

In the Footsteps of the Plantagenets

A SWEEPING HISTORICAL JOURNEY ACROSS MEDIEVAL FRANCE AND ENGLAND



A SCHOLARLY
SOJOURN

TAKE A BREATHTAKING JOURNEY FROM THE STUNNING LOIRE VALLEY TO
THE VERDANT ENGLISH MIDLANDS AS YOU WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF
ONE OF EUROPE'S GREATEST MEDIEVAL DYNASTIES

SOJOURN DETAILS AT A GLANCE

2019 DEPARTURE

July 7—14, 2019

SOJOURN BEGINS

Poitiers, France

SOJOURN CONCLUDES

Lincoln, England

SOJOURN PRICE

\$3,495/Person (double occupancy)

\$3,990/Person (single occupancy)

OPTIONAL AIR PACKAGE

From \$1,295/person*

*See page 9 for details

TO REGISTER

Call us at **1-800-419-3443** or

Use the [online registration form](#)

[CLICK HERE TO
REGISTER ONLINE](#)

ABOUT SCHOLARLY SOJOURNS

Not only our name, but also what we call our flagship tours, Scholarly Sojourns are intellectually-stimulating travel programs that explore fascinating topics in history, literature, archaeology, art history, and science. Designed and guided by distinguished scholars, these engaging journeys provide the unique opportunity to explore a subject on location.



Fontevraud Abbey bathed in the summer sun

In the Footsteps of the Plantagenets

A SWEEPING HISTORICAL JOURNEY ACROSS MEDIEVAL FRANCE AND ENGLAND

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 statesmen 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 both complex and far-reaching.

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.

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN POITIERS

Arriving in historic Poitiers this morning, you are greeted by both your tour leader and your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director. Once our group has assembled, we make our way through the atmospheric, medieval streets of the city to visit its most stunning monuments. First, we admire the impressive Romanesque Church of Notre-Dame-la-Grande—a true architectural gem dating back to the 11th century—which boasts one of the finest Romanesque facades in France. Afterward, we visit a former palace of the Dukes of Aquitaine, including the magnificent Great Hall which conveys a bit of the opulence that would have existed 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 we discover the Baptistery of Saint Jean, one of the oldest Christian monuments in Europe. Our final stop is the impressive Church of Sainte-Radegonde, dating to the 11th century and named for the city's patron saint who was laid to rest here in 587. After some time to relax or explore on our own, we gather this evening for a formal welcome reception and opening address from our tour leader before sitting down to a special welcome dinner. [R | D]

DAY 2

POITIERS TO LOCHES TO LANGEAIS TO FONTEVRAUD

Following breakfast this morning, we travel north to explore the fascinating city of Loches. Overlooking the Indre River from high atop a bluff, this medieval citadel was the eastern capital of the Plantagenet territories in Anjou. Touring the ancient city on foot, we pay visits to several significant locations that include: The Church of Saint-Ours, which 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. After lunch, we depart Loches and travel west to the resplendent Château of Langeais, which sits along the picturesque Loire River. Here we explore the chateau, including its impressive collection of 14th and 15th-Century furniture and tapestries as well as



Notre-Dame-la-Grande in Poitiers

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

DAY 1: SUNDAY

June 23

Tour begins in Poitiers

DAY 2: MONDAY

June 24

Poitiers—Loches—Langeais—
Fontevraud

DAY 3: TUESDAY

June 25

Fontevraud—Chinon—Saumur—
Fontevraud

DAY 4: WEDNESDAY

June 26

Fontevraud—Angers—Le Mans—
Rouen

DAY 5: THURSDAY

June 27

Rouen—Chateau Gaillard—Rouen

DAY 6: FRIDAY

June 28

Rouen—Calais—Dover—Canterbury

DAY 7: SATURDAY

June 29

Canterbury—Rochester—Leicester—
Lincoln

DAY 8: SUNDAY

June 30

Tour concludes in Lincoln, England



Chateau Langeais

SOJOURN HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ 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
- ◆ Stay two nights 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

“This was an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experience that I will take with me personally and professionally for the rest of my life.”

- Scott K., Waltham, MA



Château de Chinon

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

the remains of its 10th-Century castle—one of the oldest European castles built of stone. Continuing westward along the beautiful Loire Valley later this afternoon, we arrive at stunning Fontevraud-l'Abbaye, our home for the next two nights. After checking into our atmospheric hotel—the beautifully-restored Saint-Lazare priory which is located within the grounds of the historic Abbaye Royale—we take an early-evening walking tour around some of the abbey complex's main structures. Afterward, the remainder of the evening is left free for you to relax, explore, and dine on your own in the charming village just outside the abbey's walls. [B]

DAY 3

FONTEVRAUD—CHINON—SAUMUR—FONTEVRAUD

This morning, we continue our walking tour of Fontevraud Abbey before departing east toward the historic Angevin stronghold of Chinon. Our first stop is at the fascinating rock-cut Chapelle Sainte-Radegonde where we enjoy an expert-guided tour and a detailed explanation of its intriguing sequence of wall paintings, four of which may be the most authentic depictions of Plantagenets that we have today. Next we are treated to an in-depth exploration of the magnificent Chateau de Chinon. This massive castle was the site of many historic events in the Plantagenet line, including the death of Henry II in 1189. This afternoon, we travel along the picturesque Loire River to 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 iconic chateau is famously depicted in the *Tres Riches Heures* of the Duc de Berry. Before departing Saumur, we indulge in a wine tasting at the caves of Ladubay House. The exquisite sparkling wines produced here are made by the exact same method as Champagne, so what better way to quench our thirst on a splendid summer eve? Returning to Fontevraud this evening, we gather with fellow sojourn members and Dr. Marshall in the priory's historic nuns' refectory for a elegant dinner and lively discussion. [B | D]

DAY 4

FONTEVRAUD—ANGERS—LE MANS—ROUEN

We bid “adieu” to lovely Fontevraud this morning and take a pleasant journey along the Loire River to reach 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. Afterward we explore the archaeological site at the Collegiate

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

Church of Saint Martin. This impressive church, now fully restored to its original splendor, has remains of the first Christian church on this site which dates from the Roman period. Following lunch, we depart Angers and travel north to the city of Le Mans where we explore the Cathédrale St-Julien du Mans which is located in the old city, also known as the “Cité Plantagenêt”. Parts of this historic structure date from the 6th Century. This evening, we arrive in the historic city of Rouen, the capital of Upper Normandy, where you are free to dine and explore on your own. [B]

DAY 5

ROUEN—CHATEAU GAILLARD—ROUEN

This morning, we travel east from Rouen, enjoying sweeping vistas from bluffs above the River Seine as we travel to a spectacular 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 return to Rouen, where we take a walking tour of the historic center which includes Rouen Cathedral—where several in the Plantagenet line, including the heart of Richard the Lionhearted, are interred—and the atmospheric marketplace where Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake in 1431. After our stroll around Rouen, we gather with Dr. Marshall for our second seminar dinner and lively discussion, this time in a historic, Norman hostelry dating from 1345, making it the oldest inn in France. [B|D]

DAY 6

ROUEN—CALAIS—DOVER—CANTERBURY

We depart Rouen this morning to make our way north to the port city of Calais. From here, we cross the English Channel, just as the Plantagenets so often did, toward the white cliffs of Dover. Our first visit on English soil is to the impressive Dover Castle, also called the “Key to England” owing to its strategic location. This most costly and preeminent Plantagenet fortress epitomizes the art of medieval fortress building, not only in England but also in Europe. Following our extensive tour here, we make a short trip to the historic pilgrimage site of Canterbury, where we enjoy a guided tour of stunning Canterbury Cathedral. The much-revered edifice 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. After checking in to our nearby historic hotel, you have the evening free to explore the ancient city and dine as you see fit. [B]



South façade of the Castle of Angers

SOJOURN HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ A tour and tasting at the caves of Bouvet Ladubay, producers of fine sparkling wines made with the same method as Champagne
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Spend a night in the historic city of Lincoln, England with visits to its stunning cathedral and castle
- ◆ 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



The Royal City of Loches

WHAT YOU SEE

CHÂTEAU OF LANGEAIS
FONTEVRAUD ABBEY
CHURCH OF
NOTRE-DAME-LA-GRANDE
MAUBERGEONNE TOWER
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT-PIERRE
TAPESTRY OF
THE APOCALYPSE
THE BAPTISTERY OF
SAINT JEAN
CHURCH OF
SAINTE-RADEGONDE
CASTLE OF ANGERS
COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF
ST. MARTIN
CHÂTEAU DE SAUMUR
CASTLE OF CHINON
CHURCH OF SAINT-OURS
CASTLE FORT OF LOCHES
LE MANS CATHEDRAL
CHÂTEAU GAILLARD AT
LES ANDELYS
WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER
DOVER CASTLE
CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL
ROCHESTER CASTLE
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL
TOMB OF RICHARD III
LINCOLN CASTLE
LINCOLN CATHEDRAL



Iconic Lincoln Cathedral towers over the city

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

DAY 7

CANTERBURY - LINCOLN

After breakfast, we depart Canterbury and make a short trip to the picturesque city of Rochester which boasts both a castle and cathedral with strong Plantagenet connections. After visiting each of these impressive structures, we enjoy some free time to explore the town and have lunch in one of its many fine eateries. This afternoon, we travel north to the English Midland's and the city of Leicester, where we pay a visit to the tomb of Richard III. The controversial Plantagenet monarch's remains were only recently discovered—surprisingly beneath the local council's car park—and were reinterred in Leicester Cathedral by order of the highest court in England. Afterward, we continue our journey north to the historic city of Lincoln, founded by the Romans in AD 48. After checking into our hotel, we gather for a special reception followed by our closing dinner. [B | R | D]

DAY 8

LINCOLN

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. While Lincoln was founded by the Romans, 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 on the grounds of a former Roman fortress in 1068 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. Finally, 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 received a series of improvements that were carried out under the patronage of Plantagenet kings. Perhaps it is fitting that our tour concludes in the shadow of this imposing edifice, for, without doubt, our world today is yet steeped in the very long shadow of the intriguing and dynamic Plantagenet Dynasty. [B]

"Your attention to detail is way beyond any tour operator I have ever worked with!"

-Paula F., Travel Agent,
Mahwah, NJ

Select Lodging



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 steps away.



Falstaff Hotel – Canterbury, England

A traditional, 15th-Century coaching inn steeped in history, the Falstaff Hotel has been a place of hospitality in Canterbury for over 600 years. Just steps from the city's Westgate Towers, the hotel is only a short walk from all that Canterbury has to offer, including the Norman Cathedral (a World Heritage site), the castle, museums, shops, and restaurants.



White Hart Hotel – Lincoln, England

Located in Lincoln's historic quarter, the White Hart Hotel boasts spectacular views of the city's ancient castle. Each of its comfortable rooms offers a tasteful blend of old fashioned elegance and contemporary styling. The hotel is just steps away from all of Lincoln's celebrated sites, including the magnificent 11th-century cathedral and the Norman castle.

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



Rochester Castle



YOUR SOJOURN LEADER

Dr. Pamela 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.

Sojourn Map

You Stay Stunning, Historic Cities

City	Country	Nights
Poitiers	France	1
Fontevraud	France	2
Rouen	France	2
Canterbury	England	1
Lincoln	England	1



Dover Castle

BOOKING IS EASY!

1) CALL TO REGISTER OR USE OUR ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM

Call us at 1-800-419-3443. Our friendly customer service team is ready to assist you Mon—Fri, 9:00AM—5:00PM (EST). Or, you can complete the [online registration form](#) anytime.

2) WE WILL CONFIRM YOUR REGISTRATION BY EMAIL

Within 24 hours you will receive an email confirmation of your registration along with some additional information and an invoice for the deposit due.

3) RETURN THE PAPERWORK AND PAY YOUR DEPOSIT

Simply review the registration documents and pay the deposit within 14 days to finalize your booking.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)



The stunning white cliffs of Dover

“I already had very high expectations based upon my previous tour with you, but you even exceeded those expectations!”

—Tallien P., Santa Monica, CA

Sojourn Details & Registration Information

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PLANTAGENETS

2019 DEPARTURE

July 7—14, 2019 (Sojourn #1321928)

SOJOURN PRICE

\$3,495/person (double occupancy)

\$3,990/person (single occupancy)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)

SOJOURN BEGINS

Poitiers, France

SOJOURN CONCLUDES

Lincoln, England

OPTIONAL AIR PACKAGE

From \$1,295/Person*

*Includes round-trip, economy-class airfare from select North American gateways to Paris with a return from London, airport transfers in Europe, and 100% travel assurance. Departures from other North American gateways also available. Price subject to change until booked.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

TO REGISTER

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.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Due within 14 days of registration: \$500/person deposit

Due 90 days prior to departure: Balance

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Scholarly Sojourns highly recommends that all of our sojourn participants purchase travel insurance that will protect their trip and cover the costs of any unexpected medical expenses during their travels. We will send further information once you have been confirmed on a sojourn.

PRICE INCLUDES

Eight-day travel program of sightseeing, visits, presentations, and discussions led by Dr. Pamela Marshall; 7 nights accommodation in select, three and four-star boutique hotels; 7 breakfasts, 4 dinners, 2 receptions; the services of a dedicated Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director who accompanies the group; ground and water transportation; tour guides; entrance fees; all other activities described in the day-to-day tour summary; all gratuities (except for hotel porters). **Included meals are indicated in brackets following each daily description: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner; R = Reception.**

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; excess baggage charges; airport taxes; travel insurance, 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 AND TIME

The meeting point for this sojourn is the Hôtel De L'Europe in Poitiers, France. Those making their own travel arrangements should plan to arrive at the hotel by 11:00 AM on Sunday, July 7, 2019. You will be greeted by your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director who will assist you with checking in. The program begins promptly at 11:30 AM when the group will depart to visit the sites of Poitiers.

CONCLUSION AND DEPARTURE

The sojourn concludes in Lincoln, England at approximately 12:00 PM on Sunday, July 14, 2019. If making your own flight arrangements, please allow enough time to travel to the airport. An optional shuttle will be offered for those wishing to go directly to Heathrow Airport.

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. We are also happy to provide itinerary suggestions should you wish to do additional travel in England or France.

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2723 South State Street · Suite 150 · Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104