

**Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April – Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2009**

***Our annual trip to the EAA's spring-time Fly-In and Convention (FIAC) in sunny Florida.***

Not as big as the EAA's summer FIAC at Oshkosh in Wisconsin (the largest aviation event in the world), but there are still scores of trade stands and exhibitors, workshops, a fly-market, thousands of visiting aircraft and a daily airshow. For many enthusiasts who prefer a slower, easy time of it – "Sun 'n Fun" is just right.

You have the choice of 1 to 4 days at the event.

No visit to this part of the USA would be complete without taking a look around Kermit Week's fantastic collection of aircraft in his "Fantasy of Flight" Museum at Polk City, including a guided tour around the 'back lot' – the museum's storage and restoration areas. In addition, the museum's lake is now the new venue for the many floatplanes who attend the Sun 'n Fun's "Splash-In".



Talking of floatplanes – why not take the opportunity to experience the unique thrill of take-offs and landings on water! We make our annual visit to the famous floatplane flying school "Jack Browns Seaplane Base" where optional, 20-minute flights, in Piper J3 Cubs are available for only \$55.00 (approximately £40.00)! Price includes landings and take-offs from other lakes in the area!



From Florida we fly across the Gulf of Mexico to Houston, Texas. Before arriving at our hotel on the beach in Galveston we visit the Johnson Space Center – more famously known as Mission Control Houston. We attend the annual Lone Star Flight Museum Airshow which has earned an excellent reputation for its past shows. The museum is also one of the best you will see anywhere in the world. Optional warbird flights will be available – take your pick from a B-17 Flying Fortress (pictured), B-25 Mitchell, Boeing Stearman or T-6 Harvard!

Our final visit is to the retired US Navy battleship "USS Texas" (now a museum), and the only battleship still afloat that fought in WWI and WWII. It will have celebrated its 95th birthday in March!

Please annotate your booking form if you are interested, or would like further details, of any of the above optional flights.

We currently fly on the scheduled services of Continental Airlines from London's Heathrow Airport; travel around Florida and Texas by air-conditioned coach; and stay each night in comfortable hotels on a bed and breakfast basis.

As we stay very near to the world-famous tourist attractions around Orlando, Florida (Disney World is only 1.8 miles away), and at a 'beach' hotel in the premier San Luis Resort in Galveston, we consider this tour is also perfect for non-aviation-minded persons who prefer a more conventional holiday!

## **PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)**

### **DAY 1: Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April**

Between 07:30 and 08:25 please meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager, and fellow enthusiasts, at London's Heathrow Airport, at Continental Airlines' check-in area which is located on the Departures level (first floor) of Terminal 4. We recommend you check in no later than 08:25.

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 4  
✈ New York, Newark Airport

Flight: CO 029

Departs: 10:25  
Arrives: 13:15

After Passport Control we collect our luggage from Baggage Reclaim and proceed through Customs; we then hand our suitcases back to Continental Airlines at the adjacent Connecting Flight Desk and proceed to the departure gate of our Orlando-bound flight.

✈ New York, Newark Airport  
✈ Orlando Airport

Flight: CO 792

Departs: 15:15  
Arrives: 18:10

Meeting our coach driver we transfer the few miles to Kissimmee where we stay 5-nights at the Best Western Lakeside hotel on a bed and breakfast basis. A favourite with our previous groups, full details of the hotel's amenities can be found on their website [www.bestwesternlakeside.com](http://www.bestwesternlakeside.com)

### **DAY'S 2 - 4: Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> - Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

Three full days at the 2009 Sun 'n Fun Fly-In at Lakeland Airport. We depart the hotel each morning at 07:30, setting off back on the return journey every evening at 18:00 hrs..

Alternatively, you can also take time away from the group to visit some of the world-famous tourist attractions in the Kissimmee area such as Magic Kingdom, EPCOT Centre or MGM Studios at Walt Disney World Resort or Universal Studios in downtown Orlando etc.. Hire a car, or book transfers and tours at the hotel's Tour Desk.



### **DAY 5: Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April**

Today you have an option: a fourth day at the Fly-In.

Or spend the day visiting Jack Brown's Seaplane Base. Optional 20-minute flights in Piper Cubs will be available for \$55.00 (approx £40.00), which include water landings and take-offs from nearby lakes!

We then go to Kermit Weeks' Fantasy of Flight Museum in Polk City; as well as the aircraft on display in the museum we also have a tour of the museum's storage area and restoration workshop.

Time also to go see the floatplanes attending the EAA's "Splash-In" which is now located on the shores of the museum's lake.

### **DAY 6: Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> April**

At 09:00 hrs. we depart for Orlando Airport and check in with Continental Airlines for our flight to Houston, Texas.

✈ Orlando Airport  
✈ Houston George Bush Airport

Flight: CO 1487

Departs: 12:00  
Arrives: 13:34

Meeting our local coach driver we go directly to NASA's "Mission Control Houston" at the Johnson Space Center.

We stay 2-nights on a bed and breakfast basis at the Holiday Inn Galveston On The Beach, which as its name implies, is located next to the beach, in the popular San Luis Resort on the Gulf of Mexico. Details of the hotel's extensive facilities are on their website: [www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/hi/1/en/hd/glssb](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/hi/1/en/hd/glssb)



### **DAY 7: Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April**

Departing the hotel at 08:00 hrs. we enjoy a full day at the Lone Star Flight Museum's annual airshow which is held at Scholes Field, only 3-miles from our hotel!

Optional pleasure flights in the Museum's B-17 Flying Fortress (pictured page 1), B-25 Mitchell (pictured left), Boeing Stearman and T-6 Harvard will also be available either before or after the air show.

Please annotate your booking form if you are interested or would like further details of these flights.

### DAY 8: Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> April

Departing the hotel at 09:00 hrs. we visit the preserved WWI and WWII US Navy battleship "USS Texas", moored up in the San Jacinto Battleground Historic Site. It was here, with cries of "Remember the Alamo!" that Sam Houston and his ragged band of 910 pioneers routed Santa Ana, President and Dictator of Mexico and self-styled "*Napoleon of the West*," and Texas finally became part of the USA, changing the map of North America forever.

In the afternoon we check-in with Continental Airlines at Houston's George Bush International Airport for our flight back to Heathrow. Latest check-in time is 14:30.

✈ Houston George Bush Airport

Flight: CO 032

Departs: 16:30

### DAY 9: Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> April

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 4

Arrives: 07:40

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

COST PER PERSON	TOUR: 227904
From £1,299.00	Based on sharing a twin bedded room on a bed and breakfast basis
£268.00	Single room supplement
On request	Land only (please speak with one of our consultants before booking)

### TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Economy class ticket on scheduled services of Continental Airlines (or similar) from London's Heathrow Airport
- UK and US Airport Taxes
- UK Passenger Service Charge
- All transfers and touring by air-conditioned charter coach
- 7-night's accommodation in rooms with private facilities
- Continental or Full American Breakfast
- Admission to Johnson Space Center Houston
- Admission to Lone Star Museum and Airshow
- Admission to the battleship USS Texas
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager
- Gratuity for coach drivers

### NOT INCLUDED

- Meals, except as stated above
- Optional visit to Fantasy of Flight Museum
- Travel insurance – see General Information
- Visas: not required by UK Passport holders – see General Information for details
- Optional pleasure flights
- 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 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2009**

From 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 anyone seeking entry to the USA must comply with the mandatory Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA), introduced by the U.S. government for all persons flying into the United States under the Visa Waiver Scheme.

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 up to approximately 15-20 minutes 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 in London.

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.

You will also still need to complete the familiar green-coloured I-94W visa waiver form which is handed to you either at check-in or onboard the aircraft.

For more information, please go to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>, or [www.visitusa.org.uk](http://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 18<sup>th</sup> February 2003.

Under the agreement, as of 5<sup>th</sup> 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 and you will also be required to include this information on the I-94 US Immigration Card. 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 – Continental Airways - Departing London's Heathrow Airport**

**Checked Baggage:** Continental Airlines will transport up to 2 pieces of 'checked' baggage per person, the 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 22 x 18 x 10 inches or 56 x 45 x 25 cm, and one personal item, e.g. laptop, camera bag, handbag et al. 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](http://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 Continental Breakfast or Full American Breakfast is included.

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 in Florida and Texas during our visit with temperatures in the to mid to high 70°sF. The evenings may be a little cooler so a jacket could come in handy.

## **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 Kissimmee – 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.