

It's a few years since any of our tours have visited Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Texas, and this is the first time all these States have been included on the same itinerary; it's also our first time to Utah and Idaho. Whatever your interest in aviation, there is plenty to see: museums, warbirds, military, propliners, airliners and, deep in the heart of Texas, the best known warbird airshow of them all! CAF!



- Confederate Air Force Airshow (sic) – both airshow days & "Arrivals Day"
- Optional warbird flights, from fighters to bombers, including B-29 "Fifi"
- 18 aviation museums & collections
- Greybull propliner desert storage (ex Hawkins & Powers)
- Several Air National Guard bases
- Little Big Horn Battlefield, scene of Custer's Last Stand
- Spectacular countryside of the 'cowboy' states of Montana, Wyoming & Colorado

In Wyoming we stop off at Little Big Horn; as well as there being a very informative Visitor's Centre you are able to walk around the battlefield where those killed, both those of the 7th US Cavalry and Indians, were buried where they died - a truly surreal and memorable experience.

Please note that visits to some of the military bases can only be confirmed nearer the time due to security. At this time there are no unforeseen problems.

Details of all the aviation museums and collections can be found in "Aviation Museums and Collections of North America" by Bob Ogden, available from all Ian Allan bookshops and on-line at Ian Allan Plus.

We travel on the scheduled services of American Airlines and Southwest; travel in-country by coach; and stay each night in a comfortable hotel on a bed and breakfast basis throughout (either cold American Continental or Hot Buffet).

Your Ian Allan Tour Manager, who has travelled extensively around the USA, considers this tour to be one of the best he has ever been asked to lead.

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)

DAY 1: SUNDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER

Between 09:00hrs. and 10:15hrs. please meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager and fellow enthusiasts, at London's Heathrow Airport, at American Airlines' check-in area in "Departures", on the ground floor of Terminal 3. Latest check-in time advised by the airline is 10:15hrs..

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3	Flight: AA 81	Departs: 12:15
✈ Dallas/Fort Worth		Arrives: 16:45

After Passport Control we collect our luggage from Baggage Reclaim, proceed through Customs, hand our suitcases in at American Airline's Transfer desk, and go to the gate of our onward flight to Salt Lake City.

✈ Dallas/Fort Worth	Flight: AA 1925	Departs: 18:25
✈ Salt Lake City		Arrives: 20:10

Meeting our local coach driver we make the 40-minutes transfer to Ogden and check-in at the Comfort Suites Hotel. There is a restaurant and lounge (bar) on-site. A Full Hot Breakfast is included. <http://www.comfortsuites.com/hotel-ogden-utah-UT422>

DAY 2: MONDAY, 1st OCTOBER

At 09:30 we depart for nearby Hill Aerospace Museum (*pictured*) which has about 70 aircraft on display. Currently being restored are several aircraft and missiles, including a B-47E Stratojet, P-47D Thunderbolt, OV-10 Bronco, and a B-24D Liberator: we will request a visit to the restoration facility (tbc).

<http://www.hill.af.mil/library/museum/>



Hill Air Force Base also has a small collection of aircraft on display, aircraft that previously operated from there: F-105 Thunderchief, F-4 Phantom and 2 F-16s; we await approval to see them.

We then drive north to Idaho, staying overnight in Idaho Falls at the Red Lion Hotel On The Falls, on a bed and breakfast basis. Located on the Snake River it has spectacular views of the falls. There is an on-site restaurant and bar. <http://redlion.rdl.com/HotelLocator/HotelOverview.aspx?metaID=33>

DAY 3: TUESDAY, 2nd OCTOBER

Departing the hotel at 08:30hrs., early afternoon we arrive in Great Falls in Montana, where we await confirmation of our visit to see the collection of previously operated aircraft of the 120th Fighter Wing of the Montana Air National Guard (ANG); on display is a F-89 Scorpion, F-86 Sabre, T-33, F-102 Dagger, F-106 Dart, F-16 Fighting Falcon: <http://www.120fw.ang.af.mil/>

Tonight we stay at the Quality Inn Ponderosa in Great Falls, with its Tap House Grill and Bar on-site. It is within walking distance of the town centre with its bars and casinos!



DAY 4: WEDNESDAY, 3rd OCTOBER

At 08:30hrs. we leave for nearby Malmstrom AFB Museum and Air Park; its exhibits include a KC-97G Stratofreighter, B-57 Canberra, F-84 Thunderstreak, TF-101 Voodoo (*pictured*), B-25J Mitchell and a T-33: <http://russell.visitmt.com/listings/3165.htm>

Continuing on to Helena, 70 miles further north, we have requested a visit to the Montana ANG's Vocational School at the regional airport where they have a collection of various helicopters including an OH-13, UH-1, AH-13, UH-19, and an EC-121D Super Constellation, F-102 Dagger and F-89 Scorpion.

Our third planned visit of the day is to Big Sky Warbirds in Belgrade (tbc), who have 4 F-100F Super Sabres, a Canadian Sabre 5, CT-33 Silver Star and a Vultee Valiant.

Early evening we arrive in Billings and stay at the O'Haire Motor Inn on a bed and breakfast basis. Complete with restaurant, bar, mermaids, ducks and a crazy piano player, you will not have stayed anywhere like this before! Rated second best place to stay in town. <http://www.ohairemotorinn.com/>

DAY 5: THURSDAY, 4th OCTOBER

Leaving the O'Haire Motor Inn at 09:00hrs. we drive south, through the Crow Indian Reservation, for our visit to "Custer's Last Stand" on the Little Big Horn battlefield.

Continuing into Wyoming we arrive in Sheridan; we first see if the 2 old Convairs are still at the airport before checking in at the Best Western Sheridan Center for a 2-nights stay with breakfast. The "Main Street Tavern" restaurant and bar is on-site, with others a short walk away in the town centre: <http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/US/WY/Sheridan-hotels/BEST-WESTERN-Sheridan-Center/Hotel-Overview.do?propertyCode=51024> .

DAY 6: FRIDAY, 5th OCTOBER

At 09:00hrs. we take the scenic road east, to Greybull and the Museum of Aviation & Aerial Firefighting; still parked on this desert airfield are various propliners that once belonged to the famous Hawkins & Powers company! <http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/14707>

DAY 7: SATURDAY, 6th OCTOBER

Today we drive to the famous cowboy town of Laramie, stopping off at any airfields en-route. We stay the night at the Hilton Garden Hotel complete with Full American Breakfast. There is a restaurant and bar on-site <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=LARLAGI>

DAY 8: SUNDAY, 7th OCTOBER

We depart at 09:00hrs. for another well-known Wild West town: Cheyenne. We have confirmation of our visit to the 153rd Airlift Wing of the Wyoming ANG at Cheyenne Airport to see their Air Park which includes 2 F-86 Sabre's, F-84 Thunderstreak and A-7D Corsair II.

Crossing the state border into Colorado we head for Colorado Springs to visit the US Air Force Academy's. Various aircraft are on display, scattered around the site, including a B-52D (shot down a MiG during the Viet Nam war), A-10 Thunderbolt II, F-16A, Martin X-24, F-4D Phantom, F-15A, F-100F Super Sabre, Northrop N-26(XS-4) and T-38A Talon. <http://www.usafa.af.mil/information/visitors/index.asp>

A few miles to the south is the town of Pueblo where we stay the night at the Cambrai Suites Hotel; breakfast is included. Facilities include on-site bistro-style restaurant and bar. <http://www.cambriasuites.com/hotel-pueblo-colorado-CO227>

DAY 9: MONDAY, 8th OCTOBER

Leaving our hotel at 09:00hrs. we visit the nearby Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft/International B-24 Museum, and its large number of aircraft (too many to list here) <http://www.pwam.org/aircraftdisplay1.html>

Then, back in Colorado Springs, we have approval to visit Peterson AFB's Air and Space Museum (*pictured*) <http://www.pwam.org/aircraftdisplay1.html>



Continuing north we arrive in Denver, staying 3 nights at the Ramada Denver Downtown motel; facilities include on-site "Matter of Taste" restaurant, with other eating outlets and bars within a short walking distance. http://www.ramada.com/hotels/colorado/denver/ramada-denver-downtown/hotel-overview?hotel_id=01997&campaign_code=IP_Local®=Local-_-all-_-RAM-_-all

DAY 10: TUESDAY, 9th OCTOBER

A free day in Denver. For those wishing to go to Denver International Airport, it is only 30-minutes away.

DAY 11: WEDNESDAY, 10th OCTOBER



At 09:00hrs. we set off for the excellent Wings Over The Rockies Aviation & Space Museum, and its huge collection of aircraft. http://www.wingsmuseum.org/exhibit_aircraft.asp

Then to Front Range Airport where we plan to look at the aircraft in the Denver Aerospace Science Museum: A-4D Skyhawk, C-123 Provider, Folland Gnat T1 and a Jet Provost T.5A.

Thirdly, the Spirit of Flight Center on Jefferson County Airport in Erie; this collection is thought to include several Me-109s, P-51Ds, a Hurricane, Venom, Gnat, Jet Provost, Me-262 (*pictured*), MiG-17 and the prototype Cessna L-19 Bird Dog.

DAY 12: THURSDAY, 11th OCTOBER

Departing the hotel at 08:30hrs. we transfer to Denver International Airport and check-in with Southwest Airlines for our flights to Midland, Texas (via Houston); latest check-in time is 09:00hrs.

✈ Denver
✈ Midland

Flight: WN 1122/WN 2888

Departs: 11:00
Arrives: 17:10

Meeting our local driver we make the 15-minutes transfer to Midland and check in to the Hilton Hotel situated in the town centre where we stay 4 nights on a bed and breakfast basis; there is an on-site restaurant and bar.
http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/MAFHIF-Hilton-Midland-Plaza-Texas/index.do

DAY 13: FRIDAY, 12th OCTOBER

We return to the airport at 09:00hrs and spend a full day air-side at the Confederate Air Force (CAF) Airsho' 2012 "Arrivals Day". <http://www.airsho.org/>

Various, optional, pleasure flights on CAF aircraft are possible today as well as early morning and after the afternoon flying programme on the Saturday and Sunday. Exact types will not be known until nearer the time but in the past have included trainers, transports, fighters and bombers – including B-29 "Fifi". Your tour manager will negotiate for any possible group rates.

Today is also a good time to look around the CAF's Museum before the weekend crowds arrive. We depart for the hotel at 17:00 hrs..

DAYS 14 & 15: SATURDAY, 13th & SUNDAY, 14th OCTOBER

Leaving the Hilton at 08:30hrs. each morning, we enjoy 2 full days at CAF Airsho' 2012 on "Rebel Field".

DAY 16: MONDAY, 15th OCTOBER

Our coach transfers us to Midland Airport at 09:00hrs. where we check-in with American Airlines for our flights to London; latest check-in time is 09:30hrs..

✈ Midland Flight: AA 2998 Departs: 11:30
 ✈ Dallas/Fort Worth Arrives: 12:40

Time to stretch your legs and relax. Your onward flight to London should start to board around 16:00hrs..

✈ Dallas/Fort Worth Flight: AA 50 Departs: 16:55

DAY 17: TUESDAY, 16th OCTOBER

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3 Arrives: 07:50

Whilst waiting for our luggage in Baggage Reclaim we take the opportunity to bid each other farewell – until the next time!

COST PER PERSON	TOUR: 227223
From £ 2,359.00	Based on sharing a twin bedded room with private facilities on a bed and breakfast basis
From £ 566.00	Single room supplement
On request	Land only (please speak with one of our consultants before booking)

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Flights, currently on the scheduled services of American Airlines from London's Heathrow Airport; and Southwest Airlines
- UK and US Airport Taxes & UK Passenger Service Charge, currently £339.00 (subject to change)
- All transfers by air-conditioned charter coach
- 15-night's accommodation in rooms with private facilities
- American-style continental or hot breakfast each morning
- Admission to all aviation museums and collections as stated
- Admission to the Confederate Air Force Airshow 2012 on the Saturday and Sunday
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager
- Coach driver's gratuity

NOT INCLUDED

- Meals, except as stated above
- Any optional pleasure flights
- Travel insurance – see General Information
- ESTA: required by UK Passport holders entering the USA under the visa waiver scheme – see General Information for details
- 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.

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) provides an Information Line, telephone: 0901 201 505 (calls currently charged at 51p per minute).

Passports and Visas

Citizens of the UK are required to be in possession of a machine readable full UK Passport which must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of your return to the UK.

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

**IMPORTANT – MANDATORY REGULATIONS FOR ENTRY TO THE USA
- Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA)**

Anyone seeking entry to the USA must have an "Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA)", which was introduced by the US government in January 2010 for all persons flying into the United States under the Visa Waiver Scheme. This includes all UK passport holders.

This means that all travellers are required to apply for authorisation to travel under the scheme before arriving at their departure airport. The changes affect all passport holders from 34 countries currently participating in the Visa Waiver Scheme (includes the UK).

You must apply prior to departing on this tour. You can only apply online at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov> From September 2010 a charge of \$14.00 was introduced for all new ESTA applications. If you apply on the above website there are NO OTHER CHARGE WHATSOEVER for this service - but be warned, there are several unofficial websites that offer you this service but will charge a higher amount.

The application process will take 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.

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 however you are required to up-date your ESTA each time you visit the USA. After 2 years you will have to apply for another ESTA.

We have heard of instances where an ESTA has been cancelled by the US authorities without prior warning or notification to the holder! Therefore, we recommend you check your ESTA when planning your travel to the USA.

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

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. 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 Authorities – 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).

In addition, since November 2010, the USA has introduced 'Secure Flight Passenger Data', a programme operated by The Transportation Security Administration's (TSA). This is a behind-the-scenes watch list matching program and fulfils a key recommendation of the 9/11 Commission by assuming responsibility of watch list matching from individual airlines. By establishing a consistent watch list matching system, Secure Flight enhances aviation security and more effectively facilitates air travel for passengers. The data captured is the same as APIS but MUST be provided to the airline no later than 72-hours prior to departure or for bookings made within this time period, at the time of booking. We will provide the airlines with this information, but it is imperative that the information you provide to us by way of the Booking Form is correct.

The information we provide the authorities will also include the full postal address of where each passenger will stay on their first night.

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.

Baggage Regulations - American Airlines - Departing London's Heathrow Airport - and Southwest Airlines

Checked Baggage: both airlines will transport free of charge 1 piece of 'checked' baggage per person; the total dimensions of which must not exceed 62" or 157cm (length + width + height) nor weigh in excess of 50lb (23kg).

Cabin Baggage: for travel out of London's Heathrow Airport, both airlines allow you to take 1 carry-on bag (and 1 personal item), not exceeding 45 inches or 114cm linear, including handles and wheels. All larger-sized items must go in the aircraft's hold. Carry-on baggage must be stowed under a seat, or in an overhead locker. Maximum weight: 40lbs (18kg).

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.

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. Also, hotel meals can be expensive and we have found it is better to allow each person to decide for themselves. This tour includes American-style continental or hot breakfast.

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 autumnal - not wintry - i.e., cool; but sunny, with temperatures in the high 60'sF. We recommend warm items of clothing.

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

If you require wheelchair assistance at the airports must have this service requested and confirmed in advance. Airlines and airports no longer provide this service without prior confirmation. 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 happy to quote you a 'Land Only' price. This price will not include any international long-haul flights – but it will include the internal flights on Southwest - 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.

Please note that the 'Land Only' price is based on you meeting the tour at the hotel in Ogden, and does not include the transfer from Salt Lake City Airport; however, should your arrival coincide with that of the group, a seat will be offered if available.

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 change 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 255625 for the latest special offers.

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

From your home or overnight hotel, simply drive directly to Terminal 3, to the designated Drop Off/Pick Up lane outside the front of the terminal, where you will be met by a chauffeur. Your car will then be taken to an off-airport, secure, car park while you walk into the terminal! On your return the chauffeur and your car will be waiting for you at the same place you dropped it off. Simple and very convenient. Recommended by our Tour Managers – please 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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