiting the Bowes Museum, Portmeirion, Port Sunlight and Southport at Flower Show time. From the old to the new – we have never been to the Great Yorkshire Show, nor the St Wilfrid’s Procession in Ripon – so this year we are, to see these unique Yorkshire events.

Some excursions which were new last year proved popular so are repeated this year like going to Saltburn and Tynemouth – must be something about the east coast air! Other seaside resorts are available like Llandudno, Morecambe, Cleveleys, Scarborough and Bridlington – check the programme

As usual we have tried to mix the choice of excursions both in terms of direction and taste, and even if we cannot please all of you all the time, we hope we please some of you, some of the time!

As always though, we are always open to suggestions for excursions.

## Places we’ve enjoyed



Balavil Hotel, Newtownmoore



Dumfries House, Cumnock



Cadbury World



Arriving at the Hebrides

All photos in this Newsletter are from Jill - who we thank for making them available to print



As usual with our holiday programme we aim to provide variety to the direction we travel, and variety

with what we include within the tours. In most cases attractions to be visited are already included in the price you pay, if you are in any doubt, please ask us.

This year we are visiting a couple of shows we have not been to before ie The Chelsea Flower Show (we have been asked a lot about this over the years), and The Royal Highland Show held at Ingliston, near Edinburgh. Other shows we are planning to visit include the world famous Edinburgh Tattoo in August, the spectacular Journey Through History that is Kynren, and then the unique and amazing Thursford Christmas Spectacular Show.

As well as including admissions, we do like to include a guided tour when we can. This can add so much of a personal touch to a visit, as well as adding local knowledge that we

otherwise would not be aware of. On the Splendours of Shropshire tour a local guide will accompany the coach around “Little Switzerland” (March), we have a guided river tour whilst in Canterbury (April), and a guided tour of Oliver Cromwell’s House (April). Later in the year in June whilst visiting Newcastle we will hear on both land and water about “Geordie” tales, which should be fun!

Some of the tours featured are places we’ve been to before like Bournemouth, Weston Super Mare, Norfolk and Cornwall to name a few, however we still try to look out for places we have not visited before. New this year will be Tintagel Castle in Cornwall, a Donkey Sanctuary near Sidmouth, a horse drawn barge canal trip at Tiverton, Samphire Hoe Nature Reserve in Kent – (where we also have a guided tour), and Bentley Priory in Hertfordshire, a place with a fascinating history. There may be others so do check in your brochure!

You may note I’ve not mentioned all the Scottish Tours we are doing, the big one is The Hebridean Adventure taking 7 days and includes a guide,

## Holidays

a distillery (it would be rude not to whilst there!) ferries and miles of glorious scenery. We also visit a distillery (Glenturret) in October as the trees turn into their autumn colours, plus being Scotland we include a few castles like Culzean, Fyvie and Blair, in May, September and October respectively.

Not all our tours are 5 days and more, we do note that some of the longer ones are becoming popular, but we have not neglected to put in some shorter 3 day ones as well, like to the Lake District in September, Royal Windsor in October, Llandudno end of May and Hertfordshire in August.

Enclosed with this newsletter are the new Christmas Season tours for later in the year, we hope you like them as we have tried to add some new tours, and before you ask the Christmas Tour will be in South Wales, and New Year will also be over the border too, but in Bonnie Scotland.

As always, if you are not sure about anything, or if you require another copy of our publicity for Holidays or Day Excursions, please contact the office on 01274-566200

### General Data Protection:

If you no longer wish to be contacted by ourselves or remain on our database please contact the Office on 01274 566200 and we can sort that out for you.

### Lost Your Brochure?

Mislaid? Lent to a friend and not returned? Eaten by the dog? No worries, just give us a call and we’ll happily send you another, or, if you have internet access, have a look on our website [www.jaktravel.co.uk](http://www.jaktravel.co.uk) and there is a copy there.