# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION UNITED KINGDOM: ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for at **least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

Effective January 8, 2025, the United Kingdom will require an Electronic Travel Authorisation (UK ETA) from all U.S. and Canadian passport holders entering or transiting through the UK. Travellers can apply online at <u>www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-an-electronic-travel-authorisation-eta</u> and should allow up to 3 business days for processing. The UK ETA will be valid for 2 years.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at <u>visacentral.com/abercrombiekent</u> or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

# CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Hotels, shops, restaurants and many other venues accept all major credit cards and ATM access is widespread. Unattended self-service payment kiosks such as those in parking garages, train stations or gas stations only accept a Chip and PIN card or cash.

### OF SPECIAL NOTE

If you are planning to golf during your journey, it is recommended that you request your tee time at the time you book your trip. As an optional activity, golfing fees are not included in the cost of your program and must be paid directly to the course. Some Scottish courses require golfers to present an official handicap card and/or letter of introduction from their home club. When you request your tee time, ask about the requirements at the specific course you intend to play.

# PACKING LIST

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

#### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Cotton and other light fabrics are comfortable choices for summertime. Spring and autumn temperatures dictate medium-weight clothing selections. Smart casual attire is generally appropriate for evenings; however, when dining at country house hotels or for specially-arranged dinners at private homes, the general standard for gentlemen is a "jacket and tie", with an equivalent standard of eveningwear for ladies. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Cathedrals, churches, and other religious sites require conservative dress. Arms and shoulders should be covered.

Casual slacks	Walking shorts
<ul> <li>Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses</li> </ul>	Long sleeve shirts or blouses

<ul> <li>Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels</li> </ul>	Lightweight raincoat and umbrella
Sweater or fleece jacket	Brimmed hat or visor for sun protection
□ Sleepwear	Personal garments
□ Socks	□ Swimwear/cover-up
Other Recommended Items	
□ Face masks and hand sanitizer	Sun block and lip balm
□ Sunglasses	<ul> <li>Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)</li> </ul>
Simple first-aid kit	onginal bottles and/or packaging)
Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses	□ Smartphone
Charging cables for electronics	Global travel adapter

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

	All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Extensions	Tailor Made Journeys
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$20 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.

#### Canal Barge Cruises

Gratuities to barge crewmembers are not included. Please refer to 'Life on Board' Vessel Information for recommended gratuity guidelines.