



Tim Saunders and his family take a five day trip to

# EXPLORE GUERNSEY

There are 15 towers in Guernsey, built to defend from French attack in the 18th century.

From Rousse Tower no. 11, a Pre-Martello Loophole Tower in the Vale district, we can see France.

The island, which forms part of the Channel Islands, is a British Crown dependency and was liberated from Nazi occupation on May 9, 1945. It takes under four hours to travel here from Poole, Dorset on Condor Ferries' Liberation, the sleek high speed trimaran.

The first thing we notice about Guernsey is the 35mph speed limit. Old stone houses line many of the main roads. Our destination is the luxury four star Fermain Valley Hotel.

Our family room has double doors accessing the balcony, with views of the tropical gardens, reminiscent of the Eden Project in Cornwall, designed by the same team. The décor, featuring patterned wallpaper and rich flooring, is well maintained and elegant.

When travelling, breakfast is the key meal, for me so cereal, yoghurt, pain au chocolate, followed by The Fermain Valley Full English Breakfast sets me up for the day. Caroline's favourite is Eggs Benedict and avocado. It's a leisurely affair until

Henry needs the toilet and then it's all over.

There's a complimentary hotel taxi service to take us into town. Saint Peter Port is ideal for window shopping and finding that special treat. For lunch we enjoy Guernsey crab sandwiches at the Duke of Normandie Hotel. Afterwards we take a tour on Le Petit Train.

The hotel taxi promptly collects us and we head for the heated indoor pool. We visit the pool four times during our three night stay and this allows Harriett (8) to progress from using a float to ditching it completely, confidently swimming a width on her own. Heidi (6) and Henry all improve, too. After an hour the rascals are ready for bed and so are we.

About 20 minutes away is Hotel Peninsula. This three star hotel has a heated outdoor pool. The difference in star rating is noticeable but it's still comfortable and we have interconnecting rooms. The beach is over the road and good weather allows us to spend many happy hours on it.

Down the road, Oatlands Village is home to Oaty & Joey's Playbarn where the children enjoy the large slide and an 18-hole mini golf course.

## MORE INFORMATION

[www.condorferries.co.uk](http://www.condorferries.co.uk)  
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