



## A TALE OF THREE CITIES

### A HISTORICAL JOURNEY FROM CAPITAL TO CAPITAL

**MAY 21<sup>ST</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> 2020**

Our journey begins in Edinburgh, the political and cultural capital of Scotland. This granite city, set atop seven volcanic hills, is brimming with historic treasures. Its finest treasure is surely Edinburgh Castle, a towering fortification on a rocky outcrop, which dominates the city skyline.

Our journey south brings us to York, ancient capital of northern England and a jewel in England's crown. The city is enclosed within medieval walls, and the soaring spires of York Minster are a thrilling sight.

Finally, the English capital. London is a living history book, from Westminster Abbey to St. Paul's Cathedral, the city is full of character and charm. Free time will allow you to explore those places that spark your interest with a more in-depth visit, be it an exhibition at the Royal Academy, a tour of the Tate Modern, a ride on the London Eye, or a boat trip down the river to Greenwich.

As Dr. Samuel Johnson so famously said, "The man who is tired of London is tired of life!" Three capital cities in three very different parts of the country (or countries), joined together by history. Join us this spring on *A Tale of Three Cities*.



EDINBURGH CASTLE



YORK MINISTER

#### THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

LAND ONLY (NO AIRFARE INCLUDED): **\$4780**  
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: **\$1390**

*Airfares are available from many U.S. cities. Please call for details.*

#### THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

- HOTELS:** 9 nights' accommodation in first-class hotels including all hotel taxes and service charges
- COACHING:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
- TRAINS:** First class rail tickets from York to London
- MEALS:** Full breakfast daily, 4 dinners
- GUIDES:** Discover Europe tour guide throughout
- BAGGAGE:** Porterage of one large suitcase per person
- ENTRANCES:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary.

*Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour. Insurance information will be mailed to each registration on receipt of deposit.*

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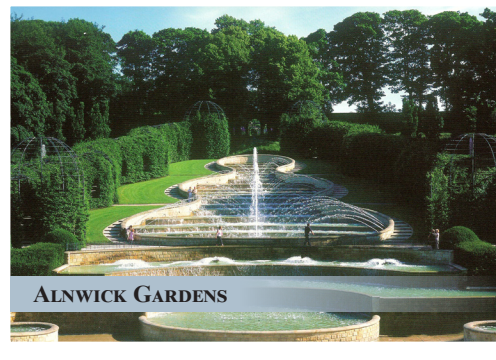
**THURSDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>** - Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city. **OVERNIGHT: PLANE**

**FRIDAY, MAY 22<sup>ND</sup>** - Upon arrival at the airport you will be met and transported to our city-center hotel. There will be time to unpack, relax and begin exploring the neighborhood, before our guide gathers the group together for an orientation briefing. This evening we'll enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. **(D) OVERNIGHT: EDINBURGH**

**SATURDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>** - This morning a local guide will lead a panoramic sightseeing tour of this beautiful city. An introduction to the New and Old Towns includes a visit to historic Edinburgh Castle where you can admire the Honours of Scotland, her crown jewels. The afternoon is free to experience this lively and cosmopolitan city: admire the magnificent views from Calton Hill, marvel at the new Scottish Parliament building, stroll the Royal Mile, or spend time in the Palace of Holyrood House. The evening is free to explore some of the pubs on nearby Rose Street! **(B) OVERNIGHT: EDINBURGH**

**SUNDAY, MAY 24<sup>TH</sup>** - A full day excursion to Stirling and Perth. After visiting Stirling Castle there will be time for lunch before we continue to Perth. At Perth we visit Scone Palace, legendary coronation site of the kings of Scotland. We return to Edinburgh for a free evening. **(B) OVERNIGHT: EDINBURGH**

**MONDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup>** - We depart Edinburgh this morning by bus to York, the capital of Northern Britain since Roman times. Along the way, we make a stop for lunch at Alnwick Castle before touring the award-winning garden. Created by the visionary Duchess of Northumberland, and considered by many to be one of the most exciting contemporary gardens in the last 100 years, Alnwick is truly a 21st-century garden. From there we continue our leisurely drive to York where there is time to check in and rest before dinner at the hotel. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: YORK**



**TUESDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>** - A full day to explore the City of York. A guided tour of exquisite York Minster is followed by a visit to the Treasurer's House, where we'll enjoy a private tour of the cellars, which are supposedly haunted by the ghosts of the Roman Ninth Legion. York is full of wonderful museums, from the Jorvik Center, which recreates the Viking history of the town, to the Castle Museum, with its remarkable collection of Victoriana. Your afternoon and evening are free to explore the city, its sights, and restaurants. **(B) OVERNIGHT: YORK**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>** - A free day in York for independent explorations: shopping, a boat ride, evensong in the Minster. For lunch, you might want to try the nationally renowned tearoom of Betty's to sample Yorkshire specialties. After dinner on your own, you may want to join a Ghost Walk, which takes us through York's narrow alleys and "snickelways." Centuries of history and ghosts come together in a spine-tingling adventure. **(B) OVERNIGHT: YORK**



**THURSDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>** - A morning visit to Fountains Abbey, Britain's largest and most beautiful monastic ruin, set in the wooded valley of the River Skell. A lovely walk through the valley brings us to adjoining Studley Royal, an 18th-century landscaped garden with a series of contrived vistas incorporating a Greek temple, an octagonal tower, and a banqueting house. After time for lunch at the Abbey's restaurant, we'll have an afternoon visit to Newby Hall, one of England's most splendid Queen Anne houses, with a fine collection of Chippendale and 18th-century tapestries. We return to York for a free evening. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: YORK**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29<sup>TH</sup>** - This morning we take the high-speed train from York to London's Kings Cross station. Our coach will meet us on arrival and take us on a panoramic tour of the city. We'll start in the City of Westminster where our guide introduces us to 1,000 years of English history. Continuing on, we'll view many of London's major monuments, from the Albert Memorial to St. Paul's Cathedral to Trafalgar Square, touring the city from Chelsea to Bloomsbury. We'll end the tour at our hotel and, after checking in, the rest of the afternoon and evening are free. **(B) OVERNIGHT: LONDON**

**SATURDAY, MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>** - A completely free day to explore London. Explore the galleries and museums of the city, enjoy shopping along Oxford Street, or join the crowds in the markets of Portobello Road, Covent Garden or Camden Lock. Why not pay a visit in the afternoon to the half-price ticket booth in Leicester Square and take in a matinee? Alternatively your tour guide can help to arrange a day trip somewhere - there are literally hundreds available from Stonehenge and Windsor to Canterbury or Cambridge. We'll gather this evening for a farewell dinner at the hotel. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: LONDON**

**SUNDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>** - Morning transfers to Heathrow Airport for returning flights to the U.S. **(B)**

Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner