Strictly ELVIS UK

ELVIS TRAVEL SERVICE

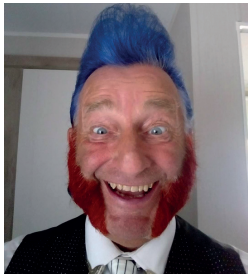
Newsletter No. 23
Winter 2019/2020

Good Morning,
I Slipped, I Stumbled, I Fell

Let me make one thing clear, I don't want sympathy – but the reason this Newsletter has hit your doormat a week or so later than we intended is that I did just what Elvis sang about – **I slipped** on a diesel slick (whilst running in rain across a crowded car park), **I stumbled**, (desperately trying to retain balance) and **I fell** (but not in any way acrobatically or gracefully) onto hard (oh, how hard!) tarmac. The whole thing must have looked like something from a Whacky Races Cartoon as I took off with feet heading one way and my body the other and even tho' in my head it seemed like slow motion as I tried to twist in mid-air to land cat-like on all fours, that was not how it turned out. What did happen was that I hit the ground with a resounding thud (and a sickening crack – as ribs bent and broke) and I ended up in A&E. To anyone who has ever cracked or broken ribs you alone will know how much it hurts…I could never have imagined such pain. Call me a wuss (which I undoubtedly am!) if you like but then ask why I don't want any sympathy? Simply because there are so many people worse off than me. My pain will go. I may need to go a bit easy on the Christmas festivities but by the New Year I'll be fine. A lot of people won't be and that brings me nicely on to the real subject. Charities supporting those in real need.

Elvis was a 'giver' – he supported countless charities, and not just by giving them money, but by giving them his time and his talent – appearing in benefit concerts to raise funds for them, and letting them use his name and image in asking others to also give. I don't think we will ever know the true extent of Elvis' philanthropy as he gave so much anonymously – even to the point that he didn't even write them off as tax deductions – something that he was quite entitled to do. And whilst concerts such as Aloha from Hawaii in January 1973 benefitted the Kui Lee Cancer Fund by $75,000 or the May 1975 Jackson, Mississippi Concert benefitted the victims of the devastating tornado there to the tune of $100,000, this was in addition to the personal gifts that Elvis made.

Brian-before



Brian-after

It was something of a tradition that each Christmas Elvis would make donations to a whole host of local Memphis charities, usually done in the office of the local newspapers – the Memphis Scimitar/Commercial Appeal – initially totalling $50,000 but by the mid 60's this had risen to over $100,000 (and that's the equivalent of around $750,000 today!) with usually the largest donation reserved for the St Jude's Children's Hospital – an establishment specialising in the research and treatment of child cancers.

I'm both pleased and proud that Elvis fans have continued in Elvis' caring spirit – a great example being the combined amount collected by the various good causes during the Elvis Festival at Great Yarmouth in September exceeding £4500. This was raised by a combination of selling cards, a raffle, an Auction, by purchasing copies of the Rev. Derek's special letter/prayer, by sponsoring Brian Elvis Rowe in having all his hair shaved off (well done him) and by donations from so many people. A big thanks to all those who gave and also to everyone involved in organising all aspects of the fund-raising. You are all following in Elvis footsteps. Talking of footsteps….yes, it still hurts!

Here's wishing you a great Christmas, a marvellous New Year and a happy and healthy 2020 – from all of us at Strictly Elvis UK and the Elvis Travel Service.

T
Cheers for now
B

David J. Wade

DIARY UPDATE

ELVIS' 85TH BIRTHDAY MEMPHIS -TUPELO / MEMPHIS - LAS VEGAS

Memphis & Tupelo 7th - 15th.
Memphis & Las Vegas 7th - 17th January 2020.
A choice of two exciting tours to celebrate a major Birthday. Experience Graceland with the Christmas lights still shining bright, take a really comprehensive guided tour of the Elvis sights of Memphis, visit his Birthplace in Tupelo, enjoy the programme of concerts and events at Elvis Presley's Memphis and have time for shopping and independent sightseeing too. And then, for those taking the extension tour – there are 4 days to enjoy the sights and sounds of glittering Las Vegas. Bookings will close soon so please don't delay.

FIND US ON...

Facebook:
The Elvis Presley Travel Service/Strictly Elvis.
Twitter: @ElvisTravel

ELVIS SPRING BREAK IN BOURNEMOUTH

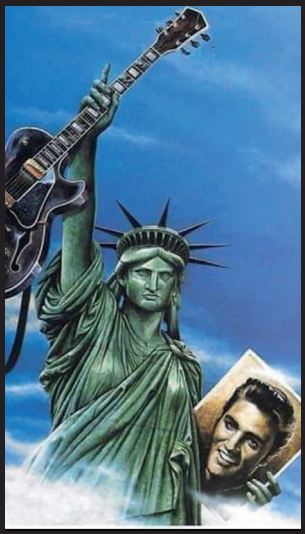
22nd – 25th/26th May 2020
Brochure enclosed. A choice of a 4 or 5 day break at a lovely hotel and lots of Elvis. Need we say more? Book soon as this will be a Sell-out.

ELVIS THAMES CRUISE

19th July 2020
A 'must' for many – arranged in conjunction with Elvis in Essex, this 4 hour Charity Cruise aboard the Dixie Queen, the largest passenger boat on the Thames, features an all-Elvis Disco with DJ Mark Monaghan plus live entertainment from Rockin' Dave Riley as we glide along this famous river. Tickets are £26.50 from Strictly Elvis UK Tel: 01473 621 564.

ELVIS 43RD ANNIVERSARY TOUR TO THE USA

9th – 23rd August 2020
A fabulous USA Experience featuring New York, Memphis, Tupelo, Muscle Shoals, Pigeon Forge and Nashville, a day at Dollywood and a visit to the Jack Daniel Distillery…plus all the usual tours and admissions that you've come to expect on an Elvis Travel Service tour. Brochure in the centre of this Newsletter.



ELVIS IN GERMANY TOUR

13th – 17th August 2020
A glorious long-weekend in the spa town of Bad Nauheim where Elvis lived whilst stationed at the US Army Base in nearby Friedberg. Join in the fun as the Elvis Presley Fan Club of Germany plus the local Tourist Office put on a wonderful Elvis Anniversary event with concerts, classic car and Harley parades, Elvis movies, special guests, stalls and attractions. Further details provided with this Newsletter.

ELVIS FESTIVAL

11th – 18th September 2020
What can we say? The 2019 Festival (our 40th!) was an overwhelming success with a great line-up of Guests from the USA and some brilliant bands. The 2020 Elvis Festival will be no exception and includes world-famous Showaddywaddy as our headliners. Plus, we have a daily programme just filled with Elvis – you'd love it. Hundreds of fans have already booked for next year. The week-long Elvis Festival will end as the Rock'n'Roll 'Shake, Rattle & Roll' Festival starts (18th – 21st September) so those attending the Elvis Festival will have the opportunity to extend their booking and do both. Further details are enclosed with this Newsletter.

ELVIS GI BLUES ANNIVERSARY TOUR

(October – still in the planning stages) To commemorate 60 years since the making of G I Blues we are arranging a special tour to Germany which will incorporate a unique visit to Bad Nauheim and Friedberg with location sites used in the filming of the movie. Further details in the next issue of the Newsletter.

ELVIS: THAT'S THE WAY IT IS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CHARITY BALL

(November – still in the planning stages) Yet another Anniversary that we felt we had to celebrate with a special showing of Elvis: That's The Way It Is followed by 'posh-frock' Charity Ball. Live band, great food and lots of fun.

FOR THE FANS, BY THE FANS

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Strictly Elvis UK is the Newsletter of Strictly Elvis UK and the Elvis Travel Service – trading names of David Wade Ltd, an organisation that has led the way in Elvis holidays and events for 47 years. Founded in 1972 David Wade Ltd is registered with Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc and works closely with them to keep Elvis' legend alive and to promote Graceland. The names 'Elvis', 'Elvis Presley', 'The Guest House at Graceland' and 'Graceland's Chapel in the Woods' are registered to Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc with the USPTO.

WE WENT OUT LOADED

BY MIKE DAVIS

Yes the Elvis in Essex/Strictly Elvis' fourth annual Charity Cruise left Butlers Wharf on the Thames with an amazing number of 450 Elvis fans rocking away to Mark Monaghan's superb disco with sounds of The King.

It was a bright July afternoon as the Dixie Queen's Captain's first task was to get Tower Bridge lifted for us almost in honour, it seemed, of Elvis Presley. Tourists on the bridge gave us a great reception as we sailed underneath this iconic structure with sounds of Elvis' Bridge Over Troubled Water being enjoyed by those on board and ashore, Fifteen minutes later we were to return under Tower Bridge so as to continue our journey up to Greenwich and beyond.

Rockin' Dave Riley was then to give the packed dance floor an hour of solid entertainment of his wide range of great rock and roll numbers, he then transferred to the lower deck to carry on the fun there.

I then introduced our guest Sally Bridger from our Charity - the Little Havens Hospice. Sally explained the need for the help that we will give them on the day. You were not to disappoint as the thousands of £'s raised by the Cruise was boosted by over £500 from our on-board raffle; a big thank you from all of us.
The disco continued for the next two hours and Mark really racked up the sounds of all those top Elvis tracks, it was great watching fans on that magnificent large dance floor having the best time of their lives.

Our last job on our return to port was to hold what's become the best American Trilogy. Fans packed the dance floor dozens of flags at the ready and then went and virtually blew the roof off the Dixie Queen in an amazing final crescendo….it gave us all goose bumps. See you all on Sunday July 19th 2020.

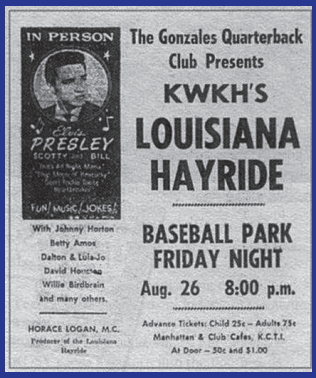
Enjoy a fabulous afternoon afloat on the 5th Annual Elvis Thames Cruise, 2:00 – 6:00pm on Sunday 19th July 2020. The price is just £26.50 per person and bookings are now being taken. Reserve your place today by calling Strictly Elvis UK on 01473 621 564

TEXAS TALES

BY DAVID WADE

It's amazing how things work out but whilst planning the itinerary for the Texas Extension tour in August we realised that Elvis had played the little town of Gonzales on precisely the day in 1955 that we could visit in 2019 – so we just had to stop by to say hello. More on this later but let me put it in context first. This was just part of an Elvis Texan Adventure that took us to Dallas, Fort Worth, Fort Hood, Waco, San Antonio and Houston - where we ended up seeing what is believed to be one of the biggest and best private collections of Elvis memorabilia and artefacts in the world. During the tour we saw where Elvis played (including the famous Cotton Bowl and Astrodome stadiums), where he stayed and also did his Army Basic Training. We met up with (and were helped enormously by) Charles Stone, Elvis' last Tour Manager and also visited Elvis' close friend Eddie Fadal's house and were regaled with wonderful stories by Eddie's daughter Janice; we rode a train, visited a theme park, took a boat ride and explored the Alamo as well as the awesome Space Centre Houston. As my good friend and previous business partner Keith Harris used to say "nobody sleeps on our tours!".

However, back to Gonzales where we called in for the day whilst travelling from San Antonio to Houston. After visiting the historic Town Jail (gruesome!) and the small but impressive museum we were met by one of the town Guides – an elderly gentleman called Leon who, whilst showing us around the town, pausing at various beautiful old houses to tell us tales of ghosts or errant owners he also told us his 'Elvis story'. Leon had been a member of the Gonzales Quarterback Club and in an attempt to raise money for various charitable projects they decided on booking the Louisiana Hayride Concert Party which always included a few of the stars of that popular radio show. The concert would take place at the Baseball Ground and they were told that the headline act would be Elvis Presley (Leon had never heard of him – this was early days in Elvis' career) and on the night Leon's duties involved selling the drinks. One 'customer' came up to the drinks booth before the show and asked for a 'coke' and so Leon sold him one not having a clue who this 'customer' was. His friend who was also helping on the stand whispered to Leon – "that was Elvis Presley – he's the Star of the Show – he's going to be really famous one day". Oh how true that turned out to be. We had bought a case of 'original' cokes the day before and had hidden them on ice in the coach just so that we could raise a Toast to Elvis (and Leon!) whilst at the old Baseball Ground. We also had lunch at the Alcalde Hotel in Gonzales where Elvis had stayed prior to the Concert (and from where Bonnie and Clyde had done 'a runner' when being chased by the local Sherriff) – this was a town full of stories. Good ones too.



ELVIS' ARMY ADVENTURES

BY SALLIE PHILLIPS

Visiting Bad Nauheim, Elvis' home whilst serving in the U.S. Army from 1958-60, was rather exciting as I was about to discover more about a major period in Elvis' life especially as this is where he met his future wife, Priscilla.

Once we had arrived in Frankfurt it was a short drive to our hotel, The Dolce, where, for the next four nights, many of the Elvis European Festival events were to be held. Bad Nauheim has always been very proud of its Elvis link, and how this brings Elvis fans together from all over Europe year after year.

Elvis is everywhere in Bad Nauheim, quite literally. When we had our walking tour of the town on our first full day, we saw Elvis cut outs in shop windows, strategically placed among models wearing Elvis-themed outfits, Elvis' music emanated from restaurants and cafes and there were pictures of him at every turn. One of my favourite places has to be the old record store that Elvis would visit which is now a beauty spa. The windows are now covered with records, posters, and pictures of the King, along with a translated explanation of why this place was so important to Elvis during his time in Bad Nauheim. It was really lovely to see how much the people of the town celebrate their place in Elvis history.

During the walking tour, we saw many other Elvis sights in the town, including a special visit inside his first hotel room and to the house that he rented later.

We also visited the bridges featured in some iconic Elvis images which we were all able to identify thanks to the great picture archive that the Elvis Travel Service have. That evening we took part in the memorial vigil, placing a floral tribute in front of the Elvis Memorial situated on Elvis Presley Platz and sharing the time with many other fans from all over the world.

Over the next couple of days, we immersed ourselves in the pure excitement that was the European Elvis Festival. We saw a number of shows held at the Hotel Dolce, including a disco, an Aloha from Hawaii talk show with Linda & Sam Thompson, and Ed Enoch, an original member of the Stamps Quartet, where they talked about their experiences of Elvis. We were also lucky enough to attend a gospel concert including Ed along with The Stamps Quartet and singer Grahame Patrick, singing their way through many of Elvis' gospel numbers, and they got such a positive reception that they ended up doing a completely unrehearsed version of 'If I Can Dream' to close. My favourite!

We also spent some time exploring the town, and enjoying other activities throughout the weekend, including going on an exclusive group visit to Elvis' army barracks in Friedberg. All too soon it was our final day in Bad Nauheim, although we did make a stop in Steinfurth to see a war memorial that Elvis' army troop helped to relocate.

All in all, it was a wonderful trip with a fantastic group discovering more about an important time in Elvis' life, and experiencing the European Elvis Festival first-hand, long may it continue!

Put on your G.I. shoes and get in line as the Elvis Travel Service are boarding the 'Frankfurt Special' for not one, but two amazing Elvis Germany tours in 2020!

We'll be back in Bad Nauheim in August (Thursday 13th – Monday 17th) and full details are included with this Newsletter.

And then in October (dates to be advised) we're planning a very special one-off tour to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the making of Elvis' classic movie; G.I. Blues.

As well as touring the sights of Bad Nauheim and Friedberg we'll be seeing the locations of many of the scenes from the film itself – we're in the planning stages at the moment but, as is the Elvis Travel Service way, have a few surprises lined-up for this very special Elvis holiday.

For more details, or to make a booking, contact us on 01473 621564 or email: enquiries@strictlyelvis.net

JOIN US FOR THE

43rd Elvis Anniversary Tour

Featuring NEW YORK, MEMPHIS, TUPELO, DOLLYWOOD and NASHVILLE

OVER **£250's WORTH** OF ADMISSIONS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE!

Strictly ELVIS UK

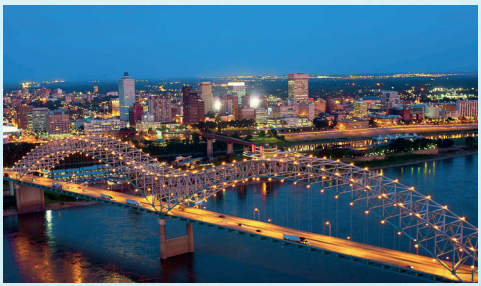
ELVIS TRAVEL SERVICE

America as you like it

Join us on an Elvis Journey of Discovery...

as we head first to exciting New York where Elvis made his first national TV appearance on Stage Show in January 1956 before appearing twice more that year on the Steve Allen Show in July and the Ed Sullivan Show in October. But Elvis also recorded some of his early hits including Blue Suede Shoes, Hound Dog and Don't Be Cruel in New York at a studio within RCA's New York Headquarters Building. He performed at famous Madison Square Garden breaking all Box Office Records and whilst doing most of these he stayed at the elegant Warwick Hotel – and so will you.

Onward then to Memphis, Tennessee – Elvis, a world Superstar who could have chosen to live anywhere, stayed in the city that he'd known since he was 13yrs old – and we'll help you understand why. You'll visit his beautiful Graceland mansion and we'll show you some of his other homes, his school, church, where he recorded and performed – in fact we'll show you all of the most significant sights in Elvis' life here as well as the major landmarks of this fascinating city built on the banks of the Mississippi River.



Tupelo is next – to see where Elvis was born and experience the sights as well as the friendliness of this lovely city before heading off via Muscle Shoals (where Sam Phillips and many of the musicians who worked with Elvis hail from) to Pigeon Forge in the heart of the Tennessee hills. It's here that we'll spend a day in Dollywood – and it's like no other theme park you've ever seen. Great thrill rides of course but also stunning shows, Dolly's own plus a Gospel Quartet Museum, craft displays, and great shopping and eating.

Finally we head for Nashville – the 'Country Music Capital' – but not before calling in at Jack Daniel's in Lynchburg, Tennessee where we'll have a tour of this world famous distillery (and a tasting, of course!). Our final couple of days are spent seeing the sights of Nashville, another city that played a huge part in Elvis' career. Time too for shopping (cowboy boots anyone?) and to explore the Country Music bars of Broadway

Interested? We thought you might be, so read on for details of our chosen hotels, the day-by-day itinerary and lots of other information. The Elvis Travel Service has been arranging exclusive holidays for Elvis fans since 1972 – 48 years of devoted service to fellow fans and to Elvis and his legacy.

Our Itinerary

Day 1. Sunday 9th August 2020
Morning departure from London's Heathrow Airport* for the American Airlines scheduled transatlantic flight direct to New York.
Coach transfer to the Warwick Hotel and the remainder of the afternoon and evening is free for you to take your first look at this exciting city.

Day 2. Monday 10th August
We start the day with a walking tour of Central Manhattan in the heart of New York City. We'll

see many of the places so important to the story of Elvis' rise to stardom – such as the Ed Sullivan Theatre, the RCA Building, the Hudson Theatre from where the Steve Allen Show was broadcast, the Paramount Theatre where Love Me Tender was premiered and Madison Square Garden. Afternoon at leisure to explore New York – take a stroll in Central Park, shop (or window-shop!) on Fifth Avenue, head to the top of the Empire State Building for a fabulous birds-eye view of the city, admire the architecture of Grand Central Station or the Guggenheim Museum or visit the 9/11 Memorial and Museum at Ground Zero.

Day 3. Tuesday 11th August
Full day at leisure in New York. What's it to be today….a visit to the Statue of Liberty standing proudly over New York harbour or a trip on the Staten Island Ferry for some wonderful views

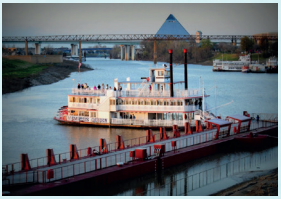
of this iconic monument and the New York skyline, take a ride out to Coney Island just to say you've been there, sample the delights of a New York 'Deli' and in the evening you might like to take in a real Broadway Show? Whatever you do you are bound to enjoy it. New York is big, brash and yet magical!

Day 4. Wednesday 12th August
Morning transfer to New York's La Guardia Airport for the lunchtime flight to Memphis and transfer to your chosen hotel. Remainder of the day to relax by the hotel pool or to take a look at your new surroundings.

Day 5. Thursday 13th August
This morning you'll be handed your Elvis Experience Pass for the tour of Graceland - the

home that Elvis loved so much. An opportunity to walk through many of the rooms including the famous Jungle Room and to enjoy quiet reflection in Meditation Garden.
Afternoon free to visit the attractions in Elvis Presley's Memphis entertainment complex, to see the vast array of awards bestowed on Elvis, his amazing collection of cars and his two aircraft. Our now famous Shuttle-bus Service operating between Graceland and Downtown commences in the mid afternoon and operates through to late evening. Perhaps you'd like to join the Tour Managers on a visit to Beale Street this evening?
During the Anniversary period Elvis Presley Enterprises will be staging activities concerts, sock hops, and Guest Interviews. No details are available at the time of printing this brochure but full details will be sent to you nearer to departure date.

Day 6. Friday 14th August
Come with us to see the Elvis sights of Memphis on a guided tour that also includes many of the city's major landmarks. We'll show you the Mississippi River, Mud Island and



the Riverboats, the impressive Pyramid, the FedEx Forum, the Cotton, Rock & Soul and the National Civil Rights Museums but most of all we'll show you the places significant to Elvis' life. Amongst dozens of other sights you'll see Humes High School where he joined in the 8th grade, Beale Street, the impressive Peabody Hotel where his school Prom was held, Sun Studio (where we'll enjoy a guided tour), some of the places where Elvis performed and where he lived in Lauderdale Courts and Audobon Drive. Developed over 47 years our tour is regarded as the best there is. We'll let you decide!

Day 7 & Day 8.
Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th August
Two full days at leisure - your chance to revisit

Graceland or to explore Memphis, to visit some of the fascinating museums, to see the 'Duck Parade' in the grandiose lobby of the famous Peabody Hotel,

enjoy a sightseeing cruise on a Mississippi Riverboat and to shop and sightsee at will. On the Saturday 15th we're sure you'll want to take part in the Candlelight Vigil at Graceland and on the Sunday evening there is sure to be Commemorative Concert there.

Day 9. Monday 17th August
Morning drive to Tupelo where we'll have a tour of the Elvis sights of this small and friendly city, taking in the two schools that Elvis attended, Tupelo Hardware where Gladys bought him his first guitar, the Fairgrounds where as a 10 year-old he first sang in public at the Mississippi-Alabama Fair and Dairy Show. He returned in '56 and '57 as a Star.

Lots more sights on our tour before we end up at the Elvis Presley Birthplace.
You'll have ample time here to visit the humble home where Elvis was born, experience an old time Service at the original Assembly of God Church that the young Elvis attended, see the Memorial Chapel, the award-winning Elvis Presley Museum and the Visitor Centre incorporating a beautiful theatre and gift shop. The grounds of the Birthplace are tastefully landscaped and include a lake, a fountain, statues of Elvis at 13yrs and at the height of his fame.
Onward then to our hotel located in the centre of town. Evening free.

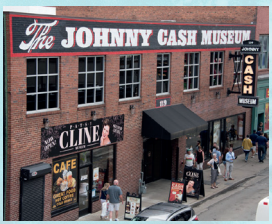
Day 10. Tuesday 18th August
Most of the morning is free for you to explore downtown Tupelo, visit the hardware store or just relax. Our journey today takes us via the town of Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Once known as the 'Hit Capital of the World' it had two amazing recording studios FAME and the Muscle Shoals Sound Studios which, between them, developed 'the Muscle Shoals Sound' and recorded such greats as Aretha Franklin, Otis Redding, The Rolling Stones, Rod Stewart and Paul Simon. Time here to explore and have a lunch break before continuing on to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee and our hotel.

Day 11. Wednesday 19th August
Full day visit to Dollywood – a Dolly Parton themed amusement and entertainments park set in the foothills of the beautiful Smoky Mountains. Rides, shows, craft displays, museums and attractions – lots of fun for everyone.

Day 12. Thursday 20th August
Travelling via Chattanooga we arrive into the historic town of Lynchburg in the late morning and we're here to have a tour of the Jack Daniel Distillery. 'Jacks' is famous the world over as the quintessential Tennessee whiskey and it is America's biggest selling whiskey. Great branding too so lots of souvenirs to buy. Onward then to Nashville and our hotel.

Day 13. Friday 21st August
A fabulous day today as you'll visit the Ryman Auditorium, original home of the Grand Ole Opry, the Country Music Hall of Fame where you'll be able to see Elvis' gold Cadillac, RCA's Studio B where Elvis recorded so many of his biggest hits plus you'll have ample time for shopping on the other famous Broadway – the main music row of Nashville. And this evening how about trying your hand (or rather, feet) with some line-dancing at the famous Wildhorse Saloon or enjoy the music at some of the many honky-tonk bars throughout the city.

Day 14. Saturday 22nd August
Much of the day is free for you to continue to explore and enjoy Nashville, perhaps to visit the Johnny Cash or Patsy Cline Museums or to decide on whether or not to buy those cowboy/girl boots! In the mid-afternoon we transfer to Nashville International Airport for our non-stop British Airways overnight flight to the UK



Day 15. Sunday 23rd August
Mid-morning arrival into London's Heathrow Airport*.

Hotel Selection

NEW YORK: The Warwick Hotel
A historic high-rise hotel situated in the very heart of New York within strolling distance of Central Park, Broadway and such iconic sights and places as Rockefeller Center, Times Square and Radio City Music Hall. Close to many famous museums and galleries, there's also great shopping and a huge choice of restaurants. The accommodation is as you would expect from such a high quality hotel and the hotel is home to famous Randolph's Bar and Murals on 54 Restaurant. Breakfast is not included

MEMPHIS – choice of two hotels:
The Guest House at Graceland
This 450 room luxury class hotel is located alongside the Graceland Mansion and a stay here is an experience in itself. Beautifully furnished rooms, a choice of restaurants, a Lobby bar and a Sports Bar, a theatre and the latest in convention facilities. Breakfast is not included.
Holiday Inn Express
The 'new kid on the block' as far as hotels go. Situated on Elvis Presley Boulevard within walking distance of Graceland (although they also offer a free Shuttle) this superb budget-style hotel has delightfully furnished rooms, a Lobby/breakfast area and small fitness centre. Breakfast is included

TUPELO: Hilton Garden Inn
Located in the heart of Tupelo's historic Downtown district and opposite the old Fairgrounds this modern hotel with its attractive decor offers all the comforts that you'd expect from a Hilton hotel. The hotel has a restaurant and bar, a fitness centre and an indoor pool and spa. Breakfast is included

PIGEON FORGE: Best Western
Conveniently situated for Dollywood and the other attractions of the area this modern hotel offers attractive guestrooms all with fridge and microwave and most with balcony, an indoor and outdoor pool, hot tub and games room. Breakfast is included

NASHVILLE: Clarion Hotel Downtown
Conveniently close to all the major sights and close to the Cumberland River this excellent hotel has an indoor pool and fitness centre. All rooms also have a microwave and fridge. There is a wide choice of restaurants and bars in the downtown area for which the hotel offers a free Shuttle Service - even tho' it is within walking distance. Breakfast is included

Holiday Prices

Choice of Memphis hotels	Single	Twin	Triple	Quad
Holiday Inn Express	£3798	£2918	£2668	£2498
Guest House at Graceland	£4398	£3298	£2898	£2648

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.
Please note – since most major airlines have adopted a fluid pricing system whereby prices can change according to passenger numbers on a seemingly daily basis, we can only guarantee the above prices for a relatively short time so if you are thinking of booking please send in your Reservation early in order to take advantage of these great value prices.

Questions Answered

The Tour Price is inclusive of all the following:-

- Scheduled economy class flights inc. taxes and security charges
- 13 nights hotel accommodation inc. taxes
- All airport transfers and coaching as per Itinerary including the Memphis Shuttle Bus Service
- A guided walking tour of the Elvis sights of New York City including a tour of Madison Square Garden.
- Guided sightseeing tours of Memphis and Tupelo
- A Tour Pass for Graceland including the Mansion tour and admission to the Exhibits
- Admission to Sun Studio, Lauderdale Courts Apartment and the Elvis Presley Birthplace and Museum.
- Lunch at the Arcade Restaurant in Memphis
- Admission including rides and shows to Dollywood
- A Tour and Tasting at the Jack Daniel Distillery
- Visits to the Ryman Auditorium, Country Music Hall of Fame and RCA's Studio B in Nashville.
- Driver gratuities
- The services of an experienced Elvis Travel Service Tour Manager.

Items not included are:- drinks and meals other than breakfasts at some of the hotels and 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 recommend 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. *Please contact us for a price from other UK airports. 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 - £1. Sterling being equal to $1.24 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 August can be variable but in this area of the USA you can expect it to be hot – probably between a minimum daytime temperature in the 80'sF and a maximum of just over 100'F so best take light-weight clothing with a comfortable pair of walking shoes or trainers for sightseeing. The USA is known for its informality and so nowhere (not even at the Warwick Hotel!) are you expected to 'dress-up' – however there will be a few opportunities in the evenings for those who would wish to.

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 £1000 will be required by 1st February 2020 with the final balance due no later 1st June 2020. Approximately 15 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.

PAYMENT BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD
We are pleased to accept payment by credit or debit card for all, or part, of your holiday cost. Please complete the appropriate box on the Reservation Form.

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:-
Elvis Travel Service
c/o America as you like it
2 Oxford House, 24 Oxford Road North
London, W4 4DH
Tel: 020 8742 8299
Email: sales@americaasyoulikeit.com
Website www.americaasyoulikeit.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 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.

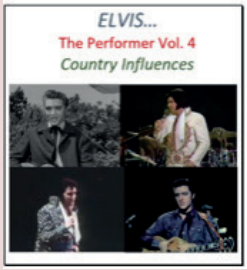
The holidays are designed and co-ordinated by the Elvis Travel Service/Strictly Elvis UK, an organisation that has led the way in Elvis holidays and events for over 47 years. During this time we have helped tens of thousands of fellow fans fulfil their dreams of visiting Graceland. Strictly Elvis UK, Unit D Bristol Court, Martlesham Heath Business Park, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 3RY Tel: 01473 621 564 Email: enquiries@strictlyelvis.net Website: www.strictlyelvis.net is registered with Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc.

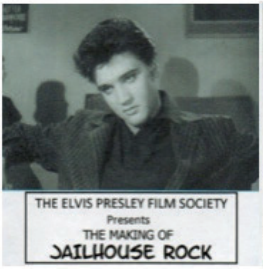
The names 'Elvis', 'Elvis Presley', 'Graceland' and 'The Guest House at Graceland' are registered to Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc with the USPTO.

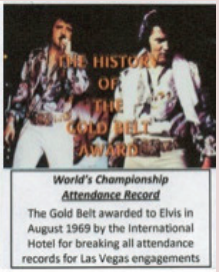
Strictly ELVIS UK
ELVIS TRAVEL SERVICE
America as you like it

THE ELVIS PRESLEY FILM SOCIETY

PROJECTING A POSITIVE IMAGE (SINCE 1995)







As a Film Society established in Glasgow, Scotland in 1995 we were delighted to be invited to be part of this year's wonderful Elvis Festival in Great Yarmouth by the Strictly Elvis organisation. The positive comments we received about our documentaries and film compilations was quite incredible, and we greatly appreciate all those who took time to participate in the many screenings we provided. We also had a stock of DVD discs for sale, covering all of the screenings and much more indeed. For those who perhaps did not take advantage of these sales items we are providing a list of what is currently available, and can be ordered directly from the Film Society. As you will see there is a wealth of materials to choose from, including themed song compilations and Film Society-produced documentaries on specific times or subjects in

Elvis…The Performer Vols. 1 – 9 Themed song compilations, averaging 60 minutes each

The Making of Jailhouse Rock 45 minute documentary on the production of the classic 1957 movie

The Making of Flaming Star & Charro! 33 minute documentary on two of Elvis's western movies

The History of the Gold Belt Award 24 minute documentary on the 'International Hotel' Gold Belt

Candid Elvis 32 minute compilation of Elvis away from the 'professional' life, in more relaxing times

Elvis & The Hawaiian Islands 23 minute documentary on Elvis's 20-year association with Hawaii

Marty Pasetta on Elvis and Aloha from Hawaii Fascinating interview with the director/producer

ETTWII: The Album on Film 86 minute programme on the background to the song recordings and more

We Were There When Nixon Met Elvis 82 minute programme with Jerry Schilling and 'Egil' Bud Krogh

Conversations with Elvis in the 1970's 57 minute compilation of interviews between 1970 and 1977

THESE AND MANY OTHER TITLES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE FILM SOCIETY NOW @ £5 PER DISC + POSTAGE. MANY OF THESE TITLES HAVE BEEN ENHANCED, EDITED AND/OR AMENDED FROM THEIR ORIGINAL FORM, GIVING MUCH MORE FACTUAL INFORMATION, PHOTOGRAPHS, FILM CLIPS etc. TO PROVIDE A MORE INTERESTING AND ENGAGING VIEWING EXPERIENCE.

IF YOU WISH TO ORDER ANY TITLES THEN PLEASE CONTACT THE FILM SOCIETY DIRECTLY AT: elvispresley.filmsociety@ntlworld.com ALSO: Find us on facebook 'Elvis Presley Film Society'

OUR U.S MALES

BY CAROL PUGH

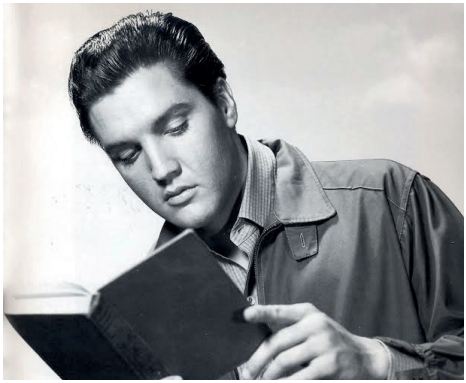
The inclusion of American guests has always been an important part of the Elvis Festival, as it is not always possible for everyone to travel to the States to meet people who were a part of Elvis' life, so bringing them to the UK means we can all be connected. This year was no exception - in fact we were pleased to welcome three American guests who all brought something completely different to the party.

For the first few days we had Royce Taylor with us. Royce has previously sang with The Stamps and the Imperials and was part of the big screen Elvis tours for many years and he chose the Festival to launch a new and exciting concept in his career. Firstly he performed a solo concert for us, which gained him several standing ovations; his pure vocals, sense of humour and storytelling made it an occasion never to be forgotten, but if that wasn't enough we were also treated next day to a journey through Elvis' gospel roots - the spiritual and gospel groups that influenced Gladys and Vernon as well as Elvis. Royce is perfecting this show and will be touring Worldwide with it so we were honoured to have seen and heard it first at the Festival.

Mid-week we welcomed Elvis' personal bodyguard Sam Thompson, his 6 feet 6 inch frame meant he couldn't really be missed. Sam had fond memories of appearing at Mablethorpe with us several years ago and was really keen to come back to the Elvis Festival again, catching up with friends old and new. His interview was frank, enlightening and funny, so many stories and so many memories, helping us all understand what made Elvis tick and what life was like at Graceland and on the road. Sam's perspective is quite unique due to Sam's sister Linda dating Elvis and the balance he had to strike between family loyalty and his working life.

It was great to see Sam each evening taking in the bands joining everyone for a drink as well as stopping for photos and autographs. Soon it was time for Sam to head home to Dallas but not before he had a little time to catch up with an old friend and our next guest Glen D Hardin!

Well it's hard to find words to describe Glen that haven't already been said; Elvis' pianist, musical arranger and, without exaggeration, legend in his own right. Glen feels quite at home at the Festival now, after all he's joined us several times before, so it's not unusual to see Glen joining everyone for a drink, dropping by at the coffee shop or chatting in the V Lounge. When he does this it's easy to forget what Glen has achieved in his remarkable life, some of which he covered in his great interview with Mark Monaghan. But, of course, Glen had joined us primarily to do what he does best, play piano and boy when he joined Jenson Bloomer and Mondo Carne to do just that the party hit fever pitch. If anyone was looking for an Elvis fantasy playlist then they wouldn't have been disappointed in this set….driven, powerful and co-delivered by an ever smiling Glen D Hardin, yep the stuff that Elvis fans' dreams are made of. You couldn't help but think that soon he would be playing at sell out concerts in every major arena in the UK but for those few Festival days he was Glen our guest, Glen our entertainer, but most of all, Glen our friend.
We will continue to bring American guests over to the Festival for as long as we can but as you'll appreciate it's getting harder as we have lost so many people in the Elvis world and others are finding it increasingly difficult to travel. But our commitment to you is we will always do our best to seek out and support Elvis guests to attend and give them the warmest Strictly Elvis welcome that we can, with your help of course, after all isn't that what the Elvis Family do best.



Stuff a stocking for a fellow fan (or treat yourself!) with a bumper Elvis book bonanza this Christmas!

Strictly Elvis have a great selection of books from some amazing Elvis authors that will fill any Elvis fan with Christmas cheer!

Charles Stone – Life in the Elvis World - £24
A close-up look at life with Elvis, The Colonel and many others by Charles Stone who worked on Elvis tours all across the USA in the 1970's. (Signed by author)

Dick Grob – Elvis: Safe and Sound - £29
See what it took to protect Elvis on the road, and at Graceland, during the 1970's by his trusted head of security. A fascinating close-up journey with Elvis.

Norbet Putman – Music Lessons- £24
Bassist Norbet Putman has played on over 9,000 popular music tracks in his career, his most famous being those he recorded with Elvis. An amazing tale of life in the music biz and stories of big name stars. (Signed by author)

Larry Gellar – Leaves of Elvis' Garden - £18
Larry became one of Elvis' closest confidantes and in this enlightening book you'll discover the spiritual side of Elvis, his deepest beliefs and a side of Elvis that has never been written about before. (Signed by author)

Ed Bonja – Elvis, We'll Remember You- £24
Elvis' official photographer brings you hundreds of photos, many before unpublished, along with stories of life in the Elvis business in this fabulous hardback volume.

Special Offer – order 3 books from the above and receive the Elvis Style book FREE!

Zoey Goto – Elvis Style- £10
In this informative book, journalist and writer Zoey Goto explores Elvis' unique style through his clothes, jewellery, cars and more. This book features many stunning photos.

Order your books before **December 10th** to guarantee before Christmas delivery – postage and packing is just £2.95 (recorded delivery)

Call Strictly Elvis on 01473 621564 to order!

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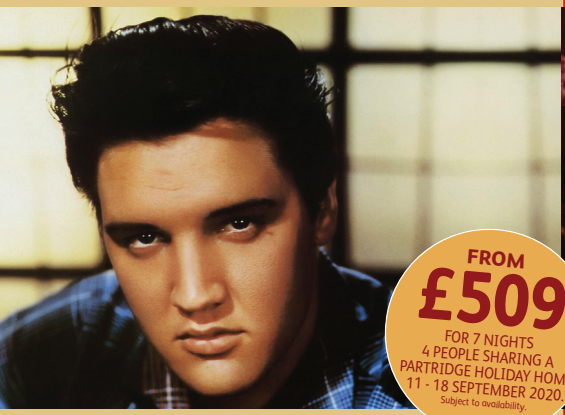

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- ★ ELVIS MARKETPLACE ★

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Shake Rattle & Roll Weekender

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FROM **£269**
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Subject to availability.

★★★ MATCHBOX ★★★

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SHANE AND THE KORRADOS ★ V8 ROCKETS

RUBY AND THE DUKES ★ ROUTE 66

GREGGI G AND HIS CRAZY GANG ★ CLASS OF '58

MEMPHIS LEE AND THE CREEPERS

THE FABULOUS FONTAINES ★ THE TOP CATS

ASHLEY'S MIDNITE BLUES ★ FAT & FURIOUS

For full line ups and booking details visit

www.elvisfestivaluk.com

or call **0333 207 9398**

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