

Walking the English Cotswolds, Lake District & Scotland

Greetings from the WAI Travel Team,

Great Britain has long been a favorite destination with Americans. Over the years, no other WAI Adventure has taken more travelers abroad than our trips to what Shakespeare referred to as “this scepter’d isle” (*Richard II*). Something about the bucolic panoramas, historic sites, traditional way of life, and familiar names seems to strike a nerve in the heart of the American traveler. So much of who we are as a nation is tied to Great Britain — we share a similar system of law and government, a common language (sort of), parallel cultures; in short, an inextricably linked heritage.

We invite you to join us in the summer of 2012 as we explore the countries that gave us Shakespeare and Robert Louis Stevenson, Henry VIII and Robert the Bruce, Peter Rabbit and Alice in Wonderland! Come walk with us over stone bridges and past thatch-roofed houses in the Cotswolds; through green, rolling hills and stone-fenced pastures of Beatrix Potter’s beloved Lake District; over heather-clad hills and across Scottish seas to the historic, windswept Isle of Iona; and along the streets of charming Edinburgh to witness the Adventure’s finale — the world-famous Edinburgh Military Tattoo!

How do I lock in my place on this Adventure?

To save yourself a spot on this Adventure, contact us to register with a \$500 payment as soon as possible! There has been a groundswell of interest in this tour, and we are hoping to offer 2 departures in 2012. Dates for a possible second departure are **August 11-22, 2012**.

Already Early Birded?

If you are among the travelers who submitted \$50 Early Bird deposits, you have until **September 5** to secure your spot with an additional \$450 (total of \$500) registration.

How should I arrange transportation for this Adventure?

The official starting point for this Adventure is the Manchester Airport, with the finish point in Edinburgh, Scotland. When you arrive at the Manchester Airport in merry ole England, a WAI representative will meet you and arrange for transportation to the nearby Roman and medieval town of Chester. Airfare to and from the start point is not included in the package price. After you receive the Adventure Advice flyer, we recommend that you contact the travel agent we work with to help book your flight arrangements. More details about flight arrangements and travel agent contact information will be provided in the *Adventure Advice* flyer which will be mailed to you after you register for the Adventure. **Please do not book your airfare prior to receiving the Adventure Advice!**

Group Travel Credit

If you are part of a Group, remember that your full deposit of \$500 is still required to hold your spot on this Adventure. Your group leader is responsible to submit your name in writing to us before you register, qualifying you for the Group Travel Credit, but a full deposit is needed to officially reserve your place.

Travel Insurance

Walking Adventures has negotiated with an insurance carrier to provide travel insurance in the form of a Preferred Benefits™ policy. We are pleased to make this package available and believe that it will provide travelers with an important element of security at a reasonable price. (See the back of the General Tour Conditions sheet for more detailed information.)

IMPORTANT: The insurance policy includes time-sensitive coverage provisions for some benefits, including pre-existing conditions and trip cancellation coverage for any reason (with additional fee), **provided you purchase the insurance within 14 days of your registration**. Should you choose to add the cost of your airline tickets to your insurance policy, contact our office within 14 days after you purchase your airfare. Airfare is NOT automatically covered by the insurance you purchase for the tour!!

What Happens Next?

Upon registering for this Adventure, you will receive a welcome letter, initial invoice, and Adventure Advice flyer with important information about steps to take in the months before your trip. **Please do not buy your airline tickets until you receive the Adventure Advice flyer.** The final payment for the program is due 90 days before departure, and you will receive a final billing about 2 weeks prior to that point, along with a factsheet of additional information about the Adventure to help you get prepared! Then, about 3 weeks before departure, you will receive a final packet with all the details of the program, including hotel names and contact information, a list of fellow travelers, and a more detailed daily schedule.

For now, we invite you to enjoy perusing this itinerary - a travel experience dripping with the scenery and culture of Great Britain! Then call us to lock in your spot and get ready to explore the backroads and country lanes of England and Scotland next summer!

Insurance – What if I need to place a claim?

Jumping through hoops to get results from large, bureaucratic organizations can be enough to try the patience of Job! Travel insurance companies, unfortunately, are not immune to bureaucracy. Ambiguity and forms-overload often seems to outweigh reason and simplicity. Ultimately, however, travelers are paid and the *Preferred Benefits* policy we recommend works! Though it is easy to view insurance as a necessary evil, we have seen the benefits of travel insurance time and again. We believe it is worth the cost...and hoop-jumping required!