



## **Pembrokeshire Coast, Wales**

**May 20 - 27, 2010**

The trip to the Pembrokeshire Coast of Wales begins and ends in St. Davids, Wales. You can fly to London then take the train to West Wales. We will advise you on exact joining instructions once the trip minimum is reached.

Trip Start: May 20, Old Cross Hotel, St. Davids, Wales

Trip Finish: May 27, Old Cross Hotel, St. Davids, Wales

Trip Length: 8 days, 7 nights

Trip Cost: \$2290 per person sharing a room

\$2690 for a single room

(Trip cost includes everything except airfare, 2 dinners, 1 lunch, beverages, tips, and all items of a personal nature.)

### **Day by Day Overview**

**Thursday, May 20** - Arrive in St. Davids, Wales, and check in at the Old Cross Hotel in the village center. The tour officially begins with dinner in the hotel dining room at 7:00PM, but meet me for drinks in the hotel bar at 6:30. After dinner, we will have coffee in the hotel lounge and our guide will give the details of our week's program. Most evenings we will gather in the lounge after dinner for coffee and review/preview.

Lodging: Old Cross Hotel - <http://www.oldcrosshotel.co.uk/>

**Friday, May 21** - Walk from the Old Cross to Caerfai Bay and onto the Coastal Path. Our walk takes us past the shrine to St. Non (St. David's mother) then on to Porthclais harbor-William the Conqueror came into this harbor. Along the way we will be seeing beautiful seabirds, porpoises (if the tide is right), old copper mines and earthen forts. At St. Davids Lifeboat Station we will turn away from the sea and toward St. Davids. About 8 miles today.

**Saturday, May 22** - We will take the local bus to Newgale then begin with a beach walk (if tide is out) or a steep climb and descent onto coastal path where we pass chough and peregrine nest sites and St. Elvis Farm! Our picnic lunch is at the perfect harbor of Solva. A little shopping time before continuing onto the coastal path—or, if you choose, take a bus back into St. Davids for a restful afternoon. The afternoon walk follows a varied coastline taking us by an Iron Age hill fort, limekilns, an old mill and maybe a surprise tea stop! Via Caerfai Bay, we are back into St. Davids. About 7.5 miles today.

➤ Dinner on your own.

**Sunday, May 23**- A day on Skomer Island, a British National Nature Reserve managed by the local Wildlife Trust where half a million seabirds breed annually. Among the inhabitants here are Manx shearwaters,

guillemots, razorbills, kittiwakes, gulls and puffins! Skomer, 2 square miles in size, is a 20-minute boat trip from Martin's Haven. We will take a bus from St. Davids to Martin's Haven. Bring binoculars. 3-5 miles today.

**Monday, May 24-** This is a relaxed day on your own to explore St. Davids. We will have a cathedral tour in the morning (10:30). Enjoy a day of leisure to investigate the shops, read a good book, or take a walk.

➤ Lunch and dinner on your own.

**Tuesday, May 25 -** A local bus this morning to Porthgain and a look around the artists' galleries there before a walk through the harbor and onto the coast. We will have wonderful views to the West today as we follow the path by old quarries, (Blue Lagoon at Abereddy), badger sites, hill forts, and gull colonies, maybe even see some seals bobbing in the water. Our path takes us back into St. Davids. Today 9.5 miles.

**Wednesday, May 26 -** A final day walking. The aim will be Carn Llidi, a local "mountain" viewpoint (St. Patrick's view to Ireland), then on to a pre-historic burial chamber, Iron Age field system and hut circles at nearby St. Davids Head. Our walk back into St. Davids will be along the mile-long beach of Whitesands Bay watching out for orchids and butterflies. Today 5-6 miles. Farewell dinner in hotel dining room.

**Thursday, May 27-** Breakfast and departure.

**Please Note: The above schedule is subject to change due to weather or other circumstances beyond our control.**

## **Flight and Airport Info**

**Getting to St. Davids**—Fly from the U.S. to either London Gatwick or Heathrow. From Gatwick you can take a train to Haverfordwest. From Heathrow you take a bus to Reading then a train to Haverfordwest, Wales. Taxi or bus from Haverfordwest train station to St. Davids (15 miles). You can also check about flights via Cardiff, Wales, or Bristol England.

## **Weather:**

Mild spring weather with possible rain.

## **Helpful Websites:**

[www.visitpembrokeshire.com](http://www.visitpembrokeshire.com)

[www.wales-calling.com](http://www.wales-calling.com)