



Scotland, Wales & London

August 14-27, 2014



320 Elton Hills Drive NW • Rochester MN 55901 • USA
(507) 289-3332 • (800) 658-7128 • Fax: (507) 281-9747
Email: tours@ed-ventures.com • www.ed-ventures.com

Scotland, Wales and London

Thursday, August 14, 2014 • Departure

Our journey begins as we board our international flight bound for Glasgow, Scotland.

Friday, August 15, 2014 • Fort William, Scotland

Upon arrival in Glasgow, we meet our tour director and motor coach. We take the "high road," immortalized in the ballad. We drive along the "bonny, bonny banks of **Loch Lomond**," the largest body of fresh water in the British Isles. Our destination is **Fort William**, which lies in the shadow of **Ben Nevis**, Britain's highest mountain. En route we stop in **Oban**, a port city with a beautiful view of the Argyll Coast. **D**



Saturday, August 16, 2014 • Inverness

We drive northward this morning following "**The Great Glen**" to the capital city of the highlands, **Inverness**. En route we stop in **Fort Augustus** from where we take a **cruise on fabled Loch Ness**. Be on the lookout for "Nessie!" This afternoon we drive to **Fort George**, an imposing military garrison with a commanding view of the Moray Firth, where dolphins can often be seen at play. An **evening walking tour of Inverness** completes our day. **B/D**

Sunday, August 17, 2014 • Edinburgh

We travel to Edinburgh today. A morning drive through the central Highlands brings us first to **Pitlochry**, described by Queen Victoria as one of the finest resorts in Europe. Here a distillery tour explains the process for making Scotch whiskey. After lunch we drive to the magnificent **Stirling Castle** and the battlefields of Scottish national heroes William Wallace and Robert the Bruce. Here we tour the castle. If time permits we stop to see the Antonine Wall, built by the Romans to contain the Celts in the early 2nd Century. **B/D**

Monday, August 18, 2014 • Edinburgh

This morning, after an opportunity to attend a worship service, we enjoy a **panoramic tour of beautiful Edinburgh**, often referred to as the "Athens of the North." Highlights include the Walter Scott Monument, the elegant Prince's Street, and much more. We have an **inside tour of Edinburgh Castle** with its foreboding ramparts and walls, amazing city views, Crown jewels, and the siege gun, Mon's Meg. A highlight of our afternoon is a visit to the **Royal Yacht Britannia**, a 300-foot vessel formerly commissioned to Queen Elizabeth II. There is time this afternoon to pursue individual interests, to visit museums, explore, or perhaps shop for that special "Scottish



Tweed." Tonight we attend a Ceilidh, a traditional evening of dinner, Highland dancing, and **bag pipe music**. Haggis, anyone? **B/D**



Tuesday, August 19, 2014 • Windermere area, Lake District

We depart the land of Mary, Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie and drive through the rolling meadowlands and heather to the **Lake District**. This is the tranquil, timeless area where the great poets Wordsworth, Byron and others composed some of the finest lyrical poetry in the English language. En route we will stop to visit **Abbotsford**, the home of Scotland's most famous author, Sir Walter Scott, who penned such works as "The Lady of the Lake," and "Ivanhoe." Here we tour Scott's home. **B/D**

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 • North Wales

Our drive today takes us past Liverpool into northern Wales. We will visit the finest garden in Wales, **Bodnant Garden**, which draws horticulturalists from around the world. The mountains of Snowdonia National Park form a fabulous backdrop to the azaleas, rhododendrons, and camellias for which the garden is famous. We head to our final stop for the day to explore one of Europe's best preserved medieval towns, **Conwy**, with its imposing castle. This is one of several built by the English King Edward I during his campaign to subdue the Celtic tribes in the 13th Century. A local guide introduces us to the town and its rich Celtic history. **B/D**

Thursday, August 21, 2014 • North Wales

We spend the day enjoying the rugged beauty in and around **Snowdonia National Park**. Our sightseeing includes a tour of the magnificent **Caernarfon Castle**, another of Edward I's strongholds. It is here that the investiture of the Prince of Wales is traditionally held, the latest being of Prince Charles in 1969. From the mid-19th to the mid-20th Century, this area was the world's supplier of slate roofing tiles. We learn of about the industry and some of the dangers and hardships miners had to face as we visit a Slate Museum, including a **ride on a narrow gauge railway** previously used to transport the slate. Our day ends in the unique atmosphere of **Portmeirion**, the childhood fantasy village of Welsh architect Sir Clough Williams-Ellis. **B/D**

Friday, August 22, 2014 • South Wales

Today's journey into South Wales takes us along scenic **Cardigan Bay**. Our first stop is at the **Museum of the Welsh Woolen Industry at Drefach Felindre** which features a working woolen mill with demonstrations as well as other craft workshops. Continuing on we head for our final destination, Cardiff. **B/D**

Saturday, August 23, 2014 • South Wales

This morning we visit the open-air **Museum of Welsh Life**, a collection of carefully reconstructed buildings in a beautiful park setting. Next we drive into Wales' third national park, **Brecon Beacons**. Here we have a choice of afternoon activities. For those

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interested in the coal mining history of this region, our motor coach stops at the **Big Pit Mining Museum in Blaenafon**. Donning miner's helmets and gear, we descend by cage lift for an excursion into the shafts and a close up look at working conditions in a coal mine. The Blaenafon Ironworks and museum is nearby. The coach then continues on an exploration of the lovely **Brecon Beacons** region, including a stop in **Hay-on-Wye**. Book lovers the world over flock to this village, whose 25 second-hand bookstores stock millions of titles. **B/D**

Sunday, August 24, 2014 • London

This morning we have an opportunity to attend church. We visit **Caerleon**, an expansive Roman fortress and town (including an amphitheater) built in the 1st Century A.D. It is one of the largest and most important Roman military sites in Europe. Before leaving Wales we stop at the romantic **Tinturn Abbey ruin**, which inspired Wordsworth to write his sonnet, *Lines composed a few miles above Tinturn Abbey*. Now we set our sights on our final destination, London. En route we ponder the mystery of the "hanging stone" formations at **Stonehenge**. **B/D**

Monday, August 25, 2014 • London

We then take a locally **guided tour of London**, one of the world's most popular destinations. Highlights are **Big Ben** and **Parliament, Trafalgar Square, Westminster Abbey**, and of course, **Picadilly Circus**. Next we tour the **Tower of London**, view the Crown Jewels, and learn about the cruel fate of many imprisoned here. A short excursion takes us to Henry VIII's majestic **Hampton Court Palace** which we tour. The afternoon is free to pursue individual interests. For historians there are the British Museum and the Imperial War Museum, for art lovers the Tate Gallery, and for shoppers Harrods's Department Store. A performance in the Theater District tops off our day **B/D**

Tuesday, August 26, 2014 • London

The final day of our tour begins with a visit **Westminster Abbey**, the setting for every Coronation since 1066. Next we will see the **changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace**. We also will visit Sir Christopher Wren's architectural masterpiece, **St. Paul's Cathedral**. 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 more time at leisure this afternoon. The coach is available for an **optional excursion to Windsor Castle**. We will have a farewell dinner at the hotel. **B/D**



Wednesday, August 27, 2014 • Return

We transfer to London's Heathrow Airport this morning a board our flight home. We return with lasting memories of spectacular land- and seascapes, fascinating cities and towns, and a wealth of new friends. **B**

Tour Price: \$4,399* per person, land and air
Single supplement: \$700 (subject to availability)

**Price based on double occupancy with a minimum of 25 participants*

Your Tour Includes:

- **Airfare** from Chicago to Glasgow and return from London with related taxes and fees
- **Land transportation** via private, deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double-occupancy) in superior tourist and moderate first class hotels
- **Meals** as indicated in itinerary
- Services of a **professional tour guide** throughout the tour
- **Local step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Admission** to all activities listed on itinerary
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels
- All **taxes and tips** except as indicated below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- **Beverages** except with breakfast
- **End of tour gratuity** for coach driver and tour guide
- 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 highly recommended.*)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with registration. Final payment is due 100 days before departure. 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.

Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing and the date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit up to 100 days before departure, a \$100 per person administrative fee (plus any airfare penalty, if applicable) will be charged for cancellation. From 99-14 days, a \$300 per person penalty plus any nonrefundable deposit to ground suppliers as well as any penalties imposed by the airlines (if applicable) will be assessed. Anyone canceling less than 14 days prior to departure, will receive **no refund**. Airline tickets (if applicable) once written are usually not refundable. **Purchase of health, baggage and trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.**

Abbreviations for Meals:

B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner

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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: Tom's Christian Tours, 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)

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 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 (\$700): _____ 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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