



# UK Inbound Cricket Tours

When we started trading in 1993 the name 'Shire Sports Tours' was chosen to reflect sporting tours throughout the 'Shires' of England, Scotland and Wales. We've come a long way since then and now send teams all over the globe but we've not forgotten our roots, our homeland tours still feature heavily in our list of venues.

Whether you're new to the game of cricket and wish to play more social games or you're a serious team looking for some stiff opposition we'll arrange matches to suit. Nowhere in the world will you find a greater concentration of cricket grounds - from our charming village greens steeped in history to First Class cricket grounds with facilities to match, the UK offers everything a visiting cricket team could dream of.

And it doesn't end with the cricket! Wherever you want to go, whatever you want to see we'll fix it - our magnificent towns and cities and the rich landscape which surrounds them offer everything a traveller

could possibly want. **London, Oxford, Cardiff, Chester, York, Edinburgh** or anywhere in between - **your tour, your way!**

Examples of our hotels can be found by clicking around the map on our website ([shiresports.co.uk](http://shiresports.co.uk)) but we can arrange higher or lower standards of accommodation depending on your budget.

Simply send us your requirements and if you like we'll call you back to talk through your requirements - wherever you are in the world and at a time that suits you.

## Why come to the UK on tour?

- Cricket's spiritual home - a 'must do' tour for teams from around the world
- History and tradition - Architectural and cultural history around every corner
- Countryside - play cricket in our green and pleasant hills
- Accessible - our compact island allows you to take in many of our Shires without too much tiring travel

## Tour guidance

Best months to come	May - September
Days to tour	Travel any day, come back any day if staying in hotels. Hostel and university bookings usually run Saturday to Saturday but you can stay as many weeks as you like
Max no. fixtures	Plenty
Currency	Sterling (GBP £)
Time Zone	GMT

So if you're thinking of visiting the UK from abroad on a cricketing tour we invite you to come and enjoy our wonderful country, regarded by many as the home of cricket.





# UK Inbound - 'Cricket in the Shires'

## DAY 1 / Arrival day - London

We'll meet you at the airport and take you to your London hotel by coach for a 2 night stay. Enjoy a welcome meeting with our representative to review your itinerary before your first taste of London's famous nightlife.

## DAY 2 / Full free day - London

Suggested optional excursion – A tour of Lord's Cricket Ground, cricket's spiritual headquarters and perhaps the most important single place in world cricket. See the unrivalled MCC Library and the world-famous MCC Museum where exhibits include the Wisden Trophy and the Ashes urn.

## DAY 3 / Match day 1 - Oxfordshire

After breakfast we'll transfer you to your Oxfordshire hotel which will be your base for the next 3 nights.

First fixture: Enjoy a competitive game in delightful surroundings then spend some time socialising with your hosts. Visit a country pub on the way back to the hotel to enjoy a pint or two of real ale and savour some of the mouth-watering local dishes.

## DAY 4 / Match day 2 - Oxfordshire

Second fixture: Play in the tranquility of the Oxfordshire countryside followed by post match socialising then transfer back to hotel for a night out in Oxford where we can recommend some really great restaurants, town centre pubs and bars.

## DAY 5 / Full free day - Oxford

After breakfast head into Oxford 'The City of Dreaming Spires' home to royalty and scholars for over 800 years and one of the oldest and most highly revered Universities in Europe.

Suggested optional excursion – Oxford Past and Present Tour featuring Oxford's history and architecture and describing how the University operates today.

## DAY 6 / Travel / free day - Chester

Transfer north through the Midlands to Cheshire where you'll check for a 2 night stay in the International Heritage City of Chester. With its wealth of great architecture, secret passageways and cobbled streets, Chester's a great place to shop or just simply relax and take in the Café Culture. There's also no shortage of nightlife in Chester and being such a compact city it's the perfect place for a bit of a pub crawl.

## DAY 7 / Match day 3 - Cheshire

Play your third tour fixture in the glorious surroundings of Shire Sports' home ground at Cholmondeley Castle. Cholmondeley (pronounced Chumley) was voted one of Wisden's top six loveliest grounds in Britain so be sure to bring your camera. Enjoy some fun and games after the match then treat yourselves to dinner at the Cholmondeley Arms before heading back to the hotel for your last night out in Chester.

## DAY 8 / Travel / free day - York

After breakfast your driver will take you North West for your 4 night stay in York, one of the most intriguing cities in England. In the afternoon you'll have chance to explore this superbly preserved walled city that has witnessed more than 2000 years of vibrant history. For those who love to shop, York offers a great opportunity to browse in traditional gift shops, independent boutiques and investigate curios and antiques.

Take your pick from the many pubs, bars and restaurants in the city centre for your evening entertainment.

## 14 night tour packages from as little as £795 per person

### What's included?

- 3\* hotel accommodation including breakfast
- Arrangement and confirmation of all fixtures
- Transport to and from fixtures
- Hotel transfers
- Airport transfers

### What's not included?

- Meals other than Breakfast
- Match day refreshments
- Optional excursions and activities

### Flexibility – customise your UK tour

- Higher or lower grade of accommodation
- Meal plans – upgrade to half board or do room only
- Length of tour – stay more or less nights
- More matches – no problem
- Activities and excursions – We can arrange whatever you want. First decide on and book your basic itinerary, we'll then have plenty of time to help you decide on which exciting trips and activities to add on.

For friendly advice on all tour packages anytime you need it simply contact us with your requirements and we'll get back to you to go through your options.

Shire Sports Tours • PO Box 142 • Nantwich • Cheshire • CW5 8FJ • call - +44 (0)800 9121619

email - [tours@shiresports.co.uk](mailto:tours@shiresports.co.uk)

All information supplied within this document is correct at time of publication and may be subject to change.



# UK Inbound - 'Cricket in the Shires'

## DAY 9 / Match day 4 - Yorkshire

Yorkshire folk are incredibly passionate about their cricket and the county has produced some of the world's greatest players - Harold Larwood, Fred Trueman and more recently Darren Gough and Michael Vaughan. You can expect to play some stiff opponents - real characters that'll play hard but fair and whom you'll enjoy having a beer with after the match.

## DAY 10 / Full free day - York

With over 30 museums, galleries and tours to choose from in its compact centre, England's Finest Historic City has something for everyone. Highlights include the largest Gothic cathedral in northern Europe, the magnificent Minster, the terrifying York Dungeon and the new £5 million Jorvik Centre, which 'flies' you through time.

Suggested optional excursions: A cruise along the beautiful River Ouse, a theatre visit or those feeling brave could try one of the hugely popular ghost tours around what is allegedly one of the most haunted cities in Europe.

## DAY 11 / Match day 5 - Yorkshire

Play another competitive match on one of Yorkshire's lovely picturesque grounds and enjoy some good old Northern hospitality after the match.

## DAY 12 / Travel / Free day - London

Head South after breakfast, back to where you started but with plenty still to do before the end of your tour. Check into your hotel for a comfortable 3 night stay in London.

## DAY 13 / Match day 6 - London

Finish the tour on a high with a good cricketing performance against one of London's many fine clubs. Then, as you're in one of the nightlife capitals of the world, you'll find there's something for everyone after dark.

## DAY 14 / Full free day - London

If there was anything you wished you'd seen or done last time you were in London then now's your chance to make amends. The many world class galleries and museums along with other attractions like The London Eye or The Tower of London should see your day filled with interest.

If you want to end your tour in style we can arrange a Gala Dinner on your last evening either at your hotel or at a restaurant of your choice.

## DAY 15 / Homeward bound

We'll transfer your group to the airport after breakfast and you'll fly home with fond memories of a fabulous tour in the Shires of England.

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