



This tour should have been named “The Great Sights” tour, as that is what you will see during 12 terrific days in the USA!

From fabulous collections of aircraft in some of America’s best-known aviation museums, to one of the best warbird airshows there is (pictured): Chino!



You will also see some of Mother Nature’s best work: Sedona, Monument Valley and the Grand Canyon.

... and man-made sights like the mighty Hoover Dam and the incomparable, over-the-top, Las Vegas!



In addition to a full day at the 2009 Chino Airshow, we also have a second, full day at this incredible airfield which is home to 2 fabulous aviation collections as well several well-known warbird restoration companies.

There are free days at the Grand Canyon and Las Vegas.

We fly from London’s Heathrow Airport on the scheduled services of United Airlines; travel in-country by air-conditioned coach; and stay each night at a comfortable hotel on either a bed and breakfast or room only basis - see itinerary for details.

Join us for what will be, according to Gromit, a crackin’ tour!

It is essential that you read very carefully the new “ESTA” entry requirements on page 5 as introduced in January 2009 by the US authorities. Failure to ensure you have the required authorisation when checking in will mean your participation in the tour is likely to come to an abrupt end!

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, 6th MAY

Between 10:00 and 10:50 please meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager, and fellow enthusiasts, at London’s Heathrow Airport, at American Airlines’ check-in area which is located in Departures on the ground floor of Terminal 3. We recommend you check in no later than 10:50.

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3
✈ Chicago O’Hare

Flight: AA 47

Departs: 12:50
Arrives: 15:25

After Passport Control we collect our luggage from Baggage Reclaim and proceed through Customs; we then hand our suitcases back to American Airlines’ at the adjacent Transfer Desk and proceed to the departure gate of our connecting flight to Phoenix.

✈ Chicago O’Hare
✈ Phoenix

Flight: AA 619

Departs: 17:05
Arrives: 18:50

Meeting our local coach and driver we transfer the few miles to the Hampton Inn & Suites Phoenix Airport South where we stay the night on a bed and Hot American Breakfast basis. On-site is the George & Dragon Pub and restaurant. Website: www.hamptoninn.hilton.com

DAY 2: THURSDAY, 7th MAY

This morning we drive north, to the small town of Sedona and the picturesque pink and red landscape. Optional flights in Waco biplanes are available at Sedona's small airfield. Time also for lunch (at your own expense).



We then continue on through Oak Tree Canyon to Monument Valley and the spectacular 'stone towers' scenery (pictured).

Tonight we stay at the Holiday Inn-Kayenta in the Valley which is on the Navajo Indian reservation. The on-site restaurant serves both authentic Native American and traditional American meals. Full American Breakfast is included. Website: www.ichotelsgroup.com

DAY 3: FRIDAY, 8th MAY

In the morning we drive through the western part of Monument Valley, and on to the Grand Canyon National Park arriving in the afternoon. We stay the next 2 nights at the Yavapai West Lodge on the South Rim, on a room only basis.

The remainder of the day is free to walk along the rim, or even venture down into the Canyon (on foot or by mule)!

DAY 4: SATURDAY, 9th MAY

A full day to explore the incredible Grand Canyon at your leisure. Optional helicopter flights are available in the nearby village and at Grand Canyon Airport. Our Tour Manager will assist on the day.

DAY 5: SUNDAY, 10th MAY

Departing at 09:00, half an hour later we arrive in Valle where we visit the excellent collection of aircraft in the Planes of Fame East Museum. Optional warbird flights may be possible.

We then continue to Las Vegas, a leisurely 3-hour drive away, where we stay 2-nights on a room only basis at the Hooters Casino Hotel, located on 'The Strip'. Website: www.hchvegas.com The remainder of the afternoon is free.

DAY 6: MONDAY, 11th MAY

In the morning we visit the mighty Hoover Dam; various optional tours are available including one that takes you right down to the huge turbines located in the base of the dam. Returning to Las Vegas early afternoon, the rest of the day is free.

Alternatively, spend the day trying to win a fortune (or losing your shirt) in Vegas!

DAY 7: TUESDAY, 12th MAY

Transferring the few miles to Las Vegas Airport we check-in with Southwest Airlines for our flight to Sacramento.

✈ Las Vegas
✈ Sacramento

Flight: WN 3165

Departs: 08:40
Arrives: 10:05

We then visit the superb collection of aircraft in the Aerospace Museum of California, located on the now-closed McClellan airbase, northeast of Sacramento. Website: www.aerospacemuseumofcalifornia.org

Thirty miles to the south is Vacaville, and we stay the night at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, on a room only basis. There are several restaurants and lounges very close to the hotel.

DAY 8: WEDNESDAY, 13th MAY

We start at the fabulous Travis AFB Museum: last September its latest exhibit - a mighty Douglas Cargomaster - flew in from Anchorage. Website: www.travisairmuseum.org

In the afternoon, it's the impressive collection of aircraft in Castle AFB Museum (pictured is their huge Convair B-36 Peacemaker).



Tonight we stay in Fresno, at the Holiday Inn-Fresno Airport on a bed and breakfast basis. There is a restaurant and lounge on site. Website: www.elite.net/castle-air

DAY 9: THURSDAY, 14th MAY

Continuing 'down' California, we stop en-route at the US Veterans Memorial at Tulare to see the B-17 and F-4 on display.

Mid-afternoon we arrive in the city of Ontario, staying the next 4-nights at the Hilton-Ontario Airport Hotel on a room only basis. This hotel has excellent facilities and is only 3 minutes from Ontario Airport (and 40 minutes from Los Angeles LAX Airport). Website: <http://www1.hilton.com>

DAY 10: FRIDAY, 15th MAY

We spend today on Chino airfield visiting the Planes of Fame West Museum and the Yanks Air Museum. It might be possible for optional warbird flights at the former (to be confirmed).

Time, also, to walk the ramps, home to some famous US warbird restoration companies. We also hope to get access to photograph some of the aircraft in the static display area of the 2009 Chino Airshow.

DAY 11: SATURDAY, 16th MAY

Departing the hotel at 08:00 we spend a full day at the Chino Airshow.

DAY 12: SUNDAY, 17th MAY

At 08:00 we depart for March AFB Museum: there are more than 60 beautifully preserved aircraft on display (pictured right is the unique YF-14A Tomcat).



We then visit the Palm Springs Air Museum whose collection has 30, mainly WWII warbirds.

Arriving at Los Angeles' LAX Airport we check in with American Airlines for our flight to London; latest check in time is 17:50hrs..

✈ Los Angeles

Flight: AA 136

Departs: 19:50

DAY 13: MONDAY, 18th MAY

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3

Arrives: 14:15

Whilst waiting in Baggage Reclaim for our luggage we take the opportunity to bid each other "Farewell" – until we meet again.

COST PER PERSON	TOUR: 227902
£ 1,999.00	Based on sharing a twin bedded room on a part bed and breakfast and room only basis
£ 420.00	Single room supplement
On request	Land only (please speak with one of our consultants before booking)



TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Economy class ticket on the scheduled services of American Airlines from London's Heathrow Airport
- Economy class ticket on the scheduled services of Southwest Airlines
- UK and US Airport Taxes and UK Passenger Service Charge (subject to change)
- All transfers and touring by air-conditioned charter coach
- 11-night's accommodation in rooms with private facilities
- Breakfast, as stated
- Admission to the Chino 2009 Airshow
- Admission to all aviation museums as stated
- Admission to Grand Canyon National Park
- Admission to Monument Valley, Navajo Tribal Park
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager

NOT INCLUDED

- Meals, except as stated above
- Optional pleasure flights
- Travel insurance – see General Information
- Visas: not required by UK Passport holders – see General Information
- Personal expenditure, e.g. telephone calls, laundry, drinks, etc
- Additional tips and gratuities

Payment for Ian Allan Aviation Tours

A deposit of £250.00 per person should accompany your Booking Form, with the balance due 10 weeks prior to the tour's departure. Please see your Booking Confirmation/Invoice for the exact date. Please note that a reminder of the payment date will not be sent.

Tours Affected by World Events or Unforeseen/Unplanned Circumstances

In an ever-changing world, events may occur immediately before or during a tour that result in cancellations or changes to the tour itinerary. For example, an increase in security may result in an approved visit being cancelled by the host, etc.. Ian Allan Travel Ltd cannot be held responsible for any tour being cancelled, or itineraries affected, due to world events or circumstances beyond our control.

Passports and Visas

Citizens of the UK are required to be in possession of a Full UK Passport which must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of your return to the UK. As was introduced in October 2004, all travellers to the USA under the Visa Waiver Scheme must be in possession of a machine-readable passport.

Non-UK citizens should contact the relevant Embassy in their country of residence for specific information and instructions.

IMPORTANT - NEW REGULATIONS FOR ENTRY TO THE USA

Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA) - Mandatory from 12th January, 2009

From 12th January, 2009 anyone seeking entry to the USA under the Visa Waiver Scheme must comply with the mandatory Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA).

The USA government has made changes to its visa-waiver programme meaning travellers will be required to apply for authorisation to travel under the scheme **before arriving at their departure airport**.

The changes, which came into effect in August 2008 on a voluntary basis are now mandatory and will affect all passport holders from 34 countries currently participating in the Visa Waiver Scheme, including UK passport holders.

You must now obtain authorisation (known as ESTA) before arriving at the airport, and **can only apply online** at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>

The application process may take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete and authorisation is normally granted immediately but may take up to 72 hours. We recommend that you **apply for authorisation at the time of booking** your place on our tour - or at very latest 72 hours before the tour departs, to ensure you are able to travel.

If your application for an ESTA is unsuccessful you must apply for a US visa from the US Embassy.

Once granted, your ESTA is valid for two years, during which time you need not re-apply. Any future visits to the USA during these 2 years will be allowed under your current approval. After 2 years you will have to apply for another ESTA.

For more information, please go to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>, or www.visitusa.org.uk

The responsibility for acquiring an ESTA lies with each individual (and not Ian Allan Travel). If you arrive at check-in without an ESTA (or a US Visa if you were refused an ESTA), you will not be allowed to travel to the USA. No refund of the tour price whatsoever will be possible from Ian Allan Travel Ltd. It is also extremely unlikely that any travel insurance company would agree any subsequent claim therefore it is important that you act upon this information NOW.

Examination of Flight Bookings by US Customs – APIS Information

All airlines flying to the United States are obliged to provide information about US-bound passengers, under an agreement reached between the United States and the European Commission on the 18th February 2003.

Under the agreement, as of 5th March 2003, US customs officials have discretionary power to examine passenger booking information held on computer reservation systems relating to flights beginning, ending, or stopping over in the United States. The European Commission has received guarantees from the United States that this information will be used appropriately.

This requirement, based on the US Air Safety and Transportation law of November 2001, is intended to increase air safety and is in addition to the information supplied when applying for your ESTA (see above paragraph).

Inspection of Luggage by US Transport Security Administration

Items of luggage going into the hold of the aircraft may be opened by US Transport Security Administration (TSA) officials without you being present. In some instances locked suitcases have been forced open, their contents checked, and then re-sealed with tape and a note left inside by the TSA. Most airlines and insurance companies insist that your unaccompanied luggage be locked at all times; the TSA prefer they are left unlocked! The only advice we (and ABTA) can give at this time is that it is your choice whether you leave your suitcases locked or unlocked. You may wish to consult your travel insurance company before making a decision. Or you may purchase a "TSA Approved Lock", available at various local retail shops (and airports); these locks can be opened by the TSA, thereby, avoiding damage to your luggage.

First Nights Stay in the USA

Airlines flying into the USA are required to provide the American authorities with the full postal address of where each passenger will stay on their first night. This information will be asked for when you check in at your departure airport. The address of where you will stay the first night, and every night on the tour will be included with the final itinerary.

Baggage Regulations – American Airlines - Departing London's Heathrow Airport

Checked Baggage: American Airlines will transport up to 2 pieces of 'checked' baggage per person, the total dimensions of which must not exceed 62" or 157cm (length + width + height) nor weigh in excess of 23kg (50lb) per piece.

Cabin Baggage: for travel out of London's Heathrow Airport you may take one carry-on bag, not exceeding 45 inches or 114cm linear, including handles and wheels, and weighing no more than 18kg (40lb). All larger-sized items must go in the aircraft's hold. Carry-on baggage must be stowed in carry-on compartments of the aircraft, under a seat, or in an overhead locker.

Limited quantities of liquids are allowed as hand baggage but must be carried separately through security in a clear plastic, zip-top or re-sealable bag that does not exceed 20cm x 20cm (8 inches x 8 inches), or quart size. Individual containers must not exceed 90ml or 3 American ounces, and items must fit in the bag comfortably and the bag must be completely closed. The bag can only contain: Shampoo, suntan lotions, creams, toothpaste, hair gel and hair spray, perfumes, cosmetics such as mascara and lip gloss, water and other drinks, soups and syrups and other items of a similar consistency.

Hand baggage can include: Electronic equipment including mobile phones, digital cameras and MP3 players (such as i-Pods). Laptops must be removed from the bag for x-ray. Prescription medicines in liquid form, e.g. diabetic kit.

At security all remaining items should be placed in the tray provided for screening, e.g. car keys and fobs, cash, solid food, books, newspapers, cigarettes and tobacco, belts and shoes. Pushchairs and walking aids are permitted but must be x-ray screened. All wheelchairs will be subject to search. Please note, you may be subject to a hand search by the security team and required to remove footwear to be x-ray screened.

Once in the departure lounge passengers may purchase certain items in any shop and take it onto the aircraft as normal. Passengers may be subject to a secondary search at the departure gate before boarding. Any items not on the approved list will be removed.

As baggage regulations can change with little warning, you are strongly advised to contact the airline for the latest information nearer to the time of your departure.

Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) Consular Advice

The FCO's consular service is a major operation. Every hour of every day consular staff around the world are advising and helping British nationals. We suggest you visit www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo for up-to-date passport, visa and security information on the destination you intend visiting.

In addition, the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) provide an Information Line, telephone: 0901 201 505 (calls currently charged at 50p per minute).

Meals

Meals are not normally included in the price of our tours unless they are included within the room rate as we realise that not everyone wants three meals a day, especially in the USA where dinner tends to be quite large. Furthermore, hotel meals can be expensive and in general, we have found it is better to allow each person to decide for themselves. On this tour either American Continental or Full American Breakfast is included, as stated.

In-flight meals when included within the cost of the air ticket form part of the tour price, however some airlines (primarily European carriers) now only serve refreshments for which they charge accordingly.

Health Requirements

There are currently no known mandatory or recommended precautions required for travel to the USA. However, we strongly recommend that you consult your local doctor or health centre for the latest information.

Climate and Dress

The weather should be warm and sunny during our visit with temperatures in the low to high 70°F.

Travel Insurance

For citizens of the United Kingdom, Ian Allan Travel Ltd can provide competitive and comprehensive insurance cover for the duration of your tour. However, if you do not wish to take out our insurance, you must ensure that comparable or greater cover is taken. The number of your Insurance Policy should be written, if known, on your Booking Form at the time of making the reservation, but no later than the date when final payment is due. A copy of the policy must be forwarded to Ian Allan Travel Ltd.

Individual insurance policies are arranged through CoverMore Insurance Services Limited; the premiums for which will vary according to your circumstances. Full details are available on request.

The Policies for the USA also include cover for non-scheduled flights, i.e. pleasure flights, where the aircraft is licensed and insured to undertake such flights, and where a payment is made.

Wheelchair Assistance at Airports

Anyone requiring wheelchair assistance at airports must have this service requested and confirmed in advance. Airlines and/or airports can no longer provide this service without prior confirmation, therefore, please annotate your booking form accordingly.

Flexible Itinerary

We are very happy for enthusiasts to take time away from the printed itinerary to pursue their own interests during multi-day stays in the same place, so long as they inform the Tour Manager. It will be the individual's responsibility to ensure that they re-join the group in the hotel at the stated time on the day of departure.

Land Only Price

For enthusiasts who would prefer to join the tour in the USA (instead of flying from the UK with the main group), we will be very pleased to provide a 'Land Only' price on request. This price *does not* include any flights whatsoever and you are strongly advised to contact us before making your own flight arrangements in the event that there has been a change to the published itinerary. This is particularly relevant where travel on specific domestic flights forms part of the tour itinerary.

Please note that the 'Land Only' price is based on you meeting the tour at the first hotel – in Phoenix – and does not include either arrival nor departure airport transfers; however, should your arrival/departure coincide with that of the group, a seat will be offered when available for an appropriate supplement.

Flight Timings & Connecting Travel Arrangements to Departure Airport

All flight departure and arrival times are correct at the time of preparing each itinerary, however, airlines may change these times with little or no prior warning. In practice such changes are only a few minutes either way and the final itinerary will show the actual times. Clients making their own arrangements to get to the departure airport by air, rail, coach etc., should bare the above in mind if purchasing non-refundable or non-changeable tickets. Ian Allan Travel cannot be held responsible for any changes to flight times, and any privately arranged travel tickets to the airport becoming invalid.

Pre-departure

For connecting flights from UK regional airports - please call Ian Allan Travel on 01932 255627 for the latest special offers available.

Airport Hotel and/or Car Parking - we can offer special rates for the above at most UK airports, please ask for details.

Pleasure Flights – Disclaimer

Should you decide to undertake any pleasure/sightseeing flights which have not been offered or sanctioned by us, Ian Allan Travel Ltd will not be held liable for any injuries or death resulting thereon.