

**UPDATE – VISIT TO BASLER (TURBO DAK CONVERSIONS) – CONFIRMED ...**



The special theme this year at the world's largest aviation event, the annual EAA Fly-In and Convention, is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Naval Aviation. The EAA hope to have as many naval and marine aviation aircraft present as possible.

Within the EAA site on Wittman Field there are 5 huge exhibition halls; hundreds of talks, presentations and technical workshops; 10,000+ visiting aircraft comprising hundreds of warbirds, classic and antiques, home-builds, microlights and floatplanes; a large 'fly market'; the EAA's fabulous Airventure

Museum; optional flights can be enjoyed in Bell 47 helicopters, a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress and a Ford Trimotor; demonstration flights (with aircraft arriving and departing) take place in the mornings, and a 4-5 hour airshow is held every afternoon, with special warbird shows with pyrotechnics (see page 2)!

To enjoy the 'Oshkosh experience' you need to take your time, and you will need all 6 days to wander around Wittman Field.

And don't forget to take the shuttle bus down to Lake Winnebago, to the idyllic venue of the floatplanes attending the "Splash-In": in the past these have ranged from little Cubs and Cessnas to mighty types like the Catalina and Albatross. The shaded, tree-lined lakeside is the perfect place to sit back and relax, and watch the floatplanes coming and going; enjoy a BBQ meal, take a boat ride around the bay and the moored aircraft, or even go on a (optional) floatplane pleasure flight!

*Basler Turbo Conversions, located on the south side of Whitman Field, have confirmed a tour of their factory where they convert classic C-47s/DC-3s: in effect replacing an old Dakota with a new Dakota! They also have a number of stored propliners. See page 2 for details.*

Every year the 'Oshkosh' tour is one our most popular trips – and once you have been to this awesome event it's not difficult to see why!

Details on how to obtain EAA membership and an indication of admission prices are shown on page 7 "General Information". n.b. 2011 rates not yet released.

Flights are from London's Heathrow Airport on the scheduled services of Virgin Atlantic Airlines to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. All transfers in the USA are by specially chartered coaches as stated.

You have the choice of staying in the South Gruenhagen Hall of Residence at the University of Wisconsin (UWO) in Oshkosh itself; at the Days Inn in Appleton, 25 miles to the north; or the Best Western Midway Hotel in Green Bay, 60 miles from Oshkosh up the interstate (motorway). See page 4 for details.

Want to spend less – or more days – at Oshkosh and/or North America? Please call to discuss your requirements.

**IMPORTANT: MANDATORY REGULATIONS FOR ENTRY TO THE USA:**

**Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA).** Anyone seeking entry to the USA must now have an “Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA)”, which has been introduced by the US government for all persons flying into the United States under the Visa Waiver Scheme: this includes the UK. Please see page 6 for details.

**PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local & approximate)**

**DAY 1: SUNDAY, 24<sup>th</sup> JULY**

Between 07:30 and 09:00 please meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager, and fellow enthusiasts, at London’s Heathrow Airport, in Virgin Atlantic Airlines’ own check-in hall which is located at the extreme left end of “Departures”, on the ground floor of Terminal 3. We recommend you check-in 3 hours before departure as this is a very busy time of the day; latest check-in time advised by the airline, however, is 2 hours, i.e. 09:00.

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3	Flight: VS 39	Departs: 11:00
✈ Chicago		Arrives: 13:55

After Passport Control we collect our luggage from Baggage Reclaim and proceed through Customs; in the Arrivals Hall we meet our driver and board our de-luxe air-conditioned coach for the drive north to Wisconsin. First stop is at the University of Wisconsin (UWO) in Oshkosh, at the South Gruenhagen Hall of Residence (7 nights room only basis), then the Days Inn-Appleton (7 nights including American Continental Breakfast basis), and finally, the Best Western Midway (7 nights including American Continental Breakfast basis) in Green Bay. See page 4 for details of the 3 accommodation options.

**DAY'S 2 - 7: MONDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> - SATURDAY, 30<sup>th</sup> JULY**



6 full days at Oshkosh 2011, commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Naval Aviation. Is 6 days enough?!

Enthusiasts staying at the UWO travel to/from the show on the EAA shuttle coach service which operates from dawn ‘till late. Cost in 2010 was \$2.00 roundtrip (2011 prices not yet available).

Those staying at the Best Western Midway Hotel: our chartered schoolbus will depart each morning at 07:30, pick up at the Days Inn Appleton at 08:05, and arrive Wittman Field by 09:00. At 18:30 each evening we depart from the EAA Bus Depot back to Appleton, then Green Bay. Transfers are included in the tour price.

*At 09:00 on the Wednesday we have a personal tour around a unique aviation company: Basler Turbo Conversions. They take old and tired Dakotas and transform them into state of the art, turbo-powered freighters or gunships. This optional visit is free and will last around 2 hours, after which, our schoolbus will drop us off at the EAA Bus Depot. Basler get many requests for visits at this time, so this is an opportunity not to be missed.*

Pick-up times will be: 07:30 Best Western Green Bay; 08:15 Days Inn Appleton; 08:40 Halls of Residence, UWO Oshkosh. Those enthusiasts staying in Green Bay and Appleton, and who do not wish to visit Basler, will be taken to the EAA Bus Depot immediately after dropping the rest of the group off at Basler at 08:55.

**DAY 8: SUNDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> JULY**

Our de-luxe, air-conditioned, coach will depart the Best Western Midway in Green Bay at 08:30; leave the Days Inn, Appleton at 09:15; and arrive at the Halls of Residence at the UWO at 09:45. At 09:50 we set off for the ‘overspill airfield’ at Fond Du Lac, a few miles south of Oshkosh, to see what aircraft are there.

Continuing to Chicago, we make a brief stop for lunch en-route (at your own expense), and check-in by 15:00 for our overnight flight back to London.

✈ Chicago	Flight: VS 40	Departs: 18:00
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**DAY 9: MONDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST**

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3

Arrives: 08:00

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

<b>COST PER PERSON</b>	<b>TOUR: 227113: ACCOMMODATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, OSHKOSH – ROOM ONLY BASIS</b>
From £ 1,299.00	Package price based on sharing a twin bedded room
From £ 144.00	Single room supplement
From £ 499.00	Land-only (NO flights) <i>PLEASE SPEAK WITH ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS BEFORE BOOKING</i>
<b>COST PER PERSON</b>	<b>TOUR: 227113: ACCOMMODATION AT THE BEST WESTERN MIDWAY HOTEL, GREEN BAY</b>
From £ 1,459.00	Package price based on sharing a twin bedded room
From £ 254.00	Single room supplement
From £ 659.00	Land-only (NO flights) <i>PLEASE SPEAK WITH ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS BEFORE BOOKING</i>
<b>COST PER PERSON</b>	<b>TOUR: 227113: ACCOMMODATION AT THE DAYS INN, APPLETON</b>
From £ 1,629.00	Package price based on sharing a twin bedded room
From £ 410.00	Single room supplement
From £ 829.00	Land-only (NO flights) <i>PLEASE SPEAK WITH ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS BEFORE BOOKING</i>

**TOUR PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return scheduled flights with Virgin Atlantic Airlines from London’s Heathrow Airport
- ✓ UK and US airport taxes & UK Passenger Service Charge, currently £237.13
- ✓ Seven nights accommodation in Oshkosh, Appleton or Green Bay
- ✓ American Continental Breakfast at the Days Inn, Appleton and Best Western Midway, Green Bay
- ✓ All coach transfers and transportation, as stated
- ✓ Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager
- ✓ Gratuity for coach drivers

**NOT INCLUDED**

- ✗ Meals, other than those stated above
- ✗ Membership of the EAA – see General Information, page 6 and copy of page from website
- ✗ US visa (not required by UK passport holders entering the USA under the visa waiver scheme)
- ✗ ESTA – see General Information, page 5
- ✗ Travel insurance – see General Information
- ✗ Optional pleasure flights
- ✗ Personal expenditure, for example, telephone calls, laundry, drinks, etc.
- ✗ Tips and gratuities (other than for coach drivers)

## **ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS: OSHKOSH, APPLETON OR GREEN BAY**

At the UWO, rooms are rented out whilst the students are away on summer vacation. Each room is of a basic standard comprising 2 single beds, set of drawers, wardrobe, desk, etc. There is no washbasin in the room: all washing facilities (sinks, showers and baths) are communal on each floor. There is no air-conditioning. Many regulars either take or purchase locally small electric fans. The campus has a number of eating outlets, including the University's own excellent "Blackbird" self-service restaurant which serves large breakfasts, lunch and evening meals. Travel to/from the Fly-In from the UWO is by the EAA's shuttle coach service which operates from early morning until late at night; a daily return 'ticket' cost \$2.00 in 2010 (2011 prices are not yet available) and is not included in the tour price.

Located 25 miles north of Oshkosh, on the outskirts of Appleton (the birthplace of Houdini), is the Days Inn (previously the Excel Inn Motel). Single and twin-bedded rooms are large and well furnished, with air-conditioning and private facilities, and offer good value-for-money accommodation. The Days Inn does not have a restaurant; however, there is a good selection of restaurants and fast-food outlets within a 400-yard walk. There is a mini-supermarket at the adjacent petrol station and a small shopping mall across the road from the hotel. Complimentary American-style continental breakfast comprising coffee, doughnuts, muffins, pastries, toast, cheese spread etc. is available in the foyer. Full, hot breakfasts are also available in adjacent/nearby restaurants, and at various outlets on Wittman Field. Transfers to/from Wittman Field are by specially chartered schoolbus; cost is included in the tour price.

In Green Bay: 60 miles/1 hour drive north of Oshkosh: the Best Western Midway Hotel (located a short walk from the Green Bay Packers football stadium). This full service hotel's facilities include the Bay City Smokehouse restaurant and bar, on-site indoor swimming pool, spa, steam room and exercise facility, games room and Wi-Fi. Tour price will include American Continental Breakfast and transfers to/from Wittman Field. Transfers to/from Wittman Field are by specially chartered schoolbus; cost is included in the tour price.

### 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.

### 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).

### IMPORTANT - NEW REGULATIONS FOR ENTRY TO THE USA – MANDATORY FROM JANUARY 2010 Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA)

Anyone seeking entry to the USA under the visa waiver scheme must now have an "Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA)".

During 2009/10, the USA government made changes to its visa waiver programme meaning travellers are 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, became mandatory on the 1st January 2010, and affect all passport holders from the 34 countries currently participating in the Visa Waiver Scheme (includes the UK).

Therefore you must apply for your ESTA prior to departing on this tour. You can apply online at the official US website: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov> Since September 2010 everyone applying for an ESTA is charged \$14.00 (\$10.00 for the ESTA and \$4.00 administrative charge). Therefore, before you begin your application on-line, make sure that you have a valid passport and credit card available. The website application will only accept the following credit cards: MasterCard, VISA, American Express, and Discover.

The application process will take up to approximately 15 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.

In addition to the official US government website above, there are several unofficial websites that offer you this service but may well charge a higher amount for the service.

Once granted, your ESTA is valid for two years, however you are required to up-date your ESTA each time you travel to the USA during this period. After 2 years you will have to apply for another ESTA.

If your on-line application for an ESTA is unsuccessful you will still be charged the \$4.00 administration fee, and must then apply for a US visa from the US Embassy in London.

**We understand that an ESTA can be cancelled by the US authorities without prior warning or notification to the holder!** Therefore, we recommend you update your ESTA prior to every visit you plan to the USA, by entering details of your flights and the address of your first-night accommodation.

**We also strongly recommend that you keep a photocopy of the ESTA with your passport.**

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

The old green-coloured I-94 Immigration Card is no longer in use. You will still have to complete a US Customs Declaration Form which will be handed to you either at check-in or on board the aircraft.

*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 available 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. The address of where you will stay will be included with the final itinerary.

### **Baggage Regulations – Virgin Atlantic - Departing London's Heathrow Airport**

**Checked Baggage:** Virgin Atlantic will transport 1 piece of 'checked' baggage per person, measuring up to 35½ x 29½ x 16ins (90 x 75 x 43cm), and weighing no more than 50lb (23kg).

**Cabin Baggage:** Economy passengers may take 1 piece of hand baggage on board. Individual dimensions not to exceed approx 9 x 14 x 22 inches (23 x 36 x 56cm), and 13lb (6kg) in weight. In addition to the cabin baggage allowance, the following personal items may be carried on board: a handbag, pocketbook or purse i.e. which is appropriate to normal travelling dress and is not being used as a container for the transportation of articles which could otherwise be regarded as baggage; an overcoat or wrap; an umbrella (pointed or/and sharp prohibited) or walking stick; a small camera and/or pair of binoculars.

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, due to security requirements, you are strongly advised to contact the airline for the latest information nearer to the time of your departure.**

#### **EAA Admission 2011**

Full details of EAA membership is shown on their website: [www.airventure.org](http://www.airventure.org). If you plan to attend all 6 days, the cheapest option is to join the EAA as an International Member (\$56.00), and pay for a weekly pass for \$110.00: total \$166.00; non-member rate is \$37.00 per day or \$222.00 for 6 days. You can either pay on-line in advance, or on your arrival. Also, EAA members are allowed to take in 2 guests (e.g. 2 other members of the group), at the Members Guest Rate of \$145.00 (week) or \$30.00 per day.

#### **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, American Continental Breakfast is provided at the Days Inn, Appleton; no meals are included if staying at the UWU.

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 mid to high 80'sF.

#### **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 have quoted a 'Land Only' price. 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 itinerary.

Please note that the 'Land Only' price is based on you meeting the tour at either the Best Western Midway, Green Bay, the Days Inn, Appleton or the Hall of Residence at the University in Oshkosh; it does not include either arrival nor departure airport transfers; however, should your arrival/departure at Chicago O Hare Airport coincide with that of the group, a seat will be offered when available for an appropriate supplement. Oshkosh is not served by scheduled airlines, however, Green Bay is a nearer option than Chicago.

### **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.

**‘Meet & Greet’ Car Parking, London’s Heathrow Airport:** from your home or overnight hotel, simply drive directly Terminal 3, stop in the Drop Off/Pick Up area (second or third lane outside the terminal), and hand your car over to the waiting driver. After checking for visible scratches, damage etc he will then take it to an off-airport, secure car park. On your return, call the company from Baggage Reclaim and the driver and your car will be waiting for you in the same location. Simple and very convenient. Recommended by our Tour Managers. Call 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.

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