



FIRST ADVENTURES

LNER
LONDON NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY



One travel bloggers first time crabbing

At the young age of five Amy fondly reminisces about travelling by train from Leeds to Bridlington with her Grandad for a day at the beach.

This wasn't just any day. Her Grandad took her to Dane's Dyke nature reserve at Flamborough Head where they joyously spent an afternoon exploring rockpools looking for crabs – or 'crabbing' as it's affectionately known.

Fishing out all sorts of intriguing sea creatures with their bucket and net, the happy pair stayed for hours until the tide got closer, giving each catch a name before setting them free. A memory which will stay with Amy forever.

Travelling by train to see dinosaurs for the first time

Five year-old Betty embarked on her first train ride to the famous Natural History Museum in London, alongside her dad.

She stood face-to-face with dinosaur fossils, some of which frightened her. Lucy's fascination deepened with a tour of the rock samples from ancient volcanoes – a topic her grandpa Richard, a volcanologist who sadly passed away in 1991, knew much about. Craving something sweet, Lucy and her dad took a detour to the vibrant Borough Market for some ice cream. It was so tasty that Lucy gobbled it up in seconds. Their day drew to a close, and they returned home onboard the train, with snacks in hand and smiles all around.

First time traversing the UK by rail

Irene, from Belfast, was staying with her sister in Edinburgh and wanted to visit her daughter in London. As someone who typically opted for flights or ferries, her brother-in-law convinced her to get on a train. Upon inspecting the website, they discovered that First Class offered an attractive deal.

Stepping onto the carriage, Irene was immediately impressed. The quality of the food and drink served was incredible and the route stunning – a stark contrast to the views she was used to on aeroplanes and buses.

It was an experience she'd never forget, and such a delight to meet her daughter on the platform at London King's Cross.

One pup's first journey

On her special day, the adorable pup Luna had not just one but two exciting first-time experiences – her first birthday and her very first train journey, celebrating her big day in true style onboard an LNER train.

With boundless excitement, Luna and her loving owner, James, embarked on a memorable adventure from Grantham station, heading up to the North of England to meet her best pup friends and enjoy a delightful day.

Luna celebrated her big day in true style onboard an LNER train.

A hen party to remember

Travel blogger Mary-Catherine fondly recalls the first time she used the East Coast Main Line for a hen do in Newcastle. Originally from Canada, Mary initially imagined a typical North East trip would be spent in busy bars and clubs.

However, the celebration unfolded quite differently than the typical hen and stag parties frequenting the network each week.

The hen do was in a beautiful house on the city's outskirts. What made the trip extra special was that it was her first time post-Covid-19 sharing a house with someone who wasn't her partner or family – a sign that life was normal again.

A 4 year-old's first journey

Molly was four when she experienced her first-ever train journey. Originally from Aberdeen, where flying was the usual mode of transport, the train to London presented a lovely change of pace. The trip was a spontaneous decision, prompted by a morning flight cancellation. Undeterred, Molly's family embraced the opportunity to take the train and make the most of their journey.

Throughout the journey, Molly was excited, playing games and engaging with all the customers who joined and departed along the way. Her joy was contagious as she couldn't believe "how easy it was to get to London." It was an enchanting journey filled with laughter and excitement, creating cherished memories for our little traveller.

Helping families enjoy their first rail trip to London

Earlier this year Karen Bennett took several families from Bradford on an unforgettable journey to London via the LNER route. For most of them, it marked their first visit to the bustling capital and an opportunity to gain rail confidence and learn how to use the London Underground.

Karen guided the excited children through London King's Cross to South Kensington navigating the stations and curious world outside.

The children, who were strangers at first, quickly forged bonds during the journey, with many remaining friends ever since.

Stella Herbert's first big solo adventure

Having lost her partner nine years ago to Multiple System Atrophy, Stella realised the importance of seizing life's opportunities while she could, prompting her to plan a bucket list journey.

Embarking on a life-changing adventure, Stella journeyed with LNER from Newark Northgate to London Heathrow via London King's Cross, boarding a plane that would take her to the other side of the world.

During her time abroad, she made memories, explored, connected with new people and pursued her passions. When she returned home, she found herself with a new circle of 27 friends she spoke to daily.

Committed to living life to the fullest, she booked a second trip to New Zealand for later this year, and yes, LNER will be there to take her to the airport once again.

A pug's first trip to London

Earlier this year, Daisy the pug celebrated her 10th birthday on a trip from Ashford to Peterborough. Daisy settled in comfortably for her journey, even temporarily hopping off in the buzzing city of London.

After a brief stroll, she was snapped beside iconic London landmarks. The final leg of her adventure was a serene train ride back to Peterborough, where she slept the whole time.

She scored her first train experience a perfect 10 out of 10. Daisy now eagerly awaits her next exciting travel escapade with LNER!

Judith and Katy enjoy a first-class prize

An unexpected win for Judith happened eight years ago when she and her friend Katy won a First Class return ticket and a two-night stay at a 4-star hotel, anywhere on the LNER route.

Together they set their sights on the charming city of Edinburgh.

They had never experienced First Class and so revelled in this special moment.

Their trip was filled with treasured memories amidst the backdrop of the spectacularly beautiful East Coast route, with its castles, cathedrals and the rocky shores of the North Sea.

In the years that followed, these memories took on a deeper meaning – sadly Katy lost her battle with cancer a while later.

An adventurous pup's first solo journey

Mr and Mrs Lane entrusted their beloved labrador retriever, Kim, to her mother's care in Doncaster while travelling to London. However, after a week of fretting, the resourceful pup took matters into his own paws and boarded the 10:06 to London.

Upon arrival at London King's Cross, officials discovered Kim's collar, identified his owners and promptly sent him back to Doncaster. The RSPCA took charge of him briefly, only to reunite Kim with Mr and Mrs Lane just an hour later. In a delightful twist, the couple had actually intended to catch the same train as their adventurous dog but missed it.

From Yorkshire to the Southern Hemisphere for the first time

Hailing from Yorkshire, C.L. Peache had dreams to travel the world and she wasn't thinking about a long weekend in the Canaries.

C.L. Peache was putting together the finishing touches to a globetrotting trip of a lifetime.

Casting her mind back to the anticipation building while she waited at Newark Northgate to catch her first mode of transport of many – kicking off an adventure which would eventually take in New Zealand, Sydney and Singapore.

The service between Yorkshire and London King's Cross helped her dreams come true and played a role in changing her life forever.

During her time exploring, the published writer kept a journal which was later published as "187 Kilometres, turn left" – the ultimate guide to her 43-day bucket list epic encounters.

Adel and Karina's first time bringing a harp to Scotland

Adel and Karina Wilson, two sisters are a unique musical duo who play as '2 of Harps'. One of Europe's only harp and harmonising duos, there are very few others like them in the world.

In 2019 they were scheduled to play a very special performance at a wedding in a castle in Scotland. First they needed to get to Edinburgh with their instruments.

LNER staff quickly spotted the precious cargo in the form of two giant harps and, as there was space, accommodated the harps with their own seats.

The utmost care and attention was offered to ensure the stringed instruments were in the best possible hands throughout the four hour journey north of the border – getting to their destination so they could take centre stage on the big day.

Albert's first day trip to London

After spending his fourth year in lockdown, Albert's father, Andrew, vowed to make next year's celebration unforgettable.

What better way to make memories than a day trip to London for Albert – a first for him.

As part of Teasdale family tradition, which demanded birthdays to be honoured with an adventurous outing, Albert and Andrew set forth on a thrilling journey onboard the LNER service to London King's Cross from their Durham hometown.

Brimming with excitement, Albert and Andrew wandered through the captivating exhibits of both the Science and London Transport Museums. Their day reached its pinnacle at the Rainforest Cafe, where they tucked into a delicious meal.

For weeks, Albert talked about the fascinating encounters at the Science Museum and how he is eager to return to London with the rest of his family.

Helping a dog move from Brazil to Scotland

This is a tale of love. After meeting her husband during a Scottish exchange programme in 2015, Brazilian-born Olivia made the life-changing decision to leave her homeland behind four years later, and embrace a new chapter in Scotland.

Olivia couldn't bear to part with her beloved seven-year-old Shihtzu, Lola. So, she embarked on a heartwarming journey—flying with Lola from Brazil to Paris before travelling by train to London and finally taking the LNER service to Edinburgh—ensuring her faithful companion could be by her side in her new home. LNER played a pivotal role in reuniting lovers and keeping the cherished bond between woman and pet alive.