

## 2022 Shetland Prepare to Travel Zoom Agenda/Meeting Notes

Tuesday, April 12, 2022. 7:00 p.m. Central

### CHECK YOUR EMAIL DAILY!!!!

Pandemic related info:

- <https://apply.joinsherpa.com/travel-restrictions> Check this site for updates.
- COVID requirements for entry to UK/Scotland traveling through AMS and LHR:
  - NO testing required for vaccinated passengers on the outbound!
  - **Transiting through AMS.**
    - Must show proof of vaccination
    - “Starting February 1st, 2022, travelers must have received their last vaccination dose in the past 270 days for a valid vaccination certificate.”
    - “All travelers aged 12 years and older are required to [fill out a health declaration](#) before departure to the Netherlands.’
  - **Transiting through LHR.**
    - NO proof of vaccination required. BUT ALWAYS carry your vaccination card!
    - No health declaration required.
- COVID requirements for return to U.S.:
  - Negative test required no more than one day prior to return travel. Process:
    - [Order your BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card Home Test](#). Order two tests.
    - Download [Navica App](#) on your phone or tablet and create your account.
- On Sunday morning, before checking out of our hotel, we will all do our testing proctored by [eMed](#).
- Mask-wearing is required when inside public spaces or on public transit.
- Scotland does not have a requirement for a specific type of mask. (N95/KN95). HOWEVER, I’m requesting everyone to use N95, KN95 etc masks to increase our protection. Masks required at all times in our tour van! [KN95 mask that I wear](#).
- Airlines still require masks in airports and onboard aircraft. This regulation is scheduled to end in April, but may be extended. You are strongly advised to wear a mask at all times during air travel if the regulation is lifted!

Passports

- Make a copy!!
- Keep in carry-on...do not pack!

Medications and health issues.

- Any dietary or health issues you did not indicate when you registered...let me know ASAP.

## Currency

- Currency is GBP. ATM at airport. ATMs also located in Lerwick. If you need cash, let us know so we can stop at an ATM.
- Tipping:
  - Sarah @ 10 GBP/day = \$70 GBP
  - Luggage guy = @5GBP
  - For Sarah and the “luggage guy”, a few days into our tour, I will pass a document bag around with a card for you to sign and you can put your gratuities in. On our departure day, we will give it to Sarah as a group.
  - Jacqueline – Aberdeen tour guide. @2 GBP. Each person should individually hand their gratuity (if you choose to give her one) to Jacqueline at the end of the tour.

## Time and weather.

- 6 hours ahead of Central Daylight Time
- Temps averaging mid-upper 40s degrees
- Windy!
- Sunrise about 4:30 a.m.; sunset about 9:30 p.m.

Purchases, VAT and VAT claims, shipping home. If you want to ship things, ask the merchants to do the shipping. You will pay for shipping, but will not need to pay the VAT. Please do not plan on shipping anything home through the post office. Bring a big suitcase and pack it lightly so you have lots of extra room to pack your purchases.

Phones/wifi/communications. Deb will have a phone you can use if you need to make a call. Check with your cellular provider as to the settings to use on your phone so you don't get charged international roaming fees.

Travel insurance – Bring a copy of your coverage with the insurance company contact info and/or the wallet cards. If you can't find the confirmation of your insurance purchase, [email Deb](#) and she will send it to you.

## Care Package notes:

- Electric adapter – I like to pack this in my carry on in case my luggage gets delayed so I can charge stuff when I get to the hotel
- Name tag – please wear out of respect to fellow group members and our guide anytime we are gathered as a group
- Rain jacket – it is not required that you bring/wear it! (Put we sure are a good looking group when you do!)
- Hand sanitizer! Carry it with you everywhere and use it!

## Packing:

- Use [compression bags](#) to create extra room in your suitcase and bring extra compression bags to pack your purchases in to bring home! (Note that the link is not to the bags I purchased years ago. But it will help you get your search started. I like the sets that come with multiple sizes of bags.)
- Masks. You'll need one mask per day plus a couple of extras.

- Good walking/hiking shoes/boots. An extra pair in case one is wet.
- Don't overpack!! You'll probably wear the same clothes most every day. (This is considered VERY acceptable! 😊)

#### Travel to Aberdeen

- Knitting needles and crochet hooks
  - OK to take in carry-on with British Airways and U.S. airlines.
- E-tickets bring a printed copy, even if you are using an airline app
- Check your flights!!!
- Recommend you have the airline app on your phone for receiving up-to-date alerts about your flights.
- Arrival into Aberdeen. I will be there waiting for you and will have arranged taxi transportation for our group to the hotel.
  - Linda: Depending on your arrival time, you can a) take a taxi to our hotel or b) go directly to the Maritime Museum on Shiprow. Ask them to hold your luggage while we tour.
- There is a bar with food served in the afternoon at the hotel.
- Food & Beverage walking tour. Taxi's will be arranged to get us from our hotel to downtown. Approx 3-hour tour with about 5 tastings. We'll return to the hotel by 5:30 with dinner at 7:00 or 7:30.
- Check-out time on Monday is 11:00 a.m. Taxi transportation to the airport for our flight to Sumburgh will be arranged for 11:00.

#### Group communications during tour:

- WhatsApp group. Use WhatsApp to text me at 715.220.9279. (Only use this number for texting!) Be sure and tell me your name when you message me through WhatsApp! I will add you to our Shetland group.
- This is only for first-timers traveling with the Fiber Garden. For everyone else, I should already have your phone # and I will add you to the group. You only need to contact me if your cell # has changed since your last trip with me.
- You can use this to reach me if you have flight delays, etc. Also to send a message to our group or to individuals in our group.

Departure from Northlink Ferry terminal to airport on 5/16 will be by pre-arranged transfer for everyone except Shawn and Linda.

#### Miscellaneous:

- Join our [Facebook travel group!](#)
- Will be taking photos and doing a daily photo journal on Facebook. Let me know if you do not want your picture posted.

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