

# A TIME TRAVEL TOUR TO FOLLYFOOT FARM

## A Fairy Tale by NokuMarie

*(ring ring... ring ring)*

- (Chirpy Voice)* Good afternoon. Thank you for choosing Gallifrey Intergalactic Tours. How may we be of service?
- (Tour Guide)* Good afternoon, this is Mr. Rob *(cough cough)*... pardon me, I am Rob *(ah... ah... ahhhh...)*... sorry, just getting over a beastly cold. My name is *(achooo!)*... oh booger! *(spritz spritz)* Oooh, much better. *(sniff)* Just call me Rob... or Sir.
- (Cheerful Voice)* Certainly, Mr. Rob. How may I assist you, sir?
- (Tour Guide)* I am a Certified Tour Guide, madam, and I wish to arrange a customized excursion of a week's duration for the Society of Follyfoot Followers next month.
- (Solicitous Voice)* Certainly, sir. Could I have your time zone please?
- (Tour Guide)* 2009.
- (Attentive Voice)* And what time zone is it you wish to visit, sir?
- (Tour Guide)* 1972, preferably, but a year earlier or later would be acceptable.
- (Efficient Voice)* Let me just check those availabilities for you, sir. Won't be a moment. Ah yes...as it happens, 1972 is completely free at present. Is there a seasonal preference, sir?
- (Tour Guide)* Early June would be best, if you can manage that, rain-free if possible.
- (Charming Voice)* I believe we can arrange that for you, sir, except that we have no control over weather conditions. Please hold while I get you set up in the database.
- (Musical Interlude)*
- (Sprightly Voice)* Thank you for waiting. Have you a specific destination in mind for your party, sir?
- (Tour Guide)* Yes. We desire to visit Follyfoot Farm in Yorkshire, England, Earth.
- (Industrious Voice)* I'll pull up that venue for you right now, sir. *(click click...click clickety click)*  
Here we go. We're showing an availability in June 1972, with your choice of four disembarkation points: pasture, paddock, courtyard or stableyard.
- (Tour Guide)* Stableyard, I should think, but any of the others would do as long as you can ensure we won't be landing on any horses.
- (Jovial Voice)* *(chortling)* Very good, sir. Now, how many persons will be included in your party?
- (Tour Guide)* Approximately 320 including spouses and assorted Significant Others. I expect we shall be needing 160 double rooms, with en suite facilities.
- (Supercilious Voice)* All our accommodations feature ensuite facilities, sir, with full amenities including maid and valet service. And which range would you be considering, sir? Economy, Midline, or Luxury?
- (Tour Guide)* What do you recommend, madam?
- (Professional Voice)* Should you elect the economy cruise, we have the TARDIS Duchess, which would be adequate for your needs if a bit cramped. Our midline offering is the TARDIS Princess, a slightly more luxurious conveyance. However, for a party of this size we recommend our top-of-the-line luxury vessel, the TARDIS Queen, with an optimum cruise speed of approximately 500 years per minute, infinite passenger capacity, and a crew complement of...
- (Tour Guide)* Yes, thank you. I believe I'll go with your recommendation and book the Queen.

*(Earnest Voice)* Very good, sir. Excellent choice. We will, of course, be extending the customary trade discounts for larger groups plus an additional discount as your tour does not involve offplanet travel. Now, if I may obtain some additional information...?  
Will there be any children accompanying your party? If so, we offer complete childcare facilities...

*(Tour Guide)* I don't believe so but I might have to get back with you on that.

*(Determined Voice)* ...for infants, toddlers and older children, with certified attendants and nurses as well as a nutritionist and activities counselors for teenagers. As you will be visiting an equine-centric venue, are any members of your tour group desirous of bringing along their personal mounts? Our equine accommodations include heated and lighted box stalls...

*(Tour Guide)* Thank you, no. We weren't planning on bring our own horses.

*(Stubborn Voice)* ...feeding, cleaning, a spacious exercise arena, grooms, and 24-hour veterinary care. Rental horses are also available upon request. As to meals, our five-star dining facility affords complete breakfast, luncheon, afternoon tea and dinner service provided by an experienced culinary staff including...

*(Tour Guide)* *(firmly)* Bacon and eggs, toast and jam, tea and coffee.

*(Puzzled Voice)* I beg your pardon?

*(Tour Guide)* That is all we shall be requiring for breakfast.

*(Perplexed Voice)* All of you, sir?

*(Tour Guide)* Yes. For luncheon as well, except you may substitute sausages for the bacon. Extra well done. Incinerated, in fact. That is the way we like them.

*(Dubious Voice)* As you wish, sir. As to tea...

*(Tour Guide)* Same.

*(Doubtful Voice)* Excuse me? Do you mean, same as breakfast?

*(Tour Guide)* Yes. Only leave off the bacon, sausages and eggs.

*(Disbelieving Voice)* I see. About dinner, then...

*(Tour Guide)* Stew.

*(Incredulous Voice)* Stew, sir? Just... stew?

*(Tour Guide)* Yes.

*(Skeptical Voice)* Um... any particular sort of stew, sir?

*(Tour Guide)* Mystery meat will do. Whatever... as long as it is unpalatable and uniformly grey with a consistency approximating wallpaper paste or masonry mortar.

*(Resigned Voice)* Yes... well, we shall certainly see to that, sir. I have now entered this information in the data base. Will all persons in your party be involved in the farm visit, or will you be requiring alternate activities for non-participating companions?

*(Tour Guide)* As we expect only about 160 of our group will be touring the farm, we would like you to set up alternative entertainment for the remainder, yes. What activities do you have available?

*(Chipper Voice)* We will have to delve into the historical archives to ascertain what pastimes people of that era enjoyed, sir. That may take some time, but I would be able to fax you a list by tomorrow noon, if that is convenient for you?

*(Tour Guide)* Yes, that would be fine, thank you.

- (Practical Voice)* Now, will any in your party be requiring provisioning for special needs? Mobility aids, medical assistance and the like?
- (Tour Guide)* I'm afraid I do have a rather lengthy list of additional needs, yes.
- (Bright Voice)* If you would care to convey that information at this time, sir, we are confident we will be able to accommodate any and all of them.
- (Tour Guide)* Just let me refer to my notes, here. *(rustle rustle... rustle)* To start off, we will need 160 pairs of wellies, and an equal number each of umbrellas and mackintoshes in case of inclement weather.
- (Obliging Voice)* Not a problem, sir.
- (Tour Guide)* For the site visit at least four separate numbered-ticket dispensing machines, with tickets marked "Steve", "Dora", "Ron" and "Slugger", respectively...and a bullhorn.
- (Curious Voice)* Ticket machines, sir? May I inquire...?
- (Tour Guide)* Certainly. We'll be setting up four queues for kissing, you see. Allowing for a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 60 seconds per kiss per visitor per idol, my calculations run to several hours' worth of kissing, not counting rest breaks for the kissees and time spent in removing the bodies of those who have either fainted or have been beaten senseless in order to pry them loose. People won't want to stand about in lines all that time; they'll want to wander around a bit, see the sights while they're waiting. The bullhorn is for calling them back when their turns are called.
- (Gracious Voice)* Excellent plan, sir! We'll be sure to have those items on hand and in tiptop operating order for you.
- (Tour Guide)* To continue... electric cattle goads, to keep kissers moving along, and four perspex full-body shields, adjustable length, for the kissees--to prevent any physical contact below the neck due to risk of wardrobe malfunctions perpetrated by hysteric kissers. Adequate supplies of smelling salts and other restoratives at each kissing station, I should think. Perhaps some oxygen masks.
- (Weary Voice)* We'll take care of that for you, sir.
- (Tour Guide)* Full paramedic team plus cardiologist--a few of our tour group are quite elderly and one can't be too careful, of course.
- (Guarded Voice)* Of course. And we are capable of providing for repatriation of deceased tour members should the need arise.
- (Tour Guide)* We'll probably need at least a dozen each Zimmer frames and wheelchairs for those overcome with wobbly knees. And a recuperation tent with cots.
- (Annoyed Voice)* Anything else, sir?
- (Tour Guide)* For the return trip we'll need two to three gross of large white cotton handkerchiefs and an additional fourteen to eighteen dozen boxes of tissues. Lacrimal glands in full spate, you know. They'll be crying rivers of tears, tsunamis even! You might want to lay on extra housekeeping staff with mops and buckets.
- (Admiring Voice)* My word, sir! You've covered every contingency, haven't you?
- (Tour Guide)* I do try. I assume you will be providing pre-trip information?

