

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 complimented 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.



Covid Protocols (At Present)

In light of the continuing pandemic, and despite the vaccination programme, we still have procedures in place to help protect everybody who travel with us or visit our office. We adhere at all times with the current guidance. If anybody feels unwell and has Covid symptoms, please book a PCR test and stay at home as per Government guidance.

We require face coverings to be worn at all times on the coaches, and in the office – unless you are medically exempt.

Hand sanitiser is available and recommended to use on the coaches and in the office.

The coaches have anti-viral filters fitted in the air conditioning systems, which are set to fresh air intake (as opposed to re-circulated air), and their common touch areas eg handrails, are cleaned with anti viral products.

If somebody is travelling alone then we will not sit anybody unknown from another household next to them.

As rules and regulations change we keep abreast of such matters through updates from our trade association (Confederation of Passenger Transport), and take part in regular webinar and zoom meetings.

Please also note itineraries that we publish may still be affected by restrictions imposed not only by Governments, but attraction operators themselves. We will do our best to keep you informed.



What will 2022 bring?

Who knows, but at least with the vaccines and greater knowledge of this coronavirus let us hope some more degrees of normality will return. Though I am sure even in the long run the face coverings, annual vaccines, and hand sanitiser will be with us for quite a while yet. We all just need to be aware and practice 'Constant Vigilance!'

J.A.K. Travel Ltd

Travel Club News

February 2022

Welcome to our latest newsletter, where you can catch up with what has happened during another eventful year, and see what is planned for the future tour holidays 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. 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. It is gratifying to receive the number of complimentary comments we get about the content of our excursions and tours, though we also realise (especially after the last couple of years!) that being able to relax is an important part of our itineraries too!

We hope you like what we have currently advertised, including the next Day Excursion programme (May to October) included with this newsletter, though

please be aware coronavirus restrictions may mean alterations may need to be made. The next Holiday Tour programme for 2023 will be published by the end of September this year, along with the following Day Excursion programme (November 2022 to April 2023) – well that's the plan anyway!

If you need another copy of our current published programme, then please call the office and we will be glad to post another one to you, or look on our website (www.jaktravel.co.uk) for an online version.

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

Child Prices - Day Trip

If you haven't noticed we offer a £5 discount for children aged between 4 to 14 years of age travelling on our day excursions. This is to help with the cost of perhaps taking either your own child or grand children on a day out especially during

the school holidays. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

(Discount applies unless otherwise stated).



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Thank you for your Christmas Cards and Gifts!

Well, how was it for you? (Part 2)



Having written Part 1 for last years newsletter little did I think there would be a part 2 in a similar vein. How wrong I was, as the months slipped by with never ending restrictions, finally lifting enough for us to start operating tours and excursions again in late May.

Initially we ran the tours and excursions socially distanced at 50% capacity, though in the long run we knew that

this was not financially viable, it was worth it to build confidence and actually interact with "real" people again as opposed to phone and video calls. Gratifyingly booking numbers increased, and with restrictions on social distancing etc lifting we started to look forward to a more positive summer.

Our optimism was however somewhat dampened by issues we were not expecting, when places and attractions we wished to visit continued putting obstacles in our way. We seriously questioned whether some actually wanted custom, and virtually every tour or excursion had issues to be dealt with. So thank you for your patience and understanding with all the changes in itineraries we had to make,(and are continuing to do so!).

As an example of the farcical situations we found ourselves in I single out the Royal Yacht Britannia (RYB) as part of our Great Scot, Royals, Rails and Sails Tour in July. Our booking was cancelled by RYB as they could not cope with a group arriving. Some of the passengers on the tour booked on line and visited 'privately'. The reception staff at RYB were aghast when they were told what had gone on... especially as they were not particularly busy!

The amount of administration required to keep control of everything was phenomenal as we rearranged, and rearranged again and again. This of course had repercussions with producing the current brochure, with time being spent "fighting fires" rather than forward planning – but we got there in the end, and hopefully this years publications will be out as planned.

Away from tours and day excursions our coaches decided that after a long lay off they too wanted to add to the stress with some unusual antics. Firstly one developed a problem with its air suspension system, which resulted in it bobbing up and down. Secondly another developed an issue with its internal lights flashing on and off, (even when switched off!). As both these issues occurred at the same time our solution to this was to put some music on for them both, so one could enjoy its disco lights as the other bobbed along to the beat! Never a dull moment here!



Day Excursions

With this newsletter is the program for May to October 2022. We have had a number of queries why the current published program only goes up to April, when usually we publish until June. The answer was that when the program was planned last September (2021) a lot of attractions did not know what they were going to do in October to December, let alone beyond the year end. This pandemic is causing so much uncertainty, long term planning is like juggling with jelly! However, for this next program we have tried to plan visits that will be achievable, and that as usual include a mixture of boats, trains, houses, gardens, animals and of course the seaside. We have started off with

more local destinations not too dependent upon the weather, increasing distance travelled and less weather dependent as the sun starts cracking the flags! (Sorry, not guaranteed!) We have included many favourite excursions, though a new one is to Lytham Hall that is worth a mention, and has come about after a recommendation and excellent reviews from a visit with a private group. A new visit last year that proved very popular was to RHS Bridgewater near Manchester, where many are looking forward to return visits to see how the gardens develop and progress. It is good to know we can still come across places we have not been to before.

The program ends with our usual autumn tints visits in October, but rest assured the next published program will lead us back into the pre Christmas trips, and onwards to Spring 2023. With so much forward planning and constant assessment, its no wonder we never know what day **Onward!**



Holidays

Last year we mentioned that the Holiday Tour Programme had been put together to give a good geographical coverage of the British Isles, and provide itineraries that will delight, amuse, and entertain – and if they don't do any of that, rest assured they will be a good talking point! Well they certainly provided the talking points, with many not quite managing to keep to the intended scripts, it felt like we were organising a programme of Mystery Tours!! We just hope this years programme goes more in line with what we intended.



The start of the year sees some "rollovers" from previous years - Highflying Luxury in Cheshire, Torquay, Spring Tyne Alnwick, Northern Lakes, Snowdonia and The Hebridean – all repeated with the same itinerary. Thriplow Daffodils is repeated but with a different itinerary, and Cornish Delights has 'shrunk', as the hotel could only accept a 4 night/5 day tour – such is the popularity of Cornwall! A "brand new holiday destination" for us is Fleetwood – we've been on day trips, but thought the offer of a nice friendly hotel in the popular area of the Fylde coast was too good to ignore. We're also making a return to London, but rather than free time, we have put attractions in to visit. The Lows and Highs of London visiting the new attraction of the underground Rail Mail, and the Shard – a popular highlight on previous tours. The other tour being themed on the River Thames. Scotland is always a popular destination with stunning scenery guaranteed, of which there will be plenty on the Hebridean Adventure, Boats and Trains in a Grand Highland Tour and A Tayste of Scotland. A tour which includes food and drink treats

based around the River Tay – hence the tour title! We have our regular show tours of the splendid Edinburgh Tattoo, dramatic Kynren and stunning Thursford Christmas Spectacular – all of which fill quickly, so do not delay getting your request in, and we are also planning to visit the colourful and delightful Malvern Flower Show again. Visits are also being made to our regular popular seaside resorts of Llandudno, Eastbourne, Great Yarmouth – though all with new itineraries attached including attractions not previously visited like the Lanberis Lake Railway, Pashley Manor Gardens and Houghton Hall. Other resorts include Exmouth for the Cream of Devon Tour (which does include a cream tea!), and Folkestone as the base for a Gardens and Trains Tour Along Kents Coastline. Though we no longer carry out tours into Europe we will be going "over the water" with tours to the Isle of Man, and Northern Ireland to visit some splendid houses and gardens, plus the unique Pattersons Spade Mill – an implement most gardeners could not do without! We do however go into Europe without crossing water with a visit to Bournemouth. How? Each night at our tour hotel will be themed to a European country! So hopefully we have again put a good mix together to delight, amuse and entertain. Plus with this newsletter are a few more tours for the November/ December time of year – some are new like Alnwick and Severn Valley Railway, some you will have seen before like Tatton, Southport and Scarborough, and there is a repeat of Kew Gardens following last years comments about the lighting displays surpassing expectations. **Enjoy!**



Bradford Clean Air Zone



A Clean Air Zone (CAZ) for Bradford

By now you will have seen the road signs and either heard or read that from January 2022 Bradford has a Clean Air Zone in place. This means that for those of us who operate commercial vehicles (private cars are exempt at present), unless your vehicle has a Euro6 designated engine, there will be a daily charge made to pass through the zone. Luckily two of our smaller coaches are Euro6, so no worries, but the larger coaches present a different scenario. Two of the vehicles are Euro5, there was no such thing as Euro6 when they were purchased new, and they still have a working life ahead of them, so what is the solution? They are having their exhaust systems upgraded to Euro6. This is not a cheap option, but at least grants are available to assist. That leaves just one to sort whose exhaust system cannot be upgraded, so maybe that coach will be off to pastures new.

Holiday Hot off the Press.

Must mention our late additions to the Holiday section... celebrate Christmas with the Bard!

Our 2022 Christmas Tour will be staying in popular Stratford-Upon-Avon: lovely hotel, centrally placed, a good tasty Christmas feast, and you will see some delightful Cotswold scenery too. Plus, we will step into 2023 with a return of our popular Burns Night Tour - this time based in central Perth - Over the border for some Scottish celebration fun.

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 and there is a copy there.