

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

US and Canadian tourists must carry proof of citizenship. A valid signed passport with an expiration date at least six months beyond the tour return date is required.

CURRENCY, ATM MACHINES & CREDIT CARDS

CASH: The Pound (£) is the legal currency of England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. The Republic of Ireland uses the Euro (€). If you want to check current rates at the time of travel a good website to use is <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>. You will be given opportunity upon arrival in each country to exchange cash for local currency or withdraw funds from an ATM.

ATMS: ATMs are prevalent in these destinations. Check with your bank for more specific details about using ATMs or ABMs such as the network your bank supports, PIN numbers, etc.

CREDIT CARDS: Visa, MasterCard and American Express are the most widely used credit cards. Use may be restricted in small businesses, such as open marketplaces and street vendors. Credit cards should be protected by **RFID-blocking sleeves** so they cannot be scanned, and your payment information stolen. You can find RFID-blocking sleeves at most luggage stores. Do not use your credit card in questionable shops and never let your card out of your sight. Non-essential cards can be left at home. It is recommended to bring your driver's license in

case you are asked for additional photo ID, and your health card in case of an emergency.

Before leaving home, we encourage you to consult with the bank that has issued the credit cards and debit cards you will be using as you travel. Today banks have a variety of fraud detection systems so we advise you to be sure you will be able to use your cards. You should also have an out-of-country contact phone number available in case any cards are lost or stolen.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities are **not included** as part of your tour fare. Please note that a \$16/day hotel and dining service charge will be applied to your onboard account. If you plan to participate in shore excursions, we recommend that you bring along some cash to tip your guide. You will be advised locally how much is an appropriate tip, but we would recommend an average tip of £/€5 per person. It will depend on the length of the excursion.

LANGUAGE

The official language of the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland) is English. Both English and Irish have official language status in the Republic of Ireland. The British Isles are home to the only remaining Celtic languages in the world, and you will hear a couple of them spoken in Ireland (Irish) and Scotland (Scottish Gaelic).

COMMUNICATION

Internet: Wifi is available on your ship, at an additional cost. View Cunard's internet packages [here](#).

Phone: North American cell phones are not automatically equipped to make international calls. If you plan to use your cell phone on tour, please check with your wireless service provider for direction regarding international calling.

TIME ZONES

The British Isles are 5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). Therefore, when it is 3:00 p.m. in Europe, it is 10:00 a.m. (EST) in Ontario and Pennsylvania.

CLIMATE

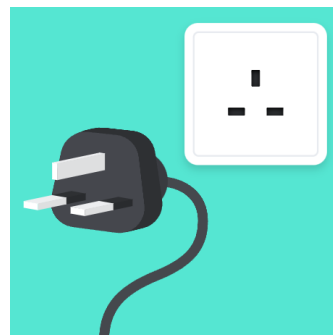
May is the last month of spring in the British Isles, and it's the month that's most likely to feel "spring-like." Although the weather is changeable in the UK, May is expected to be generally pleasant. The average temperature range is between 48°F and 59°F (9°C and 15°C), but this varies from the north of Scotland to the south of England. May is likely on the higher end of this range, if not occasionally warmer. London ranges between 50°F-64°F (10°C-18°C), Edinburgh 43°F-57°F (6°C-14°C), and Belfast 45°F-59°F (7°C-15°C).

In general, expect pleasant, temperate days, and be prepared for cloudy, wet days as well. Bring a folding umbrella in case of rain.

ELECTRICAL CURRENT

The electrical current in the British Isles is 230 volts, 50 Hz, whereas in Canada and United States it is 110 volts, 60 Hz. Wall outlets in the British Isles take **Type G plugs**, with three rectangular prongs.

Multi-voltage appliances (shavers, hairdryers, curling irons, etc.) are generally available at larger department stores. However, if your



electrical appliance is *not* designed to operate on either 110 or 220 volts by the flick of a switch, you will also need a converter.

On board your ship, both UK three pin and US two pin sockets are available. You will find a three pin socket next to a two pin socket. The supply on board your ship is 220V / 110V / 60Hz. However, be prepared for local supply if you stay in a hotel pre- or post-cruise.

Converters and adapters should be available at major department stores, electronic shops or stores that specialize in selling luggage. But before you purchase a converter, be sure to check the label on your appliance. Some appliances never need a converter. **If the label states 'INPUT: 100-240V, 50/60 Hz' the appliance can be used in all countries in the world.** This is common for chargers of tablets/laptops, cameras, cell phones, and toothbrushes.

CLOTHING AND CUSTOMS

Plan to take a variety of casual clothing that is easy-care, comfortable and doesn't show the dirt. Be able to dress in layers so that you can peel off or add as the temperature changes. A good pair of walking shoes is recommended.

DRESS CODE

During the day, feel free to relax and dress as you please in all areas of the ship. Every night on board, **smart attire** is required in most bars, restaurants and entertainment venues. This means trousers with a collared shirt for

gentlemen; blouses and skirts or stylish trousers and dresses for ladies.

On **Gala evenings**, you are requested to dress to impress. This means dinner jacket, tuxedo, or dark suit for gentlemen with a regular tie or bow tie; evening or cocktail dress, smart trouser suit, or formal separates for ladies. There will be four Gala evenings throughout your voyage. If you prefer to spend your evenings in more relaxed attire, a selection of casual dining and entertainment venues is always available (Kings Court, Lido Buffet, Golden Lion, Casino, Carinthia Lounge, Winter Garden, Garden Lounge, Yacht Club, and G32).

Please note that after 6:00pm, shorts and blue or worn denim (for men and women); sandals and sleeveless tops (for men) are not considered appropriate within the ship.

LAUNDRY

There is a **free self-serve laundry service** onboard (Decks 1, 4, 7, 8) with washing machines, washing powder, tumble dryers and ironing facilities available to use.

Public restrooms are generally free to use but occasionally you will encounter pay toilets. It is a good idea to have a few coins available.

MEDICAL & VACCINATIONS

Inoculations are not required if you are traveling directly from the US or Canada. Routine booster immunizations (e.g. Tetanus-Diphtheria, Polio, etc.) should be up to date.

It is advisable to take along enough prescription medicine for the whole tour and a

written prescription from your doctor for each medicine. If any of your medicines contain habit-forming drugs or narcotics, take precaution to avoid misunderstanding by properly identifying all drugs. Do not remove the drugs from their original containers and carry only the necessary quantity. These safeguards could save you considerable trouble.

PROTECTING YOURSELF

Before you leave on your tour remove any unnecessary cards from your wallet and leave them at home. Photocopy your passport ID page and any credit or debit cards (both sides) that you plan to take with you. Keep a copy (or more) separate from your wallet for quick reference should your cards be lost or stolen. Leave a photocopy with friends or family at home.

Pickpockets are more common in Europe than in the USA, especially in public spaces like airports and train stations. Carry billfolds in the front inside pocket of a jacket or front pants pocket as opposed to your back pocket. Consider a money belt (obtainable at AAA stores, for example) for excess cash. Beware of a common pickpocket ploy which is to announce that pickpockets have been observed in the area. People instinctively touch their pockets to check and the pickpockets then know where you keep your valuables.

OTHER RESOURCES

- [Cunard FAQ page](#)