

Strictly ELVIS UK



ELVIS
TRAVEL SERVICE

Newsletter No. 20
Spring/Summer 2018

Good Morning,

And they thought it wouldn't last? This is now the 20th Newsletter that we've produced since forming Strictly Elvis UK; the Elvis Travel Service is over 46 years old and Elvis himself? Well he may have left us nearly 41 years ago but in his ridiculously short time on Earth he left a legacy so large that I really can't see his fandom ever ending... certainly not where the 'Strictly Elvis family' are concerned. We just continue to grow as more and more Elvis fans find out about us, our events and our holidays. And do you know what is particularly nice? The fact that we are trusted by the Elvis 'hierarchy' - Elvis' family and friends, ex-employees, musicians and co-stars... the very people who were closest to him. Hence the number who are delighted to come to our Elvis Festival or meet us whilst on tour in the USA.

So what's coming up in the UK? Well shortly we'll have our Annual Thames Cruise with entertainment provided by an all-Elvis Disco plus live music from Rockin' Dave Riley. If you haven't booked yet then do so soon as places are going fast - it'll be great fun. Then it's the Elvis Festival at Vauxhall, Great Yarmouth and we have enclosed a brochure for that in with this Newsletter. Great bands, great guests, a superb venue and the friendliest atmosphere that you'll find anywhere. If you haven't been (or perhaps not for some time) then come and join us for a fabulous week of Elvis. We're also delighted to announce the return of the Strictly Elvis Ball - again in The King's Room (where else?) at the Mercure Grand Hotel in Leicester. Details are on the back cover of this Newsletter - please join us... we'll have a Ball (Duh!). And overseas? Well in addition to our regular trips to Bad Nauheim to take part in their Elvis Celebrations each August we are pleased to announce that we'll also be heading to Paris next June for a long-weekend following in Elvis' footsteps... Folies Bergere, Moulin Rouge, ooh la la! We've covered the recent (and the next!) Elvis USA Spring Break further on in this Newsletter but we are also getting lots of enquiries for our August tours (with Texas next year, by the way) and also the 85th Birthday Tour in January 2020 which will give fans the option of travelling on to Las Vegas or heading south for some Florida sunshine.



I'm delighted to say that our good friend Dick Grob's new book, ELVIS: Safe & Sound has had excellent reviews - probably because it's so different from the 'same ol', same ol', Elvis books that many of us have bought but regretted. We all want to learn something different about 'our man' and this book fits the bill. Strictly Elvis UK has now handed over sales of the book to Chris Giles at The Elvis Shop - details enclosed. Finally can I just re-iterate that Strictly Elvis is an organisation run by fans for the fans; no politics, no egos, no profiteering and definitely no negativity. We leave that lot to others. We didn't get to be the best by being the biggest - we got to be the biggest by being the best. And so it shall remain.

T
Cheers for now

B

David J. Wade

Strictly **ELVIS** UK 1

DIARY UPDATE

LONG DISTANCE INFORMATION

Strictly Elvis UK compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

You may have heard that new Data Protection laws are in place as of 25th May 2018 – helping to protect your privacy and to restrict the use of your personal data. Please be advised that the only data that we keep about you is your name and address and that is solely in order to mail you this and future Newsletters. Should you wish not to receive these then please advise us and we will remove your name and address from our database. If you ever buy anything from us then your payment details, once processed, are destroyed. We do not keep any financial, or other information about you on file and would never consider passing even your name and address to a third party.

At Strictly Elvis UK we respect your privacy and value our security and our credibility.

You can contact us by Telephone on 01473 621 564, by Email at enquiries@strictlyelvis.net or by Post at Strictly Elvis UK, Unit D Bristol Court, Martlesham Heath Business Park, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 3RY, UK.



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ELVIS THAMES CRUISE

29th July 2018

Following the outstanding success of the past two year's Thames cruises, Elvis in Essex and Strictly Elvis are delighted to announce the third cruise – but this time on an even larger boat and with more entertainment on board. See advertisement for more details.

ELVIS' 41ST ANNIVERSARY & MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET USA

7th – 20th August 2018

Our journey of discovery takes us to Nashville, Dollywood, Memphis and Tupelo but this is a journey with a difference as we'll also be incorporating much of the history of Sun Records and the Million Dollar Quartet – Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and, of course, the most successful of the Sun stablemates...Elvis himself. As for Dolly, well she wasn't a MDQ member of course but who could blame us for wanting to have some fun at Dollywood. For a fully detailed brochure and Reservation Form contact us today on 01473 621 564

ELVIS' 41ST ANNIVERSARY BAD NAUHEIM, GERMANY TOUR

16th – 20th August 2018

A glorious long-weekend in the beautiful spa town of Bad Nauheim where Elvis lived whilst stationed at the US Army Base in nearby Friedberg. Over this period each year the German Fan Club and the town's tourist office put on a wonderful Elvis event with concerts, classic car parades, movies, special guests and Elvis stalls and attractions.

The Elvis Travel Service know the place better than anyone and include a very special tour of all the Elvis sights.

2018 ELVIS FESTIVAL, GREAT YARMOUTH

8th – 15th September 2018

This year's annual get together of the Elvis Family is rapidly selling out. But with perhaps the best line-up of bands we've ever had including: Memphis Lee and the Creepers, The New Amen Corner, Shane and the Korrados and Brad Birkdahl plus our US guests, co-stars Marlyn Mason and Cynthia Pepper – this is one Elvis packed week you don't want to miss! Don't miss out call our venue, the 5 Star Vauxhall Holiday Park on 0333 207 9398 to book.

THE ELVIS AUTUMN BALL

See information later in this newsletter for this special event celebrating 50 years of Elvis' iconic '68 Comeback Special'. A chance to dress up for a fancy ball with good food, great entertainment and at a fantastic venue. Call us for more details or to book.

MEMPHIS SPRING BREAK

4th – 10th April 2019

Our second superb Spring Break to Memphis. Experience an Elvis Travel Service tour on this super holiday. You'll have a full day visit to Graceland including a Mansion Tour plus visit the many exhibit areas including the aircraft and the auto museum, enjoy a fabulously packed day tour of the Elvis sights of Memphis and have the option of visiting Elvis' Birthplace in Tupelo, taking a sightseeing cruise on the mighty Mississippi River or pay a visit to Jerry Lee Lewis' Ranch.

You'll be staying at the fabulous Guest House at Graceland making this a great priced, but luxury, trip to Memphis with all of the great itinerary and service that our tours are known for.

ELVIS PARIS SOJOURN

June 2019

Join Strictly Elvis on something new for 2019. See the sights of Paris which Elvis enjoyed whilst on leave during his military service. We'll be linking up with our friends from the Elvis: My Happiness Fan Club who will be giving us a fantastic tour of not only places linked to Elvis, but all of the other great sights and attractions in this beautiful city. Optional full day at Disneyland Paris.

ELVIS ANNIVERSARY TOUR

2019

August 2019

Our August tours are legendary, especially the ones (like this) that travel on to destinations with a strong Elvis connection. For 2019 after Memphis and Tupelo we head for Texas – Yee Ha! – where we'll visit Dallas, Fort Hood, Waco, San Antonio, Gonzales and Houston... all places with great Elvis sights and stories.

THE ELVIS FESTIVAL 2019

September 2019

The crown jewel in our Elvis calendar – the biggest week-long all Elvis Festival outside of Memphis just keeps getting better. 2019 marks our 40th annual Festival, so as well as our regular line-up of great bands, star guests and Elvis from morning 'til night expect some great surprises as we celebrate this momentous anniversary.

FIND US ON...



Facebook: The Elvis Presley Travel Service/Strictly Elvis.

OR ON...



Twitter: @ElvisTravel

ELVIS 85TH BIRTHDAY TOUR

January 2020

Come with us to Memphis and celebrate Elvis' 85th Birthday in style. It may be a way off but this tour is guaranteed to be a sell-out. We'll be partaking in the annual Elvis Day Proclamation ceremony, visiting where it all began in Tupelo and enjoying this very special time in Memphis. Extension Tours will feature Las Vegas and Florida This will be a fabulous celebration of Elvis' amazing life and legacy. Call us on 01473 621 564 to add your name to our pre-registration list.

Strictly **ELVIS** UK **3**

TERRY BLACKWOOD
AND THE
IMPERIALS
★
ARE BACK



INSPIRATIONAL IMPERIALS.

By Sallie Phillips

Elvis' love of Gospel music is well documented and during his time recording, and on the road, he used a number of different Gospel backing groups. The Imperials worked with Elvis on his Grammy award winning albums in the 1960's and were there with him on his return to live performing in Las Vegas in 1969.

So it was amazing to hear that they would be coming all the way from the USA to perform a series of concerts, including one in my hometown of Cheltenham in November last year. I felt incredibly lucky to see them sing at the historic Town Hall in the town as, although Strictly Elvis have arranged similar concerts before, they have been in much larger venues (such as Coventry Cathedral) so seeing them in such an intimate venue was very special indeed.

Throughout their group history, there have been a few changes to the line-up and today the group comprises of Terry Blackwood, who worked alongside Elvis, along with Darrell Toney and Royce Taylor.

During their performance in Cheltenham they were joined by the stunning Morriston Male Voice Choir. This 80 strong choir have to be seen to be believed – the power and range of so many voices singing in harmony, and in such a superb setting, was just wonderful. Between the two groups, they sang their way through around 20 gospels and ballads, including some original numbers from The Imperials, and a number of Elvis songs, such as 'Working on the Building' and 'So High', which had us all on our feet doing the famous actions.

Following the concert Strictly Elvis had arranged a meet and greet with the Imperials at the Jurys Inn with an all-Elvis disco and buffet.

We all got the chance to meet and have a photo taken with the Imperials, and get our programmes and CDs signed and was the perfect way to finish off a day I'll never forget.

It was an amazing afternoon, a truly unique event, and I felt incredibly lucky to be able to meet such musical maestros.



T E R R Y B L A C K W O O D

A N D T H E

IMPERIALS

★
A R E B A C K



CONCERT DVD OFFER

If you were in the audience for The Imperials/Morrison Orpheus Choir Elvis Concert back in November 2018 then we're sure you'll want to relive the moment with this superb professionally produced DVD of the performance. And if you weren't there? Well this is as close as you'll get as you hear and watch our favourite gospel singers join forces with the internationally renowned Welsh male voice choir to sing some of Elvis' favourite ballads and gospels.

The DVD costs just £9.95 (plus £3.95 postage & packing).

Send your cheque (payable to Strictly Elvis UK) to:

Imperials DVD Offer

Strictly Elvis UK

Unit D Bristol Court

Martlesham Heath Business Park

Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 3RY

Or order by phone by calling: 01473 621 564



SCOTLAND THE RAVE

BY CAROL PUGH

I always thought that this would make an ideal pub quiz question... Where was Elvis' only appearance in the UK?

I'm sure most of you would know the answer to that one. Well the date was 2nd March 1960 and Elvis has completed his national service in Germany and was heading home to resume his career. A fuel stop was required en route at Prestwick Airport in South Ayrshire, Scotland which was home to an American forces base. For the first and last time Elvis famously stepped down onto British soil. The now historic occasion was covered by a local newspaper which captured a relaxed looking Elvis mingling with fans and giving an impromptu press conference.

With such a prestigious heritage it made sense for the Glasgow-based fan club The Elvis Touch to set up an annual event to mark the occasion. For the last 23 years they have used the main entertainment suite at Prestwick Airport as a setting for an Elvis Birthday bash and this year some of the Strictly Elvis team went up to see what all the fuss was about.

We stayed in central Glasgow - a great location for shopping, museums, restaurants and sightseeing.

The Elvis Touch put on a coach from George Square to Prestwick Airport an easy approx. 30 minute run with everyone singing along to Elvis and getting increasingly excited at the prospect of a great night ahead.

The airport has placed a Hollywood Walk of Fame style star in the floor of the concourse which is very cool and on the second floor is a plaque commemorating the visit, along with posters and photos. Paul Downie from the Elvis Touch mentioned that the wooden dance floor was made from the floor of the Sergeants Mess (hence the very same floor that Elvis had walked upon) so no wonder the dance floor was full all night!

As well as an all Elvis disco we were also treated to a live band MJ and the Late Night Diners, MJ Lewis incidentally is the daughter of Linda Gail Lewis and the niece of the great Jerry Lee Lewis.

So eventually it was time for the coach back to Glasgow, where a group of very happy Elvis Fans led by The Elvis Touch Club Leader Jane Boyce sang several verses of Happy Birthday to our man and dreamed about the only time Elvis stood on British soil...did I mention that would make a great pub quiz question?



2019 Elvis Birthday Bash at Prestwick Airport.

And if you'd like to attend next year's Birthday Bash at Prestwick Airport with The Elvis Touch contact Paul or Linda Downie on 07947 659 144 for tickets. The event takes place on Saturday 12th January 2019 and for details of hotel accommodation in Glasgow please call the

Elvis Travel Service/Strictly Elvis UK on

01473 621564

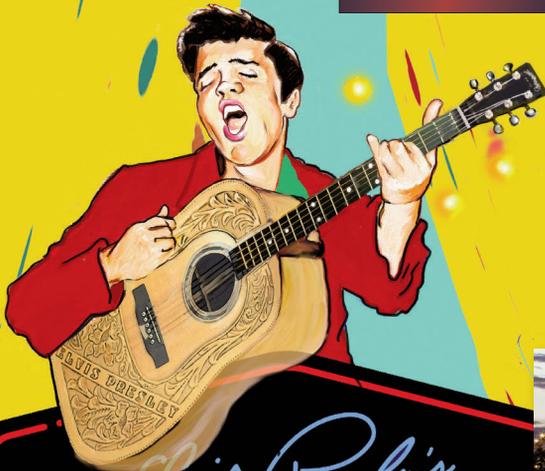
Hope to see you there.

Luxury
ELVIS

GRACELAND

Memphis Spring Break

Prices
from just
£1348 per person



Come with us on a fabulous
Memphis Spring Break
and stay at the magnificent hotel...
The Guest House at Graceland
Thursday 4th to Wednesday 10th
April 2019

Elvis Presley's
MEMPHIS
— AT Graceland —



Picture courtesy of Betty Harper



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Memphis Spring Break

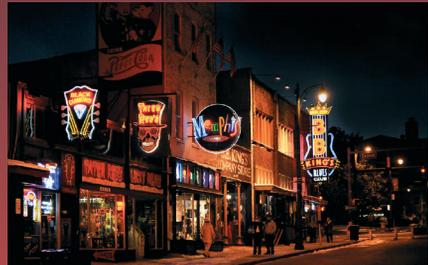
4TH - 10TH APRIL 2019



COME WITH US on a fabulous Memphis Spring Break, a glorious opportunity for those who have become regular visitors to Memphis to experience the luxury of this superb hotel and to see all the changes that have been made to the Graceland complex since Elvis' 40th Anniversary year; or as a perfect 'dream come true' short holiday for fans who have never before been to Graceland and who always longed to visit the home of their idol.



THIS IS A GREAT TIME to be in Memphis. To enjoy the warm Spring weather as you soak up the sunshine, the atmosphere and the sights, all safe in the knowledge that you're travelling with the experts... the people who know Elvis - and Elvis fans - the best.



THE ELVIS TRAVEL SERVICE TOURS to the USA are well known for being the most informative and enjoyable around. Developed over 46 years by Elvis fans from a professional background in the travel industry our tours give you a fascinating insight into the history, geography and life of Elvis Presley - *the World's greatest ever entertainer.*



OUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 Thursday 4th April 2019

Morning departure from Heathrow or Manchester airports for the flight to the USA. We'll clear through US Immigration and Customs at a Gateway airport before taking our onward flight to Memphis. Coach transfer to the hotel. Remainder of the evening at leisure, perhaps for your first look at the beautiful Graceland mansion.

DAY 2 Friday 5th April

Morning visit to Graceland. Your 'Elvis Experience plus Airplanes Pass' entitles you to a self-guided tour plus full access to the all-new Elvis Presley's Entertainment Complex with admission to the Presley Motors Automobile Museum and two other Elvis exhibits - so much of the day will be taken up with those. Evening at leisure.

DAY 3

Saturday 6th April

Full day at leisure. An opportunity to visit the museums and other attractions of Memphis - perhaps taking in the famous Duck Parade in the lobby of the historic Peabody Hotel and pop into Lansky's clothes store whilst there, visit the Rock & Soul, the Cotton or the National Civil Rights Museums, take a delightful cruise on the mighty Mississippi River or take an optional excursion to visit Jerry Lee Lewis' Ranch. Memphis is a fascinating city and you certainly won't be at a loss for something to do.

DAY 4 Sunday 7th April

Today we'll have a full day's comprehensive guided sightseeing tour of Elvis' Memphis, starting with the Circle G Ranch before heading downtown and taking you to all the major sights of the city but with emphasis on Elvis' life here. You'll see where he lived, where he went to school, performed and shopped and lots

more besides. It includes a tour of the famous Sun Studio plus lunch at the Arcade Restaurant - a downtown 'diner' that was one of Elvis' favourite eating-places. Evening free.

On at least one of the evenings you might like to join your Tour Manager for a visit to Beale Street - for dinner or to sample the incredible atmosphere of this music mecca - possible the most famous (and definitely most exciting) music street in the world.

Throughout most days and evenings the Elvis Travel Service's free Shuttle will operate between the hotel and Downtown Memphis.

DAY 5 Monday 8th April

Another fabulous day free in Memphis or you may wish to join us on a full day optional excursion to Tupelo where we'll visit the Birthplace to see the humble home in which Elvis was born, the Elvis Museum, Memorial Chapel and the church that he attended as a young boy. We'll also take you to see all the Elvis sights of this lovely town including the schools that he attended, the site of the State Fairgrounds where Elvis made his first 'public performance', Tupelo Hardware where Gladys bought his first guitar plus many more.

DAY 6

Tuesday 9th April

Time perhaps for a last walk-up to pay your respects at Graceland's Meditation Garden or to buy those last-minute souvenirs before the late morning transfer to the airport to join our flight travelling overnight to the UK.

DAY 7

Wednesday 10th April

Mid-morning arrival into Heathrow or Manchester Airport.



The **GUEST HOUSE**

AT GRACELAND

Located just steps away from the

GRACELAND MANSION

AN EXCITING ADDITION to the Graceland complex, this luxury class full-service hotel is an experience in itself. With 450 handsomely furnished, all en-suite rooms, two restaurants and a bar, a Ballroom, convention facilities, a 464 seat theatre, a large



outdoor pool and pool bar, the hotel is set in beautifully landscaped grounds adjacent to Graceland's Chapel in the Woods and the Graceland mansion.

"When Elvis had friends and family visit Graceland, he would have them stay at a hotel down the street. He would have been thrilled to have had his own guest house where they could stay so close by. Lisa and I, and our entire family, are excited that visitors from around the world can now experience our unique resort hotel - The Guest House at Graceland."

Priscilla Presley



Photo's of The Guest House at Graceland courtesy of Jeffrey Jacobs



Reservation Form

ELVIS LUXURY GRACELAND MEMPHIS SPRING BREAK

4th - 10th April 2019

Complete this form and send it with your deposit(s) to:

c/o AMERICA AS YOU LIKE IT
Oxford House, 24 Oxford Road North,
London, W4 4DH

ELVIS
TRAVEL SERVICE

America
as you like it

Strictly
ELVIS UK 

If you have any questions or to check availability
please call the Elvis Travel Service on

01473 621 564

(Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm)

Please enter details clearly and exactly as they appear on your passport

Mr/Mrs/ Ms/Other	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	SURNAME	DATE OF BIRTH	NATIONALITY	Mark 'X' if our Travel Insurance Quote required

PAYMENTS (PLEASE NOTE: For bookings received after 4th November 2018
a deposit of £1000 will be required and for all bookings
from 4th January 2019 full payment will be due).

ADDRESS OF LEAD NAME TO WHOM ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE SENT

BY CHEQUE (Payable to **America as you like it**) I enclose remittance of:

_____ Deposits @ £500 per person TOTAL £ _____

Insurance

If not taking our insurance, please specify Insurance Cover:

Company _____ Policy No. _____

24-hour Emergency Assist telephone no:
or advise us as soon as this information is available

Home Phone No.
Daytime Phone No.
Email
Post Code

Hotel Requirements

Quadruple share (2 beds)	Triple Share (2 beds)	Twin Share (2 beds)
Double share (1 Kingsize bed)	Single room (1 double bed)	Smoking Room (if available)

BY CREDIT / DEBIT CARD (delete as appropriate)

Type of Card _____

Please charge my card with the amount of £ _____

Start Date _____ Expiry Date _____

Issue Number _____ Security Number (last three digits
on the signature
strip of card)

CARD NUMBER

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Signature.....

Date.....

DECLARATION OF HEALTH

To the best of your knowledge, are all passengers mentioned above in sound health,
both physically and mentally, and suffering from no illness, complaint or infirmity of
any description? YES NO (If no, please advise brief details in accompanying letter.)

SPECIAL REQUESTS (dietary, medical etc.)

Name and address of whom we should contact in case of an emergency

Home Phone No.
Daytime Phone No.
Post Code

This holiday is arranged on behalf of

Elvis Travel Service

by **America as you like it**

of Oxford House, 24 Oxford Road North, London, W4 4DH.

Tel: **020 8742 8299**. Email: **sales@americaasyoulikeit.com**.

Website: **americaasyoulikeit.com**. ATOL 2966

I agree on behalf of all above named persons to accept the Reservation
Conditions of **America as you like it**.

Signature.....

Date.....

Questions Answered

HOLIDAY PRICES

	Single	Twin	Triple	Quad
The Guest House at Graceland	£1848	£1498	£1398	£1348

(All prices are in £'s per Adult - Child prices on request)

Room-mate Service: If you are travelling alone but would like to share (either for company or to keep the cost down) we will gladly try to pair you up with another fan of similar age and gender. Should it not be possible to pair you up you would be offered single accommodation at the appropriate price.

INCLUDED IN THE HOLIDAY COST

The tour price is inclusive of all the following:-

- Scheduled economy class flights inc. taxes and security charges
- Five nights hotel accommodation inc. tax of 20.95%
- Airport transfers and Shuttle Bus Service in Memphis
- A full day's guided sightseeing tour of Elvis' Memphis
- A Tour Pass for Graceland including the Mansion tour and admission to the Exhibits and Aircraft
- Admission and tour of the legendary Sun Studio
- Lunch at the Arcade Restaurant
- Driver gratuities
- The services of an experienced Elvis Travel Service Tour Manager.

Items not included are:- drinks and meals other than those specified above, travel insurance, any optional excursions and personal expenses such as laundry, phone calls etc.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is mandatory that all passengers have sufficient travel insurance. Please telephone **America as you like it** on **020 8742 8299** who will be pleased to arrange cover for you. Cover is not effective until the premium has been paid and your application approved by the insurers. If you are relying on travel insurance provided by your bank or credit card provider as part of their service please check that their cover is sufficient, in particular with regard to cancellation charges.

FLIGHTS AND TIMINGS

The flights will be in economy class on a major scheduled airline from London's Heathrow Airport and Manchester Airport. As there are no direct flights between UK and Memphis the flights will operate via a 'Gateway' city where US Immigration and Customs formalities will take place. Flight times will be confirmed on your Confirmation-Invoice although these are subject to change. The baggage allowance is 50lbs (23kgs) per person.

EXCHANGE RATES

The tour price is based at the currency exchange rate at the time of costing this holiday (18th May 2018) - £1. Sterling being equal to \$1.32 US Dollars.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

A full Electronic Passport (e-Passport) issued by a member state of the European Union and valid for at least 6 months after the date of return to the UK is required. Visas are not required by the majority of British Citizens travelling on a UK Passport, however we recommend you check your eligibility at <https://uk.usembassy.gov/esta/>. UK Passport Holders should ensure that they have completed the online Visa Waiver Form (ESTA) at <https://esta.cpb.dhs.gov/> at least 72hrs before the date of travel. The charge for an ESTA is currently \$14 per person and can be paid using most debit/credit Cards. Without a valid ESTA you would be denied boarding by the airline. The registration is then valid for 2 Years or until the expiry of your passport (whichever is the sooner). If you do not have access to the ESTA website then the **Elvis Travel Service** are happy to do this for you. Please contact them on **01473 621 564** and have your UK passport details available. Holders of all other passports should consult the US Embassy prior to departure for visa requirements.

HEALTH

No vaccinations or inoculations are currently required for British Subjects. The Department of Health produces the Health Advice for Travellers booklet (T) which is available from your local Post Office or by telephoning 0800 555 777 free of charge.

CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

The weather in Memphis in April is usually perfect for the visitor - not too hot and rarely too cold. Temperatures range between the high 60's and low 70's Fahrenheit so take mid to lightweight clothing with a comfortable pair of walking shoes or trainers for sightseeing. Even in a 5 Star hotel such as The Guest House at Graceland you'll be fine in 'smart casual'.

PAYMENT AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

A payment of £500 per person deposit is payable upon booking. Upon receipt of your deposit (and obviously subject to places being available) you will be sent a Confirmation-Invoice showing the balance due. A further payment of £500 will be required no later than 120 days prior to departure with the final balance due no later than 90 days before departure. Approximately 21 days before departure you will be sent your Travel Wallet containing your e-tickets, baggage tags, a souvenir lanyard/tour pass and final itinerary and joining instructions.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES

If you have any queries regarding the holiday detailed in this brochure please don't hesitate to phone the **Elvis Travel Service** on **01473 621 564** or **America as you like it** on **020 8742 8299**. Telephone bookings can be made but these are only provisional and must be confirmed with a completed Reservation Form within 5 working days.

HOW TO BOOK

To book simply complete the Reservation Form and return it with your deposit/s to:- **c/o America as you like it, Oxford House, 24 Oxford Road North, London, W4 4DH**
Email: sales@americasyoulikeit.com

BONDING AND RESPONSIBILITY

The holiday in this brochure is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority under **America as you like it, ATOL 2966**. America as you like it is also a member of the Visit USA Association.

The holiday arrangements are the responsibility of **America as you like it** of Oxford House, 24 Oxford Road North, London, W4 4DH
Tel: 020 8742 8299

Email: sales@americasyoulikeit.com Website www.americasyoulikeit.com
Your Contract is subject to their Reservation Conditions which are available by post by calling the above number or can be downloaded from their website. The holidays are designed and co-ordinated by the **Elvis Travel Service/Strictly Elvis UK**, the trading names of David Wade Ltd an organisation that has led the way in Elvis holidays and events for 46 years. David Wade Ltd is registered with Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc. The names 'Elvis', 'Elvis Presley', 'Graceland' and 'The Guest House at Graceland' are registered to Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc with the USPTO.



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3RD ELVIS THAMES RIVER CRUISE

ONLY 50 PLACES REMAINING... BOOK NOW!



WE'VE GONE BIGGER IN 2018

by chartering

DIXIE QUEEN

the biggest pleasure boat on the Thames

AND BETTER

with more entertainment for everyone from

DJ MARK MONAGHAN AND ROCKIN' DAVE RILEY

SO "ALL COME ABOARD THE SHOWBOAT"



SUNDAY JULY 29TH

2.00PM UNTIL 6.00PM

Departing from Tower Pier

TICKETS £25 PER PERSON

available from...

Strictly Elvis UK, Unit D Bristol Court

Martlesham Heath Business Park, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 3RY

01473 621 564

www.strictlyelvis.net

Strictly **ELVIS** UK 13

MEMPHIS Spring Break 2018 BY DAVID WADE



It's a tough ask for any Elvis fan – balancing time at Graceland (can there ever be enough) with exploring Memphis, visiting Tupelo, enjoying the nightlife, sampling the food, shopping for souvenirs...and all at a price that makes such a trip good value. Well we did it – and we combined a lash of luxury as well by staying throughout at The Guest House at Graceland. This is not like any 'guesthouse' I'd ever stayed in – it's a 450 room luxury hotel built adjacent to Graceland. The perfect location and a truly exquisite property. Not cheap of course, but the best never is...and what a fantastic experience!

This, our new Memphis Spring Break, was the first of what we're sure will be many - such was the reaction from those who joined Carol and myself in April. The fact that we had Elvis' former Head of Security Dick Grob and his wife Melissa on the tour as well was a huge bonus.

Whilst most of our tours will have a large percentage of folks who have travelled with us before, this tour was different as we had many on board who were 'newbies' and it was a joy to watch them peek at Graceland through the Music Gates for the very first time on the night of arrival, watch their excitement the next day when they actually toured the mansion, how enthralled they were visiting Elvis' Birthplace in Tupelo and how fascinated they were as we took them to see Elvis' Circle G Ranch and then all over Memphis visiting sight after sight and including, of course, a tour of the legendary Sun Studio. It was probably as enjoyable for us as it was for them. Many were smiling so much they were in danger of looking demented! And that includes me!!

Loads of information (The Elvis Travel Service really know our stuff!) and lots of photo-stops, and even those who had been (independently) to Memphis before, confided that they'd never have known about (or even found!) these places without us. Such tho' is the advantage of being on a group tour with fellow fans. The icing on the cake was Royce Taylor of The Imperials jumping aboard the coach at Humes High School and then Terry Blackwood doing the same as we got back to the hotel.

We like to have a few surprises. Some of the group also managed to squeeze in a sightseeing cruise on a Mississippi Riverboat whilst for others (who had been to Memphis several times before) we arranged an exclusive visit to Jerry Lee Lewis' Ranch.

The evenings were taken up with visits to local restaurants or the group joined Carol and I with visits to Beale Street to sample the music, food and great bars on what must be the most amazing music street in the world – and one night practically the whole group ended up in Jerry Lee Lewis' Club where Brad Birkedahl* and his band were playing. Finally, on the last night, we decided to have a Farewell Party at Marlowe's, a local Elvis-themed restaurant, and we thought we'd invite a few special guests along - and who turned up to meet the group?...er, Elvis' cousins Billy Smith and Wayne Mann, Marion Cocke who was Elvis' nurse, Dean Nichopolous who, apart from being Dr. Nick's son, was employed by Elvis as a Dresser, Kim Ward (who was the wife of Richard Davis – one of the Memphis Mafia) and Elvis' neighbours (and Elvis book authors) Shirley Connell and Donna Lewis.

If you've read this far into the Newsletter then you'll know that we will be offering another Memphis Spring Break next year – but adding an extra day...so that those who come with us will be able to have an even longer, and bigger, Elvis Experience. If you've never been to Graceland then even if it means selling Granny into slavery, try to make it...and if you have been before, then come back with us to see all the changes that have been made at Graceland, experience a stay in this beautiful hotel and let us show you our Elvis' Memphis. You'll love it.

Elvis Travel Service – Forever Making Memories

**Brad Birkedahl will be a Guest Performer at the Elvis Festival, Great Yarmouth 8th-15th September 2018*

Elvis IN PARIS

Elvis loved Paris...and we're sure you will too! He went there three times whilst serving in the US Army in Germany and in conjunction with our friends at the 'Elvis My Happiness' Fan Club of France we are planning an exclusive Paris long-weekend trip for June 2019 - to mark the 60th Anniversary of Elvis first stepping off the train at the Gare de l'Est Station. Our visit will include a unique sightseeing tour which will combine the major sights of this beautiful city - the Eiffel Tower, the River Seine, the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre Museum and many more, with the Elvis sights of Paris - the luxury Prince-de-Galles Hotel where he stayed, the locations of many of the famous photo's of Elvis in Paris as well as the nightclubs that he went to - including the famous Moulin Rouge, the Lido and the Folies

Bergere. And needless to say our trip will offer you the opportunity to visit one of these clubs and, on another evening we'll have our all-Elvis Disco together with the French fans.

Accompanying us will be Jean-Marie Pouzenc, President of the Elvis My Happiness Fan Club and author of the superb book *Elvis a Paris* - detailing Elvis' visits to Paris...a real expert!

Full details of our tour will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter but for now we can tell you that it will be in June 2019, with a choice of 3 or 4 nights good grade hotel, and you can choose to travel to Paris by air (with regional departures) or by Eurostar. And there's also an optional Seine Cruise and an optional full day visit to Disneyland Paris as well. Excited? We are!



THE '68 COMEBACK BALL

This year marks the 50th anniversary of arguably Elvis' crowning achievement in his spectacular career; The 68 Comeback Special.

This televised event made history as it saw Elvis return to performing in front of a live audience after years of being trapped making movies in Hollywood. Elvis dressed in black leather, in the white 'If I Can Dream' suit and many other parts of this event have gone down in modern history as being some of the most iconic images of Elvis. It quite simply is a major moment, in not just Elvis' legacy, but in popular culture. And we couldn't let such a milestone pass without celebrating it- so we too will be having a comeback of our own as we once again bring to you a very special Elvis Ball.

You may remember our Summer Ball back in 2004, where we celebrated the anniversary of the recording of That's All Right Mama, and our Autumn Ball will be more of the same; A chance for us to dress up in our best dinner suits for the guys and the ladies to glam it up in their fanciest frocks all at a fabulous venue The Kings Hall - how very apt! - of The Grand Hotel - Mercure Leicester with a sumptuous sit-down meal, great live entertainment with Jenson Bloomer and band Mondo Carne and an all-Elvis disco too. It's going to be something very special - and an event befitting the occasion. And as always, as is the Strictly Elvis way, we'll have a number of surprises lined-up for you too. Don't miss out as we pay our tribute to one of the major events of Elvis' amazing legacy.

*Accommodation available at a special rate!
For further details or to book call us on
01473 621 564*