WAVERLEY PADDLE STEAMER, TWINKLING THAMES AND TOWER BRIDGE - SUN 11 OCT 2026

£139.00 per person

This incredible value trip will see us departing from Southend Pier we will enjoy a 2 course lunch before taking a trip up the Thames to see Tower Bridge from both below and lit up at night before arriving at London Tower Pier

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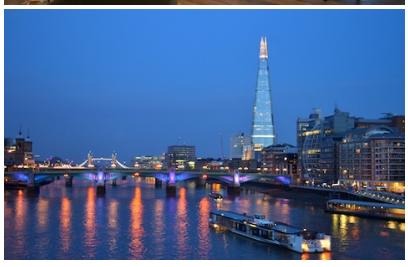

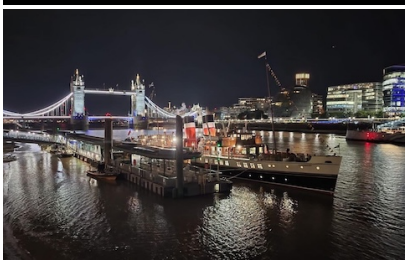

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Unit 2 Gibbs Marsh Trading Estate, Stalbridge, Dorset DT10 2RY

TRIP ITINERARY

This incredible value trip will take us from the Blackmore Vale where we will travel to the seaside town of Southend. On arrival we will first enjoy a 2-course meal at the Rooftop Restaurant of the Holiday Inn Southend. This is the only rooftop Restaurant and Bar in Southend – the 1935 Rooftop Bar offers amazing views of the surrounding Essex countryside and perhaps watch a plane or two take off from Southend Airport!

After lunch we will all travel together on the Southend Pier Train, to the end of the pier, to meet the Waverley Paddle Steamer, which is due in around 4:15pm.

This trip will be the grand finale cruise for the Waverley on its London season. Departing from Southend Pier we will take a spectacular trip up the Thames to see Tower Bridge magnificently lit up at night. **Based on previous years, Tower Bridge will open to allow the Waverley to pass beneath – an unforgettable moment as the famous bascules raise and we glide through this iconic gateway to the heart of London!** We arrive at London Tower Pier at 8pm to meet the coach before travelling back to the Blackmore Vale area.

Waverley is the world's last seagoing paddle steamer. In 1974, at the end of her working life, she was famously gifted for £1 to the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society. Waverley Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., a charity registered in Scotland, was set up to own and operate the ship. Waverley then began a second career as one of the country's best-loved tourist attractions. Since she has been in operational preservation, she has been awarded four stars by Visit Scotland, an engineering heritage award, and has carried over 6 million passengers from over 60 ports around the UK.

2003 saw the completion of a £7m Heritage Rebuild which returned Waverley to the original 1940s style in which she was built. 2017 marked 70 years since Waverley's maiden voyage on June 16, 1947 and in May 2020 she was relaunched after the boilers were replaced. You will travel on Waverley on its 80th Anniversary Year!

Included:

- 3.5 hour trip from Southend to London Tower Pier on The Waverley Paddle Steamer
- Complimentary drinks on the coach when feasible
- Drop off at Southend and return travel from London Tower Pier
- 2-Course meal at The Holiday Inn, Rooftop Restaurant

Depart Stalbridge: TBC
Return Stalbridge: 22:30 approx

All itineraries are approximate and subject to change

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