



PRIDE OF
THE SOUTHLAND
THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE-KNOXVILLE

**VOLS ITINERARY
LONDON BAND WEEK**



ROYAL
PERFORMANCE
TOUR





Trip Highlights

London, England

- March at the Historic Royal Palace, Hampton Court
- Stand-still performance at Tower Bridge
- Participation at The London Tattoo marching band festival
- Day-trip to Stonehenge & Windsor (inc. entrance to Windsor Castle)
- London sight-seeing: The Tower of London, Home of the Crown Jewels
- Friday night boat party on the River Thames (exclusive charter)
- Perform with His Majesty's Royal Marines Band Service



LONDON CALLING!

Pride of the Southland Marching Band
University of Tennessee-Knoxville
London Band Week, 2023

**A day-to-day tour itinerary
Tuesday 27th June - Monday 3rd July, 2023**

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AROUND THE LADDER

This itinerary...



is subject to **change!**



is an **introduction** to your London tour. When you arrive, you'll be issued with your London Band Week **Survival Guide**, which will contain details on "how to", top-tips, do's & don'ts and directions.



has been prepared for you using London Band Week's recommendations on how best to utilize your **free time** in London, blended with the London Band Week **structured events** that have been organised for the Pride of the Southland Marching Band.



factors in the size of your group. You are the largest marching band to ever play London. Your hotel is located at Piccadilly Circus, the very centre (see what I did there, a wee bit of British English - the King's English - rather than American English) of London. So, the recommendations are made on the basis that you'll break into smaller, unstructured groups of your own choosing - go with your "mates" - rather than 280 Vols all at once... which could cause chaos!



uses our local knowledge. Often, the **most efficient & effective** way to travel around London is on public transport (on the London Underground, known as "**the Tube**", on the iconic red buses or by walking). We've also added in the Thames Clippers and cable car.



"**London Vols Assemble**": a hard requirement for you to be at the specified location at the time required.



meals: self-funded unless noted as London Band Week.

London's Historic Royal Palace, Hampton Court. Venue for the Palace Parade Review "In the King's Garden" and the Drum Line London "The Battle of Flower Pot Gate".





Day 1 - Tuesday 27th June

T-minus 1 day

Cheerio Knoxville... and **Go Vols!**

Tuesday **Welcome to London!**

am All travellers - even the black suits - will need to clear UK immigration. The UK Border Force allows all US citizens to use the automated e-gates - how nice! Once admitted into the country, you will need to collect all of your luggage and band equipment from the baggage reclaim. Then, walk through His Majesty's Revenue & Customs (**Nothing to Declare** / the **GREEN** channel) into the airport **Arrivals Hall**.

am Your London Band Week **Liaison Officers** will be ready to meet & greet you in the main Arrivals Hall.

am As soon as your travel (flight) group is ready, the Liaison Officers will lead you on a short walk to the motor coaches. The Liaison Officers will accompany you on the onward journey into the center of London.

am The motor coaches will drop you off as close as possible to the Volunteers **Bag Drop & Hotel**. Here you'll also find a London Band Week **Desk** - staffed all day to assist you with any questions. Collect your London Band Week **Welcome Pack, Participant Accreditation Pass, pre-paid TfL travel card (Oyster) and Survival Guide**. Use the facilities (restrooms) and leave all your luggage here until hotel check-in opens at 3:00pm.

am **London sightseeing** (in small groups as desired), including a chance for a late breakfast (don't worry, the "Full English" can be an all day thing) or lunch. Using your Survival Guide, explore **Piccadilly Circus** (the statue of Eros and the famous infomercial wall), **Leicester Square** (pronounced "Lester", the theater district and where all the movie premiers take place), **Trafalgar Square** (Nelson's Column and the National Gallery) and **Covent Garden** (London's original flower market and home to the Royal Opera House). All these locations, and many more, are within easy walking distance of the **Bag Drop & Hotel**.

From 3:00pm Head back to the **Bag Drop** in small groups as desired, collect your luggage and follow directions from the Liaison Officers to the Volunteers' **hotel accommodation**.

After Check-in & freshen-up. You'll be a little weary by now but keep going as long as you can. The longer you can stay awake the quicker you will adjust to British Summer Time (BST).

4:30pm **London Vols Assemble!** For the London Band Week **Welcome Drink Reception** (1 complimentary beverage) and maybe a speech... or two.

5.30pm London Band Week Dinner: **Fish 'n' Chips** (of course) take-away from "Poppies". The remainder of the evening is free to explore London in small groups as desired.





Day 2 - Wednesday 28th June

- Morning** London Band Week breakfast: at local eateries.
- Morning** Depart the Volunteers' hotel accommodation for London sightseeing (small groups as desired). Exploration by foot: **Admiralty Arch**, down **Whitehall** to the **Household Cavalry** guards, across **Horse Guards Parade** and down the **Mall** to **Buckingham Palace**.
- 10:15am** **London Vols Assemble! Changing of the King's Guard** at Buckingham Palace takes place at 11:00am - **don't miss it!** Refer to your Survival Guide for the best vantage points.
- After** Unofficial group photo opportunity in front of Buckingham Palace.
- After** In small groups walk through St. James's Park (one of London's Royal Parks) to **Big Ben**. Here you will also find **Westminster Abbey**, **Downing Street**, the statues of **Sir Winston Churchill** and **Abraham Lincoln** (and many others), and the **Palace of Westminster**.
- 1:30pm** It's time to head underground onto the **Tube**. Departing from **Westminster Station** in small groups as desired, ride the **District or Circle Lines** to **Tower Hill**. You can use your pre-paid TfL travel card for this journey - just tap in and out of the stations.
- After** An opportunity for lunch in small groups as desired at Tower Hill.
- 2:30pm** **London Vols Assemble!** Entry into **The Tower of London** - home to the Crown Jewels! Since 1078 The Tower been used at various times as a royal residence, a prison and an armory. It was here that Elizabeth I was imprisoned, Anne Boleyn was beheaded and Guy Fawkes was tortured.
- 4.30pm** Stroll to **St. Katharine's Dock** in small groups as desired - London's only marina - to enjoy the picturesque setting and hospitality venues.
- After** Walk across **Tower Bridge** to **Shad Thames**. This Victorian warehouse district is one of London's most photogenic streets.
- After** Depart **London Bridge** for **Piccadilly Circus** in small groups as desired. Using the Tube, ride the Jubilee Line from London Bridge Station to Waterloo Station, change there for the Bakerloo Line up to Piccadilly Circus. You can use your pre-paid TfL travel card for this journey - just tap in and out of the stations.
- After** Arrive at Piccadilly Circus & you're back at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.
- 6.30pm** The remainder of the evening is free to explore London in small groups as desired for dinner and/or rest at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.





Day 3 - Thursday 29th June

Morning London Band Week breakfast: at local eateries.

6:45am **London Vols Assemble!** Board the motor coaches and depart Windsor for Stonehenge, Wiltshire (pronounced "wilt-sheer").

9:10am Arrive at the **World Heritage Site, Stonehenge**. Enjoy the visitor center exhibition in small groups as desired with a complimentary app & audio guide (BYO phones & headphones), and the replica neolithic housing exhibits. It is your choice to either walk the 25 minutes to the stone monument or take the shuttle bus.

11:15am **London Vols Assemble!** Board the motor coaches and depart Stonehenge for Royal Windsor, Berkshire (pronounced "Bark-sheer").

1.10pm **Welcome to Windsor!** In small groups as desired take a stroll through Windsor Great Park, embark on the iconic Long Walk, or "walk" Queen Charlotte Street (the shortest street in the United Kingdom). Time to enjoy lunch in small groups as desired.

1.30pm **London Vols Assemble!** Entry into **Windsor Castle & St. George's Chapel**. Founded by William the Conqueror in the 11th century, Windsor Castle has since been the home of 40 monarchs. It is the largest occupied castle in the world. Today, you can enjoy the ultimate royal experience at the historic home of the British monarchy. In the grounds of Windsor Castle you can find St George's Chapel, a 500-year-old medieval marvel. Step inside the Chapel and you can glimpse where many royal weddings have taken place including HRH Princess Eugenie and Mr. Jack Brooksbank. It is also where many monarchs are buried including Henry VIII, Charles I and most recently, Queen Elizabeth II who rests alongside her husband, Prince Philip, and her parents, King George VI and the Queen Mother. **Visit St. George's Chapel first.**

4:00pm **London Vols Assemble!** Board the motor coaches and depart Royal Windsor for Piccadilly Circus.

5:30pm Arrive back at Piccadilly Circus. The remainder of the evening is free to explore London in small groups as desired for dinner and/or rest at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.





Day 4 - Friday 30th June

- Morning** London Band Week breakfast: at local eateries.
- 8:30am** Depart the Volunteers' hotel accommodation in small groups as desired for **St. Paul's Cathedral**. Walk along **Regent Street** to Oxford Circus Tube station, use the Central Line to St. Paul's. You can use your pre-paid TfL travel card for this journey - just tap in and out of the stations.
- 9:05am** Arrive at St. Paul's Cathedral (exterior only) for a photo opportunity.
- 9:20am** Walk across the River Thames (pronounced "tems") on the pedestrian only **Millennium Bridge** in small groups, to the **South Bank**.
- 9:40am** Arrive at **Tate Modern**. The gallery offers free entry to the famous Turbine Hall.
- 10:20am** Stroll along the **South Bank** to Borough Market in small groups as desired. Pass Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, the Golden Hind and Southwark Cathedral. Head towards the **Shard**, the tallest building in the United Kingdom - you can't miss it!
- 11:00am** Arrive at **Borough Market** for an early lunch. The market began over 1,000 years ago when various traders took stall positions at the foot of London Bridge. From its current location since 1756, the market today shows that food can be made and sold in ways that are better for people, for the planet and for the sheer pleasure of eating.
- 11:45am** Depart Borough Market for the **Unicorn Theatre**.
- 12:00pm** **London Vols Assemble!** At the Unicorn Theatre to change into uniforms and collect instruments,
- 1:15pm** **Pride of the Southland Band plays Tower Bridge**
- 2:15pm** Walk back to the Unicorn Theatre to get changed and pack instruments.
- 3:15pm** Depart London Bridge for **Piccadilly Circus** in small groups as desired. Using the tube, ride the **Jubilee Line** from **London Bridge Station** to **Waterloo Station**, change there for the **Bakerloo Line** up to **Piccadilly Circus**. You can use your pre-paid TfL travel card for this journey - just tap in and out of the stations.
- 4:00pm** Arrive back at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.
- 5:15pm** Leave hotel for Westminster Pier, it is a 20 minute walk.
- 5:45pm** **London Vols Assemble** at Westminster Pier. All aboard the "Thames Pearl", the "S.S. Smokey" for the next 4 hours. The boat has one of the largest open-air decks on the River Thames. Dance the night away (to Steer the Pearl's UK counterpart) on the cruise along the River Thames. London Band Week Bar (1 complimentary beverage) & dinner included.
- 10:00pm** Disembark at Westminster Pier.
- 10:30pm** The remainder of the evening is free to explore London in small groups as desired and/or rest at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.





Day 5 - Saturday 1st July

Morning London Band Week breakfast: at local eateries.

8:30am Depart the Volunteers' hotel accommodation for the **ExCel**, Royal Victoria Dock in small groups as desired. Use the **Bakerloo Line** from **Piccadilly Circus** down to **Embankment**. Transfer from the tube to the pier and catch the **Thames Clipper** (a river boat service named Uber Boat) to North **Greenwich Pier** (The O2). From here, "fly" the **IFS cable car** service from North Greenwich over the River Thames to the Royal Victoria Dock.

10:00am Arrive at the ExCel, Royal Victoria Dock. A short walk to the venue, the London Band Week Production Team will direct you.

10:45am **London Vols Assemble!** Check-in and head to the band's private lounge for a day briefing from the London Tattoo Director.

11:00am Rehearsal with **His Majesty's Royal Marines** (Opening sequence)

Noon Pride of the Southland, London Tattoo show rehearsal.

1:00pm London Band Week lunch onsite in the ExCel boulevard.

3:30pm Massed Bands arena rehearsals (Tattoo opening & closing segments).

4:30pm Massed Bands music rehearsals.

After The London Tattoo - cast photo call.

5:30pm London Band Week dinner onsite in the ExCel boulevard.

7:00pm **The London Tattoo - live show.**

9:00pm Strike site - clear your private lounge, Transfer back to Piccadilly Circus using the **Elizabeth Line** tube. You can travel direct to Tottenham Court Road and walk 10 minutes to the hotel from there, or connect to the Northern Line and ride just 1 stop to Leicester Sq. and walk from there. Time wise there isn't much difference. You can use your pre-paid TfL travel card for this journey - just tap in and out of the stations.

9:40pm Arrive back at Piccadilly Circus. The remainder of the evening is free to explore London in small groups as desired or rest at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.





Day 6 - Sunday 2nd July

Morning London Band Week breakfast: at local eateries.

8:40am **London Vols Assemble!** Board the motor coaches and depart the Volunteers hotel accommodation for London's **Historic Royal Palace, Hampton Court.**

10:00am Arrive at Hampton Court Palace. A short walk through the palace grounds to the **private Garden Room** for event registration, equipment set-down and a briefing from the Parade Marshall.

11:00am London Band Week: brown bag lunch in the Palace gardens.

12:20pm **The Palace Parade Review and Drum Line London.**

2.30pm Enjoy **Hampton Court Palace** in scatter groups. Experience the public dramas and private lives of Henry VIII, his wives and children in the world of the Tudor court. Admire Henry's Great Hall and Tudor kitchens. Discover the spectacular baroque palace built for William III and Mary II and explore Hampton Court Palace's outdoor spaces and 60 acres of magnificent gardens, including a 300 year old maze.

After London Band Week Volunteers group photo call.

5:00pm **London Vols Assemble!** Board the motor coaches and depart Hampton Court Palace for the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.

6:15pm Arrive back at Piccadilly Circus - into the hotel to freshen up!

After Walk 10 minutes to **Seven Dials Market, Covent Garden.**

6:45pm **London Vols Assemble!** London Band Week Dinner at **Seven Dials Market.** Bringing you the taste and experience of London via 2 bars and 19 juicy independent market members. Banana Warehouse - street food traders serving up cuisines from around the world & Cucumber Alley for tasty sweet and savoury traders. The market is open until 9.00pm.

After The remainder of the evening is free to explore London in small groups as desired and/or rest at the Volunteers' hotel accommodation.





Day 7 - Monday 3rd July

Morning London Band Week breakfast: at local eateries.

Morning Preparations for hotel check-out and London departure.

am **London Vols Assemble!** Board the motor coaches and depart the Volunteers' hotel accommodation for the airport.

am Your Liaison Officers **will remain with you until you pass through security and go air-side.** They will stay onsite at the airport until the (final) flight departs.

am The Lead Liaison Officer will notify the Head of Operations, London Band Week, of the final departure and communicate any outstanding traveler related issues to the Travel Desk, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

*You can leave London,
but London will never leave you.
TTFN!*

TBC: To Be Confirmed

TBD: To Be Decided

TFL: Transport For London (who operate the Tube network and buses)

BYO: Bring Your Own

TTFN: Ta Ta For Now

