

# Exploring our Anglican Roots



**A Pilgrimage to Canterbury,  
Salisbury, London  
and beyond  
Oct. 3-14, 2024**



**Led by Rev. Claudia Wyatt Smith**



**Sponsored by  
St. Alban's Episcopal  
Church**



# Exploring our Anglican Roots

*Throughout our journey, we will be tracing the footsteps of history, from the medieval charm of Canterbury to the ancient mysteries of Stonehenge, and finally the iconic landmarks of London.*



*After flying into London, our journey will begin with three nights in Canterbury. Over the course of the three nights, we will immerse ourselves in the rich history and stunning architecture of Canterbury Cathedral while allowing for time to discover the quaint cobbled streets of Canterbury town with its charming shops and local eateries. Our journey then continues on to Salisbury, a city steeped in history and home to the magnificent Salisbury Cathedral. We will spend four nights here, staying at Sarum College nestled within the cathedral grounds. Over the next four nights, we will have the opportunity to unravel the mysteries of Stonehenge, walk through the ancient ruins of Old Sarum, and delve into the stories of the etched stones of Salisbury Cathedral. The final leg of the journey takes us to the capital city where we will spend three nights exploring the iconic landmarks and architectural wonders which London has to offer. During these last few days, we will have the opportunity to visit our namesake St Alban's Cathedral, marvel at St Paul's Cathedral and soak in the historical significance of Westminster Abbey. London, a city where modernity and tradition coexist, offers a perfect backdrop to our concluding days of exploration. So come and join me as we Explore Our Anglican Roots.*

***Claudia Smith+***

***Priest Associate, St. Alban's Episcopal Church - Cape Elizabeth, ME***

## OUR ITINERARY

### Day 1, Thursday October 3rd, 2024

Depart your home and fly overnight, arriving in London, England on the morning of October 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Day 2, Friday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

We will gather late morning at London Heathrow airport and travel to Canterbury where we will then check into our accommodation. In the afternoon we will visit Canterbury Cathedral and attend a stonemason's workshop to gain insights into the cathedral's intricate designs. We will continue our exploration with a tour of the Cathedral Library and Archives, delving into the historical records that the cathedral safeguards.



In the evening, we will regather for a welcome dinner (preceded by an optional Evensong).

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**Days 3 and 4, Saturday and Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

In the morning we will embark on a tour of Canterbury Cathedral by a specialist church guide where we will explore the cathedral's history, architecture, and notable features. In the afternoon, we will make the short walk to visit the ruins of St Augustine's Abbey, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and uncover the remnants of the Benedictine monastery founded in the 6<sup>th</sup> century and its pivotal role in spread of Christianity in England.



From there we will proceed to St Martin's Church, the oldest church in continuous use in the English-speaking world and explore its historical significance with a specialist church guide. In the evening, we will experience the unique ambiance of Canterbury Cathedral during a candlelight tour.

On Sunday , after attending morning worship at Canterbury Cathedral the remainder of the day is free to explore the charming streets of Canterbury.

## Canterbury

A place of pilgrimage since the Middle Ages. The mixture of Roman-built walls, medieval architecture, cobbled streets, and timber-framed houses creates a charming and atmospheric setting.

Canterbury Cathedral stands as a symbol of England's history, with its origins dating back to 597 A.D. Canterbury Cathedral provides a fascinating journey through time, from the establishment of Christianity by Archbishop Augustine to the role played by Archbishop Langton in the Magna Carta negotiations. The historical drama between King Henry II and Archbishop Thomas Becket adds layers to the cathedral's rich history.

## **Day 5, Monday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

We leave Canterbury after breakfast and travel on to Winchester, home to one of Europe's largest Cathedrals with its Gothic architecture and impressive interior. We will take a guided walking tour of Winchester, exploring key sites including Winchester Cathedral and the Great Hall, home to the legendary Round Table of King Arthur.

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## *Day 5, Monday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 continued*



From there we will travel on to Salisbury and check into Sarum College within the close of Salisbury Cathedral. In the evening, you will have the option to attend the evensong service at Salisbury Cathedral before settling in for dinner.

## **Days 6 and 7, Tuesday and Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

We will begin today with a tour of Salisbury Cathedral, delving into the cathedral's rich history and particular relevance to the Episcopal Church. After, we will explore the nearby Church of St Thomas, another gem nestled in the heart of Salisbury with its own distinctive character.

Spend the remainder of the afternoon exploring Salisbury at leisure. Consider visiting the Magna Carta Museum to learn more about the historical significance of this foundational document.



Wednesday is a day at leisure for further exploration on your own. Some possible suggestions could be to take a short walk to Bemerton, the home of George Herbert, a renowned poet and priest. Or travel by train to Bath, home of Jane Austen.

## **Day 8, Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**



In the morning we will travel to Amesbury where the enigmatic Stonehenge awaits. Explore this iconic site with the guidance of a local expert.

From there we will journey onto Avebury Henge, one the largest Neolithic henge monuments in Britain and explore its stone circles. We will then continue to West Kennet Long Barrow, one of the largest Neolithic chambered tombs in Britain.

Prepare for a half-mile uphill walk across the farmland to reach the tomb.

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## Avebury Henge

Avebury Henge, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a colossal circular earthwork adorned with a massive stone circle. Unlike its more famous counterpart, Stonehenge, Avebury embraces you with its sheer scale and accessibility. Wander through the towering standing stones, each laden with the weight of millennia-old mysteries. Built by Neolithic builders, it is carefully arranged in a circular pattern, creating a space that hints at ancient rituals and astronomical significance.

### Day 9, Friday October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

We will leave for London in the morning. On the way, we will visit the ancient site of Old Sarum, the original location of Salisbury Cathedral. Prepare for some uphill walking as you explore the remnants of this historic hilltop fortress and enjoy the panoramic views.



Upon arrival in London, we will embark on a panoramic tour by way of orientation. Marvel at the iconic landmarks that define London's skyline, including Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey. This will also include a visit to St Pauls Cathedral where you can view the iconic dome and the intricate details of the masterpiece designed by Sir Christopher Wren. The panoramic tour will finish at our centrally located hotel.

### Day 10, Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

In the morning, we will depart for the historic city of St Albans where we will visit our namesake St Albans Cathedral, a sacred site with centuries of history.

We will then return to the London in the afternoon, where the remainder of the day will be yours to enjoy at leisure.



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## Day 11, Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Our final day in London begins by attending Sunday worship service at 10:00 AM at St



Martin's-in-the-Fields, a historic church located in the heart of London. From there, we will embark on a short journey to the Tower of London, a symbol of British history. Enjoy a guided tour that takes your through the centuries, exploring the Crown Jewels and the iconic Tower Bridge. Continue to Westminster Abbey, one of the most iconic and revered landmarks in London. Attend the evensong service at 3:00 PM, surrounded by awe-inspiring architecture. We will then conclude our day with a farewell dinner.

## Day 12, Monday October 14<sup>th</sup> , 2024

After breakfast, we leave for London Heathrow airport.

At London Heathrow airport we board our flight to the USA, then onwards to our homes.

### INCLUSIVE TOUR COST

**\$3,529 per person\***

Shared twin/double

**\$4,338 per person\***

Single room (limited availability)

\*price represents a 3.5% discount for cash/check payment

#### **WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

En Suite accommodation in First Class Hotels

Daily full breakfast throughout (10) and 7 Dinners (including a farewell dinner)

Entrance fees (\*) and local government taxes

\* Entrance fees where indicated on the itinerary

All touring in deluxe air-conditioned tourist coaches.

And much more.....

#### **WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

Individual Airfare

Lunches and 3 dinners, travel insurance, beverages, any items of a personal nature, and anything not specifically mentioned above.

Discretionary tips for exemplary service

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## ***ASSUMPTION OF RISK & RELEASE OF LIABILITY***

By registering and submitting the initial non-refundable deposit either by check or credit card, you confirm your agreement with the following statements:

- I am aware that travel such as that I am undertaking might involve hazardous activities, with a risk of illness, injury or death which may be caused by forces of nature, animals, insects or flora, the negligence of Operation Europe, or other persons and companies known or unknown, or of willful or criminal conduct of third parties. I am aware that weather conditions may be severe, adverse and/or unpleasant. I am also aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during some or all of the time during which I am participating on the trip. In order to partake of the enjoyment and excitement of this trip I am willing to accept the risks and uncertainty involved as being an integral part of my adventure. I hereby accept and assume full responsibility for any and all risks of illness, injury or death and of the negligence of Operation Europe and agree to hold harmless and release Operation Europe from claims of third-party negligence.
- I understand the physical requirements of the activity in which I will be participating, and I currently have no known physical, medical or mental condition which would impair my ability to participate in this tour or my safety in this activity, and I am willing to assume all risks that may be created, directly or indirectly, by any such condition. I hereby authorize Operation Europe or my local providers or others to arrange for any emergency medical treatment and hospitalization as may be necessary for me because of participation in this activity without my further consent.
- I acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate on the trip designated on this application and that I have read the description of the trip as provided to me, together with all information contained in this application. I am voluntarily participating in this trip with knowledge of the hazards involved.
- I have carefully read these Terms and Conditions and the booking information sections of this document, and fully understand its contents and certify that I am 18 years of age or older. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract between myself and Operation Europe and agree of my own free will. I agree to these Travel Terms & Conditions and Operation Europe's Release from Liability and Assumption of Risk for myself, each member of my traveling party and any minor children accompanying me.

## ***TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE***

Hotels, transportation providers, sea and river cruises outside of the United States are not required to comply with ADA requirements and therefore may not have ramps, wide entryways or elevators/lifts to accommodate disabled passengers or devices such as wheelchairs, walkers and motorized scooters. Due to physical constraints and space limitations, wheelchairs, walkers and motorized scooters may not be taken aboard motor coaches, river cruises or other forms of transportation except by prior arrangement. We regret that service animals cannot be accommodated on international tours.

## ***MEDICAL CONDITIONS, ALLERGIES AND SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS***

Any special accommodation required for medical reasons must be specified at least 90 days prior to departure. Although we cannot make any guarantees, every effort will be made to honor special dietary requests.

## ***INSURANCE***

Participants are required to have insurance in place to cover any medical problems that might arise abroad, including serious illness and repatriation costs in the event of death. Additionally, we strongly recommend the purchase of insurance to cover trip cancellation or interruption, baggage loss or delay and other expenses. Insurance should be purchased at the time of initial booking, and policies should be checked carefully for proper coverage, especially so-called "cancel for any reason" policies. Operation Europe does not offer insurance coverage.

## ***ACCOMMODATION***

The lodging management determines all room assignments unless previously agreed. Special requests are welcome but cannot be guaranteed. If the lodging originally requested is not available, a substitute will be offered and will be of a similar category whenever possible. Accommodation standards are subjective: our opinion may differ from yours or from ratings you see elsewhere. On occasion, some facilities or services may not be available at the time of stay due to renovations or other causes. We strive to offer the most up to date information at the time of booking but cannot be held responsible for minor inaccuracies that may occur.

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## **PASSPORT & VISAS**

It is the sole responsibility of each passenger to obtain necessary travel documents including valid passports, visas and immunizations. For US citizens, requirements of the countries to be visited can be obtained from the State Department's website at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>. Citizens of other countries are advised to contact their consulate or embassy. Some countries require passports to be valid for 3 or 6 months beyond the intended return date.

## **NOT INCLUDED**

Any items not specifically listed as inclusions in the itinerary, including but not limited to meals, drinks, laundry, tips, telephone calls and any other items of a personal nature.

## **GROUP HARMONY AND BEHAVIOR**

Participants must obey all local laws, respect local customs and culture, accurately assess personal abilities, respect other trip members' privacy, and follow the suggestions and advice of appointed tour leaders, guides and drivers. The decision of the local guide or local supplier is final on all matters that may threaten the safety or interfere with the well-being of others. Operation Europe reserves the right at its sole discretion to remove from the tour anyone who interferes with others' reasonable expectation of enjoyment.

## **REFUNDS**

Requests for refunds for omitted or incomplete services must be sent in writing to Operation Europe no later than 60 days after completion of travel. Clients must include any relevant documentation and allow at least 6 weeks for processing. Refunds will be made to the group organizer, not to individual clients. Any non-refundable deposits made will be forfeited. Refunds for prepaid items (airline tickets, rail tickets, theater or event tickets) will be made according to the terms and conditions of the supplier, less an administrative charge of \$50.00 per person per occurrence levied by Operation Europe.

## **CANCELLATION – ENTIRE GROUP**

The tour will operate with a minimum of 14 passengers. Should registrations received by 5/1/2024 fall short of this minimum, the tour will be cancelled, and any deposits received will be refunded in full.

In the event of cancellation due to force majeure (e.g., the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020), we will make every effort to refund all monies received. However, should we be unable to obtain refunds of payments made to any of our suppliers, we cannot be held responsible for the return of those funds, and they will be considered forfeited.

## **CANCELLATIONS BY INDIVIDUAL GROUP MEMBERS**

At any time, if a participant's cancellation would result in an increase in the cost per person to be borne by the remaining group members, no refund will be made. Any non-refundable deposits made to suppliers will be forfeited. Additionally, cancellation fees will apply as follows:

Initial deposit : \$400

By 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 : 25% of tour cost

By 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024: Final payment

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## ***RELEASE FROM LIABILITY/RESPONSIBILITY/FORCE MAJEURE***

Operation Europe Inc. and Operation Europe Ltd. (collectively Operation Europe) and/or their agents act solely as booking agents for airlines, hotels, railways, transportation and sightseeing companies and any other service providers in connection with the itineraries of group and individual travellers. Reservations are made and accepted under the terms and conditions of each individual supplier. OE does not accept responsibility for any documents lost or damaged in transit or while in the possession of the client. OE and its suppliers shall not be liable for any damage, loss, accident, injury, delay or irregularity, liability or expense to person or property due to an act or default by any hotel, carrier, or other company or person providing service included in the itinerary. In addition, OE and/or its agents accept no responsibility for any illness, theft, labour disputes, machinery breakdown, government constraints, act of war or terrorism, weather conditions, natural disaster, act of God, defect in any vehicle or transportation or for any misadventure or casualty or any other courses beyond their control. The responsibility of any airline used is solely as set out in the airline's Contract of Carriage. Airlines and other carriers are not responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not aboard their planes or conveyances.

## ***FINANCIAL PROTECTION***

Operation Europe, Inc. operates an independent trust system. All payments received from passengers are held in an FDIC-insured trust account, separate from the company's operational funds. With the exception of funds for airline tickets and supplier deposits, which are released to the airlines/suppliers at the time of booking, all monies are held in trust until five days after completion of the passengers' travel itinerary.

## ***EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION***

Unless otherwise agreed, all suits in connection with, or incident to, any agreement made with Operation Europe, Inc. shall be litigated, if at all, in the courts of the United States, State of Pennsylvania, York County, to the exclusion of other courts of any other state.

**Operation Europe Inc. dba OExplora, 63 N Main St Ste G, Stewartstown, PA 17363, USA**

**Operation Europe Ltd., 11 Angel Wharf, 58 Eagle Wharf Road, London N1 7ER, United Kingdom**

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## REGISTRATION FORM

### Information Form (to be completed by each passenger)

<b>Last Name(s)</b> as shown in your passport	
<b>First Name</b> as shown in your passport	
<b>Middle Name(s)</b> as shown in your passport	
<b>Gender</b> as shown in your passport	
<b>Date of Birth</b> (MM/DD/YYYY)	
<b>Nationality</b> (e.g. USA)	
<b>Street Address</b>	
<b>City</b>	
<b>State/Zip</b>	
<b>Tel</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Dietary Requirements</b>	
<b>Room Type</b> (please mark with check)	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin (2 in a room in separate beds) <input type="checkbox"/> Double (2 in a room sharing a bed) <input type="checkbox"/> Single Occupancy (just me in the room)
<b>Sharing room with</b>	
<b>Payment by</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check – please remit with this form to Operation Europe Inc. <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card – please register at <a href="http://Operation Europe - Traveler (oexplora.com)"><u>Operation Europe - Traveler (oexplora.com)</u></a> using tour code <b>441020101</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On subsequent visits, click on <a href="http://Operation Europe - Traveler Login (oexplora.com)"><u>Operation Europe - Traveler Login (oexplora.com)</u></a> and use your login credentials.</li> <li>• Choose “Room Type” to select the appropriate payment.</li> <li>• We will confirm receipt by email to the address you entered - this is done manually and can take up to 48 hours.</li> </ul>

Note: if paying by check (INITIAL DEPOSIT \$400), please send payment to:  
 Operation Europe Inc., 63 N Main St Ste G, Stewartstown, PA 17363, USA