

Girls On Tour: United Kingdom & Ireland 31 days



Warwick Castle - England

Fri 12th October 2012

DEPART AUSTRALIA

Depart Australia on EK 435 at 8.45pm – direct flight to Dubai.

Sat 13th Oct – COVENTRY 2 nights

Transit in Dubai for onward flight to Birmingham. Transfer by coach to Coventry. Guided tour Coventry Cathedral and surrounds. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner with fellow travellers. (D)

Sun 14th Oct – COVENTRY

After breakfast a full day excursion to Shakespeare's Stratford as well as the Norman era Warwick Castle. Tonight you will be treated like royalty at the King Maker's Medieval Banquet at Warwick Castle. A very special night out! (B,D)

Mon 15th Oct – YORK 1 night

We depart today for York visiting Chatsworth House and Gardens en-route. In York you will have free time to visit York Minster, explore the Shambles or visit the Jarvis Viking Centre and Castle Museum. (B)

Tue 16th Oct – LAKE DISTRICT

This morning you will journey from York to the Lake District in Cumbria. A popular haunt for Britain's best loved artists and poets, the Lake District really is a jewel in the English crown. Lofty peaks, idyllic villages, tranquil lakes and award winning gardens confirm why the Lake District is often referred to as the 'most beautiful corner of England'. This afternoon is free for you to explore at your leisure. (B)

Wed 17th Oct – EDINBURGH 2 nights

En-route to Edinburgh we visit Chester's Roman Fort and discover the best visible remains of a cavalry fort in Britain. The fort was built to guard the Roman bridge carrying Hadrian's Wall over the River North Tyne. Edinburgh is one of the worlds' finest cities. Its

magnificent architecture shifts from the lofty buildings of its medieval Old Town, as they tumble down the Royal Mile to the graceful houses of the Georgian New Town. This afternoon you will enjoy an orientation tour of this historic city. (B,D)

Thu 18th Oct – EDINBURGH

This morning you will depart with your guide for a visit of Edinburgh Castle, the medieval fortress which dominates the city's skyline. Perched on an extinct volcano and offering stunning views, this instantly recognisable fortress is a powerful national symbol and part of Edinburgh's World Heritage site. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B)

Fri 19th Oct – LOCH NESS 1 night

This morning you will head northwards to the Scottish Highlands. On the way you will stop at the tempting House of Bruar. Later you will climb down to Urquhart Castle situated strategically on a natural trade route. Depart for your ongoing journey to Loch Ness. (BD)

Sat 20th Oct – LOCH LOMOND 1 night

There is another day of stunning highland scenery today as you travel via Fort Williams to the evocative Loch Lomond. There will be ample opportunity for photo taking and exploring. (B,D)

Sun 21st Oct – BELFAST 2 nights

A fast ferry will cover the distance between Scotland and Northern Ireland so as to allow you to enjoy a guided tour of the capital of this region, Belfast, before checking into your hotel. (B,D)

Mon 22nd Oct – BELFAST

This morning you will join an excursion to the Antrim Coast. Here you will visit the most famous natural wonder of Ireland and a UNESCO World Heritage site – The Giant's Causeway. Legend has it that it was built by a Giant! Later, the more adventurous in the group will dare to cross over the Carrick-a-rede Rope Bridge. (B)



Big Ben and London Eye



Cliffs of Moher - Ireland

Tue 23rd Oct – DUBLIN 2 nights

The drive from Northern to Southern Ireland will take you through the Boyne Valley where some of the oldest burial sites in this part of Europe are to be found. They are 500 years older than the pyramids and 1000 years earlier than Stonehenge. Here you will visit the one of the best examples of a 'passage tomb' in Europe. (B)

Wed 24th Oct – DUBLIN

Today you will be taken on a panoramic sightseeing tour of lively Dublin. Your tour will include a visit to Trinity College to view the Book of Kells and the magnificent Library. The afternoon is at leisure for further exploring. In the evening it's all about Irish fun. Enjoy the craic at a Highlight Evening including dinner and Irish entertainment! (BD)

Thu 25th Oct – GALWAY 2 nights

Depart for Galway, via Clonmacnoise, one of the most important monastic sites in Ireland. St. Ciaran founded this great monastery in 548-9. In Galway enjoy a panoramic City Tour that will include St. Nicholas Church, Old Quays and the Claddagh. (B)

Fri 26th Oct – GALWAY

Depart for a full day tour of Connemara, land of lakes and rivers and mountains. A land of small villages where Gaelic is still the spoken language. Connemara is a vast peninsular bordered by the arid and rocky coastline of Galway Bay in the south – a land characteristic for its stone walls and thatched cottages. On the northern side the land is harsh and secluded, with views of the Ocean and the fjord of Killary Harbour, this nine mile long inlet boasts some of the finest scenery in Western Ireland. Here you will board your vessel for a scenic cruise. (B)

Sat 27th Oct – KERRY 2 nights

Depart for Kerry by driving through The Burren region, which forms 100 square

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kilometres of National Park. Also on route, stop at the Cliffs of Moher, situated on the Atlantic Ocean. Standing 230 metres above the sea at their highest point and 8km long, the Cliffs boast one of the most amazing views of Ireland. Continue to Killarney. (B)

Sun 28th Oct - KERRY

Depart for the Ring of Kerry tour, which will include the Iveragh Peninsula. You take in the spectacular scenery, mountains, peat bogs, lakes and magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean as you travel along the coast road. (B)

Mon 29th Oct – WATERFORD 1 night

Depart for Waterford via Macroom. Visit Blarney Castle one of Ireland's oldest and most historic castles. It is famous for its Blarney stone – the Stone of Eloquence, which is traditionally believed to have the power to bestow the gift of eloquence on all those who kiss it. Spend some time shopping at Blarney Woollen Mills. Continue to Waterford where you will visit the city and the Waterford Crystal visitor centre. (B)

Tue 30th Oct – CARDIFF 2 nights

You will be transferred to Rosslare for the ferry crossing as a foot passenger to

Pembroke. Here you will transfer to Cardiff, the capital city of Wales. It is a vibrant city with world class attractions, a thriving cultural scene and a diverse mix of entertainment and restaurants. (B)

Wed 31st Oct – CARDIFF

Join in on an orientation tour of the capital city of Wales. Once the world's principal coal port Cardiff today has a wealth of sites to visit as you would expect to find in a cosmopolitan city. The sightseeing tour will include a visit to the Museum of Welsh Life at St Fagans. (B)

Thu 1st Nov – CORNWALL 2 nights

Board the coach for the journey to Cornwall. On route you will stop in the Georgian town of Bath, the site of Britain's only hot springs. Here you will visit the famous Roman Baths. You will then be driven on to Cornwall where you will spend two nights. (BD)

Fri 2nd Nov – CORNWALL

Penzance is the regional centre of West Cornwall. This attractive town stands on the south facing shores of Mounts Bay. The bay itself is dominated by the granite heights of St. Michael's Mount. Penzance is an ancient market town which has kept much of its character and originality. Our day in this popular holiday area will also take in the picturesque fishing village of St Ives – a popular hangout for artists – where you may wish to visit the Tate Gallery or the Barbara Hepworth Museum. (BD)

Sat 3rd Nov – PORTSMOUTH 1 night

Board the coach for the journey to Portsmouth. On route stop to marvel at the great and ancient stone circle of Stonehenge, one of the wonders of the world. What visitors see today are the substantial remnants of the last in a sequence of such monuments erected between circa 3000BC and 1600BC. Each monument was a circular structure, aligned with the rising of the sun at the midsummer solstice. Arrive at your hotel for check-in. (B)

Sun 4th Nov – LONDON 5 nights

Visit to the Portsmouth History Dockyard, before continuing on to London. Discover the world famous historic ships - HMS Victory, the Mary Rose & HMS Warrior – that have shaped British history. This is home to the Royal Navy. A cruise as well as an inclusive ticket to all ships has been arranged. On route to London you will visit England's largest castle and the largest inhabited stronghold in the world – Windsor Castle. (BD)

Mon 5th Nov – LONDON

Board the coach for a full day sightseeing tour of all the major sights of London, including Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square and Big Ben. You'll visit Westminster Abbey, an architectural masterpiece which has been the setting for every Coronation since 1066 and contains the tombs of many Kings and Queens. Then you will move on the Old City of London. Although now largely commercial, the city is packed with history and noteworthy buildings. You'll visit St. Paul's Cathedral, designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Then your final visit of the day will be the Tower of London, ancient London's most historic monument and home to the priceless Crown Jewels. (B)

Tue 6th Nov – LONDON

Depart with your guide for an excursion to Oxford. Oxford is known as the city of dreaming spires as it has been home to the many colleges of the world famous university of Oxford for over 700 years! Over this time many of the world's most influential writers, statesmen and thinkers have passed through the university. Your guided tour will introduce you to the history, traditions and anecdotes of this hallowed place of learning. (B)

Wed 7th Nov – LONDON

Set off this morning to visit Hampton Court Palace and Gardens. This grand Tudor palace was begun by Cardinal Wolsey but was soon appropriated by King Henry the VIII. Your visit to the palace will include the wonderful State Apartments as well as the kitchens. Later you can wonder through the famous gardens and then why not try finding your way in and out of the triangular Maze? (B)

Thu 8th Nov – LONDON

A full day at leisure in London! Samuel Johnson wrote: "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life". The day is yours to do as you please. (B)

Fri 9th Nov – LONDON TO AUSTRALIA

Check out of your hotel today and transfer to the airport for home. (B).

INCLUSIONS

- Return international Economy flights
- All transfers, ferries.
- All transport in air-conditioned coaches. Portage 1 bag pp.
- 3 and 4 star hotel accommodation
- Breakfast each day. Other meals as shown including specialty dinners.
- All entries and touring as shown on itinerary.
- Tips to driver, UK Tour Manager, and local guides .
- Full time Australian escort .
- Twin share on first come basis
- Information Kit and pre-departure information and advice

EXCLUSIONS

- Tips and gratuities other than shown above
- Airline taxes approx \$280
- Personal items, travel insurance
- Anything not specified above

Contact Judy on 0409 057 417 or info@girlsontour.com.au for bookings or more details.

Website: www.girlsontour.com.au

Cost pp - Twin Share \$12,955*

*Plus approx taxes \$280 @ 31/01/12 (subject to change).

Single supplement by request.

*based on minimum group of 10 and subject to currency fluctuations.



Edinburgh Castle, Scotland