



Academy International Travel Services

Faith and Literature: A Specialty Tour of the UK

Trip Overview

Trip Dates: September 13–25, 2026

Land Cost (no group air):* \$7,800.00 per person

Single Room Supplement: \$1,900.00

Deposit: \$1,000 per person due upon registration (invoiced by Inquisitive Ventures, LLC). Non-refundable after March 18.

Interim Payment: \$2,000.00 per person due on May 4 (invoiced by Inquisitive Ventures, LLC). Non-refundable after June 4, 2026.

Final Payment: balance due on July 27, 2026 (invoiced by Inquisitive Ventures, LLC). Non-refundable.

What IS included in your trip:

1. Hotel accommodation with breakfast buffet daily
2. Four dinners
3. Services of professionally licensed English-speaking guide
4. Sightseeing as per itinerary
5. Private bus transportation for sightseeing and touring as specified
6. Train travel from London-Durham (or London-Berwick)
7. Entrance and admission fees for Oxford College, Bodleian Library, C.S. Lewis House, three Shakespeare houses, Stonehenge, Buckingham Palace (if open), Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, Southwark Cathedral, British Library, London Library, Shakespeare's Globe, Churchill War Rooms, Durham Cathedral, Abbotsford House, Rosslyn Chapel, Edinburgh Castle, Palace of Holyrood, John Knox House
8. Local guides as indicated in the program
9. Tours and excursions in the program
10. Tips for elements indicated in the program

* Academy Travel along with your group leader will recommend a flight that is most efficient. You may consider other options. However, be advised that other options will likely involve longer travel and/or more layovers *and* will require a separate transfer at added expense to the traveler. If you need special arrangements (e.g., arriving earlier or leaving later), please contact Eric Moore at Academy Travel (eric@aitsatl.com) to discuss transfers options.

What is NOT included in your trip:

1. International airfare
2. Travel and cancellation insurance[†]
3. Items of a personal nature — phone calls, laundry, special transfers outside the group
Arrangement, et cetera
4. Other meals mentioned above and drinks

Passport Requirements: Passports must be current and should be valid for at least six months from the date of return from the trip (March 26, 2027). Please upload an image of the signature and photo pages of your passport to Academy Travel as part of the registration process.

The pricing above is based on 14 participants. Should the cancellation of individual participants diminish the group size below the minimum, Academy Travel reserves the following options: (a) carry on with the current program but with cost reducing alterations; or (b) levy a surcharge, based on final participation size.

Hotel Information: Accommodations in the following hotels, depending upon availability.

- 3 nights at the Marlborough Arms (Woodstock, Oxfordshire)
- 4 nights at the Thistle Trafalgar (London)
- 2 nights at the Indigo Hotel Durham
- 2 nights at the Radisson Blue Royal Mile Hotel (Edinburgh)

For more information on the trip: Please contact Eric Moore at Academy Travel (404-282-1055; eric@aitsatl.com).

[†] Travelers are encouraged to purchase travel and cancellation insurance.



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September 13–25, 2026

Curated by Academy International Travel Services

Itinerary



Sunday, Sept. 13, 2026 — Depart US for London
Depart on your overnight flight to London.

Monday, Sept. 14, 2026 — London to Oxfordshire
Upon arrival, transfer to Oxford. Take a walking tour of the city and visit Oxford College and Bodleian Library. Check into your hotel in Woodstock, Oxfordshire. Enjoy a welcome dinner (included). Overnight Oxford.

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026 — Oxford
Following breakfast, continue your exploration of Oxford. Visit C. S. Lewis' home at The Kilns. Dinner on your own. Overnight Woodstock.

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2026 — Stratford-upon-Avon
After breakfast, board the bus for an excursion to Stratford-upon-Avon. This Cotswold town is associated with Shakespeare. You will visit the Birthplace, Anne Hathaway's Cottage (not that Anne Hathaway!), and the Grammar School.

Return to Woodstock for dinner — on your own — and overnight.





Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026 — Stonehenge and London

Following breakfast, check out of the hotel and board your bus for London. Along the way, stop to visit the remarkable ancient site of Stonehenge. Continue on to London.

Depending upon the time of your arrival, begin the sightseeing program. Dinner on your own. Overnight London.

Friday–Sunday, Sept. 18–20, 2026 — London

You will have three full days to enjoy London. The sightseeing program will include city highlights as well as numerous exemplars of faith and literature. You will visit Buckingham Palace (if open), the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, Southwark Cathedral, London Library, Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, the British Library, and Churchill’s War Rooms. Dinner on your own each night and overnight in London.

Monday, Sept. 21, 2026 — London to Durham

After breakfast, check out of your London hotel. Catch the morning train to Durham and check into your hotel. Visit the renowned Durham Cathedral and learn about early Medieval Christianity in the area. Dinner (included) and overnight in Durham.



Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2026 — Excursion to Lindisfarne

Following breakfast, board the bus and head to the Christian site of Lindisfarne. The origins of Christianity in Lindisfarne date back to late antiquity. Enjoy a day for prayer and reflection. Return to Durham for dinner (included) and overnight.



Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026 — To Edinburgh

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and board the bus. Your destination is Edinburgh. Along the way, you’ll visit Abbotsford, home of Sir Walter Scott, and Rosslyn Chapel (of Davinci Code fame). Arrive in Edinburgh. Time on your own for dinner and exploring. Overnight Edinburgh.

Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026 — Edinburgh

Breakfast and then embark on a tour of Edinburgh. Visit Edinburgh Castle, the Royal Mile, St. Giles, Holyrood, Greyfriars, and the John Knox house. Enjoy a farewell dinner (included) and then overnight Edinburgh.

Friday, Sept. 25, 2026 — Return to US

Enjoy your final breakfast in the UK. Then check out of the hotel and head to the airport for your return flight to the US.



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UK Travel Tips

Passport and Visa

You need a valid passport to enter the UK. Though you will not need it on a daily basis, you should always have it available. Keep it safe. Never pack it in your suitcase. And never carry it in your shirt pocket or hip pocket where it is visible to pickpockets.

Your US passport is an extremely valuable item and an important form of identification. We suggest that you take a picture of your passport with your cellphone, so that you always have a copy available. (It might be wise also to email that picture to yourself, so you can access it remotely.) Please make sure that your passport is valid for at least six months after the return date of your journey.

United States citizens do not need to have a visa to enter the UK. However, it will be necessary to secure an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA). [Here](#) is information about the ETA on the US State Department website. And [here](#) is where you can apply for the ETA on the UK Government website.

Health and Vaccinations

We expect everyone to be healthy and fit to travel. Some of our tours require walking distances over uneven terrain. If not sure about your level of fitness, please consult with your physician and discuss the prospect of your participation with the group leader.

Please check the [CDC vaccination recommendations for the United Kingdom](#) and consult with your primary care doctor about these precautions or any other health concerns.

If you take prescription medications on a regular basis, be sure that they are properly marked with prescription numbers as customs officials may be suspicious of unmarked drugs. [Here](#) you can find TSA instructions/recommendations for transporting medicine. Note that it is a good idea to keep any medicine you have need on a regular basis, properly contained and labeled, in your carry-on bag for ready access (and in case your checked bag gets misplaced).

Money, Financial Hints, and Tipping

The pound Stirling (symbol: £; abbreviation: GBP) is the main currency in the United Kingdom. Most establishments will accept major credit cards (Visa, Mastercard). But it is a good idea to have some

cash on hand for small purchases, tips, etc. How much? This is up to the individual traveler. But \$500 (or the equivalent in GBP) can be thought of as a general guideline.

Generally, travelers can withdraw money — in the local currency — from ATMs. Take care to select ATMs associated with major banks or credit card companies, as the associated fees for money withdrawn from these tend to be less. And make sure you have sufficient funds in your bank account to cover any withdrawals. Lastly, it is a good idea to notify your bank and credit card companies that you will be traveling to the UK to prevent legitimate purchases from being declined.

Tipping is covered for all events in the program. Naturally, travelers would pay for and tip appropriately for any individual services acquired along the way, such as hotel room service. As a general rule, tipping expectations are not as high as they are in the US. Sometimes, services charges are automatically included in restaurant bills. When they are not, it is customary to tip a waiter 10-15 percent of the bill. [Here](#) is a resource for determining appropriate tips.

Baggage

Please do not bring more luggage than you can manage — specifically, one checked suitcase and one reasonably sized carry-on bag. You will also be allowed to bring a personal item such as purse, small backpack, or a laptop bag in addition to your carry-on bag.

The airlines have very specific rules about baggage. Generally, each checked bag must NOT exceed 20 kg or 158 cm (length+height+width). A 28-inch suitcase (i.e., 28 inches on the longest side) is about right. But make sure you check with the airline itself about size requirements for all bags (checked and carry-on) before packing and arriving at the airport.

Due diligence is also required when it comes to packing liquids of any kind in your carry-on bag. The rule of thumb is that any liquids in your carry-on bag must be no more than 3.5 ounces and should be packed in a clear, quarter-sized zip lock bag. This enables security agents to see items clearly. The bulk of medicines, lotions, and cosmetics can be packed (again, in zip lock bags) in your checked bag. But these general guidelines should always be checked against updated TSA information [here](#).

Finally, it is a good idea to pack enough underwear and overnight necessities in your carry-on bag for about two days. This is just in case your checked bag gets lost or delayed.

Clothing

Plan to dress casually (shirts and blouses, khaki pants, jeans, shirts, etc.) but to bring at least one somewhat dressy outfit for any special occasion that arises. This means slacks and skirts, not high heels or coats and ties. Women might want to bring along a scarf.

This [website](#) offers a month-by-month comparison of the climate and weather in the different areas of the UK you will be visiting. Use it as a resource when planning what to pack. The weather in the UK is notoriously variable. One thing for sure, though, is that you are bound to experience winds and rain at

some point(s) during your trip. We suggest bringing an umbrella and rainproof coat or jacket in addition to a sweater for days that are on the colder side.

It is also not a bad idea to bring a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen. And be sure to pack comfortable yet sturdy shoes for walking. (Lighter-weight shoes could be brought along, as well, for use in the afternoons and evenings at the hotel.) If you wear glasses, think about bringing an extra pair. Handbags should have a strap across the shoulder.

Electricity

In the UK, electricity runs on [a 230 supply voltage and 50Hz](#). The typical electrical plug is Type G (3 prongs). If you plan on bringing dual voltage devices only (often such items as mobile phones, tablets, kindles, etc.), you will merely need to bring, in addition, a plug converter/adaptor compatible with the Type G plug. However, if you intend to bring any non-dual device which operates at the US voltage, 110/120V, you will need to bring a voltage converter in addition to the plug adaptor. Travelers are responsible for verifying, individually, whether a plug adaptor and/or voltage converter is required.

Other Items

You may wish to bring a few over-the-counter medications for digestive issues, which sometimes arise during travel. Pepto Bismol and/or Imodium fit into this category. For a proactive approach, you might consider taking probiotics each day, something like Culturelle. Likewise, it is a good idea to bring items to address a potential cold (such as aspirin and Kleenex). And again, to be proactive, you might consider taking a vitamin boosting supplement like Air Borne. Other items that could come in handy include dry skin lotion, antibiotic cream, and hand wipes. But a caution is in order: when packing, remember the baggage size limitations!

Mobile Phones and WiFi

Most mobile phones can be used for international calling, texting, and internet access (data). Just be sure to check with your service provider for coverage and rates, as plans vary by service provider. For service not covered by your contract it is easy, inadvertently, to run up a bill of several hundred dollars in no time at all.

Another good communications tool is WhatsApp — a free app for your smartphone. Be sure to download it and learn how to use it in advance. Most hotels and cafes now offer free Wi-Fi, but it is not guaranteed. Check with the hotel for internet access options.

In case of emergency (i.e., a real emergency not birthday greetings), your family can always reach you through Academy Travel. The business number is 404-282-1055.



Academy International Travel Services

Terms & Conditions

Please read carefully and call Academy Travel with any questions at 404-282-1055.

RESPONSIBILITY/MANAGEMENT: In making travel arrangements for the tour, Inquisitive Ventures, LLC ("IV") dba Academy International Travel Services ("AITS") and/or its agents or sub-agents serves as an agent for the tour participants in all matters connected with hotel accommodations, sightseeing, transportation whether by rail, air, motorcoach, boat, or other types of conveyance and other components constituting the travel portion of this tour. IV dba AITS and/or its agents or sub-agents shall have no responsibility for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay, irregularity, or additional expense arising from changes in schedule, fire, weather, breakdown in machinery or equipment, sickness, quarantines, acts of governments, or other authorities du jour or de facto, wars, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, theft, pilferage, improper documentation, or for any other cause beyond their control. IV dba AITS shall not be liable for any act or omission by any individual or firm contracted for services on behalf of the participant. IV dba AITS reserves the right to cancel the tour, reschedule the departure, amend the itinerary, substitute hotels of comparable quality, and generally make any alteration or substitution if improvements can be made or operating requirements make it advisable, or if unforeseen conditions beyond their control make such changes necessary. IV dba AITS also reserves the right not to accept or retain as tour participant any person whose actions, deportment, mental or physical condition impose upon or disturb other tour participants or impede the operation of the tour. In such cases the liability of IV dba AITS shall be limited to refund of the cost of the unused travel services. By applying for participation in the tour and by utilizing the services of IV dba AITS and/or its agents or sub-agents, the participant acknowledges and accepts the foregoing conditions. Quoted tour prices include planning, handling and operational charges and are based on current rates of exchange, tariffs, and taxes as of the date of this offer. IV dba AITS reserves the right to increase tour prices (not to exceed \$100 per person) to cover increased costs, tariffs, and taxes, or to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets, and to notify each participant in a timely fashion of an increase.

We regret that we're unable to provide individual assistance to participants with walking difficulties or other personal needs. The responsibility of the tour director/leader who accompanies your trip is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey. They cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one participant. Participants requiring such individualized assistance must be accompanied by an able-bodied companion who can provide it.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Negotiated under separate contract and subject to the terms and conditions of each individual airline.

LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE: Subject to the terms and conditions of each airline, but generally each participant will be allowed one piece of checked luggage at no additional charge when traveling on an international carrier — weight not to exceed 50 pounds. One personal item (handbag, laptop bag, etc.), plus one carry on that must fit underneath an aircraft seat or in an overhead storage compartment. Participants are responsible for verifying baggage allowances with the respective airlines.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION ON TOUR: Air-conditioned, modern motorcoaches will be used throughout the trip for all excursions, touring and sightseeing. Ground transfers, including baggage, will be provided between all arrival/departure points and hotels except in the US where no such service is provided. Air-conditioned coaches cannot always be guaranteed for this service.

NON-SMOKING POLICY: Smoking is not permitted on transfer or on touring motor coaches. This policy is for the wellbeing of all tour members and is intended to provide an enjoyable group travel experience.

HOTELS: First-class hotels will be used throughout the trip. Per person costs are based on two persons sharing a twin-bedded room with private bath or shower.

MEALS: Meals are included as per the itinerary for the trip.

TAXES/TIPS/FEES: All service charges are imposed by lodging facilities. Admission fees to the sites or attractions on the official itinerary for the tour are included. Generally, tips for guides and drivers are included in the price of the tour and will be added to final invoice. This will allow the leader to handle the tipping for the group as a whole.

EXTRA COSTS: If you are traveling alone and wish to share accommodations, AITS will assign you a roommate if one is available. If there is no one with whom you can share, you will be invoiced for a single room. No price reduction will be extended to those sharing a triple-bedded room. Items or services not specially mentioned as being included such as laundry or dry cleaning and all items of a personal nature are at the full expense of the participant. Beverages are not included with lunch or dinner and are available only at extra cost.

DOCUMENTS/CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS: All checks should be made payable to Inquisitive Ventures, LLC. A deposit is due to reserve each place on the tour. Interim and final payments are due as per the payment schedule for the respective program. Full payment, which is generally due about 45 days prior to departure, is non-refundable at time of payment. All cancellations must be in writing. No claim will be allowed for any service or sightseeing provided but not used in the course of the trip.

TRANSPORTATION LIABILITY: The several transportation companies which are contracted by AITS to provide services during the course of the tour are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their carriers or conveyances. The passenger contract used by the carriers concerned, when issued, constitutes the sole contract between the transportation companies and the purchaser of such services, and IV dba AITS assumes no liability or responsibility in connection therewith.