

CANTERBURY to CORNWALL

May 1-19, 2023

European Studies
Association

Among the towns, seaside resorts and landscapes of southern England there are many interesting and varied places that are both well worth the visit and off the beaten tourist track.

Our small group tour, 12 - 20 participants, is planned for May, when the weather tends to be mild and the flowers are in bloom.



Cottages of Cotswold stone in Broadway



1

CANTERBURY

MAY 1

Depart USA for London

MAY 2-3

After arrival at London's Heathrow Airport, we travel by bus (coach in British) to our hotel for two nights in the medieval center of Canterbury in Kent. Canterbury Cathedral, dating from 597 AD, is the headquarters of the Church of England and a major pilgrimage destination in the Middle Ages – as we know from The Canterbury Tales. Our stay will include touring the Cathedral and the town center with a local guide. A boat ride on the placid River Stour is my suggestion for a relaxing way to see more of the town – the boatman gives good commentary.

DOVER

2

MAY 4

Next we go to Dover, best known for its White Cliffs and its proximity to France (23 miles). Dover also has an imposing castle high on the cliffs, one of many coastal fortifications required by that proximity. Commissioned King Henry II not long after the Norman Conquest, it stood as a show of strength, visible from France. Henry was king of England but only a duke in France, so some posturing was called for. Tunnels in the chalk cliffs, some medieval, some dating from Henry VIII's time, served in World War II as the command post for the Dunkirk evacuation, May 1940. We'll visit the tunnels first, then see the castle, before going on to the picturesque town of Rye. A prosperous port, equal to Dover in the Middle Ages, Rye's fortunes declined as the port silted up and became unnavigable. The result is a time warp, streets of very fine centuries-old houses. We'll get to Rye early enough in the afternoon to take a few pictures. Our hotel, the Mermaid, dates from 1420 - possibly the oldest building you have slept in.



Chalk Cliffs



3

MAY 5

The geology of southeast England is simple: one large bed of chalk, laid down on the seabed of the continental shelf at the rate of 1mm per century over 35 million years. The best views of the chalk cliffs are at Beachy Head, where we head next. Inland, the landscape is known as the Sussex Downs, rolling grassy hills. We stop here for a clifftop walk and/or refreshment at the convenient pub, before continuing to Brighton.

Unlike Rye, the seaside town of Brighton is definitely 19th century. Sea-bathing, for those who could afford it, became popular in the 18th century as a healthy – even healing – activity. Brighton was one of the fashionable resort towns that were developed on the coast (cf, the TV series Sanditon). George III's son George, soon to be Prince Regent and Prinny to his friends, had his own seaside retreat in which to entertain those friends, the Brighton Pavilion. The style, Indo-Saracenic, was suitably exotic, and still is. But the well-to-do did not have exclusive claim to seaside delights. By 1841 the London to Brighton railway was completed and those of lesser means could enjoy the fresh sea air, the stroll along the promenade, the invigorating saline dip and jolly entertainment on the newly built pier. The railway company introduced a cheap early Monday fare back to London – and the concept of the weekend was born.



BRIGHTON

Brighton Pavilion

4

Arundel Castle

MAY 6



Further west in Sussex we visit Arundel Castle and the nearby Weald and Downland Museum. Arundel Castle was built soon after the Norman Conquest (1066) for Roger de Montgomery, cousin and close ally of William, Duke of Normandy, now King William of England. It has been handed down through Roger's descendants ever since. It was heavily damaged in 1643 during the Civil War and generally abandoned until 1846, when restoration began in preparation for a visit from Queen Victoria. Rebuilding continued for the rest of the century, making Arundel one of the oldest Norman castles and the most modern, with electricity, plumbing and elevators. It is the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal to the sovereign with responsibility for state events – such as royal funerals and coronations. When Charles III is crowned on May 6 we will be able to view the pageantry in real time on screens and enjoy local festivities in person.

While a few throughout history enjoyed the comforts and prestige of castle life, most spent their lives digging in the dirt. The Weald and Downland Museum showcases the implements, skills and knowledge of country people before farming became mechanized, not so very long ago. We end the day at The Wykeham Arms, our hotel for three nights in Winchester.

MAY 6, 7, 8

5

WINCHESTER



Winchester Cathedral

A cathedral city in the county of Hampshire, in the Saxon period Winchester was the capital of the kingdom of Wessex and seat of Alfred the Great (848-899). The accolade is for his success in limiting Viking expansion. In Winchester we visit the Cathedral, which has both Norman (Romanesque) and Gothic elements, and Winchester College, one of the oldest "public" schools in England. From Winchester we visit the National Museum of the Royal Navy at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, and the historic ship-building village of Bucklers' Hard. The museum in Portsmouth has (among many others) Admiral Nelson's flagship HMS Victory, Queen Victoria's HMS Warrior and Henry VIII's favorite The Mary Rose. Bucklers' Hard is the picturesque village where such ships used to be built. As you of course know, *hard* is a nautical term for a firm foreshore suitable for hauling ships out of the water.



OXFORD

6

MAY 9, 10, 11, 12

We leave the coast for five nights in Oxford. Included is a tour that includes the Bodleian Library, (the main library of the University and one of the oldest in Europe) visits to Blenheim Palace, Highclere Castle and Cotswold villages. One day is free for your own exploration of Oxford. Blenheim, birthplace of Winston Churchill, was the gift of Queen Anne to John Churchill, commander of the army that defeated the French at the Battle of Blenheim, 1704. Highclere (stand-in for Downton Abbey) is the seat of the Herbert family, Earls of Carnarvon. George Herbert (5th earl, 1866-1923) was an Egyptologist and amateur archeologist. His association with archeologist Howard Carter led to the discovery of the "wonderful things" in the tomb of Tutankhamun. In May 2023 Highclere hosts a special event, *Castle Tours and Wonderful Things*. We will obtain tickets as soon as we have your deposit. Archeology is an expensive hobby. Carnarvon's marriage to railroad heiress Consuelo Vanderbilt paid for it. It was apparently a loveless marriage, but he was away a lot.



Blenheim Palace



Highclere Castle



Lock on Oxford Canal



Bowerman's Nose, Dartmoor

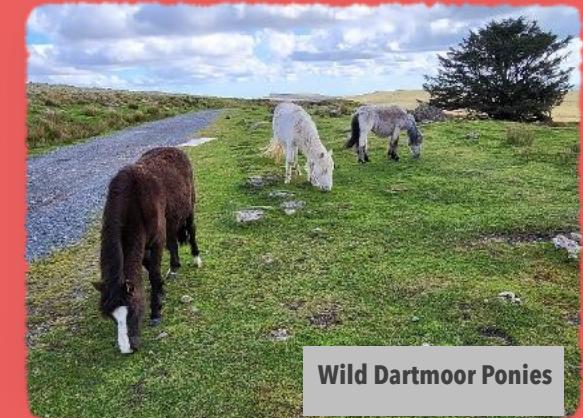
7

TORQUAY, DARTMOOR

MAY 14, 15

Leaving Oxford we resume our westerly progress through Oxfordshire and Somerset to Torquay in Devon, birthplace of Agatha Christie.

We'll take a walk with a local guide along the Agatha Christie Mile, with sites from her novels. The following day we have a full day tour of Dartmoor that focuses on Christie's association with the rugged moorland landscape.



Wild Dartmoor Ponies

CORNWALL

8



St. Ives Harbour

MAY 16, 17, 18

On to St. Ives in Cornwall, visiting the Lost Gardens of Heligan on the way. Check in to Tregenna Castle Hotel and relax. We have three nights in Cornwall, where England goes on holiday. A visit to St. Michael's Mount is included. You know the Mont St. Michel – this is the Cornish counterpart. We reach it by the causeway at low tide, by boat at other tides. We'll take in some Poldark-like sites on the way back to St. Ives, where you can visit the Tate St. Ives, the Barbara Hepworth Sculpture Garden, walk the cliffs, take a boat ride or just relax on the beach.

Cornwall has been known since 4000BC as the source for tin, without which there would not have been a Bronze Age. Remains of tin mines can be seen along the coastline; tunnels extend far under the seabed. The Geevor mine, working until 1995, has excellent exhibits and the chance to go down the mine. This is an optional visit (not included) but definitely recommended.



St. Michael's Mount

7

CORNWALL to LONDON



Corn Galver Mine, Cornwall

MAY 19

For a comfortable, quiet and fast ride back to London, we take the train, Penzance to Paddington, where the tour ends.

Pre- and post-tour suggestions for independent extra days.

- Our tour is about small town and rural England, but you might like a few days independently in London before or after the tour. We are seeing flight & hotel packages at around \$1500/person with five hotel nights. Be sure to indicate the number and dates of hotel nights you want.
- On May 19 we arrive back in London too late for a flight home. Unless you plan to stay in London we suggest taking the Heathrow Express from Paddington Station and staying at a Heathrow Hotel. Either fly home the following day or stay an extra day to visit nearby Windsor Castle. We can suggest hotels in both London and the Heathrow area. We have not included any extra days in the tour price, but we can help co-ordinate plans if you want to remain in contact with others in the group.

Day by Day Program			
Date	Activity	Overnight	Notes
5/1 Mon	Flight to LHR	in air	
5/2 Tues	Arive LHR, transfer to Canterbury.	Canterbury, Abode Hotel	Light dinner
5/3. Weds	Walking tour of town, visit and tour Cathedral. Free time.	Catherbury, Abode Hotel	
5/4. Thurs	Visit Dover Castle; continue to Rye.	Mermaid Inn, Rye	Welcome dinner
5/5 Fri	Drive to Beachy Head; clifftop walk; continue to Royal Pavilion, Brighton	Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton	Dinner
5/6 Sat	Visit Arundel Castle and Weald & Downland Museum	Wykeham Arms, Winchester	Dinner
5/7 Sun	Visit Royal Navy Historic Museum, Portsmouth	Wykeham Arms, Winchester	
5/8 Mon	Visit Winchester Cathedral, Winchester College, Bucklers Hard.	Wykeham Arms, Winchester	Dinner
5/9 Tues	Drive to Oxford; walking tour with local guide. Free time	Oxford Univ, Visitor Lodging	
5/10 Weds	Take local bus to Blenheim Palace, Woodstock.	Oxford Univ, Visitor Lodging	Dinner
5/11 Thurs	Tour of Cotswold villages	Oxford Univ, Visitor Lodging	
5/12 Fri	Highclere Castle "Castle Tours and Wonderful things"	Oxford Univ, Visitor Lodging	
5/13 Sat	Free day. Suggest Ashmolean Museum, Pitt-Rivers Museum, others	Oxford Univ, Visitor Lodging	
5/14 Sun	Drive to Torquay in Devon. Guided tour of the Agatha Christie Mile.	Torquay, Imperial Hotel	Dinner
5/15 Mon	Tour by bus: Christie sites on Burgh Island and Dartmoor.	Torquay, Imperial Hotel	
5/16 Tues	Drive to St. Ives; visit Lost Gardens of Heligan en route	St. Ives, Tregenna Castle Hotel	Dinner
5/17 Weds	Visit St. Michael's Mount	St. Ives, Tregenna Castle Hotel	
5/18 Thurs	Free day in St. Ives. Optional visit to tin mines.	St. Ives, Tregenna Castle Hotel	Farewell dinner
5/19 Fri	By train from Penzance to London, Paddington. End of tour.	See options suggested in brochure.	

PROGRAM COSTS 1

PRICE: The land package is \$4150 per person (double occupancy). The single supplement is \$1190. Prices are set in September 2022 and are subject to change. Fuel prices might be a factor.

HOTELS:

All accommodations are three or four star establishments with private bath and breakfast.

MEALS:

Breakfast is provided each day. In addition we include nine lunches or dinners.

TRANSPORTATION:

Airfare is not included. Please choose a flight that arrives at London's Heathrow airport between 10 a.m. and noon on Tuesday May 2. Heathrow has five terminals; United lands at Terminal 2, American at Terminal 3. We will attempt to meet your arrival, but if necessary we will establish a suitable meeting point in due course. Ground transportation, including transfer from Heathrow, is by private bus. If you plan to be in London before May 2, the most convenient way to Canterbury is by train from several London stations (not included in the program fee).

PAYMENTS: ESA is a small nonprofit organization and we try to provide good value. Using charge cards gives the banks a 3% fee (or about \$125 on the base program fee) and therefore we appreciate your sending payments by check rather than using charge cards. Make checks payable to ESA please.

This tour is limited to 20 participants, so we encourage you to send in your deposit of \$500 as soon as you have decided to join.

As Dr. Blair is in Europe until Nov. 15, please mail the application form & deposit:

Before Nov. 15 to:

ESA: Dr. Jacqueline Klaassen
Phone: 510 527 0113 (Cell: 510 882 1602)
126 Highland Blvd, Kensington CA 94708
email: jacquelineklaassen@yahoo.com

After Nov 15: ESA:

Dr. Thomas Blair,
Phone: 415 334 4222
424 Dorado Ter., San Francisco, CA 94112
email: tblair.esa@gmail.com

A second payment of \$1000 is due January 1, 2023. The balance of the fee is due March 15, 2023.

PROGRAM COSTS 2

Insurance:

Travel insurance is strongly recommended, both for any necessary medical issues and for possible disruptions. Sample policies may be found at the ESA website. The program fee includes all activities listed in the itinerary, except for those noted as optional; lodging according to your choice of room type; breakfast each day and nine other meals; ground transportation during the tour. The program fee does not include airfare, passport, visas, insurance, lunch and dinner except as indicated above. Prices are subject to change.

Refunds:

Cancellations postmarked up to Feb 1, 2023 will receive a refund of the land package less \$100 cancellation fee. Cancellations postmarked Feb 2 to March 30, 2023 will be subject to a \$400 cancellation fee.

Cancellations postmarked April 2 to April 23, 2023 are subject to an \$800 fee. No refunds will be made beginning April 24, 2023. Because of flight scheduling or unforeseen changes, ESA reserves the right to modify itinerary, program dates and activities accordingly.

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Application form

I have read the itinerary for the ESA program Southern England: Canterbury to Cornwall and wish to apply to participate. I agree to the payment and refund schedule as listed above.

Please print:

Name as on your passport _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Signature _____

Lodging selection:

I would like a twin. double room with (if known) _____

I would like a single room at a supplement of \$1190.

I have dietary restrictions. I do not eat _____

To pay your deposit, either:

* Include your check for \$500 with this form (preferred) or:

* pay by credit card: type of card: Visa Mastercard Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ Three-digit security # _____

Card billing address _____ Zip _____

Signature of cardholder _____

Amount to be charged \$ _____

Please mail application & deposit to:
ESA
424 Dorado Terrace
San Francisco, CA 94112

