



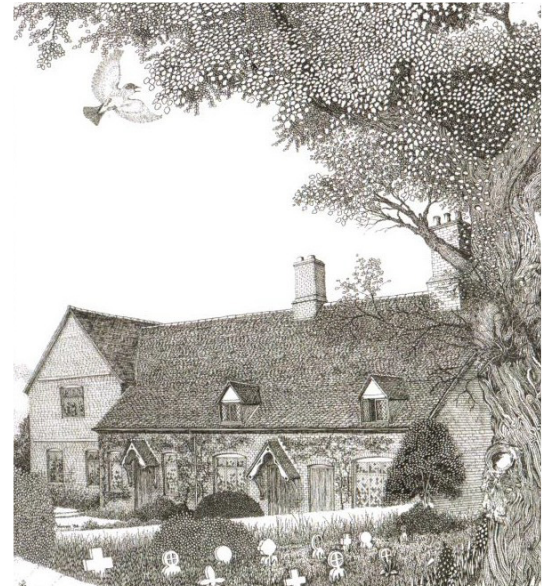
## THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND THE MAGNA CARTA

### THE ENGLISH MANNER

JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> 2019

MAUREEN MCGOWAN SINGER AND JANET KEMERAIT

Crusaders set out from Europe in the 11<sup>th</sup> century to expel the Turks from places in Palestine which were holy to Christians, and in 1099 ejected them from Jerusalem. But pilgrims were still liable to attack by Turkish raiders and in 1118 nine French knights banded together to protect them. The knights were given a plot of land at the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem as their headquarters, and from this they became known as the Knights Templar. Taking vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, they lived as monks when not at war, inspired by the ideal of fighting for their faith, winning recruits easily from the most important dynastic families. As a consequence, gifts of money and land flowed in and many rewards for the undoubted bravery of the early knights included gifts of land across Europe.



THE OLD HALL, TEMPLE BALSALL  
FROM AN ORIGINAL DRAWING BY DAVID WARREN

But, by 1291, the last Christian stronghold in the Holy Land had fallen and the Templars were driven out. They had grown wealthy and made enemies and knights were arrested across Europe in 1308. The order was suppressed and the monks were scattered across different monasteries to serve supposed penance for their greed.

In 1312, the Pope formally published an abolition order transferring their properties to the Knights Hospitallers, the modern forerunners of the Order of St. John of Malta. St. John of Malta developed and maintained our ambulance brigade.

The basis for English Common Law was developed by King Henry II and the Templar dynasty of Anjou. When King Richard the Lionheart died in 1199 he was succeeded by his brother King John (1166-1216) who imposed excessive taxation on the English nobility, and confiscated and sold property of the Roman Catholic Church. These and other arbitrary uses of power were mostly driven by the need to pay for failed foreign wars and by 1214, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, called on the noblemen to demand a charter of liberties from the King of England. This resulted in the first time in history that a statutory law was imposed upon a monarch by armed force, causing the landmark Magna Carta to be enacted in 1215, the Great Charter of Liberties.

The Magna Carta was promoted, established and maintained by the Knights Templar. Therefore, the preservation and further advancement of constitutional rights, civil rights and the Rule of Law which flow from the Magna Carta, continues to be an essential living historical mission of the Templar Order in modern times.

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

LAND ONLY (NO AIRFARE INCLUDED):	<b>\$5590</b>
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:	<b>\$1690</b>

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

#### THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

<b>HOTELS:</b>	7 nights' accommodation in first-class hotels, all hotel taxes and service charges included
<b>COACHING:</b>	All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
<b>MEALS:</b>	Breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 4 dinners, 2 teas
<b>GUIDES:</b>	Alexandra Messervy throughout
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	Porterage of one large suitcase per person
<b>ENTRANCES:</b>	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 registrant on receipt of deposit.*



**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>** - Departure this evening for your international gateway city. **OVERNIGHT: PLANE**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>** - Transfer by private coach to the prestigious private members' club, The Sloane Club, where guests are accommodated under the special invitation of member Alexandra Messervy, FRSA, Founder and CEO of The English Manner and former member of The Royal Household of Her Majesty The Queen.

We have the possibility of checking in and take refreshments before we join together to depart by coach for The Palace of Westminster and a private tour, followed by Afternoon Tea and a Champagne Reception in the House of Lords hosted by Lord Lexden, a well known historian and author specializing in Anglo-American history and a popular host with our guests. Lord Lexden will talk about the Magna Carta this evening and William Marshall, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Pembroke, a highly significant Knight and Protector of King Henry III from his 9<sup>th</sup> birthday, who is buried in Temple Church. The Marshall Protectorate repeatedly reissued the Magna Carta from 1216 to 1255, finally instilling it as the basis for all future government of England (and, leading from this, the Bill of Rights of the United States of course!).

We return to the Sloane Club in the early evening and guests will be free to dine as they wish, perhaps in the delightful bar or formal dining room, or nearby at restaurants of note such as Caraffini, Como Lario, Colbert and Cote. **(T) OVERNIGHT: THE SLOANE CLUB**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>** - Departing after breakfast, we visit Middle Temple for morning coffee and biscuits and a private guided tour followed by lunch in the Temple Hall, joined by lawyer Alastair Murdie. The central domain of the Knights in London was the land surrounding the Temple Church, Chancery Lane and the Southampton Buildings, all owned by the Knights of the Temple of Solomon. From the 13<sup>th</sup> century these areas have been heavily populated by prominent lawyers who lived and worked there originally as the Templar

advisors, and the Inns of Court of Middle and Inner Temple surround the shared courtyard of Temple Church.

This afternoon, enjoy a formal guided tour of Temple Church, the headquarters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandery of the Knights Templar Order in London and where King John was held to account by the Knights in full battle armour in January 1215 and featured in the film *The Da Vinci Code* in 2006.



This will be followed

by a visit to the Worshipful Company of Bowyers and Fletchers (bow and arrowmakers) tour, and a talk on the medieval archer and the weapons used in the Crusades and beyond, and afternoon tea at Cutlers' Hall. **(B, L, T) OVERNIGHT: THE SLOANE CLUB**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Departing after breakfast we drive to the Welsh borders with a stop at Runnymede - where King John signed the Magna Carta on June 15<sup>th</sup> 1215 - and the Runnymede forest which also has an important Charter. The Magna Carta Memorial in Long Mede was designed by Sir Edward Maufe and erected by the American Bar Association in 1957. King John used nearby Windsor Castle for negotiations with the Knights and whilst guests will have visited the Castle before, we will drive by the Long Ride to afford a very special view of this magnificent stronghold.

Four exemplifications of the original charter remain in existence, in the British Library, Salisbury and Lincoln Cathedrals, and there are copies of subsequent charters reissued in the USA and Australia, and the Palace of Westminster. A chance to take morning coffee at the Magna Carta café before we head for the scenic and largely unspoilt countryside of the Cotswolds, incorporating





parts of Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. We will stay at the luxurious but understated 17<sup>th</sup> Century Dormy House Hotel, and a firm favorite of our traveling guests and one of the best loved country house hotels. In the same ownership since 1977, there are both easy and formal dining options and 38 beautifully designed rooms and suites. Truly a Cotswold gem, with great service and attention to detail. For the healthy, a pool and spa! We meet for dinner this evening in the Potting Shed restaurant. **(B, D) THE DORMY HOUSE HOTEL**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 23<sup>RD</sup>** - Departing after an early breakfast, we make a special visit to Garway in the Welsh borders. Here we will find St. Michael's church, with the only visible surviving circular nave in England, at this important Knights Templar location. Significantly, 3 of the parties to the charter of the Magna Carta were nobles of Hereford and the area of the first Templar headquarters, the Commandery at Garway.

There has been a church here for over 1400 years, the first stone building was erected in 1180 by the Knights Templar, who were given land by Henry II. The Church Tower was separate and used as a refuge (so it could be defended in the event of an armed raid) and when the Templars were dissolved, the Knights Hospitaller built the very fine Chancel roof, owning the church and manor until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1540. There are many masons marks on the stonework and these reflect a Middle Eastern influence; a swastika is carved on the south wall, which was originally a sign for good luck and prosperity; and a green man decorates the original Templar chancel arch. In the grounds of the private farmhouse next door is a large dovecote built by Brother Richard in 1326 and the farmhouse itself is built on the site of the preceptory (where the Templars lived and worked). There is a holy well in the churchyard.

This afternoon, we visit the award winning inn just a mile away, for lunch at the Bell at Skenfrith, before visiting the significant Hereford Cathedral. Here we will be given a guided tour of the Cathedral, a dis-

cussion on Magna Carta in the Marches, and Mappa Mundi with a private tea afterwards in the College Hall. A copy of the Magna Carta is occasionally displayed alongside the Mappa Mundi.

Hereford Cathedral is the birthplace of the world renowned Three Choirs Festival and is home to the Mappa Mundi. It has the largest surviving medieval chained library with some of the finest examples of art and architecture from Norman times.

This evening, after a fairly long day, guests will be free to dine at leisure, perhaps choosing one of the lighter bar options. **(B, L) THE DORMY HOUSE HOTEL**

**MONDAY, JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>** - The Manor of Baddesley Clinton was owned by Sir Edward Ferrers, original Templar knight, and has a strong Roman Catholic association with the Gunpowder Plot (Temple Church and Inns of Court), and Coughton Court.



Nearby is the tiny hamlet of Temple Balsall where we visit the Parish Church for a guided tour and talk, followed by a visit to the Temple Hall, with a private catered lunch.

Temple Balsall was founded by the Knights Templar (Roger de Mowbray, son of Norman Knight Nigel d'Aubigny, favored by Henry I) around 1146, and for almost 200 years was their preceptor, or headquarters. From here, they ruled Warwickshire and parts of Leicestershire and the preceptor building still exists within the present Old Hall, where we will enjoy lunch.

The current Rector of the parish church of St. Mary, Revd Kathy, will give us a talk and guided tour. The Old Hall is the oldest building and is an extremely rare example of early timber-framing. It certainly existed by 1185 and provided shared accommodation for the Knights. The Knights Hospitallers built the unusual church in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and it was restored by the famous Sir Gilbert Scott in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We will also find delightful almshouses dating from 1679.

From here, we visit the important All Saint's Church at Burton Dassett, noted for its medieval wall paintings and connection to the Knights Templar. We learn of the Knights of nearby Temple Herdwycke (now incorporated into the village of Kington nearby), which is just a few miles away from Alexandra's own home at Tysoe, another ancient manorial settlement with an 11<sup>th</sup> century church and the nearby Compton Winyates Manor house dating to the 1400s. The Templars of Balsall received gifts of land at Tysoe (known as Temple Tysoe) granted by Henry de Clinton (Baddesley Clinton) and Robert de Stafford in 1185.



SUDELEY CASTLE

The houses of Lower Tysoe date from the 16<sup>th</sup> century with the church building from the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Tysoe Manor dates from the 1300s and we know that the settlement included a coinage and important market. The road leading from Lower Tysoe was formed by a path to Herdwycke, via a windmill which was said to be in situ in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The Domesday Survey confirms a settlement in 1086 with a mill and land adjoining. Lord Harold de Sudeley owned the land at Burton Dassett and the first recorded history of the village dates back to 1087. Ralph de Sudeley, who built Sudeley Castle, gave the church's chancel arch in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and the family continued its patronage with additional development, including the installation of a stained glass window which survived until the 18<sup>th</sup> century. On the death of the childless Baron Sudeley, the manor was divided between his two sisters, passing to the Belknap family in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Interestingly, a grandson married a Throckmorton of Coughton Court, implicated in the Gunpowder Plot, which connects directly back to the Magna Carta and Knights Templar! Burton Dassett became infamous in the Battle of Edgehill in 1642 when Civil War raged the area. It is said that Oliver Cromwell viewed the battle from the Burton Dassett hills.

It is believed that the strong association with the Templars lays foundation to the claim that there is a

connection here with the Ark of the Covenant. Many years have been spent searching for the Ark which contained two stone tablets with the ten commandments inscribed. In his book, *The Templars and the Ark of the Covenant*, author Graham Philips/Simon & Schuster states that the Knights Templar of Herdwycke brought the Ark to England following their defeat by the Saracens in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. He believes that one of the two slabs of stone have been found, identified with a form of sandstone found on Mount Sinai, and discovered in the walls of an old

Holy Well in the village of Napton on the Hill, nearby. When Sir Walter Raleigh visited the village in 1600, he hired men to excavate the ruins of the Herdwycke chapel in the belief the Templars had buried treasure there. Nothing was found. The chapel in modern times has been renovated as a domestic dwelling. We meet for dinner in the Potting Shed once again. **(B, L, D)**  
**THE DORMY HOUSE HOTEL**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>** - This morning we depart to visit the historic catholic stronghold, the delightful Coughton Court. Home of the Throckmortons and implicated in the Gunpowder Plot, we will be able to tour the



COUGHTON COURT

interesting collections and history, including the gown worn by Mary Queen of Scots at her execution and needlework by Queen Catherine of Aragon. Home to the family since the 1400s, the gardens here have been magnificently restored and redesigned by Clare Maclaren -Throckmorton QC and her award winning RHS Chelsea medal designer daughter, Christina Williams.

The café and gift shop of this National Trust gem are a delight, and we will be able to take lunch here before we depart for a brief stop at The Tithe Barn at Middle Littleton, an outstanding rare example of a medieval barn close to the monastic settlements of Cleeve Prior, Abbots Morton, Throckmorton, and

Abbots Salford in Templar Worcestershire.

This evening, we will dine at a local inn dating from the 1600s, The Ebrington Arms. Located just outside Chipping Campden, the inn offers a delightful menu, with renowned ales, good wines and a lovely ambience. **(B, D) THE DORMY HOUSE HOTEL**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>** - We begin our day with a morning of shopping and sightseeing today in the historic village of Broadway before visiting the nearby parish of Temple Guiting and the hamlets of Kineton

and Ford and Sudeley Castle. Lunch at the Cotswold Pub of the Year, The Plough Inn at Ford. This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together and say our goodbyes. **(B, D) THE DORMY HOUSE HOTEL**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>** - Morning transfers to London for returning flights to the US.

*Key to included meals: B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner, T=tea*

## REGISTRATION FORM

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- i). Please type or print.
- ii). Make checks payable to DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.
- iii). Be sure to read the Terms & Conditions and the Refund Policy contained on the reverse before signing.
- iv). Complete both sides of this form.
- v). Detach the bottom section and mail it to Discover Europe with your deposit of \$1000 per person. Keep the top section for your records.

### DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS:

#### 1. PASSENGER DETAILS

- i). Name(s). Please make sure that your name appears on this form exactly as it does on your passport.
- ii). Address. If you have a different address, please let us have the details, including dates that you are there, on a separate sheet.
- iii). Passport Details. Having your passport details ahead of time enables Discover Europe to speed the check-in process at hotels and helps in the event of lost or stolen documents.
- iv). Dietary Requirements. Please let us know if you require any special meals both for the hotels and the airlines.
- v). Health Information. A fair amount of walking is involved in this trip and includes stairways. Check the itinerary with your physician to ensure a safe and comfortable journey. Travelers requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion.

#### 2. EMERGENCY CONTACT

This information is essential.

#### 3. INDEPENDENT FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS.

If you are arranging your own flights, please provide your complete flight information, giving the following: dates of travel, airline(s), flight numbers, departure and arrival airports and departure and arrival times for all flight segments that you have booked. Transportation to and from the hotel for arrival and departure arrangements that are separate from the group can be made at an additional cost.

#### 4. ROOMING REQUIREMENTS

- Please check the appropriate boxes. We will book non-smoking rooms (where available) unless otherwise requested.
- i). If you are sharing a room, please let us know with whom. If you would like to share a room but do not have a roommate, we will be happy to try and match you up but unfortunately cannot guarantee that this will be possible. If no match is available, the single supplement will apply.
- ii). A twin room has two separate single beds in it. A double room has one large bed. Please let us know your preference.



### PASSENGER DETAILS FOR THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR (0619/AMT/19)

Passport Name:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last

Known As: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Passport 1#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.Date: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport 2#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.Date: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ work/cell/home  
circle one

Secondary Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ work/cell/home  
circle one

Special Dietary Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments or Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Trip Details

Itinerary Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Airport or City: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to extend my trip to: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:**  
DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.  
95 Adams Street, Keene, NH 03431





**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

1. Please be sure to complete both sides of this form.
2. Instructions to aid you can be found on overleaf.
3. Space on this journey is limited and registrations are accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis.
4. Registration and payment imply acceptance of the terms and conditions described herein. This information, as well as your itinerary description regarding dates, inclusions and prices, form the basis of your individual contract with Discover Europe, Ltd.
5. Registration and payment waive and release Discover Europe, Ltd., and The English Manner their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by them, from all claims arising from any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond their control, including, without limitation: natural disasters, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle or from any act of omission by any bus or car rental agency, airline, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.
6. Discover Europe, Ltd. reserves the right to substitute hotels, airlines, activities, host or excursions in response to changes in availability, local events or weather conditions, provided such substitutions do not adversely affect the overall quality of the tour. Such substitutions do not constitute grounds for withdrawal with full refund.

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

1. A deposit of \$1000 must accompany this completed form.
2. The remaining balance will be billed and payable 90 days prior to trip departure.

**TOUR COST ADJUSTMENTS**

Discover Europe makes every effort to guarantee that the published cost of your chosen tour will not change. However we do reserve the right to make adjustments in the following circumstances:

1. Exchange rates. Should the value of the dollar fall against the currency of the countries visited on your tour by more than 10% in the 6 months prior to trip departure.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

NAME(S): 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**FLIGHT INFORMATION**  
*(Please check one)*

DO YOU WANT DISCOVER EUROPE TO BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS :  YES  NO

FLIGHT DETAILS (IF SELF-ARRANGED): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Group size. This tour has been based on a group size of 12 participants. Should we end up with less than this, Discover Europe will work with The English Manner to determine a course of action which will involve either paying a surcharge to keep the tour as is, or making adjustments to the tour in order to keep the cost the same.
3. Airfares. If your tour includes airfare, Discover Europe Ltd. reserves the right to pass along increases in costs (taxes, airport fees, fuel surcharges, etc.) that are charged by the airline involved.

**REFUND POLICY**

1. Participants who withdraw more than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a \$1000 cancellation penalty.
2. Participants who withdraw less than 90 days and more than 60 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a \$2000 cancellation penalty.
3. Participants who withdraw less than 60 days prior to the day of tour departure will not receive a refund unless they have purchased travel insurance.
4. Trip cancellation insurance is not included in your Discover Europe tour package. Discover Europe, Ltd., strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. Discover Europe will be happy to provide information describing the services of a recommended insurance company, which will fully detail the coverages, provisions, limitations, and exclusions of the insurance offered.
5. All cancellation requests must be received in writing (either by mail or e-mail).
6. There is no provision for refund for any activities missed due to the participant's absence once the tour has started.

**INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS**

1. All inclusions on *The Knights Templar and the Magna Carta* are listed on the day-by-day itinerary and registration form.
2. The following are not included (unless specifically mentioned in the itinerary): transatlantic airfare, travel insurance, transportation to and from the participant's home to their chosen departure airport, passport fees, excess baggage charges, tips to couriers and tour bus drivers, items of a personal nature.



**ROOMING REQUIREMENTS**

*(Please check one)*  
 I WILL BE SHARING WITH: \_\_\_\_\_  
 WE WOULD LIKE A  DOUBLE  TWIN-BEDDED ROOM  
 I WOULD LIKE A SINGLE ROOM (SEE ITINERARY FOR SUPPLEMENT)

**PERMISSIONS**

DISCOVER EUROPE MAY INCLUDE MY E-MAIL ADDRESS ON THE TOUR PASSENGER LIST.  YES  NO

**SIGNATURES**

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE ATTACHED TERMS & CONDITIONS AND UNDERSTAND THAT TRAVEL INSURANCE IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TRIP.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_