

TRAVELER OF THE QUARTER



MARY CRAWFORD HEGEMAN

My Unforgettable Journey with Women of the Midwest

Last summer, from July 23 to August 3, I embarked on a delightful adventure with the Women of the Midwest, exploring the historic and picturesque cities of London, Bath, and Oxford. The tour was called “England Castles & Gardens.” It was my first time taking a group tour. I have been a longtime “lone ranger,” but it can get lonely, traveling on your own. I was thrilled by the experience of making new friends and having every detail meticulously arranged for me.

Our journey began with four fast-paced days in London. We visited famous landmarks like Kew Gardens, the Tower of London, and Westminster Abbey. One of my favorites during our free time in London was afternoon tea at the British Museum. I have a fondness for the Sutton Hoo treasure, and I got to see it with my own eyes while at the museum! Another memorable moment was the dinner cruise on the Thames, which offered breathtaking views of the illuminated skyline.

If you're a fan of “Downton Abbey,” you'll recognize the iconic Highclere Castle. We were lucky enough to score some of the scarce tickets; I descended the same staircase as Lady Mary!

On to the enchanting city of Oxford. Known for its prestigious university, Oxford offered a blend of intellectual allure and quaint charm. One of the highlights of my trip was purchasing a 400-year-old book page as a unique souvenir, a tangible piece of history to take home.

Next, we traveled to Bath, a city renowned for its Roman baths and Georgian architecture. Touring the ancient Roman baths was fascinating, and we enjoyed some wonderful meals at charming local restaurants.

This trip with Women of the Midwest was an unforgettable experience. The camaraderie, the seamless organization, and the incredible sights made it truly special.

Sincerely,

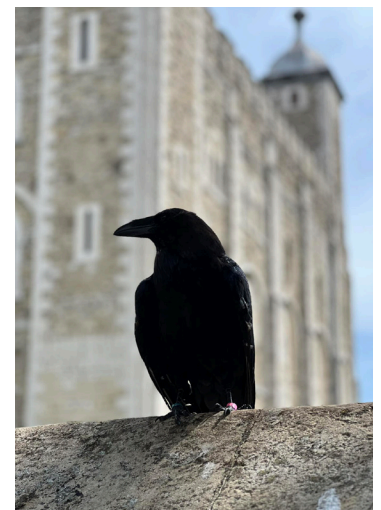
Mary Crawford Hegeman
Traveler
England - Castles and Gardens Tour 2024



Meet us at the gate!



Always time for tea!



Tower of London