

UK trip 21 and 28 May 2019

We started in London, staying at the “The Arch London” hotel, conveniently located near the Marble Arch. It was walking distance to so much including Oxford street with it’s hustle-bustle shopping areas and many talented street musicians. We wandered the streets and found a fabulous Lebanese restaurant called “Maroushs Express” with wonderful chicken shawarma wraps and humus.

The next day we went to the Chelsea Flower Show, which is much more than “just” flowers. The center of the grounds is a massive tent full of the most amazing flowers of every kind. Around that central area are outdoors sculptures that were amazing. Then there was a section of vendors selling everything related to gardening. Of course there were food tents too with one selling PIMMS drinks, which we sure enjoyed.

Then we took a taxi to the “Tate Modern Art Museum” near the river. From there we walked a river walkway to Borough Market where there is an amazing array of breads, cheeses, vegetables, fruits and street food. Amazing. We got some bread and cheese for “dinner” later that night. That evening, we saw “The Tina Turner Musical” and were blown away by the acting, singing and ENERGY we saw. It was spectacular. We returned to our room to have a bread and cheese picnic.

The next day we hopped a train for Glasgow Scotland, which proved to be an adventure of its own! The 4-hour trip turned into 6-hour ordeal with delays and amazing over-crowding. Turned out it was a “Bankers Holiday” weekend so everyone was headed north for the weekend. But we arrived after meeting lots of interesting fellow travelers. We arrived exhausted, but fine to the “Dakota Deluxe Hotel” in downtown Glasgow. We grabbed dinner in the hotel fine dining room, being too tired to venture out.

The next day (25th) Erin taxied to the hotel for a wonderful reunion and meeting nearly 3 year old grandson Adrian for the first time. What a joy that was! We took them shopping, finding a Zara store nearby and a toy store too. Dinner that evening was at Italian restaurant “Sarti” which was great.

The next day we taxied to Erin’s apartment, then to the Aquarium where Adrian was fascinated by the multitude of fish. There was a place to eat lunch nearby where we had our first English meal: “Fish and Chips”! Yum. We went back to our apartment to let Adrian have a nap – yea, right! LOL Dinner was at the Indian restaurant “Mother India” which was excellent.

Our last day was at the “Glasgow Science Centre”, which has a wonderful children’s area and a planetarium show for kids too. Adrian sure burned up some energy there. We ate a late lunch at the Science Centre including a piece of cake to wish Erin a happy 42nd birthday (a day early). We returned to the hotel to relax and talk and talk and talk some more. Then came the hugs of good-bye.

The flight back was uneventful through JFK and then home. What a great little trip it was.