

Join **Michelle Marvig**
on the 2025 *Quilters Companion* magazine

UK Quilting Tour

Including the Birmingham Festival of Quilts

THE FESTIVAL OF
QUILTS

29 July to 16 August 2025

Visiting Birmingham,
Lakes District, Inverness,
Dundee, Edinburgh
and Glasgow, UK

Including
The Royal Edinburgh
Military Tattoo



TRAVELRITE
INTERNATIONAL

Quilters
COMPANION



UK Quilting Tour

Including the Birmingham Festival of Quilts

with Michelle Marvig

Within two years of discovering patchwork, Michelle was working for an Australian distributor of American patchwork cottons, as a sample maker. This allowed her to work from home, around the responsibilities of her two small children. It also meant that she was exposed to many styles of fabrics, and stepped up to the challenge of designing quilts in all genres. It was during this time that her work was noticed by magazine editors. She was among the contributors included in the first edition of *Australian Patchwork and Quilting* magazine. Her quilts have received numerous awards at the NSW Quilter's Guild Quilt Shows. Since 2008 Michelle has escorted Australian quilters overseas on patchwork tours to America, Canada, Japan, Vietnam, Singapore and Europe for Travelrite International and *Quilter's Companion*. When not travelling on tours, Michelle teaches workshops around Australia, and New Zealand. She loves teaching others the skills required to make new quilt designs and to understand the best way to use fabrics. She also loves to help others spend their money in the patchwork shops on tour!



Itinerary

DAY 1 Tuesday 29 July 2025

Departure

Today we board our flight to Birmingham, England.

DAY 2 Wednesday 30 July, 2025

Birmingham

Today we arrive in Birmingham in readiness for the opening of the Festival of Quilts tomorrow. It is the largest patchwork and quilting event in Europe with an International following.

DAY 3 Thursday 31 July, 2025

Birmingham

We visit the Birmingham Festival of Quilts on its opening day. The festival has over 1000 quilts on display, in competitions and general displays for inspiration and adoration. Get a taste of all the different styles of quilting, with stall holders from all over Europe amongst the 200 stands. Fabrics, threads, kits, bags, clothing patterns and textiles, workshops, embroidery needs and much more, will be showcased at this annual event. Michelle will point out the best exhibits. In the evening we will enjoy a welcome dinner to formally meet Michelle and other tour members.

DAY 4 Friday 1 August, 2025

Birmingham

A day to enjoy exploring the Festival of Quilts. In the afternoon group members can stay on at the show or enjoy free time to explore Birmingham.



DAY 5 Saturday 2 August, 2025

Lakes District

We drive north today through the picturesque English countryside to the Lakes district. We will stop in Preston to visit Quilt Quarters, a family run business since 2008, stocking fabrics, notions, knitting wools, threads and all your crafting needs. We continue to the beautiful village of Grasmere our home for two nights. Michelle and the tour manager will meet those wishing to dine with the group in the lobby.

DAY 6 Sunday 3 August, 2025

Lakes District

Today we travel to picturesque Penrith a bustling market town known for its wealth of specialist shops. We drive across the unique highlands of the lakes before continuing to Ambleside located on the banks of Lake Windermere. We will have free time to explore this attractive village before returning to Grasmere, where we have time to wander around the village, made famous by William Wordsworth. Its ancient church dates from the 13th century.

DAY 7 Monday 4 August, 2025

Glasgow

We drive north via Gretna Green, known as the location for quick marriages in former years. We continue our journey to Glasgow, a city full of style, energy with its own gritty history. On arrival we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Glasgow. From its humble beginnings, Glasgow reaped the wealth of the industrial revolution, shown in the splendour of Glasgow Cathedral and other buildings in the Merchant City. From Glasgow Cross we move into the medieval part of town and Glasgow Green. Here we see the People's Palace and the Victoria Fountain, the world's largest terracotta fountain.



DAY 8 Tuesday 5 August 2025**Inverness**

Today we travel through the beautiful Cairngorms National Park to Newtonmore to visit the Highland Folk Museum. In this wonderful outdoor museum, which is one mile long, we will see an 18th century township just like those in Outlander, working crofts, houses and trains. We continue to Inverness the cultural capital of the Scottish Highlands. Michelle and the tour manager will meet those wishing to dine with the group in the lobby.

DAY 9 Wednesday 6 August 2025**Inverness**

Today we drive north to visit the Prickly Thistle Contemporary Tartan Mill. They design a range of unique tartans and weave them with 100 percent wool fibre on commission and for sale at the mill. We will have a tour of the mill and an opportunity to buy their products. We will continue to Loch Ness. It is the largest Scottish loch by volume; Indeed, experts say that it contains more freshwater than all the lakes of England and Wales combined! Next, we make the short journey into Bonnie Glen Urquhart, famous for its native woodlands and wide variety of wildlife, that they support, to visit Urquhart Castle. It is a magnificent, ruined castle that dates from the 14th century and was one of a chain of garrisons that controlled the Great Glen. Nowadays it's a popular place with "Nessie" spotters who scan the waters of the loch that are deeper here than the North Sea!

**DAY 10 Thursday 7 August. 2025****Dundee**

Our journey today takes us south to the attractive town of Perth. We travel nearby to visit Scone Palace, most famous as the site where the Scottish Kings were crowned. We continue to Dundee, where Michelle and the tour manager will meet those wishing to dine with the group in the lobby.

DAY 11 Friday 8 August, 2025**Dundee**

This morning, we will enjoy a guided tour of the Victoria and Albert Museum, a design branch of the London Museum. We will view the Dundee Tapestry. In the afternoon we visit Glamis Castle. Glamis has been the ancestral seat to the Earls of Strathmore and Kinghorne since King Robert II granted the Thanage of Glamis to Sir John Lyon in 1372. Once host to Mary, Queen of Scots, Glamis is said to have inspired one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, Macbeth. Glamis also has a deep connection to today's Royal Family as it was the childhood home of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother and birthplace of HRH Princess Margaret. We will enjoy a delicious afternoon tea at the castle.

DAY 12 Saturday 9 August, 2025**Edinburgh**

We travel to Edinburgh, the royal and ancient capital of Scotland via the birthplace of golf, St Andrews, and with a visit to the Royal Britannia, retired royal yacht. The Royal family loved the journeys they were able to undertake on the yacht between 1954 and 1997. Michelle and the tour manager will meet those wishing to dine with the group in the lobby.

**DAY 13 Sunday 10 August, 2025****Edinburgh**

Edinburgh is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. On our sight-seeing tour this morning we see the ancient Royal Mile with its cobbled streets, which forms the backbone of the medieval Old Town. This leads from the Palace of Holyrood house (HM The King's official residence in Scotland) all the way to Edinburgh Castle, where we will enjoy a guided tour of the castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels and the historic Stone of Destiny. Enjoy the view from the castle that is just simply stunning. We then visit the very photogenic Dean Village for a stroll through the 19th century buildings. You will come across a variety of mill stones and stone plaques.

DAY 14 Monday 11 August, 2025**Edinburgh**

In the morning, we will visit the Great Tapestry of Scotland. Alexander McCall Smith had the idea to create a tapestry that covered the history of Scotland. He recruited Andrew Crummy, the artist behind the Prestonpans tapestry, to design it. Alexander asked Alistair Moffat which parts of Scottish history should be included. They were then ready to create what you will see today. In the afternoon we will visit Abbotsford, the extraordinary home of the novelist Sir Walter Scott, who popularised tartan and re-discovered Scotland's crown jewels. We will also have time to explore the wonderful formal Regency Garden at his house. This evening we will attend The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, where we will see the Royal navy perform Tattoo favourites from the Massed Pipes and Drums to the emotive Lone Piper.

DAY 15 Tuesday 12 August, 2025**Glasgow**

This morning, we will offer the chance to enjoy the Edinburgh Workshop Handbag Experience, where we will make a Medium Backpack Satchel for a cost of 70 pounds. Those not wishing to make the satchel can enjoy free time. In the afternoon we enjoy a visit to My Bear Paw, which is brimming with the best modern fabrics and fabric bundles, superior and quality threads. After our visit we travel to Glasgow for our three night stay.

DAY 16 Wednesday 13 August, 2025**Glasgow**

A day to enjoy the designs of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. This morning, we visit Hill House, which together with his wife, the well-established artist Margaret MacDonald, he designed. The house was designed to fit in with the lifestyle of the Blackie family and every item of furniture, textile and decorative feature was custom made. In the afternoon we enjoy a delicious afternoon tea at the Willow tea rooms designed by MacIntosh, opened in 1903, and now fully restored. Michelle and the tour manager will meet those wishing to dine with the group in the lobby.

DAY 17 Thursday 14 August, 2025**Glasgow**

This morning half our group will visit Woollenflower, a small natural dye and textile studio, run by Australian-born horticulturist and craftsperson, Julia Billings. She makes all Woollenflower products by hand with care: dyeing so that colours last and develop with time. Julia will conduct a workshop "Introduction to Indigo" for half of the group in the morning. The groups would reverse in the afternoon: we will work with a natural indigo vat and participants would dye and take away a skein of yarn (about 20-100gm in total). The group not dyeing fabric will visit Mandors the Fabric Store, which stocks fabric and haberdashery. In the evening, we will enjoy a farewell dinner to say goodbye to Michelle and other tour members.

DAY 18 Friday 15 August, 2025**Departure**

Today we travel to the airport for our flights to Australia.

DAY 19 Saturday 16 August, 2025**Arrival Australia**

We arrive in Australia today and the tour concludes.

Relax and enjoy!



UK Quilting Tour

Including the Birmingham Festival of Quilts

29 July to 16 August 2025

Tour price per person twin-share	\$ 11,690
Air taxes at 1/5/24	\$ 240
Total package price	\$ 11,930
Single supplement	\$ 3,300

Included in the UK Quilting Tour:

- Economy-class air travel from Brisbane/Sydney/Melbourne/Perth to Birmingham and return from Glasgow.
- Accommodation in carefully selected four and three-star hotels on a bed and breakfast basis.
- A welcome and farewell dinner and two afternoon tea's.
- Travel in first-class coaches.
- Tour leadership by Michelle Marvig.
- Sightseeing and general entry fees as detailed in the tour itinerary, including the Birmingham Festival of Quilts and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.
- Tour management by Travelrite International Pty. Ltd. with an experienced Australian Tour Manager meeting the group in Birmingham and travelling with the tour.

Not included in the cruise price:

- Passport and visa fees.
- International airport and travel taxes.
- Travel insurance.
- Meals and drinks not specified in the itinerary.
- Sightseeing and general expenses not specified in the itinerary. An additional charge for the Edinburgh Handbag Experience
- Items of a personal nature.
- Additional travel arrangements not in the tour itinerary will be quoted for separately.

Extending: You can stay longer in Europe for minimal additional cost. *Please contact 1800 630 343 for more information.*

General Information and Booking Conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the assistance from others.

TOUR OPERATOR: Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour organiser. All passengers must complete and sign a Travelrite International booking form.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS: A non-refundable deposit of \$900 per passenger should be sent with a completed Travelrite International booking form. The confirmation advice will contain all details. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 62 days prior to the commencement of the tour. A 1.5% administration fee will be added to payments by Visa, Mastercard and Amex cards. Cancellation 60 days or less than the departure date will result in a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fare.

TOUR ORGANISATION: Travelrite reserves the right to change advertised entrances if necessary for the smooth operation of the tour.

REFUNDS: The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: All passengers will require a valid passport with six month validity. If not an Australian passport holder check with Travelrite International for visa requirements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

BAGGAGE: Passengers qualify for 23kg of luggage on the flight. One suitcase is allowed because of limits to space on the coach.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBER: The fly/tour arrangements have been made on the basis of a minimum number of passengers travelling. In the event that less than the required number of passengers have confirmed their booking 62 days from the date of departure, Travelrite International

reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of monies paid, or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified fare.

RESPONSIBILITY: Travelrite International Pty Ltd is the tour organiser. You engage Travelrite International to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite International acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or other causes beyond their control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omission, delays, re-routing or acts of any government authority. Baggage is at owners' risk throughout the tour. The right is reserved to withdraw any tour arrangement and/or make such changes to the tour arrangements as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the tour. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours. The contract shall be construed

in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria and any legal action must be undertaken in the State of Victoria.

HOW TO BOOK: Bookings can be made by sending full names and addresses of intending tour members with a non-refundable deposit of \$900 for the tour. Please send to:

Travelrite International Pty. Ltd.
423 Whitehorse Road
Balwyn, Victoria 3103

Further information or a booking form please phone the following numbers:

Toll Free 1800 630 343

Phone: (03) 8803 6868 or

Email: sales@travelrite.com.au

www.travelrite.com.au

ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL: Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 40 years. It has a fully ATAS accredited office in Balwyn, which is also accredited with IATA. As such it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Travel Industry Association – ATIA.

