

## AND NORTH WALES — 5 DAYS

TUESDAY—After breakfast we set out at 9.30 a.m. A short run, crossing a 15th century bridge, and through some delightful Wye Valley scenery, with remains of a Norman Castle away to the left at Goodrich, has as its objective the wonderful views of Symonds Yat. Here the finer views of the Wye are inaccessible by road, and short river excursions are a feature. Retracing our way, there is later a good view approaching Hereford where we stop to look at the Cathedral, ruins of Blackfriars Monastery, Wye Bridge, Castle Green and numerous historic show places. We follow the Valley of the Wye with its scenery of increasing interest and delight, from Llyswen to Builth Wells with its Castle and Medicinal Wells. Crossing the Wye we proceed via Llanellwedd to the important Spa, Llandrindod Wells, where a welcome lunch awaits us at the Metropole and Hydro Hotel. After lunch time is allowed to view the beautiful public gardens. We now go on to Rhayader, a distance of 12 miles, and the chain of Lakes away to the left forming the Birmingham Reservoirs rivet our attention. Delightful scenery along the narrow Valley of the upper Wye greets us as we pass through Llangurig for the Devil's Bridge. Here the wonderful Rocks and cascading waterfalls compel a short stop. Amply repaid, we proceed coastwise through magnificent scenery in the wooded Rheidal Valley to Aberystwyth, where dinner is served at the Belle Vue Hotel, our headquarters for the night.

WEDNESDAY—Breakfast over we take our seats and really enjoy enthralling Welsh scenery of a much sterner and rugged character. After traversing 34 miles of fine Moorland and Mountain roads Dolgelly is reached. A break of half an hour is allowed to enable us to view Torrent Walk, Rhaiadr Dhu Waterfall and the majesty of Cader Idris. Negotiating steep gradients amidst the same fine characteristic country we proceed via Portmadoc and Beddgelert to Llanberis. Having partaken of lunch at the Padarn Villa Hotel, the afternoon is free for

an excursion to Snowdon. The return rail fare on the Mountain Railway is included in the tour fare. An enjoyable afternoon on Snowdon with its expansive views, and we return to the Padarn Villa Hotel for dinner and the night.

THURSDAY—Yet another feast of ravishing beauty is in store for us. After a wonderful run of 16 miles we arrive at Bettws-y-Coed with its incomparable natural beauties. A halt of 30 minutes enables us to view the Fairy Glen and Swallow Falls. Then, on through the wild rock scenery at Capel Curig and the Vale of Nant Francon until we reach Bangor, and here we see the University College of North Wales and other historical buildings. Proceeding via Llanfairfechan and Penmaenmawr we have coast views across Colwyn Bay *en route* to Conway, in time for lunch at the Castle Hotel. Lunch over we view Conway Castle and the majestic suspension bridge. A short tour brings us to Llandudno, where a halt is made to allow us to view the many charms of this flourishing and popular seaside resort. From Llandudno we proceed to Shrewsbury and enjoy magnificent views on the descent of the Horseshoe Pass, and in the Vale of Llangollen with its unrivalled scenery. Our headquarters for the night are the Crown Hotel, where mine host provides an appetising dinner. Shrewsbury is aptly termed the "Gateway to Wales," and has much of interest.

FRIDAY—Our tour all too soon draws to a close. To-day we have a 200 mile drive home through Wellington and Gailey, along the Roman Watling Street to Atherstone and Market Harborough, where lunch is served at the Angel Hotel. Lunch over we continue our journey home via Kettering and Huntingdon. Cambridge is reached at approximately 6.0 p.m. and Norwich 8.30 p.m.