



Stratford-on- Avon in 48 hours

Day 1

Wander around the world's greatest **Shakespeare heritage sites**, comprising Shakespeare's Birthplace, Nash's House & New Place, Hall's Croft, Anne Hathaway's Cottage and Mary Arden's Farm. The five houses offer a multi-layered experience for visitors as costumed interpreters bring Elizabethan England to life.



Take a trip on a relaxing **Bancroft cruise** among the water meadows and flocks of swans and Canada geese on the River Avon. Regular 45 minute trip on sight seeing cruises take in Clopton Bridge, the Tramway Bridge, Royal Shakespeare Theatres and many riverside houses and gardens.

Take the opportunity to see the world class collection of arms and armour from across the world at the **Stratford Armouries**, which is also home to the Wellington Aviation Museum. Stratford Armouries is a truly unique museum and visitor centre set in 86 acres of rolling Warwickshire countryside. The Galleries play host to a world-class collection of arms and armour sourced from cultures across the globe.



Finally tonight, a pre-performance dinner followed by an evening of outstanding theatre given by the **Royal Shakespeare Company**.

Overnight in Stratford-upon-Avon.

All venues can be accessed on foot from Stratford-upon-Avon train station and the town offers many quality B&B's and hotels.

Day 2



An exciting day begins with a visit to **Compton Verney**. The gallery is housed in a Grade I listed Georgian mansion remodeled by Robert Adam, surrounded by 120 acres of 'Capability' Brown landscaped parkland. Explore over 2000 works of art from around the world and be enthralled by an exciting changing programme of exhibitions which in the past have included Van Gogh, Constable, Peter Greenaway, Luc Tuymans and Francis Bacon.

Next take a drive to the **Heritage Motor Centre**, home of the world's largest collection of historic British cars and great fun for all the family. The museum houses informative and interactive exhibitions charting the history of British motoring from the 1890s to present day.



After lunch visit **Ragley Hall**, the Warwickshire home of the Marquess and Marchioness of Hertford, which is set in 27 acres of beautiful formal gardens. The home contains Baroque plasterwork, the stunning 20th century mural 'The Temptation' and a fascinating collection of paintings, china and furniture. In addition to the beautiful house, there are the formal gardens, parkland, lakeside picnic area, children's adventure playground, maze, gift-shop and terrace tearooms providing a day out for all the family.

Overnight in a hotel or B & B in the Stratford-on-Avon area and depart after a leisurely breakfast.

<http://www.shakespeare.org.uk/home.html>

<http://www.bancroftcruisers.co.uk/>

<http://www.stratfordarmouries.com/>

<http://www.rsc.org.uk/>

<http://www.comptonverney.org.uk/>

<http://www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk/>

<http://www.ragleyhall.com/>

