

ENGLAND & SCOTLAND “ANNIVERSARY” MUSIC TOUR
AUGUST 6–21, 2017
Fairport Convention’s 50th Anniversary and Festival Tours 35th

This will be Festival Tours LAST England & Scotland Tour that includes Fairport...because this year is the BIG one! Fairport Convention turns 50! Festival Tours turns 35 and the Edinburgh Festival is in it’s 70 th year. So Im going to make it the best trip ever. No scrimping!

We start our tour in the heart of Mayfair,down the road from the Ritz and Buckingham Palace. Mayfair was also the favorite London location of the Crawley family, from the beloved series Downton Abbey. You will note a lot of Downton connections on this trip!. You will be jet lagged so you deserve a nice place to lay your head. Like everything on this tour our very special hotel is handpicked by me, Nancy Covey. I chose the Chesterfield Hotel not only because the hallways are a deep blue (my favorite color) or that there is a “C” on all the towels (and sheets). Chesterfield has the the right British feel and is the perfect place for us to gather, explore, sleep, drink or have a luxurious spot of afternoon tea. All nice hotels in Central London, where square footage is at a premium, are expensive these days. So we might as well have a good one.

The tour starts on a Sunday in London with a boat trip that cruises down the Thames. However I have held additional nights at our London hotel because we strongly encourage you to arrive on Friday and/or Saturday in order to have some time to visit the city, get over jet lag and visit with your fellow tour members.

The first week of our tour (“England Only”) is based in London and Oxfordshire. The trip will be Fairport Convention centric! By joining us you will have access to the band in ways that no one else does. You will have first dibs on the very limited tickets for Fairport’s Warm-Up nights. These “rehearsal” concerts are a chance to see Fairport Convention in a room that holds 200 instead of the Festival that holds 20,000! Both have their own great ambiance. Midweek Fairport joins us for a private BBQ in an atmospheric Costwolds pub where we’ll share lunch and drink local ales with Fairport and also have a chance to play the traditional Costwold game of “Aunt Sally” with the band. At Fairport’s Cropredy Festival we have tickets to all 3 days and more importantly private transportation to and from the Festival with a warm bed in our hotel at the end of the night...unlike the majority of Festival goers who are camping!

The second week of the trip (“Full Tour”) has limited attendance as we head up north to Scotland where hotel sizes, as well as our coach, is extremely limited. We will explore Northumberland, Inveraray on Loch Fyne (the site of Downton’s Ghillie’s Ball), unique distilleries in the Scottish Highlands, private castles in Argyll and Aberdeenshire and finish up our trip at the fabulous Edinburgh Festival which has over two thousand shows throughout the city every single day! As in the beginning of the tour, we encourage you to add on a day or two in Edinburgh as there is so much to do.

We have chosen great accommodation in each place we visit that captures the feel of that region including two nights in a private castle! We will visit musicians who will host unique evenings of authentic traditional music. This is a completely hand curated tour.....and it will be FUN!

Do to the very limited nature of the trip and the extraordinary demand, we encourage you to sign up early! Join our mailing list by emailing me at festtours@aol.com so we can keep you posted on the final itinerary and prices. The tour will go on sale in late fall and I expect it to sell out quickly.

Hope you can join us!

NANCY COVEY

**ENGLAND & SCOTLAND MUSIC TOUR
AUGUST 6-21, 2017
(ENGLAND ONLY TOUR AUGUST 6-13, 2017)**

FRIDAY AUGUST 4 - LONDON Mayfair
Optional Arrival

SATURDAY AUG 5 - LONDON Mayfair
Optional Arrival

SUNDAY AUG 6 - LONDON Mayfair
Tour officially starts tonight
Dinner & Boat Trip down the Thames with special guest musicians

MONDAY - AUG 7- BANBURY -
Drive to Banbury via Costwolds villages
Fairport Warm Up Concert (tix optional)

TUESDAY - AUG 8- BANBURY
Day free
Fairport Warm Up Concert (tix optional)

WEDNESDAY - AUG 9- BANBURY
Private pub lunch with Fairport Convention
Concert in Banbury (tix optional)

THURSDAY - AUG 10- BANBURY
Morning free
Fairport's Cropredy Festival starts!

FRIDAY - AUG 11 - BANBURY
Fairport's Cropredy Festival

SATURDAY AUG 12- BANBURY
Fairport's Cropredy Festival

SUNDAY - AUG 13 - (England Only Tour ends)
Travel to NORTHUMBERLAND
Night free in a Northumbrian Country House Hotel & Spa

MONDAY - AUG 14- NORTHUMBERLAND
Free day to relax or Visit Alnwick Castle
Ceilidh with Alistair Anderson

TUESDAY AUG 15 - INVERARAY, SCOTLAND
Cross the border into Scotland!
Inveraray on Loch Fyne

WEDNESDAY - AUG 16- INVERARAY , SCOTLAND
Day free to visit Inveraray Castle and village
Evening concert

THURSDAY - AUG 17- ABERDEENSHIRE Drummuir Castle
Travel through the Scottish Highlands
Lunch & visit to a Highland distillery
Dinner and whiskey tasting at Drummuir Castle

FRIDAY - AUG 18- ABERDEENSHIRE Drummuir Castle
Free day for strolling the castle grounds, playing croquet on the lawn, a game of snooker or
visiting the local woolen mill
Dinner & ceilidh at Drummuir Castle

SATURDAY - AUG 19 - EDINBURGH
Travel to Edinburgh via the privately owned Towie Barclay Castle
Edinburgh Fringe Festival

SUNDAY AUG 20 - EDINBURGH
Day free Edinburgh Fringe Festival
Farewell Afternoon Tea

MONDAY - AUG 21 - EDINBURGH Full Tour Ends
Departor optional extension in Edinburgh (highly recommended)