According to the Venerable Bede, Pope Gregory I once passed through a marketplace in Rome and noticed a group of young slaves being auctioned. Struck by their fair complexion, Gregory asked about their origins and learned that they were Angles, members of a pagan Germanic tribe that, along with that of the Saxons, had conquered the lowlands of Britain more than a century before.

According to Bede, this was the moment when Gregory—who famously compared these Angles to angels!—conceived of the idea of sending Christian missionaries to Britain, which he did in the year 597. But this mission, led by Augustine of Canterbury, was not the first one aimed at the pagan Angles and Saxons of England. That distinction goes to the Irish, particularly Columba, who in 563 founded a community of monks in Iona on the west coast of Scotland. Eventually Irish missionaries and Roman missionaries would find themselves competing for the hearts and minds of the Anglo-Saxon kings who ruled the seven kingdoms that made up lowland England. And all of the ups and downs of this struggle were captured in Bede’s remarkable Ecclesiastical History of the English People (731).

This trip will explore this fascinating chapter of early medieval English history against the dramatic backdrop of Western Scotland, the Hebrides, the Borders, and Yorkshire.

Our journey will start in Glasgow and end in Manchester.

KBWolf
Ken Wolf

Presented by Duende Travel Ltd
Scotland

May 18  Arrive at Glasgow airport and travel north to the unrivalled setting of Crinan, home to wonderful seafood and some of the finest views on the west coast of Scotland where we spend the first three nights. This tiny harbor village is an undiscovered area of Scotland, rich in natural and historic wonders. (Airport Transfer 2.5 hours) - R, D HOTEL – CRINAN HOTEL – a simple hotel with a beautiful setting.

May 19  This morning, we walk from our hotel at Crinan, along the magnificent ship canal to the ancient monuments of Kilmartin. We will visit the extraordinary prehistoric cemetery which is surrounded by cairns and stone circles. After our picnic lunch, we continue to Dunadd Fort. This spectacular site has been occupied since the Iron Age, first by the ancient kingdom of Dalriada then as a royal power center by Gaelic kings. We return to the idyllic setting of Crinan for our second memorable dinner. - B, L, D

May 20  We travel by bus to the small port of Oban where we board a ferry to cross the Hebridean Sea to the islands of the West Coast of Scotland. We land in Mull and drive across the island to take another ferry for the journey of 10 minutes to Iona. After our visit and lunch, we walk around the island before our return journey to the Scottish mainland. - B, L, D

May 21  We leave Crinan this morning to travel to Inverary, home to the Lords of the Isles, where we stop for a walk and lunch. This afternoon continues through the beautiful Trossach hills, the land of Rob Roy McGregor, to Loch Lomond and our hotel for the night. - B, L, D HOTEL – CAMERON HOUSE – a grand hotel on the banks of Loch Lomond.

May 22  Today, we strike south to the Scottish borders, home of the great Saint Cuthbert, regarded as the patron saint of northern England. This morning we visit Abbotsford, the home of Sir Walter Scott, whose influence over our perception of the country has been immense. After lunch, we explore Eildon Hills on a walk that leads through
volcanic cones to nearby Melrose Abbey, where Cuthbert spent his formative years. Later we continue by road to a lovely hotel on the Teviot River for our two night stay. – B, L, D
HOTEL – THE ROXBURGHE – a fine granite house outside Kelso.

**May 23**
Holy Island, or Lindisfarne, is a remote, isolated spur, cut off from mainland England at high tide. It was here that Cuthbert was made prior by his Abbot Eata. We explore it, taking in the site of the original monastery. (Note – details of this walk are subject to change, dependent on tides). This afternoon return to our hotel by road. - B, L, D

**England**

**May 24**
We continue south crossing the border to the beautiful county of Northumberland. Our walk leads us along the most photographed and atmospheric section of Hadrian’s Wall (a UNESCO World Heritage site) as far as the best preserved Roman Fort - known as Housesteads. Later we continue by road to the great city of Durham where we spend the next two nights. - B, L, D
HOTEL – THE DURHAM COUNTY – a modern hotel in the center of Durham.

**May 25**
Set on a rocky peninsula above the River Wear, the city of Durham (a UNESCO World Heritage site) is the setting for England’s finest Romanesque cathedral. Here the remains of Saint Cuthbert were finally laid to rest; and here, too, is the shrine of his biographer, the Venerable Bede. This afternoon is free to explore the city on your own. - B

**May 26**
As a child, Captain James Cook worked in the harbor at Staithes. As a man, the ship in which he circumnavigated the world and discovered Australia set out from the nearby port of Whitby. A hundred years later, Count Dracula landed here. Our walk traces a route across the North Yorkshire Moors towards the dramatically sited ruins of Whitby Abbey, the site of the famous synod of 664. Later we continue on to the grand country house hotel just south of the city of York, where we spend our final three nights. - B, L, D
HOTEL – MIDDLETHORPE HALL – a fine Queen Anne mansion outside York.
May 27  This morning we concentrate on York, capital of the North and full of rich history, where we walk along its walls and narrow lanes. There is plenty of free time this afternoon to explore the city in our own time. Return to our hotel by road.  - B, D

May 28  Castle Howard has been immortalized as the location where *Brideshead Revisited* was filmed. We enjoy its architectural splendors and glorious landscaped gardens in our private visit. We lunch in the castle before returning to our hotel for our last night’s celebration.  - B, L, D

May 29  Say goodbye to your fellow travelers for your transfer to Manchester Airport.  (Airport transfer 2.5 hours)

TRIP INCLUSIONS:
- Group transfers from Glasgow to hotel/from hotel to Manchester airport by private vehicle
- 11 nights hotel accommodations based on double or single occupancy
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary: R= Reception, B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner
- Lunches and dinners include bottled water and wine
- Hotel taxes and service charges on quoted services

TRIP EXCLUSIONS:
- Cost of obtaining a passport and/or visa
- Communications costs, such as phone calls, emails, and faxes
- Any items of a personal nature
- Any items not included in inclusions
- International air reservations

COST PER PERSON:
$8085.00 per person based on two people sharing a twin bedded room. The trip cost is based on a minimum of 12 paying participants. We reserve the right to cancel this trip if a minimum number of participants is not reached.

A limited number of single rooms are available at an additional cost of $1335.00.
A deposit of $1,250 per person is required at the time of booking. Final payment is due no later than February 18, 2016 and is due by check only.

Should you cancel your trip for any reason before February 18th, 2016, a $1,000 per person cancellation fee is charged. If you cancel between February 18th and March 18th, 2016, a fee equal to 50% of the tour cost is charged. No refund can be paid if cancelled after March 18th, 2016. If we can resell your booking, a $250 per person transfer fee will be charged.

Airline tickets have separate charges and cancellation fees depending on fare paid and date of change or cancellation. TRAVEL INSURANCE IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

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INSURANCE: Travel insurance for travel accident, loss/damage/delay of baggage, flight insurance and trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Applications will be sent on request.
OPERATORS: This program is operated by Travelstore VIP of Irvine, California, and Duende Travel, UK, and hotels listed in the itinerary.

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