

Grace & Gardens in England's 'Green and Pleasant Land'

Led by the Rev. Oran E. Warder, Dr. Barbara Drake Boehm, Ph.D., The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D., and The Rev. J. Barney Hawkins IV, Ph.D.

May 11-23, 2026

Monday, May 11



Arrival at The Rubens at the Palace Hotel, overlooking Buckingham Palace and close to Victoria Station. Please remember that the check-in time may not be until early afternoon (2:00pm or 3:00pm). If you want a morning check-in, we can help you arrange it, but this is not included and will require an extra night at the Rubens.

4:00 pm

A walking orientation of the area, beginning from the lobby of the hotel, for those who wish to join.

5:00pm

Evensong at nearby Westminster Abbey. If you opt for this, please skip the walking orientation.

6:30 pm

Welcome Buffet (included) and remarks from Dean Markham, "Introduction to Anglicanism and England," and Dr. Boehm, "An Overview of Medieval England." Compline with Oran Warder officiating.

Tuesday, May 12

7:00 am

Breakfast (All breakfasts are included.)

9:00 am

Take the Underground from the Rubens to St. Paul's Cathedral

10:00 am

Tour of St. Paul's Cathedral

3:00 pm

Optional: Gather at the Shoppe and garden of Robert Kime, interior decorator for Clarence House and Highgrove, homes of King Charles. London Showroom, 190-192 Ebury St, London SW1W 8UP, UK

Afternoon and evening are free for museums, such as a visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum, Buckingham Palace, shows in the West End, and gardens, such as Kensington Gardens or Queen Mary's Rose Gardens, or a 5 pm Evensong at Westminster Abbey.



Wednesday, May 13

8:00 am

Breakfast (All breakfasts are included.)

9:00 am

Southwark Cathedral and a conversation with the Very Rev. Mark Oakley, Dean, followed by buffet lunch in the Garry Weston Library and a tour of Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SEI 9DA

2:00pm

A guided visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 2RL

Afternoon and evening are free to enjoy High Tea at nearby The Goring, or dinner on your own with suggestions. Evening is free for shows in the West End.

Thursday, May 14

7:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 am

Optional Matins and garden walk at Lambeth Palace, the London home of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

12:00 pm

Visit Westminster Abbey and have lunch in the Jerusalem Chamber (included).

2:00-4:00 pm

Tours of the garden and the archaeological site for the new King Charles III Sacristy building, which will be the first major building in the country to be named after the new King.

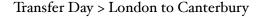
5:00 pm

Optional Evensong at Westminster Abbey.

Evening free.



Friday, May 15



8:00 am

Breakfast at The Rubens

9:30 am

Pick up from the Rubens and transfer with luggage to The Abode in Canterbury. Please note that because the entrance to The Abode is on a pedestrian street, there will be a two-minute walk from the coach to the hotel. Lunch on your own as you explore Canterbury, a cathedral city in southeast England, which was a pilgrimage site in the Middle Ages. We will also marvel at the Cathedral, dating from 597AD when Augustine, sent by Pope Gregory the Great, arrived on the coast of Kent as a missionary.

Hotel: The Abode Canterbury

30-33 High St, Canterbury, CT1 2RX

➤ For the Evening: Be aware of the need for care when walking on ancient stones in the dark; we recommend wearing sensible shoes for this evening.

5:15 pm

Meet at Canterbury Cathedral for Evensong, which begins at 5:30 pm.

5:30 pm

Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral

6:30 pm

Reception in the Campanil Gardens

7:00 pm

Dinner (included) at The Refectory Restaurant at the Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, followed by a candlelit walk in the dark Cathedral with vespers at the shrine of the martyred Thomas Becket, who was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1162 until his murder in 1170.

9:30 pm Walk back to The Abode

Saturday, May 16

8:00 am

Breakfast

10:15 am



Travel by coach to nearby Sissinghurst Castle Garden, a famous 20th-century garden with its series of ten smaller "garden rooms," created by Vita Sackville-West.

11:30 am

Explore the Sissinghurst Castle Garden on your own

12:30 pm

Lunch at the Upper Granary Restaurant (included)

2:00 pm

Depart Sissinghurst for Canterbury for free time to explore Canterbury on your own: St. Augustine's Abbey, Westgate Towers, The Crooked House

Evening Free.

Sunday, May 17

Transfer Day > Canterbury to Cambridge

Hotel: University Arms

University Arms and Parker's Tavern

Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1AD, Telephone +44 (0)1223 60 60 42

7:00 am

Breakfast at The Abode

8:00 am

The Holy Eucharist, Canterbury Cathedral

9:30 am

Transfer from Canterbury to Cambridge and the University Arms Hotel. Enjoy punting on the River Cam or exploring the glories of this university city. Cambridge University (1209) colleges include King's, famed for its choir and towering Gothic chapel, Trinity, founded by Henry VIII, and St. John's with its 16th-century Great Gate.

Afternoon and evening free to explore Cambridge sites, including the Fitzwilliam Museum - the art and antiquities museum of the University of Cambridge, with over half a million objects and artworks in its collection.

NEXT DAY REMINDER NOTE: For your visit to Little Gidding in the morning, please could all participants bring slippers or indoor shoes; outdoor shoes must be removed before entering the main building.

Monday, May 18

8:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 am

Travel by coach for the 30 miles to Little Gidding, near Sawtry, in Huntingdonshire.

Little Gidding was the home of a small Anglican religious community established in 1626 by Nicholas Ferrar. In the 20th century, the poet T. S. Eliot was inspired by the legacy of Little Gidding and incorporated historical elements and symbols into his poem, "Little Gidding," as part of his collection Four Quartets (1945).

10:30 am

Eucharist in the Little Gidding St. John's Church, followed by lunch at the Ferrar House.

12:00 pm

Lunch of soup, rolls, coffee, tea, and pudding at Little Gidding (included)

1:30 pm Return to Cambridge

5:30 pm

Walk to King's College for Choral Evensong, followed by dinner in the Beves Room, King's College (included). After dinner, walk back to the University Arms Hotel



Tuesday, May 19

19 7:00 am

Breakfast

>>>Transfer Day > Cambridge to Durham

Hotel: Durham Marriott

8:00 am

Travel to Durham in northeast England, south of Newcastle upon Tyne. Visit the Romanesque Durham Cathedral, an Anglican church, and part of the Church of England. It is the Shrine of St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede, the Seat of the Bishop of Durham, and a focus of pilgrimage and spirituality in North-East England.

3:00 pm

Visit UNESCO World Heritage Site, The Glory of Durham Cathedral, built in the late 11th and early 12th century, and is a significant example of Norman architectural innovation. It houses the relics of three saints, Cuthbert, Bede, and Oswald. Fans of the Harry Potter movies will recognize several areas of the cathedral where the movies were brought to life.

Evening free.

Wednesday, May 20

8:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 am

Travel by coach to visit Lindisfarne Priory, also known as Holy Island, a tidal island off the northeast coast of England, and a "thin place" since the 7th century.

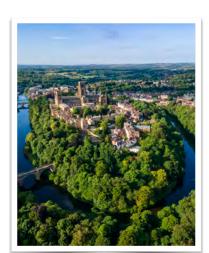
Lunch included

4:00 pm Travel back to Durham, may change according to tides

Afternoon and evening free in Durham



Thursday, May 21



8:00 am

Breakfast

12:30 pm

Visit St. John's College, founded in 1909 as a theological college for the training of Anglican ordinands. Its historic setting in the heart of Durham City, within a World Heritage site, boasts a series of interconnected Georgian houses, as well as secluded gardens and lawns stretching down to the River Wear. After lunch, we will have a guided tour of the College.

6:30 pm

Farewell dinner at Durham Castle, in the Bishops Dining Room.

Friday, May 22 Transfer Day > Durham to London and Heathrow

Saturday, May 23 Hotel: Sofitel Terminal 5 Heathrow

Heathrow for flights home with memories for a lifetime!

Thanks Be To God!