

Melton Mowbray and Belvoir Castle

Tuesday, 21st May 2019

By coach Departing at 9 am

Organised by Pauline Springett

Supported by Alec Springett

Melton Mowbray is a quintessential English market town which has been built on a strong tradition of farming and fox hunting. Renowned for its fine food and drink, the borough has become the centre of excellence for local food products. Famous for its pork pies and Stilton cheese, the town of Melton Mowbray is now home to the Melton Mowbray Food Festival, British Pie Awards and Great British Festival of Pies, and the largest Artisan Cheese Fair in the country. It is no wonder that Melton Mowbray is known as the Rural Capital of Food.

We leave St Mark's car park at 9 am and arrive at Melton at approximately 9.50 am. Members are then free to explore the town. In particular if you wish to see a demonstration of pie making this takes place at the Ye Old Pork Pie Shoppe in Nottingham Street. The demonstration takes 20 minutes. There is cheese tasting at Melton Cheese Board, 8 Windsor Street. You can visit the country's oldest and finest street market. Members should ensure they have some lunch before boarding the coach at 1.15 pm to proceed to Belvoir Castle

Belvoir Castle, home of the Duke & Duchess of Rutland, commands a magnificent view of the Vale of Belvoir. The name Belvoir, meaning beautiful view, dates back to Norman Times when Robert Todei, Standard Bearer to William the Conqueror, built the first castle on this superb site. Destruction caused by two Civil Wars and by a catastrophic fire in 1816 breached the continuity of Belvoir's history. The present building owes much to the inspiration and taste of Elizabeth, 5th Duchess of Rutland and was built after the fire.

On arrival at Belvoir Castle we will have a guided tour of the castle which lasts 1½ hours. After the tour members can visit the café for tea, etc, and the gardens.

We will leave Belvoir at 4.30 pm and should arrive back in Rugby at approximately 5.45 pm.

Members who wish to view the pork pie demonstration should indicate on the booking form. There is a charge of £1 per person payable on the day.

Special Note. This visit is not suitable for persons with mobility problems as there are numerous stairs in the castle.