



THE WORSHIPFUL SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES LIVERY COMMITTEE
The Livery Committee International Travelling Club presents

A visit to Lincoln

WEDNESDAY 15TH TO SUNDAY 19TH APRIL 2026

The historic City of Lincoln is a city of contrasts – uphill and downhill; past and present; town and gown. Dominated by the magnificent Lincoln Cathedral, on top of the hill, it is Roman in its origin and proudly boasts evidence of more than two thousand years of history. The Romans arrived around AD47 and established a fortified city on top of the hill, later expanding to become a *Colonia* – a settlement for veterans of the Roman Army. The Roman name 'Lindum Colonia' still echoes in the modern name of the city – Lincoln. Lincoln Cathedral, dating back to 1072 and one of the largest cathedrals in Britain, was described by Sir John Betjeman as one of the finest examples of Early English Gothic in the country. Its location, on top of a limestone ridge, means that it dominates the city and surrounding countryside. During the Norman and medieval periods Lincoln was one of the most powerful and influential cities in Britain and the awe-inspiring Lincoln Castle and Cathedral both demonstrate its importance. After the industrial revolution, the historic uphill Lincoln remained unchanged, but this contrasted with the development of industry, down in the valley, powering the surrounding agricultural county. The decline of engineering in the twentieth century might have led to decline, but today Lincoln has embraced the new 'knowledge economy' and the city is home to two universities which have helped transform the city, contributing to the vibrant cultural centre that it is today.

We will be staying at **The Lincoln Hotel**, centrally located in the heart of the historic uphill area of the city, with splendid views and overlooking Lincoln Cathedral. Our allocated rooms are standard and decorated in modern style but superior rooms are also available on request and subject to availability at a supplement. We will dine in the hotel on 2 occasions in a private dining room. The hotel features a large parking area complimentary to hotel guests.

www.thelincolnhotel.com

OUR PROGRAMME

DAY 1: Wednesday 15 April - Arrive at the Lincoln Hotel by your own means, with check in from 2pm, followed by dinner and an introductory talk about the city from our local tour guide Mr Horace Liberty who will be with us on most days.

DAY 2: Thursday 16 April - In the morning, a short walk from the hotel



takes us to the **Lincoln Castle** which opens at 10am and where our visit will be conducted by an on-site guide lasting a couple of hours. We will have access to the medieval wall for a walk with spectacular views over

the city and surrounding countryside, followed by the Victorian Felons Prison and the Magna Carta Vault where Lincoln's copy of Magna Carta (one of only four surviving original copies dating from 1215) may be seen, along with the Charter of the Forest.

Later, we are expected to be at **Lincoln Cathedral** by 1pm where we will have a brief lunch (included) and a pre-visit lecture in our own private room.



The room will be on hire until 5 pm where belongings can be stored. Our guided tour of the Cathedral will start at 2pm and at this time you will have the choice of going on a Roof Tour (about 2 hours for which you

will need to purchase your own separate ticket) or join the main floor level tour. *NB: Roof Tour: A general level of fitness is required to climb the 100 steps steep staircases. Flat shoes must be worn – No flip flops or other open-backed shoes.* The Cathedral is one of the country's most magnificent examples of Gothic architecture. Construction began in 1072 under the direction of Bishop Remigius and continued over several centuries, resulting in a breathtaking blend of architectural styles. For a period, the cathedral was reputed to be the tallest building in the world, thanks to its central spire, which once soared above 160 metres before collapsing in the sixteenth century. The cathedral is renowned for its stunning stained-glass windows.

elaborate carvings, and the famous Lincoln Imp, a mischievous stone figure hidden in the upper reaches of the building. After the tour, there will be an opportunity to attend **Evensong**.

DAY 3: Friday 17 April – We meet our guide Horace in the hotel lobby after breakfast for the start of our morning visit to the **Museum of Lincolnshire Life** located about 0.6 mile walk from the hotel or a short drive, but the museum has limited parking facilities. The museum celebrates the culture of Lincolnshire from 1750 to the present day. Exhibits illustrate commercial, domestic, agricultural, industrial and community life. It is housed in a Victorian barracks built for the Royal North Lincoln Militia in 1857. Lincoln was where the military tank was invented in WW1 and the museum has a Mark 4 First World War Tank on display and tells the story of its invention.

After a brief stop for lunch (not included) we visit the **Lincoln's Historic Guildhall in the Stonebow**, a fascinating Grade 1 listed building, dating back to 1237, the official office of the Mayor of Lincoln where the city's regalia can be viewed, including the sword presented to the city by King Richard II.



DAY 4: Saturday 18 April – We meet our guide Horace in the hotel lobby after breakfast for the start of a morning tour of **Uphill Lincoln**. We will take in the surviving remains of the North Gate of Lindum Colonia (the only Roman arch in Britain that still takes traffic 24 hours a day), as well as the site of the Forum. The tour will cover two thousand years of Lincoln's history and bring together the sites seen so far during the visit, placing them in the context of the modern city. After a brief stop for lunch (not included) we are including an *optional* visit to the **Usher Art Gallery**, part of the Lincoln Museum complex, but note that it is only the Usher Gallery that is open at the moment – the Lincoln Museum is closed for refurbishment and is unlikely to open by the time of our visit in April. The Usher Gallery will be of interest to members with a particular interest in art. Alternatively the afternoon can be free for you to arrange further explorations of your own.

Farewell dinner in hotel at 8pm.

Day 5: Sunday 19 April – Late morning hotel check-out before a suggested own visit to **The International Bomber Command Memorial Centre** which will be of interest to visitors interested in aviation heritage and the RAF. It is located on the opposite side of the valley from the Cathedral and the view across to Lincoln Cathedral is significant. The visitor centre and memorial gardens are well worth visiting. Members may wish to stop off here today on the way home.

VISIT INCLUSIONS

- 4 nights' accommodation sharing standard doubles or twin rooms on bed and buffet breakfast basis. Optional upgrade to Superior Double Room with Cathedral views £120 per room in total, on request.
- 2 x 3-course dinners in hotel with drinks.
- 1 x light lunch including tea/coffee.
- All applicable entrance fees in line with the programme.
- Local professional guide and museums own guides.
- Tour guiding radio system.
- All local taxes and UK tour operators VAT.

Not included: any services not stated as included above.

This visit is proposed on behalf of the Livery Committee International Travelling Club, and it will be possible if we have a minimum of 20 participants. If you are interested in joining us, please contact tony@millenniumtours.co.uk and you will be sent an application form to book. Party number will be limited to max 30 participants, and bookings will be accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis. We are grateful to Dr Simon Bailey and Dr Sara Waldron for all their work and support in the making of these arrangements.

Practicalities:

- (1) PRICE £525 PER PERSON SHARING STANDARD DOUBLE ROOMS.
- (2) SOLO TRAVELLER SUPPLEMENT £120 IN DOUBLE SINGLE USE ROOMS.
- (3) DEPOSIT OF £150 PER PERSON PAYABLE UPON BOOKING.
- (4) OPERATED BY MILLENNIUM TOURS LTD