

Victoria's Britain A tour through England and Scotland

led by Professor Douglas Foard, PHD With Nigel Cole, Scottish historian, assisting in Scotland

Day by Day Itinerary

Day 1 - May 25 (D en route) Depart Dulles Airport for London on British Air

Day 2 - May 26 (B en route, D) Arrival in London and bus transfer to Brighton. Time to settle in and rest at the Grand Hotel Brighton - a fabulous historic Victorian Hotel. A group dinner at the hotel is included,

Day 3 - May 27 (B, D)

After breakfast, a visit to the Royal Pavilion - a former royal residence built in a very unique Indian style and then transfer by bus and ferry to the Isle of Wight **Lakeside Hotel**. This island, the largest of England, was home to poet Alfred Lord Tennyson. The afternoon is free and **dinner at the hotel is included**.

Day 4 - May 28 (B)

After breakfast, a visit to the Osbourne House with guide. The Osbourne House was built by Victoria and Albert as a summer retreat. Queen Victoria died there in 1901 The rest of the day is at leisure.

Note: Golfing opportunities are available by arrangement throughout the tour.

Day 5 - May 29 (B)

Return to London with a mid-day arrival at the **Melia White House Hotel** conveniently located next to Regent Park. There is time to settle in before a bus tour of the city from 2:00 to 6:00PM. The hotel has restaurants and a bar.

Day 6 - Day 30 (B)

The day starts after breakfast with the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace followed by a visit to the War Rooms where Prime Minister Churchill directed the war effort.. Then there is a tour of Westminster Abbey and the royal chapels. There will be a stop on the return to the hotel at the British Museum for those who wish to visit it. This evening brings attendance at a London show.

Day 7 - Day 31 (B, L)

This morning after breakfast there is a visit to Windsor Castle. The tour includes the State apartments, the Gallery of St George's Chapel, and Queen Mary's doll house. Next, it is on to Oxford with entrance to Trinity College, one of the 38 colleges



that compose Oxford University. The university came into being around 1200 and Trinity College was established in 1555.

Day 8 - June 1 (B, D)

After breakfast, today's activities start with a visit to the Tower of London, or, for those so inclined, a ride on the London Eye, also called the Millennium Wheel - the tallest Ferris wheel in Europe. That is followed by visits to the Victoria and Albert Museum. **Dinner this evening is on the Thames River cruise boat, the Bateaux London** (jackets for the men required.)

Day 9 - June 2 (B, D)

There will be an early departure after breakfast to catch the train to Edinburgh, Scotland. Lunch can be bought on the train. Arrival will be in the mid- afternoon. While transferring to the **Birnam House Hotel** (near Dunkeld in Perthshire) there is a stop to visit Glamis Castle. This castle has been the Lyon family home since the 14th century. It was the child-hood home of, Elizabeth, the late Queen Mother and Princess Margaret was born there. **Dinner at the hotel is included**.

Day 10 - June 3 (B, D)

After breakfast, there are visits to Blair Castle, one of the more historic Scottish castles, the picturesque water falls of Braan and the spectacular scenic spot known as Queen's View, and either the Croft Moraig (prehistoric stone circle) or Loch Tay. **Dinner in Dunkeld is included.**

Day 11 - June 4 (B, D)

Following breakfast, the bus departs for Balmoral Castle and Estate. The Estate was purchased by Victoria and Albert and remains the private property of the Monarch. That visit is followed by a tour of the Royal Lochnagar Distillery - home of one of Scotland's most distinguished single malt whiskeys. **Dinner at the hotel is included**.

Day 12 - June 5 (B. L)

After an early breakfast, the bus departs for Edinburgh with visits to Stirling Castle and Rosslyn Chapel of « The Da Vinci Code » fame enroute to the **George Hotel**. Stirling Castle is one of the largest and most important castles - both historically

7 Bourquine Way • Bluffton, SC 29909 Phone: 800-826-7995 • Fax: 843-705-1052 e-mail: <u>franceline@culturaltours.com</u> and architecturally - in Scotland. After **lunch (included)**, the afternoon and evening are at leisure in Edinburgh.

Day 13 - June 6 (B, D)

After breakfast, the morning's activities consist of a walking city tour that includes Edinburgh Castle. There has been a castle on this lofty site overlooking the city since at least the 12th century but most buildings date from the 16th century. Basically, the story of the castle is the story of Scotland. The remainder of the day is at leisure. **The evening brings the farewell dinner (included), in town.**

Day 14 - June 7 (B)

The transfer bus departs the hotel at 11:00 for the 13:45 flight to London and hence on to Dulles Airport



INCLUDED FEATURES

• Accommodations and meals

- 12 nights in first class hotels (4 star)
- o 12 buffet breakfasts, 7 dinners and 2 lunches
- Transportation
 - o Deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches
 - Ferry ticket
 - First class train ticket
- Your travel program For full details please refer to the Day-by-Day Itinerary.
 - A tour leader throughout the trip
 - Tourist office certified local guides to enhance your appreciation of the region: specifically in
 - Brighton, Isle of Wight and the London area.
 - Entrance fees where applicable
 - A current London play to be announced

PRICE

\$3980 per person*

* Land portion only, based on double occupancy

Add \$1100 for single occupancy

If air arrangements are desired, please contact CULTURAL TOURS at 800 - 826 - 7995. Personal air arrangements are welcome as long as arrival at London's Heathrow Airport is by 10:00AM on May 26. Also note that departure on June 7 is from Edinburgh.

Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure and may be made by check or money order payable to CULTURAL TOURS.

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