



Janine Bajus & Jillian Moreno
Yorkshire - Cumbria & The Lake District
May 13th - May 25th, 2025

Tuesday 13th May: Depart USA for Manchester - England

Depart on your overnight flight to Manchester, England. Be sure to have your up-to-date passport **valid for 6 months beyond your date of travel**, and allow a minimum of **3 hours** for check-in for your International flight. We suggest you plan to come in a day early!

Wednesday 14th May: Manchester - Kate Makin at Northern Yarn in Lancaster - Settle in & Welcome dinner (D)

Arrive at Manchester airport in the morning, meet your hosts and tour managers, and begin your journey through northern England. Continue to Lancaster with some time to explore and have lunch at your own expense before meeting with Kate Makin. We have a private visit with **Kate at Northern Yarn** for a talk about British sheep breeds and an opportunity to shop - Northern Yarn celebrates locally sourced British wool and yarns from local independent producers and farmers. All the yarn she processes comes from farms she has visited and sheep she has met. Continue further north and check into your hotel in Calderbridge. Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening at the hotel. **Sella Park - Calderbridge - 2 Nights**

Thursday 15th May: Entire day at Muncaster Castle (B,L,D)

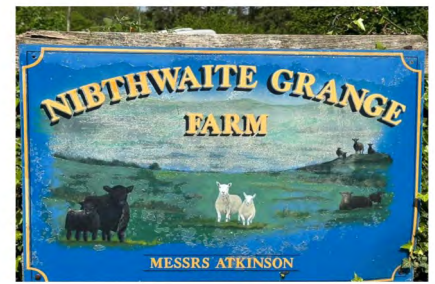
Today we journey to **Muncaster Castle** to meet with Ewan or Peter Frost-Pennington to learn about the history of the castle from members of the family who have inhabited it since 1208. You will experience the ornate state rooms, beautiful furniture, treasures and artworks spanning over 800 years of the Pennington family living at Muncaster. You will get an opportunity to tour the castle and also get to enjoy the 77 acres of stunning gardens. One of the highlights will be to meet with a curator to view a portion of their extensive textile collection. We have reserved the Billiard room for you to knit while enjoying afternoon tea. Muncaster Castle is at the forefront of bird conservation and you will have a chance to learn from the bird team about owls and other birds of prey. Last but not least you will have an early dinner with the Pennington family before departing the castle to return to your hotel.

Friday 16th May: Susan Crawford at her studio (B,L,D)

Today we journey to Kandel for a workshop with **Susan Crawford** at her studio. Susan's recent book, **The Vintage Shetland Project**, contains almost 500 pages of essays and Fair Isle patterns. Susan also manufactures and sources her own range of knitting yarns. Susan will offer an introduction to stranded colorwork knitting and



a two handed colorwork class. Lunch and afternoon refreshments and all class materials will be included in your visit. Continue on to Newby Bridge on lovely Lake Windermere and some free time before dinner at the hotel. **Lakeside Hotel & Spa - Newby Bridge - 3 Nights**



Saturday 17th May: Nibthwaite Grange - Dodson Woods - The Woolist and The Wool Library - Hill Top Farm (B,L)

This morning we take a short trip to the village of Ulverston and a visit to **Nibthwaite Grange Farm**. The farm is run by **John Atkinson** and **Maria Benjamin** with help from John's family. The Atkinson's have farmed Nibthwaite Grange near the River Crake and Coniston Water, for six generations. You will also visit with **Zoe Fletcher**. Zoe is a British wool researcher, knitter and designer who has recently completed a PhD on British Sheep breeds. She traveled around the UK collecting information on 72 pure breeds of sheep. She has developed a designer's toolkit that highlights the unique qualities of each of these breeds. Maria & Zoe have come together to create a company called the "Wool Library"- to facilitate an educational journey and see how the needs of farmers, designers, producers and consumers can be met.

After lunch you will visit **Hill Top Farm**, a 17th - century house in Near Sawrey, near Hawkshead, in the English county of Cumbria. The house was once a home of beloved children's author and illustrator Beatrix Potter. Potter made it her mission to preserve the Herdwick breed of sheep. After a busy day return to the hotel to relax chat, and knit in the comfortable lakeside gallery. Dinner on your own this evening.

Sunday 18th May: Keswick Pencil Museum - Free afternoon (B)



Following breakfast, you will travel north through the Lake District to Keswick to visit the fascinating **Keswick Pencil Museum**. You will enter the museum through a replica graphite mine which would have served as the source of the pencil industry over three centuries ago. You will have lunch in Keswick at your own expense with some free time to explore. On return to your hotel, you can be dropped off at charming Ambleside or Bowness for shopping and sightseeing, returning by boat at your own expense. For those not interested in this option you will be transferred by bus back to the hotel. Dinner on your own this evening.

Monday 19th May: Workshop with Ann Kingstone at the Dales Countryside Museum (B,D)

After breakfast and check out at the hotel journey through the Yorkshire Dales to the **Dales Countryside Museum** to meet with **Ann Kingstone**. Ann's designs are inspired by the history, literature and traditions of her native Yorkshire and its neighbors. Her focus will be on Yorkshire knitting heritage. Ann will give a workshop on knitting wristlets in the style of Yorkshire Dales gloves. As well as teaching techniques and the history of glove knitting in Yorkshire, Ann will also bring her collection of antique Yorkshire knitting sheaths, talk about them and let you try them on. You will also have the opportunity to browse the Textile Gallery and artefacts from Dale's knitting housed at the museum and have lunch at the Café at your own expense. Enjoy dinner at the hotel this evening with the remainder of the evening at leisure.

Devonshire Arms - Bolton Abbey - 3 Nights

Tuesday 20th May: Wensleydale Creamery - Wensleydale Longwool Sheep Shop - Craven Arms for lunch (B,L)

Today you will enjoy a visit to the **Wensleydale Longwool Sheep Shop** located in Leyburn. The shop was established in 1989 and is based in the valley of Wensleydale, selling the finest lustre pure yarn and related products. Time will be allowed to browse and shop.



You will also visit the **Wensleydale Creamery** situated in the market town of Hawes in Wensleydale and home to the award winning Flagship Cheese Experience. You will see skilled, master cheesemakers handcraft artisan cheese recipes, using fresh, subtly sweet milk from local family farms. A café with tea/coffee and treats is located at the creamery for refreshments. Continue on to Appletreewick for lunch at the **Craven Arms**. Return to the Devonshire Arms with the remainder of the evening free to relax, have dinner and knit.

Wednesday 21st May: Visit with Marie Wallin at Farfield Mill in Sedbergh (B,L)

Today you will travel to Sedbergh the home of *Farfield Mill* to visit with *Marie Wallin*. Marie will talk about color and bring garments from her latest books: Aran, Westmorland, and Cumbria for you to see and try on. You will also be able to view the exhibitions at the mill with lots to see and buy. Lunch will also be included that day at the mill. You will also have the opportunity to purchase items from Marie at a 10% discount. Return to the Devonshire Arms with the remainder of the day free to relax, walk along the river to the ruins of Bolton Abbey, have a massage, or whatever takes your fancy. Dinner on your own this evening.

Thursday 22nd May: Gam Farm - West Yorkshire Spinners - York (B,D)

This morning after checking out of the hotel we will return to Grassington to visit *Gam Farm* home to many varieties of rare breeds and an extensive collection of vintage agricultural machinery and farming implements. These rare breed animals make Gam Farm distinct and enable them to produce fabulous wools and yarns available for purchase on site. After lunch on your own in Grassington we will travel to Keighley the home of *West Yorkshire Spinners*. This family - run business was founded in 1997 in the Aire Valley, West Yorkshire, the original home of the British worsted spinning industry. All blends and colors are developed in house with inspiration taken from seasonal trends, as well as shades that suit the fiber. Because of the region's rich history of textile manufacturing it has always been the wish of West Yorkshire Spinners to make sure that the knowledge and passion was not lost forever. Continue on to York and check into your hotel. Dinner at the hotel this evening.

The Grand York Hotel - York - 2 Nights

Friday 23rd May: Free Day in York (B)

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel with the remainder of the day free to explore in York. Stroll along York's city walls or step back in time in the Shambles with its wonky timber-framed houses that date back to the 15th century. Browse the eccentric collection of independent shops, or stop for lunch in the Shambles Market. Have tea at the iconic Betty's Café Tea Rooms. You can also visit the awe-inspiring medieval masterpiece York Minster or the National Railway Museum. This evening you are free for dinner at one of the many pubs or restaurants that York has to offer.

Saturday 24th May: Bronte Parsonage Museum - Farewell Dinner (B,D)

This morning breakfast at the hotel and check out. Journey to Haworth and tour the *Brontë Parsonage Museum*, home of brilliant authors Charlotte (*Jane Eyre*), Emily (*Wuthering Heights*), and Anne Bronte (*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*). The landscape surrounding the parsonage plays a large part in their books. Then explore charming Haworth and find lunch on your own. Continue to Manchester and check into your hotel. . Farewell dinner at the hotel this evening to share stories of your knitting adventure.

The Lowry - Manchester - 1 Night

Sunday 25th May: Departure day - Manchester to US (B)

Transfer to the Manchester airport for your return flight to the US. For those knitters traveling today, transfers will be provided to Manchester International airport.

"The flowers love the house, they try to come in! House leek grows on the window sills and ledges; wisteria climbs the wall, clematis chokes the spout casings ... But nothing more sweet than the old pink cabbage rose that peeps in at the small paned windows." - Beatrix Potter

This itinerary is subject to change for a better tour experience.

Key: B = breakfast; **D** = dinner

COST: \$ 7,975 per person (based on sharing a room)

Discount of \$305 (Will come off final payment) if you pay your deposit & final payment by check)

Single Supplement: \$ 1,844 (Singles are limited)

Plus airfare: Approximately **\$1,400 - \$1,600**

(Manchester airport roundtrip)

Tour Includes:

- * 13 days/11 nights
- * Breakfast each morning
- * 6 Dinners & 5 Lunches
- * Transportation with a professional driver/guides (2 vehicles) from 14 May - 25th May (12 days)
- * Private airport transfers on 25th May from your hotel to Manchester International airport
- * Gratuities for your Drivers/Guides for 12 days.

Classes/Visits:

- * Visit with Kate at Northern Yarn www.northernyarn.co.uk
- * Full day at Muncaster Castle - with Lunch, Afternoon Tea - and dinner www.muncaster.co.uk
- * Workshop and visit with Susan Crawford at her studio www.susancrawfordvintage.com
- * Visit with John Atkinson and Maria Benjamin at Nibthwaite Grange Farm www.nibthwaitegrangefarm.com
- * Visit to Hill Top Farm - Home of Beatrix Potter www.nationaltrust.org.uk
- * Keswick Pencil Museum - www.derwentart.com
- * Workshop with Ann Kingstone at the Dales Countryside Museum www.annkingstone.com
- * Wensleydale Creamery - www.wensleydale.co.uk
- * Wensleydale Longwool Sheep Shop - www.wensleydalelongwool.co.uk
- * Boat trip from Lakeside on Windermere Lake - www.windermere-lakecruises.co.uk (own expense)
- * Gam Farm - gamfarmrarebreeds.co.uk
- * West Yorkshire Spinners www.wyspinners.com
- * Marie Wallin www.mariewallin.com
- * Tour at the Bronte House & Museum www.bronte.org.uk

Not Included:

- * International Airfare
- * Items of a personal nature (Laundry, telephone, drinks, meals not specified)
- * Yarn purchases and mailing expenses
- * Gratuity at the hotels

Covid & Other Illnesses Policy:

By now we've all had experiences with Covid. Our request is that everyone be responsible and Communicative. We suggest that everyone brings hand sanitizer and an extra face mask and also some Covid tests (just in case) that can be used as needed. We request that you let us know if you feel even a little sick and we will make the decisions together.



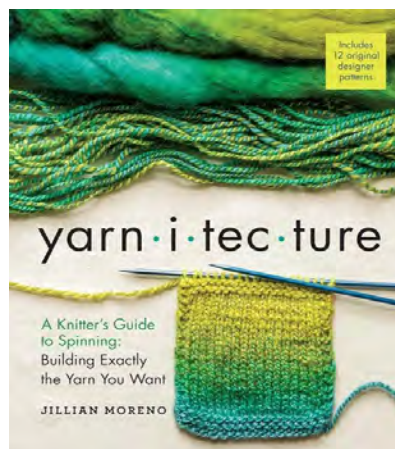
Your Hosts



Janine Bajus - (also known as the Feral Knitter) Janine fell down the rabbit hole of Fair Isle knitting years ago, and she loves helping knitters express themselves through color and pattern. Janine's approach to Fair Isle Knitting is modern and very personal; her goal is to share her deep appreciation for this type of knitting. She is the author of **The Joy of Color: Fair Isle Knitting Your Way**. You can learn more about her classes and designs at www.feralknitter.com.

What is a Feral Knitter? A feral knitter is someone who loves color knitting, playing with color combinations and garment shapes, and learning about construction and fit.

Jillian Moreno - Jillian is the author of the best-selling spinning book **Yarnitecture: A Knitter's Guide to Spinning: Building Exactly the Yarn You Want**. She is passionate about exploring the structure of yarns and using them in intentional and creative ways in knitting, stitching, and weaving. Through exploration, curiosity and play, she enthusiastically encourages her students and readers to feel confidence and joy making with yarn. Jillian regularly writes about yarn and spinning for Ply Magazine and teaches whenever she can. When she's at home in Ann Arbor, Michigan, she can be found wantonly basking in her stash. Keep up with her fiber exploits at www.jillianmoreno.com or on her **handspinning Patreon**.



KNITTERS

Susan Crawford



Susan Crawford lives in the North of England, in the very North of Lancashire to be precise, with her husband, family and animals. She has been knitting, sewing, writing crocheting, designing, dyeing, cooking and growing - as long as she can remember! Susan, sells knitting patterns inspired by vintage fashions and writes books about how knitting history, fashion, social, women's and human history all interweave together.

Marie Wallin was born in Bolton Greater Manchester, England and after a science based education went on to pursue her first love of art and design. Marie, was taught to hand knit and sew at an early age by her mother and taught herself to crochet. In 2005 she joined the Rowan design team as Head Designer and was responsible in her role for the creative aspect of Rowan Magazine and brochures. In 2017 she started to develop her own yarn "British Breeds". She also produces a range of kits and holds weekend workshops.

Ann Kingstone



Ann Kingstone is a British designer based in the beautiful county of Yorkshire, her lifelong home. Ann's designs are generally inspired by the history, literature, and traditions of her native country and its neighbors. Her love of technology and of the entire knitting process is reflected in her work.

Marie Wallin

