

Hello travelers!

First of all, this is "update #2". Do not worry if you did not receive the first update. It just means you registered for the tour at a later date and that information is no longer pertinent. ©

This will be an update primarily regarding air reservations. Please read carefully! Thanks! ©

- If you are planning to arrive early in London prior to our tour or stay extra days at the end of the tour, <u>please let me know now</u>. If you want me to book your air, I will need to know your exact travel dates. You are welcome to book your own air. I just want to know "who is doing what" so someone doesn't end up stranded on one side of the pond or the other!
 - If you would like to arrive in London early or spend some extra days in Edinburgh, you can lodge at the hotels our group will be staying at using our group tour rates. The extra nights can be added onto your tour invoice. Let me know if you wish to do this.
- If you do NOT need me to make your flight reservations or you prefer to make them yourself, please let me know and I will add you to the list below. I am NOT making reservations for the following individuals at this time, unless requested:
 - o Barb Torrence (resevations made)
 - Kyle Abbott (reservations made)
 - Nan Remus (using FF miles)
 - Deb Sobkowiak (using FF miles) Are you also doing Angie's reservations so you can travel together or should I take care of her reservations?
- I will NOT be flying people into a central gateway so we can all be on the same transatlantic flight. It is not cost effective nor are most of the flight schedules efficient in doing this. I WILL be working to get people flying from the same geographical areas together on the overseas flight. Once all of the reservations are made, I will let everyone know who will be on the same flights.
- I will need passport numbers and expiration dates in order to book air. (**Tom Haas, Angie Lee**) Please provide me with this information ASAP...thanks!
- Airfares are all over the place right now and I continue to monitor them. We do need to move ahead with booking, and I will do my best for everyone. Flights are averaging around \$1,500 from the Midwest, slightly more from the West coast and slightly less from the East Coast. Delta is pricing high right now while American, Virgin, and British appear to be lower. (But this can change minute by minute!)
- Once I have found flight times and prices that I think are the best options for you, I will put the reservation on hold. Reservations can only be held for a few hours, until midnight at the latest, or the booking will be cancelled. Until your air is booked, I would ask that you please keep a close eye on your email (checking once or twice daily, if possible). When I have a reservation held for you, you will receive an email from me with the flight information and costs. I will need a response from you to either a) go ahead and book the flight charging it to the credit card on file, b) hold off on booking temporarily, or c) asking me to try finding some different flights.

- Unless you specifically request to be booked in business or first class, all reservations will be made in coach. Once your air reservation has been made, you will receive your airline locator record. You can go to the airline website, enter your record number, and request to upgrade to the comfort class or higher (if available) for an additional fee. More leg room! You can also change your seat assignments if you wish.
- If you are currently making monthly payments on your trip, please let me know if you want those payments to continue in the month where your air reservation is made or if you'd like the air reservation to be your only payment for the month. I'm happy to do as you wish.

A few other quick notes:

- Once air reservations are made, I will begin work on modifying your travel insurance policies to make sure your trip is completely covered. I will let you know once I'm ready to begin that process.
- We now have 25 reservations for our tour! I only have one single room remaining. If you are interested in U.S. geography, you'll want to look up where everyone is coming from:
 - Ettrick, WI; Marion, IA; Omak, WA; Suffield CT; Marietta, GA; Janesville, WI; San Francisco, CA; Wheaton, IL; Rochester, MI; Foresthill, CA; Barrington, IL; Reno, NV; Bellingham, WA; Neenah, WI; Ellison Bay, WI; St. Louis, MO; Lincoln, CA; Sequim, WA; West Concord, MN; Ellensburg, WA, and Black River Falls, WI!
- Ravelry Group. It's time to start getting to know each other!! I hope you will stroll over to the Fiber Garden's Ravelry group and check in on the "2017 Great Britain Sheep-to-Shawl Tour" thread. This is a thread to introduce ourselves and have conversation before the trip and share memories upon our return. As the date of our tour draws closer, you will find the group provides a great forum for lively conversation! The participants in our fall 2015 cruise found this a great way to keep in communication before and after the cruise. (Please note that I will never post critical information on Ravelry, unless it is a reminder or to emphasize what I've sent in an email.)
- For those participating in the extended tour in Scotland, we cannot book that air until about six months out, so it's too early right now. Current pricing into March is very reasonable, but rates will likely increase during the summer tourist season.

As always, let me know if you have questions. I'm here to help make preparing for this trip as stress-free as possible for you! I am so happy to now have our group formed so we can look ahead to the great adventures that will be waiting for us!

Make it a great day! Deb

Deb Jones, Owner
Fiber Garden LLC
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