

## **A Leisurely break in Buxton**

### **Itinerary**

#### **First day    Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Arrive at Belper train station at 2pm or Buxton train station around 4pm

**4.30pm**      Check into hotel

Orientation guide around the hotel and rooms

**5.30pm**      Aperitif and programme for the next few days

Speaker

**7pm**          Evening meal

#### **Second day - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**7am– 9am**    **Breakfast**

**9:30am**      **Start**

- Leave the hotel
- Walk towards town (downhill, then uphill)

**9:40am**      **Scrivener's Bookshop**

- Quick visit
- Old building with creaky floors

**9:45am**      **St Ann's Church**

**10:00am**    **Market Place**

- Walk around market stalls
- Soak up the atmosphere

**10:15am**    **Walk Down Terrace Road**

- Steep downhill walk
- Head towards main spa area

**10:30am**    **Pump Room**

- Taste Buxton water

**12:00pm**    **Lunch**

- Eat at the Old Clubhouse

**12:30pm**

- Meet afternoon guide

**Afternoon Tour (1:00pm start)**

**Opera House**

- Step inside and explore

**Pavilion Gardens**

- Walk through conservatory
- Sit and relax if needed

**The Square & Old Hall Hotel**

- Historic buildings
- Short stop

**The Crescent**

- Walk around outside

**Chocolatier**

- Chocolate tasting

**Cavendish Arcade**

- Visit shops
- Stop at Wild Olive

**Victorian Chemist**

- Quick look inside

**Final Stop**

**Buxton Pudding Emporium**

- Dessert and finish

**End of Day**

- Relax or return to hotel

**7pm**

Evening meal

**Third day    Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**7am– 9am**    **Breakfast**

**9am**            Meet in hotel reception

**9.15am**        Leave for Hartington

9.45am        Meet at Parson's Close long stay car park in Hartington.

**Terrain:**        Mostly flat valley walking, single-track gated road, gentle gradients

**Difficulty:**    Easy to moderate

Good walking shoes recommended, especially after rain.

**10.15am**            **Outbound: Hartington to Pilsbury**

- Begin in the village of Hartington, known for its traditional stone cottages and historic market square.
- Head south along the Dove Valley.

The route closely follows the River Dove, offering classic limestone valley scenery typical of the Peak District National Park.

### **Archaeological Highlights Along the Way**

- **Ancient field systems** and ridge-and-furrow patterns - evidence of medieval farming.
- Remnants of **early settlements and trackways** that hint at long-term human activity in the valley.
- The area around Pilsbury is rich in prehistoric and Norman-era remains.

### **Lunch at Pilsbury Castle**

- Reach Pilsbury Castle, a Norman motte-and-bailey earthwork.
- Though only earthworks remain, it's an evocative spot with a strong sense of history.
- The elevated position offers lovely views across the Dove Valley.

### **Return to Hartington**

- Retrace your steps back along the same route.
- The return gives a different perspective on the valley and another chance to spot archaeological features you might have missed.

**4.30pm**        Return to hotel

**7pm**            Evening meal

**Fourth day Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**7am– 9am** Breakfast

**10am** Check out of the hotel

Lifts back to train stations