

“WORKING” ITINERARY

JOHN & CHARLES WESLEY METHODIST HERITAGE TOUR OF ENGLAND, WALES & SCOTLAND

With Rev. David and Teresa Werner, Rev. Joel Certa-Werner and Rev. Thanael Certa-Werner

14 Day Tour: Tues., March 18 - Mon., March 31, 2025

Experience the wonder and history of the three culture-threads of the Island of Great Britain! As a Methodist History Study Tour, we will see sites significant to the life of John & Charles Wesley and early British Methodism. As a cultural tour we will experience English, Welsh and Scottish culture and history. As a study tour, we will not only visit the historical and significant places, we will also absorb much of our historical roots and heritage. Further, with devotions and worship, there will be an emphasis on the Christian significance of what we see, and so this tour will also be a Christian pilgrimage of faith.

Our “family-style” touring offers us the opportunity to pack our days full, to “get off the beaten path” and see things most packaged tours cannot, and remain flexible to the needs and preferences of the group. Travelers are able to “go it on their own” or stay with the led tours for whole days or individual places we visit. As your tour guides, drivers and travel agents, we offer this trip at hundreds lower than any other comparable trip. Study our heritage, experience the culture, and grow in faith!

HIGHLIGHTS:

Stratford, Nottingham, York, Durham, Scotland, Lake District, Birmingham, Wales, Bristol, London
John & Charles Wesley sites in Epworth, Oxford, Bristol and London.

Castles, cathedrals, abbey ruins, Roman ruins, British gardens, thatched cottages, stately homes,
historic architecture, quaint villages, medieval settings, world-class museums, biblical and
world history and English, Welsh & Scottish culture!

The Cotswolds, Northumbria, wind-swept Scotland, the Lake District, picturesque Wales, a river
cruise, a medieval feast, WWII air museum, driving an under-water road (!).

Shopping, local cuisine, time on your own.

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OVERVIEW

FLIGHTS

Departing: Tues., March 18 on Delta #010 from Minneapolis (MSP) Lindbergh at 6:00 p.m.
Arrives Wed., March 19 into London Heathrow (LHR) at 7:05 a.m.

Return: Departs Mon. March 31 on Delta #009 from London Heathrow (LHR) at 12:10 p.m.
Arrives Mon., March 31 Minneapolis (MSP) Lindbergh at 3:05 p.m.

LODGING

Tues., March 18	Depart 6p at MSP Lindbergh; Overnight on flight.
Wed., March 19	Macdonald Alveston Manor, Stratford-upon-Avon
Thurs., March 20	King's Chamber (motor oasis), Doncaster
Fri., March 21	Walworth Castle, Darlington (A 12 th century medieval castle!)
Sat., March 22	Kings Manor, Edinburgh
Sun., March 23	Kings Manor, Edinburgh
Mon., March 24	The Bournbrook Inn, Birmingham
Tues., March 25	Lansdown Grove Hotel, Bath (An 18 th century manor house!)
Wed., March 26	Lansdown Grove Hotel, Bath (An 18 th century manor house!)
Thurs., March 27	Royal Eagle Hotel, London
Fri., March 28	Royal Eagle Hotel, London
Sat., March 29	Royal Eagle Hotel, London
Sun., March 30	Royal Eagle Hotel, London
Mon., March 31	3:05p Arrive in MSP Lindbergh

DRAFT ITINERARY (STILL BEING DEVELOPED!)

Tues., March 18: Flight to England

- 3p Travelers meet at Delta Check in Area (must group check-in with Reese)
 - 4p Travelers gather at Boarding Gate at MSP Lindbergh Terminal
Welcome, Introductions, Group Devotions
 - 6p Delta #010 Departs (dinner on flight)
- Overnight on flight

Wed., March 19: Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon

- 7a Flight arrives; get luggage
 - 8a Board bus (Proximity Bus Company) & drive to Oxford (60 minutes)
 - 9a Drop off at Group Drop-off site (20 minute walk to Christ Church)
 - 10a Tour of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford University (Wesley preached here as a Fellow)
 - 11a Christ Church Great Hall & Bodly Staircase (featured in Harry Potter movies)
 - 11:30a Tour Wesley Study at Lincoln College, Oxford University (1/3 mile walk to Lincoln)
 - 12:30p Drop off Oxford shopping area; lunch on your own
 - 1:30p Drive to Statford-upon-Avon (Shakespeare's home town) (60 minutes)
Friends from England join our tour: Russell & Ann Blackwell and Den & Pam Williams
 - 3p Tour Shakespeare' birth home, 16th century home
 - 4:30p Shopping in gift shop and area
 - 5p Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon: Shakespeare's grave
 - 6p Bus transfer to hotel (10 minutes)
 - 7p Walk to cruise dock (1/3 mile)
 - 7:30-10:30p Supper dinner cruise on Countess of Evesham
Russell & Ann Blackwell return home.
- Overnight: Macdonald Alveston Manor, Stratford-upon-Avon (indoor swimming pool)

Thurs., March 20: Warwick, Nottingham

- Breakfast at hotel
- 9:15a Drive to Warwick Castle (30 minutes)
- 10a Entrance to Warwick Castle
- 10:15a Dungeon tour (45 minutes)
- 11a Free time exploring Warwick Castle
Lunch on your own at castle café.
Den & Pam leave after Warwick Castle.
- 12:45p Drive to Nottingham (70 minutes)
- 2:15p English Tea at Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem Pub Restaurant (launching of the Crusades)
- 3:15p Drive to Sherwood Forest Major Oak (50 minutes)
- 4p Stop at Sherwood Forest to walk to Major Oak (half our walk, round trip)
- 4:30p Drive to Scrooby (35 minutes)
- 5p English friend Heather Andrew joins our tour
- 5:15p Visit St. Wilfrid's Parish Church, Scrooby - Mayflower Pilgrim Parish church
Pilgrim Father William & Mary Brewster's pew, baptismal font & church records.

- 5:45p Drive to Wroot (15 minutes)
 Drive through village of Bawtry, home of Pilgrim Father George Morton
- 6p Photo Stop at St. Pancras Parish Church, Wroot: Only church John Wesley served as a pastor
- 6:15p Drive to Epworth (15 minutes)
- 6:30p Supper at Red Lion Pub (Wesley stayed there often - 2 Wesley Rooms!)
 Photo: Epworth Market Cross base (where John preached a number of times)
- 8p Drive to lodging in Doncaster (20 minutes, 11 miles)
- 8:30p Drop off at King's Chamber (motor oasis), Doncaster

Fri., March 21: Epworth, York

Breakfast *on your own* (not prepaid!) at the oasis (McDonalds, Aldi & Subway)

- 8:30a Drive to Epworth (20 minutes, 11 miles)
- 9a Private worship at St. Andrew's Parish Church, with Holy Communion (w/Wesley chalice!)
- 10a Tour St. Andrew's Parish Church (Wesley baptismal font & chalice; Samuel Wesley grave)
- 10:45a Wesley Walking Tour:
 Old Rectory (Queen Ann and Georgian structure), exterior
 Wesley statue
 British Methodist Church with Wesley window and Communion Table from St. Andrew's.
 Heather Andrews leaves after Epworth.
- 11:45a Drive to York (70 minutes)
- 1p York: Walk the Walls, Shambles, Medieval City Center, Clifford's Tower, Bishop's Palace, Chapter House, Jorvik Ctr., Guild Merchant Hall, Fairfax House, Holy Trinity Church with box pews, etc.)
 Note: Entrances are extra (walls, Clifford's Tower, Chapter House, Jorvik Ctr. etc.)
 York Minster: last entrance is 4p; closes at 5p
 (Souvenirs: Kit-Kats, Thornton's toffee, York chocolate, Terry Chocolate Oranges, etc.)
 (Try Yorkshire pudding, Wensleydale cheese, Yum-yum doughnuts)
- 5p Walk around exterior of Minster - see Bishop's Palace
 Those who want to eat early, get food (Minster café)
- 5:30p Evensong at York Minster - by south entrance (note, sunset this day is 6:30p)
- 6:30p Evening drive-by/photo opportunities of Clifford's Tower, York walls, Minster & city
 Drive to Walworth Castle, Darlington (60 miles; 70 minutes)
- 7:45p Arrive Walworth Castle, Darlington (12th century castle!)
- 8p Supper on your own at Walworth Castle restaurant

Sat., March 22: Durham, Housesteads Roman Fort, Lindisfarne, Scotland

- 7a Breakfast (prepaid) begins at restaurant
- 8:15a Depart Walworth Castle, Darlington (25 miles; 35 minutes to Durham)
 Drive around North York Moors National park
- 9:05a Shuttle to Durham Cathedral -Framwell Gate, Waterside.
- 9:20a Durham Cathedral
- 10:20a Shuttle back to bus
- 10:30a Drive to Housesteads Roman Fort and Hadrian's Wall (60 minutes)
 Drive through Newcastle-upon-Tyne, "top" of the "Methodist triangle."
- 11:30a Housesteads Roman Fort and Hadrian's Wall; lunch on your own at café
- 1p Drive through Northumbria National Park to Holy Island (2 hours)

- 3p Holy Island & Lindisfarne Priory (also see St. Cuthbert's Island hermitage)
 (Note: Lindisfarne "underwater" road safe to drive 9:25a-6:40p on 3/22/25)
- 4p Drive to Edinburgh (Photo opportunities: Scotland sign & Bamberg Castle) (90 minutes)
- 5:30p Drop off Kings Manor, Edinburgh (NE Edinburgh, near beach; has pool & hot tub!)
 Supper on your own at hotel restaurants, at nearby restaurants (walk), or at pubs (may require taxi)
 Evening options: hotel pool, hot tub; ½ mile (10 minutes) walk to beach

Sun., March 23: Edinburgh, Scotland

- Breakfast (prepaid) at hotel restaurant
- 8:45a Bus transport to St. Giles Church on The Royal Mile, Edinburgh (30 minutes)
- 9:30a Worship at St. Giles, Scottish Presbyterian Church (John Knox's church)
- 10:30a Walk The Royal Mile uphill (1/3 mile) to Edinburgh Castle
- 11:30a Entrance to Edinburgh Castle
- 1p Firing of the One o'Clock Gun (cannon) atop Edinburgh Castle
- Afternoon: Walk down "The Royal Mile" - lunch on your own; shopping
 John Knox House (optional; not prepaid)
 St. Giles Cathedral Museum (optional; not prepaid)
- 3:30p Tour Holyrood Palace & Abbey (Scottish Royal Palace, throne with the "Stone of Destiny")
- 5p Bus transport to Swanston Farm (45 minutes)
- 6p Dinner at Swanston Farm Brasserie (see nearby highland cattle)
- 7:30p Transport back to Kings Manor (45 minutes)
- 8:30p Kings Manor overnight
 Early to bed - next day is early morning!
 Evening options: Pool, hot tub, walk to the beach (1/3 mile; 10 minutes), etc.

Mon., March 24: Manchester & Birmingham

- 6a Leave for Lowther Castle (2.5 hours)
- 8:30a "Full English" Breakfast at Lowther Castle, Lake District
 If time: Explore Lowther Castle Gardens (£13.50/pp, not prepaid)
- 10a Drive to Manchester (2 hours)
- 12p Museum of Science and Technology (industrial revolution, textiles, Rolls Royce, etc.)
 Alternative: Visit Wedgwood Pottery Gift Shop in Stoke-on-Trent
 Alternative: Keep driving to Birmingham and go to Cadbury World
- 2p Drive Birmingham (2 hours)
- 4p Francis Asbury Birth Home, Birmingham
- 5p Bus transfer to hotel
- 5:15p Drop off at The Bournbrook Inn, SW Birmingham
 Supper on your own at hotel restaurant, café & bar, or nearby restaurants, Aldi, Morrisons

Tues., March 25: Wales

- New bus driver
- Breakfast (opens 6:30a; prepaid) at the hotel restaurant
- 8a Drive into Wales to Caerphilly (2.5 hours)
 Photo stop: Wales sign

- 10:30a Castell Caerffili / Caerphilly Castle - one of "the greats" Welsh castles w/moat & drawbridge
Coffee shop across the street fr castle; Morrisons 1/4 mile from castle!
- 12:30p Drive to Newport (30 minutes)
- 1p Visit Tredegar Gardens, Newport (17th cent. Manor House Gardens)
- 3p Drive to Abaty Tyndyrn / Tintern Abbey (45 minutes)
Photo stop at Caerleon Roman Amphitheatre, Newport
- 4:15p Visit Tintern Abbey ruins
- 5:15p Dinner at The Anchor Inn (Tintern Abbey views), locally sourced restaurant
- 6:30p Drive to Bath (30 miles; 50 minutes)
- 7:30p Lansdown Grove Hotel, Bath (18th century manor house and garden)

Wed., March 26: Bristol

Idea: Walk around the garden!

Breakfast at hotel restaurant (prepaid; starts 6:45a; either "Full English" or *a la carte*)

- 8a Leave for John Wesley's New Room (13 miles, 45 minutes)
- 8:45a Walk to JWNR Methodist Chapel
- 9a Private worship service at JWNR
- 9:45a Talk and Museum/Library tour at JWNR
- 11:30 am: Light lunch in the Horsefair Room at JWNR
- 12:00 p.m. Walk to Charles Wesley's House (4 blocks; 1/4 mile)
- 12:15 pm: Tour of Charles Wesley's House
- 1:00 pm: Coach pick-up from Charles Wesley's House; drive to Pill Harbor (30 minutes)
- 1:30p Photo stop at Pill Harbor (where Wesley commissioned Methodist preachers for America)
- 1:45p Photo stop at Hannam Mount (10 miles; 30 minutes)
Site of outdoor preaching by Whitfield & Wesley
- 2p Drive to Kingswood School (10 miles; 30 minutes)
- 2:30p Photo stop at Kingswood School, Bath (founded by John Wesley in 1748)
- 3p Drive to Roman Baths (2 miles; 10 minutes)
Drive by "Circus" and "Royal Crescent" (famous 18th century buildings)
- 3:30p Bath Roman Baths
- 5p Entry for 5:30p Choral Evensong at Bath Abbey
- 5:30p Choral Evensong at Bath Abbey
- 6:15p Transport to Lansdown Grove Hotel (2 miles; 10 minutes)
- 6:30p Drop off at Lansdown Grove Hotel
- Dinner: On your own: At hotel in restaurants (if so, make reservations in the morning before leaving)
Or selection of restaurants within 10 minutes walking distance
- Evening: Walk to The Circus and Royal Crescent 18th century Historical Buildings (1/2 mile away)

Thurs., March 27: Stonehenge, London

Idea: Walk around the garden!

Breakfast at hotel restaurant (prepaid; starts 6:45a; "Full English" or *a la carte*)

- 8:30a Drive to Stonehenge (1 hour)
- 10a Stonehenge (must use the shuttle bus); lunch on your own at café
- 12p Drive to Windsor Castle (2 hours)
- 2p Windsor Castle Tour
- 5p Drive to hotel (21 miles; 45 minutes)

6p Royal Eagle Hotel

Dinner on your own at nearby restaurants (within 10 minute walk)

Evening ideas: Hyde Park is 1/2 mile walk! ("Speaker's Corner" is a mile from hotel)

Kensington Palace is 1 mile walk away.

Fri., March 28: London: British Museum, British Library

Breakfast (starts at 7a; cold cuts buffet)

9:30a Leave for British Library (4 miles; 30 minutes)

Photo stop at St. Marylebone Church, where Charles Wesley is buried

10:30a British Library (no tickets needed)

Must see: Gutenberg Bible, *Magna Carta*, *Codex Sinaiticus* (1st complete text of the New Testament), Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks; Shakespeare's *First Folio*, Lindisfarne Gospels (arguably the best illuminated manuscript), and other treasures!

12p Drive to British Museum (1 mile; 15 minute drive)

12:30p British Museum; lunch on your own at café

Must see: Artifacts from ancient Egypt (Rosetta Stone), Middle East (w/biblical references!), "Elgin Marbles" from the Parthenon, and etc. from nearly all ancient civilizations!

4p Leave for St. Paul's Cathedral (1.5 miles; 15 minutes)

5p Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral

5:45p Photo stop at John Wesley Statue in St. Paul's churchyard

6p Leave for London Eye (1.7 miles; 15 minutes)

6:30p London Eye ride (30 minutes)

7:15p Leave for hotel

7:30p Drop off at Royal Eagle Hotel

Dinner on your own at nearby restaurants (within 10 minute walk)

Evening ideas: Hyde Park is 1/2 mile walk! ("Speaker's Corner" is a mile from hotel)

Kensington Palace is 1 mile walk away.

Sat., March 29: London: Tower, Tower Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster

Breakfast (starts at 7a; cold cuts buffet)

7:30a Drive to Londinium (5 miles; 45 minutes)

8:15a Londinium Roman Walls & Tower Bridge (walk across)

9a Visit Tower of London (Norman, royal residence, notorious prison, crown jewels, medieval armory, ravens)

12p River Themes Cruise from Tower Bridge to Westminster Bridge (30 minutes)

Afternoon, walking tour (1 mile total):

Westminster Bridge (walk across)

Westminster Houses of Parliament (with "Big Ben" and Tower) (outside only)

Westminster Abbey (Poet's Corner, Memorial to the Wesley Brothers, Crypt w/royal tombs)

Methodist Central Hall (outside only)

St. James Park (walk through)

Buckingham Palace (outside only)

5p Drive to Charterhouse School (2.5 miles, 20 minutes)

5:30p Charterhouse chapel worship

6:30p Evening meal / experience (TBD)

Back to Royal Eagle Hotel

Note: set clocks ahead an hour before going to bed!

Sun., March 30: London: Wesley Chapel & House, Medieval Feast

Note: at 1 a.m. clocks go ahead an hour!

Breakfast (starts at 7a; cold cuts buffet)

8a Drive to Wesley's Chapel (5 miles; 45 minutes)

9a Wesley's Chapel at City Road

Foundry Chapel, Charles Wesley organ, Museum to World Methodism

9:45 Holy Communion Service at Foundry Chapel

11a Public worship at Wesley's Chapel

12p Tour of Wesley's Grave & Wesley's House

1p Walking/Driving Tour of Early Methodism (Bunhill Cemetery, Foundry location, Whitefield tabernacle location, Moorfields, Aldersgate location, Charterhouse School, etc.)

2:30p Leave for Royal Air Force Museum (11 miles; 35 minutes)

3p Royal Air Force Museum

5p Head to Royal Eagle Hotel

Evening: "Last Supper!"

Evening ideas: Hyde Park is 1/2 mile walk! ("Speaker's Corner" is a mile from hotel)

Kensington Palace is 1 mile walk away.

Mon., March 31: Return Flight

Back to original bus driver

Breakfast (starts at 7a; cold cuts buffet)

8:30a Leave for airport (15 miles; 30 minutes)

9a Unload at airport: London Heathrow (LHR)

Baggage Drop

Security

Group Worship

Lunch on your own at the airport

12:10p Flight departs: Delta #009 from London Heathrow (LHR) at 12:10 p.m.
(7 hour time change, "fall back," 10 hour flight!)

3:05p Flight arrives Minneapolis (MSP) Lindbergh

Baggage claim

Final "Good-byes"

Each head home.

?? Arrive home somewhat numb, unable to comprehend what an awesome trip you just had!!!