

# Premium Small Group Tour departing 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018



# Celebrating the RAF Centenary

A leisurely paced, small group 23-day tour, escorted from NZ by aviation enthusiasts Kevin & Melanie Salisbury.

# Featuring

Singapore Air Force Museum, Kelvedon Nuclear Bunker, Shuttleworth Collection & Air Display RAF Wyton - Pathfinder Collection, Lincs Aviation Heritage Centre, Bletchley Park International Bomber Command Centre, Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitors Centre Newark Air Museum, RAF Scampton, Yorkshire Air Museum, Avro Heritage Museum RAF Cosford, SS Great Britain, Royal International Air Tattoo, Flying Legends & Imperial War Museum Mosquito Museum, The Bunker – Uxbridge, Castle Bromwich Jaguar Factory







Bedford – Woodhall Spa – Lincoln – York – Castle Bromwich – Cheltenham - Cambridge

Highlighting

Shuttleworth Military Pageant Royal International Air Tattoo & Duxford's Flying Legends

Let us take you on an amazing journey to some of the best-known museums and events in the UK

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Registered office - Level 7, 2 Emily Place, Auckland

# **Tour Itinerary – Bomber County 100**

#### Day 1 – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June

Meet and greet at Auckland airport at 10.30am. We depart on Singapore Air SQ286 at 12.10 pm, and arrive in Singapore at 7pm. We will be transferred to our hotel for our overnight stay. 1 night Singapore

#### Day 2 – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June

Spend your day at leisure or join us for a morning visit to the Air Force Museum with the afternoon at leisure. We have a late check out at 6pm, will have dinner together, and then transfer to the airport for our overnight flight to London departing 11.30pm.

**Singapore Air Force Museum** 

Kelvedon Nuclear Bunker

**Bletchley Park** 

#### Day 3 – Friday 29th June

After a breakfast stop, we start our tour with a visit to this secret bunker hidden under a bungalow. First built as an air defense station, it went on to become the base for the survival of the population in the event of nuclear strike. We will check in to our hotel as early as possible. 3 nights Bedford - Barns Hotel

#### Day 4 - Saturday 30th June

The historic site of secret British code breaking activities during WWII and birthplace of the modern computer will keep us busy today. If you prefer, you can stay in Bedford for the day resting or visiting the local sights. Priory Park is a short walk away and the Glenn Miller Museum not far.

#### Day 5 - Sunday 1st July

We will spend the day at The Shuttleworth Collection, Old Warden with the afternoon air display. The collection depicts the history of flight from the early 1900s to the 1950s and shows how the aeroplane operated in the pioneering years, was rapidly developed through necessity during World War I, was used for sport, pleasure and business in the 1920s and 30s and once again became a fighting machine in World War II. Also includes the beautiful Swiss Gardens and Shuttleworth House.

#### Day 6 - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

**RAF Wyton – Pathfinder Collection** We head North today to the historic "Home of the Canberra". Here we find the RAF Wyton historical timeline, a longstanding tribute to the work of No 8 Group RAF, along with the fascinating Photo Reconnaissance Collection and the Pathfinder Collection

3 nights Woodhall Spa - Petwood Hotel aka 617 Squadron Officers Mess

# Day 7 – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

# **Lincs Aviation Heritage Centre**

This living memorial to Bomber Command, holds one of the rarest aircraft the Avro Lancaster Bomber "Just Jane" in its collection along with many wartime vehicles. We spend the day here soaking in the atmosphere. We have only 6 places reserved for a VIP Taxy Ride Day in "Just Jane" - own cost. The Taxy Ride gives you the chance to experience the Lancaster from a completely different point of view. You get to experience the vibrations, smells, sound and atmosphere of a real Lancaster Bomber operating on a real Bomber Command airfield in front of an original Control Tower providing you with the ultimate WW2 aviation experience.

# Day 8 - Wednesday 4th July

**BBMF Visitor Centre (B)** We have a guided tour of the hangar and maybe the opportunity to see the Flight's historic aircraft at close quarters, and to observe the BBMF technicians working to maintain them in airworthy condition. We will stop at the famous Bluebell Pub for lunch - own cost, then have the afternoon at leisure in Woodhall Spa.

## The Shuttleworth Military Pageant



## (B, D)

(B in flight, D)

# **(B)**

# In flight

# (L& D in flight)

(B)

**(B)** 

(B.D)

## Day 9 – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July

#### Newark Air Museum

We spend the day at Newark Air Museum whose diverse collection of aircraft and cockpit sections covers the history of aviation. The aircraft on display include 13 National Benchmark aircraft; 34 significant aircraft and 21 Noteworthy aircraft as listed in the National Aviation Heritage Register. In addition to the aircraft the museum displays a diverse display of aviation artefacts and a collection of more than thirty aero engines. There are open cockpits for viewing – Vulcan, Shackleton, Hastings & Varsity. If you prefer, you could stay in Lincoln, there is a lot to do here.

2 nights Lincoln – Holiday Inn

#### Day 10 – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July

We recommend a visit to the Cathedral and the Airmen's Chapel. Lincoln Castle is also well worth a visit and is home to one of only 4 surviving copies of the Magna Carta.

At Leisure in Lincoln

**IBCC & RAF Scampton** 

#### Day 11 - Saturday 7th July

The Spire Memorial was unveiled in 2015 with the International Bomber Command Centre due to open in April 18, in line with the RAF 100 celebrations. We will spend the morning here before heading up to Scampton, current home of Red Arrows and former home of the Dambusters. We have a private tour of the grounds & Museums including Guy Gibson's office, and then head up to York 3 nights York – Principal York Hotel

#### Yorkshire Air Museum Day 12 - Sunday 8th July **(B)**

We spend the day at the Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington. Situated in a 20 acre parkland site on the former World War II RAF Bomber Command Station, it is the largest and most original WWII station open to the public. This is another day some might prefer to spend shopping or sightseeing in York.

#### Day 13 - Monday 9th July

We suggest a group visit to the Railway Museum before heading off to explore but the day is yours to do as you wish. We recommend the Jorvik Viking Centre, the Minster and the Shambles (Medieval Town Centre).

At Leisure in York

## Day 14 – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Avro Heritage Museum & Spitfire to Jaguar Heading South we stop at the new museum on the site of the former Woodford Aerodrome. Vulcan XM603 is being restored here. Then we will be treated to a Spitfire to Jaguar tour at the Castle Bromwich Jaguar factory. 2 nights Castle Bromwich – Castle Bromwich Hall Hotel

#### **RAF** Cosford Day 15 – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July **(B)**

We spend the day at RAF Cosford. Sister Museum to Hendon, with over 70 aircraft including the world's oldest Spitfire and a Lincoln Bomber, it is the only place in the UK where you can see Britain's three V Bombers: the Vulcan, Victor and Valiant. Home also to the recovered Dornier. If you prefer, you can spend the day exploring the 10 acre Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens, a rare example of formal English garden design.

#### Day 16 - Thursday 12th July

Today we visit the ship that changed the world, heading beneath the glass sea, walking the SS Great Britain's history in the Dockyard Museum and onto the ship itself. Alive with sights, sounds and even smells, prepare to set sail on the most extraordinary time machine. The Brunel Institute's Maritime Collection is also here. 2 nights Cheltenham - Malmaison Hotel

#### Day 17 - Friday 13th July

## Air Tattoo or day at leisure

SS Great Britain

Choose an optional extra day at the airshow today or a day at leisure in Cheltenham. There is a WW1 Museum, the Pittville Pump Room, beautiful parks & gardens. The area around the hotel is an attraction in itself.

#### (B.D)

**(B)** 

**(B)** 

**(B)** 

(B,D)

**(B)** 

**(B)** 

#### Day 18 - Saturday 14th July

The Royal International Air Tattoo, the world's largest military airshow, has gained the well-earned reputation as one of the UK's top outdoor events. Over two miles of static aircraft, interactive activities and ground exhibitions with a thrilling 8 hour flying display including fast jets, giant transporters, historic aircraft and much more. Enjoy the show with our Cotswold Club pass including lunch. 3 nights Cambridge – Gonville Hotel

#### Day 19 - Sunday 15th July

#### Flying Legends

Air Tattoo

The Greatest Warbirds Event in Europe produced by The Fighter Collection in association with Imperial War Museum, Duxford. Our Gold Pass includes use of a lined and carpeted marquee with luxury toilets, seated viewing enclosure, private access to the flight line walk, a souvenir programme, a collectible pass. The unique atmosphere at Legends is not to be missed.

#### Day 20 - Monday 16th July

At leisure or IWM Duxford

(B,D)

(B,L)

(B)

You can return to Duxford and the museum today at your own cost, to make sure you haven't missed anything, and also catch some extra flying as many aircraft return home.

Alternatively, a day at leisure in Cambridge. This evening will be our farewell dinner.

# Day 21 - Tuesday 17th JulyMosquito Museum & The Bunker Uxbridge(B)

This morning we will visit the De Havilland Heritage Centre incorporating the Mosquito Aircraft Museum, the birthplace of the Wooden Wonder. In the afternoon we have a private tour of The Bunker at RAF Uxbridge which housed the Fighter Command No.11 Group Operations Room throughout WW2. Key decisions that would decide the fate of the nation were taken in the Bunker during 1940 and it was thanks to the tireless work of the plotters and controllers that the RAF's fighter pilots managed to keep the Luftwaffe at bay.

We then head to Heathrow for the flights home SQ321 & SQ285 departing 10.05pm, or your onward journeys. Your tour hosts will be staying on in the UK.

Arrangements can be made for an extension to include the Farnborough Airshow or any other further arrangements. Don't hesitate to ask.

<b>Day 22 – Weds 18th July</b> In flight	In flight	(in flight D, B)
<b>Day 23 – Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> July</b> Arrive in Auckland at 10.50am.	Auckland	(in flight D, B)
Tour Costs		
23 Day Tour including flights		
<b>\$10895 per person twin/double share</b> Single Supplement \$2355 – double/twin rooms for	single occupancy	

\$500 non-refundable deposit required on booking with full balance due by 31<sup>st</sup> March For bookings after 31<sup>st</sup> March, the full balance payable within 7 days Please ask if you would like any variations to the above arrangements. We are quite flexible! You may choose a different return date or decide to stop over on the way back to break the journey. Costs subject to availability.

#### Inclusions

Economy return airfares on Singapore Air Accommodation with private facilities. Transfers Private Coach Transport All breakfasts Dinners as stated Tour Escorts from NZ Sightseeing as stated Gold Pass for the Duxford Airshow Cotswold Club Pass for Air Tattoo

#### **Not Included**

Upgrade to Premium Economy/Business Class Accommodation upgrades Insurance Shuttle or flights to Auckland Some meals Passport and visa charges Items of a personal nature i.e. laundry, beverages, telephone calls etc Optional excursions

#### **Tour Features**

Leisurely paced, small group, max 24 guests, unique itinerary, quality accommodation, escorted from NZ, flexible return date.

# **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Tour costs -** Tour costs are based on specially negotiated airfares on which special conditions apply, and on twin share accommodation. Costs are based on a minimum number of 14 passengers. For passengers travelling alone, a single supplement is payable, or there is the possibility of a same sex room share. If you cannot be matched, the single supplement is payable.

**Fitness -** A reasonable level of fitness is required to make the most of the museums and sightseeing. Due to the nature of some of our hotels you may be expected to manage a set of stairs; however, we will manage your luggage on these occasions. Most hotels have showers over the bath as is common in the UK.

**Reservations and Payment -** Your reservation will be confirmed on receipt of a non-refundable deposit of \$500. Final balance is due by 31<sup>st</sup> March or within 7 days if booked after 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**Changes to Tour Costs -** Tour costs are based on exchange rates as at October 2017, and are subject to change. Airfares are based on group departures and taxes correct as of October 2017. Should these costs change it may be necessary to make a surcharge on the tour. Once full payment has been received, no surcharge will be made in respect of currency or fuel surcharges. However, changes imposed by governments or their agencies are not covered by this guarantee. **Changes to Itinerary -** If improvements can be made to the itinerary or circumstances beyond our control make it

necessary to make changes, we reserve the right to do so. **Cancellation refunds and flight changes -** Notice of cancellation must be in writing. Changes to flights once ticketed will incur charges. After final balance has been paid, the following scale of charges will apply.

Cancellation period	Fees as a percentage of tour price
Up to 31st March	Loss of deposit
1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30 <sup>th</sup> April	50%
After 30th April	100%

**Insurance** - For cancellations, we regret that we are not able to make refunds against any unused part of the tour. It is therefore essential that you have sufficient insurance to cover your loss. We strongly recommend a complete and comprehensive travel insurance policy. We accept no responsibility for any loss caused through insufficient or lack of insurance cover.

**Optional Return Dates -** The international airfare on which this tour is based allows individual passengers to return independently on a space available basis.

**Passports and Visas** - A current passport is essential. NZ, Australian and UK passport holders do not require visas. Non-NZ passport holders must be in possession of a re-entry permit. Passports and visa are not the tour operator's responsibility.