



It's reasonable to expect that in March there will be a chill in the air – but there's a definite thrill (or thrills) in the air in Florida and Alabama: at the Wings Over Flagler, Sun n' Fun, and Tuscaloosa airshows! We always try to include more than one airshow when we make the long haul to the States, and this time we have come up trumps: we have a prial - for those of you who don't play 'Brag', that's 3 cards of a kind, like 3 Aces!

We start our tour on the east coast of Florida, a few miles north of Daytona Beach, staying in Palm Coast for the Wings Over Flagler Airshow. We then move down to the tourist district of

Kissimmee in Orlando, visiting several airfields and aviation museums en-route; from here we visit the EAA's Sun n' Fun Fly-In and airshow in Lakeland and the Fantasy of Flight Museum in Polk City.

Heading north over the state line into Alabama we stay the night in Dothan, a few miles from our next visit: the huge collection of aircraft and helicopters in the US Army Aviation Museum on Fort Rucker. Later that day we also plan to look around the aircraft collections on Maxwell Air Force Base and Dannelly Field Air National Guard (ANG) in the town of Montgomery.

Our tour's finale is the Tuscaloosa Airshow, and possible visits to Smith ANG Base and the large numbers of aircraft in the Southern Museum of Flight in Birmingham.

We fly on the scheduled services of US Air from London's Gatwick Airport; travel around the USA by chartered, air-conditioned coach; and stay each night in a comfortable hotel on a bed and breakfast basis (either American continental or hot breakfast: see itinerary).

Admission to all the museums are included in the tour price, plus the Wings Over Flagler and Tuscaloosa Airshows. Only one day's entrance to Sun n' Fun is also included, as you may wish to spend a day at the Fantasy of Flight Museum and Splash-In, and possibly visit some of the attractions of Orlando like Disneyworld, Universal Studios etc..

Kick off you aviation season with a winner!

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)

DAY 1: SATURDAY, 24th MARCH

Please meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager, and fellow enthusiasts, at London's Gatwick Airport, in the US Air check-in area which is located in "Departures" in the South Terminal. As this is the busiest time of the day at the airport, we recommend a 3-hour check-in time: 06:30.

✈ Gatwick Airport, South Terminal
✈ Charlotte

Flight: US 733

Departs: 09:30
Arrives: 14:40

After Passport Control, Baggage Reclaim and Customs, we hand our luggage back to US Air and make our way to the departure gate of our connecting flight to Orlando.

✈ Charlotte
✈ Orlando

Flight: US 1735

Departs: 18:12
Arrives: 19:55

Meeting our driver, we board the coach and drive to the Days Inn-Palm Coast where we stay 2 nights on a bed and American continental breakfast basis. Within a short, 175-yards walk there are several good restaurants including a Bob Evans, Outback and Perkins; also, the aptly named Houligans Sports Grille and Bar. The hotel has an outdoor swimming pool.

Website: <http://www.daysinn.com/hotels/florida/palm-coast/days-inn-palm-coast/hotel-overview>

DAY 2: SUNDAY, 25th MARCH

Departing the hotel at 08:30 we enjoy the day at the Wings over Flagler Airshow which is held on nearby Flagler County Airfield.

DAY 3: MONDAY, 26th MARCH

At 09:00 we start our journey down Florida, stopping off at Deland Naval Air Station Museum, and the airfields at Daytona Beach, New Smyrna and Massey Ranch Airpark. In Titusville we visit the Valiant Air Command Museum.

Arriving in Kissimmee we check-in at the Holiday Inn-Maingate East for the next 4 nights with American hot breakfast included every morning. There is a restaurant, bar and swimming pool on-site. Should you wish to take time away from aviation, all the famous tourist attractions of Orlando are but a short distance away, and tickets and tours can be booked with the hotel.

Website: <http://www.holidayinnmge.com/>

DAYS 4 & 5: TUESDAY, 27th & WEDNESDAY, 28th MARCH

Departing our hotel each morning at 08:00 we set off on the 1-hour drive south to Lakeland, for 2 full days at the 2012 Sun n' Fun Fly-In.

Leaving the show each evening at 18:30 we arrive back in Kissimmee by 20:00.

DAY 6: THURSDAY, 29th MARCH

Today you have a choice of a third day at Sun n' Fun at Lakeland, or visiting Kermit Weeks' fabulous Fantasy of Flight Museum (possible, optional flights), and the Sun n' Fun's "Splash In" which is based on Lake Agnes located within the museum's grounds.

Today there is plenty of activity at the floatplane base as the aircraft first take off and then land back after making their aerial parade over Lakeland.

In the afternoon there are various airborne competitions.



The timetable for today is to depart the hotel at 08:00 for Lakeland for those who wish to spend the day here; then go to Polk City and spend the remainder of the day at the Museum of Flight and Lake Agnes until 17:30, at which time we go back to Lakeland and collect our fellow enthusiasts who have spent the day at Sun n' Fun.

DAY 7: FRIDAY, 30th MARCH

Leaving the hotel at 09:00 we drive up the state of Florida and cross over into Alabama, stopping by any airfields en-route. We stay tonight in Dothan at the Fairfield Inn, on a bed and American continental breakfast basis. Nearest restaurant and bar is the popular chain "Applebee's", a short 180-yards walk away. Website: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dhnal-fairfield-inn-dothan/>

DAY 8: SATURDAY, 31st MARCH

At 09:00 we make the short drive to Fort Rucker and look around the huge collection of fixed and rotary wing exhibits in the US Army Aviation Museum. We will ask to also see any aircraft in storage or undergoing restoration.

Continuing north to Tuscaloosa, en-route we visit the Maxwell AFB Collection; then Dannelly Field near Montgomery, home of the 187FG of the Alabama ANG to see their preserved aircraft.

Around 19:00 we arrive in Tuscaloosa, staying 2 nights at the Fairfield Inn on a bed and American continental breakfast basis. Dinner can be taken in the "Bistro-Eat.Drink" in the adjacent Courtyard Hotel.



Photo courtesy of: The Blue Angels

DAY 9: SUNDAY, 1st APRIL

Boarding our coach at 08:00 we spend a full day at the 2012 Tuscaloosa Airshow, featuring the US Navy Blue Angels aerobatic team.

DAY 10: MONDAY, 2nd APRIL

We leave for Atlanta Airport at 08:00, stopping off an hour later in Birmingham to visit the small collection of aircraft of the 117th ARW, Alabama ANG on Smith Field, and the 75 aircraft on display in the Southern Museum of Flight (please note: both these visits are currently to be confirmed).

Arriving at Atlanta Airport by 14:00 we check-in with US Air for our overnight flight to London, via Charlotte in North Carolina.

✈ Atlanta Airport	Flight: US 307	Departs: 15:40
✈ Charlotte		Arrives: 16:57

On arrival we go to the departure gate of our connecting flight to Gatwick.

✈ Charlotte	Flight: US 732	Departs: 18:25
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DAY 11: TUESDAY, 3rd APRIL

✈ Gatwick, South Terminal		Arrives: 07:20
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Whilst waiting for our luggage in Baggage Reclaim we bid each other farewell – until the next time!

COST PER PERSON	TOUR: 227227
From £ 1,698.00	Based on sharing a twin bedded room on a bed and breakfast basis
From £ 285.00	Single room supplement
On request	Land only (please speak with one of our consultants before booking your flights)

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Flights on the scheduled services of US Air from London's Gatwick Airport
- UK and US Airport Taxes, and UK Passenger Service Charge, currently £285.10 (but subject to change)
- All transfers by air-conditioned charter coach
- 9-night's accommodation in rooms with private facilities
- American-style hot or continental breakfast each morning, as stated
- Admission to Wings Over Flagler Airshow
- One days admission to the EAA's Sun n' Fun Fly-In and airshow
- Admission to the Tuscaloosa Airshow
- Admission to all aviation museums and collections as stated
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager
- Coach driver's gratuity

NOT INCLUDED

- Meals, except as stated above
- Any optional pleasure flights that may be available
- 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 American 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 in London.

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 – US Airways – Departing from London's Heathrow Airport

Checked Baggage: US Airways will transport 1 piece of 'checked' baggage per person free of charge on their international flights and any connecting domestic flight (within 24hrs), the total dimensions of which must not exceed 62ins (157cms), including the handle, pockets and wheels. Maximum weight is 50lb (23kgs).

Cabin Baggage: for travel out of London's Gatwick Airport you may take 1 carry-on bag (and 1 personal item). Your main piece of hand baggage can be up to the dimensions of 45ins (115cms), 14in x 9in x 22in, including handles and wheels. You must be able to lift the bag into the overhead locker unaided. Carry-on baggage must be stowed in carry-on compartments of the aircraft, under a seat, or in an overhead locker. Your bag must also fit into the bag gauge, available at the check-in area. All larger-sized items must go in the aircraft's hold. Maximum weight is 40lb (18kg).

Restrictions remain in place for the carriage of liquids, gels, and creams in hand baggage for all passengers departing from and transferring through all EU airports. Some other airports around the world operate their own restrictions. Customers are advised to check before they travel.

Limited quantities of liquids (individual containers must not exceed 100ml or 3.5 fl oz), 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. Items must fit in the bag comfortably and the bag must be completely closed.

The bag can only contain liquids such as 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.

Cigarette lighters are NOT permitted in hold baggage or through the security search. These may be purchased airside.

Hand baggage can also include electronic equipment such as 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 can also be included.

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.

Baggage Weight Restrictions – UK Airports

Since 1st June 2004, any single piece of checked baggage weighing more than 70lbs (32kgs) has not been accepted at check-in by any airline operating from London's Gatwick Airport. The BAA may introduce this limit at their other airports in the UK (and so might non-BAA airports), in an attempt to reduce manual handling injuries amongst airport staff. Please bear this in mind when packing.

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 buffet, 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 warm and sunny during our visit with temperatures in the mid to high 70'sF. We therefore recommend you take summer clothing and a jacket for the cooler evenings.

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 our first hotel, the Days Inn Palm Coast, and does not include either arrival or departure airport transfers; however, should your arrival/departure coincide with that of the group, a seat will be offered 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 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 255627 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.

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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