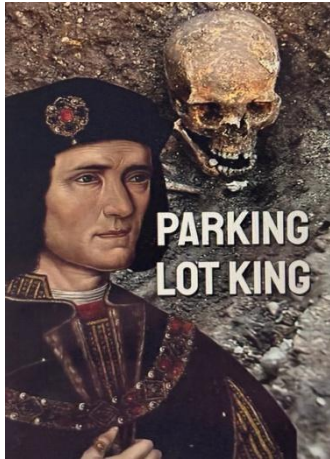




IN PURSUIT OF RICHARD 111

Wednesday 9th September 2026

Price: £50.00

Early History: Richard was born in 1452, the youngest son of Richard, Duke of York. He grew up during a time of civil war between the rival houses of York and Lancaster. His brother became king as Edward IV in 1461, and Richard proved himself a loyal supporter and capable military commander.

Rise to the throne: When Edward IV died in 1483, his 12-year-old son was due to become king as Edward V. Richard was appointed Protector, but within months he declared the marriage of Edward IV invalid, making his nephews illegitimate. Having imprisoned the princes in the Tower of London he took the crown himself, becoming Richard III. The young prince disappeared, leading to lasting suspicion that Richard had them killed (though this remains unproven).

Reign: Richard's reign was short but active. He introduced legal reforms, including measures to make justice more accessible and fairer for ordinary people. However, his rule was overshadowed by doubts about his legitimacy and growing opposition.

Downfall and death: In 1485, Henry Tudor invaded England to claim the throne. Richard was defeated and killed at the Battle of Bosworth Field, becoming the last English king to die in battle. Henry then became king as Henry VII, starting the Tudor dynasty.

For centuries, Richard's grave was lost—until an extraordinary archaeological find

- In 2012: A skeleton was found beneath the car park
- It showed signs of severe scoliosis (curved spine), matching descriptions of Richard
- Multiple battle wounds suggested a violent death

- DNA compared with living descendants of Richard's family confirmed the remains were of Richard 111

Final resting place: In 2015, Richard was reburied with full honours in Leicester Cathedral.

Visit Leicester Cathedral to see Richard's tomb.

This 45-minute tour looks at the magnificent tomb of Richard III, and visits the Herrick Memorial chapel, the site of the Richard III Redemption windows and the grave of Robert Herrick, the late 16th and early 17th century mayor of Leicester with an interesting link with our medieval king. In our newly opened Heritage & Learning Centre, we will look in detail at the exquisitely embroidered pall that covered the coffin of Richard III whilst he lay in repose.

Provisional itinerary:

- **8.30am:** Meet Catteralls coach in Newbold Comyn car park
- **9.00 am:** Leave Leamington
- **10.15am:** Arrive in Leicester
Short escorted walk to Richard 111 visitor centre where tea/coffee and biscuits will be served
- **10.45am:** 'King under the Carpark talk' One hour talk with time for Q&A
- **11.45am:** Self-lead visit to 'Dynasty, Death & Discovery' exhibition
- **1.15pm:** Buffet lunch to include sandwiches, cake, fruit platter, tea/coffee
- **2.00pm:** walk to Leicester Cathedral for guided tour where we will be split into two groups. A&B
- **2.15pm** Group A will have Richard 111 tour whilst group B can explore the remainder of the cathedral or visit the Guild Hall close by
- **3.15pm:** Group B to go on tour whilst group A explores cathedral and Guild Hall.
- **4.30pm:** Return to coach to leave for Leamington.
- **5.45pm:** Arrive back in Leamington