

Kilgore College Rangerettes

London & Birmingham International Tattoo Performance Tour

SUGGESTED ITINERARY - FOREVERS, FRIENDS & FAMILY

July 19, 2019

SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Day 1 – Thursday, 21st November 2019: Depart USA

Afternoon Depart DFW or IAH for your overnight / non-stop flight to London Heathrow

Day 2 – Friday, 22nd November 2019: Welcome to England

Meals: D

Arrive at London Heathrow Airport. Meet your driver and English speaking guide and travel to **Windsor**.

Visit Windsor Castle

Windsor Castle is the largest inhabited castle in the world and has been the home to over 40 British Kings and Queens since 1236. Located in the Royal Borough of Windsor outside of London, Windsor Castle sits on 13 acres of grounds and welcomes over one million visitors per year. The castle today is still very much a working royal palace with many official state visitors being dined, accommodated and entertained by the royals and 150 members of staff within the grounds of the castle. The opulent State Apartments, furnished by some of the finest works of art from the Royal Collection, such as paintings from Rembrandt, Rubens and Canaletto, are open to the public. Windsor Castle is also home to St. George's Chapel, the spiritual home of the Order of the Garter – the oldest order of chivalry in the world with members including the Queen, Prince Charles and 24 other Knights.

Spend some free time at leisure in Windsor for exploring and lunch on your own.

Depart Windsor mid-afternoon and travel to Birmingham.

Travel time from Windsor to Birmingham is approximately 3 hours – there will be a rest stop along the way.

Check into your 4 star Birmingham hotel.

Enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel this evening.

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast at your Birmingham hotel.

Day 3 – Saturday, 23rd November: F, F&F Day Trip to the Cotswolds and Gloucester Rehearsal and Performance Day for the Rangerettes

Meals: B, D

Breakfast at hotel

Depart hotel for a day trip to the **Cotswolds Region** and **Gloucester**.

Travel via the **Cotswolds** for a photo stop.

The Cotswolds' honey-colored limestone houses, historical market towns and rolling green hills framed by drystone walls represent an unspoiled idyll of quintessential England. Dotted amongst the picturesque rural scenery, Bourton-on-the-Water, Chipping Camden and Laycock are only a few examples of a huge selection of postcard-pretty towns and villages offering independent cafes, pubs, shops, and bustling market squares. There are elegant stately homes like Chastleton House and Corsham Court, the national arboretum at Westonbirt and beautiful driving routes of the *Romantic Road*.

Continue . . .

SUGGESTED ITINERARY – Forever, Friends & Family – Page 2

Continue to Gloucester, visit **Gloucester Cathedral**

From the subterranean crypts showcasing the oldest parts of the building to the 269 steps leading to the tower, over 1000 years of architectural styles combine to make Gloucester Cathedral one of England's finest medieval buildings. The most recent transformation in this building's history was to the magical school of Hogwarts in the Harry Potter film series, for which the cathedral's magnificent cloisters were a perfect setting. You can also see the door to the Gryffindor common room and the corridor where we first learn that 'The Chamber of Secrets has been opened'.

Spend some free time at leisure in Gloucester and enjoy lunch on your own.

Return to Birmingham.

TBD Dinner

6P **Birmingham International Tattoo** – featuring the Kilgore Rangerettes

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast at your Birmingham hotel

Day 4 – Sunday, 24th November 2019: Performance Day for the Rangerettes **Meals: B, D**

Breakfast at hotel

Free time in Birmingham with lunch on your own. Option to enjoy the **German Christmas Festival** in the City Center.

2P **Birmingham International Tattoo** - featuring the Kilgore Rangerettes

Dinner TBD - (Dinner arrangement to be finalized depending on participant numbers and Tattoo schedule)

Return to your hotel by evening transfer after the Tattoo

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast at hotel in Birmingham or area.

Day 5 – Monday, 25th November 2019: Birmingham to London **Meals: B, D**

Breakfast at hotel

Depart Birmingham and travel to Stratford-upon-Avon – the home of William Shakespeare

Upon arrival, visit **Shakespeare's Birthplace**

In the charming town of Stratford-upon-Avon is a distinctive 16th century, half-timbered house where the great Bard William Shakespeare was born, grew up and lived with Anne Hathaway and his children for the first five years of their married life. Today the birthplace of William Shakespeare is a literary shrine to millions of pilgrims per year and gives visitors a glimpse into the life of Shakespeare through the artefacts and memorabilia of a number of exhibitions, one of which includes a copy of the only known portrait of the playwright. The house can be toured with an audio guide and there is also a shop, café and gardens.

Sightseeing and lunch on your own.

Depart Stratford-upon-Avon and travel to London.

Travel time from Stratford-upon-Avon to London will be approximately 3 hours – there will be rest stops along the way

Continue . . .

SUGGESTED ITINERARY – Forever, Friends & Family – Page 3

Enjoy a group dinner at your hotel this evening.

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast at your hotel in London or area.

Day 6 – Tuesday, 26th November 2019: London

Meals: B

Breakfast at your London hotel

This morning, enjoy seeing some iconic landmarks of **London** as you traverse the city by coach with a guide. Discover the iconic landmarks, architectural and cultural diversity, and fascinating history that makes London the most visited city in the world. On your London Overview Tour you will pass historic landmarks such as The Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, Nelson's Column, Marble Arch and more.

IF SCHEDULED* you will likely see the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace

A visit is included to the **Tower of London**

On the banks of the River Thames in the heart of London stands the Tower of London and nearly 1000 years of history and intrigue. The Tower of London has been used at various times as a palace, barracks, military stronghold, zoo and most famously as a prison incarcerating famous names like Sir Walter Raleigh, Anne Boleyn and Guy Fawkes. During a visit to the Tower you can see the Crown Jewels worth over £20 billion, meet the ravens who legends say have the fate of the Kingdom in their claws, talk to the distinctive Yeoman guards with their white ruffs, and learn about the gruesome torture that went on within the walls. The Tower is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the only intact medieval buildings on the list. At the Tower there are also cafes and a shop.

Around lunchtime, transfer via coach to the **Covent Garden / West End** area, and spend the rest of the day at leisure, sightseeing, shopping with lunch and dinner on your own.

After your free afternoon, make your way to meet up with the rest of the group and see a **show in the West End. Show will be determined and assigned based on availability and the number of travellers in the F, F&F group.**

Return to your hotel by evening coach transfer.

Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in London or area.

Day 7 – Wednesday, 27th November 2019: Free Day in London

Meals: B

Coaching is not included today

Tour guides at disposal to assist with sightseeing suggestions and advice

Breakfast at hotel

Free Day in London – with lunch and dinner on your own.

Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in London or area.

Day 8 – Thursday, 28th November 2019: Farewell

Meals: B

Breakfast at the hotel – or boxed breakfast if needed due airport transfer and check-in

Coach transfer to airport for return flight