

Newsletter

June-July, 2013

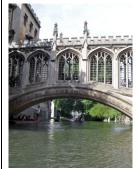
Upcoming Trip News ~



<u>Western Ireland Country Houses</u>: The beautiful hotels on this trip may not offer budget accommodations, but that's the whole point! We'll stay in many of the loveliest homes in the country, in classic castles and luxurious hunting lodges. The service at these hotels is part of the appeal of the trip. No detail is too small for notice. At Zetland Country House, for instance, guests are treated to bottles of Irish spring water waiting in their rooms. We'll take a private oystering trip on a local loch and visit beautiful Clare Island for scones and a walk to pirate Grace O'Malley's grave in an exclusive tour of a local medieval chapel.

<u>Vikings Sail in August</u>: There are limited spots left on this fantastic trip through Scandinavia in August. We'll trace rune stones across Denmark and Sweden, experiencing a taste of Viking life for ourselves at the Viking Ship Museum and two open-air museums in Copenhagen and Stockholm. This trip features a hostel option, so sign up today for an inexpensive way to see these beautiful countries!

September <u>British Mansions and Gardens</u>: if you love flowers, gardens, or just stepping into the lives of some of the wealthiest folks in history, this tour is for you. All the gardens will still be blooming, but with fantastic fall color as well, and the summer crowds will be gone from the great houses. Don't miss this inspiring and lovely tour!



October Literary Britain: If you missed the deadline for June's excursion, you can always book for our October trip, which runs from October 10-19th. October is a fantastic time to visit Britain. The weather is generally mild and the crowds are gone. We'll just catch the end of the Globe Theatre's season, and all the historic houses are open. Our author and poet workshops will still be available as an add-on.

Budget Options: Don't be afraid to book the Hostel Option. Hostels in Britain are clean and comfortable. The hostels in Bath and Haworth are in lovely historic homes. The upper garrets in the Bath hostel are particularly cozy and sweet. The shared bathrooms are kept clean. Just don't forget to bring your own towel, as these are not generally provided (though bedding is).

<u>Check out our "Little Series" trips, including "Little London" in August</u>: We offer wonderful family trips specifically designed for parents travelling with small children between the ages of five and eleven. Come along and see just how fun it can be to travel with your little one! We offer *Little* trips to London, Paris, Copenhagen, and Berlin. Paris at Christmas is particularly popular, so book early!

Fun Fact: Did you know that Queen Victoria did not, in fact, order all the iron railings in Britain painted black after the death of her husband, Prince Albert? Railings were painted black starting in the 1950's, when durable black paint was finally invented. Before that, railings were generally painted bottle green or brown, and had to be repainted frequently.