



Itinerary 2009 MCC Ashes Cricket Lovers Tour

July 2009

Sun 05 th		MELBOURNE - LONDON
	TBA	Depart Australia for the UK (airline and time TBA at August 2008)
Mon 06 th	TBA	<p>Upon arrival you will be met at the Airport and transferred to your hotel in the nearby Royal Borough of Windsor and the 4 Star Oakley Court Hotel. This is an excellent Country House location where you can relax and unwind from the long trip from Australia. You can of course visit nearby Windsor Castle and wander around this quaint town bordering nearby Eton. Hotel reception will call a taxi for you for the short ride to town so pal up with other members. Your Tour Manager will assist with this process.</p> <p>Dinner tonight by your own arrangement.</p>
Tue 07 th		WINDSOR - CARDIFF
	0830	After breakfast the Coach will be available to take you to nearby Windsor returning in time to collect your luggage and hit the road!
	1100	Our Executive Coach passes by Stonehenge for a brief visit then heads on to the Roman City of Bath where you can take lunch under your own steam whilst enjoying a walk around this historic city.
	1600	Departing Bath we head westwards along the M4 and across the Severn Bridge into Wales and the City of Cardiff to our hotel, the Hilton Cardiff arriving around 1730.
		The Hilton is located in the heart of the City close to City Hall and Cardiff Castle as well as the pedestrian only shopping streets. It's a mere ten-minute walk to SWALEC Stadium at Sophia Gardens, home of Glamorgan cricket. The Hilton is one of Cardiff's finest hotels and commands an excellent location with top class facilities.
	2000	Enjoy our Welcome to Wales Dinner at one of Cardiff's best restaurants La Fosse , which is within walking distance of the Hilton Hotel. Drinks at dinner are at your own expense.
Wed 08 th		CARDIFF
		1 st day of the 1 st Test Australia v England.
		As it's an easy walk to SWALEC Stadium where you can come and go as you please, allow just ten minutes to stroll through Bute Park and Sophia Gardens.
Thu 09 th		CARDIFF
		2 nd day of the 1 st Test



Fri 10th

CARDIFF

3rd day of the 1st Test

2000

Tonight enjoy a magnificent evening at the ashestravel.com

Celebrity Dinner at Cardiff City Hall

City Hall is located just a few minutes walk from The Hilton.

Enjoy a three-course meal with all drinks included and some great entertainment headed by Andy Bichel and Michael Kasprowicz

"Kaspa & Bics" with other celebrities from the cricket world along with local entertainment such as our magnificent Welsh Choir.

Sat 11th

CARDIFF

4th day of the 1st Test

Sun 12th

CARDIFF

5th day of the 1st Test

OPTIONAL TOUR:

Should the Test not play out five days we will arrange for a sightseeing tour of the Welsh Valleys and the rural area of the stunning Brecon Beacons with a local guide. This will incur a charge based on minimum numbers to charter a vehicle.

Estimated cost; GBP40.00 - 45.00 per person.

Mon 13th

CARDIFF - TETBURY

1000

We head off today touring via Monmouthshire, the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire and Stroud through some of the most picturesque scenery in the UK. In the heart of the Cotswold's near Tetbury and Prince Charles' Highgrove is the stunning 4 Star **Calcot Manor** Country House, our home for two nights. Time to partially unpack then take a refreshing afternoon "G & T" in the gardens or by the pool.

Dinner is included tonight in the Manor's Conservatory (drinks will be charged to your room account). After dinner how about sampling one of the huge varieties of Whiskey's or Cognacs in the lounge bar, where you will be impressed by what's on offer!

Tue 14th

COTSWOLDS

0900

Today we take a locally guided tour of the Cotswold's beautiful villages. Enjoy a two-course luncheon at **The Old Manse** in Bourton on the Water. The Old Manse was originally built for the local Baptist Pastor in 1748 and offers a traditional local menu. Take some cash or card for drinks from the bar. Visit the villages of Broadway and "The Slaughters" whilst learning about this sensational area.

Dinner tonight is included at **The Barn** at Calcot Manor. A lighter meal is on offer tonight in the Manor's own pub, The Barn. This is a casual evening and again you can charge drinks to your own account.

Make the most of this convenient and relaxing time before we head to the hustle and bustle of London.

Wed 15th**TETBURY – WARWICK - LONDON**

- 0830 It's a long days touring and after breakfast we head north along the A429 via Cirencester, Stow on the Wold, Moreton in Marsh, Stratford upon Avon and on to Warwick stopping at Warwick Castle, our feature of the day. After lunch in Warwick (on own account) we travel southeast along the M40 and detouring through the city of Oxford for a comfort stop, then on to the West End arriving late afternoon. Our hotel is the four star **Millennium Bailey's** one of London's first converted Victorian town house hotels located in fashionable South Kensington. We offered Bailey's for the 2005 MCC tours and it was highly praised so by demand we are back at our "London home". This afternoon we will be joined by the MCC History Tour arriving from Paris and Calais with Scott Butler (MCC) and Ray Gurry (Events Worldwide).
- 1800 Match ticket distribution will occur before dinner, more details will be provided on tour.

Thu 16th**LONDON – THE LORD'S TEST**

When in London you will have a London Transport Oyster Card permitting travel on buses and tubes within the main city network. The card will have a prepaid value of £25.00 per person, which is ample to attend the cricket each day. The card can be topped up for further travel as required and the fares using this card are heavily reduced. Opposite the Hotel is Gloucester Road Underground enabling convenient connections throughout the City and to St. Johns Wood, the closest Tube station to Lord's. Details will be provided on how to best get to Lord's each day.

1st day of the Second TestFri 17th**LONDON**2nd day of the Second TestSat 18th**LONDON**3rd day of the Second TestSun 19th**LONDON**4th day of the Second TestMon 20th**LONDON**5th day of the Second TestTue 21st**LONDON**

Today there is an invitational Marylebone v MCC Cricket match at Lord's and information will be provided as to these arrangements with your final itinerary.

- 1800 Tonight we transfer to Lord's for the official **MCC end of Tour Dinner** with special guests. It's time to bid farewell to your Tour Hosts and travelling companions and to relive memories of what has surely been one of the great Cricket Lovers tours!

Wed 22nd**LONDON TO MELBOURNE**

TBA

Transfer to Heathrow for the flight home to Australia. An optional stopover can be arranged and packages will be available.

Alternatively contact Events Worldwide for an optional add-on to the **3rd Test at Edgbaston 30 July – 03 August**. In between you may consider a flight to or tour of Europe, Scotland or Ireland. By paying an extra \$100 at the outset for an independent fare (subject to availability and flight selection by the end of August 2008) you can take a free side-trip to one of many destinations in Europe – ask our staff for the options and what accommodation or tour you would like at your European or UK / Ireland destination. How about a Mediterranean Cruise with Costa Cruises – ask us for details.

Fri 23rd

TBA

MELBOURNE

Arrivals in Australia.

Not included:

Airline and Gov't taxes, charges on flights
Items of a personal nature – room accounts
Travel Insurance – see rebate offer
Tips and gratuities
Meals other than specified
Drinks at arranged dinners except Lords and
Celebrity Dinner
Match Tickets (optional)*

Cricket Lovers Members Tour Inclusions:

- ✓ Return economy class flights to London (fare price guaranteed)
- ✓ 16 nights 4 star quality hotel accommodation
- ✓ English breakfast daily
- ✓ Admission to Stonehenge 07 July and Warwick Castle on 15 July
- ✓ Welcome to Wales Dinner in Cardiff at La Fosse 07 July
- ✓ Access to 4 or 5 days Test Tickets at the 1st Test in Cardiff and the 2nd Test at Lord's (extra at face value)
- ✓ Celebrity Dinner at Cardiff City Hall 10 July
- ✓ Two dinners at Calcot Manor, one in The Conservatory and the other in the Pub
- ✓ Guided Tour of the Cotswold's with Lunch at the Old Manse
- ✓ Pre Dinner in Cardiff at a local pub with "Kaspa and Bics" (details to be advised at own expense)
- ✓ Deluxe Touring Coach on the touring days
- ✓ Transfers and Farewell Dinner at Lords
- ✓ Experienced Tour Host throughout with back up team from **AshesTravel.com**
- ✓ Merchandise Pack including: Polo Shirt, Bucket Hat, Back Pack, Water Bottle and Travel Binoculars

* **Match Ticket** prices and allocations have not been finalized at the time of print. Ticket order forms for both Tests will be sent to you when available and tickets will be at face value plus a small handling fee. Tickets will be distributed to you on tour by your Tour Manager and the AshesTravel.com team.

Tour pricing: This Tour is only available to members and their guests. Submissions must be made to MCC Member and Customer Services.

Twin/Double share, per person \$8,645

Single supplement \$3,848

The Single supplement is based on using a double room. If smaller single rooms are available a reduction may be made available with your final payment.

Travelling on other dates: If you wish to spend more time in the UK or Europe or take a stopover en-route to the UK you can depart earlier and join the tour at Heathrow or Windsor on July 6th. A surcharge of \$100 per person will apply plus any applicable airfare adjustments to suit your itinerary.

Tour Manager:

The Tour will be led by Peter French of the MCC and he will be backed up on location by senior Events Worldwide Ashestravel.com staff and their local representatives in the UK.

Travel Insurance:

This is available from Events Worldwide and we are offering **Members a 15% rebate** on all policies published at www.events.com.au. Send us your receipt for a credit or book your insurance with us when making your booking.

Extension to Birmingham:

A land package is available where you can extend under your own steam to the 3rd Test starting 30 July. In between you can do your own thing or we can make all suitable arrangements such as a tour to Europe.

As at 24 June 2008