ABOUT THE TOUR

The V8 Northumberland Tour 2014 will take place over the long week-end of Friday 19th to Monday 22nd September 2014. It will be based at the four star Holiday Inn at Seaton Burn, a village 6 miles to the north of Newcastle upon Tyne and easily reached from the A1 and A19. Hotel location map

The tour is open to any members of the MG Car Club or their friends and is not restricted to MG V8s – other MGs are welcome!

Northumberland is an area rich in history and with picturesque countryside and coastland. It has a great deal to offer the visitor yet is relatively free of the tourist crowds that clog the Lake District on the other side of the Pennines.

Amongst venues planned for the tour are **Cragside**, **Woodhorn Museum and Hexham Abbey**. The routes to and from the venues will offer plenty of photo opportunities of stunning scenery and coastline.



Cragside

<u>Cragside</u> is a National Trust gem. The house is a fine Victorian Mansion with much to excite those who appreciate fine buildings and antiques. But it will also appeal to the engineers – it was the first house in the world lit by hydro-electric power and has many ingenious devices. It was the home of the great engineer-industrialist, <u>William Armstrong</u>, founder of the Armstrong-Whitworth manufacturing empire. For garden lovers the house is on a steep slope and has one of the finest rock gardens in Europe as well as fine Victorian formal gardens and picturesque walks.

For a taste of Northumberland's history and mining heritage we're going to visit <u>Woodhorn Museum</u> and Northumberland Archives, near Ashington. Woodhorn is based in original colliery buildings with a stunning new building, inspired by the monster coal cutting machines that were once used deep underground. Its entertaining and interactive displays paint a picture of life in this former mining community.

For those staying until Monday the closing visit is to <u>Hexham Abbey.</u> There has been a church on the site for over 1300 years since Etheldreda, Queen of Northumbria made a grant of lands to Wilfrid, Bishop of York c.674. Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries but the abbey survived by converting to being the Parish Church of St Andrew, Hexham. Some of the monastic buildings have been converted to a visitor centre where you can have refreshments. Our visit coincides with a week-long Arts and Music Festival.

Important: No part of the event is timed. It is not a rally or a competitive event.

See over for the costs, booking details and programme:



TOUR DATES

Friday 19th to Monday 22nd September 2014

HOTEL

The base hotel is the Holiday Inn, Great North Road, Seaton Burn, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 6BP. Tel: 44 (0)8714134818 Hotel location map

COSTS

The V8 Register has been offered four star accommodation for members attending the V8 Northumberland Tour at the excellent group rate of £42.50 per person per night, based on two sharing, for bed, breakfast and evening meal making the total hotel charges for two people for three nights just £255!

In addition to the hotel costs there is a **V8 Register tour fee** covering Route Books, Rally Plaques, some drinks, refreshments and entry fees, sundry items and organising costs will be **£80 per car** (or **£55** for car and driver only) including VAT. NOTE: the entry fees for National Trust properties are not included – these are free for National Trust members, likely a large proportion of the tour group.

So the total cost for the long week-end will be only £335 per couple including VAT! Tour updates, further details and confirmations will be made by email.

HOW TO BOOK:

Booking is in two parts, first with the **V8 Register Event Organisers**, Richard and Victoria Withington, then **book with the hotel**.

V8 Register Event Organisers - book a V8 Tour place

When you book your tour place with the Event Organiser you will be given a **discount code** and information on how to use it when making your hotel booking. Book by email or telephone to Richard Withington at 44 (0) 1949 844066. Hotel places are limited and early booking is recommended.

Hotel – book accommodation with the Holiday Inn at Seaton BurnBook your room by phoning the Hotel on 44 (0)8714134818 stating that you are on the **MG Car Club - V8 Register** tour and quote the discount

code given to you when you booked with the Event Organisers to ensure that you get the special discounted rate. A deposit will be required so have your credit or debit card handy. Hotel places are limited and early booking is recommended.

V8 Register tour fee payment

The £80 (or £55) per car payment for the V8 Register part should be by cheque in GBP made payable to **R. Withington**. Post your cheque, together with your name, co-driver's name, address, email, phone number and car details to the Event Organisers: **Richard and Victoria Withington**, **Glebe Farm**, **Bottesford Road**, **Allington**, **NG32 2DJ**.

For single bookings or for those wishing to omit the Monday part of the tour please contact Richard and Victoria for alternative arrangements and reduced fees.

For alternative payment methods, eg for those who do not have a GBP cheque account, please contact the Tour Co-ordinators Bob and Carolyn Owen by email or tel 44 (0)118 933 2533.

Check tour bookings at:

www.v8register.net/DD/140223-bookings-V8-Tour-2014-R1.pdf

PROGRAMME

Hotel check-in can be any time after 2pm on Friday 19th September. Aim to arrive between 2pm and 6pm. Registration for the tour will be in or near the Hotel Reception and will start at 4pm. At Registration you will be given a goody bag containing your Rally Plaque, your Route Book plus detailed programme, leaflets and other tour paraphernalia. You will also be given details of the dining arrangements for the three nights of the tour. The organised tour ends in the early afternoon of Monday 22nd September.

Event Organisers

The tour is being organised by: Richard and Victoria Withington 01949 844066 r.withington@btinternet.com