

ENGLAND 2018

Anne Berit decided that Christian and Sofie should have a 20-year gift. She had thought they could take a long weekend trip to some popular destination. But when Christian heard that we were on a tour in England after following Evelyn home, they would rather be with us on that trip.

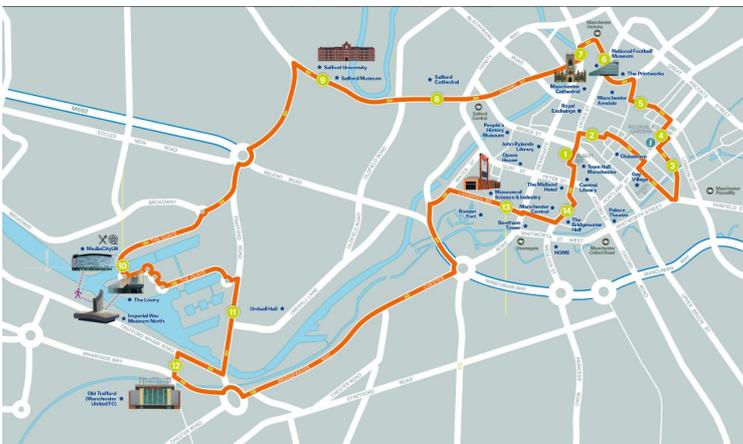
We traveled with SAS to Manchester. The plane was about to depart at 18.05, but it was not allowed to go right away so we got a bit late and we were not in Manchester until just after 19.30 local time. We took a taxi from the airport. When we were to pick up Evelyn the last time we were there, there were many available taxis. This time we had to book a taxi in a taxi station, where we would go and pay right away. Then we had to wait until the driver came and asked for us. There was no room for all of us in one taxi so we had to have two taxis. We followed Evelyn home first and then we drove to the hotel. Christian and Sofie traveled directly to the hotel.



We had planned to stay at Hello Hotel this time too, but because of the bad breakfast they had there, we chose another hotel. Instead, we went for [Novotel Manchester West Hotel](#).



It is a bit further out of the city center than the other hotel, but the room was better and the breakfast was much better. The restaurant was good, too.



The next day we took a taxi to the center of Manchester. We had agreed that we would take a tour with the sightseeing bus. It runs this route.

Link to [Hop-on Hop-off Sightseeing Manchester Bus](#)



We did not finish the whole round. The bus, which we were on, stopped at [Manchester City Hall](#) and should not go further. If we wanted to take the rest of the round we had to wait for the next bus. We were satisfied, so we stopped there. Christian and Sofie wanted to go shopping and go to the hotel afterwards.



After the sightseeing round, we took a taxi to [Manchester Victoria train station](#) to print the tickets we had to use the next day.



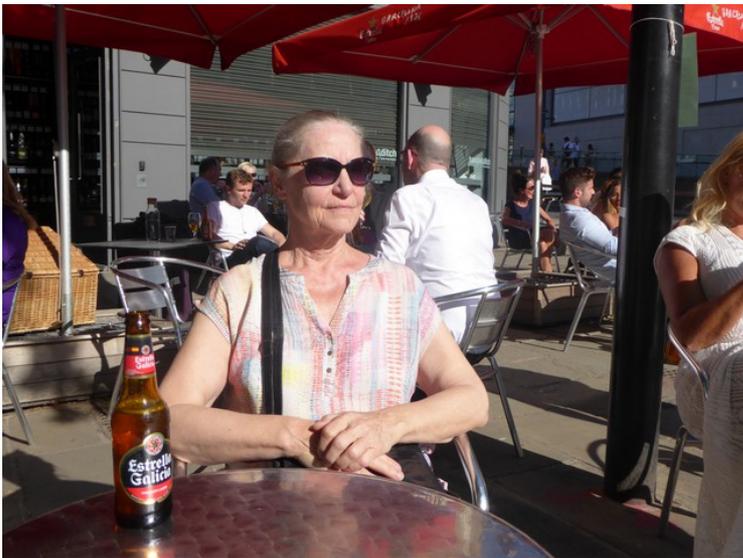
Then we took pictures of [Manchester Cathedral](#). The tower is being restored and is completely covered.



A picture of the south end of the cathedral.



Now it was time for a beer and a portion of chicken wings.
Anne Berit also had chicken wings but she had white wine with the chicken wings.



Anne Berit thought it was cold sitting in the shade, so we moved around the corner to sit in the sun.
Later we took taxi to Asbjørn where we stayed a while before we took the taxi back to the hotel.



The next day we went by train to Bath. I didn't study the tickets closely enough, so we took a taxi to Manchester Victoria. We should have been to [Manchester Picadilly](#). We took a train to Picadilly, but it was so overdue that we did not reach the original train. We had to wait an hour for the next train.
Here we are on the train from Manchester to Bristol.
Christian doesn't look quite awake.



I do not look quite awake myself and one should think I was sleeping when I did not manage to read correctly on the tickets. I used the waiting time on the Picadilly Station to buy a pair of «travel beers». We only got an hour late and, luckily, we didn't have to pay for new tickets. We had to change the train in Bristol to get to Bath.



We had booked on [Bailbrook House Hotel](#) in the outskirts of the city.

Bailbrook House is located in a prestigious building on a 81-acre plot. The hotel has been refurbished for GBP 10 million and there are 81 rooms in the Bailbrook Court, which are affiliated with the Mansion House. At Bailbrook Court we ate lunch at Lansdown Restaurant. The Mansion House also has a winter garden with bar where we ate in the evening.



At first we ate a little lunch at the hotel. It's in the bar and we have a view to the garden outside.



This is our room.



Here we are connected to the outside world.



After we had lunch at the hotel we ordered a taxi to drive down to town. At first we drove to [The Royal Crescent](#).



The end section of The Royal Crescent



The Royal Crescent is the most famous building stretch in [Bath](#). It was built between 1767 and 1774.

Today there is a hotel and a museum and some of the houses have been converted to apartments and offices.

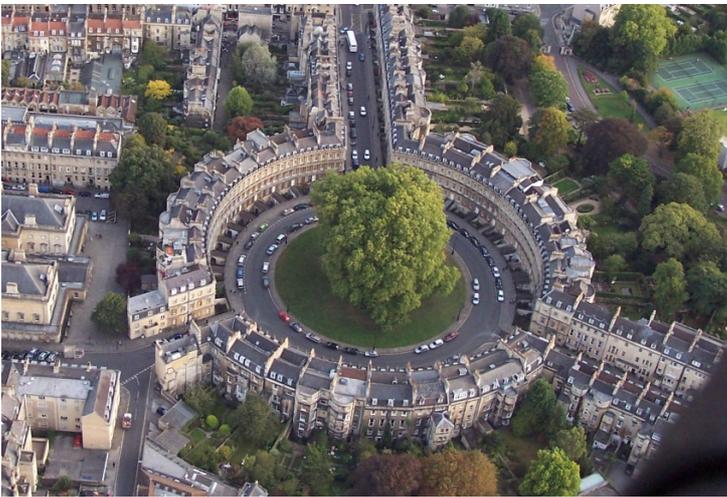


The Circus



The Circus

The next stop was in The [Circus](#).



The Circus is a historic street with large town houses that form a circle with three entrances. Designed by the prominent architect John Wood, the Elder, it was begun in 1754, completed in 1768, and is regarded a preeminent example of Georgian architecture. The name comes from the Latin circus, which means a ring, oval or circle. It has been designated as a Grade I listed building.

The Circus is divided into three segments of equal length, with a lawn in the centre. Each segment faces one of the three entrances, ensuring a classical facade is always presented straight ahead.



Outside the Roman Baths.



Outside the Roman Baths.



[The Roman Baths in Bath. Homepage.](#)

The Roman Baths themselves are below the modern street level. The buildings above street level date back to the 19th century.

The heart of the complex is the large bathroom, a pool filled with steamed, heated water to a depth of 1.6 meters. Although open now, the bathroom was originally covered by a 4.5m high vaulted ceiling. There are several smaller bathrooms around this.

The water is rainwater that has penetrated far into the ground where it is heated geothermal and then under pressure it is pushed up through cracks in the ground.



From the square between the Roman Baths and [Bath Abbey](#).

Three different churches have been here since 757 AD. First an Anglo-Saxon monastery, destroyed when the Normans conquered England; then a massive Norman cathedral that was begun in 1090, but was in ruins in the late 15th century. It was not until 1616 that the repair work started. In the 1830s it was altered outside and in the years 1864 to 1874 it was completely altered inside.



More pictures from the square between the Roman Baths and Bath Abbey.



More pictures from the square between the Roman Baths and Bath Abbey.



Statue of a water goddess outside Bath Abbey.



An owl statue.



An angel at Parade Gardens, a small park by the river Avon.



This one is also down in [Parade Gardens](#). We did not go down there, because the entrance fee was 1.5 pounds. We did not think it was worth it.



Parade Gardens lies right by the river [Avon](#).



We see [Pulteney Bridge](#) at the rear. It was completed by 1774. Avon is navigable as far up as here.



A sightseeing boat goes as far as it can.

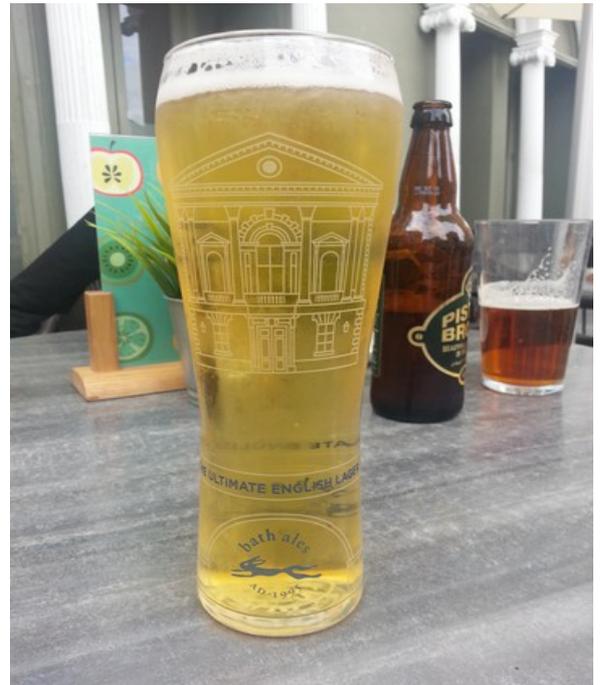


Sofie and Christian at the river Avon.



Then we walked back to the square between Bath Abbey and the Roman Bath to have a beer.

Here we are waiting for the beer.



We chose this type of beer.



Anne Berit chose this type.



Then all are happy.



I took this picture while we drank the beer. Afterwards we went to take a taxi back to the hotel.



Outside the hotel.



The following day we were going on to Par in Cornwall. We took a taxi to the train station to buy tickets. While we waited for the train to go we walked to a restaurant right next door. Here there was more beer and wine.



An old telephone booth has got a job as a flower stand.



On the way the railway line went along the coast for a stretch. This is where the river [Exe](#) flows out into the sea. [Exmouth](#) in the background.



This is from the river [Tamar](#). The pictures were taken through the windows, so there are some reflexes.



Boats on the river Tamar.



Saltash boating club in [Saltash](#).



In th background we see the [Tamar Bridge](#) and the [Royal Albert Bridge](#).

Tamar Bridge is a road bridge and the Royal Albert Bridge is a railway bridge that we drove over.



We had booked rooms at the [Royal Inn](#) in [Par](#). The hotel is right next to the train station in Par, so it was just going up a small hill. The hotel was good with nice service, good rooms and good food. The only downside was that the Internet connection was very bad. It was mostly non-existent.



The name is said to originate from when King Edward VII (1841-1910) was Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall. He stayed at the hotel when visiting Fowey Consol's copper mine. When he came to the surface again, he gave every worker a new florin (10p) and also gave W. Morcom, the proprietor of the hotel at Par Station (Par's original name), permission to call his hotel 'The Royal'.



The day after we arrived to Par we traveled by taxi to [St. Austell](#). We were to pick up a car, which we had rented from [Beech Motors](#).

Then we returned to the hotel to pick up Christian and Sofie. Then the trip went north.



When we came to [Tintagel](#) we wanted some food. I just wanted some coffee. We placed the order at the bar in [King Arthur's Arms Inn](#).



A couple of pictures of King Arthur's Arms Inn.



On the other side of the road lies [Tintagel Old Post Office](#), which is now Grade I listed.



Next to the post office there are shops and restaurants.



Center of Tintagel. It's a small place and only 1800 people live in the whole area.



[The Cornishman Inn](#).



Here it was discussed where we were going.



Doesn't you come now??



They just walk without me.



Here we are outside the centre.

The road down to the left goes down to Tintagel Castle. We thought it was too far to walk. We continued on the right.



View down towards Tintagel Castle. We turned here to go back to the car as we had parked in the big parking lot.



[St Materianas' Church](#) photographed from a distance. The first church here was probably built in the 600s.



We drove over to [Camelot Castle](#). It is a big hotel. It is located on the cliff so there is good view in all directions.



To the west lies [The Sisters Rock](#). Here are a lot of seabirds who have nests.



Looking down towards [Tintagel Castle](#).



The ruins are partly on the mainland on the left and partly on the island to the right.



These are the ruins of the gatehouse and the courtyard.



Ruins of the gatehouse with courtyard on the island.

The area here has been inhabited since the end of Roman times, and a society flourished here in the 5th to 7th centuries. In the 12th century, Tintagel received literary fame when Geoffrey of Monmouth wrote that it was the place where King Arthur was born. These Arthur novels have inspired Richard, Earl of Cornwall, to build a castle at Tintagel in the 1230s. More of the story can be read [here](#).



Some of the walls on the island.



A statue of King Arthur is standing outermost on the island.



Then we drove to Boscastle. A small fishing village with only 900 inhabitants. It is a little further north. This is the main road through the place.



View towards the harbor.



From the center in Boscastle.



The center.



The river that flows through the place.



The harbor.



From the harbor towards the sea.



A house with thatched roof by the road between Boscastle and Bude.



Here we come to [Bude](#).

It is a small resort town on the river [Strat](#). There are about 9000 people living in the area. The harbor has been important, and previously it was popular to use sea sands from here to improve the marsh land in the area. A canal was built to Launceston, but today it is only a few miles inland. Restoration works are now under way.



A long row of houses at the entrance to Bude.
Link to [Visit Cornwall](#) – Bude.



A street musician at the canal.



The canal.



By the canal are paddle boats hired out.



The Falcon Hotel.



Fish & Chips



Olive Tree Restaurant.



A bridge across the canal.



From the bridge we have views towards the lock.



Here we have zoomed as much as possible.



The canal continues inland.



Here is a little sales booth.



The birds are fed.





View back to the bridge.



On our way back to the hotel we drove the last bit on narrow local roads. It is common that there is a tight hedge on both sides of the road.



The road can even be completely over grown.



The first day we went by train like this.



The second day the route was like this.



The first day of car driving.