



NORTHERN BELLE

LUXURY TRAIN

GREAT BRITAIN

THE MARQUE OF LUXURY



EXCLUSIVE CHARTERS & GROUPS

THE MARQUE OF LUXURY

northernbelle.co.uk



WELCOME ON BOARD

The Northern Belle is regarded as Great Britain's finest luxury vintage train.

Evoking the Golden Age of travel, the Northern Belle is a celebration of British heritage and the opulent "Belle" trains of the 1930s & 40's.

Individually designed carriages, named after and inspired by British castles and stately homes, are furnished with specially commissioned designs, hand decorated interiors, exclusive fabrics and intricate wooden marquetry panels.

Every guest is warmly welcomed aboard by an attentive and dedicated crew.

Immaculately laid tables with starched linen and gleaming silverware ooze the glamour of sophistication and fine dining on the rails.

The view is ever changing which inspires conversation, friendship and a bond as passengers indulge and have fun.

The opportunity to travel on a private luxury train is an experience that your guests will remember and treasure for many years to come.

We look forward to welcoming you onboard.

Best regards,

Howard Barclay
Groups and Charter Events Team

"Hospitality"

"People will forget what you said, forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."





EXCLUSIVE CHARTER

The Northern Belle luxury vintage train is available for exclusive private charters for corporate event organisers, day trips, group travel or gala dinners.

The train can reposition to most parts of Great Britain using the National network and provides a unique dining experience. Our stewards will welcome your guests on board with a glass of chilled sparkling champagne and provide elegant service throughout the journey.

Guests relax into their armchair seats as conversation and ideas flow in this comfortable and friendly environment.

Excitement and delight await passengers as they discover the dishes our executive chef has created for the journey.

The train is best suited for larger groups and can hold up to a maximum of 276 passengers.

Our Sales team will be delighted to advise if we can accommodate your requested journey, suitable food and beverage packages and estimate how long a journey will take.

“Hospitality creates New ideas!”

“Hospitality is the key to new ideas, new friends, new possibilities. What we take into our lives changes us. Without new people and new ideas, we are imprisoned inside ourselves.”



TRAIN CAPACITY, HISTORY & FEATURES

Capacity:

The train has a maximum capacity of 276 passengers.

Engine/Traction:

Heritage diesel or steam locomotive.

History:

The Northern Belle luxury vintage train entered service in 2001 following a full restoration by Venice Simplon-Orient-Express company.

It has set the standard for stylish day trips, luxury rail journeys, fine dining and short breaks ever since. It reflects the style of Britain's famous 'Belle' & Pullman trains of the 1920's & 30's. Northern Belle continues to delight and enthrall her guests; we look forward to welcoming you on board with your group.

Features:

The individually designed carriages have been lovingly restored by some of the country's top crafts people, including marquetry experts, muralists and mosaic artists.

Every carriage is named after Great British stately home or Castle and the designs inside reflect the famous names. You will find specially commissioned upholstery, elegant wooden panelled marquetry walls, mosaic toilet floors, fresco ceilings and fine furnishing that provide a charming country house atmosphere.





TYPES OF CHARTER

Charters fall into many categories and some examples are included below for information.

GALA DINNER / CELEBRATION LUNCH

The train can be repositioned to most major UK cities and towns to offer a Gala Dinner or celebration lunch for your group. These are typically four to five hours long and return to the departure station where your guests boarded. Dining options include brunches, afternoon teas, high teas, 3-9 course lunches or dinners and can be themed around your journey route, for example, Scottish, English and Welsh menus.



DAY TRIP EXCURSIONS

A day trip excursion includes a destination where your guests will spend some time sightseeing or attending an event. On the outward journey you will be typically served our classic brunch on route to your destination. On arrival luxury coaches meet your guests for a transfer to the chosen attraction, historic house, event venue or sporting event. Passengers enjoy an afternoon off board while the train is reset ready for dinner on the return journey.



STEAM SPECIALS

Working with our sister company it is possible to hire in a vintage steam locomotive to complete the magic of vintage rail travel. These heritage machines are a fantastic way to enhance your event creating excitement, atmosphere and lots of steam. Careful planning is required and certain routes are sometimes not possible due to engineering restrictions.



SPORTING SPECIALS & FLOWER SHOWS

Arrive in the ultimate of style and glamour to one of Britain's best sporting and live event shows.

Some of the events we have attended over the years include Six Nations Rugby, FA Cup finals, Horse Racing, Open Golf, Cheltenham Gold Cup, Ryder Cup, Royal Ascot, Goodwood Revival and many RHS flower shows.



GROUP TRANSFERS

It is often easier to move large groups around the country via private train. The Northern Belle is regularly used by event organisers to move large groups from London to Edinburgh or from major cities to large event venues and resort hotels, for example, Edinburgh to Gleneagles Hotel.



CHARITY FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Northern Belle is a fun experience and is used every year for Charities to hold fundraising events. These include Gala Dinners, day trips and Steam specials often raising tens of thousands of pounds from the journey.

"If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world."

J.R.R. Tolkien



GROUPS & PRIVATE CARRIAGES

If your group is not large enough for a private charter then please consider an exclusive private carriage on one of our retail excursions. A group discount will apply for over 12 passengers and certain enhancements can be offered such as pre-ordered drinks, celebration cakes and gifts.

Please talk to your Travel Team member for more information or visit our web site for details of excursions in your area.

www.northernbelle.co.uk



Combining classic craftsmanship and contemporary engineering, these carriages are a reflection of the magnificent 'Belle' trains of the 1930s.

The seven dining carriages are named after great British castles or stately homes. They display marquetry, fabrics and brass fittings specifically commissioned from British craftsmen and women.

Carriages:

We have 7 dining carriages (6 x 42 and 1 x 24 seater), 2 kitchens and an on-board boutique carriage

Names: Alnwick, Belvoir, Chatsworth, Glamis, Harlech, Warwick and Duart

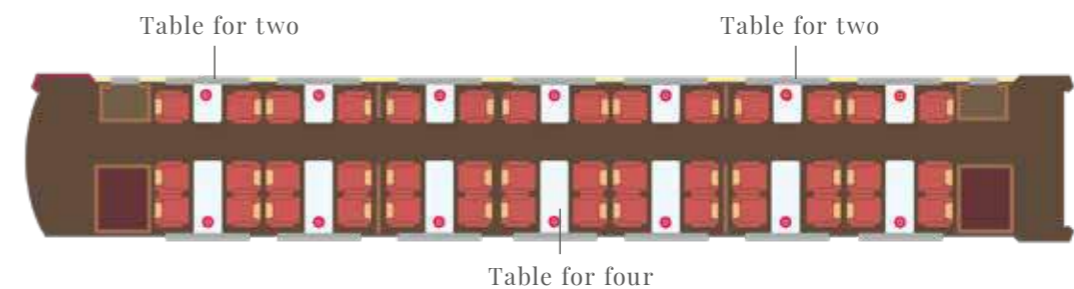
(carriages are named after stately homes and castles around the United Kingdom to reflect our British touring programme)

Seating:

Seat is arranged in bays of six seats with tables of four down one side of the train and tables of two opposite with an aisle in between.

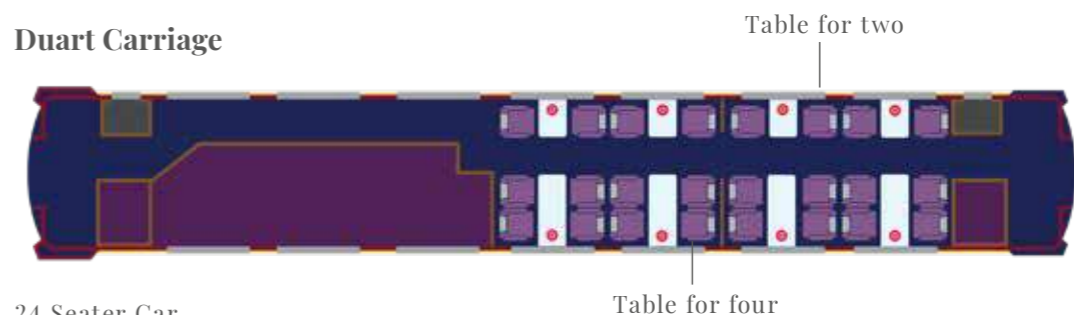
Carriages Plans:

Alnwick, Belvoir, Chatsworth, Glamis, Harlech & Warwick Carriages



42 Seater Car, rest rooms at the end of the carriages.

Duart Carriage



24 Seater Car



GRAND DESIGNS

Discover the story of each of our carriages and the magnificent monuments that inspired them...



ALNWICK

Alnwick carriage features the marquetrie motif of its namesake, lovingly inlaid with rich, elegant oak, boxwood, yew, sycamore, purple-heart and walnut wood. Currently owned by the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, Alnwick is the second largest inhabited castle in England. Film fans may recognise its distinctive medieval outline from some well known films and series including Harry Potter Elizabeth and Downton Abbey.



BELVIOR

The honeybees, flora and facade of striking Belvoir Castle adorn the carriage's marquetrie, which is fashioned from Indian rosewood, anigre, oak, pomelle, sycamore, madrona burr and walnut. The castle is Norman in origin, although its current silhouette is modelled along Regency Gothic lines. Belvoir, the ancestral home of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, is known for its priceless artworks and magical Italian-style terraced gardens.



CHATSWORTH

The magnificent yellow stone facade of this classical stately home in Derbyshire's lush Peak District is depicted in the marquetrie of the Chatsworth carriage and in the adjoining restroom. Featuring yew tree burr, sycamore, walnut, maple and satinwood, the carriage is also dressed in sumptuous furnishings and fabrics suited to a grand country house.



GLAMIS

Crafted from sycamore, madrona burr, yew, peartree and boxwood, the "thrift" motif of Scottish art nouveau artist Charles Rennie Mackintosh, together with a depiction of Glamis Castle, offers a celebration of Scottish history and design in this carriage. Glamis Castle is also the historic seat of the Bowes-Lyon family - the most famous of whom, Elizabeth, became Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.



HARLECH

Named after King Henry I's 13th-century stronghold, Harlech carriage features marquetrie detailing the castle and daffodils, set in maple, boxwood, sycamore and European walnut. Now enjoying World Heritage status, the indomitable castle, perched on a 200-foot rock on the North Wales coast, was the inspiration for the famous song "Men of Harlech" following the Wars of the Roses.



DUART

In 2011, a seventh carriage was added to the train's fleet. It was named Duart as a thank you to Sir Lachlan Maclean and his team at Duart Castle, who have always extended a warm welcome to Northern Belle guests. The carriage was once part of the Royal Household train and features beautiful marquetrie depicting wild flowers to symbolise the castle's spectacularly isolated position.



WARWICK

Inspired by the soaring towers of Warwick Castle the carriage includes 800-year-old oak panels inset with walnut, boxwood, anigre, satinwood and maple. The castle itself, sited high above a bend in the picturesque River Avon in Warwickshire, began life as a basic, motte-and-bailey stronghold built by William the Conqueror in 1068, but was developed over subsequent centuries by the Earls of Warwick into the magnificent edifice we see today.





DESTINATION & DAY TRIP IDEAS

When taking a day trip excursion, the choice of destinations that Great Britain can offer is truly special reflecting our fabulous cultural history and stunning landscapes.

Some examples of day trip destinations and events are included below for inspiration:-

HISTORIC CITIES / TOWNS

Great Britain has a wonderful collection of historic towns and cities perfect for an afternoon visit by luxury train. Stroll the Georgian Spa town of Bath with its beautiful sandstone architecture, walk around the Roman walls of the city of Chester, discover the Viking heritage of York or marvel at sophisticated capital of Scotland, Edinburgh.

FLOWER SHOWS & GARDENS

If nature's beauty is your inspiration, why not visit some of the world's best gardens and flower shows.

Royal Horticultural shows include RHS Chelsea, RHS Tatton, RHS Hampton Court and RHS Cardiff to name but a few. Alternatively we have an abundance of stately homes and castles with fabulous gardens from Bodnant Gardens in North Wales, Alnwick Castle gardens, Northumberland and Muncaster Castle gardens in the Lake District.

SPORTING EVENTS

Treat your guests to a sporting spectacle like no other by arriving on the Northern Belle. Some of our most popular events include Royal Ascot races, the Goodwood Revival Classic car show, Six Nations Rugby and Cheltenham

Gold Cup.

STATELY HOMES & CASTLES

The nation's heritage and history has produced some of the world's best homes and castles. Visit the home of Duke of Wellington at Blenheim Palace, the Rothschild family estate at Waddesdon Manor, the Queen's castle at Windsor or the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire's graceful stately home at Chatsworth.

THEMED DINNERS

Customised menus can be a great addition to a Gala Dinner or celebration. Include entertainment such as live bands, magicians, celebrity chefs and famous hosts to add that extra sparkle. Menus can reflect the finest local produce from the excursion route.



"True hospitality consists of giving the best of yourself to your guests."

Eleanor Roosevelt





THE EXPERIENCE

Your exclusive charter will allow your guests to experience vintage rail travel at its best on board the Northern Belle.

Guests often say it's like stepping back in time to a era of elegant service and slow travel when people took time for dinner whilst travelling across the beautiful British countryside.

Some of the experience highlights include:-

- Great British classic luxury
- Fine dining on the rails
- Elegant stewards to care for your every need
- Beautiful wooden marquetry carriages with specially commissioned china & glassware
- Perfect way to relax and admire the Great British scenery
- Historical, Great British routes, cultural destinations & major events
- Appeals to all ages, family and gender
- The art of slow travel letting you escape the modern world
- On board boutique for souvenirs
- The red carpet treatment
- Excellent acceptance rates to your hospitality invitation
- Seating plan for group hosts and guests
- Creating friendships and lasting memories
- Perfect celebration location
- Fun, interesting & hugely enjoyable



SAMPLE MENU

The Northern Belle operates a fixed table d'hote menu for passengers on board. These menus vary through the year dependant on which organic produce is in season. For a charter excursion we will happily design a bespoke menu for your event with our executive chef.

SAMPLE BRUNCH

(Served on the outward leg of a day trip excursion)

Welcome Sparkling Bellini

~

Morning Tea & Coffee

~

Fruit Yogurt Bircher

~

Scrambled Eggs with maple cured ham, vine tomatoes

~

Pastries, croissants, fruit toast and Danish from the bakery



SAMPLE DINNER MENU

Welcome Champagne Reception

Laurent Perrier Cuvee

~

Starter

Selection of Table Canapés

~

Main Course

Roast fillet of Aberdeen Angus beef, seasonal vegetables, colcannon and English mustard sauce and sticky gravy

~

Cheese Course

Great British Cheeseboard served with biscuits, crackers, fruit cake, quince, pickled onions and chutneys

~

Dessert

Rhubarb & ginger Trifle

~

Accompanying Wines

Bottle of house wine per couple. (Half per person)

Sommeliers selection of red & white



PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Catering and Dietary requirements

Our chefs use seasonal ingredients to create the best of British Cuisine. If any of your guests have special dietary requirements, then please advise the Travel Centre Team well in advance so that they are prepared. We request this is done with a least 14 days prior to departure. e.g. Gluten Free, Allergies, Dislikes of Red Meat, Vegetarian or Vegan.

The train staff will do its best to comply with any special dietary requirements the passengers may have, although we are unable to accommodate strict religious requirements. This information should be supplied with the passenger name list.

Dress Code

This is your time to look fabulous, come dressed in smart casual attire or go over the top with vintage costume. Remember, you can never be overdressed when travelling on the Northern Belle Luxury Train. We politely request that you do not wear jeans or trainers.

Drinks Packages

As per your agreed charter menu package we offer an inclusive level of drinks. A cash bar for additional drinks when this has been utilised is offered during the journey.

Train Inspection

Where possible, we welcome you to carry out a sight inspection, giving you the opportunity to see and experience all the facilities on board and enable you to predict the group's needs. Please discuss with your sales representative.

Insurance

We recommend that adequate insurance in respect of the journey is arranged in advance of travel. Northern Belle provide Public liability insurance for the charter, however any additional insurance required in case of unforeseen cancellations should be the responsibility of the charter client.

Security

Northern Belle Luxury train is very security conscious and operates a discrete security presence on board. The high level of staff to passenger's ratio also means that stewards are aware of who should be on board at all times.

Smoking

We operate a NO SMOKING policy as per UK law in public places.

Staff

Your contact throughout the train journey will primarily be the Train Manager who will ensure that all your group's needs are taken care of.

Wheelchair Users

We regret that our carriages cannot be boarded in wheelchairs. However, our staff are available to assist any passengers to their seats and folding wheelchairs can be stored in the vestibules. Some excursions are more suitable for disabled travellers than others. Please ask for details.

Wholesale Charters

Should you wish to resell the charter excursion to the general public then please discuss this with your sales representative. We are happy to advise on planning time, marketing and your legal obligations as tour operators.

Terms and Conditions of Carriage

Every passenger travelling on board the Northern Belle luxury train does so by accepting the standard booking terms & conditions of carriage of Northern Belle Limited, These can be viewed in full on our web site:

<https://www.northernbelle.co.uk>



FINISHING TOUCHES

TABLE FLOWERS

Northern Belle will provide fresh flowers as table centres. These can be done with a destination and route theme eg Scottish, Welsh, English or seasonal styles in corporate colours. These are included in the charter hire cost.



TABLE NAPKINS & CORPORATE BRANDING

It is possible, given enough lead time, to commission embroidered linen napkins for your event. These are great ways to subtly include some corporate branding at the dinner table. Please discuss with your sales representative the outline options and pricing.



MENU CARDS

Northern Belle provide a complimentary printed menu with the charter. A corporate logo and welcome message can be included on the inside cover.



WELCOME RED CARPETS, CORPORATE BRANDED

Northern Belle can commission corporate welcome mats for the charter if required. Please discuss with your sales representative the outline costs and options.



GOODY BAGS & CORPORATE GIFTS

Please see our online boutique for some examples of corporate gifts you can provide to your guests.



We offer a 5% Discount for bulk orders over 50 items

ON-BOARD ENTERTAINMENT

Northern Belle recommend our house strolling house band. They are typically provided as a four piece on the platform prior to departure and on board as a two piece. We will be delighted to check their availability and introduce you to their booking manager.

Other entertainment idea include:

- **Magicians**
- **1940's singers**
- **Silhouette Cutter**
- **Murder Mystery Actors**



PASSENGER EXTRAS

The following extras can be ordered for your clients to enhance any celebration or corporate hospitality packages.

Laurent Perrier Cuvée Champagne

Laurent Perrier can be pre-ordered and placed in ice buckets on the table.

Chilled & Served from **£60.00 per bottle**

Celebration Cake

For that special celebration a small celebration cake can be ordered to be presented on the excursion.

Sponge or Chocolate from **£18.00**

Fruit Cake from **£22.00**

Iced Fruit Cake from **£25.00**

Flowers

Our florist can arrange a floral gift to be presented on the train with a message card for your guests.

Hand tied posey from **£25.00**

Bouquet from **£50.00**

Red roses from **£20.00**

Wine Discovery Package **£POA**

A showcase of wines and port carefully selected by our on board Sommelier to complement each course.

We offer a 5% Discount for bulk orders over 50 items

...“It’s not how far you travel, it’s what you discover and how you get there”



CONTACT INFORMATION

Charter & Events Team

Travel Centre
Northern Belle Limited

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Email: reservations@northernbelle.co.uk

www.northernbelle.co.uk



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