

best of the british isles incl. edinburgh tattoo

\$7999ppts
\$1085s/s
+ Taxes

31 Jul 10
23 DAYS

Best of the British Isles featuring the Edinburgh Military Tattoo

All driver and hostess gratuities included in the price.

ENGLAND - London, Bath, Bristol, York, Stratford, Chester, Torquay, Salisbury

WALES - Holyhead, Caernarvon, Betsw-y-coed



IRELAND - Waterford, Killarney, Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Blarney, County Kerry, Adare, Tralee, Connemara



SCOTLAND - Gretna Green, Loch Lomond, Inverness, Edinburgh and the Military Tattoo

GLOBUS



Day 1/2, Sat 31st Jul & Sun 1st Aug: Home—London (meals on plane)

This morning we will pick up in Newcastle and the Central Coast enroute to Sydney International Airport for our flight to London. Once we arrive at London airport, we will have time for sightseeing before arriving to our overnight accommodation.

Day 3, Mon 2 Aug: Free Day in London (B)

Today is yours to explore the city of London. Perhaps you could visit Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Hyde Park, take a ride on the London Eye, or witness the changing of the guards at Buckingham Palace. Optionals can be booked closer to departure.



Day 4, Tue 3 Aug: London—Oxford—Stratford Upon Avon—Warwick (BD)

This morning you will meet your Globus Tour Director before departing for a lovely day of sightseeing. First, a special visit to admire the breathtaking **ORNAMENTAL GARDENS** of Henry VIII's Hampton Court Palace. Your Tour Director will take you on a walk to see the Great Vine, Pond Garden, Privy Garden, and the flower borders of the Great Fountain Garden. Drive through Runnymede, site of the sealing of the Magna Carta; enjoy a walking tour in the university town of Oxford; and admire the scenic Cotswold Hills. At Stratford-upon-Avon, visit **SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHPLACE** and take your pictures of **ANNE HATHAWAY'S COTTAGE**.

Day 5, Wed 4 Aug: Warwick—York (BD)

A spectacular start to the day: experience a special guided tour of the magnificent **WARWICK CASTLE**, marvel at the opulent Great Hall and State Rooms and visit the former private apartments in which a royal weekend party of 1898 has been recreated. Later, skirt Robin Hood's Sherwood Forest on the way to York, England's most complete medieval city. Stand in awe in front of the great structure of York Minster, then follow your Tour Director through a maze of quaint streets including the narrow Shambles.

Day 6, Thu 5 Aug: York—Edinburgh, Scotland (BD)

Today see a section of Hadrian's Wall, the Roman coast-to-coast defense against marauding northern tribes. Through wild Northumberland National Park, travel to the Scottish border in the Cheviot Hills, and on to Jedburgh, where the abbey ruins and the house of Mary, Queen of Scots, are pointed out to you. Next, visit Sir Walter Scott's **ABBOTSFORD HOUSE** for an enlightening guided tour. Spend the next two nights in Edinburgh, the "Prince of Cities". Tonight, you will enjoy an authentic **SCOTTISH EVENING** with **HIGHLAND DANCERS, BAGPIPERS**, and the **CEREMONY OF THE HAGGIS**.

Day 7, Fri 6 Aug: Edinburgh (BD)

This morning's city sightseeing with a Local Guide introduces you to the 200-year-old "New Town" and famous scientists, inventors, and novelists. In the "Old Town", drive up the narrow Royal Mile to **EDINBURGH CASTLE** to admire Scotland's Crown Jewels, then explore **HOLYROOD PALACE** (except when the Queen is in residence). This afternoon is at your leisure, before an evening at the world-renowned **MILITARY TATTOO**, a "Once-in-a-lifetime" night!



Day 8, Sat 7 Aug: Edinburgh—St Andrews—Braemar—Inverness (BD)

Today we travel over the elegant Forth Road Bridge and through Fife to St. Andrews, whose Royal and Ancient Golf Club has given us the rules of golfing. Then it is through Braemar, home of the Royal Highland Games, to **BALMORAL CASTLE** (when available). From here take the scenic route through the vast expanses of heather in the Grampian Mountains. At **CULLODEN VISITOR CENTRE**, hear about the story of the crushing Hanoverian victory over Bonnie Prince Charlie's Scottish clans. Overnight at Inverness, the Highland capital.

Day 9, Sun 8 Aug: Inverness—Fort William—Glasgow (BD)

A day full of Highland splendor! First up it is Loch Ness with its mysterious monster and **FORT WILLIAM** located beneath Ben Nevis. Skirt Loch Linnhe and enter haunting Glen Coe, where the MacDonalds were treacherously massacred by the Campbells in 1692. Across wild Rannoch Moor to the "Bonnie Banks" of Loch Lomond for a **CRUISE** on the loch before heading south to Glasgow.

Day 10, Mon 9 Aug: Glasgow—Lake District, England—Chester (BD)

On the way through the history-steeped Lowland Hills, stop at **GRETNA GREEN**, where the blacksmith used to wed runaway couples. Enter the beautiful Lake District and follow the shores of Ullswater. Then over Kirkstone Pass to visit Bowness-on-Windermere. On your walking tour of Chester, see the Roman remains, black and white half timbered buildings, and the two-tiered arcades called the "Rows".

Day 11, Tue 10 Aug: Chester—North Wales—Dublin, Ireland (B)

Cross the border into North Wales and through the incomparable landscapes of Snowdonia National Park, via lovely Betws-y-Coed, and over spectacular Llanberis Pass. After a break at Caernarvon it's across Britannia Bridge to the Isle of Anglesey for photos at tongue twisting "Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch" (or as the locals understandably call it: "Llanfair...") is a must! At Holyhead, board your **HIGH SPEED FERRY** for the fast Irish Sea crossing to Dun Laoghaire. (Ask your Tour Director for tonight's dining suggestions).

Day 12, Wed 11 Aug: Dublin, Ireland & Guinness Storehouse (BD)

An orientation drive in the Irish capital includes statue-lined O'Connell Street, elegant Georgian squares, and St. Patrick's Cathedral. Then visit Oscar Wilde's **TRINITY COLLEGE**, famous for the 1,200-year-old Book of Kells and the magnificent Old Library. Spend this afternoon at your leisure. Tonight we regroup for an **exclusive** Northern Highland Travel dinner at the **GUINNESS STOREHOUSE**.

Day 13, Thu 12 Aug: Dublin—Kildare—Limerick (BD)

This morning we travel across the Curragh to the **IRISH NATIONAL STU** at Kildare. There will be lots to see on the way to Limerick: the Rock of Cashel where St. Patrick preached; Tipperary, made famous in a wartime marching song; and on arrival an orientation drive acquaints you with St. Mary's Cathedral, King John's Castle, and the Stone where the Treaty of Limerick was signed in 1691. Tonight we have included a traditional banquet at Bunratty Castle, including a goblet of mead and dinner while listening to the history of the castle and being entertained by the Castle Singers!

Day 14, Fri 13 Aug: Limerick—West Coast Excursion (BD)

A breathtaking view of the Clare coast from the 668-foot **CLIFFS OF MOHER**, then a drive across the limestone plateau of The Burren to the port city of **GALWAY**. Hear about the infamous Lynch Stone, commemorating the day Mayor James Lynch Fitzstephen hanged his son for murder. Drive into the unspoiled region of Connemara, and at Moycullen, visit a **CONNEMARA MARBLE FACTORY**.

Day 15, Sat 14 Aug: Limerick—Adare—Ring of Kerry—Tralee (BD)

Via quaint Adare with its pretty thatched cottages, and Killorglin on Dingle Bay, join the spectacular **RING OF KERRY** for a 100-mile panoramic drive around the island's southwestern tip. Take your photos of the Lakes of Killarney then spend some time in this popular resort town before arriving in Tralee.

Day 16, Sun 15 Aug: Tralee—Blarney—Waterford (BD)

Morning visit to Blarney, renowned for its Stone of Eloquence. Time for lunch, to walk up to the castle, and to shop for traditional Irish handicrafts at the famous **WOOLEN MILLS**. In the afternoon, proceed via Cork to Waterford, a stronghold founded by the Danish Vikings. Time still for a visit to the world-famous **WATERFORD CRYSTAL FACTORY**.

Day 17, Mon 16 Aug: Waterford—Bristol, England (BD)

This morning we will travel by **FERRY** from Rosslare across St. George's Channel to Pembroke and enjoy a drive through South Wales. Cross the River Severn and in Bristol your orientation focuses on Brunel's daring Clifton Suspension Bridge, SS Great Britain, and the historic harbor from which John Cabot sailed in 1497 to discover America.

Day 18, Tue 17 Aug: Bristol—Bath—Glastonbury—Torquay (BD)

First this morning in Georgian Bath, with time to explore the amazing excavations of the **ROMAN BATHS**. Then focus on Cheddar Gorge and King Arthur's Glastonbury. Visit pretty Widcombe-in-the-Moor as you head across Dartmoor to Torquay, your destination for the next two nights.

Day 19, Wed 18 Aug: Torquay, Cornwall Excursion (BD)

Cross the River Tamar into Cornwall on your way to the pretty shark fishing village and former smugglers' port of Looe. In Plymouth, see the Mayflower Steps where the Pilgrim Fathers embarked in 1620, and hear about Sir Francis Drake. Maybe an optional cruise on Plymouth Sound. Afternoon return to the resort of Torquay.

Day 20, Thu 19 Aug: Torquay—Stonehenge—Salisbury—London (B)

Two sightseeing highlights on the last leg of your journey: first try to figure out the intriguing prehistoric riddle of **STONEHENGE**; then stroll through pretty Salisbury with its vast cathedral, the ultimate in Early English Gothic architecture. We will return to London around 4 pm, and the rest of the afternoon is at your leisure.

Day 21-23, 20-22 Aug: London—Australia (B)

Transfer to London Heathrow. For those flying back to Australia, you will board your flight back to Sydney, where our coach will meet you and transfer you back to Hornsby, Tuggerah or the Hunter.

