

GREAT BRITAIN CHORAL FESTIVAL

Festival Tour #4 (8 nights/10 days)

Day 1 Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Departure via scheduled air service to London

Day 2 Wednesday, June 27 London / Coventry (D)

Arrive in London

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for transfer to Coventry. En route visit Christchurch College at Oxford University, which is the largest college in one of the most prestigious universities in the world. With over 500 years of history and an introduction into modern popular culture Oxford University's Christchurch College means different things to different people

Afternoon hotel check-in

Evening dinner and overnight

Coventry was once a bustling hub for the production of cloth, clocks, bicycles, automobiles and munitions. It was this last industry that drew the German Luftwaffe in WWII: on the night of 14 November 1940, the city was so badly blitzed that the Nazis coined a new verb, coventriren, meaning 'to flatten'. A handful of medieval streets that escaped the bombers offer a glimpse of old Coventry.

Day 3 Thursday, June 28 Coventry / Stratford (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Full-day excursion to Stratford-upon-Avon

Lunch, on own

Enjoy a guided tour of the Shakespeare properties. Start with the half-timbered house that is Shakespeare's Birthplace. The house itself is part museum and part shrine and is of course, the house where the bard was born in 1564. Then visit Anne Hathaway's Cottage. See the Hathaway bed in addition to the beautiful gardens, orchard and Shakespeare tree garden. Also visit Holy Trinity Church, which occupies a truly magical setting amongst some trees next to the river. It is on the north side of the chancel that Shakespeare is buried

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Britain

Return to Coventry

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4 Friday, June 29 Coventry / London (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

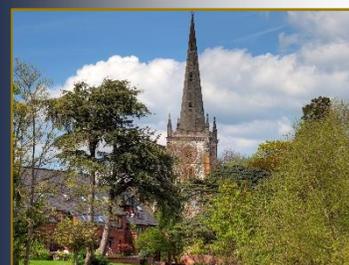
Transfer to London via the Cotswolds. The Cotswolds are a range of gently rolling hills and the largest area of outstanding natural beauty in England

Lunch, on own

Continue to London

Evening dinner and overnight

Established 1,250 years ago, London became an important Roman city. It was resettled by the Saxons in the fifth century, after the end of the Roman occupation. London has been



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scourged by the plague (1665) and was almost entirely destroyed by the Great Fire (1666). World War II's "Blitzkrieg" tore up the city considerably. She stands today as a monument to perseverance, culture, excitement, history, and greatness

Day 5 Saturday, June 30 London (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour of London includes the residential and shopping districts of Kensington and Knightsbridge. Pass Westminster Abbey, where most English Kings and Queens have been crowned since 1066, and where many are buried. See Whitehall and Trafalgar Square with Nelson's Column, past Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament to Buckingham Palace, where you might see the Changing of the Guard

Lunchtime recital as part of the American Celebration of Music in Britain

Lunch, on own

Enjoy an afternoon Thames River Cruise

West End Theater Show (optional at an additional cost)

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 6 Sunday, July 1 London / Windsor / Cambridge (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Cambridge. Stop in Windsor for a tour of Windsor Castle, which was built 900 years ago by William the Conqueror to guard the western approach to London. Today, it is England's largest castle and also the largest inhabited stronghold in the world. Highlights of the visit will be St. George's Chapel and, subject to royal commitments, the State Apartments

Lunch, on own

Continue to Cambridge

Evening dinner and overnight

Abounding with exquisite architecture, exuding history and tradition and renowned for its quirky rituals, Cambridge is a university town extraordinaire. The tightly packed core of ancient colleges, the picturesque riverside 'Backs' (college gardens) and the leafy green meadows surrounding the city give it a more tranquil appeal than its historic rival Oxford.

Day 7 Monday, July 2 Cambridge (B,L)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning rehearsal

Festival Welcome Lunch

Afternoon visit to Wimpole Estate. The Mansion at the heart of the estate is evidence of Elsie Bambridge's success in creating a home. Intimate rooms contrast with beautiful and unexpected Georgian interiors, including Soane's breathtaking Yellow Drawing Room and wonderful plunge bath

Dinner, on own

Evening rehearsal

Day 8 Tuesday, July 3 Cambridge (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning rehearsal

Lunch, on own

Enjoy a tour of Cambridge taking in the River Cam, St. John's college, University of Cambridge, Cambridge American cemetery and memorial. Visit Fitzwilliam Museum



Also Visit King's College and King's College Chapel, which was built between 1446 and 1515. It is particularly famous for its vaulted roof, which weighs an enormous 2,000 tons! In addition, the stalls and screen are very fine. The Choir of King's College Cambridge is famous throughout the world, due to their many recordings and highly televised Christmas service 'Carols from King's'

Attend evensong at Kings College Chapel

Dinner at the hotel

Evening rehearsal

Day 9 Wednesday, July 4 Cambridge / Ely (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a guided tour of Ely, a small but charming city dominated by monastic buildings, many medieval house and a jaw-dropping cathedral, which has its origins in 672 AD when St. Ethelreda built an Abbey Church. Highly regarded by historians and architects from all over the world for its beauty and size, Ely Cathedral is the only UK building to be listed as one of the "Seven Wonders of the Middle Ages"

Lunch, on own

Afternoon dress rehearsal

Dinner at a local restaurant

Great Britain Choral Festival Finale Concert

Return to the hotel for overnight

Day 10 Thursday, July 5 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to one of London's airports for return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. *Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.*

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