



WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

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ENGLAND

Castles and Gardens

with Women of the Midwest!

July 23 - August 3, 2024



Dear Women of the Midwest,

Here it is! The long-sought-after journey to enjoy and experience some of the finest castles and gardens in England!

Years of famous history, understated charm, and quaint picture-postcard beauty, England will astound you with its diversity. Bursting with iconic images; royal palaces, ancient Roman baths and walls, grand castles, country manors, thatched cottages, and the most beautiful gardens in the world. We are off to experience it all!

History is everywhere; there were Shakespeare and The Beatles, Big Ben and the London Tower, majestic Windsor Castle, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. Today's Britain is multicultural, with some of the world's best museums, top-class performing arts, and unbeatable big-city thrills.

The English countryside is a mosaic of breathtaking, dramatic beauty; rolling hills dotted with historic houses, mist-cloaked peaks and glacial ribbon lakes, elegant seaside resorts, medieval fortresses, formal gardens, and wild moors of bracken and heather ...all await our discovery. And for all of you who loved the Downton Abbey adventures, we will visit the village of Bampton and see all the picturesque countryside surrounding this beautiful Abbey. This is an adventure in itself!

I hope you will consider joining me on this once-in-a-lifetime journey.

Sincerely yours,
Lora Black,
Ambassador, Women of the Midwest



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

Westminster Abbey



July 23, 2024 - Tuesday

Traveling to England

Our adventure begins as we take an overnight flight to London. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service; you are on your way to a dream destination!

July 24, 2024 - Wednesday

London

Founded by the Romans over 2,000 years ago, the bustling metropolis of London straddles the murky Thames with a wealth of cultural diversity and over 300 spoken languages. Upon our arrival at Heathrow Airport, we will meet our tour guide, who will follow us throughout our journey. We are off to central London for a delightful brunch. Later, we will visit the incomparable Westminster, home of one of the world's most iconic Cathedrals and England's greatest building; the embodiment of the nation's history; theater of Kings and Queens and hallowed resting place of statesmen and soldiers; scientist, priests and poets, the magnificent Westminster Abbey welcomes over one million visitors every year - and little wonder! We continue to the Houses of Parliament before heading to one of the most visited landmarks in the city, Buckingham Palace; if you look hard enough, you might just catch a glimpse of His Majesty at one of the palace's 760 windows ... Check into our hotel, relax, and unwind. B

July 25, 2024 - Thursday

Kew Gardens - London at Leisure

We enjoy a hearty breakfast before heading out to visit Kew Gardens (the Royal Botanic Gardens), London's largest UNESCO World Heritage site and home to tens of thousands of rare plant species,

Kew Gardens & Palace



immaculate gardens, and Britain's smallest royal palace. This is a journey through 250 years of botanical splendor. Explore the Gardens' magnificent glasshouses, from the tropical rainforests of the sensational Palm House to the recently restored Temperate House; experience life inside a real beehive in the "The Hive;" meander through the serene 17th-century Queen's Garden, home to a fabulous bonanza of medicinal plants and herbs, and soak up the intoxicating scents of the fabulous Rose Garden. Head indoors to explore the smallest royal palace in Britain, Kew Palace, home of George III and Queen Charlotte. Lunch is served at a local restaurant before returning to our hotel to enjoy an afternoon at our own pace. B | L

July 26, 2024 - Friday

Tower of London - Optional Show

After an early breakfast, visit the Tower of London. Few parts of the UK are as steeped in legend, superstition, and extraordinary historical moments as the notorious Tower of London. But despite its grisly reputation as a place of torture and death, within its walls, you'll also discover the enthralling history of a royal palace, a working armory, treasury, and zoo - and the world's largest diamond, the 106-carat Koh-i-Nur, or "Mountain of Light." Join one of the legendary Beefeaters on a tour and hear their bloody tales; stand on the spot - if you dare! We return to our hotel, and the rest of the day is yours to enjoy. Join our optional pre-theater dinner and West End Show (announced 90 days before departure) tonight. B | Optional D

July 27, 2024 - Saturday

London at Leisure - Dinner Cruise

Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford



Breakfast at your own pace and a day at leisure to explore and find your favorite spot in London. Visit one of the trendy food markets, stroll Notting Hill and Portobello market, Primrose Hill and Camden Town market, Greenwich Village with the Royal Observatory, Victoria and Albert Museum with its extraordinary fashion, theater, and jewelry galleries (and the best museum shop in the entire UK!), or simply "shop till you drop." Your Oyster Card (public transportation card) makes it easy and fast to navigate around. Tonight's dinner cruise is a beautiful way to say a fond goodbye to this stunning city. B | D

July 28, 2024 - Sunday

Windsor Castle - JFK Memorial - Burnham

We depart London this morning. Nestled in the spectacular Berkshire landscape, atop a crag one hundred feet above the river Thames sits the inimitable Windsor Castle, the largest occupied castle in the world. Step inside to explore Windsor's intriguing history, from the perfectly magnificent State Rooms adorned with exquisite tapestries, wood carvings, and artworks by Rubens and Rembrandt to Queen Mary's Dolls House. There is also the breathtaking architecture of St George's Chapel - home to Britain's oldest order of Knights, the wedding venue of Harry and Meghan, and the resting place of no less than ten Kings of England. Leisurely lunch in Windsor before we stop at the Runnymede JFK Memorial. It commemorates the visit of President John F. Kennedy to the United Kingdom in June 1963. The site holds significance as it is also the location where the Magna Carta, a historical document that laid the foundation for modern democratic principles and human rights, was sealed by King John of

Windsor Castle



England in 1215. We will enjoy our evening in Burnham, where our hotel is nestled within the Burnham Beeches Nature Reserve, a beautiful area known for its ancient woodland and scenic landscapes. Dinner at our hotel. B | D

July 29, 2024 - Monday

Downton Abbey Theme Day - Oxford

The theme of the day, Ladies: Downton Abbey! Though we cannot guarantee tickets to Highclere Castle, what we can guarantee is a day you will never forget! The nearby village of Bampton served as one of the major filming locations and was chosen for its well-preserved historic buildings and picturesque streets. Some of the notable filming locations include St. Mary's Church; the exterior was used as the Downton Abbey parish church and appeared in several wedding and funeral scenes. Bampton Library served as the exterior of the Downton Cottage Hospital. Bampton Village Hall was transformed into the interior of the cottage hospital for filming. Churchgate House, a beautiful Georgian house, was used as Isobel Crawley's home, known as Crawley House, in the show. And finally, the Old Grammar School, which was used as the exterior of Downton Abbey's schoolhouse. We will enjoy lunch at a local pub, and before heading to our hotel, we stop at Cogges Manor Farm. The farm has a history dating back over 1,000 years and is known for its well-preserved medieval manor house, tearoom, and gift shop, where you can purchase local produce, crafts, and souvenirs. We arrive in Oxford in the late afternoon. A city of Dreaming Spires, a sublime ensemble of worldly wonders, and a world-class hub

Stunning Gardens



of noteworthy innovation. Oxford surely ranks amongst England's most beautiful cities - prepare to be besotted! B | L

July 30, 2024 - Tuesday

Oxford - Bath

The day is dedicated to Oxford! We will walk Radcliffe Square, explore the city's magnificent University colleges, and visit the stunning Christ Church Cathedral with its dual role as a cathedral and college chapel. Lunch is served in Oxford, and if time allows, we will pay an optional visit to the Botanic Garden, the United Kingdom's oldest, with its delightful walled garden, beautiful glasshouses, and fabulous Arboretum. Our day ends in Bath, founded by the Romans as a thermal spa and an important center of the wool industry in the Middle Ages. The entire city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. B | L

July 31, 2024 - Wednesday

Bath

Built above Bath's 115° hot springs around 70AD, and today one of the best-preserved Roman remains in the world, the breathtaking Roman Baths is surely one of the thrilling highlights of our journey. Preserved within are its four main features, the Roman Temple, the Sacred Spring, the Roman Bath House, and a fabulous museum containing a remarkable collection of artifacts from Aquae Sulis. The afternoon is yours to enjoy. Swing by the Guildhall Market, the oldest shopping venue in the city, with more than twenty stallholders selling pretty souvenirs. Or, enjoy your afternoon tea by the Pulteney Bridge. We gather tonight to enjoy dinner at a restaurant in Bath. B | D

William Morris Souvenirs



August 1, 2024 - Thursday

Chichester - Arundel Castle & Gardens

Chichester is the seat of a bishopric, with a 12th-century cathedral, and home to some of the oldest churches and buildings in Great Britain. Arundel Castle is home to the Duke of Norfolk, reflecting nearly 1,000 years of history and commanding the surrounding landscape with magnificent views (cover page photo!). Fine furniture and works of art in sumptuously furnished rooms and spectacular gardens, what a joy to visit these places today! Our lunch is local, and we reach Tunbridge in the afternoon for an evening at leisure. B | L

August 2, 2024 - Friday

Sissinghurst Castle Garden

Get ready to feed your soul! Sissinghurst Castle Garden is the quintessential English country garden fantasy and one of the most beautiful gardens in Britain. Carpets of bluebells and flaming reds, exquisite elegance of the White Garden, and intoxicating rose-scented displays ...judge by yourself! Our afternoon visit is a well-kept secret; you will see ...and taste! Tonight we delight in a farewell dinner at our beautiful hotel. B | T | D

August 3, 2024 - Saturday

Traveling Home

All too soon, your vacation has ended. Transfer to Heathrow airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security before boarding and flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B

Itinerary subject to change

B = Breakfast L = Lunch T = Tasting D = Dinner



To register contact:

Executive Travel

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 Phone: 888.549.1186
 GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com
 www.executivetravel.com

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

Package Price:

Per person in shared double room:	\$4,995
Per person in a single room:	\$5,995*

Triple rooms are not available.

**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 March 25, 2024, 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.

EARLY BIRD BONUS - ZERO CREDIT CARD FEES:
 Pay for your tour in full upon registration and minimum six months prior to departure using your credit card!
SAVE 3.5%!

This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 22 travelers. Should the number fall below 15, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.

Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes/boots are recommended.

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 Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.
Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

Group airfare:
 Group airfare becomes available by the end of September 2023. All registered travelers will be notified.

Accommodations (*final accommodations 90 days prior to dep.:*)

- London, Tower Hotel or similar
- Burnham, Burnham Beeches Hotel or similar
- Oxford, Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House or similar
- Bath, Abbey Hotel or similar
- Tunbridge, One Warwick Park Hotel or similar

Included:

- 10 nights accommodations at local 4-star hotels
- Porterage at hotels (one bag per person)
- 1 brunch
- 9 breakfasts
- 4 lunches
- 4 dinners
- 1 tasting (secret!)
- Private motor coach transportation as per itinerary
- Sightseeing program as per itinerary
- All admissions as per itinerary
- Professional English-speaking tour manager during the entire program
- All local taxes and fees as per July 2, 2023
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador, July 23 - August 3, 2024

Excluded:

- Airfare estimate \$1,400 per person, including taxes and fees
- Travel insurance
- Professional fees, \$75 per person due at the time of registration
- Gratuities to local tour guide and motor coach drivers (estimate a total of \$12-15 per person, per day)
- Personal expenses
- Meals other than mentioned in the tour program
- Entrance fees to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions

Optional Pre-Theater Dinner & West End Show - July 26, 2024:

- \$230 per person, including dinner, show ticket, r/t transfer



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Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found at executivetravel.com/etl-home/vacation/escorted-tours

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

GROUP AIRFARE!

We offer group airfare with American Airlines as follows:

July 23, 2024	Omaha* - Charlotte	1:59 PM	5:30 PM
July 23, 2024	Charlotte - London (LHR)	8:15 PM	9:05 AM (July 24, 2024)
August 3, 2024	London (LHR) - Chicago O'Hare	2:25 PM	5:00 PM
August 3, 2024	Chicago O'Hare - Omaha*	8:20 PM	9:52 PM

\$1,195 per person economy class, including taxes and fees.

*We are happy to assist with airfare from a different airport than Omaha. Reach out to get your quote. If you travel from a different airport than Omaha, we aim to have you meet your fellow travelers at London Heathrow Airport on July 23 and return from London Heathrow Airport around the same time as the rest of the group on August 3.

Individual additional transfers may be necessary if meeting the main group is not possible. An additional cost may apply.

Important:

Group airfare comes with seat **assignments 30 days prior to departure**. Women of the Midwest/ Executive Travel 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).

Premium seating upgrades are not available when traveling on a group air contract. If you have frequent flyer miles (AAdvantage® program), please note those cannot be used to upgrade to a different class of service. Contact us if you have any questions and kindly note that certain exceptions may exist.

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