

Sim's Travel

2020 Holidays



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www.simstravel.co.uk

Hunholme Garage, Boot, Holmrook, CA19 1TF

Visit our website for the latest information at

www.simstravel.co.uk

and watch the local press for forthcoming day excursions and theatre trips. Alternatively you can contact our office on

019467 23227

A full day excursion programme is operated throughout the year including shopping, garden festivals, scenic and mystery tours and activity days. You can view the latest dates via our website or by contacting our office.

Newcastle or Metro Centre
every 1st Saturday of the month

Blackpool
all Bank Holiday weekends, during the Summer & Illuminations



PASSENGER INFORMATION

For your comfort and safety, all of our holiday coaches are fitted with:



Seat belts



Overhead temperature control



Reclining seats

Welcome to our 2020 Holiday Brochure

For 2020 we are offering a number of new destinations and some favourites from previous years.

Our holidays are all in the UK offering short and longer breaks. Our carefully selected hotels are offered on a Dinner Bed and Breakfast basis (except where indicated) and all have en-suite facilities.

All the coaches used on our tours are fully air conditioned and are fitted with reclining seats, seatbelts (which must be worn in accordance to current legislation), double glazing, and toilet with washroom.

Our holidays include all day excursions and entrance fees to attractions where indicated. With a number of departure points available throughout West Cumbria, you can be sure that one will be located within easy reach of your home. Contact the office for further information on coach joining points.

Sims travel gift vouchers which are available to purchase throughout the year are accepted for all excursions and holidays.

To book a holiday or theatre trip, simply fill in the booking form and return it with the required deposit. Please note: the itineraries shown in this brochure are for illustrative purposes only and may be subject to alteration where Sim's Travel require.

We no longer offer travel insurance for our holidays or short breaks but would advise all customers to have travel insurance cover before travelling.

Warner Spring Break

Friday 13th to Monday 16th March 2020

Days: 4

Included:

3 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Use of leisure club
Evening Entertainment
All coach travel
Windsor

Holiday Summary

Our first holiday of 2020 is a Spring break to the Warner Leisure, Littlecote House Hotel near Newbury – here we will be staying for 3 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. The hotel is a Grade I listed Tudor Manor, Henry VIII courted Jane Seymour here and the D-Day landings were planned in the house.

During the weekend, there will be a full programme of events throughout the day and into the evening, provided by the in-house entertainment team. The evening entertainment will include music from the group Union Gap UK and music and comedy from Bruce Thompson. In addition, there will also be use of the full leisure facilities, including indoor heated swimming pool, sauna and steam room. Outside you can explore the estate which includes Roman mosaics and a kitchen garden.

Over the weekend we will have two excursions which are included in the cost of the holiday. The first of these being a full day visit to Windsor, which is built on the River Thames and home to Windsor Castle. The castle is residence to the British Royal Family and was built by William the Conqueror. We will also have a half day into the nearby town of Newbury and some free time to spend at the hotel.

Twin/Double Room: £285.00 per person
Single Room: £285.00 per person (limited availability)

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

4* accommodation

All rooms en suite

Tea & coffee making facilities

Room upgrades available

Included:

3 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
Easter egg
City of Dundee
Glamis Castle

Holiday Summary

Join us for this Easter weekend break taking us to the City of Perth, situated on the banks of the River Tay and gateway to The Highlands. We will be staying at The Strathmore Hotels - Salutation Hotel for 3 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast which is in the historic city centre. The hotel is reported to be the oldest established hotel in Scotland, welcoming guests since 1699 including Bonnie Prince Charlie.

The hotel has 84 rooms which are all En-Suite and include TV, hairdryer and tea and coffee making facilities. Due to the age and historical nature of the building there are some features at the hotel that can cause access difficulties for people with limited mobility, if you have any concerns please contact us prior to booking and we can contact the hotel on your behalf.

During the weekend we will have a day out travelling through the Strathmore countryside, visiting the historic City of Dundee which is situated on the north banks of the Firth of Tay - Dundee is a city of culture with many historic buildings and Scotland's fourth largest city. We will also visit Glamis Castle. The castle has been home to the Lyon family since the 14th century and was the childhood home of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Another day out will be in Strathtay to the popular tourist resort of Pitlochry, as well as a visit to a famous Scotch Distillery.

Twin/Double Room: £275.00 per person
Single Room: £323.00 per person (limited availability)

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

All rooms en suite

Lift access

Free Wi-Fi

Warner Cotswolds Short Break

Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th May 2020

Days: 3

Included:

2 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Evening entertainment
All coach travel
Use of the Stables Spa
Stratford-upon-Avon

Holiday Summary

Join us for this exciting mid-week break to visit the latest addition to the Warner Leisure Hotels family at Studley Castle. Studley Castle is a Grade II listed building set in 28 acres of Warwickshire countryside, completed in 1836. In March 2016 Warner Leisure began a 50 million renovation and development of the property into making it their new landmark hotel.

We will stay here for 2 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. As well as offering a rich history and character the hotel also offers the full programme of events including live entertainment and use of the The Stables Spa -which includes indoor heated swimming pool, sauna and steam room.

Whilst at the hotel we will include a full day excursion travelling through the glorious Cotswolds Countryside to visit Stratford-upon-Avon & Bourton-on-the-Water.



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Indoor swimming pool

Tea & coffee making facilities

Room upgrades available

Twin/Double Room: £260.00 per person
Single Room: £260.00 per person (limited availability)

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
The Donkey Sanctuary
Seaton Tramway
Exmouth & Exeter

Holiday Summary

Join us for this late spring holiday departing on Bank Holiday Monday. We will be travelling down to the Jurassic Coast, staying in Sidmouth for 5 days at the Royal York & Faulkner Hotel. We will stay here for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast at the hotel which has a perfect sea-front location. The hotel has 2 lifts serving all floors and has the Aspara Spa offering a full range of beauty treatments.

There will be live entertainment in the hotel on some evenings during our stay.

Sidmouth is a picturesque seaside town on the Jurassic Coast but lies beneath the Red Cliffs which date from the Triassic period and is one of the most important sites in the World for fossils from this period.

Our days out will include a journey along the coast to visit the seaside town of Exmouth and a visit to the ancient City of Exeter, which dates back to the Roman times. We will also travel along the coast to visit the Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary - an award-winning attraction, home to many friendly rescued donkeys. Another day excursion will take us to Seaton for a ride on the narrow gauge heritage railway in the Axe Valley. We will also have a free day in Sidmouth for you to relax at the hotel or spend some time in the town or on the seafront.

Twin/Double Room: £390.00 per person
Single Room: £390.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Sea-front location

Tea & coffee making facilities

All rooms en suite

Chatsworth Flower Show

Saturday 13th to Sunday 14th June 2020

Days: 2

Included:

1 night Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
RHS Chatsworth Flower Show
Newby Hall



Holiday Summary

This year join us for the chance to visit the popular RHS Chatsworth Flower Show held at Chatsworth House in Bakewell.

We will be staying at the Doncaster International Hotel for 1 night Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. This is a modern 3* hotel which offers free Wi-Fi throughout the hotel, all rooms are En-suite with tea and coffee making facilities and LCD TV's.

On our journey from West Cumbria on the first day we will have a visit to Newby Hall, crowned Historic Houses Garden of The Year for 2019. Newby Hall has a magnificent 40 acres of garden and woodlands and we will have time here to visit the house & gardens or take a ride on the miniature railway.

On Sunday we spend a full day at Chatsworth Estate – Chatsworth House is the home to the Duke & Duchess of Devonshire, here the house and gardens cover 105 acres and are managed by a team of 20 gardeners. This year's show takes place in the grounds and includes a burst of summer colour, prize blooms and innovative design. Whilst at the show you will have time to meet the floral experts, get some gardening inspiration and attend the many talks and workshops that take place.



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Free Wi-Fi

Lift access

All rooms en suite

Twin/Double Room: £155.00 per person
Single Room: £191.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person

Yorkshire Dales

Monday 20th to Friday 24th July 2020

Days: 5

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
Castle Howard
York River Cruise
North Yorkshire Moors Railway

Holiday Summary

This is a Summer break over in the Yorkshire Dales, staying for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast at the 3* Best Western Burn Hall Hotel, set in the heart of North Yorkshire. The hotel has 94 rooms all of which are En-suite with tea and coffee making facilities and complimentary Wi-Fi.

During our break there will be excursions every day and these will include a full day in York with a York City River Cruise – this will be an informative sightseeing cruise through York. We will have a full day through the North Yorkshire Moors which will include a journey on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway from Pickering to Grosmont, this will be followed by lunch and some free time in Whitby.

We will also visit the stately home of Castle Howard, one of Britain's finest stately homes which has been home to the Howard family for over 300 years. Although not a fortified castle the term is used for English country houses built on a former military castle. The house was also the setting for the TV programmes *Brideshead* and *Brideshead Revisited*.

Twin/Double Room: £345.00 per person
Single Room: £345.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Free Wi-Fi

Lift access

Wellness facilities

Parliament & Buckingham Palace

Sunday 26th to Tuesday 28th July 2020

Days: 3

Included:

2 nights Bed and Breakfast
Houses of Parliament
Buckingham Palace
Royal Windsor Steam Express
Free time in central London

Holiday Summary

This short break is an opportunity to visit London, and whilst there visit two iconic landmark buildings. We will be staying for 2 nights Bed & Breakfast at the Park Plaza London Riverbank Hotel, situated on the South bank of the River Thames with a view across to the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben and the London skyline. All 645 rooms at the hotel are air conditioned, offer free Wi-Fi and have LED TV's and complimentary trays. The hotel also offers a state-of-the-art fitness centre for all passengers to make use of.

During this short break we have included entrance to the Houses of Parliament for an audio tour. Discover where history is still being made on this self-guided tour, find out how Parliament works and travel through the Commons chamber and the Lords chamber.

In the afternoon we will visit the 19 magnificent state rooms at Buckingham Palace, The Queen's official London residence as well as a working royal palace.

On our final day we will head to Waterloo Station, here we will join the Royal Windsor Steam Express Train for the journey to Royal Windsor, where we have reserved seats in the Pullman Dining Carriage. Whilst on-board the 90 minute journey you will be served lunch as we cross the Thames, travel out through London and into the Windsor countryside. During this break we will also have some free time in central London.

Twin/Double Room: £350.00 per person
Single Room: £482.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

4* accommodation

River Thames
location

Lift access

Swimming pool &
Wellness Centre

Norwich

Friday 7th to Tuesday 11th August 2020

Days: 5

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Norfolk Broads boat trip
Sandringham House
Free time in Norfolk
Steam train ride

Holiday Summary

Join us for this mid-summer break to the ever-popular county of Norfolk, we will be staying for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Full English Breakfast at the Holiday Inn Norwich City Centre. All rooms at the hotel are En-Suite and air-conditioned and the hotel is situated adjacent to Carrow Road Football Stadium. The hotel has lift access to all floors and there will also be access for all guests to use the Riverside Leisure Centre which is situated close to the hotel.

Our day excursions will take us through the Norfolk countryside with a visit to the North Norfolk Railway for a ride along the Poppy Line. We will also have a ride on the Norfolk Broads from Wroxham, where you can enjoy the commentary from the Captain on the history of the Broads and any points of interest.

Also included is a visit to the Sandringham Estate; the country retreat of The Queen which has been the private home of four generations of British Monarchs since 1862. The estate is 8000 hectares and the house is set in 240 hectares of garden. We will spend time here to visit the house, church, gardens and museum.

Twin/Double Room: £355.00 per person
Single Room: £450.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Lift access

Fitness centre

Free Wi-Fi

York City Break

Saturday 4th to Sunday 5th April 2020

This is an overnight short break to the historic City of York, staying at the Park Inn by Radisson in the Heart of the City on the banks of the River Ouse. This modern air-conditioned 3* hotel has En-suite rooms with some overlooking the river.

We will travel directly to York where you will have 2 free days in York to enjoy the many attractions which York has to offer. Such as the Railway Museum & Jorvik Centre before returning to West Cumbria on Sunday evening.



Included:

1 nights Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
City centre location

Price:

Twin/Double Room: £110 per person
Single Room: £140 per person
Booking Deposit: £40 per person

Liverpool Weekend

Friday 14th to Sunday 16th August 2020

A late-summer trip to Liverpool staying at the Mercure Liverpool Atlantic Tower Hotel for 2 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. This 4* hotel has En-Suite bedrooms which offer tea and coffee making facilities. The hotel is located within easy walking distance of all of Liverpool's main attractions.

Once we arrive the time will be yours to enjoy the city at your own leisure.

Why not visit the Albert Dock – home to the famous Beatle Story museum, the Echo Arena and the museums and cathedrals. Shop until you drop at Liverpool ONE! Or take a cruise on the River Mersey?

On Sunday there will be the option to remain in Liverpool for the day or to travel to Cheshire Oaks Shopping Outlet before we return to West Cumbria via the hotel.



Included:

2 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Free time in Liverpool
Optional visit to Cheshire Oaks

Price:

Twin/Double Room: £190 per person
Single Room: £244 per person
Booking Deposit: £40 per person

A hidden Lake District gem

Rob Orchard talks to Andrew and Peter Sim who are continuing the 100-year family tradition of running a successful coach operation in a very remote area

→ ROB ORCHARD CONTRIBUTOR



Sim's Travel's Bova Futura 2. Bova Futuras have been operated for many years by the operator

Boot in West Cumbria is at first glance just another seemingly idyllic Lake District village, a few miles from the rugged, beautiful, unspoilt Cumbrian coast and backed by the impressive Western Fells of the Lake District, recently granted World Heritage Status.

A cluster of stone-and-slate buildings in an idyllic rural setting, if it has a claim to fame it is probably being the upper terminus of the hugely popular Ravenglass and Eskdale Miniature Railway, or as it is known locally 'La'al Ratty', which brings tourists flocking into the area. But it has another claim to fame which many people don't realise: it is the home of Sim's Travel, a thriving coach operator with a long 100 years of service. Nobody is quite sure when Sim's

Travel, or Sim's Motors as it used to be known, first started. The only document surviving puts the registration of the company as 1915 but it is thought to have existed – although not perhaps called Sim's Motors – well before that. In fact although it is known as Sim's Travel the company is actually called William Sim and Son.

What is known is that great-grandfather Joseph Sim and his wife bought a property in Boot called Brook House around the turn of the 20th Century. Brook House was an upmarket guest house catering for the Edwardian upper classes for whom touring the Lake District was a popular pastime. Access to this formerly very remote area had been opened up when the Furness Railway built its spectacular railway line from Barrow-in-

Furness to Carlisle providing connection into the wider national rail network.

It is thought that great grandfather Sim probably began the business running pony and traps to collect and deliver guests to Ravenglass Station and also take them on tours of Lake District beauty spots. The business morphed as motor vehicles developed into running cars and small charabancs and at some stage, probably around 1915, possibly because of the introduction of regulatory registration systems, the decision to form the company we know today was taken. This is probably also the point at which son William became involved with the business. William (Billy) was followed into the business by his son Joseph (Joe) and more recently by his sons Andrew and Peter who today run the business.

Quintessential British operator

Sim's Travel is, to me, the quintessential British coach operator. A small mixed fleet of immaculate vehicles basically meeting the needs of the local community and those trying to access the area.

Boot is these days a very quiet, rural area where the main activities are farming and tourism. It wasn't always like this. In the 18th, 19th and first half of the 20th century it was a hive of activity because it was a centre for the mining of iron ore. It even had its own narrow gauge railway (not the current one) moving the ore down the Eskdale valley to the railhead at Ravensglas. Today's 'La'ar Ratty' is laid on part of the old trackbed of the former railway. Other leading industries in West Cumbria included coal mining, shale oil mining, chemicals centred on the Whitehaven area, steel in Workington and of course shipbuilding in Barrow.

During the Second World War it was a key industrial area because its location in the far west of England and its remoteness made it an ideal location for munitions factories, training of armed forces and detention centres for prisoners of war. Its remoteness also meant it was low on the Luftwaffe's hit list.

Throughout this period Sim's Travel was there providing the transport services the area needed.

Originally, the coach operation of Sim's Travel operated from the yard behind Brook House but in the 1930s the business moved to its current location 400 yards down the road adjacent to where the family had for many years also been raising chickens. The two businesses co-existed for many, many years. As vehicles got bigger a large plot



Flagship of the current fleet is the latest 12.9m i6 12.9m S7-coaster

of land adjacent to their operating base and the only road into the village was converted into a vehicle yard. Originally just consolidated hardcore, the yard these days is fully hard-surfaced.

Accessing the company's base is not easy. The road up the Eskdale Valley to Boot is very narrow, lined by unforgiving stone walls and thick hedges. It is also very twisty and, typical of most Cumbrian rural roads, it goes up and down frequently. This does put some constraints on the operation. The road gets busy especially in summer with tourists accessing the area. So as to not exacerbate the situation Peter and Andrew try to schedule things so that the longer vehicles stay away from base during the day as much as possible. It also limits the size of vehicles the company

runs. The largest vehicle in the fleet is 12.9m long on two axes and this can 'just' access the yard but this does call for precise positioning and very careful driving! A longer six-wheeler won't go in – they've tried!

As motor vehicles developed in the '20s and '30s William Sim started operating charabancs with open sides and canvas roofs. Tourists in those days must have been hardy souls. Not sure I'd have enjoyed sitting in a semi-open vehicle being subjected to Cumbria's winds and showers. As vehicles improved so did those being operated by Sim's Motors. At some point in the '30s they bought their first Duple-bodied Bedford and that started a long association with the two marques. Why did William, who was by now running the fleet, choose Duple-bodied vehicles? At that time the main two players in the bodybuilding world were Duple at Blackpool and Plaxton at Scarborough. For William the choice was simple, it was far easier to reach Blackpool from Boot than it was to go to Scarborough. Typical Cumbrian pragmatism.

Evolution of the fleet

Over the years most Bedford/Duple introductions found their way into the Sim's fleet from OBs and their predecessors through to the YNT though they never ran a twin-steer VAL. In the 1950s Joe Sim took over running the business and doubted that the VAL with its small wheels would cope with Cumbrian road conditions.

Had Bedford and Duple survived it is likely that Sim's Travel would still be running them. It is intensely loyal to its suppliers. With the future of Bedford in doubt the decision was taken to move



over to heavyweights and that saw the first Volvo B56/Plaxton join the fleet. That began a long association with Volvo which persists to this day. Most of them have had either Plaxton or Van Hool bodywork and this in turn forged a relationship with the Moseley group of companies, particularly the Doncaster and Scottish dealerships.

Sim's hasn't been afraid to try other vehicles and at various times has run Scania, Neoplan, Jonckheere and even MAN-powered Plaxton.

Sim's Travel would probably still be running a full fleet of Volvo-based coaches but issues around fuel consumption and the heat generated by mid-engine B12m's led to them looking elsewhere.

Moseley's were also by then selling Bova, so the decision was made to try one. The primary motivator for that was the fact that it had a DAF engine which the Sims liked because of the reported fuel efficiency and the Bovas' large fuel capacity. It was also because DAF have a particularly good dealer in Carlisle, Solway DAF, with an equally regarded subsidiary in Workington. This was the start of another long-term relationship.

Bovas have been a mainstay of the upper end of the fleet for many years and a Futura 2 forms part of today's fleet.

However, the latest two large luxury coaches to join the fleet have come from a new source – Irizar UK, still of course DAF powered. This doesn't hint at any dissatisfaction with the Futuras which the brothers say have been excellent coaches,



A pair of M&M Bova Futuras which Sim Travel operated.

but the Irizar does have a price advantage. The very latest Irizar to join the fleet is also one of the longest luxury coaches the company has ever run being a 12.9m, two-axle Irizar i6 with 57 seats and centre sunken toilet.

In 1967 the Sim family decided to sell Brook House. They had decided that there was no future for tourism in the Lake District – you can't always get it right!

Working hard

So what type of work does Sim's Travel cover? Unsurprisingly there is an element of home-to-school work on local Cumbria County Council (CCC) contracts. Then there are private hire contracts for a variety of local organisations in West Cumbria. The company also has its own programme of day excursions and tours

including Continental ones. They also handle a small number of contracts for some of the larger coach tour companies for both UK and Asian markets.

An important sector of the company's work is corporate. By far the largest industrial activity in West Cumbria is the vast Sellafield Nuclear Centre a few miles up the coast. The main site covers two square miles, contains 200 nuclear facilities housed in over 1,000 buildings. With its ancillaries spread around West Cumbria it employs over 10,000 people and operates 24-hours per day. For over 25 years Sim's Travel was part of a consortium which included Brownriggs and John Hoban Coaches which handled all the transport needs of this massive operation. This included on-site services and also corporate work for the many



Jonckheere Mitral bodied Volvo at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris



One for the enthusiasts - is it a 1950s-bodied Bedford?

hundreds of visitors to the facility. Some of you may remember when Sellafield opened its Visitor Centre and used a pair of specially liveried Duple 425s on tours of the site - Sim's Travel supplied the drivers to operate those vehicles on behalf of Sellafield.

Sadly the contract for the Sellafield operation went to another operator in 2014 but Sim's Travel were fortunate enough to gain another contract with LLWR who operate the Low Level Waste Nuclear Storage facility near Drigg. This involves transport around the Repository site and a considerable amount of corporate work involving visitors from all over the world. While much of it is pre-planned and can therefore be programmed ahead of time a lot of the special corporate requirement can be at short notice. This is one reason why the Sims run a mixed fleet as regards vehicle sizes and styles which enables them to react to these short-notice demands.

The company provides transport for the local Outward Bound centre collecting groups from all over the country to come to the centre in Eskdale. They have been providing transport for the West Cumbria Manchester United football supporters to every home game for 30 years and to many away games.

You will notice an absence of stage carriage services. Over the years Sim's Travel has dabbled a little in the market though true buses have not figured in the fleet. One set of services they did operate from the '30s through to the '60s were the weekly shoppers. On a Tuesday and Friday a bus would make two trips between Boot and Seascale via Holmrook and Gosforth; while on Thursdays and Saturdays it went to Whitehaven via Holmrook and Egremont. In the summer

months there was also a service to Drigg. A feature of these services was that they also operated as general carriers taking and collecting parcels, packages, etc, for the communities en-route. A feature of these services is that they stopped at every pub ostensibly to pick-up/set down passengers and deliver packages for people to collect!

Sims' only real venture into buses is a painful one. They had been operating a schools contract for CCC for many years taking children to the Egremont. Then in 2012 CCC decided that they would expand the contract to also include running a local bus service in-between the school runs. For this, the Sims decided they needed a proper bus so they went out and bought an Optare Solo. They decided on a 33-seat 9.1m Solo primarily because it had seat belts. It was a MAN-engined version of the Solo. This gave the Sims two problems practically from day one. It wasn't very

reliable and getting work done on the vehicle, especially the driveline, proved very difficult. The second problem was that with its long wheelbase and poor rear departure angle, the Solo had a nasty habit of grounding on Cumbria's unpredictable roads. The situation didn't last for long though because although it started in the September, by early the following year CCC had decided without warning to scrap all its funding of bus services in the county and pulled the service. The Sims quickly traded the Solo for a much more useful Sitar Beluga. The Solo was last heard of down in Aberystwyth. Needless to say, Sims didn't receive any compensation from CCC for their considerable loss.

The fleet today

The star of the fleet is undoubtedly the new 12.9m 57-seat with toilet, DAF-powered Irtzar i6 mentioned earlier. This incorporates not only 57 reclining seats with belts but a centre sunken toilet/Continental exit, double glazing, air conditioning, fridge, hot drinks facilities, wifi, USB sockets and advanced entertainment system. It is powered by a Euro VI DAF engine matched to six-speed ZF AS-Tronic transmission.

Next comes a 12.2m DAF-powered Irtzar i6 with 51 seats plus toilet. The vehicle has a Euro VI DAF engine matched to a ZF six-speed fully automatic transmission. Internal appointment is similar to the larger Irtzar i6.

The third DAF powered vehicle is a 2014 VDL Futura II 12.2m unit with a Euro V DAF diesel matched to a ZF fully automatic transmission. It has 53 seats and similar internal specification to the Irtzars.

The first of the Volvos is a 2011 12.8m B9R Plaxton Panther with Euro V Volvo engine matched to a ZF fully automatic transmission and similar internal appointments as the other vehicles.

The next Volvo is a comparative



A Sim Travel Bedford Duple 08.



The Volvo B9TL will be proved very useful



The Optare Solo required Optare Solo

newcomer to the fleet and is a 2007 Volvo B7 Plaxton Profile which they bought direct from Plaxton who had just had it converted with 70 individual semi-right-back seats and was built mounted in 3+2 configuration. The double-glazed vehicle has a Euro V Volvo E7 engine matched to a 2F fully automatic transmission. The coach had originally been built for the MoD by Plaxton and the Sim brothers don't believe it ever did a great deal of work partly because of its low mileage but also because underneath it looks like a brand-new vehicle. The Sims have found it to already be a very useful

vehicle not only for schools work but also other duties. Registering it proved difficult because being an ex-MoD vehicle, DVLA didn't recognise it. It now carries a private registration, BMZ 823.

Sim Travel also operate four smaller vehicles, a 2016 Yutong TC9 32-seater, a last generation 33-seater 2002 Plaxton Cheetaah and two EVM Sprinters.

They have found the Yutong to be a very useful vehicle and they have been impressed with its performance, reliability and the support they have received from dealers Pelican Bus and Coach. The Cheetaah is primarily used on school work

but is also a popular vehicle for small group private hire. The two EVM Sprinters are tirelessly appointed and primarily used on high-end and corporate work. They continue another of those longstanding associations beloved of the Sims. They have been buying vehicles regularly from Danny McGee of EVM from way back before EVM came into being. The older of the two Sprinters is a 2015 edition with 20 seats, double glazing, air conditioning and advanced media and entertainment system. The second Sprinter is a new addition to the fleet and is indeed one of the new generation of Mercedes-Benz Sprinters. It has seating for 16 and similar internal features to the other Sprinter. Sadly the new vehicle has not been without its teething troubles. Something that many of the many new generation Sprinters seem to be experiencing, but following close attention from EVM is now performing well.

The most operators Sim also run a number of small vehicles which can be very useful in rural areas. They operate four eight-seat Ford Transit Tourneo, a six-seat Ford Galaxy Titanium X and a four seat Renault Kangoo.

There is nothing dramatic about Sim Travel apart from the spectacular setting of its location. It is just a typical British family-run coach business running a typical mixed fleet tailored to meet the needs of its clientele. Its vehicles are immaculate, it gives outstanding service and meets the needs of the community. Long may it continue to do so.

Oh, and before you ask, there is another generation in the wings. Andrew's son Adam, already holds a PCV licence!

Warner Summer Break

Monday 17th to Friday 21st August 2020

Days: 5

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
Full use of leisure facilities
Hampton Court Castle
Black and white trail

Holiday Summary

This year our Warner summer break takes us to Holme Lacy House Hotel in Herefordshire. The hotel is set in 50 acres of gardens in the Wye Valley and the mansion is a Grade I listed building completed in 1674. During our stay there will be a full daily entertainments programme provided by Warner, including evening entertainment and also the full use of the spa and leisure facilities. We will stay at the hotel for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast.

During this holiday we have included a full day travelling through the Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean, visiting the town of Chepstow on the River Severn and the boundary between England and Wales. We will have free time in Hereford where you can have a look around the town or visit the Cathedral. The Cathedral houses a copy of the Magna Carta and the Mappa Monday – this is a map of The World created around 1300. Before continuing for a ride through the black and white villages of Herefordshire. The term ‘black and white villages’ is derived from the half-timbered structure of the houses, some of these dating back to the medieval times.

We will have a full day visit to Ludlow - this thriving medieval market town and castle sit above the River Teme. We will also have a visit to Hampton Court Castle, the oldest parts date from 1427, entrance is included here for a visit to the house and gardens.

Twin/Double Room: £420.00 per person
Single Room: £420.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Evening
entertainment

Room upgrades
available

Grade I listed
mansion

Highland Highlights

Monday 14th to Friday 18th September 2020

Days: 5

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Jacobite Steam Train
Loch Ness cruise
Nevis Range cable car
Distillery visit

Holiday Summary

Join us for this Autumn break to the Highlands of Scotland, we will be staying for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast at the 3* Highlander Hotel in Newtonmore. The hotel has 83 rooms all of which are En-Suite and includes tea and coffee making facilities. The hotel has a number of rooms on the ground floor which may be available on request.

Our holiday includes a ride on the Jacobite Steam Train, we will have a full return journey which travels from Fort William over the 21 arched famous Glenfinnan Viaduct made famous in the Harry Potter films. The journey then takes us through the wonderful countryside and beautiful villages before arriving in Mallaig – a busy fishing port. Here we will have free time before the return journey back to Fort William.

We will have a ride to the Nevis Range Mountain Gondola where we will have the chance to travel up Aonachmor Mountain which reached heights of 650 metres and is the 8th highest in Britain. This allows stunning views on a clear day! From here we will have a short ride up Glenalbyn and along Loch Lochy to Fort Augustus for a cruise on Loch Ness.

Twin/Double Room: £410.00 per person
Single Room: £480.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

3* accommodation

Wi-Fi in rooms

Free portorage

Walk-in shower
rooms available

Torquay

Saturday 26th September to Friday 2nd October 2020

Days: 7

Included:

6 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
Buckfast Abbey
South Devon Railway
Otters & Butterfly Farm

Holiday Summary

Join us for this late summer holiday to the South coast, staying on the English Riviera. We will be staying at the Howden Court Hotel, Torquay for 6 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. The hotel was built in 1860 and is a period Grade II listed property, it is situated in its own gardens with a private pathway to Torquay's seafront and harbour. The hotel has 30 rooms all of which are En-Suite and provide tea and coffee making facilities as well as live entertainment on several evenings during our stay. The hotel is not part of the AA rating system.

During our stay we will travel across into Cornwall to visit the beautiful seaside town of Looe, which is split in half by the River Looe, before returning via Plymouth.

We will also have a day at Buckfast in the shadow of Dartmoor, here we will have time to visit the wonderful Buckfast Abbey, take a ride on the multi award winning South Devon Steam Railway and visit the Buckfast Butterfly Farm and Dartmoor Otter Sanctuary.

Twin/Double Room: £455.00 per person
Single Room: £455.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

Lift access

Wet room facilities
available on request

Room upgrades
available

Central location

Glasgow Christmas Shopper

Saturday 5th to Sunday 6th December 2020

Days: 2

Included:

1 night Bed and Breakfast
All coach travel
Free time to shop and explore Glasgow
Livingston Designer Outlet
Glasgow Christmas Markets

Holiday Summary

This overnight break is the perfect opportunity to do your Christmas shopping and to experience the festive atmosphere that Glasgow has to offer.

We will be staying for 1 night Bed & Breakfast at the Ibis Styles Glasgow City Centre. The hotel is located within easy walking distance of Glasgow City Centre and all the shops and restaurants.

We will travel to Glasgow on Saturday morning arriving in the early afternoon and then the rest of the day/evening is yours to spend at your leisure. After a full day shopping the hotel is close by so you can drop off your bags and head out into the city centre to experience the nightlife or head to one of the many restaurants.

On Sunday morning we will check out of the hotel after breakfast and travel to the Livingston Designer Outlet where you will find all the major stores and more. We will spend the day here, leaving in the late afternoon for the journey back to West Cumbria.



Hotel Info

Free Wi-Fi

All rooms en suite

City centre location

Lift access

Twin/Double Room: £90.00 per person *price held from 2017*
Single Room: £132.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person

Warner Turkey & Tinsel, Alvaston

Monday 7th to Friday 11th December 2020

Days: 5

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Turkey & Tinsel festive fun
All coach travel
Tatton Park House
City of Chester

Holiday Summary

This is the first of our Turkey & Tinsel festive breaks of 2020 where we will be heading to Cheshire, staying at Warner Leisure Hotel – Alvaston Hall. The grade II listed Victorian property is a half-timbered country house that is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the hotel's festive fun package.

During our stay there will be a full entertainments programme provided by the in-house team which will include nightly entertainment. We will also have a number of days out to various places where there will be both time to relax, explore and shop.

Included in this festive break will be a visit to Tatton Park, this impressive 18th Century mansion will be decorated for Christmas and we have included entrance for you to experience the house at Christmas. We will also visit the Christmas markets in the historic City of Chester, where traditional wooden chalets and stalls fill the heart of the city centre.

With a combination of relaxation and opportunities to visit the surrounding area as well as spend free time at the hotel, you are sure to enjoy the festive fun that this holiday has to offer.

Twin/Double Room: £320.00 per person
Single Room: £320.00 per person

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

All rooms en suite

Tea & coffee making facilities

Leisure club and spa

Room upgrades available

Warner Turkey & Tinsel, Littlecote

Monday 14th to Friday 18th December 2020

Days: 5

Included:

4 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Turkey & Tinsel festive fun
All coach travel
Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market
Swindon Designer Outlet

Holiday Summary

Our second Turkey and Tinsel offering of the year is our 5-day Festive Fun break staying at the Warner Leisure Littlecote House Hotel, near Newbury. We will be staying at this 4* location for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. The hotel is a Grade I listed Tudor manor house built in the mid-1500's. The hotel has 208 rooms balancing heritage and modern amenities with different types of rooms available.

The theme for this week is Turkey & Tinsel Festive Fun which has an early Christmas & New Year all rolled into one festive package. All rooms in the Grade I listed manor house are En-Suite and the hotel has a full entertainment programme and spa.

During our festive break we will have days out which will include a half day visit to Swindon and the Swindon Designer Outlet, a ride through the Hampshire countryside to Winchester – here we will have time to visit the Winchester Cathedral Christmas Markets which were voted the 2nd best Christmas market in the UK in 2018 and a visit to the historic spa city of Bath.

Twin/Double Room: £295.00 per person
Single Room: £295.00 per person (limited availability)

Booking Deposit: £40.00 per person



Hotel Info

4* accommodation

All rooms en suite

Room upgrades available

Tea & coffee making facilities

Leisure club & spa

Theatre Day Excursions

All Theatre Day Excursions include coach travel to and from the show venue and tickets to the show. You will be given your show tickets by your driver. To make sure you don't miss out, booking in advance is advised as shows often sell out.

EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT JAMIE | Sat 4th April 2020

Theatre Royal, Newcastle, £57 per person

The smash-hit musical comes to Newcastle Theatre Royal - funny, fabulous and feelgood, this is the musical sensation for all the family and not to be missed! Supported by his brilliant loving mum and surrounded by his friends, Jamie overcomes prejudice, beats the bullies and steps out of the darkness, into the spotlight.



MATTHEW BOURNE'S THE RED SHOES | Sat 2nd May 2020

Theatre Royal, Newcastle, £63 per person

The Red Shoes is a tale of obsession, possession and one girl's dream to be the greatest dancer in the world. Victoria Page lives to dance but her ambitions become a battleground between the two men who inspire her passion.



RIVERDANCE THE NEW 25TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW | Sat 2nd May 2020

Sunderland Empire, £73 per person

The 25th Anniversary show catapults Riverdance into the 21st century and will completely immerse you in the extraordinary and elemental power of its music and dance.



WE WILL ROCK YOU | Sat 20th June 2020

Theatre Royal, Newcastle, £69 per person

The worldwide smash hit musical by Queen and Ben Elton returns to the UK. The multi-million-pound show dazzles all the senses in breath-taking style. With 24 of Queen's biggest hits delivered in a show that boasts the scale and spectacle that marked the bands' legendary live performances.



THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA | Sat 7th November 2020

Sunderland Empire, £79 per person

The Brilliant original production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera is now in its 33rd phenomenal year in the West End, The Phantom of the Opera is widely considered one of the most beautiful and spectacular productions in history.



HOLIDAY INFORMATION

The following notes are given by way of guidance to customers. They intend to show W Sim & Son's obligation to you and to assist you when booking your holiday. Sim's Travel are bonded members of the:



CONFEDERATION OF PASSENGER TRANSPORT (CPT)

and are full members of



THE QUALITY GUILD.

Where possible, please use the booking form.

1. All tours are fully protected in line with EC Directive 90/314/EC.
2. Our touring coaches are fitted with double glazing, reclining seats with seat belts, on board toilet and are air conditioned. (Some feeders and tours may be operated by non touring coaches).
3. Some entrance fees are included on tours, when indicated.
4. Smoking is not permitted on the coach at all times.
5. All tour details and prices may be subject to alteration at the company's discretion.
6. All tours are subject to a minimum number required to allow the tour to operate.
7. All tour bookings are secured with a non-returnable deposit.
8. Full balance for the holidays must be paid to Sim's Travel by the requested date on the tour information. Please note that we have had to introduce a scale of cancellation, see the table overleaf.
9. Requests for specific room (s)/cabin(s) e.g. (ground floor) must be made at the time of booking, and will be requested to the hotelier/carrier. Please note that room allocation is entirely at the discretion of the hotelier/carrier and that room sizes may vary and are not guaranteed.
10. Travel vouchers are accepted as part/full payment with all bookings.
11. Sim's Travel cannot accept any loss or expense for the late departure or arrival of ferries or any other unforeseen circumstances.
12. Coach seats are normally allocated by request at the time of booking or in date order of booking.

13. We strongly recommend that customers take out insurance to cover them in the event of illness, personal accident or death.
14. The tour/travel cancellation charges are as follows:

Cancellation date	Cancellation charge
More than 45 days	Deposit non refundable
45 to 31 days -	40% of holiday cost
30 to 16 days -	60% of holiday cost
15 to 8 days -	75% of holiday cost
7 to 1 day -	100% of holiday cost
15. You may transfer your booking to another person(s) or to another tour provided that they satisfy all the conditions applicable.
16. The holiday details printed in this brochure are for illustrative purposes only and details may be subject to change due to operational purposes.
17. Our full address is Hunholme Garage, Boot, Holmrook. Cumbria. CA19 1TF
18. Our email address is tours@simstravel.co.uk
19. Our office number for all enquiries is 019467 23227

GIFT VOUCHERS

Our gift vouchers can be purchased for any amount and can be redeemed against any day trip or holiday in our brochure or excursion list.

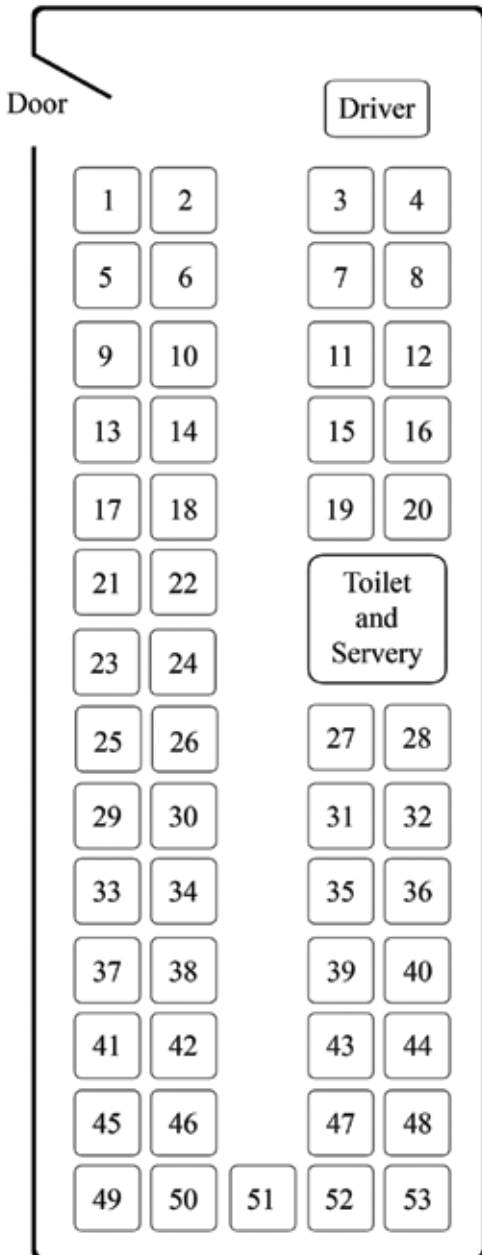
An ideal gift or a little 'thank you' for someone special. Contact our office for more information.



We accept all major credit cards:



COACH SEATING



This seating plan is an example layout* of the seats on the majority of our holiday coaches.

Individual seats may be requested** upon booking should you have any preference, however, this is on a *request only basis*.

* The exact layout of the coach may vary depending on which coach you will be travelling on.

** Although we do our best to give our customers the seats they have requested, we cannot guarantee any passenger a specific seat due to any unforeseen changes in vehicle. Seats are also allocated on a "first come, first serve" basis.

LUXURY COACH TRAVEL

Tours, Excursions & Private Hire



Established for over 100 years, Sim's Travel have gained a reputation envied by most for offering clients the best possible service. Operating coaches and mini buses from 8 to 53 seats. We can cater for all sizes of groups with varying needs, whether it be a day trip or a continental holiday. We have our own holiday programme as well as shorter weekend breaks & day excursions.

Sim's Travel are proud to have some of the leading travel tour companies and industry companies as its clients, as well as offering private hire contracts.

COACHES AVAILABLE WITH:

*Environmentally friendly coaches with latest Euro VI technology
Toilet & Washroom, Reclining Seats, Seat Belts, Tinted Double Glazing
CD/Radio/PA, TV/DVD, Hot & Cold drinks
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