

TOGETHER WE TRAVEL!



# solo connections



~ Best of England & Wales ~



**Best of England & Wales**  
**26 Days**  
**31 August – 25 September 2025**  
**Fully Hosted**

**ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:**

- London & Windsor
- Brighton & Bournemouth
- Bath & Bristol
- The Cotswolds & Cardiff
- Pembrokeshire & Chester
- Liverpool & Manchester
- Lakes District & York
- Stratford-Upon-Avon & Oxford
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

**INCLUDES:**

- Return Economy Class International Flights\* including taxes – *Limited Business Class Upgrades on Request*
- **Private Single Room** in quality hotel accommodations
- Meals as per the itinerary: 23 Continental Breakfasts and 23 Dinners
- Sightseeing Tours with Whisper Headsets, Entrance fees and Transfers\* as per itinerary
- Porterage<sup>^</sup>
- **Tour Host** – travels with group from/to Brisbane
- **Local Tour Director & Coach Driver**

**EXCLUDES:**

- Any meals, tours, flights, excursions or transfers other than mentioned above or in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature i.e. laundry, drinks, phone calls, internet
- Tipping for Tour Director & Driver: **allow approx. AUD\$510 – pre pay option available**
- Travel Insurance and any applicable Electronic Visa Waivers / Visas

**Priced from \$29,362\* per person**

Terms and Conditions apply. Price is per person Sole Use and subject to availability. Price is correct as at 18/03/2025. \*Based on Economy class Emirates group airfare. Surcharges apply for Perth, Sydney & Melbourne departures and will include meet and assistance in Dubai airport enroute to London. Further surcharges apply for Business Class upgrades. Flights cannot be removed from package. Frequent Flyer points cannot be used to upgrade. <sup>^</sup>Porterage at all hotels except in Bournemouth where service is not available. Tour requires minimum number of passengers to depart. Prices may fluctuate if surcharges, fees, taxes or currencies change. Solo Connections is constantly striving to improve our itineraries and inclusions. If such improvements can be made, or unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary, we reserve the right at any time to vary itineraries and to substitute inclusions of equal value. Further booking conditions may apply, please check all prices, availability and other information at time of or before booking. Package cancellation fees apply. Denise Marie Falsay trading as Solo Connections. ATAS Accredited A11424. ABN 92 582 582 996

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Day 1 & 2 – Sunday 31 August – Monday 01 September 2025  
Australia – London via Dubai

D (day 2)

Today, passengers departing from Brisbane, you will meet your Tour Manager and fellow travellers at Brisbane International Airport for our flights to London transiting in Dubai on the way. *Interstate passengers, you will meet the group in Dubai.* We arrive at **London Heathrow** airport and after collecting our bags and clearing customs & immigration we will be transferred to our hotel to check in. The afternoon is at our leisure before we meet early evening for a **Welcome Dinner** at the hotel.

**Accommodation: Crowne Plaza Kings Cross or similar (3 Nights)**

Day 3 – Tuesday 02 September 2025  
London

CB-D

Today we will discover some of London's most iconic landmarks with an expert guide on our fantastic **walking tour**. See **Waterloo Station, South Bank, and the Thames** before crossing **Westminster Bridge**, to **the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben**. Next, we walk past **Westminster Abbey** to **Buckingham Palace**, the beautiful **St. James's Park**, pass **No. 10 Downing Street** before reaching **Trafalgar Square**.

Day 4 – Wednesday 03 September 2025  
London / Windsor Castle

CB-D

Today enjoy an excursion to **Windsor Castle** and an afternoon at leisure in London.

Day 5 – Thursday 04 September 2025  
London - Brighton

CB-D

Today we travel to **Brighton** and enjoy a **walking tour** along the seafront in the neighbouring town on **Hove** and admire the colourful beach huts as we make our way along the beach towards Brighton. Reaching the **Royal Pavillion**, we will have time to rest before continuing to **Brighton Palace Pier** and on to **Kemptown**.

**Accommodation: Malmaison Brighton or Similar (1 Night)**

Day 6 – Friday 05 September 2025  
Brighton - Bournemouth

CB-D

We travel to **Bournemouth** today. Along the way take a self-guided visit to **Portsmouth Historic Dockyard**

**Accommodation: Bournemouth Highcliffe Marriott or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 7 – Saturday 06 September 2025  
Bournemouth

CB-D

Today we visit **Abbotsbury Swannery** - the only place in the world where you are able to walk through the heart of a colony of nesting Mute Swans.



Day 8 – Sunday 07 September 2025  
Bournemouth – Bath - Bristol

CB-D

We are off to **Bristol** today. En route discover the fascinating history of one of the world's most renowned destinations, **Stonehenge**. Next on our visits today is **The Roman Baths**, built around 70AD.

**Accommodation: The Bristol Hotel or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 9 – Monday 08 September 2025  
Bristol / The Cotswolds

CB-D

This morning we take a tour of the picturesque **Cotswolds**. Accompanied by a knowledgeable guide we will visit **Bourton on the Water**, and take a light walk between **Lower Slaughter**, **Upper Slaughter** on the banks of the **River Eye**. We are then driven to **Bibury**, one of the most photographed Cotswolds villages to see the amazing architecture of the cottages of **Arlington Row**.

Day 10 – Tuesday 09 September 2025  
Bristol – Cardiff

CB-D

We leave Bristol for **Cardiff** with a stop at the national icon, **Tintern Abbey** - founded in 1131 by Cistercian monks and still standing in roofless splendour on the banks of the River Wye nearly 500 years since its tragic fall into ruin during the dissolution of the monasteries in 1536.

**Accommodation: Clayton Hotel Cardiff or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 11 – Wednesday 10 September 2025  
Cardiff

CB-D

We pay a visit **The Royal Mint** where we will learn all about where UK coins are made and gain a fascinating insight into the history of The Royal Mint before transferring to **The Welsh Coal Mining Experience**. Enjoy the **Black Gold Experience Underground Tour** which is led by guides who have all worked the coal mines of the **Rhondda Valleys** and have tales to tell of life underground and the history of the Black Gold that was shipped from the Rhondda around the globe.

Day 12 – Thursday 11 September 2025  
Cardiff - Swansea

CB-D

Enjoy a half day walking tour and explore the 'Avenues and Alleyways' of **Cardiff City Centre** and then in the heart of the capital city we visit **Cardiff Castle**, a truly remarkable site with a history that spans over 2000 years.

**Accommodation: Delta Hotels by Marriott Swansea or Similar (2 Nights)**



Day 13 – Friday 12 September 2025  
Pembrokeshire

CB-D

This morning the beautiful **Pembrokeshire** coastline is calling! Today we enjoy a **scenic drive** along the coast stopping at places of interest along the way. We'll enjoy a visit to the UK's smallest city, **St Davids** and also stop in the small town of **Tenby** which boasts a castle, medieval walls, and is a quintessential Welsh seaside resort.

Day 14 – Saturday 13 September 2025  
Swansea – Chester

CB-D

We're heading to **Chester** today with visits to **Chester Cathedral** and a **guided walking tour** around the beautiful Roman city. Chester has Britain's oldest, longest, and most complete city walls. Our route around the walls will take in the iconic sights of Chester including **Chester Racecourse**, the **River Dee**, the **Clocktower**, **Chester Castle**, the **Roman Amphitheater**, and Chester Cathedral.

**Accommodation: BW Queens Hotel Chester or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 15 – Sunday 14 September 2025  
Chester

CB-D

We take a once-in-a-lifetime **heritage railway adventure** to the summit of **Snowdon, Yr Wyddfa**, the majestic mountain offering breathtaking views. Later we have some self-guided time at **Bodnant Garden** one of the most beautiful gardens in the UK, spanning some 80 acres with spectacular Bodnant hybrid rhododendrons, the famous Laburnum Arch, fiery autumn colours in the glades and a Winter Garden for all the senses.

Day 16 – Monday 15 September 2025  
Chester - Liverpool

CB-D

Making our way to **Liverpool** we will enjoy some leisure time in **Llandudno**, a charming seaside town. Later, we pay a visit to one of the most magnificent medieval fortresses in Europe; **Conwy Castle**.

**Accommodation: Novotel Liverpool Centre or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 17 – Tuesday 16 September 2025  
Liverpool

CB-D

We discover Liverpool today, a city famous for its docks and maritime history, rich in the arts, music, culture, and iconic architecture. Stroll the atmospheric streets, see the **Liverpool Anglican Cathedral**, and pass by the **Cavern Club**, the legendary music venue famously known as the birthplace of The Beatles. Enjoy the fresh air and charming atmosphere as we tread the cobbled streets around the stunning **Albert Docks** before visiting the award-winning **'The Beatles Story'**, the world's largest permanent exhibition purely devoted to telling the story of The Beatles' rise to fame.



Day 18 – Wednesday 17 September 2025  
Liverpool – Manchester – Lake District

CB-D

Today we first travel to **Manchester** for a **walking tour** taking in **Canal Street**, **Alan Turing Memorial**, **Chinatown**, the **Science and Industry Museum** and enjoy a visit inside to see the exhibitions showcasing Manchester's industrial and technological contributions. **Deansgate**, Manchester's main shopping street, is where we will enjoy a visit to the **John Ryland Library**, before continuing north past the 18th century **St Ann's Church** and on to **Exchange Square**, created after the 1996 IRA Manchester Bombing. Our tour ends with a visit to **Ancoats**, known as the 'Cradle of the Industrial Revolution' and known as the world's first industrial suburb.

**Accommodation: Low Wood Bay Resort or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 19 – Thursday 18 September 2025  
Lake District

CB-D

We have a **full day excursion** of the beautiful **Lake District** for a **cruise** on the beautiful waters, admiring the outdoor scenery of lakes and mountains. Next, we transfer to **Coniston Waters**, where Donald Campbell broke the speed record on water in the Bluebird. We end the day with a drive around the **Hellvellyn Range**, a mountain in the English Lake District between the lakes of **Thirlmere** and **Ullswater**.

Day 20 – Friday 19 September 2025  
Lake District - York

CB-D

We start our day with a scenic drive through the **Yorkshire Dales**. See iconic sites such as the **Ribble Head Viaduct**, and the **Aysgarth Falls**. We also get to enjoy a visit to **Castle Howard**, one of Britain's finest stately homes.

**Accommodation: BW York Pavilion Hotel or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 21 – Saturday 20 September 2025  
York

CB-D

Today we take a tour of **York**, the Walled City starting at **Lord Mayor's Walk** with a local guide and have our first visit, to the **York City Walls**, **York Minster**, and **St Michael-le-Belfrey** before visiting **Stonegate**. We will also visit the **Yorkshire Museum** and the **National Railway Museum**. Our final stop will be at the **Shambles**, an old street where butchers used to display their meats for sale. Enjoy the **British tradition of Fish & Chips** on board a relaxing river cruise.



Day 22 – Sunday 21 September 2025  
York – Stratford upon Avon - Oxford

CB-D

Today we visit the picturesque town of **Stratford-upon-Avon** which is steeped in the history of **William Shakespeare**. Visit **Shakespeare's Birthplace** then pass by **The White Swan pub**, one of the oldest pubs in Stratford. See **Shakespeare's New Place**, the beautiful architecture of the **Guild Chapel** and **Guildhall** on our way to **Holy Trinity Church**; the final resting place of William Shakespeare and his wife Anne Hathaway. Enjoy a walk up the **River Avon** to the beautiful **Royal Shakespeare Theatre** where our tour ends.

**Accommodation: Voco Oxford Thames or Similar (2 Nights)**

Day 23 – Monday 22 September 2025  
Oxford

CB-D

Join a local guide for a tour of **Oxford**, including **Carfax Tower**, **Saxon Tower of St Michael**, **Martyr's Memorial**, a homage to protestant protestors burnt at the stake for heresy under the reign of Queen Mary I and **Ashmolean**, the first university museum in the world dating back to the 17th century. Pass the **Martyr's Cross** to see **Balliol College** and **Trinity College**, **Blackwell's Bookshop** and the **Sheldonian Theatre**. Further highlights today are the **Bodleian Library**, **All Soul's College** and **St Mary's Church** before seeing **Magdalen** before our tour ends at the historical **Covered Market**.

Day 24 – Tuesday 23 September 2025  
Oxford - London

CB-D

We Oxford and travel back to the vibrant capital, London. Along the way, enjoy scenic views of the English countryside and pay a self-guided visit to **Blenheim Palace** before we come together for a **Farewell dinner**.

**Accommodation: Crowne Plaza Kings Cross or Similar (1 Night)**

Day 25 & 26 – Wednesday 24 & Thursday 25 September 2025  
London – Australia via Dubai

CB (day 25)

We enjoy a final breakfast together before we check out and transfer to London Heathrow airport in time for our flights. We return home with amazing memories of times spent with newfound friends whilst seeing the best of England & Wales.