

Gilded Age

Proposal Booking Ref 2T0003495

Wednesday - 6th March 2024



0208 692 1133

info@cityandvillagetours.com

NEWBURY U3A - WENDY WALKER- REF 2T0003495

Wednesday - 6 March



PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MAX NUMBER ON THIS TRIP IS 40 PEOPLE.

We begin at 10.30/45am with morning refreshments (included) before exploring the Gilded Age enclave that began between Pall Mall and The Mall before expanding into the grand squares of Mayfair and Belgravia. It is quite a story set in the London of the young Winston Churchill, the rise and fall of Oscar Wilde, of the Suffragettes and

For lunch we have free time at the Royal Courts of Justice end of Fleet Street. There are pubs, cafes and restaurants to hand or you could bring a packed lunch and use the time to take a peek inside the Royal Courts, the RAF Church of St Clements or the atmospheric lanes of the Middle and Inner Temple and the glorious Round Church of the Knights Templar..

After lunch it is a short walk down to the Embankment and Two Temple Place. This is truly one of London's hidden architectural gems. Overlooking the Thames this Victorian neo-Gothic mansion, with a Tudor twist was built for William Waldorf Astor - the richest man in the world.

The opulent interior is decorated with literary, mythic and historic references – characters from Shakespeare and Anne Boleyn are carved into precious woods alongside Robin Hood and the Three Musketeers. The property is only open from January to April each year when it's guardians The Bulldog Trust host special exhibitions.

In 2024 The Glass Heart presents a bold new exploration of glass in the UK starting in the mid-19th century, featuring rarely seen works from key UK collections. The exhibition will examine how this remarkable material – unforgiving, fragile, strong, sustainable – has illuminated and contained human narratives and ideas, featuring historic and contemporary works rethought in the jewelled heart of Two Temple Place.

Your visit will include a guided tour of the astonishing Astor interiors as well as time to browse The Glass Heart exhibition and buy a cup of tea before heading for home at 4.45pm.

The Timings

10.30am Morning Refreshments

11.15am Gilded Age Coach Tour

12.30pm Free time for lunch Fleet Street

2.00pm Two Temple Place

4.45pm Head Home