

Travelabout's....

'Best of Britain - Plus a Week in London'

21 Day tour package with 2 Bangkok stopovers

1st departure – 11 June 2011

2nd departure – 11 July 2011

3rd departure – 29 August 2011

Detailed tour itinerary:

Day 1 Homeport - Bangkok

Depart Sydney on Thai Airways TG456 at 10.00am. Arrive in Bangkok at 4.30pm and private transfer to our hotel. Evening is at leisure. O/n Asia Hotel
Brisbane passengers depart at 2.20pm on Thai Airways flight TG474 and arrive in Bangkok at 8.40pm.
Melbourne passengers depart at 4.05pm on Thai Airways flight TG466 and arrive in Bangkok at 10.35pm
Perth passengers depart at 4.45pm on Thai Airways flight TG482 and arrive in Bangkok at 10.45pm
Private hotel arrival transfers in Bangkok are also included for interstate passengers
Airport transfers for all passengers within 20km radius

Day 2 Bangkok - London

Following breakfast, this morning we are transferred to Bangkok Airport for our day-flight to London on Thai Airways TG916 departing at 12.25pm. Arrive at Heathrow at 6.30pm (same day) and later transferred to our London hotel. O/n Kensington Close Hotel (B)

Day 3 London - Stratford-Upon-Avon - Coventry-Leeds

Meet your Tour Director and travelling companions and depart at 8 am for a memorable day of sightseeing. Head for Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon to take your pictures of Anne Hathaway's Cottage, then explore the town at your own pace. After lunch, visit Coventry, whose centre had to be rebuilt after the devastation of World War II bombings, and hear the tale of Lady Godiva and Peeping Tom before admiring the splendid modern cathedral. Finally, head northwards out of the Midlands, passing the once-mighty Sherwood Forest, home of the legendary Robin Hood, to tonight's destination. O/n Ramada (D)

Day 4 Leeds – York - Jedburgh - Edinburgh

In 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. Continue through wild Northumberland National Park and see a section of Hadrian' Wall, the Roman coast-to-coast defence against marauding northern tribes. Then, cross the Scottish border and at Jedburgh, glimpse the house of Mary, Queen of Scots, and see the abbey ruins. Late afternoon arrival in Edinburgh. A suggestion for this evening: join your Tour Director for a traditional Scottish night out with Highland dancers, bagpipers, and, of course, the Ceremony of the Haggis. O/n Capital Hotel (B)

Day 5 Edinburgh

A full day to enjoy this "Prince of Cities." Morning 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. Afternoon at leisure. Later, a unique optional experience: board the former Royal Yacht Britannia, which for the Queen was once the perfect royal residence for glittering state visits and family holidays. Tour five decks and see how the Royal Family and crew of 240 lived and worked on board. Dinner rounds off this optional evening. For departure numbers 0803 through 0824, tickets are included for tonight's performance of the world renowned Military Tattoo, a vast spectacle of massed Scottish pipe bands that takes place in an arena on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle.

O/n Capital Hotel (B)

Day 6 Edinburgh – St. Andrews – Braemar – Aviemore

A day of memorable sightseeing: St. Andrews, whose Royal and Ancient Golf Club has given us the rules of golfing; Braemar, home of the Royal Highland Games for over 900 years; and Royal Deeside where the Queen is an annual visitor. Spend the night in the Highland resort of Aviemore. (B,D)

Day 7 Aviemore –Culloden – Inverness Fort William - Glasgow

Via the battlefield of Culloden Moor, and Inverness, the Highland capital, skirt Loch Ness as you drive to Fort William beneath Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain. Enter haunting Glen Coe, where the MacDonald Clan was treacherously massacred by the Campbells in 1692, pass wild Rannoch Moor and then drive along the "Bonnie Banks" of Loch Lomond to Glasgow. O/n Hotel (B,D)

Day 8 Glasgow – Gretna Green – Lake District – Liverpool

South through the history-steeped Lowland Hills and a visit to Gretna Green, where the blacksmith used to wed runaway couples. Drive through beautiful scenery in the Lake District, considered to be the finest of England's national parks. Visit Wordsworth's Grasmere, then follow the shores of Lake Windermere. End the day in Liverpool of Beatles fame, once the departure port of the great transatlantic liners. O/n Britannia Adelphi (B,D)

Day 9 Liverpool - North Wales Excursion

A day dedicated to the mountainous splendour of North Wales. After a stop in pretty Betws-y-Coed, drive over spectacular Llanberis Pass and through Snowdonia National Park to Caernarvon, where the castle saw the investiture of Charles as Prince of Wales. Then, follow the coast road via the walled town of Conway back to Liverpool. Your Tour Director will have suggestions for this evening. O/n Britannia Adelphi (B)

Day 10 Liverpool – Chester – Ludlow - Cardiff

In Chester, the historic county town on the River Dee, and your walking tour includes the Roman remains, black and white half-timbered buildings, and the two-tiered arcades called the "Rows." Pause in the pretty market town of Ludlow before heading back into Wales and Brecon Beacons National Park, land of salmon rivers and the Welsh mountain pony. Finally, through "The Valleys," whose iron ore and coal were the raw materials for the Industrial Revolution, to the Welsh capital. Here, an orientation drive introduces you to the major attractions: Cardiff Castle, Cathays Park, Millennium Stadium, and the stately civic buildings. Ask your Tour Director about tonight's optional Welsh evening. O/n Park Inn (B)

**Day 11 Cardiff – Bath – Glastonbury –
Widcombe - Plymouth**

Leaving Wales, cross the Severn Bridge for a visit to the elegant Georgian city of Bath, famed for its Roman relics, before heading into the romantically scenic West Country and Glastonbury with its King Arthur associations. In the heart of Dartmoor National Park, visit quaint Widcombe-in-the-Moor, ghostly setting for Conan Doyle's The Hound of the Baskervilles. Finally, in Plymouth, hear about Sir Francis Drake and see the Mayflower Steps, where the Pilgrim Fathers embarked in 1620. O/n Novotel (B,D)

**Day 12 Plymouth – Stonehenge - Salisbury -
London**

On the final leg of your journey, take in Thomas Hardy's Wessex; views of the intriguing prehistoric monument of Stonehenge; and Salisbury with its vast cathedral, the ultimate in Early English Gothic architecture. Return to London around 4 pm., where your Cosmos tour ends. O/n Kensington Close Hotel or similar (B)

Day 13 London at leisure

Today, we suggest you visit Tower of London – see the famous Crown Jewels and Beefeaters, Tower Bridge and famous Madam Tussauds Wax Museum. Tonight, maybe wander Piccadilly Circus, Covent Gardens and London's famous West End entertainment area. O/n Kensington Close Hotel (B)

Day 14 London - Sightseeing Tour

A wonderful day exploring this fascinating city on the Hop On Hop Off sightseeing bus. See major attractions and landmarks, like St Paul's Cathedral, Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Knightsbridge, Trafalgar Square, Albert Hall, Piccadilly Circus, Tower Bridge, Kensington Palace, Harrods and much more. O/n Kensington Close Hotel (B)

Day 15 London – Independent Sightseeing

Independently visiting more famous attractions We suggest you start with Buckingham Palace and changing of the guards, No. 10 Downing Street, Horse Guards, Carrington House, Pall Mall and stroll through St James's Park. Later, visit the nearby Cabinet War Rooms & Churchill Museum and Westminster Abbey. O/n Kensington Close Hotel (B)

Day 16 London – Independent Sightseeing

Today, we suggest you visit Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park and a guided tour of Lords cricket oval. Tonight maybe visit a live theatre show in London's famous West End. O/n Kensington Close Hotel (B)

Day 17 London – Independent Sightseeing

Today we suggest visiting Kew Gardens and take a river cruise on the return journey. Also consider visiting Wimbledon Tennis Courts and Museum. Maybe visit one on the many museums that may draw your interest.

O/n Kensington Close Hotel

Day 18 London – Independent Sightseeing

This morning we suggest you visit Tower of London and later visit Hampton Court Palace, the former residence of King Henry V111. See the cathedral and maze-garden. O/n Kensington Close Hotel (B)

**Day 19 London – Independent Sightseeing
- Depart London**

Your last day in London and maybe take a train to Brighton by the sea or visit some of the museums that take your interest or art gallery. Late this afternoon, an airport transfer has been arranged. You are confirmed on Thai Airways flight TG917 departing at 9.30pm. O/n Inflight (B)

Day 20 Arrive in Bangkok

Arrive in Bangkok at 3.05pm and transferred to your hotel. Rest of day is free. Tonight maybe visit the popular Lumpini Night Bazaar or enjoy a live cabaret show at our hotel. O/n Asia Hotel

Day 21 Bangkok - Inflight

The day is at leisure with ample time for last minute shopping and relaxing before our airport transfers. Mid afternoon Sydney passengers depart Bangkok at 7.15pm on Thai Airways flight TG455.

Brisbane passengers depart at 11.59pm on Thai Airways flight TG473.

Melbourne passengers depart Bangkok at 00.15am (next day) on Thai Airways flight TG465.

Perth passengers depart Bangkok on Thai Airways flight TG481 at 7.45am and arrive in Perth at 3.40pm.

Private airport transfers for all interstate passengers

Day 22 Arrive in Australia

Sydney passengers arrive at 7.15am and sadly our wonderful tour comes to an end, but our memories and friendships will continue.

Brisbane passengers arrive at 12.05pm

Melbourne passengers arrive at 1.25pm

Airport transfers for all passengers within 20km radius

23 Meals included: 18 (B) Breakfast and 5 (D) Dinners

2011 Departures

11 June: Tour price \$5500pp (twin share)

11 July: Tour price \$5500pp (twin share)

29 August: Tour price \$5400pp (twin share)

Tour cost includes \$445 in airline taxes

Requested single room: \$1087

Unmatched single supplements: \$644

Single travellers are most welcome!!... and we will endeavour to match you if you wish to share!

Contact Sam Dimarco, Marlene and the team...

Travelabout @ Ryde-Eastwood

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