

THE ERL NORTHUMBERLAND EVENT

Tuesday 4th to Tuesday 11th June 2024



Northumberland National Park – one of the least visited areas of Britain

Start and finish the Event in the Peak District and join us on a cross country route via Glossop, Shaw, Todmorden, Nelson, Settle, Kirby Stephen and Eggleston to our five night hotel at Blanchland

First and last nights at The Izaak Walton Hotel at Ilam, a 3 star with 2 AA Rosettes for food., and an original pub. However, if you wish to go direct to/from Blanchland, then no problem - just tell us via the Booking Form



The Izaak Walton Hotel and its Pub at ILAM, (not 11am)

The middle five nights are at The Lord Crewe Arms Hotel, four star, 21 rooms, AA Rosette restaurant.

The Lord Crewe Arms Hotel is a medieval hotel dating back to 1165 that was used as a hiding hole by monks of nearby Blanchland Abbey for centuries and contains hidden stairways and stone flagged floors. The hotel is built upon the former Abbey guest house named named after Lord Crewe, the Bishop of Durham. The Lord Crewe Arms Hotel has a fireplace where 'General' Tom Forster hid during the 1715 Jacobite rising and is reputedly haunted by the ghost of his sister, Dorothy Foster.

Step back in time in Blanchland, the postcard-perfect, honey-stone village with the rightful reputation as one of the prettiest villages in the north of England. Stones, cobbles, hanging baskets and winding lanes are everywhere in Blanchland, and there isn't a modern-day chain store in sight!

The White Monk Tea Room, which used to be the village school at Blanchland Abbey and the magnificent Lord Crewe Arms Hotel which was originally built as the Abbot's Lodge are all that you'll find in this small village. Blanchland Abbey was founded by Walter de Bolbec in 1165. Edward III visited the hidden gem while campaigning against the Scots in 1327. During church restoration in 1881, a '*marvellous system of drains devised by the monks*' was discovered under the chancel, at least that is what the architect thought. It is much more likely that the 'drains' were, in fact, acoustic pits beneath the choir stalls, meant to amplify the voices of monks singing.



The Lord Crewe Arms Hotel and its cellar Pub (rated 9.6 exceptional- the whole hotel, not just the Pub!)

Potential visits whilst there – this a “from” list as the recce will see what is feasible and when:

- Amble , coastal village with its nearby Walkworth Castle
 - Craigside House, Rothbury, illuminated by hydro-electricity and powered by hydraulics, National Trust
 - Hadrian’s Wall and Housesteads Fort, a Unesco World Heritage Site
 - George Stevenson’s Birthplace, National Trust (closed at the moment) Hopefully open in 2024
 - Seaton Delaval Hall, same architect as Castle Howard and Blenheim Palace, somewhat grand once
 - The Weardale Railway.18 mile heritage line running from Bishop Auckland to Eastgate in Weardale
 - Beamish Museum – an option this, as many will have visited, though it is superb.
 - and, of course, motor some wonderful roads, both in Keilder Forest and the beautiful surrounds
- So do not forget your National Trust card.

Included on the Event:

- Seven nights in lovely hotels set in amazing scenery
- Two in a 3 star, five in a four star – both with private parking and award winning Restaurants
- Bed, full English breakfast and a choice of menu dinners
- Wines with five of the seven meals • Teas or coffees after dinner, water with.
- Visits and train ride, details to be confirmed
- A route from Ilam to Blanchford and back without the “benefits” of the M6 or M1
- Accompanied by a Tour Director

THE ERL NOTHUMBERLAND EVENT

Price per person, sharing accommodation, £2375.00
for all seven nights, including as stated above plus arranged visits,
excluding the National Trust and optional visits



A real fire, real ale and real pub food – The Lord Crewe Arms awaits

