



**Wales, SW England, and London featuring  
July 31-August 11, 2024**

We are so excited to be able to offer this small group trip in 2024. The aim of this tour is to see the best of local sights, offer textile-related exploration, take in the local culture, and provide free time for you to explore as you wish to make this trip truly your own. With the numbers expected for this summer's travel overseas, the hotels have offered us 15 rooms at this time. Don't delay if the phenomenal Festival of Quilts or the beautiful country of Wales has been on your bucket list!

**Daily Overview**

**Wednesday, July 31, 2024 • Departure**

Our journey begins as participants travel to London, England. **Inflight meals**

**Thursday, August 1, 2024 • London**

Upon landing in London and clearing customs, travelers will transfer to our London Heathrow airport hotel. Depending on your arrival time, the day is yours to explore or rest. This evening, we will enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. **D**

**Friday, August 2, 2024 • Birmingham**

After breakfast we depart for Birmingham, stopping to explore along the way. We will travel the leisurely lanes of the Cotswolds, past bubbling brooks and quaint villages, stopping to explore as our schedule permits. We end the day in Birmingham, our home for the next three nights. **B, D**

**Saturday & Sunday, August 3 & 4, 2024 • Birmingham**

We participate in the excitement and learning of the Festival of Quilts. **B** each day

**Monday, August 5, 2024 • Aberystwyth**

After leaving Birmingham, we head westward, enjoying the scenery of Northern Wales, exploring castles and seaside villages and end the day in Aberystwyth. **B, D**

**Tuesday, August 6, 2024 • Aberystwyth**

Our focus today is Welsh patchwork and other textile arts. Numerous stops featuring fabric, yarns, and haberdashery. **B**

**Wednesday, August 7, 2024 • Swansea**

We enjoy a tour of Southern Wales as we make our way to Swansea, our home for the next two nights. **B, D**

**Thursday, August 8, 2024 • Swansea**

Today finds us touring Southwestern Wales before we return to Swansea and dinner on our own tonight. **B**

**Friday, August 9, 2024 • London**

We depart for London after breakfast, visiting sights enroute, leaving time for a panoramic tour of London to get our city bearings. **B**

**Saturday, August 10, 2024 • London**

This morning, we tour various city sights before setting you free to explore London as you wish before a farewell dinner together. **B, D**

**Sunday, August 11, 2024 • Return**

Transfer to Heathrow airport today for the flight home. **B**

You are welcome to extend your trip on either end. We will gladly offer booking assistance if desired, simply make that note on your registration form.



Interesting and worthy stops on our route are many and certainly more than we can take in but our plans include many of the following plus additional villages, shops, and historical sites:

- Blenheim Palace; Warwick Castle; Caernarfon Castle; Cardiff Castle; Windsor Castle
- Welsh Quilt Centre; Minerva Arts Center; Goldhawk Road Fiber District
- Museum of Welsh Woolen Industry; American Museum; British Museum; Victoria & Albert Museum; Tenby Museum; Clothworkers Centre for the Study & Conservation of Textiles & Fashion; Forge Mill Needle Museum
- St Mary's Church; St David's Cathedral
- Pembrokeshire Coast National Park; Snowdonia National Park
- Shops such as Calico Kate Quilt Shop; Lady Sew & Sew; The Antique Textile Company; Liberty of London; Taylors Buttons; Country Threads; Midsomer Quilting

### **INCLUDED:**

#### **Accommodations:**

Double occupancy accommodations in the following or similar hotels.

- 1 night in London Heathrow @ Hilton London Heathrow Airport Hotel
- 3 nights in Birmingham @ Holiday Inn Hotel
- 2 nights in Aberystwyth @ The Starling Cloud
- 2 nights in Swansea @ Mercure Hotel, Swansea
- 2 nights in London @ The California Hotel

**Transportation:** Private, deluxe touring coach and driver throughout the tour

**Meals:** Meals as indicated in the itinerary (**B**=breakfast; **D**=dinner)

**Sightseeing and activities:** Admission for all attractions we schedule on the itinerary

**Guides:** Services of a professional tour guide throughout the tour and step-on guides for tour highlights and city tours along with a Journeys & Gatherings coordinator.

**Luggage Handling:** Handling of one piece of luggage per person at hotels.

**Taxes and Tips:** All taxes and tips for provided services, as well as driver and guide tips.

**Airport transfers** are dependent on flight arrival times, they may be at an additional cost.

### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Beverages, except with breakfast
- Meals, other than as indicated
- Items of a personal nature such as shopping, passports, visas, alternate venue visits, etc.
- Roundtrip air transportation (including all related taxes and fees)

### **OF NOTE:**

- The hotels require we begin releasing rooms on March 1, 2024. Don't hesitate!!
- Single occupancy rooms are extremely limited.
- This tour does not require strenuous physical exertion or extensive stamina, but the nature of group coach travel is not conducive to limited mobility participants or those requiring wheelchairs.
- Once we reach the minimum required to operate this tour (16), we will ascertain which stops can accommodate our group size. We will then finalize our daily tours and provide a detailed itinerary, always remaining open to fun changes!
- Please do not book your air until trip is confirmed unless you opt for a refundable fare.
- We highly recommend travel insurance. We have little allowance with the various providers for cancellations.
- Educational offerings at the Festival of Quilts will be available in March. We will confirm when trip has reached minimums so you can register for sessions if you desire.
- Should the exchange rate change dramatically, an additional fee may be required.
- A small backpack or large tote is the maximum carryon size for the coach. They must fit the overhead.

### **TOUR COST for Group Land Tour**

Per Person, two per room	\$ 3,995	\$1,995 due with registration, remainder due by April 20, 2024.
Single Supplement	\$ 1,200 additional	

Our UK providers are offering very limited allowances for cancellations. Please consider this program to be non-refundable. Travel insurance is highly recommended. Cancel for any reason coverage is available at a higher premium.

**Documentation:** You will need a passport, valid until at least August 12, 2024. The US has an agreement with the UK waiving the six-month validity requirement. If you have alternate citizenship, check with the UK government website for any visas that may be needed. \*\*Should the UK institute the planned visitor visa requirement before our travel dates, an additional fee will be required to apply for that visa. (Current estimates are under \$50.)

**Weather:** You can expect daytime temperatures of 60°+ with the nights dipping into the 50s. Rainfall is expected five days per month. We will enjoy 13 hours of daylight, with expectations of cloud cover 50% of the time.

**Power:** G-type plugs are the most commonly used in the United Kingdom. This has three rectangular flat pins placed in a triangular or T position. One interesting fact is that in bathrooms in the UK, you cannot install plugs within 3 meters of the bathtub or sink for safety reasons. Hotels provide hairdryers in their sleeping rooms. Most of today's electronics are rated for world use so only a plug adapter is needed. Other items would need a converter along with the plug adapter.



**Air Transportation:** Flights may be booked once our minimums are met, estimated by mid-April. Airfares vary with city of origin, number of connections, and days of travel. Current fares from Chicago's O'Hare to London Heathrow, without extensions, range from \$950 to \$1,500.

**Insurance:** Through experience, we have made it our policy not to include generic travel insurance. While including it is easy, finding that your needs are not covered by a universal policy makes that coverage a waste of money and exposes you to losses. We utilize an independent agency to find the coverage you need based on your work status, health, and choice of coverage level. Policy cost is based on total trip cost, age, and desired coverage inclusions and ranges between 6 and 10% of trip cost. Go to CoverTrip.com for informative guides on buying travel insurance. Our agency choice is CoverTrip powered by Squaremouth as they have proven to be exemplary in processing claims for our previous travelers. As an independent agency, they sell all brands of insurance and offer an easy comparison tool. We will be glad to assist you in obtaining a policy. If you use our link (<https://www.squaremouth.com/21876>), we are allowed to assist you with claims.

## Terms and Conditions

### GENERAL

- By registering and depositing, you agree that you have read and agree to the terms and conditions written herein. Your acceptance of these hereby releases Journeys & Gatherings (J&G) and other providers (further herein labeled Providers) from any and all claims involving health, disease outbreaks, safety, security, political stability, and labor or civil unrest.
- There are times when unforeseen circumstances require a change in our inclusions. Equivalent or better substitutions will be made where possible.
- When traveling with us, you assume complete responsibility for complying with document, vaccination, or other entry requirements of our destinations. Passports must comply with immigration regulations which often include having at least two blank passport pages when entering a country.
- We communicate primarily by email so a valid address is required so we may provide timely information. There is a surcharge of \$30 per person to cover the additional costs of non-electronic communication.
- Smoking is not allowed on any of our transportation nor within 50' of the entrance of any vehicle or venue that is provided exclusively for our group. The rules of local governments and individual establishments take precedence.

### SAFETY

- Please be aware that during your participation, certain risks and dangers may arise beyond our control, including but not limited to: the hazards of traveling in undeveloped areas; travel by boat, train, automobile, aircraft, or other means of transportation; the forces of nature; political unrest; acts of lawlessness or terrorism; and accident or illness in remote regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. Providers will not have liability regarding provision of medical care or the adequacy of any care that may be rendered. It is understood that the best efforts to ensure that adequate measures are taken.

### PARTICIPATION

- Carefully consider your ability to participate. It is your responsibility to know your limitations and not undertake a tour or activity that might be too much for you. Our tours may include walking up inclines or on stairways, cobblestone streets, and other uneven surfaces. If a medical condition exists or there is any question regarding your ability to participate in a safe and healthy manner, please consult your physician before registering for this trip. Failure to do so may result in the inability to participate on the tour and cancellation penalties will apply. Providers are not responsible for expenses incurred in this situation.

- Travelers who need special assistance should discuss their needs before a reservation is made. Providers will make reasonable attempts to accommodate the special needs of disabled travelers, but are not responsible in the event participants cannot be accommodated nor are they responsible for any denial of services by suppliers. The Americans with Disabilities Act is only applicable within the United States and facilities for disabled individuals are limited outside its borders.
- Most transportation services are not equipped with wheelchair ramps. We regret that we cannot guarantee assistance to a participant for their personal needs. A qualified and physically able companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance and must assume full responsibility for their wellbeing.

### REGISTRATION

- All registrations must be accompanied by a signed registration form completed in full. We require the signature of each person traveling. In addition to the contact info requested on the form, names as they are on your passport, birthdate, address, and emergency contact info is required before we will accept a deposit to confirm your participation. You are wholly responsible for providing your full name as issued on your passport or government identification. Any fees incurred for document corrections due to the submission of incorrect information will be the direct responsibility of the passenger.
- Those wishing to participate in any portion of our itinerary must purchase the tour via J&G. Except in very rare cases, partial participation is not an option.

### TOUR ETIQUETTE

- Our itinerary has been designed for the enjoyment of all participants. Please follow the agenda as published and be attentive for any day-to-day changes that are announced. We ask that you pay attention to coach locations (drop off and pickup points may be different) and the current time as stated by Tour Director(s).
- Repeated tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful and is valid cause for participants being asked to leave the tour. Providers are not financially or otherwise responsible for a participant's costs to rejoin the tour or make their way home should a scheduled departure be missed, or if they are asked to leave the group.
- For the benefit of the entire group, we reserve the right to decline inclusion or remove any participant whose conduct is deemed incompatible with the interests of all other participants. Providers will not refund nor cover any expenses incurred if we find the need to terminate your participation due to unacceptable behavior.
- If motion sickness is an issue, consider ginger chews, Dramamine, prescription patches, or medications. Roads may be uneven and touring may be along small, winding roads.

### AIR/FLIGHTS

- Do not book flights until the trip has been confirmed by J&G. Providers are not responsible for flight/change costs purchased by participants.
- Providers are not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. Any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip are your responsibility.
- J&G will gladly assist in the procurement of flights. We will schedule an appointment to book tickets through the applicable airline's website. If using mileage points, please work directly with your reward program to procure tickets.

### TRAVEL/MEDICAL INSURANCE

- While travel insurance is an optional purchase, it is highly recommended. Standard US medical coverage is not applicable outside the country. Participants are responsible for any medical costs incurred and often must pay before service is rendered and/or departure from facility. We recommend Emergency Medical and Medical Evacuation & Repatriation at a minimum. J&G utilizes independent agency CoverTrip powered by Squaremouth based on their 100% fulfillment of claims processed for our travelers. Visit [www.squaremouth.com/21876](http://www.squaremouth.com/21876) to receive a quote. Expect insurance to cost 6-10% of your travel costs.
- J&G will gladly walk you through the process while providing input on inclusions and coverage limits.

### BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE:

- Porterage for one suitcase <50 lbs. is included and luggage will be placed in the under-coach compartments.
- Carry-on bags should not exceed the cumulative dimensions of 45"/17 lbs. for most airlines. Smaller dimensions are required when on a motorcoach tour, similar to a small backpack or tote bag as overhead storage height tends to be less than 8".
- Airport porterage is not included. Regulations within most airports require that travelers handle their own luggage.
- On average, airline allowances for checked bags are cumulative dimensions of 62" (L+W+D) and weight < 50 lbs. Your air carrier may have different limitations than those listed above, especially if utilizing a smaller carrier on a connection. Verify the current limitations on the appropriate website.
- Providers are not responsible for loss of or damage to baggage or any of the traveler's belongings throughout the duration of the tour. Please insure you confirm your bag is loaded before boarding a transfer vehicle.

## ROOMMATES

- Providers will not assign roommates. We will provide contact information for others requesting a roommate so you can connect and determine compatibility. If a roommate is not found and single occupancy is still available, payment of that supplement will be required and/or cancellation parameters in effect on that date will apply. Should a roommate cancel and you wish to participate in the tour, you may be responsible for the single supplement and/or cancellation penalties in effect on that date.

## PRICE/PAYMENTS

- Deposits are as stated on the registration materials and are required to secure reservations and hold your place.
- We will maintain a waitlist of interested participants so we may quickly fill in spots vacated by those needing to cancel.
- Travel arrangements involving government regulated components are subject to supplemental price increases that may be imposed after you have completed your purchase (fuel surcharges, national, local, facility taxes, exchange rate, etc.). You hereby consent to any such price increases and will send a check or authorize your credit/debit card to be used for them when you are notified.
- Payments must be made directly to J&G. Any payments made directly to tour suppliers will not be credited to your final payment invoice resulting in non-issuance of documents and inability to participate in the tour.
- Acceptable payment methods may be changed or altered at any time. Currently, acceptable payment forms are check (on a US Bank in US funds), PayPal transfer, wire transfer, or credit/debit cards through PayPal. You agree not to file a charge back or refund request with PayPal but rather directly with J&G.
- Payments that have been declined must be replaced via expedited delivery in the form of a certified check or money order and must include a \$50 service fee. Failure to comply will result in your space being canceled and loss of your deposit.

## CANCELTION / REFUNDS:

- Cancellation allowances by Providers are minimal. Except in the case of replacement, refunds are not likely.
- All cancellation requests must be made in writing to Journeys & Gatherings, 2060 Hawthorne Drive, Elm Grove WI 53122 or [kristi@journeysandgatherings.com](mailto:kristi@journeysandgatherings.com) or [meetings@wi.rr.com](mailto:meetings@wi.rr.com)
- If applicable, refunds will be processed no later than four weeks after the tour ending date with a check written in US dollars. Arrangements for international participants will be addressed as needed.
- Tour components and services are contracted through established and reputable tour companies and hotels, as well as other travel service providers. No refunds can be granted for any accommodations, services, or events which are not used after payment to the vendors. If you elect not to participate or deviate from any portion of the tour, no consideration will be given for unused services.
- Any included group airport transfers are not refunded if unused due to alternate arrival times.
- Refunds in full or part will not be provided for missed inclusions due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights.
- Replacement participants are required to pay the full tour amount to our office, not to the original traveler. Any non-refundable fees incurred by the original participant's cancellation may be claimed through their insurance.

Journeys & Gatherings is an independent coordinator acting solely as an organizer for the tour participants, while the contracted Providers provide accommodation, transportation, sightseeing, entrance fees, food, and other services in connection with the itinerary. J&G will exercise reasonable care in making such arrangements, however, they do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay to person or property because of any acts of war or terrorism or any act of default of any supplier or person rendering the services included in the tours. The tickets, rules, or contracts currently in use by a Provider rendering service shall constitute the sole contract between such contractor and you, the individual tour member.



# Wales, SW England, and London featuring the Festival of Quilts, July 31-August 11, 2024

## Participant 1:

Name (as it appears on your passport) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name you would like on your badge \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Citizenship:  US  Other \_\_\_\_\_ (country)  
Emergency Contact/Relationship/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Participant 2: (if roommate has different address/email and/or is paying separately, each should submit their own form & complete Participant 2 name only)

Name (as it appears on your passport) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name you would like on your badge \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Citizenship:  US  Other \_\_\_\_\_ (country)  
Emergency Contact/Relationship/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Your **Contact Info** for trip updates, payment reminders, and general questions prior to travel (most will be done by email):

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment:

**Check** (made payable to Journeys & Gatherings)  **PayPal transfer** (kristi@journeysandgatherings.com)

**Credit Card** (MC/VI/DS): fill out **section** below. Payment will be processed via PayPal.

**Billing Address** for card (if different from above):

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Card Type:** MC VI DS **Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Security Code: (required)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Number** \_\_\_\_\_

Sleeping Room Needs:  one bed  two beds  either

## Group Tour:

	<u>Per Person, 2/room</u>	<u>Per Person, 1/room</u>	
Land tour	\$3,995	\$5,195	\$ _____
Deposit Amount (with registration)			\$ _____
Balance Due (April 20, 2024)			\$ _____

I plan to extend  before the group tour  after the group tour

I would like assistance with  flight arrangements  travel insurance  hotels (for extension)

Notes/Requests/Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of each registrant required. Signature denotes Terms & Conditions have been read and agreed to.)

Send this form along with a check (payable to Journeys & Gatherings), PayPal transfer date, or credit card information to:  
Kristi Mirocha, Journeys & Gatherings, 2060 Hawthorne Drive, Elm Grove WI 53122  
or via email to meetings@wi.rr.com

**Please keep a copy of this form for your records.**