

IIMC Study Abroad Program

Oct. 19 – 28, 2007

Itinerary of Services

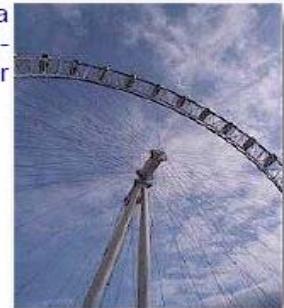
Day	Activity	Overnight
Friday		
19th October	Individual arrival at London hotel. London is one of the world's most popular cities. People have flocked to the city for tourism and business alike for over two thousand years. Today London has the greatest concentration of major attractions in Britain, boasts four World Heritage Sites, and is renowned throughout the world for its shops, museums, parks and cosmopolitan life. Once we have checked into the hotel, meet in the hotel lobby late afternoon/early evening. Welcome drinks are provided. Enjoy a short panoramic tour of London before dinner.	
	Dinner at the hotel this evening.	Continental Breakfast
	Overnight at the Kensington Palace Hotel	London

Saturday

20th October A guide and motorcoach are provided for our full day sightseeing tour of all the major sights of London. In London's vibrant West End enjoy famous sights such as Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, and Big Ben. We'll visit Westminster Abbey, an architectural masterpiece which has been the setting for every Coronation since 1066 and contains the tombs of many Kings and Queens. Then we'll move onto to the Old City of London. Although now largely commercial, the city is packed with history and noteworthy buildings. We'll see St Paul's Cathedral, designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Then our final visit of the day will be at the Tower of London, ancient London's most historic monument and home to the priceless Crown Jewels.

At the Tower of London visit the White, Bloody and Martin Towers, where prisoners were held and often tortured. Also see the Crown Jewels, displayed in a specially built jewel house, and don't forget the Ravens, without whom the White Tower would supposedly fall, and a great disaster befall the monarchy!

Enjoy a flight on the BA London Eye. Rising to a height of 450 feet above the river Thames, the 30-minute ride on 'the Eye' offers unrivalled views over London's historic skyline.



Visit Westminster Abbey, one of Britain's most important churches. Built in the eleventh century by King Edward the Confessor, the abbey now houses the tombs of many royals from the subsequent centuries.



Dinner this evening at a local London restaurant.

Optional

Tonight we will attend a performance at one of London's famous West End theatres. Executive motorcoach provided for round-trip evening theatre transfer.

Continental Breakfast

Overnight at the Kensington Palace Hotel

London

Sunday 21st October This morning we depart London for Bath. Executive tour coach service commences today. En route we stop at Salisbury and Stonehenge.

We meet our local guide at Stonehenge and enjoy a guided tour of this historical monument.

Dinner & Breakfast

Stop to marvel at the great and ancient stone circle of Stonehenge, one of the wonders of the world. What visitors see today are the substantial

Bath

remnants of the last in a sequence of such monuments erected between circa 3000BC and 1600BC. Each monument was a circular structure, aligned with the rising of the sun at the midsummer solstice.



Stop to visit Salisbury Cathedral, one of the finest medieval cathedrals in Britain. Started in 1220 it was completed by 1258, with the Spire, the tallest in England (123m/404ft) added a generation later. Built to reflect the glory of God in stone and glass, this majestic and awe-inspiring church has been a setting for great occasions for over 775 years.



Enjoy a guided tour with one of the Cathedral guides.

Continue to Bath.

Bath is one of England's most beautiful, elegant and historic cities, and is classed as a World Heritage City. The Romans were captivated by the area of Bath over 2,000 years ago, when Bath was a vast green valley with a miraculous stream of endless hot water. More recently, Bath became a fashionable health resort in the eighteenth century and today the remains of the Roman Baths and graceful Georgian architecture combine to make Bath one of Britain's most popular attractions.

EVENING VISIT WITH LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS

Overnight at the Lansdown Grove Hotel

Monday

22nd October In Bath, we meet our local guide and enjoy a visit to the Roman Baths.

Perhaps the best preserved Roman religious space from the ancient world, there are four main features: The Sacred Spring, The Roman Temple, The Roman Bath House and finds from Roman Bath. We'll also see the Georgian Pump Room.



After our visit we drive north to Cheltenham, driving through some of the prettiest Cotswold villages.

For many, the Cotswolds are the epitome of England - a patchwork quilt of rolling hills, green fields and colourful villages.

Dinner and English breakfast

AFTERNOON ARRIVAL AT UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Overnight at the Hotel de la Bere.

Cheltenham

Tuesday

23rd October

Dinner and English breakfast

This morning we drive north to Chester. En route we stop at the Wedgwood Visitor Centre and Liverpool.

Chester

The Wedgwood Visitor Centre is a fascinating and revealing insight into a pottery renowned throughout the world. Josiah Wedgwood, 'The Father of English Potters', was born into a family already noted in the industry. Any one of his many talents could have brought him fame - he was an outstanding scientist, artist and engineer - but his shrewd commercial instinct led him to found his own pottery company in 1759. We enjoy a fascinating tour of the Wedgwood factory, and even have the opportunity to "have a go" ourselves! Afterwards there will be the chance to buy some unique gifts in the Visitor centre.

Meet with your local guide for a short tour of Liverpool. Afterwards we enjoy a visit to the Beatles Story at Albert Dock. Charting the story of the world's most famous group from humble beginnings in Liverpool to worldwide superstardom, the Beatles Story is the definitive Beatles museum with some superb memorabilia and interactive displays. Afterwards continue to Chester.

In Chester, soak in the atmosphere created by an abundance of black & white buildings set in a circuit of glorious city walls. Within the walls, are the city's delights like the enchanting Eastgate Clock and the 1000 year old Cathedral, a haven of reflective tranquillity in a lively, bustling, cosmopolitan centre. Chester's crowning glory however are the 13th century Rows - two-tiers of shops running along the main streets.

EVENING VISIT WITH LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS.

Overnight at the Queen Hotel Chester

Wednesday

24th October This morning we cross the Pennines into Yorkshire.

On arrival we meet our local guide who will give us a tour of York. Exploring York is like taking a trip back in time. The city's rich cultural heritage dates back to Roman times and Viking times and the medieval architecture of the city is outstanding. York is dominated by the imposing bulk of York Minster, but also try and spare some time to explore one of York's other fine medieval churches, wander the narrow streets of The Shambles area, or take a walk along the city walls in the footsteps of the Roman centurions.

Admission to the stunning York Minster, the largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe. The Minster is a glorious medieval architectural achievement with one of the finest collections of stained glass in existence.



AFTERNOON VISIT WITH LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS.

Evening at leisure.

Overnight at the Holiday Inn York.

Dinner &
Full
Breakfast

York

Thursday

25th October Today we come back down south to the Midlands. We enjoy a visit to the historical town of Stratford, which has been attracting tourists for over two hundred years.

We meet our local Stratford guide for a half day tour of Stratford Upon Avon. During our tour we will learn about the town's most famous son William Shakespeare.

Visits to two Shakespearean properties have been arranged. Shakespeare's Birthplace is a half timbered house, where Shakespeare was born in 1564. The house offers a fascinating insight into life as it was when Shakespeare was a child. Just outside Stratford lies Anne Hathaway's Cottage, the childhood home of Shakespeare's wife. This picturesque thatched cottage has a charming cottage garden and a tree and sculpture garden including a maze.



We then continue to our Conference hotel in Coventry.

Overnight in Coventry.

Friday

26th October A local guide is provided for a half day tour of Coventry, including entrance to the British Road Transport Museum.

Six hundred years ago Coventry ranked fourth among England's cities in size and importance and at its heart still stands reminders of that golden age. The city however suffered almost complete destruction in the Second World War and the ruins of the medieval cathedral stand as a poignant testament to the war. Today the city has regenerated itself, and a new cathedral has risen from the ashes to epitomise the new life in the city.

Enjoy a visit to the largest collection of British Road Transport in the world with over 230 cars and commercial vehicles, 250 cycles and 90 motorcycles.

Saturday

27th October No services.

Sunday

28th October A guide and motorcoach provided for transfer from our Coventry Hotel to London Heathrow Airport.