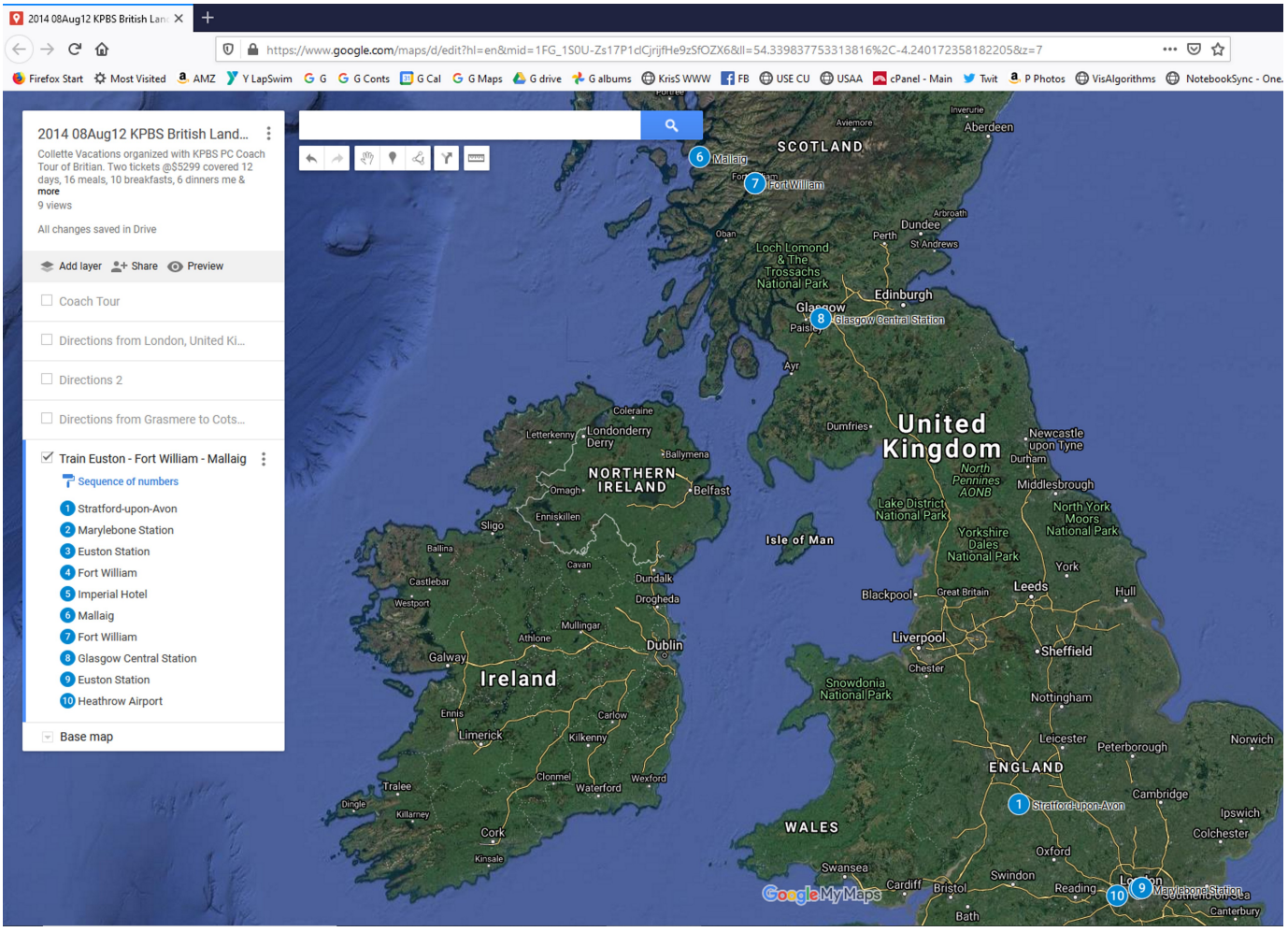
B14 Marylebone, Euston, Kings Cross Stn Platform 9 3/4, London bus tour, then Caledonian Sleeper Euston -> Fort William

Monday, August 25, 2014 8:47 AM

We have the 20:20 train out of Euston for Fort William. Went into Euston and checked our big bags at the "Left Luggage". Will cost £10 for first ?, and £5 each additional ?, so ?£15/day for ?3 days. Worth it to only travel around town and get to Jacobite train in Fort William with our airline carry-on bags only.

Here's a big picture of our route, leaving the tour at Stratford-upon-Avon and on our for a Harry Potter experience



#1 Stratford-upon-Avon, #2 Marylebone Station Longon, #3 Euston Station, #4 Fort William Station, #5 Imperial Hotel, Fort William, #6 Mallaig, #7 Fort William, #8 Glasgow Central Station, #9 Euston, #10 Heathrow Airport



Transfer from Stratford to London Marylebone station, here's Glen trooping with my big checked bag on wheels, his own checked bag on his back. I had both of our carry-on items



03 Nov 2020 (Election Day in the US) & I finished watching the Great Courses class "England, the 1960s, and the Triumph of the Beatles" from Michael Sheldon PhD, Indiana State U, 12 lectures and I learned in Lect 8 "The Englishness of A Hard Day's Night" that the film starts with the big chase scene into Marylebone Station. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marylebone_station Cultural references

As one of the quietest London termini, Marylebone has been popular as a filming location. In particular, several scenes in The Beatles' film A Hard Day's Night were filmed there in April 1964, as was the opening scene of the 1965 film of The IPCRESS File and the 1978 film of The Thirty-Nine Steps (standing in for St Pancras). It also featured in the 1962 film The Day of the Triffids (film). The station continues to be so used according to Film London.

Marylebone is one of four London termini on the British version of the Monopoly board game, along with King's Cross, Fenchurch Street and Liverpool Street. At the time the board was designed in the mid-1930s all the stations were being operated by the LNER.

As I think back on this adventure from 6 years ago, I think I remember someone on our train out of Stratford telling us to get off one stop earlier than what we thought out destination was cause we'd have to lug our bags up stairs. Not what happened, found photo with London Marylebone on it, so maybe it was the ride to Heathrow Airport? end 03Nov2020 update

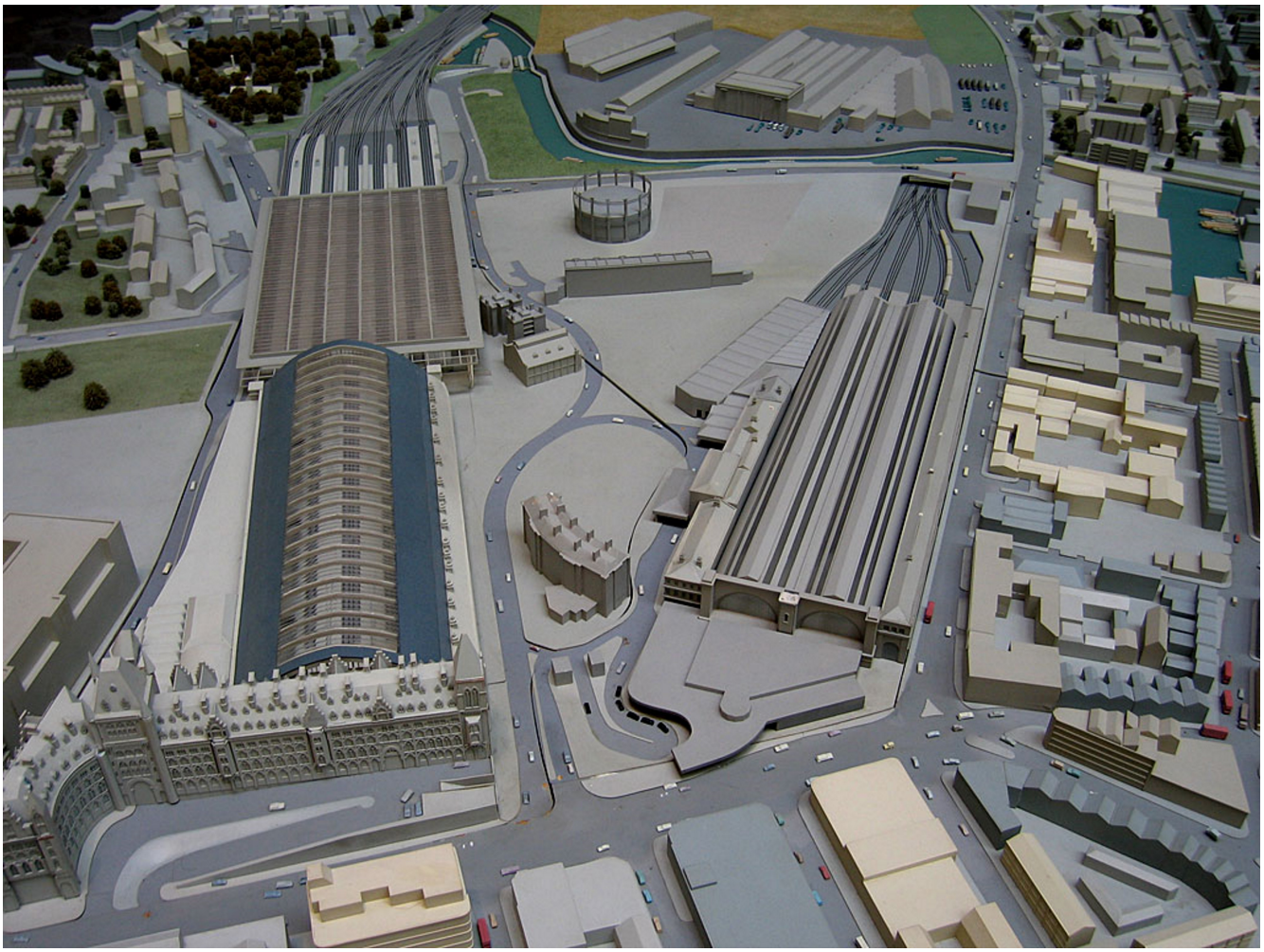


Image from Wikipedia of Marylebone Station

Lots of time to kill in London - Kris wants to get to Kings Cross Station and Platform 9 3/4 and had already purchased 2 city tour bus rides for us to use. First step, get to Euston to drop off the bags until we return to head to Heathrow in a few days. Turns out the tour bus ride tickets won't work well from Marylebone to Euston, so we took a cab and got the headache of bag check taken care of.

Heading to King's Cross, it is right next to St. Pancras, which is the International Bullet Train Stn "under the ditch" from France. The image below is a model I found online once we returned. Kings Cross on the right and St. Pancras on the left - we kept wandering around between the 2 stations a lot, but found Platform 9 3/4

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Pancras_railway_station#mediaviewer/File:KingsCrossDevelopmentModel.jpg





We got to Kings Cross Station, Platform 9 3/4. There are a lot of folks who wait in line for the photo op pushing Harry's bags, and his owl Hedwig, into the station, just like the movies - but I opted for a pic of someone else


PLATFORM 9¾

And the line


Contractors' Reception
INTERNATIONAL
CURRENCY
EXCHANGE

Glen had the sense to stay up in Fuller's Parcel Yard pub



and watch the craziness from a reasonable distance



I got to go into the trinket store



I just wasn't going to spend 40 pounds for the Marauder's Map - we have no wall space to hang it, ya know. So I'll be content with pictures and web pages
http://harrypotter.wikia.com/wiki/Marauder%27s_Map



Now we take the red bus tour - with open top. Nice way to see a city we are "kinda" becoming comfortable with. Tower Bridge in the distance, so we must be crossing the Thames on London Bridge



Here's the map - we were on the Yellow Route





Robert Stevenson at Euston Square, great civil engineer of 1900's http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Stephenson

Back at Euston waiting for our Sleeper Train to Fort William, Scotland



Here's the route for the Calendonian Sleeper trains. We have tickets for Euston -> Fort William, but could not get that route for our return, due to the activities in Scotland now - Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo & Fringe and such. Our return has us on a train Fort William -> Glasgow Queen Street Station. We walked from Queen Street Station to Glasgow Central as a way to explore Glasgow. Then we take the Glasgow -> Edinburgh (I woke up while we were in

that station, so know we passed through there) -> Euston London



We got to our twin birth cabin



Only the essentials for first class rail travel in Britain



We get to spend time in the Lounge Car - Caledonian Sleeper



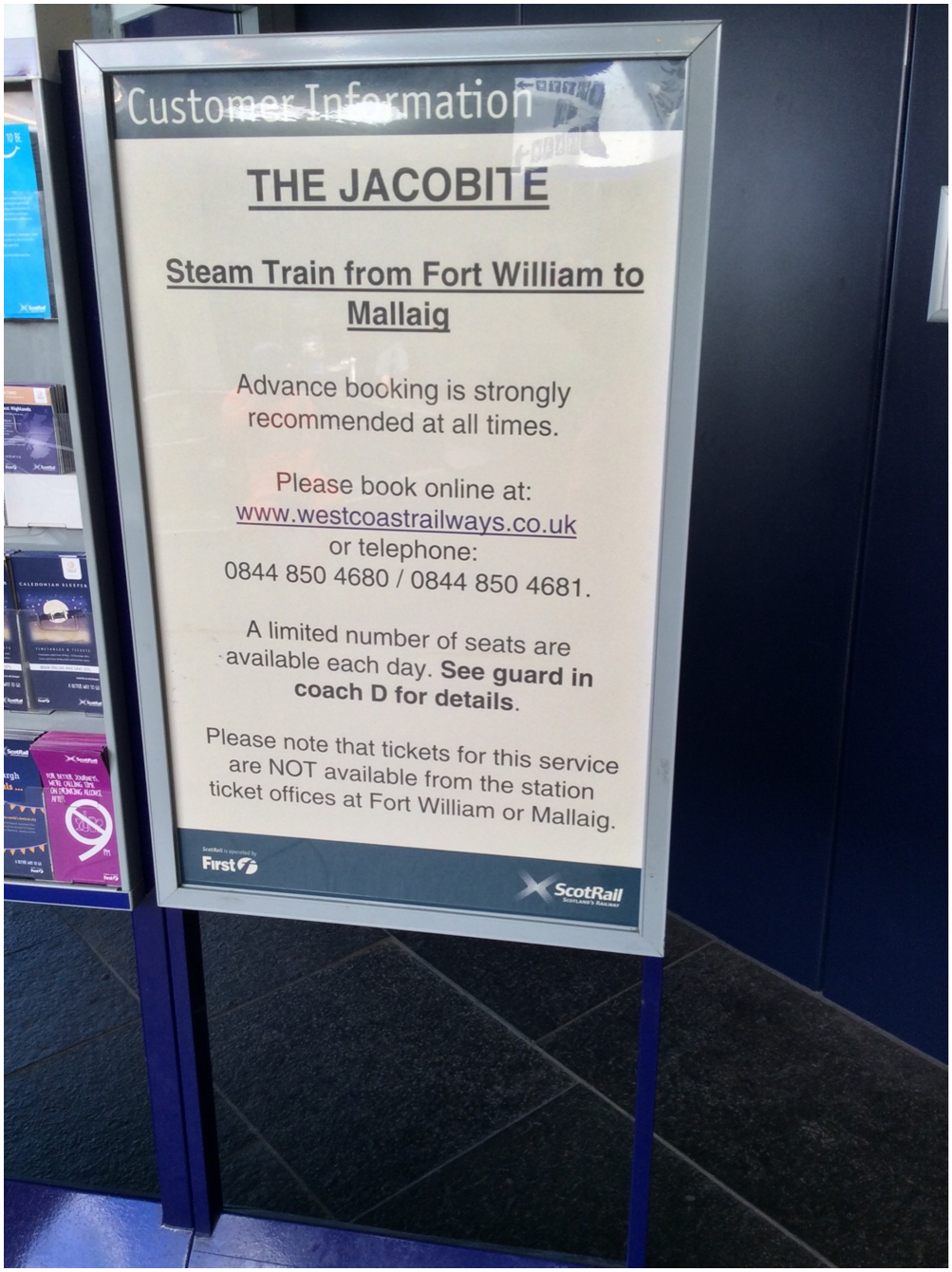
Glen gets a cocktail



Arrival in Fort William next morning, with coffee delivered to our cabin.

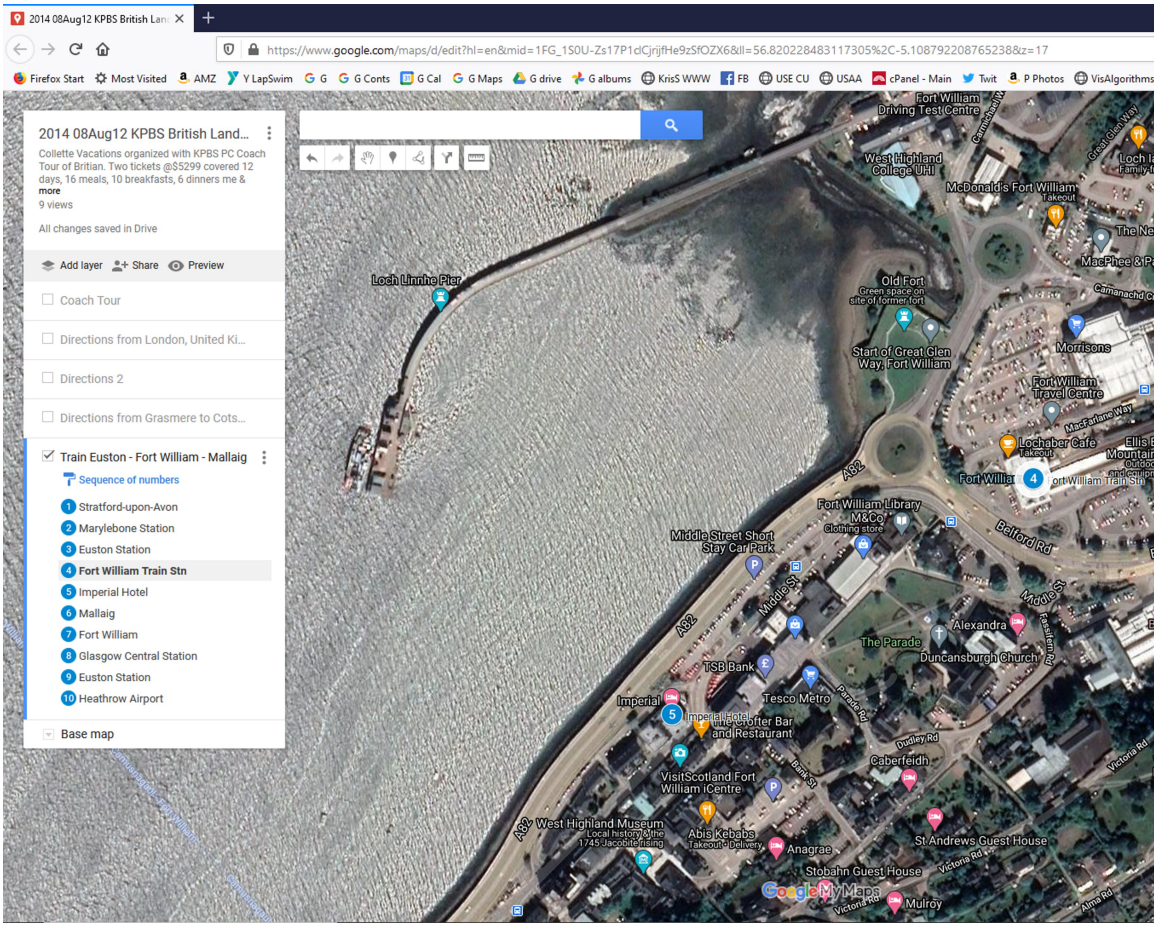


We learn from this sign in the train station that we need a print out of my email receipt for the afternoon Jacobite Steam Train. Hopefully our hotel can help us out here in Fort William.



Oh the company name is West Coast Railways

Screen capture from Google Maps - #4 is the train station, #5 is our hotel, Best Western Imperial Hotel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Preview
Coach Tour
Directions from London, United Ki...
Directions 2
Directions from Grasmere to Cots...
Train Euston - Fort William - Mallaig
Sequence of numbers
1 Stratford-upon-Avon
2 Marylebone Station
3 Euston Station
4 Fort William Train Stn
5 Imperial Hotel
6 Mallaig
7 Fort William
8 Glasgow Central Station
9 Euston Station
10 Heathrow Airport
Base map
Loch Linnhe Pier
Fort William Driving Test Centre
West Highland College UHI
McDonald's Fort William Takeout
Old Fort
Green space on site of former fort
Start of Great Glen Way, Fort William
Morrisons
Fort William Travel Centre
Lochaber Cafe Takeout
Fort William Train Stn
A82
Fort William Library
M&Co
Clothing store
Middle Street Short Stay Car Park
Belford Rd
Middle St
Alexandra
The Parade
Duncansburgh Church
TSB Bank
Tesco Metro
Imperial
Imperial Hotel
The Crofter Bar and Restaurant
Parade Rd
Dudley Rd
Caberfeidh
VisitScotland Fort William iCentre
Bank St
West Highland Museum
Local history & the 1745 Jacobite rising
Abis Kebabs
Takeout · Delivery
Anagrae
St Andrews Guest House
Victoria Rd
Stobahn Guest House
Mulroy
Google My Maps



Room won't be ready until 2p, but could use Internet-connected computer in lobby to print things out. Very nice to be traveling on with our carryon bags, since we checked the big bag back at London Euston.

Fort William is a very nice little town



With a West Highland Museum

