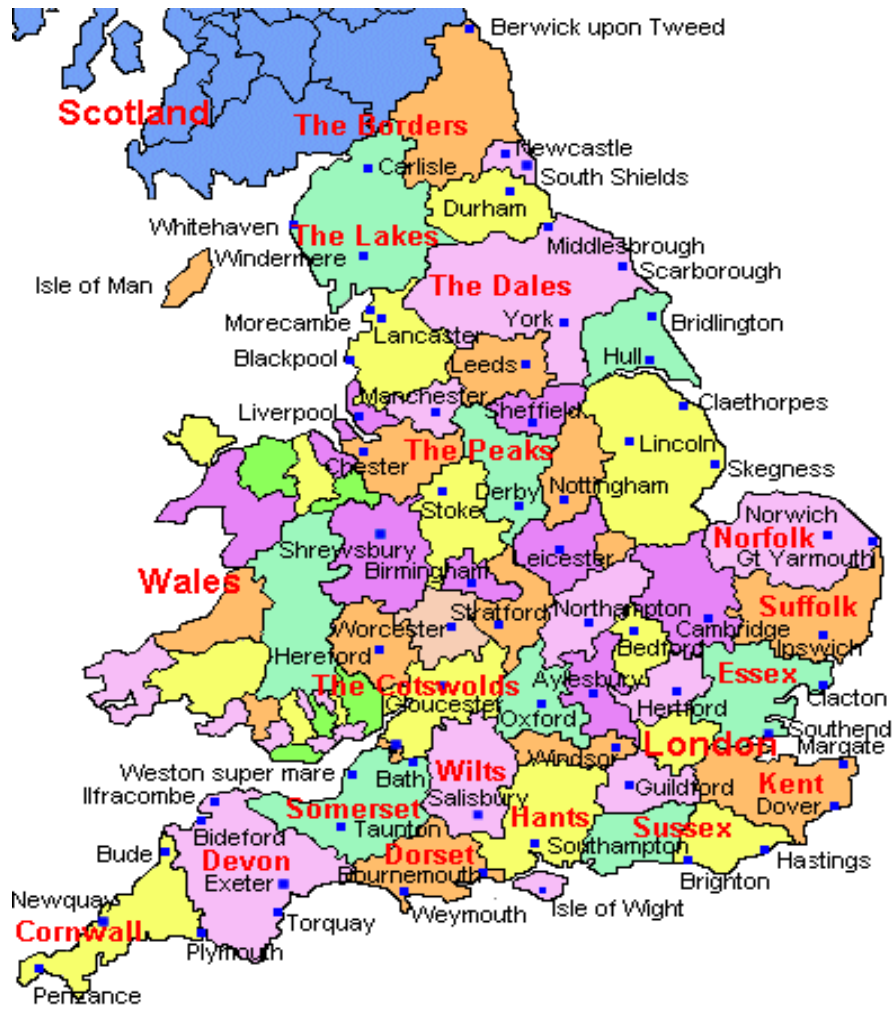




ENGLAND GOLF GUIDE



[Click here for a free England Golf Trip quote.](#)





England Golf

England is famous both for its inspiring linksland and for the remarkable "heathland" courses so unique to golf in this country. The Crown Jewels of golf in England are found orbiting London, such as Sunningdale, Walton Heath, Wentworth, and Royal St. George's, and what a privilege it is to be able to play these immensely private English golf clubs.

The most famous golf clubs in England are undoubtedly along the Lancashire coast, three historic Open Championship venues very close to one another, the "Royal" family of Liverpool (Hoylake), Birkdale, and Lytham St. Anne's. Few are aware though that much of the "Hidden England" can be included with these great venues, from Norfolk to Yorkshire, with classics like Royal West Norfolk, Woodhall Spa, and Ganton Golf Club.

England Golf Courses

UK, England Golf Courses

Northwest

Royal Lytham & St Annes (6673 yds. Par 71)

(Lytham) This is one of the great seaside championship links of the British Isles, and one of the seven where the British Open is held regularly. A true links course, with fast running fairways, ground gathering towards strategically placed bunkers, and no end of trouble for the wayward shot. The club is rich in history, dating back to its foundation in 1886 and there is a charming air of timeless respectability.



Royal Birkdale (6305 yds. Par 71)

(Southport) Birkdale's fairways are flat but they form valleys between mighty sand dunes, providing a sturdy frame to a landscape embellished by a profusion of tenacious buckthorn and willow scrub. In the last 30 years, no club has hosted more major events, a clear mark of recognition, particularly among the professionals, that its lack of the eccentricities of some other seaside links is more to their liking.



Royal Liverpool (6840 yds. Par 72)

(Hoylake) The great Hoylake is seldom a question of love at first sight. As is the case with so many championship links courses, it is not physically attractive and rarely endears itself to the average golfer. However, it is without question a very grand links, and a life-long bond of respect and admiration soon begins to establish itself.



Southport & Ainsdale Golf Club (6603 yds. Par 72)

(Southport) Set amongst ranges of tall sandhills and smaller sand dunes, the Course is a true test of golf for all golfers. Accuracy is of ultimate importance and one needs to plan your drive rather than just hit it as far as possible. The coastal climate is kind and is a delightful atmosphere in which to play golf.



Formby Golf Club (6490 yds. Par 72)

(Formby) Founded in 1884, Formby is a magnificent traditional links of charm and elegance situated close by the shoreline of the Irish sea, near Southport. Accuracy is always required since the indigenous heather protects much of the rough and great caution is required whether this be off the tee, in approach shots, or on the green.



Hillside Golf Club (6850 yds. Par 72)

(Southport) Hillside's links golf course is surely one of the best links courses never to have hosted the Open. Situated next door to Royal Birkdale, it provides a peerless test of golf, which tests all the shots in a majestic setting. Even if you safely negotiate the start, there are plenty of testing and scenic holes to come. Much earth- moving, done in the 1960s, has produced one of the most scenic and testing links courses in the British Isles.



Hesketh Golf Club (6655 yds. Par 73)

(Southport) Set amidst the towering Victorian villas of Southport's premier residential area - Hesketh Park - is Hesketh Golf Club, the town's oldest golf club, founded in 1885. Standing alone on the crest of a tall sandhill, the clubhouse dominates the golf course, and the surrounding district. The course is at the northern end of south-west Lancashire`s sand dune system, which is the home of so many great golf courses. Professional championship golf has been played on these famous old links from the club`s earliest days, and the course is regularly used as a final qualifying course when The Open is played at Royal Birkdale.



Central

The Belfry (6905 yds. Par 72)

(The Belfry) The Belfry is the headquarters of the PGA and is situated in a 370 acre park, only 10 miles northeast of Birmingham. The two 18-hole courses, the Brabazon and the Derby, have been designed by Peter Alliss and Dave Thomas. The Brabazon, a demanding championship course, has eleven holes on which one has to negotiate water. Streams and lakes are features of the courses and spectators have been taken into account.



Woodhall Spa Golf Club (6907 yds. Par 73)

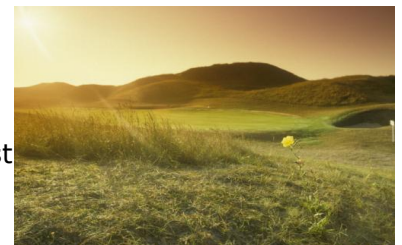
(Woodhall Spa) This is one of the country's greatest and most beautiful heathland courses, founded in 1905 and originally laid out by Harry Vardon. It provides flat, easy walking amongst heather and tree-lined fairways and is renowned for its vast bunkers and clubhouse atmosphere.



Southeast

Royal St Georges Golf Club (6903 yds. Par 70)

(Sandwich) This course is the truest links you will find in all England and the Royal & Ancient, in its wisdom, chose this as one of The Open venues, knowing it will find the pedigree player at the end of a week. Close to the sea, overlooking Pegwell Bay, any kind of wind can make this man-size test even tougher. The sweeping rough at the 1 st can be daunting, so can the bunkers and the huge sand hills. But there are classic shots here.



Prince's Golf Club (9 holes - 3343 yds. Par 36)

(Sandwich) This is a 27-hole championship links of the highest calibre built in 3 loops of 9 holes from a modern clubhouse. The course represents all that is best in traditional links golf in the use of depression ridges and broken ground on a predominantly flat surface, with as little protection from the wind as possible. The three 18 hole combinations all demand the highest standard of distance judgement.



Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club (6785 yds. Par 72)

(Deal) This is a famous championship seaside links, windy but with easy walking. The outward nine is generally considered the easier. The inward nine is longer and includes the renowned 16th, perhaps the most difficult hole. On a fine day there are wonderful views across the Channel.



Parkstone Golf Club (6650 yds. Par 70)

(Poole Dorset) A beautiful and mature heathland course with lakes, standings of mature pines and a wide variety of wildlife together with panoramic views over Poole Harbour to Brownsea Island and the coastal downs of the Isle of Purbeck. Set within a few minutes drive of Poole and Bournemouth town centres and beaches, Parkstone offers the best in both golf and hospitality.



Metropolitan London

Wentworth Golf Club (6905 yds. Par 73)

(Virginia Water) Of all the inland courses in England, Wentworth is the most revered. Host to the Ryder Cup, the World Match Play, Dunlop Masters and so on, it personifies great inland golf the world over. The challenge, in terms of sheer yards, is enormous. But the qualities go beyond this, and include the atmosphere, the heathland, the silver birch and the fairway side homes.



Sunningdale Golf Club (6586 yds. Par 72)

(Ascot) The Old Course was designed by Willie Park Jr, a leading player and twice the winner of the Open Championship. He was engaged by the original committee of the Club in 1900 and the course opened for play in 1901. It retains a high ranking in courses around the world as a fine example of a heathland course. It was here in 1926 that Bobby Jones played his legendary round of 66, 33 out and 33 back in qualifying for the Open Championship which he went on to win.



Walton Heath Golf Club (6801 yds. Par 72)

(Walton-on-the-Hill) On an exposed heathland setting, some 700 feet above sea level and covered with bracken and heather, the courses are undoubtedly two of the finest of their type in England. Both are at the mercy of the winds which sweep across the Downs and both have wide greens, merciless bunkers and awkward rough.



The Berkshire Golf Club (6358 yds. Par 72)

(Ascot) The Club has hosted many Amateur events over the years, of note being The English Amateur Championships, The British Seniors Open Championships, the English Ladies' Close Amateur Championships, The English Senior Ladies' Matchplay Championships, the Women's Home Internationals and the Vagliano Trophy played between Great Britain and Ireland versus The Continent of Europe. In addition to hosting The London Amateur Foursomes every three years, the Club hosts two important Amateur events annually, The Berkshire Trophy for Gentlemen and The Lady Astor Salver for Ladies. The Berkshire has the unique distinction of having a golf course which has six Par 3s, six Par 4s and six Par 5s - The Red Course. Situated less than 20 miles from Central London and being very close to Heathrow Airport the Club is perfectly situated for visitors from overseas.



St. George's Hill Golf Club (6496 yds. Par 72)

(Weybridge) Designed by Harry Colt in 1912 and carved out of heather and pine woodland, St George's Hill comprises three very individual 9 hole loops, all starting and finishing by the clubhouse. Most Club Championship and major competitions are played over the better known Red and Blue nines. However, the Green nine, originally part of a second 18 hole layout, now compares very favourably with the other two, and many regard it as the most difficult nine due to its much tighter nature.



Royal Blackheath Golf Club (6219 yds. Par 70)

(London) Lying less than ten miles from central London, Royal Blackheath Golf Club is the oldest golf club in England, and possibly the world, having reputedly been instituted in 1608 by Scottish golfers who came south following the accession of King James I. The course itself, an excellent test of golf extending over 110 acres, is a shrewdly landscaped parkland layout comprising 18 holes of unique beauty and interest. Measuring little over 6,200 yards from the championship tees with a par of 70, the course is not long and can appear deceptively easy to the uninitiated eye. And while the greatest virtue of Royal Blackheath is that it is a delightful place to play golf, you can be assured that the course is far removed from being an easy challenge.



England Hotels

NORTH

Chester Grosvenor Hotel 🏆🏆🏆🏆

(Chester) Steeped in 125 years of history, The Chester Grosvenor is recognized as one of the most highly acclaimed hotels in Europe. The hotel is owned by Duke of Westminster and proudly maintains the highest standards of excellence in terms of comfort, courtesy and service. Amongst its many accolades, The Chester Grosvenor was cited 'Hotel of the Year 1993' in a leading independent guide.



Vincent Hotel 🏆🏆🏆🏆

(Southport) Situated on Lord Street, Southport's Parisienne Boulevard, the Vincent takes comfort and personal service to new heights - all within a fresh, stylish and contemporary interior. Cool, contemporary and stylish, the Vincent brings a new twist to hospitality in the region. Six floors of tranquility - a boutique hotel with 60 guest studios, residences and penthouses, a destination V Cafe & Sushi Bar, and the V-Spa and V-Gym.



Prince of Wales 🏆🏆🏆

(Southport) The Prince of Wales hotel, set amongst the tree lined boulevard of Lord Street, Southport, offers modern facilities but still retains the elegance and character reflected throughout this interesting Victorian seaside resort.



Royal Clifton Hotel 🏆🏆🏆

(Southport) The Royal Clifton Hotel enjoys 110 tastefully furnished ensuite guest rooms many with panoramic views over the King's gardens and the North West coastline. The Royal Clifton Hotel is a member of the world's largest group of independent hotels. A friendly welcome is assured for a pleasant start to a relaxing golf break. It is a AA 3 star hotel with a Victorian facade, situated on the Promenade.



Clifton Arms 🏆🏆🏆

(Lytham) This friendly, traditional hotel overlooks Lytham's seafront. It offers bedrooms in contemporary style equipped with modern amenities and the front facing enjoy views of the Ribble estuary.



CENTRAL

Belfry Hotel 🏆🏆🏆🏆

(Wishaw) The Belfry is so much more than just a hotel; it's a quite unique experience, a perfect blend of cuisine, leisure and pleasure. It is the warm and friendly welcome of the Belfry where the emphasis is always on your comfort and pleasure. Famous throughout the world for its links with the Ryder Cup, The Belfry offers much more than just golf. A superb hotel, friendly service and fabulous leisure facilities combines with a choice restaurants and bars to ensure that any stay here will linger in the memory as a truly special experience. And while it may be true that The Belfry is about much more than just golf; with three magnificent courses on site, including the magnificent Brabazon and PGA National Courses, golf is very much intertwined into the entire Belfry experience.



Shakespeare Hotel 🏆🏆🏆

(Stratford-Upon-Avon) Stratford-Upon-Avon is famous the world over as the birthplace of the great playwright William Shakespeare. 'The Bard' lived here in later life in a house called 'The New Place', only a few yards away from The Shakespeare Hotel. The exterior features nine gables and a timbered facade which date the hotel itself back to at least 1637.



SOUTH

Bath Spa Hotel 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆

(Bath) The five star Bath Spa Hotel is a splendid Georgian mansion with a long, sweeping driveway up to a classically colonnaded front, and seven acres of fine, formal gardens. Secluded within its own grounds, the hotel is a perfect retreat – yet is only a 10 minute stroll from the city centre, and close to the Roman Baths, Pump Room and the great shops. The Alfresco and Velloro Restaurants provide excellent variety, to delight the most discerning of palates.



Bell Hotel 🏆🏆🏆

(Sandwich) The Bell itself has stood on its present site since the early 17th century, although an earlier Bell Inn was certainly in existence in Sandwich from the 14th century and reputedly hosted Queen Elizabeth I with a glass of sack. Although no longer host to monarchs The Bell is still renowned for its warm hospitality and stylish accommodation. The Bell offers guests the opportunity to relax in traditional comfort with all the benefits of modern facilities to hand. This small hotel prides itself on providing the personal service and professional care which ensure that every stay is a memorable occasion. The individually furnished bedrooms are attractive and spacious. All have ensuite facilities and views of the River Stour or the ancient streets and rooftops of Sandwich.



Berystede Hotel 🏆🏆🏆

(Ascot) With its high turrets, timbered facade and nine-acre wooded grounds, the Berystede has plenty of victorian atmosphere. The inside too, retains the style of the period and many original features of the house are highlighted in the comfortable public rooms and spacious bedrooms.



LONDON

The Dorchester

One of the top hotels in the world, achieved legendary status almost from the day it opened in April 1931 for its exceptional facilities, exemplary standards of service and excellent dining experiences. Boasting an ideal location overlooking Hyde Park and close to prestigious shops and theaters, The Dorchester offers the highest level of personalized service.



Hilton Metropole

The 4-star Hilton London Metropole is one of Europe's largest hotel and conference centres. With superb transportation links, the hotel is just 20 minutes from Heathrow Airport to Paddington Station by the Heathrow Express air-conditioned train; and the Hilton London Metropole is an easy ten-minute walk to Oxford Street.



Flemings

Situated in the heart of Mayfair, the Flemings Hotel offers a unique atmosphere of traditional charm and elegance that is apparent throughout the hotel, especially in the reception area with its elaborate chandeliers and period furniture.



Baileys

The Bailey's Hotel, originally opened in 1876, has been renovated and carefully restored to its original glory. Complimented by its elegant Victorian facade, the Bailey's Hotel now offers the comforts of a luxurious home with the convenience of hotel facilities and service.



Recommended Sightseeing

Southeast

London

London is one of the most vibrant cities in the world. To the lover of history no city can be more exciting. Every street, every building has a story to tell. Central London can be said to have three main areas. The city is the oldest, with its Roman walls, its Norman Tower of London and its fascinating narrow streets. The second area is Westminster, with its Royal Palaces, its Abbey and its government offices. While the West End, the third area, is the setting for fine shops and entertainment.

London Cruise

These are unique sightseeing tours on the famous River Thames, which flows through the heart of London, that take you past some of London's greatest landmarks and historic sights.

Outskirts of London

There are countless places of interest on the outskirts of London. For example, the eleventh century Windsor Castle, now the Queen's weekend residence, or Hampton Court Palace, built in 1514 by Cardinal Wolsey and later given by him to Henry VIII.

Oxford

Oxford is Matthew Arnold's city of "dreaming spires" and is a university town par excellence, its streets dominated by the stone-built walls and quadrangles of its ancient colleges and, in term-time, by flocks of black-gowned undergraduates on foot or riding bicycles. You could also visit the quaint village of Woodstock. Blenheim Palace, richly furnished and containing many treasures, stands adjacent to Woodstock in a large park, which is always open to pedestrians. The building was designed in 1707 for first Duke of Marlborough and the park was landscaped by Capability Brown. In 1847 a famous member of the family, Sir Winston Churchill, was born here.

Central

Birmingham

Birmingham is Britain's second largest city and is situated right in the heart of England. Friendly, bustling and thriving, Birmingham is one of our most visited cities and welcomes visitors all year long. Whether you come to Birmingham on business or pleasure, you will be delighted by the variety of things to see and do. Home to the famous City of Birmingham Orchestra, and Birmingham Royal Ballet, Birmingham is a city of world-class culture. Discover Birmingham's history in the museums and art galleries, stroll through its center and enjoy the diversity of shopping, from well known department stores to intriguing shopping malls and street markets.

Cotswolds

Cotswolds is one of the finest areas of unspoiled countryside in England. It has a distinctive character all its own, created by the use of local honey-colored stone in its buildings and abundant dry-stone walls. It is the Cotswolds villages, though, that are the jewel in the Cotswold crown. The villages of Broadway, Chipping Campden, Painswick and Bourton-on-the-Water are world famous, but smaller villages like Stanton, Snowhill, Bisley offer true 'local' character.

Northwest

Manchester

Greater Manchester was the world's first industrial region. Its heritage is very much the story of working people - their design, inventions, innovations and products. Music, sport, festivals, carnivals and general revelry have always been an integral part of The People's Story and established Manchester's fame for a warm welcome. The area is unique with 30 museums and galleries - 60 miles of canals - 6 massive steam engines - 15 textiles collections - 42 traditional markets - thousands of acres of parks and countryside.

Chester

Chester was originally the fortress site of the 20th Legion in Roman occupation times. A remarkable feature of Chester is its exceptionally well-preserved city walls, which completely enclose the old center. A walkway along the top of them allows visitors to make the tour of the whole city. The Eastgate, surmounted by an ornate, gaily painted clock, erected to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee, is still, as it was in medieval times, the main entrance to Chester.

Southport

Southport enjoys a wide expanse of sands and an artificial boating lake. The Botanic Gardens Museum has displays on the local shrimping industry as well as other local and natural history exhibits, a Victorian parlour and a doll collection. The Atkinson Art Gallery specializes in 19th and 20th century oil paintings, watercolours, drawings and prints, and 20th-century sculpture. Steamport Transport Museum is possibly the largest center of its type in northwest England.

England Championship Tour Itinerary...

The following itinerary is designed for the traveller who is looking for first-class hotels while touring the greatest courses in England.

Day 1:

Your SGH Golf Vacation begins with a transatlantic flight to Manchester, England.

Day 2:

Upon arrival, you will pick up your rental vehicle and drive to **Southport** and the **Vincent Hotel**. The afternoon is free for you to unpack and relax.

Day 3:

After breakfast, golf will be arranged at **Royal Lytham & St. Anne's**. Encircled on all sides by suburbia, it remains one of the world's best examples of seaside golf.



Day 4:

Today you will play the course at **Royal Birkdale**. In the last 30 years, no club has hosted more major events, a clear mark of Birkdale's greatness.



Day 5:

Golf today will be played at **Royal Liverpool (Hoylake)**. Host to 10 Open Championship, Hoylake remains one of the classic seaside courses in Britain. After golf you will transfer to **Sandwich** and the **Bell Hotel**. This small hotel prides itself on providing the personal service and professional care which ensure that every stay is a memorable occasion. The individually furnished bedrooms are attractive and spacious.



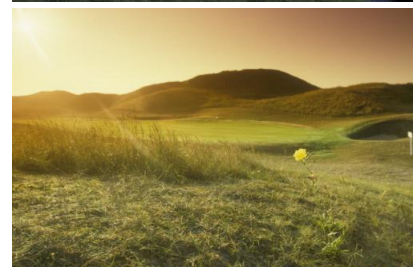
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Day 8:

Today you may choose more golf in The Isles, or reluctantly make your way back home via London.

England Championship Golf Tour Cost...

Valid Dates 1/1/09 - 12/31/09

All prices are per person and land cost only.

<u>England Championship Tour</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Price for Sharing</u>	<u>Price Non Golfer</u>	<u>Single Supplement</u>
First Class Hotels	2 or 4	\$2,495.00 pp	\$1,340.00 pp	\$455.00 pp

All golf is subject to availability.

Cost Includes:

- 6 nights accommodation, double occupancy at hotels indicated.
- Full English breakfast each day.
- Greens fees and starting times for one round each of golf at Royal Lytham & St. Anne's, Royal Birkdale, Royal Liverpool, Royal Cinque Ports, Royal St. George's.
- All service charges on hotel accommodation, and all local taxes.
- Rental vehicle with unlimited mileage, Collision Damage Waiver (CDW) and VAT tax. (Gas is extra)
- SGH Golf travel guide complete with touring map and places of interest.
- Assistance of our Scottish office to arrange extra golf and sightseeing trips of all descriptions.
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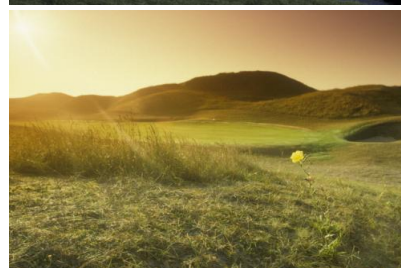
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First Class Hotels	2 or 4	\$2,425.00 pp	\$1,296.00 pp	\$538.00 pp

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ENGLAND HELPFUL HINTS

FOR YOUR TRIP

PLANNING AHEAD

Visas and Passports

All U.S. Citizens traveling in Europe must have a valid passport good for the duration of their visit. If you do not have a passport, apply for one at your local passport office, clerk of the federal state court, or designated post office. Allow several weeks for the government to process your application. ***You do not need a visa for the United Kingdom or Ireland.***

Your passport will be inspected in your home city airport and again upon arrival into Europe.

As a safety measure, we would suggest that you photocopy the front pages of your passport, your traveler's check agreement (with check numbers), airline tickets and everything you will be carrying in your wallet. Leave one copy at home and carry one copy separate from your passport. This will be of immense help to you if your documents are lost or stolen.

GOLF EQUIPMENT

Caddies & Golf Bag

Caddies are self employed people and work when they want to work. They do not belong to the golf course. Even though we can request them in advance, there is no guarantee that they will turn up. Caddie fees start from £35 for Great Britain or €35 for Ireland. Appropriate tip is £5 – 10 for Great Britain or €5 – 10 for Ireland (depending on the quality of the caddie). Pull carts are available at approximately £3 for Great Britain or €3 for Ireland per round. Electric carts are scarce, but are available at some of the courses. A medical certificate might be required to obtain a cart.

Due to the above we suggest you take a small lightweight golf bag. It will be easier to carry and pack. We also recommend you do not leave your golf bag unattended at any time, either at the golf course or in your car.

Golf Accessories

Overseas clubs do not provide tees and pencils. You may wish to bring your own supply. Golf balls are more expensive in Europe. Once again, we suggest you bring your own supply. Other handy items: Band-Aids and sunblock. Two pair of golf shoes should be plenty – preferably soft spikes. Make sure they are well broken in before you travel.

Rain Suit and Umbrella

Although you will be traveling during the dry season, there is always the possibility of rain. We suggest you bring an umbrella and a wind-breaker.

GOLF COURSES

Most of the golf courses you will play will be private clubs. Please check-in with the starter/caddie master at least 20 minutes before play. Each club will advise you of individual rules and regulations. At some clubs, a coat and tie are necessary to use all the facilities of the clubhouse. It is not necessary to wear a coat and tie to play golf. Lunch is included in the green fees at Royal Troon and Western Gailes (except Sunday's). A coat and tie are not required for these lunches.

Handicaps

In most cases there is a handicap limit for men and ladies. This may vary, for men 18-24 and for women 30-36. Please carry your **handicap card** from your golf club with you at all times, as you may be asked to produce it to verify your handicap.

Slow Play

In both Scotland and Ireland all rounds of golf is expected to play in under 4 hours per round. Please try to enjoy your round and keep up with the players in front of you. If you fall more than a hole behind, please wave the group behind you through so the flow of play continues. Also, it is a good idea to allow the local members to play through.

Fitness

As most of the courses you will be playing do not have electric carts, you will be required to walk, and in some cases, you may have to also carry your bag. Each round may consist of walking up to 5 miles, we strongly suggest that prior to your vacation you begin a walking program of a few holes each time out until you are gradually walking the entire course. By the time you leave you should be able to easily walk and play 18 holes. This will make your golfing adventure more enjoyable.

WHAT TO TAKE

*Two words say it best **TRAVEL LIGHT**. You will enjoy your vacation more with a suitcase which isn't too heavy.*

Travel Documents

Don't forget to take your **AIRLINE TICKETS AND PASSPORT!!** Always be sure to check your airline tickets as soon as you receive them to be sure that they are accurate and complete. DO NOT pack your airline tickets or passport in your suitcase and DO NOT carry your airline tickets around with you. It is a good idea to use the hotel safe for valuables.

Money

We suggest that you do not take large amounts of cash, but instead take a widely recognized brand of travelers checks and a well known credit card. Be sure to make a list of your credit card and check numbers and keep it in a separate place from your wallet, purse or passport. ATM machines are available in Europe and your US ATM cards can be used. Be sure to check with your bank what the charges will be. The banks are also a good place to change money and are open Monday – Friday usually 9:00am – 4:00pm. It is more expensive to change money at travel agencies or hotels.

Great Britain uses £ (Pounds) and Ireland uses € (Euros).

Clothing

Temperatures in Scotland and Ireland can range between 55 degrees in April and October, and 77 degrees in mid July and August. However, in Britain and Ireland the weather can vary and you should pack with this in mind. We would recommend a warm sweater, as there are cool winds usually present on the coastal courses. A summary of current weather conditions can be obtained by internet or by phoning the SGH Golf office.

Monthly Climate Chart:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<i>Average Daytime Temperature</i>	39	39	43	55	60	64	65	67	57	52	43	41
<i>Average High</i>	40	40	52	65	69	72	73	73	60	64	55	51
<i>Average Monthly Rainfall</i>	3.4	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.7	3.2	2.7	3.1	3.7	3.6

Packing Suggestions

For the men: Sports Coat (A jacket and tie can be required for dinner in hotels. Jackets may be required in some of the clubhouses). 2 or 3 pairs of pants, 2 sweaters - one for golf and one multipurpose, two pair of walking shoes, and several golf shirts.

For the ladies: Dress code for dinner at hotels can be described as smart. Slacks are acceptable attire. Walking shoes are essential, as is a warm jacket.

Appliance Converters

You should ensure that all electrical appliances, such as shavers and hairdryers, can be used on British voltage, that is 240AC and Ireland voltage, that is 220AC. Some hotels will supply adapters upon request, although we recommend that you carry one.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Baggage Allowance

Your international baggage allowance is two pieces checked, of which a golf bag counts as one plus one carry-on. These pieces should not exceed 107 linear inches, i.e. length plus width plus height, and should, if possible, be restricted to less than 44lbs per bag (check with airline). The airlines also require that your full name and home address is on the outside of your bag. It is also a good idea to put your name and address somewhere on the inside of your bag. We suggest you bring a golf bag, one suitcase and one carry-on flight bag. Use your flight bag for toilet articles and it is also a good idea to pack an extra set of clothing in your flight bag in the unexpected event that for some reason your suitcase is misplaced.

A golf bag should be contained in a secured bag rather than a hard carry case (hard carry cases can be a problem in terms of the space they take up in a rental car or mini bus). It is much safer for your golf equipment if you put a belt (canvas, plastic or leather) around the middle of the golf bag to keep the handle in its proper position. Bag covers are easily torn and clubs damaged when the bag handlers can't find the grip and carry (or toss) the bag by the cover.

Check In

You should check in for your international flight at least 2 ½ hours before departure.

Telephone Calls

Please note that telephone calls from your hotel room are charged at a higher rate than normal and can be expensive. Please check charges before calling especially long distance. Also local calls in Britain are NOT free. Most of the US long distance carriers now have 0-800 numbers in Britain that connect directly to a US operator. You can then charge the call to your own phone or credit card. This is the most cost effective way to call home. The international code from Britain to America is 001 and then the area code. The international code from America to Britain is 011 44 (drop the next 0).

Customs

Check at the airport your duty free allowances for Britain. On your return you can bring up to \$800 worth of duty and tax free purchases. Purchases up to \$1000 over your exemption will be assessed at a flat rate of 10%. Also unsolicited gifts with a limit of \$50 may be sent, duty free, to the U.S. - no more than one to the same address, and none to your home address.

Value Added Tax

VAT is a sales tax which is levied at a uniform rate of 17.5% on most goods and services a visitor buys. Some larger stores participate in a VAT refund scheme. When buying goods to take home, ask if the store participates in this scheme. If it participates, you can claim the 17.5% back. The store will give you a VAT form to fill out listing your goods and costs. You will mail this once you are in international departures in the custom and excise box and you will be refunded in approximately 6 weeks. We suggest that you retain a copy of this with the address of the stores on the form.

Please note : you can only reclaim on goods that you are bringing back to the US and you can not claim it back on services you have used in Europe.

Car Rental

Note: In both Scotland and Ireland there may be an additional charge for any additional driver over and above the main driver. Insurance is included, but there is a deductible of approximately \$700.00. This may be reduced by taking extra insurance from the car rental company of approximately £5.00 per day. Gas: When you receive the car you get a full tank of gas. You have the option of buying the gas then or returning it empty. You have the option of giving them a deposit for the gas, by returning the gas tank full the deposit will be returned to you. If you forget to fill the tank they will use part or all of the deposit.

There is age restrictions on car rentals for Scotland. Under 25 and over 75.

There is age restrictions on car rentals for Ireland. Under 25 and over 65 (for rental mini vans).

Tipping

Some restaurants include the gratuity in the price of the meal. This will be included in the total bill. If this has not been done, 10% of the total bill is appropriate.

Hotel Extras

Try to pay your extras (laundry, bar, bill etc) the evening before departure. You will have much more time to check your bill. Some hotels can't accommodate this, but try to do it wherever you can.

Cell Phones

The first thing to determine is whether your current cell phone will work in the country you are going to be in while you are overseas.

Do you have a multi-band GSM phone? GSM stands for Global System for Mobile Communications, the standard technology used by cell phone providers in more than 200 countries.

If you have a dual- or tri-band GSM phone you can make calls using a GSM network in other parts of the world, but this may be expensive. You'll be able to take your phone and your phone number with you on your overseas trip.

U.S. carriers selling GSM world phones include T-Mobile, AT&T, Cingular and Nextel. If you're using a multi-band GSM phone in the U.S. **you'll need to activate the phone so it works on international frequency bands. Be sure to contact your carrier before your trip.**