

WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

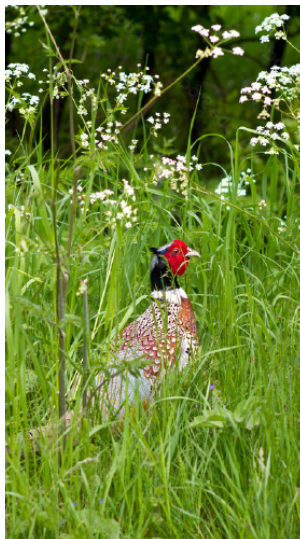
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FAIRY TALE ENGLAND

Strolling the Unspoiled Cotswolds

with Women of the Midwest

August 12-21, 2023



Dear Ladies,

When I think of the English countryside, what comes to my mind is the smell of roses, a spot of tea, homemade puddings, and wool! Oh, and pheasants! What a feast it will be to visit this part of the world in August, with the chance to experience the local lavender fields, too. If you have the same wanderlust as me, then come along on this once-in-a-lifetime journey.

We are met by our local guide as soon as we arrive, who is not only knowledgeable in the history of the Cotswolds but with significant insight into daily life in the English countryside. We begin in the golden city of Bath, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with the imposing Bath Abbey, a place of Christian worship since 757 AD. We will also visit the Roman Baths, where people didn't just eat, bathe and get their teeth worked on, however. They also played. Dice and coins hint at gambling in the water. Then, a journey into the pristine, honey-colored, unspoiled, and historic limestone villages is about to begin!

The Cotswolds is a rural area of south-central England covering parts of 6 counties. Its rolling hills and thatched medieval villages, churches, and stately homes built of distinctive local yellow limestone, will take our breath away. The 102-mile Cotswold Way walking trail follows the Cotswold Edge escarpment from Bath in the south to Chipping Campden in the north. We will walk along parts of these trails (max. 5 miles over the course of a day), smell, taste, and savor the local produce such as honey, lavender, delicious dairy, and visit the woollen weavers of the area. And then there are the puddings! We will have fun with the ladies of the local pudding club with hands-on demonstrations and, of course, enjoy the results.

We will visit the Highgrove House, the family residence of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, Kelmscott Manor, the summer residence of William Morris, and Sudeley Castle with a picnic in the gardens ...and much, much more. I hope you will join me!

Warmly,
Sally Dunham, Ambassador
Women of the Midwest



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

Roman Baths



August 12, 2023 - Saturday

Traveling to London, England

Our wonderful and life-inspiring journey begins as we take an overnight flight to London, England. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your dream vacation.

August 13, 2023 - Sunday

Bath

We arrive at Heathrow Airport in the morning and meet our local tour guide, who will be accompanying us during our journey in England. We take a relaxing two-hour drive to the medieval city of Bath, founded by the Romans as a thermal spa and an important center of the wool industry in the Middle Ages. Today, Bath is an elegant town with neoclassical Palladian buildings, which blend harmoniously with the Roman baths. The entire city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will enjoy a two-hour walking tour, including a visit to the famous Roman Baths, before we sit down for a traditional Sunday roast at a cozy and local restaurant. Then, we are off to check in at our hotel and retire to our rooms to relax and unwind. B (in-flight) | L

August 14, 2023 - Monday

Marshfields Walking Tour - Bath

After a hearty English breakfast, we transfer by our private motor coach to Marshfield. Our two-and-a-half-hour easy-pace walk will take us through woodlands and along pretty canals. We will learn the area's history and end with a tasty lunch by the canal before we transfer back to Bath. The afternoon and evening are yours to enjoy. Swing by the Guildhall Market, the oldest shopping venue in the city, with more than twenty local stallholders selling all kinds of pretty

Local Pheasant



souvenirs. Or enjoy your afternoon tea by the Pulteney Bridge. B | L

August 15, 2023 - Tuesday

Cirencester

We enjoy our breakfast, and then off we are towards Cirencester. On the way, we will stop to visit Highgrove Gardens, truly a unique experience with its landscaped garden on a royal estate. King Charles spends five weeks a year here. We will have time for a leisurely lunch and to visit the beautiful gift shop. Highgrove Gardens are limited to very few visitors, and our visit will be confirmed once our tour is a guaranteed departure. We continue to Cirencester, where we will settle in for the next three nights. We recommend visiting the Roman Mosaic Museum in the afternoon, strolling the local squares, and enjoying all the local quaint shops. Dinner is served at a lovely restaurant tonight. You will love Cirencester! B | D

August 16, 2023 - Wednesday

Coln St. Aldwyns - Bibury - Woolen Weavers Center

We enjoy breakfast at a laidback pace before we transfer to Coln St. Aldwyns to take a five-mile circular walk along the River Coln to picturesque Bibury. The trail passes from the historic church of St. Aldwyns, across fields, and along part of the Palladian Way. It's an easy walk on a mix of dirt paths and country lanes. It's a popular route for dog walkers and has several good pubs and cafes where we can stop for a snack or drink. Bibury is a charming, typically Cotswold village. It is easy to see why William Morris called Bibury "The most beautiful village in England," with its wonderful stone buildings strung out along the banks of the River Coln. One of the most photographed sites in England is

Cotswolds Staircase



found here. It even appears on the inside cover of UK passports. Originally built in the 14th century as a monastic wool store, it was converted in the 17th century into a row of weavers' cottages. The River Coln flows through Bibury, sandwiched between the main village street and an expanse of boggy water meadow known as Rack Isle, so called because wool was once hung out to dry there on racks after it had been washed in Arlington Row. Other attractions in Bibury include Bibury Trout Farm, one of the oldest trout farms in the country, and the wonderful village church, St. Mary's - a Grade 1* listed building - with a Saxon gravestone set into the exterior, a superb Norman doorway, and some fine medieval windows. Lunch is served in Bibury, and later in the day, we will visit the Woolen Weavers' Center; you will love this place! Sweaters, blankets, and scarves of the finest quality. Save some pocket money for this visit! We return to Cirencester for a relaxing evening. B | L

August 17, 2023 - Thursday

River Thames - Kelmscott Manor

We enjoy our breakfast and then transfer to Fairford to walk via Lechlade. Today's walk is at our own pace and approximately five miles. We suggest a picnic-style lunch along the banks of the River Thames; the backdrop doesn't get much prettier. We make our way to Kelmscott Manor, which was the summer residence of William Morris, a British textile designer, poet, artist, fantasy writer, architectural conservationist, printer, translator, and socialist activist associated with the British Arts and Crafts Movement. You will fall in love with his prints, so make sure to visit to the gift shop at Kelmscott Manor. And the tea room ...cream teas with fresh scones are served from 2:30 PM

Lavendar Fields



onwards. Make room for some! Tonight, we dine with Sam and Jak in Cirencester. B | D

August 18, 2023 - Friday

Lower Slaughter - Broadway - Bourton-on-the-Water - Stow-on-the-Wold

We enjoy our last breakfast in Cirencester, then pack our bags, and off to Lower Slaughter we are! The slightly macabre name comes from Old English for "muddy place." Upper and Lower Slaughter are linked by the tiny River Eye, a tributary to the River Windrush. Our walk alongside the stream in Lower Slaughter is a privilege and gives you a great idea of how people live in villages. Upper Slaughter is one of the fourteen "doubly stated" villages in England that lost no men during World War I or II. We walk five miles today, again at a pace everyone can follow. Lunch is set on the village green. Next, we transfer to Broadway via Bourton-on-the-Water, known for its low bridges and traditional stone houses, and Stow-on-the-Wold. Broadway is our home for the last three nights and is famous for its beautiful cottages, tea rooms, and antique shops. Tonight's dinner is special. We join the local pudding club for a fun experience and great food! The Pudding Club's heartfelt mission has been to preserve the Great British Pudding, a mission that seems to have succeeded. We will enjoy a night of entertainment, a parade of seven traditional puddings with all their noise and ceremony; the aim is to taste them all and then vote for your favorite. In the summertime, you will taste and enjoy three hot and four cold puddings, including Gooseberry Fool, Eton Mess, and Sticky Toffee. We will depart with a full tummy... and a special certificate!

B | D

Honey-Colored Villages



August 19, 2023 - Saturday

Stanton - Winchcombe - Sudeley Castle

Breakfast is served before we transfer to Stanton. From here, we will burn some of the pudding calories as we take a four-mile walk to Winchcombe. Winchcombe has a wonderful timeless touch, with Cotswold stone cottages standing side by side with distinctive black and white half-timbered buildings. It is an old bustling historic market town with streets well worth a wander; you will find a wonderful local deli, boutique clothing, interiors, and antique shops. Lunch today includes a picnic on the grounds of Sudeley Castle. Like St. Mary's in Bibury, Sudeley Castle is Grade 1* listed. It has ten notable gardens covering some fifteen acres within a 1,200-acre estate. We will walk in the footsteps of some of history's most notable characters in the beautiful gardens. Sudeley Castle is also the only private castle in England to have a queen buried within its grounds. We will visit the beautifully restored 15th century St. Mary's Church, where Katherine Parr, the last of Henry VIII's six wives, now lies entombed. The Queens' garden is the magnificent centerpiece of Sudeley's gardens. It is named after four of England's queens; Anne Boleyn, Katherine Parr, Lady Jane Grey, and Elizabeth I. In Tudor times, it would have been planted with herbs, vegetables, and decorative flowers. Today, it boasts more than eighty varieties of roses. We will, of course, also visit and explore the castle and the remaining ruins. We will return to our hotel in Broadway via train. We board the historic steam and heritage diesel train and will enjoy some of the most spectacular scenery in the Cotswolds. What's not to love?! The evening is yours to kick back and enjoy. Anyone up for an evening stroll? B | L

Cozy Inns with Comfort Food



August 20, 2023 - Sunday

Chipping Campden

Breakfast and then head out to enjoy our last full day in the fairy tale region of England. Today's five-mile walk will take us from Broadway to Chipping Campden via Broadway Tower. The Tower has been featured as a location in several movies ("Crush" with Andie MacDowell, "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes"). The Tower is the second-highest point in the Cotswolds. Free time in Chipping Campden before we transfer back to Broadway. Our farewell dinner tonight is at a traditional pub; cheers to our wonderful group! B | D

August 21, 2023 - Monday

Traveling Home

All too soon, your vacation has ended. After breakfast, we transfer to Heathrow airport in plenty of time to check-in for our flight and to clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B

Itinerary subject to change.

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

*Grade 1:

A Grade 1 listed building is given to buildings with exceptional national, architectural, or historical importance. It is rare to find a Grade 1 listed building compared to a Grade 2 listed site, simply because of the significance that is placed on such sites.



To register contact:



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 Fax: 402-435-2735
 GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com
 www.executivetravel.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:
 Via www.WomenoftheMidwest.com/journeys

Package Price:

Per person in shared double room: \$3,995

Per person in a single room: \$4,995*

Triple rooms are on request.

**We offer "Pair & Share" service for our Solo travelers. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate!*

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. The balance is due on May 12, 2023, is non-refundable, and can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payment (any payments after the deposit) will access a 3.5% processing fee.

Group airfare:

We offer group airfare, see separate page.

Travel Insurance:

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travel Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.

Travel Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209.

Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3 4

This tour involves walking up to 5-6 miles over the course of most of the days (Add to this the walking you do outside the group activities), stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and some steep areas within the places visited. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes/boots are recommended.

Included:

- 8 nights during the tour in England at 3+- & 4-star local hotels
- 8 x breakfast
- 4 x lunch
- 4 x dinner
- All transportation as per tour program
- Admission to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- Full-time English-speaking professional tour guide from August 13-21, 2023
- Baggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador, August 12-21, 2023
- All local taxes and fees as per March 13, 2023

Not Included:

- Group airfare, \$1,395 per person, economy class
- Additional airline baggage fees. Your first checked piece up to 50 lbs is FREE
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than mentioned in the tour program
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Gratuities to local guide and driver (estimate \$10-12 in total per day)
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions

Hotel Accommodations (standard rooms):

- Queensberry Hotel or similar, Bath
- Kingshead Hotel or similar, Cirencester
- Lygon Arms Hotel or similar, Broadway

Final accommodations are confirmed with the delivery of your travel documents, 30 days prior to departure.



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A wholly-owned division of Executive Travel Inc.

GROUP AIRFARE INFORMATION

Group airfare (economy class) with United Airlines is available at **\$1,395 per person**, economy class, including all taxes and fees.

From/to **Omaha:**

August 12, 2023	Omaha* 6:00 AM - San Francisco 7:50 AM
August 12, 2023	San Francisco 12:30 PM - London Heathrow 6:55 AM (August 13, 2023)
August 21, 2023	London Heathrow 12:20 PM - San Francisco 3:20 PM
August 21, 2023	San Francisco 8:28 PM - Omaha* 11:59 PM

*Ask us for airfare from a different hometown (a small difference in pricing may occur).

Group airfare comes with seat assignments 30 days prior to departure. Executive Travel / Women of the Midwest cannot confirm precise seat numbers earlier than 30 days prior to your departure, and therefore cannot guarantee the availability of specific seating on the aircraft.

We do our best to honor your preferences (window, aisle seat).

Economy Plus seating upgrades may not be available when traveling on a group air contract.

If you have frequent flyer miles (MileagePlus), please note those may not be used to upgrade your seat when traveling on a group air contract. Contact us if you have any questions about this and kindly note that certain exceptions may exist.

THE ABOVE ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO SCHEDULE CHANGES!

