



September 13 - 26, 2014

Celts, Kilts and Kings

Scotland—Wales—England



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Tour Director: Pat O'Malley

Saturday, September 13, 2014 • Departure

Our British Isles adventure begins as we depart the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport on our trans-Atlantic flight to Glasgow, Scotland's second-largest city.

Sunday, September 14, 2014 • Edinburgh



Upon arrival in Scotland, we go through customs and immigration and then have a short drive to Edinburgh, Scotland's capital city. We meet our local guide for a panoramic tour of the city, an architectural gem that is often referred to as the "Athens of the North". Highlights include the Royal Mile, the Walter Scott Monument, the bustling Prince's Street and St. Giles Cathedral. We end at Edinburgh Castle, with its foreboding ramparts and walls, amazing city views, crown jewels and the

coronation seat of Scottish kings. Dinner is at our hotel tonight. **D**

Monday, September 15, 2014 • Edinburgh

Today we drive to Stirling, site of two important battles involving William Wallace, of *Braveheart* fame, and Robert the Bruce. We'll tour Stirling Castle, which for centuries played an important role in Scottish history and was the home of the Stuart kings. We also stop at the visitor center at Bannockburn which commemorates Robert the Bruce's victory in 1314 over the English which enabled the Scots to keep their independence. Next we visit a distillery in the enchanting Perthshire region where we sample *The Famous Grouse*, Scotland's favorite whisky. This evening we experience a Scottish *Ceilidh*, a traditional feast with Highland dancing and bagpipe music. Haggis anyone? **B/D**



Tuesday, September 16, 2014 • York

On our way to the English border we will stop to see *Abbotsford*, the home of Sir Walter Scott, the famous Scottish poet and novelist. The beautiful manor and gardens have been preserved much as they were in the celebrated author's time. A guide will take us through the home that includes a library that houses over 9000 rare books and a collection of weapons and armor which features the broadsword of Rob Roy. Afterwards, we travel to Hadrian's Wall, a system of defensive walls and forts that formed the northern border of the Roman Empire. It took countless workers nearly six years to complete the 73-mile structure. Our final destination today is York, one of England's most historic cities. **B/D**

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 • York



We enjoy an orientation tour of York today and a visit to York Minster. Built between 1220 and 1472, the magnificent York Minster is one of the biggest Gothic churches in the world. On the north side are windows called the "Five Sisters"—each only 5 feet wide, but 57 feet tall—which still have the original medieval glass. After our tour, there will be free time to shop along The Shambles, a 900-year-old lane that is often called Europe's best-preserved medieval street. Others

may wish to visit the amazing Jorvik Viking Centre, where the remains of 1,000-year-old houses are preserved and objects used by the Vikings can be examined. **B/D**

Thursday, September 18, 2014 • Northern Wales

Today we continue our sightseeing as we head to Chester for lunch and then spend a couple of leisurely hours exploring this ancient city. Chester boasts the only complete set of medieval walls in Britain. One of England's loveliest cities, Chester is also known for its attractive bridges and parks, gates, cathedrals, as well as the remarkable Rows, a two-tiered arcade with a fantastic collection of shops. Later we continue the short distance to Northern Wales for our overnight. **B/D**

Friday, September 19, 2014 • Northern Wales

We spend the day enjoying the rugged beauty in and around Snowdonia National Park. Our sightseeing includes Conwy, one of Europe's best-preserved medieval fortified towns. Conwy's stunning castle is one of several built by the English King Edward I during his campaign to subdue the Celtic tribes in the 13th century. Mt. Snowdon, the highest peak in Wales at 3560 feet, affords spectacular views of Wales' most mountainous region. Afterwards, we visit the Welsh Slate Museum. From the mid-19th to the mid-20th century, this area was a major supplier of slate roofing tiles. We learn more about the industry and some of the dangers and hardships workers had to face on a daily basis. The tour includes a ride on a narrow gauge railway previously used to transport the slate. **B/D**



Saturday, September 20, 2014 • Stratford-upon-Avon



We travel to Stoke-on-Trent to tour the extensive Wedgwood Visitor Centre and have the opportunity to watch the skilled artisans at work. After watching the artists, some of you may be tempted to duplicate the potting and hand painting skills on your own. Next we stop in Coventry, where legend says Lady Godiva rode through town with

only her long tresses to protect her modesty. During World War II, the town's old cathedral was completely destroyed, but in 1962 the New Cathedral was built next to the ruins and boasts some spectacular stained-glass windows as well as some impressive interior paintings and colors. Next we drive a short distance to Stratford-Upon-Avon, home of William Shakespeare, the "Bard of Avon". **B/D**

Sunday, September 21, 2014 • Stratford-upon-Avon

The writer of 37 plays and 154 sonnets, William Shakespeare is arguably the most famous writer in the English language. Our sightseeing today will center around Shakespeare's birth, school life, marriage at the age of eighteen to Anne Hathaway and his life as a playwright. Sights include the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, the Swan Theatre and Anne Hathaway's Cottage. We have the remainder of the day free for our own pursuits. **B/D**



Monday, September 22, 2014 • Bath area

Today we drive southwest through the Cotswold Hills, a picturesque area known for its steep wooded valleys, rushing streams, quaint villages and thatched roof cottages. Our destination is Stonehenge, a unique and strange collection of standing stones. These mystical stone formations have baffled archaeologists for centuries. After formulating our own theories about this prehistoric enigma, we continue on to Bath. The city, home to the only hot springs in England, is where the Romans built a bath complex in the 1st century AD. A tour of a Roman bathhouse will allow us to admire the well-preserved remains and appreciate the intricate heating and water systems for that time period. **B/D**



Tuesday, September 23, 2014 • London

We drive to Windsor Castle and tour this incredible medieval structure which is most noted as the residence of the royal family. The castle was founded by William the Conqueror, and since the time of Henry I it has been the longest occupied palace by a succession of monarchs in Europe. We'll then transfer to London and check in early at our hotel. Tonight we dine at a pub and afterwards see a show in the West End district, an area in London known for entertainment and the arts. **B/D**

Wednesday, September 24, 2014 • London

This morning a local guide will meet us at our hotel and take us on a tour of London. The highlights include the Houses of Parliament with its massive bell Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Trafalgar Square, the Tower Bridge, Piccadilly Circus, Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London, a former prison and today the storehouse for the spectacular Crown Jewels. To see London from a different perspective, we take an afternoon cruise on the Thames—from Tower Bridge past St. Paul's, the Globe Theater and the Houses of Parliament. Dinner is on your own this evening. **B**



Thursday, September 25, 2014 • London

Most of the day is unplanned which provides plenty of time to further explore England's largest city. Just a few of the many possibilities include the British Museum, Covent Garden Market, Madame Tussauds, the Imperial War Museum, the Globe Theatre and the Tate, one of the finer art galleries in the world. Some may want to visit Harrods, London's upscale department store. Weather permitting, others may want to board the London Eye, a giant ferris wheel that provides some spectacular views of London. Tonight, we celebrate our final evening in Europe with a farewell dinner. **B/D**

Friday, September 26, 2014 • Return

Regretfully, it's time to say farewell and transfer to the London Airport. We return home with fond memories of quaint towns, bustling cities, historic sites, exquisite works of art and beautiful landscapes. **Tata! B**

Abbreviations for Meals:

B=Breakfast D=Dinner

Tour Price: \$4,549* per person, double occupancy

**Includes air and estimated taxes from Minneapolis*

Single Supplement = \$625

**Price is based on a minimum of 30 - 34 participants;
35 - 39 paying participants: \$4,459 per person;
40+ paying participants: \$4,339 per person*

Your Tour Includes:

- **Air transportation** from MSP to Edinburgh or Glasgow and return from London and related taxes and fees
- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in superior 3-star and moderate 4-star hotels
- **Breakfast daily and dinner** as per the itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated as per itinerary
- Services of **Pat O'Malley** as tour director
- Local **step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels
- **All taxes and tips** for step-on guides
- End of tour **gratuity for Coach Driver**

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for tour director
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (This insurance is available and recommended.)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. An intermediate deposit of \$1000 is due February 13, 2014. Final payment is due June 6, 2014. An invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. From the time of deposit to February 13, 2014 a \$50 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From February 14 to June 5, 2014, a \$150 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. From June 6, 2014 to August 25, 2014, a \$350 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling after August 25, 2014 will receive **no refund**.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.



Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Pat O'Malley, Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances be liable to the client under or by reason of this agreement directly or indirectly for any accidents, injury, delay, damage, or inconvenience caused to the client by negligence of others, by malfunctions of transportation systems or equipment, by acts of war, terrorism, or rebellion, strikes, theft, itinerary changes, extreme weather conditions, or cancellations, and the client hereby releases the above mentioned corporation and persons from any and all such liability. The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.



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Registration Form

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Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Legal Name: _____

(Nickname): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Legal Name: _____

(Nickname): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Work phone/cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Deposit Payment Information

(please fill out if paying by check):

Enclosed is my check made payable to
Ed-Ventures, Inc. in the amount of:

_____.

Deposit Payment Information (please fill out if paying by *credit card*):

Credit Card Number: _____

Visa/MasterCard/Disc: _____ Card ID Code:* _____

Exp. Date: _____ Amount: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card*

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed Twin Beds

Roommate name: _____

Single supplement (additional \$625, land only): _____ Yes _____ No

Travel Insurance (please check one): Yes, sign me up No, I decline

Insurance Payment Information: Charge my card below Check enclosed

Credit Card Number: _____

Card ID Code: _____ Visa/MC/Disc: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Amount: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions. Please sign me up for the trip!

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ Date: _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ Date: _____



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10.28.13 land and air