



CENTRAL ENGLAND

Glasgow • Lake District
Stratford-Upon-Avon • Bath • London

May 13-24, 2012

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!

(see details on page 3)



- Stirling Castle
- Anne Hathaway Cottage
- Windsor Castle
- Lakeland Fells
- Kiftsgate Court Gardens
- Hampton Court Palace
- World of Beatrix Potter
- Hidcote Manor Gardens
- St. Paul's Cathedral
- Lake Windermere
- Blenheim Palace
- Chelsea Flower Show

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CENTRAL ENGLAND

Sunday, May 13, 2012 • Depart USA

Our adventure begins as we depart on our international flight, and wing our way over the Atlantic to Glasgow, Scotland!

Monday, May 14, 2012 • Lake District

Upon arrival in Glasgow, we clear customs and then meet our coach and driver. If we enjoy an early arrival, we have time to make a short drive to Stirling, where we'll tour **Stirling Castle**, which dominated Scottish history for centuries and is one of the most imposing castles in Britain. Time permitting, we also visit **Bannockburn** (site of Robert the Bruce's great victory in 1314). Next we begin a leisurely drive which brings us to the famous **Lake District**, a tranquil, timeless area, where the great poets Wordsworth, Byron and others composed some of the finest lyrical poetry in the English language. **D**

Tuesday, May 15, 2012 • Lake District



There is nothing quite like the sight of the famous **Lakeland fells** mirrored in the calm glassy waters that lie at their feet, and the sound of the waves gently lapping the shore. Just as Beatrix Potter was, we will be inspired as we explore the outstanding natural

beauty of the area, looking for treasures to be discovered from a landscape that will leave us on a high, appreciating the beauty enveloping us. Today's highlights include a visit at the **World of Beatrix Potter attraction** where we discover the habitats of Peter Rabbit and his friends. We also gain insight into the life of Beatrix with visits to **Hilltop**, the home where she wrote many of her tales, and the **Beatrix Potter Gallery** which houses watercolors and paintings. Next we visit the **Armitt Collection** to view some of her original collections of herbs, drawings and a first edition of "The Tale of Peter Rabbit." The complete collection reflects some of the most important periods of Beatrix Potter's life. Our final highlight today will be a visit to the Holker Estate & Gardens. **B/D**

Wednesday, May 16, 2012 • Lake District

Today we spend a leisurely morning exploring more of the "most perfect setting in the world." A short walk takes us to a lovely **stone bridge suspended over the 70-foot Aria Force Waterfall** near Ullswater. As we travel through the lakes, we'll stop in Ambleside, and enjoy lunch at Lucy's, "a food lover's paradise." In the afternoon, we enjoy a **cruise on Lake Windermere**, England's largest lake, sailing gently north to Ambleside. We continue to **Rydal Mount** for a private tour of the garden and William Wordsworth's most beloved home. We relax while soaking in the history during a poetry reading of the "Romantic" time period, while enjoying a glass of wine and a taste of the famous Grasmere gingerbread. Later we return to our hotel for dinner. **B/L/D**

Thursday, May 17, 2012 • Stratford-Upon-Avon

We continue through the Lake District and arrive at the **Royal Horticultural Society Garden of Harlow Carr** in

Harrogate. Harlow Carr, a beautiful, informal Yorkshire garden, has something for everyone - from vegetables to wild flowers and alpines to woodland - and, of course, the fabulous **Bettys Café Tea Room** with scrumptious treats! Next we stop in Coventry to visit one of the world's greatest cathedrals. Built in the 11th century, it has seen decades of history including being bombed to the ground during World War II. The decision to rebuild the cathedral was made the next day and was taken as a sign of faith, hope and trust in the future. Next we continue the short distance to **Stratford-Upon-Avon**, home of Shakespeare, the great bard himself! **B/D**

Friday, May 18, 2012 • Stratford-Upon-Avon

Sightseeing highlights today center around the Shakespeare sights in the area, including, of course, the birthplace of the great writer, as well as the famed "**Anne Hathaway Cottage**." We have the remainder of the afternoon free to shop for teapots of fine china, enjoy lunch in an outdoor cafe or perhaps take a punting excursion on the river. Tonight we enjoy dinner together in Stratford. **B/D**

Saturday, May 19, 2012 • Stratford-Upon-Avon



After a delicious English breakfast, we head to the center of the **Cotswolds** and discover more horticultural delights when we visit **Hidcote Manor Garden** and **Kiftsgate Court Gardens**. Hidcote is one of England's greatest gardens and includes a series of outdoor rooms, each

with their own unique character. Kiftsgate is a series of connecting gardens and is the creation of three generations of women, all gardeners descended from Heather Muir. We also stop for tea at **Barnsley House** and the **garden of Rosemary Verey**. Later we visit **Bourton-on-the-Water** to enjoy the gardens and leisurely strolls along the river, and delight in the miniature Model Village. This will be a memorable day in the charming Cotswolds! **B**

Sunday, May 20, 2012 • Bath

First on our agenda today is a stop at **Blenheim Palace**, the birth place of Winston Churchill. We take a tour of the palace, and enjoy the gardens before continuing on to Oxford for lunch on our own. Next we drive to **Bath**, once an important Roman town, with the remnants of ancient baths. We delight in the honey-colored Georgian houses and architecture as well as the various sights of Bath, including the Royal Crescent, Pulteney Bridge and Bath Abbey. We'll stop for a bun and tea at **Sally Lunn's**, the oldest house in Bath, before checking in at our hotel. **B/D**

Monday, May 21, 2012 • London

This morning we enjoy breakfast, and then travel to London, our home for the next few days. En route we stop in **Windsor**, located on the opposite bank of the river Thames to Eton. It is famous for its centuries old school and antique shops, and of course, the Castle, Britain's oldest royal residence. Originally built of wood, it was built in 1070 by William the Conqueror. The Round Tower was built in the 11th century when the palace

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May 13-24, 2012

guarded the western approaches to London. We visit the **State Apartments**, the **Round Tower** and **St. George's Chapel**. In addition to the castle, Windsor has numerous other attractions. Shopping and dining opportunities abound in Windsor. There are two department stores, branches of most of the UK's famous High Street stores, and many specialty shops catering to the visitor. After lunch we proceed to Henry VIII's majestic home, **Hampton Court Palace**. We enjoy a tour and perhaps a walk through the famous maze, which grows behind the palace, the Baroque gardens, with their radiating avenues and collections of exotic plants and formal plant beds. There is even a Tudor-style knot garden, where the plants are laid out in intricate patterns. Inside, one can note the fascinating changes made by Sir Christopher Wren, a prominent architect. We arrive at our hotel in London in time for dinner. **B/D**

Tuesday, May 22, 2012 • London



Our activities in London begin with a locally guided tour of the world's most visited city. Highlighting our tour is **Big Ben and Parliament, Trafalgar Square with the Lord Nelson Column, Westminster Abbey**, and of course, **Piccadilly Circus**. We also see the changing of the guard, complete with the horseguards and pageantry. The new guard departs Wellington Barracks and

marches down Birdcage Walk to Buckingham Palace where they trade places with the outgoing soldiers in the Household division of the British Army. Today we also have an inside visit of the medieval masterpiece, **St. Paul's Cathedral**, including the transepts, porticos, towers and domes. With a guide, we learn of its fascinating transition from the ruins of the Great Fire in 1666 to its present grandeur and the place where Diana married Prince Charles in 1981. We have the afternoon and evening free to explore more on our own. **B**

Wednesday, May 23, 2012 • London

The Royal Horticultural Society is the UK's leading gardening charity dedicated to advancing horticulture and promoting good gardening. RHS flower shows deliver horticultural excellence and today we have the opportunity to visit the best of them all, the **Chelsea Flower Show**. A catwalk of color and creativity, the brightest new ideas, the latest trends and the pinnacle of design makes this show the one the world wants to see. This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner. **B/D**

Thursday, May 24, 2012 • Return to USA

Regretfully, it's time to say "cheerio" and transfer to Heathrow Airport, where our flight is waiting to return us to the United States. We return, however, with memories of lovely, historic landscapes and gardens, fabulous castles, and most importantly, a wealth of new friends! Welcome home! **B**

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!

\$150 off for registration & deposit received by September 1, 2011 (\$150 will be deducted from the final payment)

TOUR COST: \$3,429* per person

Land Only

*Price is based on a minimum of 20 participants, double occupancy

Single supplement = \$650

Triples are available but not advised

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:

- **Land transportation** via private, deluxe air conditioned motor coach and professional driver
- **Accommodations** (double-occupancy) in superior tourist class hotels
- **Meals** as indicated in itinerary
- Services of a professional **tour director** throughout the tour
- **Local step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Admission and appropriate taxes** to all activities listed on itinerary
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels
- Luggage strap and tags, name badge and trip journal
- All **taxes and gratuities** for services provided except for driver and tour director

NOT INCLUDED:

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

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Deposit with registration: \$250 per person
2nd Payment due December 10, 2011: \$600 per person
Final payment due January 10, 2012: Balance per person
 Invoices will be sent out prior to final payment. 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.

Up to January 13, 2011: \$100 administrative fee
From January 13-April 13, 2012: \$200 per person plus any lost deposits on land and/or air (if applicable)
After April 13, 2012: No Refund

We offers optional insurance for cancellation, life, health, and baggage. We strongly recommend purchase of this insurance. *Contact us for details and price.*

Abbreviations for meals:

B=breakfast **L**=Lunch **D**=dinner

320 Elton Hills Dr NW • Rochester, MN 55901
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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: 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

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!

\$150 off for registration & deposit received by
September 1, 2011

Central England (ABTE12) May 13-24, 2012

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Full name must be exactly as it appears on your passport or passport application. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

First Name: _____

Middle Name(s) _____

Last Name(s) _____

(Nickname): _____ Gender _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Full name must be exactly as it appears on your passport or passport application. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

First Name: _____

Middle Name(s) _____

Last Name(s) _____

(Nickname): _____ Gender _____

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 is an additional (\$650): _____ 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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