

2017 ~ ITINERARY ENGLAND & BIRMINGHAM MINIATURA SHOW

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th Board your plane to London Heathrow, usually on an overnight flight. Check list: Passport, Watch, Camera, Umbrella, Comfy walking shoes, Meds, & Pounds/UK currency. Book your flight to arrive between 6 & 9 a.m. the next morning to begin our trip.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th Arrive London Heathrow, pass through Immigration then follow the crowd to luggage. Exit through Customs/Nothing to Declare – and I’ll be waiting for you there. Be sure you have British Pounds before leaving the airport. We’re headed to **Windsor Castle** – some of you will want to visit Queen Mary’s iconic dolls’house. I’ll be holding down two tables at a charming pub, where we’ll have lunch, then proceed to London, where we will visit Queen Elizabeth II’s home, **Buckingham Palace**. Their gift shop is wonderful...my favorite souvenir for a friend? A shower cap embroidered in gold thread that says, “Buckingham Palace”!

REMBRANDT HOTEL – Overnight & Dinner

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 After breakfast we will visit **Spencer House**, built in the 1600’s for the first Earl of Spencer, an ancestor of Diana, Princess of Wales. Then on to **Karon Cunningham’s cottage**, where her miniature shop is just past the garden! From there, get out your cameras, as I want you to see **Castle Combe**, a castle no more, but an example of an authentic town of its period.

REMBRANDT HOTEL –Breakfast & Dinner

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th After breakfast, we are off to visit Kristin Baybar’s iconic shop in Gospel Oak, but save some miniature money for the Birmingham show! Then head to Ludlow, a charming village to explore after we check in. Ludlow Castle ruin is a romantic sight.

FEATHERS HOTEL ~ Breakfast & Dinner

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

After breakfast we’ll board the coach and take time to scan the show’s dealer list as we head to Kensington. It’s the day we’ve been anticipating! You won’t have to seek a place to eat, as the NEC has a restaurant on-site. The show opens at 10 and closes at 5.

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL NEC ~ Breakfast & Dinner

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

We’ll make a final go-round of **Miniatura**, in case you missed something wonderful for a special place in your collection. You will love everything about York – from its magnificent cathedral to **Fairfax House** and the **Jorvik Center**. The Romans & Vikings had several battles over this city - we won!

BEST WESTERN MONK BAR HOTEL ~ Breakfast & Dinner

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

So much to see in York, from **Fairfax House** to **York Minster** & the **Jorvik Center**, where you are able to “ride” through its history. Don’t miss The Shambles, an active pedestrian shopping area where ancient buildings lean almost touching across the cobblestone street! You’ll find miniatures here, too! The Steam Museum even has Queen Victoria’s private car!

OVERNIGHT MONK BAR HOTEL ~ Breakfast & Dinner

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Nunnington Hall and **Newby Hall** are stately residences near each other. They both have magnificent gardens, as well as exhibits of miniatures, plus the recent donation of the Dollshouse collections of Carolyn Hamilton and Jane Fiddick.

BEST WESTERN MONK BAR HOTEL ~ Breakfast & Dinner

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

This morning, after breakfast, we will visit **Castle Howard**, built for the 3rd Earl of Carlisle in 1699. If it seems familiar, the remake of *Brideshead Revisited* was filmed there. From its gilt dome and painted interior ceilings to collections of furniture, sculpture and porcelain, it remains one of Britain's "Most beautiful private residences." There will be a stop in Bury St Edmonds as we return to London, to have High Tea at the Angel Hotel. Bring your camera, it's the flower capital of England! Continue on to London. **Get shuttle info from the Concierge for your flight tomorrow upon Crowne Plaza arrival. And your Terminal number.**

CROWNE PLAZA HEATHROW ~ Breakfast & Dinner

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

Time to exchange e-mail addresses and hugs! We'll all have made memories to last a lifetime by the end of this trip. The Concierge will advise you when to have your bags out for the Porters to take to the Lobby awaiting your shuttle to London Heathrow Airport, drop off at your Terminal..

DEPART ENGLAND