Wild Britain

ANCIENT SITES & UNTAMED PLACES

May 16 to 30, 2015

a program of the stanford alumni association
Great Britain’s legendary history has been the inspiration for writers, musicians and travelers for centuries. The first time I visited the area in the 1980s, I was struck by the palpable images of its storied past that seemed to linger everywhere, from ancient churches and ruins to misty landscapes and craggy shorelines. Join Stanford professor Charles Junkerman aboard the Sea Adventurer as we sail among the 6,000-plus islands that surround Britain and visit ancient sites that bring to life rich cultural and religious traditions spanning millennia. Delve into the civilizations that have influenced these storied isles—from Stone Age dwellers and Saxon invaders to Celtic tribes and Norman conquerors—and explore the landscapes and sites that have stirred generations of writers. As we sail past the shale-and-sandstone cliffs that frame the shores of these mystical isles, keep an eye out for the real-life winged creatures that dwell among the cliffs.

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**HIKE** atop the 40,000 naturally formed hexagonal basalt columns that make up Giant’s Causeway, located just off the coast of Northern Ireland.

**OBSERVE** the habits of the colorful puffin and other native birds such as the guillemot, gannet, kittiwake and razorbill.

**VISIT** the remarkably well-preserved Stone Age village of Skara Brae and view the nearby enigmatic Standing Stones of Stenness and the Ring of Brodgar.

**TRAVEL** to the Isles of Scilly and breathe in the sweet aromas of the subtropical garden at Tresco Abbey.
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 16 & 17
DEPART U.S. / LONDON, ENGLAND
Board independent overnight flights to London. Upon arrival on Sunday, check in to our hotel, with the rest of the day at leisure to explore the city independently. Gather at our hotel this evening for a welcome reception and dinner. HILTON LONDON PADDINGTON HOTEL (5/17: D)

MONDAY, MAY 18
LONDON / PLYMOUTH / EMBARK
After breakfast, depart by train for Plymouth. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before taking a tour of this famous port city. Visit an Elizabethan house built in 1631, as well as the City Museum and Art Gallery where painter Joshua Reynolds’ work is displayed in the Cottonian Collection. Visit Dartmoor National Park, known for its blanket bogs, upland heath, oakwoods and birdlife. This afternoon embark our ship. SEA ADVENTURER (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MAY 19
ISLES OF SCILLY
Warmed by the North Atlantic Drift, the Isles of Scilly have given their fortunate inhabitants the luxury of turning a passion for growing flowers into a major industry. This morning board local boats and cruise to Tresco to visit the ruins and exquisite subtropical gardens at the medieval Tresco Abbey. SEA ADVENTURER (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20
SKELLIG ISLANDS, IRELAND
The wonderfully remote Skellig Islands are one of Europe’s most impressive seabird citadels. Little Skellig is home to the second-largest colony of gannets in the world. Other seabirds found here include kittiwakes, razorbills, Manx shearwaters and nesting puffins. Dependent on weather and permission to access, visit nearby Skellig Michael—the site of an important 6th-century Anchorite monastery and today a World Heritage site. SEA ADVENTURER (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MAY 21
DUNMORE EAST / WATERFORD / SALTEE ISLANDS
From the port city of Dunmore East, drive through scenic countryside to Waterford. Options today include a visit to the renowned Waterford Crystal glassworks to watch master craftsmen at work, or enjoy a tour of Mount Congreve, a magnificent estate with beautiful gardens. Return to the ship for lunch and cruise toward the privately owned Saltee Islands. These islands attract nearly three million birds to their rocky outcroppings. On Great Saltee Island search for puffins, murres, razorbills, gannets and more of the 47 bird species that have been recorded here. SEA ADVENTURER (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, MAY 22
PORT ST. MARY, ISLE OF MAN
Enjoy a leisurely morning onboard as the ship cruises to Port St. Mary on the Isle of Man. Ashore, board the Isle of Man Steam Railway, the last-remaining remnant from the extensive Victorian system that served the main centers on the island. Ride through quaint and picturesque villages to the southern resort of Port Erin. SEA ADVENTURER (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MAY 23
PORTRUSH, GIANT’S CAUSEWAY, NORTHERN IRELAND / RATHLIN ISLAND
Disembark at Portrush and travel overland to the World Heritage
site of Giant’s Causeway. This three-mile section of coastline is a geological masterpiece—some 40,000 closely packed hexagonal columns of varying heights line the coast and descend like a staircase into the sea. In the afternoon visit the rugged cliffs of Rathlin Island, where colonies of guillemots, kittiwakes, razorbills and puffins await us.

SUNDAY, MAY 24
IONA, INNER HEBRIDES / STAFFA
In 563 C.E., the missionary St. Columba built a monastery on Iona and spread Christianity throughout Scotland. Though it suffered repeated attacks and destruction by Vikings over the centuries, the monastery was restored each time, and some of the later buildings still stand. Visit the monastery site; the nearby cemetery of St. Oran, where numerous Scottish kings are buried; and the 12th-century Iona Abbey. Weather permitting, spend the afternoon exploring the uninhabited island of Staffa by Zodiac and visit its most famous feature, Fingal’s Cave. The cave’s peculiar rock formations and unusual coloring are a delight to behold, and the wonderful echo of the sea from within served as the inspiration for Mendelssohn’s Hebrides Overture. 

MONDAY, MAY 25
ST. KILDA, OUTER HEBRIDES / FLANNAN ISLES
Spend the morning at St. Kilda, once home to a small community, evidenced by abandoned houses and cleits, beehive-shaped cells where goods were stored. As we cruise among the Flannan Isles this afternoon, puffins, fulmars, murre and kitiwakes should be plentiful. Of special interest to birders is the Leach’s petrel colony on the grassy slopes of Eilean Mor beneath the lighthouse.

TUESDAY, MAY 26
KIRKWALL, ORKNEY ISLANDS
Dock in Kirkwall, capital city of the Orkney Islands and located on the largest island, Mainland. Visit magnificent St. Magnus Cathedral and some of the island’s major archaeological sites. Maes Howe, a chambered tomb dating from 3,500 B.C.E., is also noted for its runic hieroglyphs left by visiting 12th-century Vikings. Then stop at the enigmatic Standing Stones of Stenness, the Ring of Brodgar and Skara Brae, a remarkably well-preserved Stone Age village buried in sand some 4,500 years ago. This afternoon, enjoy a walking tour of charming Kirkwall.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27
LERWICK, SHETLAND ISLANDS / ISLE OF NOSS / MOUSA
This morning we begin with a guided walking tour of Lerwick, capital of the Shetland Islands, which are steeped in Norse heritage. After the tour there will be free time to stroll Lerwick’s narrow streets and browse its many shops or raise a pint at the local pub. After lunch onboard, cruise by Zodiac to the Isle of Noss, where spectacular cliffs support a large and diverse population of more than 80,000 seabirds—guillemots, razorbills, gannets, shags and more. This evening go ashore at Mousa to view one of Britain’s finest Iron Age ruins, an unusually well-preserved 40-foot broch, or dry stone structure, dating from about 200 C.E.

THURSDAY, MAY 28
FAIR ISLE
One of the most isolated settlements in the British Isles, Fair Isle is renowned for the quality and intricacy of its handmade sweaters that are crafted using local wool. It’s also famous as a haven for seabirds including gannets, murre, black-legged kitiwakes, numerous gull species and a large colony of puffins. After a short walk, join some of the 70 islanders at their community center for tea and cakes, then pay a visit to the local museum.

FRIDAY, MAY 29
ISLE OF MAY / BASS ROCK / LEITH
The Isle of May is another of Scotland’s great seabird islands. Conditions permitting, board Zoaris to visit the small bird observatory on the island. The number of birds is staggering, with puffins by the thousands, kitiwakes blanketing the cliffsides, shags resting on every available rock and eider ducks waddling around at our feet. En route to Leith, circumnavigate Bass Rock, renowned for its 100,000 resident gannets—the largest gannet colony in the world. This evening arrive in Leith, the port for Edinburgh. Our ship remains pier-side overnight.

SATURDAY, MAY 30
LEITH / DISEMBARK / EDINBURGH / U.S.
After breakfast onboard, transfer to Edinburgh Airport for independent flights to the U.S.
Sea Adventurer

This 110-passenger expedition ship offers flexibility and ease in navigating remote islands and narrow fjords inaccessible by larger ships. All cabins have an ocean view with two twin beds, a desk and chair, an in-room music system and en suite bathroom. Public facilities include a dining room that accommodates all guests in a single seating, lounge, library, gift shop, infirmary staffed by a registered physician, laundry and small gym. The Sea Adventurer is outfitted with state-of-the-art satellite navigation and communication equipment as well as stabilizers and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft, allowing us to land anywhere nature or curiosity dictates.

Program Cost*
Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>A Deck cabin with two portholes, avg. 136 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$10,480</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>A Deck cabin with two portholes, avg. 136 sq. ft.</td>
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<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Main Deck cabin with one porthole, avg. 136 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category 4</td>
<td>Main or Promenade Deck cabin with one or two portholes, avg. 136 sq. ft.</td>
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<td>Category 5</td>
<td>Promenade Deck cabin with two windows, avg. 165 sq. ft.</td>
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<td>Category 6</td>
<td>Promenade or Boat Deck cabin with two windows, avg. 165 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suite</td>
<td>Boat Deck suite with two windows, 211 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner’s Suite</td>
<td>Boat Deck suite with two windows, 275 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$22,880</td>
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*Association nonmembers add $200 per person.
**Single accommodations are limited. Additional singles may be available at 1.6 times the share rate.

Information

Dates
May 16 to 30, 2015 (15 days)

Size
Limited to a total of 106 participants, including travelers from Stanford University and Zegrahm Expeditions

Included
1 night of deluxe hotel accommodations ■ 12-night cruise aboard the Sea Adventurer ■ 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 13 dinners ■ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions ■ Bottled water on excursions ■ Gratuities to guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities ■ All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary ■ Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days ■ Port fees and embarkation taxes ■ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance ■ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information ■ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

Not Included
International and U.S. domestic airfare ■ Passport and visa fees ■ Immunization costs ■ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included ■ Independent and private transfers ■ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance ■ Excess-baggage charges ■ Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

Air Arrangements
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare from San Francisco to London with return from Edinburgh is approximately $1,100 as of March 2014 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent approximately 180 days prior to departure.

Fuel Costs
In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

What To Expect
For most activities, a relatively moderate level of exertion is required. You will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for excursions ashore and walk from one to three miles, occasionally over rough terrain such as cobblestones and uneven, rocky beaches. We have designed shore excursions to accommodate both those who prefer moderate strolls and those who prefer more active hikes. In May, temperatures will range from the low 50s (ºF) to mid-60s, cooling slightly as we travel north. Flexibility is a must, as itineraries are subject to change, and landings will be dependent on tides and the weather. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Terms & Conditions

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000 deposit is required to hold space for the program. Complete and return the attached reservation form or sign up online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you postmark your insurance payment within a specified window: 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter for the Waiver of Pre-existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency; 21 days for the Cancel for Any Reason benefit.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for any unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in March 2014 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048523-50
Faculty Leader

CHARLES JUNKERMAN came to Stanford in 1983 to teach in the Western Culture program. Since 1986 he has split his time between academic administration and teaching, holding positions as assistant dean of Undergraduate Studies and associate director of the Humanities Center and then serving as associate provost and dean of Continuing Studies. He teaches courses on European culture spanning the Enlightenment to the present, with special interest in the English and American romantics (Wordsworth, Emerson, Thoreau and Whitman), who walked—often literally—away from their cities and found new imaginative experiences in “wild” and “edge” places. They would be thrilled to come on this trip with us. Charlie also teaches Irish literature (Yeats, Synge, Joyce and Wilde) and has written extensively on what the California poet, Robinson Jeffers, called “the massive mysticism of stone,” including, of course, the megalithic stone barrows, henges, circles and cairns of the British Isles. Charlie is also an amateur birder and more than an amateur collector of single malt whisky. This trip was made for him to lead!

— Currently associate provost and dean of Continuing Studies, starting in 1999
— Resident fellow, Madera House, Wilbur Hall, 1984–1992
— President, Stanford Historical Society, since 2010

“Charlie Junkerman is a true gem. He is intelligent, thoughtful, insightful, accessible, and his lectures are exceptional.”

BETSY TYLER, IRIE SH IS WALK, 2013

Reservation Form
Wild Britain

May 16 to 30, 2015

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:
☐ I wish to have single accommodations.
OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with __________________________
OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Category Preference:
1st choice: _______________________________________________________
2nd choice: _______________________________________________________

Here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for ______ space(s).

☐ Enclosed is my check (make payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR
☐ Charge my deposit to my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD # EXPRES
AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE DATE

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?britain2015. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.
We were fortunate to explore the archaeology, culture and wildlife of some of the most remote islands of the British Isles under the guidance of knowledgeable and experienced guides and lecturers.

Maren Smith, Wild Britain, 2010

alumni.stanford.edu/goto/travelstudy