

# Stitches & Stories

## A Textile Journey Through Birmingham & London 2025

**July 31 - August 8, 2025**

*Pre-Tour July 29/30*

**\$3999**

*twin/dbl*

**+\$853**  
*single*

*(USD\$)*

**Tour Host: Kim Caskey**

- Tailored Small Group Tour
- Professional Driver; luxury motor coach
- Detailed custom itinerary
- 2 days touring Birmingham
- 2 days Birmingham Festival of Quilts
- 4 days touring London
- Small group tour (min 15, max 20)
- Pre-tour hotel available
- Interest-free payment plan option

### To register:

email: [kim@kimcaskey.ca](mailto:kim@kimcaskey.ca)

call/text: 780-288-9008



**JourneysConnect**

Group Journeys to Inspire



## Stitches & Stories Textile Tour 2025

**Tour Host:** Kim Caskey

**Pre-Tour Hotel:** \$169 twin/dbl (+54 single)/night

- July 29 & 30, 2025
- include Meet & Greet July 30, 2025

**Land Tour Package:** \$3999 twin/dbl (+853 single)

- July 31 - August 8, 2025

**Registration deposit:** \$500/pp (non-refundable)  
(Prices in USD\$)

**Itinerary:** 8 nights/8 days

- Birmingham 4 nights, London 4 nights

**Optional:**

- Birmingham Pre-Tour: 2 nights; July 29 & 30

**Includes:**

- Breakfast daily, 3 group lunches, 1 group dinner
- 2-day admission Birmingham Festival of Quilts
- Hand-on embroidery class with Rebecca Devaney (all supplies included)
- On board Tour Hosts; Professional driver
- Luxury coach (washroom on board)

**Birmingham:**

- Meet & Greet, Birmingham Hotel
- Winterbourne House & Garden Tour, including private sandwich buffet luncheon
- Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery
- Forge Mill Needle Museum Tour, including a visit to the Jinney Ring Craft Center and private luncheon
- 2 full days at the world renowned Birmingham Festival of Quilts (including entrance ticket)
- "Through the Judges Eye" guided tour of the winning quilts with EQA Judge Paula Rafferty

**London:**

- Christopher Wilson-Tate Antique Quilts private lecture and quilts presentation
- Guided tour of Liberty of London
- Guided textile tours of quilt and haberdasheries with Rebecca Devaney
- Guided tour of William Morris Gallery and The Red House
- Guided tour of textile exhibits of Victoria & Albert Museum
- Private, hands-on embroidery class with Rebecca Devaney (all supplies included)

**... and so much more!**



## Stitches & Stories Textile Tour 2025

This exceptional Quilt & Textile Tour of Birmingham and London invites you to immerse yourself in the rich legacy of British textiles and design. Begin in Birmingham, where our adventure starts with a warm **Meet & Greet** at our welcoming hotel, to be introduced to your hosts and fellow travellers. Explore the historic **Winterbourne House & Garden**, a charming Arts and Crafts manor surrounded by beautifully maintained grounds, and enjoy a private sandwich buffet luncheon in this idyllic setting. Dive into Birmingham's artistic heritage with a visit to the **Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery**, where fine art and historical artifacts will spark your creativity. We'll also tour the **Forge Mill Needle Museum** to discover the fascinating history of needle-making, including a visit at the **Jinney Ring Craft Centre** for hands-on artisan experiences and a delightful private luncheon. The highlight of Birmingham will be two inspiring days at the renowned **Birmingham Festival of Quilts**, complete with entrance tickets and an exclusive "Through the Judges Eye" tour led by EQA Judge Paula Rafferty, who will share expert insights on the winning quilts.

In London, our textile journey continues with exclusive access to private presentations and guided tours. Begin with a private lecture by **Christopher Wilson-Tate on antique quilts**, where you'll be introduced to rare and beautifully preserved quilts from his collection. The iconic **Liberty of London** awaits, as does a curated exploration of some of the city's best and most interesting haberdasheries with expert guide **Rebecca Devaney**. Discover the art and influence of William Morris with tours of the **William Morris Gallery** and **The Red House**, both rich with design history. At the **Victoria & Albert Museum**, enjoy a guided tour focused on textile exhibits that span centuries of creativity. We'll conclude with an intimate, **hands-on embroidery class with Rebecca Devaney**, where all supplies are provided to help you create your own embroidered masterpiece.

This tour promises a journey through textile artistry and tradition that will inspire and enrich your quilting and creative spirit—plus so much more!

## Meet Your Tour Hosts

### **Kim Caskey..... Quilter, Tour Host, Facilitator**

I have been sewing and creating my whole life and I am so grateful to have found my people!

I am passionate about quilting and grateful to have the opportunity to continue to inspire others as I teach and lecture for guilds and groups all over the world (thanks to Zoom!). My intent is to educate and enthuse in an atmosphere of fun and support. I have instructed classes and workshops in basic and advanced techniques for guilds and groups all over the world, thanks to my international quilting connection.

I have hosted many specialized tours to several international destinations over the years. I love share my passion of quilting and textiles by introducing travellers to fabulous destinations and quilt and textile artists and venues unique in each country.

I look forward to travelling with you making lifetime memories along the way.



### **Paula Rafferty ..... Quilter, Quilt Judge, Facilitator**

Originally from Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland, I arrived in Limerick in 1987 to attend Art College and never got away. I spent five years at Limerick School of Art and Design, studying Fashion and Finishing with the Art/ Design Teacher Training course which eventually led me to where I am now.

I have been teaching Art/ Craft/ Design in the Education Center in Limerick Prison for the last 27 years, but my passion is fabric - quilts at the moment -which occupy all my spare time.

I met Kim in 2012 and our friendship and our collaborations grow each year! We have worked on many joint projects together, we have each taught several times in each other's country, and we have embarked on several quilt & textile tours together.

I look forward to travelling with and offering insights to the fabulous quilts and textiles in the United Kingdom.



### **Journeys Connect (Tour Operator)**

Benefiting from over 34 years' experience, Journeys Connect is a business to business wholesale travel provider offering expertise in creating imaginative and inspiring tailor-made group and specialty vacation programs to Europe, South America, Africa, Japan, and the USA.

Our services are available exclusively to travel industry professionals. Offering private group journeys to inspire. We have the experience and knowledge to take care of every aspect of your group's travel arrangements.

**JourneysConnect**



www.kimcaskey.ca  
kim@kimcaskey.ca  
780-288-9008

Please be a traveler not a tourist.  
Try new things, meet new people,  
and look beyond what's right in front of you.  
Those are the keys to understanding this amazing world we live in.  
*Andrew Zimmern*

## Terms and Conditions

This is a private group journey, based on a minimum of 15 participants to operate. Rates quoted are in US dollars, per person. Hotels are subject to change. Due to weather conditions and circumstances beyond our control, the itinerary is subject to change. Should the minimum 15 participants not be met, a full refund will be issued. Airfare, Guide/Driver and venue gratuity not included.

### Payment Details:

All payments are made through Journeys Connect in US\$ and processed through a credit card.

- **Initial Deposit:**

- \$500 per person non-refundable deposit is required to reserve space
- Payment options (All payments will be charged to the credit card on file)
  - OPTION 1: Payment in full
  - OPTION 2: \$500 deposit + 4 equal monthly instalments (January 15-April 15, 2025)
- Full and final payment is due by April 15, 2025

- **Roommate Cancellation:**

- If you register for a twin room (two travelers per room) and your roommate cancels (before or during the tour), and another roommate cannot be found, you will be responsible for paying the additional "single supplement" charge.
- If you have purchased Trip Travel Protection insurance, this additional cost may be recoverable through your insurance policy. We strongly encourage you to purchase travel insurance for this and any other emergencies.

- **Trip Travel Protection Insurance:**

- Deposits and payments are non-refundable, we strongly recommend purchase of Trip Travel Protection Insurance. Refunds will only be issued should the minimum number of travelers not be reached.
- Journeys Connect offers full coverage for purchases through TripMate Insurance at a rate of 8.5% of purchase total.

**IMPORTANT:** Electronic Travel Authorizations (ETAs) are being introduced worldwide for visitors to the UK who do not currently need a visa for short stays, or who do not already have a UK immigration status prior to travelling. US visitors will need to apply online and in advance for an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) to enter the UK from January 8, 2025. US and Canadian visitors can apply for an ETA in advance from November 27, 2024. For more information and to apply for an ETA, visit: [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

### Responsibility/Liability:

Payment of the land tour package (and pre-tour/post tour packages) constitutes consent to all Legal policies and terms and conditions described here. Neither the Operator (Journeys Connect), Tour Host (Kim Caskey Tours, Kim Caskey Custom Quilting, or Kim Caskey), nor any mentioned or unmentioned subagents or affiliates shall be held responsible for any personal injury, property damage or other loss a passenger incurs on any tour arising from acts or omissions by any air carrier, public transport company, hotel, car rental company, subcontractor or other person or organization, whether such company is rendering any services supplied on the tour.

All tickets and vouchers are issued and supplied subject to the foregoing and to any and all terms and conditions under which transportation and services are provided. The Tour Operator and Tour Hosts accepts no responsibility for losses or expenses due to delay or changes in schedules, flight cancellations or misconnections due to mechanical problems, sickness, quarantine, weather, acts of God, strikes, government actions, war, terrorism, or other circumstances beyond its control. Passengers must bear all such losses or expenses.

To guard against unforeseen circumstances, we recommend you purchase the optional travel protection plan offered with each booking. The Tour Operator reserves the right to alter prices at any time prior to departure and without prior notice if circumstances so warrant. Any devaluation or revaluation of currencies may affect published price.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Traveler name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**JourneysConnect**



## HEALTH & SAFETY WAIVER - COVID-19

The safety and comfort of our guests is our first concern. We have worked diligently with our Tour Operator to give you the peace of mind you expect. However, there is no way to eliminate all possible risks while traveling and Kim Caskey Tours and Journeys Connect therefore cannot assume liability in the unlikely event you contract COVID-19. This is the reason for the necessity of the following waiver of liability:

The novel coronavirus, (herein "COVID-19) has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments have recommended physical distancing, limiting group sizes in some locations and wearing face coverings. While Kim Caskey Tours, Journeys Connect, and our supplier partners in Europe have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, we cannot guarantee that you or your travel party will not become infected with COVID-19 while traveling. In fact, traveling could increase your risk of contracting COVID-19.

By signing this agreement, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that you may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 while traveling with Kim Caskey Tours and Journeys Connect, and that contact with the virus that causes COVID-19 may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. You understand that the risk of becoming infected by COVID-19 on a Kim Caskey Tours/Journeys Connect trip may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself and others, including, but not limited to Journeys Connect employees, suppliers (and their employees) and other passengers.

You understand that you could encounter others, including but not limited to others traveling on this trip, who have COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, or who are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 or other viruses but who exhibit no symptoms of infection or an infectious disease, which could result in your having serious medical conditions requiring medical treatment in a hospital, quarantine in a government-appointed location, and could possibly lead to death. You agree that having considered these risks, you desire to participate in the Kim Caskey Tours/Journeys Connect trip and you freely and voluntarily assume complete personal responsibility for the risk of exposure, illness, and death due to COVID-19, even if such injuries or death occur in a manner that is not foreseeable at the time this agreement is signed.

You acknowledge that you have been strongly advised to have comprehensive health insurance (including "travel insurance").

You acknowledge that you are voluntarily participating in this Kim Caskey Tours/Journeys Connect trip with knowledge of the inherent risks of COVID-19, and you agree to assume all risks.

To the extent permitted by law, you hereby:

- assume and agree to accept any and all risks related to COVID-19 during the course of your travel with Kim Caskey Tours and Journeys Connect and release Kim Caskey Tours and Journeys Connect and its employees, officers, directors, and agents, ("the Releasees") from any and all claims that may accordingly arise during the course of your participation in the trip.
- you confirm that you have adequate financial resources in case medical care is needed relating to COVID-19 and understand the inherent and potential health risks of travel during this time.

This Waiver shall be binding on you, your family, your heirs, and any attorney, agent, executor, trustee, representative, or assignee to the extent permitted by law. You hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless Kim Caskey Tours, Journeys Connect and the Releasees for any claims against Kim Caskey Tours, Journeys Connect or the Releasees by any member of your family, your heirs or assigns, your estate, your employer, or by any other person for whom or to whom you are or may be responsible, whether at law or otherwise.

I HAVE READ THIS WAIVER OF LIABILITY, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

I agree that if any portion is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect. No additions, deletions or changes can be made to the release form, and signing it is a requirement for joining the trip.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Traveller name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**JourneysConnect**



## Tour Member Expectations

This document applies to all Tour Members in your tour group. If you cannot meet the expectations as outlined, please call, or email us to discuss.

Kim Caskey Tours are physically active. Hotels may provide fewer North American style amenities, and our touring culture emphasizes flexibility and open-mindedness. These are essential characteristics of your tour experience. Unfortunately, a few people ignore these details, thus resulting in a less than desired experience for everyone. We truly want you to be happy with your tour choice. Please read the following carefully and understand that by participating in a Kim Caskey Tours tour, you assume certain obligations and responsibilities to Kim Caskey (Tour Host) and your fellow tour members, including, but not limited to, the following:

Understand the physical levels of your tour's daily activities and be capable of fully and happily (no one likes a grumpy or complaining traveller) participate without any assistance — in the following levels of activity:

- Walk 10,000-12,000 steps over the course of the day, up and down stairs, and over unpaved or cobblestone surfaces
- Be comfortable on your feet for up to four hours walking and standing, both inside museums and outdoors in all weather conditions
- Bring one main piece of luggage, plus one smaller day pack or shoulder bag, all of which you must be able to carry yourself, sometimes up stairs
- Carry or roll your luggage for up to 15 minutes from the bus to the hotel, then haul it up several flights of stairs to get to your room (where/if no porter service is available)
- After orientation and transportation lessons, be able to navigate towns and cities on your own (Google Maps, Uber, etc.)
- **Be always available for group communication on What's App (or other) messaging app (not just when on free Wi-Fi)**

Please note: Tour hosts may not be available to provide assistance for any of these activities. Tour members requiring help must be accompanied by an able companion who can be entirely responsible for providing the assistance.

Appreciate our quaint and sometimes peculiar hotel characteristics, which may include:

- No (or inadequate) air conditioning, elevators
- Potential street noise
- Slow Wi-Fi connections or Wi-Fi only in common areas

Embrace and participate in our NO GRUMBLERS policy:

- Travel is all about experiencing things we're not used to; tour members are expected to be flexible and open-minded and to practice considerate social behavior toward one another
- Accept that in rare circumstances your tour may have an additional tour member above the advertised number
- Agree that you won't be allowed to smoke or vape on the bus, in the hotel, or where other tour members are present
- Look forward to surprises, understanding that itineraries are subject to change, and often Plan B is better!

Agree to follow all safety precautions and health directives set by your guide, host, or local officials to help safeguard your health and wellbeing as well as that of your fellow tour members. These precautions may include but not be limited to the following:

- Be able to present, if requested, an authentic vaccination certificate showing that you are fully vaccinated
- Being seen by a health professional if you are showing symptoms of a contagious illness, and/or being tested for contagious illness (such as COVID-19) as a condition of continuing with the tour
- Maintain proper social distancing
- Use of face masks (covering your nose and mouth); proper handwashing and the use of hand sanitizer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Traveller name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

JourneysConnect



# Medical Alert / Special Considerations

Birmingham/London 2025 Tour July 31-August 8, 2025; Pre-Tour July 29/30, 2025

Submit this completed form to: [kim@kimcaskey.ca](mailto:kim@kimcaskey.ca)

Please describe the nature of your disability/special need, or indicate NONE:

- Will you be travelling with any special equipment (eg. walking stick, medically necessary device, etc.)? If yes, please give details. Oxygen tanks are not permitted.

Yes  No

- Are you able to walk/climb stairs unaided numerous times per day (~5,000-10,000 steps or 5-10 city blocks per day)? Walkers/wheelchairs are not permitted.

Yes  No

- Do you have any dietary needs (allergies, special diet, etc.) we should be aware of to better assist you? If so, please give details.

Yes  No

- Please indicate any other special considerations we should be aware of:

- Medications: If you will be taking any prescription medication while on tour, please advise whether you require refrigeration for this medication (coach cooler / hotel room fridge may be available)

Yes  No

We will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the special needs of our passengers; however, we are not responsible for any denial of special services by hotels, lodges, restaurants, other suppliers, or any additional fees charged for assistance. Escorted tours adhere to a pre-determined and unalterable timetable in conjunction with time-scheduled services provided by tour operators. The undersigned hereby indicates understanding and agreement with/to these conditions.

Please note:

- Carry your prescription medication(s) in the original container (and always in your carry-on luggage or personal bag)
- Carry a copy of your prescription order should you need to replace any lost medication while on tour
- Carry a small supply of over the counter medication (Advil, cold med, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Traveller name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# Registration Form

Birmingham/London 2025 Tour July 31-August 8, 2025; Pre-Tour July 29/30, 2025

Submit this completed form to: kim@kimcaskey.ca

Your full name, as it appears on your passport

Street Address, City, Province/State, Postal Code/Zip Code

Email Address

Cell or mobile # (with you on tour):

Date of Birth: (DAY/MON/YEAR)

Passport # and Expiry date:

## Emergency Contact:

Name

Cell #

relationship

Name

Cell #

relationship

## Purchase Details (please check):

Pre-Tour Package (1 or 2 nights):  \$169 twin July 29, 2025  \$169 twin July 30, 2025  \$223 single July 29, 2025  \$223 single July 30, 2025

Land Tour:  \$3999 twin  \$4852 single

TripMate Insurance:  Pre-Tour, Per Night \$14.40 twin  \$19.00 single  Land Tour \$340 twin  \$413 single

Roommate Name:

I am interested in being paired with a roommate:

Yes  No

## Payment Option (please check):

Option 1:  Payment in Full

Option 2:  Deposit \$500 + insurance premium & 4 instalments (15JAN25 - 15APR25)

Credit Card #:

Expiry Date:

Name on Card:

CVC:

# Roommates - have you considered?

Sharing a room with another traveller can be a wonderful, added experience. Many roommates who start a tour as strangers, soon became fast friends and remain friends for years to come! Not only will you find a new friend, but you will save a significant cost not having to pay for the single supplement.

However, there are a few things to consider before agreeing to room with another traveller. We suggest you have a phone chat (vs. email conversation), so that you can discuss the logistics of sharing a room. After your communication, you can then decide if you wish to share a room with a stranger or opt for your own room.



- **Alone time:**

After being with the tour group all day, will you be ready for some alone time in the late evening (or in the morning before starting the day with the group)?



- **Setting some ground rules:**

Discuss the following points and set some ground rules, so that you are both on the same page before the tour even starts:



- **Are you a morning person or night owl?**

- Do you rise extra-early?
- Do you read/computer/iPad/Phone after lights out (with a booklight)?



- **Bathroom time:**

- Do you shower in the morning or evening?
- How much time do you typically spend in the bathroom getting ready for the day? Or before bed?



- **Personal habits:**

- Do you snore?
- Use a CPAP?
- Smoke?
- Tidy? Messy?

---

Birmingham/London 2025 Tour July 31-August 8, 2025; Pre-Tour July 29/30, 2025

Submit this completed form to: [kim@kimcaskey.ca](mailto:kim@kimcaskey.ca)

JourneysConnect

