

PORTLAND R.F.C.


RUGBY TOUR TO UK

08 – 19 MARCH 2023

Wednesday 08 March – Departure Day / In Flight – **Tour Day Manager – James Canon**

- 4:30 PM Depart Marginal Way Park & Ride – via Custom Coach & Limousine
- 6:45 PM Arrive at Boston Logan International Airport, Terminal E, for check in to flight BA202, bound for London Heathrow.
- 9:40 PM Flight departs.
- Overnight in flight.

COLLEGE BOYS – 14 PEOPLE

- 6:45 PM Arrive at Boston Logan International Airport, Terminal E, for check in to flight VS12, bound for London Heathrow.
- 9:50 PM Flight departs.
- Overnight in flight.
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Thursday 09 March – Edinburgh – Tour Day Manager – Colin Talbot

- 09:10 AM Arrive Heathrow, clear immigration and connect to your flight to Edinburgh, remaining in transit.
- 11:40 AM Flight BA1440 departs.
- 1:05 PM On arrival at Edinburgh International Airport, collect your luggage, proceed to the Arrivals Hall where you will be met by a Venatour Representative who will hand over your information pack, and escort you to your coaches.
- 1:30 PM Once all on board, transfer to the Moxy Hotel in Fountainbridge and check-in for a three-night stay on a bed and cooked breakfast basis. Due to your early arrival some of your rooms may not be ready, so dump them in the luggage store and head off for lunch.

MOXY HOTEL

2 Freer Gait
Edinburgh EH3 9FR

Tel: 0131 378 2013

Dinner under your own steam.

COLLEGE BOYS – 14 PEOPLE

- 9:30 AMs Arrive Heathrow, clear immigration and connect to your flight to Edinburgh.
Remain in transit.
- 3:20 PM Flight BA1446 departs.
- 4:50 PM On arrival at Edinburgh International Airport, collect your luggage, proceed to the Arrivals Hall where you will be met by a Venatour Representative who will hand over your information pack, and escort you to your coaches.
- 5:15 PM Once all on board, transfer to the Mercure Hotel in Fountainbridge and check-in for a three-night stay on a bed and cooked breakfast basis. Please note that your hotel is a 2-minute walk from the rest of the group just round the corner.

MERCURE EDINBURGH HAYMARKET HOTEL

38 Gardner's Cres
Edinburgh EH3 8DQ

Tel: 0131 297 0480

Meet up with the rest of the group for dinner.

Friday 10 March – Edinburgh - **Tour Day Manager – Logan Herodes**

Breakfast.

This morning, meet your three guides for a walking tour of Edinburgh.

WALKING TOUR OF EDINBURGH

Grab some lunch.

2:30 PM Make your own way to Edinburgh Castle for a tour with audio guides (*link will be given to you to download on your phone*) and collect tickets (*The ticket collection area is located at the bottom of the Castle Esplanade on the left*). There are 2 orders – Order 1 (Name Barton): **20230116-188709870** + Order 2 (Name Thurlow) - **20230124-188792957**

3:00 PM **EDINBURGH CASTLE**

5:45 PM Meet at Mercat Cross on the Royal Mile for a thoroughly spooky Ghost Walking Tour. You will be split into 4 groups with the first group starting at 1800 hrs and the following groups starting every 15 mins thereafter. The tours will last 75 mins each. When you have finished your tour, head down the Royal Mile for a drink before dinner.

5:45 PM **GHOST WALKING TOUR**

8:00 PM Once you have recovered – dinner under your own arrangements.

Saturday 11 March – Edinburgh - Tour Day Manager – Gary Devoe

Breakfast.

Morning at leisure to explore and enjoy Edinburgh.

Tour Dress – Club Sweater, Tie & White Shirt

11:15 AM Board your coaches and transfer to Corstorphine Cougars RFC for your first fixture which will be a triangular with a touring Irish side.

11:30 AM Arrive, warm up and watch the first match between your opponents!

12:15 PM **CORSTORPHINE COUGARS RFC v IRISH SIDE**

1:30 PM **IRISH SIDE v PORTLAND RFC**

2:30 PM **CORSTORPHINE COUGARS RFC v PORTLAND RFC**

Enjoy post-match function with your hosts and probably watch England v France on the TV.

4:45 PM **SIX NATIONS - ENGLAND V FRANCE (On TV)**

At an agreed time with your coach driver, transfer back to the hotel.

Edinburgh should be buzzing ahead of the Six Nations game tomorrow.

Sunday 12 March – Edinburgh / Bridlington – Tour Day Manager – Matt Bigelow

Breakfast and check out of your rooms and store your bags.

Morning at leisure to soak up the pre match atmosphere.

Walk the famous walk down to Murrayfield for the Six Nations Match.

3:00 PM **SIX NATIONS - SCOTLAND v IRELAND**

6:00 PM Meet back at the hotel, gather your bags, and board your charter coach for the transfer to Bridlington; your coach will remain with you until you arrive in London.

10:30 PM On arrival, part of the group will check-in to the Lobster Pot Hotel for a two-night stay on a bed and cooked breakfast basis.

The remainder of the group will check-in to the Bridlington Seafront Premier Inn for a two-night stay on a bed and cooked breakfast basis.

LOBSTER POT

184 Kingsgate
Bridlington

Tel: 01262 602834

BRIDLINGTON SEAFRONT PREMIER INN

Albion Terrace
East Riding of Yorkshire
YO15 2PJ

Tel: 01262 411642

Monday 13 March – Bridlington – Tour Day Manager – Jessie Higgins

- 07:30 AM Breakfast.
- 10:00 AM Board the coach to York, where you will get the opportunity to explore this historic city.
- 3:00 PM Depart York and head back to your hotels and have some down time before this evenings match.
- Tour Dress – Club Sweater, Tie & White Shirt**
- 5:15 PM Transfer to BRIDLINGTON RUFC ahead of the much anticipated match.
- 5:30 PM Arrive and warm up.
- 7:00 PM **BRIDLINGTON RUFC v PORTLAND RFC**
- Following the match, enjoy some typical Yorkshire hospitality.
- 10:30 PM Board the coaches for the return to your hotels – or head off to enjoy the “bright lights” of Bridlington!

Tuesday 14 March – Bridlington / Oxford – Tour Day Manager – Zach Muller

- After breakfast, check out and board the coaches.
- 9:00 AM Continue your journey south to the town of Rugby, where William Webb Ellis first picked up the ball and ran with it.
- 12:00 PM On arrival, find a spot for lunch (not included).
- 1:45 PM Make your way to Rugby School for a tour of the hallowed turf, followed by popping your heads into the Museum.
- 2:00 PM **RUGBY SCHOOL TOUR & WEBB ELLIS MUSEUM**
- 4:30 PM Continue to Oxford.
- 6:00 PM Check in for a two night stay on a bed and cooked breakfast basis.
- HAMPTON BY HILTON HOTEL – OXFORD**
Grenoble Road
Oxford OX4 4XP
- Tel: 01865 788860
- Dinner – own arrangements. (You might like to get taxis into town).

Wednesday 15 March – Oxford – Tour Day Manager – Mike DeSalle

Breakfast.

Enjoy a guided walking tour of Oxford this morning OR option to visit Warwick Castle or Stratford-upon-Avon.

Dinner – own arrangements.

Thursday 16 March – Oxford / London – Tour Day Manager – Mo Schultz

Breakfast and check-out.

Board your coach this morning and head on down to London.

Stop for an early lunch – perhaps the services on the outskirts of London.

2:00 PM Meet your two Blue Badge guides outside the McDonald's on Baker Street who will join you on the coaches for a 3-hour panoramic tour of the London sights.

PANORAMIC TOUR OF LONDON

5:15 PM After the tour, the group will be splitting, with the majority checking-in to the St. Giles Hotel for a three-night stay on a bed and cooked breakfast basis.

ST GILES HOTEL
Bedford Avenue
LONDON W1CB 3GH

COLLEGE BOYS – 14 PEOPLE

5:15 PM After the tour, 14 of the College boys will be dropped at the Generator Hostel where you will check-in for a three-night stay on a bed and breakfast basis.

GENERATOR
37 Tavistock Place
London
WC1H 9SE

Tel: 020 7388 7666

Once both groups have settled in – the bright lights of London await – with plenty of options for dinner.

Friday 17 March – London (St Patrick’s Day) – Tour Day Manager – Hugh Borchers

Breakfast.

10:30 AM Make your way to the London Eye; a rotating observation wheel which is 135 metres (443ft) high with amazing 360-degree views over London.

11:00 AM **LONDON EYE**

11:30 AM A short distance away is Westminster Pier where you will take your Thames River cruise. Enjoy a memorable day out on London’s No 1 sightseeing tour on the River Thames. Take in London’s iconic riverside landmarks as you cruise through the heart of the city.

11:45 AM **THAMES CRUISE**

Remainder of the day at leisure to enjoy the sights of London.

Meet and head off to your end of tour GALA DINNER! - **Tour Dress – Club Sweater, Tie & White Shirt**

Saturday 18 March – London – Tour Day Manager – Gareth Roberts

Breakfast and clear your heads.

Non-Rugby: Full day at leisure to enjoy some of London’s popular attractions like the Natural History Museum, Science Museum or the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Rugby:

10:30 AM Make your own way to Belsize Park RFC, around a 20 min walk.

11:00 AM Arrive and warm up!

12:00 PM **BELSIZE PARK RFC v PORTLAND RFC**

After your match, shower and freshen up and watch Belsize Park 1st XV in action, kicking off at 1400 hrs.

It is also “Super Saturday” in the Six Nations, with three back to back matches on TV, the final show down of the day is Ireland v England in Dublin, with KO schedules for 1645 hrs. 9So that should be your afternoon taken care of!!)

Own arrangements for the evening.

Sunday 19 March – London / In Flight - Tour Day Manager – Tom Lovering

Breakfast and check out. Store your luggage with reception.

Enjoy your last morning in London.

12:00 PM Meet back at the hotel and collect your bags.

MAIN GROUP – BRITISH AIRWAYS – TERMINAL 5

12:15 PM Coaches will collect from the St Giles Hotel and transfer to London Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5.

1:30 PM Check in to flight BA203, bound for Boston.

4:45 PM Flight departs.

8:30 PM Arrive Boston and meet the College Boys for the return to Portland.

COLLEGE BOYS – VIRGIN AIRWAYS – TERMINAL 3

12:15 PM Coach will collect from Generator Hostel and transfer to London Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3.

1:30 PM Check into flight VS11, bound for Boston.

4:25 PM Flight departs.

8:20 PM Arrive Boston and meet the main party for the return to Portland.

9:00 PM Depart Logan International Airport for Portland

11:00 PM Arrive – Marginal Way Park & Ride, Portland, ME

TOUR ARRANGEMENTS TERMINATE