



PRESS RELEASE: 11/10/2019

Follow in the footsteps of the Mayflower with self-drive campervan hire road trips

Individual campervan road trips designed around the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower sailing have been unveiled by award-winning campervan hire company, Wanderlust Camper Co Ltd. With suggested itineraries and a self-guided tour of Mayflower 400 highlights and events during August and September 2020, guests can expect to be immersed in history and join in the commemorations.

The campervans and itineraries are provided by Wanderlust Camper Co, an official Mayflower 400 tour operator – who offer fun, glamping style campervans for guests looking to stand out from the crowd! Wanderlust offer four unique campervans, each with their own personality and differing layouts however all with the same facilities. With quaint décor and charm, the campervans are novel and for those who appreciate something different.

The Mayflower 400 project describes the events programme as sharing the values of migration, tolerance, freedom and democracy and will tell the story of a ship and its passengers – a group of people from which a remarkable 30 million+ US citizens have descended from.

The 4 route options range from 14, 21 and 28-night trips, collecting the campervan from either Worcester or Plymouth. The self-guided road trips have been created to provide a convenient and comprehensive discovery of the Mayflower sailing story and to follow in the footsteps of the Pilgrims. The road trips are based around suggested itineraries that can be tailored for guests. Predominantly tailored for visitors from the US and Netherlands, the journey provides the opportunity of a lifetime, to join in with 400-year anniversary events, see significant landmarks and perhaps even discover more about their own ancestry.

The 'Full Mayflower Experience' roadtrip will guide guests – following the early story of the Separatists at their home-town and villages – including William Brewster, William Bradford and Richard Clifton. The tour visits principal 'Mayflower' destinations such as Worcester, Babworth, Gainsborough, Immingham, Boston, Harwich, Southampton, Dartmouth and Plymouth. Guests along the way will learn about the Mayflower's history on a journey of the ship and her passengers.

Devised to allow the intrepid traveller the right amount of freedom of the road balanced with a suggested itinerary, guidance and driving routes and walking tours will be available as digitally loaded maps and apps for information 'on-the-go' in real-time. The Mayflower Trail is the official self-guided tours app and alerts travellers when they approach points of interest, landmarks, museums and attractions. The app has walking tour guides to use offline and will uncover the Pilgrims' stories – where they were from and where and why they travelled.

The tours also include options for airport / train station greeting and transfers, additional tour booking advice, campsite accommodation assistance and membership is included to the Camping and Caravanning Club Privilege scheme to use member sites.

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Route dependent, there's even opportunities to take in historical and world-famous places of interest such as Shakespeare's Stratford Upon Avon, the old-world charm of Oxford and Cambridge, beauty spots such as the Cotswolds and Lincolnshire Wolds, plus nautical cities Bristol and Gloucester.

With 3 principal start dates of August 24, 31 and September 14, travellers can tie in either collection or drop-off in Plymouth for 'Mayflower Week' a week of commemoration, starting on September 14. The memorable week of activities will see daily fly pasts, a visit from the Matthew (a replica 15th century tall ship) and several unmissable events. It will also include the Mayflower public commemoration event on September 16.

The road trips are limited to 4 to 16 tours depending upon combination of reservations. With the selection of the grand tour of the 'Full Mayflower Experience' - this is limited to just four- meaning these tours are strictly limited and it is anticipated interest will be high for this unique opportunity.

Prices start from £216 a night for a campervan, for up to 4 guests and is a cost-effective way for a multi-destination break where accommodation and transport can be conveniently rolled in to one! The road trip package includes campervan hire with bedding, linen, wash pack and welcome pack, kitchen equipment and crockery, insurance for two drivers, unlimited UK mileage, plus souvenirs of a limited-edition Mayflower Road Trip Ordnance Survey map and glass bottles of Malvern Spring water - the Queen's favourite water!

Wanderlust Camper Co's Managing Director, Annah Todman says, 'We've really enjoyed putting these road trips together and have learned so much ourselves! It's fascinating and such an interesting story. It's been wonderful to become an Official Tour Operator for the Mayflower 400 and to be part of it all. We're looking forward to welcoming our first Mayflower guests next year!'

The Mayflower road trips are available to book online at www.wanderlustcamperco.com. For more information please visit our website or call 0345 3389958.

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NOTES TO EDITOR:

Wanderlust Camper Co started in May 2017 and have undertaken three seasons of campervan hire. 2020 will bring four campervans to its fleet. The fleet has been converted by hand by the husband and wife team. Wanderlust is based in Dymock, Gloucestershire. Wanderlust Camper Co was awarded 'Commended' in Visit Herefordshire Awards for Excellence in 2018 and was a finalist in the Federation of Small Businesses' South West Regional Awards in 2019. It is also a finalist in both the Visit Worcestershire Awards for Excellence and the Rural Business Awards - South West Region to be judged later this October.



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