

Join **Natalie Bird** on the Travelrite International

PATCHWORK

TOUR AND CRUISE OF

UNITED KINGDOM, THE NETHERLANDS AND NORWAY

25 July to 12 August 2026



Including the **Birmingham
Festival of Quilts**



Visiting London, Birmingham,
Rotterdam, Oslo, Kristiansand,
Stavanger, Skjolden and Amsterdam



TRAVELRITE
INTERNATIONAL



Holland America Line®
SAVOR THE JOURNEY



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with **Natalie Bird**

Itinerary

DAY 1 Saturday, 25 July 2026

Depart Australia

Today we board our overnight flights to London.

DAY 2 Sunday, 26 July 2026

London, UK

This morning we arrive in London. After clearing customs, we are met by our private coach and will visit Hampton Court Palace, which is an interesting place to learn about the lives of British Monarchs from Henry VIII onwards. We will enjoy a talk at the Royal School of Needlework on their work bringing historical textiles back to life. We will see superb needlework produced by the students. There will be free time to shop at The Royal Needlework Shop, which sells high quality kits and supplies, before travelling to Creative Quilting, which houses about a thousand bolts. It has samples and a generous selection of patterns and books. We check into our hotel late afternoon.

DAY 3 Monday, 27 July 2026

London

This morning we will have an overview sightseeing tour of exciting London. We will see Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, Trafalgar Square, St Paul's Cathedral and more. After lunch, we visit Liberty of London. Housed in a mock-Tudor building, this department store is known around the world for its close connection to art and culture, but it is most famous for its bold and floral print fabrics. We will spend some time this evening setting up the project each tour member will work on during the tour. We will enjoy a Welcome Dinner to formally meet Natalie Bird.



DAY 4 Tuesday, 28 July 2026

London

This morning we travel north to Walthamstow to visit the renovated William Morris Gallery. William Morris (24 March 1834 – 3 October 1896) was a British textile designer, poet, novelist, translator, and socialist activist. Associated with the British Arts and Crafts Movement, he was a major contributor to the revival of traditional British textile arts and methods of production. We will see an internationally important collection illustrating his life achievements and influences. We continue with a visit to the Antique and Textile Company of London. The owner, Christopher Wilson-Tate, is a renowned fabric designer for Moda, and is a specialist in antique quilts.



DAY 5 Wednesday, 29 July 2026

Birmingham, UK

Today we will travel north stopping in the pretty village of Great Doddington. Located in the village, St Nicholas Church dates back to Norman times. Mary and Sam from the Poppy Patch will welcome us into their barn conversion with over 1500 bolts of sumptuous fabrics. We then visit Bramble Patch in Northampton. The store is home to quality fabrics, haberdashery, tools plus their own unique kits and patterns. 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 6 Thursday, 30 July 2026

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. Natalie will point out the best exhibits.

DAY 7 Friday, 31 July 2026

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 8 Saturday, 1 August 2026

Rotterdam, Netherlands

Today we fly to Amsterdam. On arrival, we are met by our private coach and transferred to Rotterdam where we stay the night.

DAY 9 Sunday, 2 August 2026

Embarkation

In the morning we travel to the historic town of Delft to tour the Royal Delft factory. They have been creating blue Dutch ceramics since 1653. After the guided tour we will have time in the museum and the shop. Early afternoon we are transferred to the cruise terminal to embark the MS Rotterdam.

DAY 10 Monday, 3 August 2026

At Sea

Today we are free to enjoy the many facilities of the ship while we travel. There will be an opportunity to gather together to work on our stitching on board.



Natalie Bird Natalie is an accomplished Australian designer with over 20 years' experience in the Patchwork and Quilting industry as a quilt and small project designer, shop owner, fabric designer and teacher. Natalie's designs are featured in books, patterns, and fabric. Her style is uncomplicated, fun and heartfelt, with her own hand-drawn images used for stitchery and appliqué designs, as well as in her fabrics. "I'm inspired by my garden and nature's beauty around me, also my family and friends. My designs often feature sentimental sayings and cute critters, and I love to use multiple hand-stitching techniques together in projects." Her designs have been published in many Australian and International magazines, with *Owl & Hare Hollow* featuring in *Homespun Magazine* this year and *A Letter To My Daughter* in 2021. Natalie enjoys sharing her knowledge and love for handwork techniques, through teaching workshops. She has taught in Europe, NZ and around Australia.

DAY 11 Tuesday, 4 August 2026

Oslo, Norway

This morning we arrive in the city of Oslo, capital of Norway. We will be met by our private coach and have a sightseeing tour of this beautiful city, including the main street which leads you to the Royal Palace. We also visit Kathrines Quilt Stue, where you can shop their large collection of 100% cotton fabrics. In the afternoon we travel to the nearby village of Baerums Verk for free time. The village was founded 400 years ago to boost the Dano-Norwegian iron production. It has remained a hub for traditional crafts, and we will be able to explore the workshops of blacksmiths, glass blowers and woodworkers along the main street. This is a great place to purchase hand-made products of all kinds!



DAY 12 Wednesday, 5 August 2026

Kristiansand, Norway

Today we enjoy a tour of Kristiansand including the Old Town's timber buildings and houses which date back to the 1700s. Even though many of the homes are painted white, this area's history is colourful. We'll also visit the Ravnedalen Garden, located on the outskirts of town. We will continue with a visit to the region's most beautiful town – Lillesand. Once bustling with maritime activity, Lillesand is endowed with a sheltered harbor and boasts a current population of 8,200. Its quaint streetscapes feature white-painted 18th and 19th-century timber houses. Enjoy some free time to soak in the atmosphere of this charming town, aptly named the Jewel of Sorlandet, before we continue to Grimstad and visit Meretes Atelier Lysthuset. The shop is full of beautiful fabrics and sewing accessories.



DAY 13 Thursday, 6 August 2026

Stavanger, Norway

The gateway to Norway's spectacularly scenic fjordland, Stavanger is a town with its own rich heritage and is regarded as the 'Cradle of the Vikings'. On our sightseeing tour today, we will visit 'Old Stavanger', which consists of 173 listed and restored wooden houses, built in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. It is one of Northern Europe's best-preserved collections of wooden houses and the city has received several awards for its preservation efforts. We will walk through the picturesque Old Town with its cobblestone streets and small, charming wooden houses and learn of the early history of the city. Situated in the heart of the city is Stavanger's 12th-century cathedral, the only church to have retained all its original features since its construction in the Middle Ages. A short drive further along the sea, will take us to the highest point in Stavanger, with a great 360-degree view. The scenery opens with fjords and mountains surrounding us. In the afternoon, you'll have time to wander along Øvre Holmegate, one of the most colourful streets in Norway and home to numerous galleries, boutiques and cafes!

DAY 14 Friday, 7 August 2026

Skjolden, Norway

Nestled at the head of the Sognefjord, the world's longest navigable fjord, Skjolden is encircled by dramatic hills and breathtaking waterfalls. On today's tour, we'll head south

along the coast to visit Urnes Stave Church, the oldest stave church in Norway. Afterward, we'll return to Skjolden via the winding, picturesque Romantic Road, aptly named for the fairytale-like landscapes it traverses. The route is dotted with charming villages nestled within the rolling, tree-covered hills.

DAY 15 Saturday, 8 August 2026

At Sea

Today we are free to enjoy the many facilities of the ship while we travel. There will be an opportunity to gather together to work on our stitching on board.

DAY 16 Sunday, 9 August 2026

Amsterdam, Netherlands

After disembarking we travel to Amsterdam, stopping on the way to visit Moni Quilt, which stock a large array of fabrics. This inspiring quilt shop, sells nice, fresh fabrics that are suitable for every quilt project. The fabrics are beautifully presented and mostly pre-cut in Dutch Fat Eights and Quarters. On arrival into Amsterdam we enjoy a canal cruise, where weeping willows line the edge of the picturesque waterways, before checking into our hotel.

DAY 17 Monday, 10 August 2026

Amsterdam

This morning we visit the famous Petra Prins, which carries fabrics based on Dutch Chintz designs, the Dutch Heritage collection. They also have a collection of small plaids used in Dutch traditional clothing and some fun Dutch related prints. We then visit the famous Den Hann and Wagenmakers, which stocks amazing original handmade Dutch reproduction print fabric, duvets and bedcoverings. Tonight we enjoy a Farewell Dinner.

DAY 18 Tuesday, 11 August 2026

Departure

This morning we are transferred to Amsterdam Airport for our flights back to Australia.

DAY 19 Wednesday, 12 August 2026

Arrive Australia

Tour members arrive back in Australia. The tour concludes.

MS Rotterdam

Rotterdam is Holland America Line's newest cruise ship, hitting all the right notes: exquisite dining, innovative entertainment, superbly appointed staterooms and suites, the finest service and craftsmanship that reflects nearly 150 years of expertise. Music is front and center on Rotterdam and the result is a ship that moves – not only through water, but through the hearts of guests. With world-class dining and the best live music at sea, this new cruise ship creates the soundtrack to the discoveries you'll make each day.

Clothing on board

You will need the following types of clothing on board: casual shipboard attire or day wear, and evening wear. Casual nights on board may be sports shirt and slacks and equivalent for ladies. During the evening on themed nights a dinner suit or dark suit for gentlemen and eveningwear for ladies is recommended. There are usually two formal nights on the cruise. The self-service restaurants are casual.

Don't worry about coming alone

About a third of people on the cruise travel alone. We will match people in twin-share cabins when available, saving you the single supplement. You won't be left alone; the Travelrite tour manager will be looking after you. There will be group activities almost every day.



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Included in the price:

- Economy-class flights from Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney to London and return from Amsterdam.
- Economy-class flight from Birmingham to Amsterdam.
- Travel in first-class chartered coaches.
- Travel on MS Rotterdam in the selected cabin category.
- All meals, entertainment, and service charges on MS Rotterdam.
- Accommodation in three and four-star hotels, including breakfast daily, taxes and service charges.
- Welcome and Farewell Dinners.
- Sightseeing tours as listed in the itinerary.
- Entrance to the Birmingham Festival of Quilts.
- Tour leadership by Natalie Bird.
- Tour management by Travelrite International Pty. Ltd. with an experienced Tour Manager meeting the group in London.
- Cruise taxes and port & handling charges.
- Gratuities on board MS Rotterdam.

Not included in the price:

- Passport and visa fees – an ETA will be required for entry to the UK.
- Travel insurance.
- Meals or drinks unless specified in the itinerary.
- Sightseeing and general expenses unless specified in the itinerary.
- Additional travel arrangements not in the detailed itinerary. These will be quoted for separately.

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

Prices per person in Australian Dollars

Cabin / Description	Deck	Twin-share	Single
L Inside	4,5,6,7,8	\$ 12490	\$ 15990
J Inside	4,5,6,7,8	\$ 12790	\$ 16490
F Oceanview	1	\$ 13190	\$ 16990
E Oceanview	1,4	\$ 13390	\$ 17490
C Oceanview	1	\$ 13490	\$ 17590
FB Oceanview	1	\$ 13590	\$ 17690
FA Balcony	1	\$ 13690	\$ 17790
VH Balcony	4	\$ 13790	\$ 17890
VE Balcony	7,8	\$ 13890	\$ 17990
VD Balcony	5,6,7	\$ 13990	\$ 18090
VB Balcony	4,11	\$ 14090	\$ 18290
VA Balcony	6,7,8	\$ 14190	\$ 18390
V Balcony	5,6,7,8	\$ 14290	\$ 18490
VS Balcony	5,6,8	\$ 14390	\$ 18590
B Suite	8	\$ 14490	\$ 18790
A Suite	4,5,6,7	\$ 14590	\$ 18990
SY Suite	5	\$ 16190	\$ 22290
Included Cruise taxes		\$ 180	\$ 180
Included Port & Handling Charges		\$ 310	\$ 620
Included Air taxes as at 1 May 2025		\$ 290	\$ 290

Availability: All cabins are subject to availability. Please call for fares and information on other cabin categories. A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy. **Please call for details on 1800 630 343.**

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 MS Rotterdam is operated by Holland America Line Cruises and the MS Rotterdam fly/cruise arrangements are subject to the terms and conditions and general information detailed in the Holland America Line 2026 brochure. All passengers must complete the Holland America Line online check in and complete a Travelrite International booking form.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT: A non-refundable deposit of \$900 per passenger should be sent with a completed Travelrite International booking form that lists your requested cabin category. As soon as the booking is confirmed, (usually within 24 hours), a cruise confirmation advice will be posted to the client. The confirmation advice will contain all details. The passenger must also complete the Holland America Line online check in. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 90 days prior to the commencement of the MS Rotterdam tour/cruise. A 1.5% administration fee will be added to payments by credit card.

TOUR COSTS: The tour costs are based on general transport, entry, and accommodation costs. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to price will be made within 90 days of departure from Australia.

CANCELLATION CHARGES: Number of days before sailing.

Days prior to Departure	Cancellation Fee
Over 90 days	loss of deposit
90 - 61 days	50% of full fare
60 days or less	100% of full fare
Non-appearance/no written notice:	100% of full fare

REFUNDS: The cruise 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. Australian passport holders will require an ETA for the UK. If not an Australian passport holder please check with Travelrite International for visa requirements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Adequate travel insurance is highly recommended to cover cruise members for the consequences of unforeseen

events during the cruise and for cancellation fees which could result from events such as illness, accident, death etc.

BAGGAGE: Passengers qualify for a 30kg free baggage allowance on flights to join or return from the cruise.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS: The fly/cruise 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 90 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.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ATAS No A1038) is the tour organiser. Travelrite International Pty Ltd, its agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to, or in connection with these tour/cruises, shall act only as agents in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, including transportation by ship, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or a default of any hotel, carrier restaurant company or person rendering any services included in tour/cruises, or by act of God. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery break down, 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/cruise. The passage contract between the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of this tour/cruise and/ or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any tour/ cruise and/or make such changes in the tour/cruises as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the tour/cruise. This contract shall be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any action must be undertaken in the state of Victoria. Attention is also directed to the terms and conditions of Holland America Line detailed on their website. If you do not have these details please contact Travelrite International and we will send them to you.

DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS: You engage Travelrite to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite 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.

HOW TO BOOK: Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a non-refundable deposit of \$900 per person to:

**423 Whitehorse Road
Balwyn, Victoria 3103**

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

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 is a well-established travel company which has been operating in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne for more than 40 years. It is a member of ATAS (number A10538) and has an accredited IATA office at Balwyn. As such, it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international tour and transport operators. Travelrite International has been operating special interest tours for over 38 years and now runs over 120 tours a year. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Travel Industry Association – ATIA.