



SCHOLARLY™
SOJOURNS
THINK INSIDE THE VACATION

In the Footsteps of the Plantagenets

A sweeping historical journey across medieval France and England



Discover the Origins of the Dynasty that Changed the Course of Medieval Europe

The Plantagenet dynasty ruled England from 1152 until 1485 and witnessed dramatic events and changes of fortune while producing some of the kingdom's most celebrated monarchs. From the castle intrigues of Henry II thwarting the calculating machinations of his wife and rebellious heirs to the watershed moment of the signing of the Magna Carta in 1215, and on to the ultimate defeat of the treacherous Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field, one can understand why the renowned English statesman and philosopher Francis Bacon mused of the Plantagenets ". . . it was a race much dipped in their own blood." There is no doubt the Plantagenet line was an ambitious and determined lot and therefore their legacy is a complex and far-reaching one.

But while many recall the famous call to arms penned by William Shakespeare in Henry V, "Cry 'God for Harry, England, and Saint George!'", it is often overlooked that the Plantagenets actually originated in Anjou, in the beautiful Loire region of western France, and their maternal forebears came from

Normandy. Therefore, we begin this tour back in the heartlands of the Plantagenets—the French regions that firmly remained in the psyche of the founders of the dynasty—Henry of Anjou and his beautiful Wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine. Together, we shall quite literally walk in the footsteps of this flamboyant couple, their ancestors and their heirs as we visit the magnificent buildings that they themselves erected and traverse the landscapes that they knew.

Our journey takes us through not only some of the most breathtaking natural scenery of western Europe, but also to towns and cities that house gems of medieval architecture and rekindle visions strongly redolent of the glorious era in which the Plantagenets reigned. Join us for this breathtaking journey from the beautiful Loire Valley of France to the stunning English Midlands as we walk in the footsteps of the Plantagenets to encounter both their earliest forebears and their most celebrated descendants—the rulers of the vast Angevin Empire and the great Monarchs of England.

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Tour Itinerary Overview

July 10: Tours—Langeais—Fontevraud
July 11: Fontevraud—Poitiers—Fontevraud
July 12: Fontevraud—Angers—Saumur—Fontevraud
July 13: Fontevraud—Chinon—Loches—Chartres

July 14: Chartres—Les Andelys—Rouen
July 15: Rouen—Calais—Dover—Canterbury
July 16: Canterbury—Rochester—Lincoln
July 17: Tour concludes in Lincoln, England

Day to Day Tour Summary

Sunday, July 10

Arriving at Saint-Pierre-des-Corps train station in historic Tours, you are greeted by both Dr. Marshall and your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director. From there, you make our way to the resplendent Château of Langeais, which sits along the stunning Loire River. You explore the chateau, including its impressive collection of 14th and 15th century furniture and tapestries and the remains of one of the oldest castles built of stone in Europe dating from the 10th century. Traveling along the beautiful Loire Valley, we arrive at Fontevraud Abbey, our home for the first three nights, where the Tour Director assists you in checking in to your room. After a late afternoon walking tour of part of the abbey, you join fellow sojourn members and Dr. Marshall in the nuns' refectory for the opening reception and keynote address followed by our welcome dinner. (R, D)

Monday, July 11

This morning, we continue our walking tour of Fontevraud Abbey before departing south for Poitiers, the home city of Eleanor of Aquitaine. In Poitiers, we make a late morning visit to the impressive Romanesque Church of Notre-Dame-la-Grande, a true architectural gem dating back to the 11th century. Following lunch, we set out to explore several other sites



Fontevraud Abbey bathed in the summer sun

in Poitiers all within a short walking distance from each other. First, we visit a former palace of the Dukes of Aquitaine, including the magnificent Great Hall which conveys something of the opulence of life in Eleanor's court. We also are treated to an external view of Maubergeonne Tower, the place where Eleanor's grandfather housed his famous mistress. Then we make our way to the Cathedral of Saint-Pierre, the very place where Henry, Count of Anjou, married Eleanor, Duchess of Aquitaine in 1152. Just beside the cathedral is The Baptistry of Saint Jean, one of the oldest Christian monuments in Europe dating to the 4th century. Our final destination in Poitiers is the Church of Sainte-Radegonde, dating to the 11th century and named for the town's patron saint who was laid to rest here in 587. We return to Fontevraud where the evening is left free for you to pursue your own dining and entertainment interests. (B)

"We were somewhat apprehensive to try an organized tour, but this experience was phenomenal."

-Barbara B., Annapolis, MD

Included meals are indicated in parentheses following each daily description:

B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner; R = Reception

Day to Day Tour Summary

Tuesday, July 12

We travel north this morning along the scenic Loire Valley to Angers, the capital of the Plantagenets' ancestral county of Anjou. Here we get to fully explore the great Castle of Angers, one the most popular homes owned by the early Plantagenets. The castle is home to an incredible medieval treasure in the 14th century Tapestry of the Apocalypse, which is also the oldest surviving French tapestry. After taking lunch at your leisure, we visit the archaeological site of the Collegiate Church of Saint Martin. This impressive church, now fully restored to its original splendor, has remains of the first Christian church on this site dating from the Roman period. We leave Angers on a pleasant afternoon journey along the Loire River to reach the town of Saumur, another key town held by the Counts of Anjou. Here we take a tour of one of the favored residences of the Plantagenets—the enchanting Château de Saumur. Rebuilt in the 14th and 15th centuries, the chateau is famously depicted in the Tres Riches Heures of the Duc de Berry. Following our visit to the chateau, we enjoy an early evening wine tasting at the caves of Ladubay House. These exquisite sparkling wines are produced using the exact same method as Champagne, so what better way to celebrate a splendid summer day. After we return to the hotel in Fontevraud, we gather for a lively dinner discussion with Dr. Marshall. (B, D)



South façade of the Castle of Angers



Château de Saumur among the vines

Wednesday, July 13

We depart Fontevraud Abbey today and make our way east toward the historic commune and Angevin stronghold of Chinon. Our first visit is to the fascinating rock-cut Chapel of Sainte-Radegonde. Here we get a guided tour of the chapel and its intriguing sequence of wall paintings, four of which may be the most authentic depictions of Plantagenets that we have today. Following our visit to the chapel, we are treated to a full exploration of the magnificent Castle of Chinon. This massive castle was the site of many historic events in the Plantagenet line, including the death of Henry II in 1189. After lunch, we continue our journey east to the City of Loches, which overlooks the Indre River and formed the eastern capital of the Plantagenet's territories in Anjou. Touring the city on foot, we pay visits to several significant locations that include: The Church of Saint-Our, that has architectural aspects that were certainly influenced by the patronage of Henry and Eleanor; The Royal Apartments, where French Kings kept their residence in Loches long after the fall of the Plantagenets; and, the Castle Fort of Loches, which has one of the earliest and most impressive stone castle towers in Europe. Our final destination for the day is the City of Chartres, where following check-in, the remainder of the evening is yours to spend as you see fit. (B)



Day to Day Tour Summary

Thursday, July 14

This morning we visit stunning Chartres Cathedral—a marvel of medieval Gothic architecture that is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The innovatively-designed, 12th-century structure is renowned for its numerous sculptures as well as its much-celebrated collection of stained glass. Next, we travel north to Normandy where we explore a particularly significant Plantagenet site. The Château Gaillard at Les Andelys, which dominates the Seine River below, was a favored project of King Richard I. We enjoy a guided tour of this formidable castle that was strategically important in defending Plantagenet land. Afterward, we continue to Rouen, the capital city of Upper Normandy. Here, we are treated to a walking tour of the historic center which includes Rouen Cathedral—where several Plantagenets, including the heart of Richard the Lionhearted, are interred—and the marketplace where Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake in 1431. After our stroll around Rouen, we gather with Dr. Marshall for a nice dinner and lively discussion. (B, D)



View into the choir from the ambulatory of Chartres Cathedral

location. This most costly and pre-eminent Plantagenet fortress epitomizes the art of medieval fortress building, not only in England but also in Europe. Our tour includes a full exploration of Dover Castle, which is the largest castle in England. Following our exploration of Dover Castle, we make a short trip to the historic pilgrimage site of Canterbury, where we check-in to a nearby hotel and you have the evening free to do as you see fit. (B)

Saturday, July 16

We make a short trek from our lodgings to one of the most important pilgrimage sites in England—the much-revered Canterbury Cathedral. In fact, the cathedral has been a sacred destination for pilgrims since the murder of Thomas Beckett in 1170, and it is sometimes called “Beckett’s Crown” for the magnificent shrine that was built to commemorate the celebrated saint. It also happens to be the place where King Henry II did his penance for the role he played in the infamous killing of Beckett. Following our exploration of Canterbury Cathedral and some free time for lunch, we begin our journey north through the East Midlands region towards the historic city of Lincoln. After checking in to our hotel, we gather for a special reception followed by our closing dinner. (B, R, D)

Friday, July 15

We depart Rouen this morning to make our way north to the port city of Calais. From Calais, we make a channel crossing just as the Plantagenets so often did, towards the white cliffs of Dover. Our first visit on English soil will be to the impressive Dover Castle, which is also called the “Key to England” owing to its strategic



Château Gaillard on the banks of the Seine River



Day to Day Tour Summary

Sunday, July 17

Following breakfast, we take a walking tour of historic Lincoln where the origins of the Roman town plan, dating to the first century AD, can still be traced. In fact, while Lincoln was founded by the Romans around the year 80, it was expanded in the post-Roman period and became one of England's foremost cities during the Middle Ages. Next we visit imposing Lincoln Castle, which was constructed in 1068 on the grounds of a former Roman fortress by William the Conqueror to help bolster his defensive capabilities in this region. Our visit includes a viewing of the Magna Carta Exhibition where one of only four of the original documents from 1215 is housed. History comes alive as we read the words of this landmark document that signified a turning point in the relations between kings and men and still reverberates with us today. After lunch, we make our way to the stunning spires of Lincoln Cathedral, which dominates the city's skyline. Considered one of the most impressive cathedrals in all of Europe, it had a whole sequence of improvements carried out under the patronage of Plantagenet kings. It is fitting that our tour draws to a close in this setting as we reflect upon our journey



Iconic Lincoln Cathedral towers over the city

across two countries to explore some of the most stunning accomplishments of the Plantagenet kings, a journey which has undoubtedly cemented our understanding of this industrious dynasty as one of the most dynamic in European history. (B)

Your Tour Leader is a Renowned Archaeologist and Architectural Historian



Dr. Marshall is internationally recognized as a leading researcher in the field of castle studies. She combines her skills as a buildings archaeologist, historian, and architectural historian to interpret our ancestors' built environment and her love of the subject encompasses the ancient world right up to the modern. Although the scope of her publications extend into the seventeenth century, her particular specialism is in the field of European Castle Studies where her research, particularly in Britain and France, is most valued by the academic community. A practical researcher in her professional life, she combines the role of surveyor, recorder, and interpreter with that of educator; her many years of teaching were, for the most part, spent at the University of Nottingham. For fourteen years she was Chair of the British Castle Studies Group whilst also serving as GB representative on the

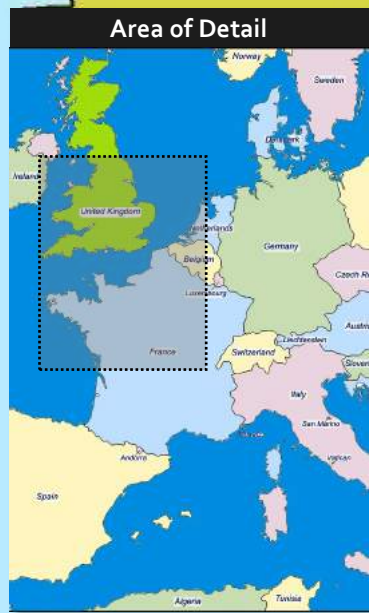
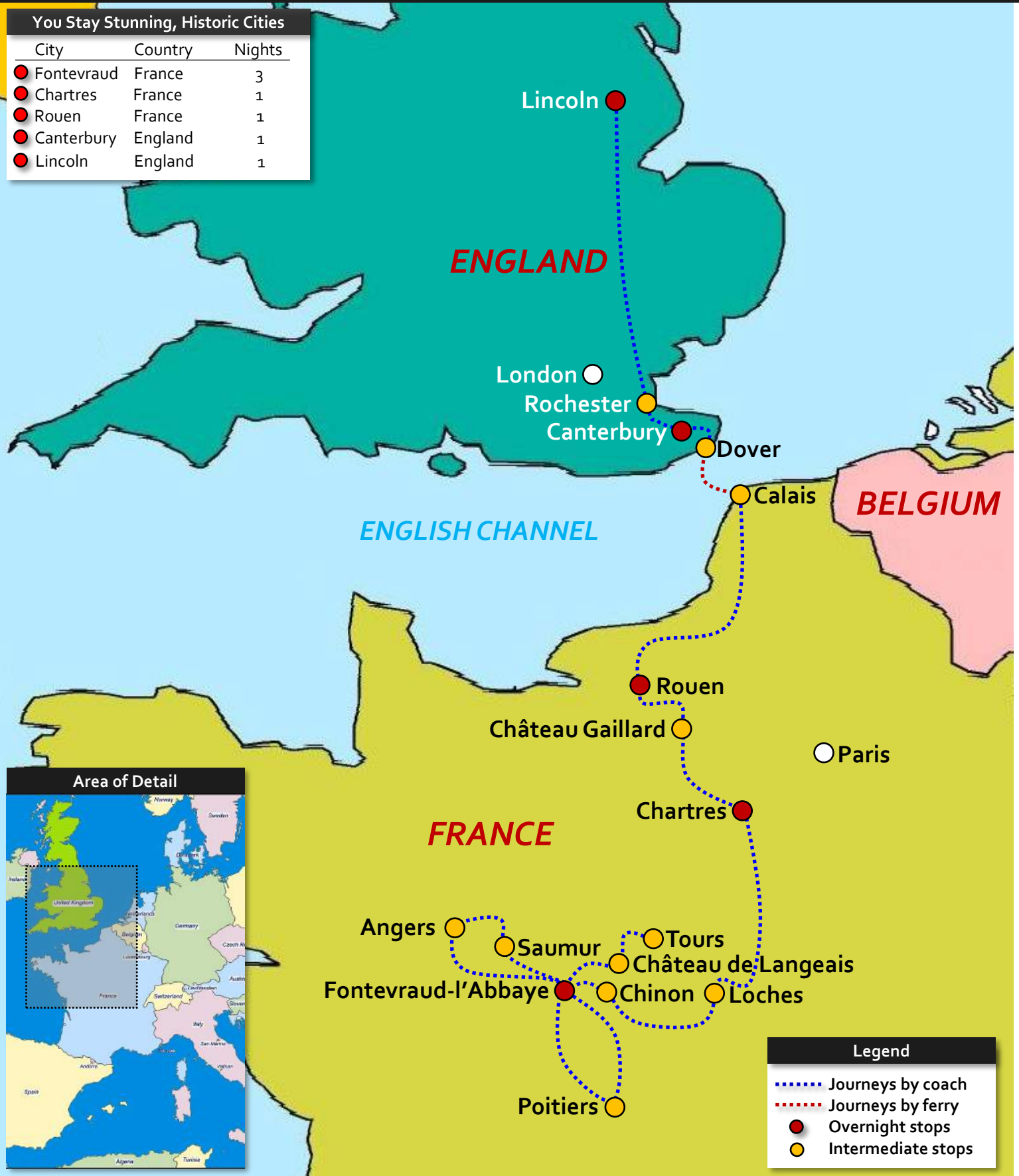
foremost international body for European castle studies, Château Gaillard. She has appeared as an expert on several television documentaries and regularly gives papers at international conferences and her substantial body of academic publications is still expanding. It is the past use and social context of historic buildings that fascinate her. They merge history and aesthetics with structure and practicality, opening a window for us on the experience of past lives – something thrilling that Pamela loves to impart and share with others.



Your Fascinating Journey Travels through Angevin France to Plantagenet England

You Stay Stunning, Historic Cities

City	Country	Nights
● Fontevraud	France	3
● Chartres	France	1
● Rouen	France	1
● Canterbury	England	1
● Lincoln	England	1



Legend	
.....	Journeys by coach
.....	Journeys by ferry
●	Overnight stops
●	Intermediate stops



Atmospheric Lodging Creates the Perfect Backdrop for Your Tour



Fontevraud L'hôtel – Fontevraud L'Abbaye, France

Soaring, vaulted ceilings and pristine stonework grace the public areas of this beautifully constructed hotel and create an ethereal atmosphere which entreats quiet contemplation and reflection. The hotel features a gourmet restaurant, a 13-hectare garden, and of course, the stunning, 13th-century abbey is just steps away.



Canterbury Cathedral Lodge – Canterbury, England

The Canterbury Cathedral Lodge enjoys a commanding location right on the beautiful grounds of Canterbury Cathedral. Its central location, within the ancient city walls and only steps away from the city's numerous attractions, make it the perfect abode from which to visit the city and enjoy the shops, historic sites and traditional architecture.



White Hart Hotel – Lincoln, England

Located in the center Lincoln's historic quarter, the White Hart Hotel boasts spectacular views of the ancient castle, the hotel is just steps away from all of Lincoln's historic sites, including the city's magnificent 11th century cathedral, its Norman castle and the cobbled streets of Bailgate.

For a complete list of lodging on this tour, please visit www.scholarlysojourns.com.

The Highlights and Special Features of Your Tour

- Sojourn leader Dr. Pamela Marshall is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a noted researcher, lecturer, and author who specializes in the archaeology and history of buildings
- Enjoy three days amid the verdant orchards and vineyards of the Loire Valley region, made a UNESCO World Heritage site for its great beauty and historic cities and towns
- Three nights stay in historic Fontevraud-l'Abbaye, just steps from the Saint-Lazare Priory, founded by Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine
- In-depth explorations of the Plantagenet castles at Chinon and Angers—the latter including the medieval treasure “The Tapestry of the Apocalypse”
- Privately guided tours of the historic castles in Dover and Lincoln, including the Magna Carta Exhibition
- An evening tour of the caves of the Ladubay House, producers of fine sparkling wines that use the same methods as Champagne, followed by a tasting
- A detailed tour of Fontevraud Abbey, which provided the nursery education for King John and houses the burial tomb effigies of Henry II, Eleanor, and Richard I
- Visits to UNESCO World Heritage sites of Chartres Cathedral and Canterbury Cathedral
- Visit to the fascinating rock-cut Chapel of Sainte Radegonde, including wall paintings with the most authentic depictions of the Plantagenet royal family
- Visit to the magnificent late Romanesque Cathedral of Saint-Pierre where Henry, Count of Anjou, married the beautiful Eleanor, Duchess of Aquitaine, in 1152



Tour Details

In the Footsteps of the Plantagenets

Dates:

July 10—17, 2016 (Sojourn #1321628)

Price:

\$3,295/Person (Double Occupancy)

\$3,890/Person (Single Occupancy)

Click here to register online

Tour begins/concludes:

Tours, France / Lincoln, England

Optional air package*:

\$1,295/Person

*Air package includes round-trip airfare: New York – Paris / London – New York, airport transfers in Europe, and 100% travel assurance. Departures from other North American gateways also available. Price subject to change until booked.

Price Includes:

Eight-day travel program of sightseeing, tours, presentations, and discussions led by Dr. Pamela Marshall, 7 nights hotel accommodation in select three and four-star, boutique hotels, meals as indicated on the day to day summary, opening and closing receptions, all entrance fees, visits, excursions, and sightseeing as noted in this detailed itinerary, private guides, ground transportation, the services of a dedicated Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director for the duration of the tour, all gratuities (except for hotel porters), and all other sojourn activities as described in the day to day summary.

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare; airport transfers; meals not indicated in this detailed itinerary; beverage options other than water, wine, beer, or soft-drinks with group meals; local transportation by bus, taxi, metro or light rail; passport or visa fees and necessary photos; immunizations; travel insurance; excess baggage charges; airport taxes; medical, hospitalization, or evacuation costs; gratuities for hotel porters; laundry; other personal items, including incidental hotel charges; any other item not specifically indicated.

Arrival and Departure Information

Meeting location:

The meeting point for this tour is Hotel Royal County in Durham, England. Those making their own travel arrangements should plan to arrive at the hotel between 12:00 and 2:00 PM on Sunday, July 24, 2016. You will be greeted there by your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director who will assist you with checking in.

Sojourn Start Time:

The program begins promptly at 1:00 PM on July 10, 2016. The first activity is a walking tour of historic Durham and a visit to its stunning cathedral which houses the shrine to St. Cuthbert of Lindisfarne.

Sojourn Conclusion:

Your sojourn concludes at approximately 12:00 PM on Sunday, July 17th in Lincoln, England. If making your own flight/travel arrangements, please allow for enough time to travel to the airport after the program ends. Heathrow Airport is approximately three-hours by car from Lincoln.

Early Arrival or Late Departure:

Scholarly Sojourns is happy to assist you with booking additional nights prior to the start of your tour or following its conclusion. Often we are able to secure better rates than are available to the general public.

Registration Information

To register or for further information:

Call us: 1-800-419-3443

We are ready to assist you Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST).

Visit us at: www.scholarlysojourns.com

Here you will find an online registration form as well as a printable version. You will also find the most up-to-date details on this sojourn and all of the other programs offered by Scholarly Sojourns.

Other Information

Sojourn Combinations: Save \$250 per person and receive a free transfer between locations when you book two consecutive sojourns.

Please Note: The information presented here details this sojourn's planned activities, meals, accommodations, and starting/ending times. We reserve the right to make changes which will improve the program or when circumstances beyond our control necessitate such modifications. Prices are subject to change until booked. Complete terms and conditions are available at our website.



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