

LNYDP INFORMATION

All the information you need for taking part in LNYDP, London's New Year's Day Parade and Festival

LNYDP LONDON'S NEW YEAR'S DAY PARADE & FESTIVAL

'The Greatest Event in the Greatest City in the World'

- London's most important New Year Event now in it's fourth decade
- A week long celebration of music in a concert series performed in London's finest music venues
- The greatest New Year's Parade featuring:
 - 8,000 performers drawn from 20 countries around the world
 - two thirds of a million spectators on the historic and spectacular parade route
 - six hundred million TV viewers worldwide

Bob Bone, the event's founder and Executive Director tells you more.





DESTINATION EVENTS: ABOUT US







The founder, organiser, and owner of London's New Year's Day Parade is one of Europe's foremost event organisers – Destination Events Ltd.

Destination Events boasts a supremely accomplished, experienced and dedicated team of staff. They are expert not only in the production of world class events but also in the delivery of superb hospitality arrangements and educational touring experiences for performers in their events.

The Destination Events Team have to be good – their prime sponsors are The Lord Lieutenancy of Greater London and the London Mayors' Association. The sponsors need their city to be shown with excellence. That's what Destination Events do.

Meet key team members by visiting our <u>Destination</u> <u>Events</u> website. Destination Events has found a worthy partner in the Youth Music of the World Organisation. With a dedicated team of experts and consultants, Youth Music source groups who are worthy to be considered for invitation to LNYDP.

Once a group has been accepted for invitation by Destination Events and the Parade's patrons and sponsors, Youth Music then develops a unique performance tour to make it possible for the group to participate in London's New Year's Day Parade and Festival.

Meet key members of the Youth Music team by visiting our <u>Youth Music</u> website.



LNYDP CONCERT SERIES



The New Year Festival Concert Series features spectacular performances in some of London's finest music venues.

All types of musical ensemble are welcome – Symphony Orchestras, String Orchestras, Concert Bands, Wind Ensembles, Big Bands, Jazz Bands, Brass Bands – indeed every conceivable type of ensemble playing all types of music*. We have the perfect venue for your performance and an enthusiastic local audience waiting to applaud you.

Our superb venues include:

- Cadogan Hall click to take a look
- St John's Smith Square click to take a look

Technical rehearsal, full professional stage management and promotion of all concerts in the series is provided, as are tickets for the best seats in the auditorium for all nonperfuming members of any group or ensemble.

Take a look:





^{*} Vocal ensembles of all kinds are catered for in our London International Choral Festival. Click here to visit the LICF website

LNYDP: THE PARADE



The Parade on January 1st is the central point of the week long Festival. Two thirds of a million people throng the historic streets of Westminster – the heart of London, from 12.00 midday until 3.30pm to view the spectacle as it makes its way past:

- The Ritz Hotel Piccadilly
- Piccadilly Circus heart of West End Theatre
- Trafalgar Square Nelson's Column, National Gallery
- Whitehall, Horseguards Parade, Banqueting House, Downing Street
- To the TV Finale performance arena and then on to Parliament Square with the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben and Westminster Abbey

Take a look at London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival:



LNYDP: PASSPORTS & VISAS



Before embarking on an international flight to Europe you must have a valid passport. The passport should have an expiry date of at least six months after the date you return into the United States. If you need to secure a passport for the first time please ensure that you do so as soon as possible. Allow and absolute minimum of eight weeks to secure your passport.

Holders of full USA passports (American Citizens) do not need a visa to enter the United Kingdom.

Holders of non USA passports may need a visa to enter the United Kingdom. Full information of which passport holders do need visas to enter the UK are available on the UK Government Foreign Office website. The same website will tell you where and how to apply for your visa. <u>Click here</u> to visit the website.

On occasions to secure a visa you will need a letter from LNYDP to confirm that you are a member of a performing group in the event and that you will be entering and leaving the UK on specific dates and that accommodation is provided for you whilst you are here. LNYDP can supply such letter but need a minimum of 10 days notice that such a letter is required. Some Visa applications can take several months so, if you do not have or are not eligible to have a full US passport check if you need a visa and make your application as early as possible.

Non American Citizens staying in the USA on a Green Card should also check with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that they will be able to reenter the USA without difficulty after their visit overseas. <u>Click here</u> to visit the website.

We are committed to help any group members who need assistance in the visa process.

LNYDP: GETTING YOU TO LONDON

Youth Music's staff and consultants at Performance Travel (PTL) are experts in arranging air travel from the USA to London for groups invited to perform in LNYDP*.

It is a complicated business arranging air travel for what are often very large groups. PTL work tirelessly to secure the best blocks of seats with the best airlines and the most convenient schedules for performing groups.

Preferred carriers are British Airways, American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and United.

Flights to London are always 'overnight' and range in length from just six hours if you are travelling from Boston to 11 hours if you are coming from southern California. We always try to book you on direct non stop services but of course not all cities in the USA have non stops to London. We do though always try to take you from your nearest major airport and get you to London with no more than one connection wherever you are coming from.

London is on GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) over the new year period. GMT is five hours ahead of Eastern Time, six ahead of Central, seven hours in front of Mountain Time and a whopping eight hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time. This means if you leave the East coast in the early evening you get in to London early in the morning on the following day. Flying from the West coast, if you depart late afternoon, it is close to lunchtime the next day when you land in London.

The service on all airlines in coach (economy) is much the same. You get a free main meal and free drinks soon after take off and maybe a small snack meal before landing. All flights booked by PTL allow you one item of checked luggage. (We deal with the transportation of instruments and musical equipment in a very special and super convenient way). You get a 'carry on' as well – the sizes and weights allowed vary airline to airline. All airlines booked by PTL offer a good range of in flight entertainment.

Check out our airlines:

British Airways American Airlines Delta Air Lines Virgin Atlantic United Airlines



*Using the services of PTL to book your flights is not obligatory but is recommended

LNYDP: GETTING YOUR INSTRUMENTS & EQUIPMENT TO LONDON



One of the most beneficial and appreciated elements included in the Destination Events portfolio and provided as part of the Youth Music programme to LNYDP, is the hassle free way that musical instruments and equipment are transported to London and back to the USA.

- All instruments*, uniforms and essential equipment** are collected from your home base in the USA – school, college, university, or rehearsal centre – and air freighted to London.
- Everything is delivered to your hotel in London just before you arrive and is placed in a secure storage facility exclusive to your group in your hotel.
- When all performances are complete, your consignment will be collected from your hotel and air freighted back to the USA and then delivered to your home base a few days after your return from London.

What do you have to do?

- Complete a detailed and precise 'equipment and instrument' manifest from our template.
- Ensure you have hard/durable cases and boxes for your consignment.
- Pack and label your consignment accordingly.

It's so easy – let our Logistics Director, Joe Bone, tell you how.



^{*} We recommend that smaller instruments – piccolos, flutes and even clarinets are either taken by individual performers in their checked luggage or consolidated in to larger boxes of multiple instruments for inclusion in the freight consignment.

^{**} For concert performers we provide timpani, a limited number of pit instruments, string basses etc. without charge and so these items do not need to be transhipped.

LNYDP: ACCOMMODATION







It is really important to LNYDP organisers that every performer in the event has a great place to stay.

The hotels used are very carefully selected and regularly checked by LNYDP staff to ensure that their standards are maintained.

All hotels used are categorised as superior first class. Standards of decor, furnishing and housekeeping are always high.

- Most participants accommodated 2 per room (2 beds or 1 Queen or King bed). Some hotels offer studio type rooms that can accommodate up to 4 people. Most hotels can offer limited numbers of three bedded rooms.
- All bedrooms have private bathrooms (some with tubs and showers and some with walk in showers only).
- All rooms have flat screen TV's, direct dial phones and hair dryers.
- All hotels offer complimentary WiFi.
- All rooms have mini fridges (minibars destocked).
- All hotels offer irons and ironing boards mostly in every room.
- All hotels offer meeting room facilities to our groups and most offer rehearsal facilities.
- All hotels provide locked and secure rooms for the storage of musical instruments and equipment.

Take a look at our current hotel portfolio:DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel London - Tower HillDoubleTree by Hilton Hotel London - WestminsterHilton KensingtonHilton OlympiaPark Plaza Westminster BridgePark Plaza WaterlooPark Plaza VictoriaPark Plaza RiverbankHoliday Inn Kensington High StreetHoliday Inn Kensington ForumCopthorne Tara Hotel Kensington

LNYDP: MEALS





The LNYDP programme makes sure that participants don't go hungry.

Breakfast is included every day*. A special buffet breakfast is offered to all groups in their hotel. Juices, fresh fruit, yogurts, bread and pastries, ham and cold meats, cheeses, plus always at least two hot items – eggs and either bacon or sausage. Hot drinks will include coffee, hot chocolate and hot teas.

Dinner is included every day. For some days this is a prearranged buffet or plated meal served in a banqueting room at the hotel. On other days we provide a special dine around option where the card and tokens we provide are usable at over 4,000 restaurants throughout London. With London now widely acknowledged as the culinary capital of the world, with more ethnic dining opportunities available than in any other City, the 'Restaurant Choice' cards and 'Pub Tokens' are perfect for LNYDP participants.

A much appreciated addition to the food offering is a special sack lunch provided in the Parade assembly area for all who take part in the Parade on New Year's Day. This lunch consists of a gourmet sandwich, a dessert, 'Babybel' cheese, fresh fruit and bottled water.

The only meal we don't provide is lunch. Participants calculate that they can use part of their generous food allowance to purchase lunch or a good 'fast food' lunch can be bought for around $\pounds4.00 - \pounds5.50$ (\$5.00 - \$7.00) or a sandwich lunch can be purchased for around $\pounds2.00 - \pounds4.00$ (\$2.50 - \$5.00).



^{*} Breakfast is not included in the hotel on the day of arrival. There will have been an offering of a very light breakfast or snack on the plane before it lands. Breakfast is included at the hotel on the day of departure.

LNYDP: SEEING LONDON & ENGLAND





It is very important to us and to our Patrons, Sponsors and Supporters that all LNYDP participants get a fantastic impression of London and England during the time they are in Britain to perform.

We start by securing great hotels, sourcing quality meals and, of course, providing the greatest stages in the world on which to perform.

Then our brilliant team of vastly experienced itinerary planners and hosts come into play to create and deliver a stunning collection of tours, visits and opportunities that give, in a short time, a terrific overview and introduction to our long history, our rich culture and our diverse and welcoming population.

There are a wonderful array of motor coach tours with the best and most interesting guides in any city in the world. Our coaches are all 'state of the art' modern touring (never call them buses – at least in the drivers' earshot!) with panoramic windows. Our coach operator carries \$15 million of liability insurance so you are always safe and protected whilst you are on board.

Meet our chief guide who will tell you a little about his special Blue Badge qualification and about some of the tours that we provide for you.



A half day panoramic sightseeing tour of the West End and the City of London. The ideal introduction to our great City. See the Houses of Parliament with the Clock Tower that holds the bell of Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Whitehall, Downing Street, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus and 'Theatreland' along Shaftesbury Avenue. Look in to Chinatown and Soho, see St. Paul's Cathedral, The Bank of England, Mansion House and The Tower of London. All the time you will be entertained and informed by one of our specially selected guides.

A half day to The Tower of London and the Crown

Jewels. The Tower has served as a royal palace, fortress, prison, place of execution, mint, menagerie and jewel house during its 900 year history. Attractions in the Tower include the Bloody Tower, Traitors Gate, the Chapel of St. John and the Jewel House where the Crown Jewels of England are on show.

A half day tour to <u>Greenwich</u>. The great River Thames that flows through the centre of London is the reason Britain's capital city lies where it does. The Thames

LNYDP: SEEING LONDON & ENGLAND, CONTINUED



is a truly fascinating river and on this excursion to Greenwich you will travel by boat in one direction between Westminster and Greenwich. The history of the river will entrance you and the very special views of London's South and North Banks from your river boat will be spectacular and awe inspiring. In Greenwich you will visit The Royal Observatory with the Prime Meridian – the base line of all time around the globe. You will also visit the National Maritime Museum. Being an island nation, Britain's Maritime History is long and deeply impressive. The Royal Borough of Greenwich has a great and picturesque market and also has it's modern side with the impressive O2 Arena and entertainment complex – one of the finest in Europe.

A half day tour of <u>Windsor</u> and <u>Windsor Castle</u>. Twenty five miles to the west of London lies Windsor, whose 11th century castle is the seat and primary home of the British Royal family. Visit the castle with its State Apartments and Royal Chapel – the burial place of many of our monarchs. Spend time in the delightful town and look out at the vista of Britain's most famous public (private) school, Eton College – alma mater to so many British Prime Ministers and Royal Princes.

A half day in Oxford. Oxford is home to the oldest University in the English speaking world. On this tour you will visit one of the historic colleges that make up the <u>University of Oxford</u>. The buildings that house the colleges are simply superb and full of history. The City is an interesting mix of 'town and gown' with the academics and scholars of the University representing 'gown' and the thousands of skilled workers associated with the BMW Mini plant representing much of the 'town'. It is always great fun in Oxford to look out for the sites and scenes used in the famous British TV series 'Morse', which was all set in and around Oxford.

A half day at <u>Hampton Court Palace</u>. This superb Tudor Palace located on the banks of the Thames in the London Borough of Richmond was originally built by Henry VIII's Chancellor, Cardinal Thomas Wolsey. Wolsey fell from favour – not least because he had built himself a Palace better than the king's and so Henry requisitioned it and it became a Royal Palace which it remains to this day. A visit to the Palace includes entrance to the State Apartments with their magnificent art collections, a tour of the splendidly restored Tudor kitchens (Henry and his court were notorious for their gluttony), a look at the earliest Real (Royal) Tennis Court and the chance to lose yourselves in the famous Maze.

Every programme includes five out of these six special tours/visits. London Panoramic, The Tower, Greenwich,

LNYDP: SEEING LONDON & ENGLAND, CONTINUED



and Windsor we think are best included for all. Then you should choose between Oxford and Hampton Court for your fifth visit.

For those who have taken part previously in LNYDP and have been offered a subsequent invitation we have alternative tours/visits to offer. Remember though that whilst it might be a director's second or third time around (or maybe more) it should always be borne in mind that usually group members just get one bite of the cherry. Thus we recommend choosing from the above.





LNYDP: EXCLUSIVE AUDIO GUIDED WALKS



Listen to Tyler Butterworth tell you about these wonderful walks.



London is one of the greatest 'walking' cities in the world. At the heart of London, in the City of Westminster, in the 'Square Mile' City of London and in the historic boroughs of Southwark, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets and Lambeth there is something unique, arresting and fascinating around just about every corner, in every nook and cranny and in every historic narrow alley way and mews.

LNYDP thinks it really important to show its very special visitors to London the very best that London has to offer and to give a perspective of London than can really only be achieved on foot.

So we commissioned the very best. We asked the famous radio actor and historian Tyler Butterworth if he would write and perform for us a series of unique walks showing the very best and most interesting parts of London to our performers and visitors.

All Tyler's walks, produced exclusively for LNYDP, are presented on easy to use 'credit card' MP3 players equipped with headphones, a charger (and adaptor) and accompanied by printed materials to help the tours keep on track. These 'keep and take home' players are a fabulous educational tool and should make the LNYDP programme worthy of a history credit!

We now have a total of five tremendous walks. When you come to London we will offer you a package of four of these walks to be downloaded onto your MP3 player.

To make it easy to get from walk to walk and to help you get around in your unstructured time, we provide you with the ultimate ticket to London's extensive and very sophisticated public transit system operated by <u>Transport for London</u> or TfL.

LNYDP: EXCLUSIVE AUDIO GUIDED WALKS, CONTINUED





Get a taste of each walk by clicking on the links below:

London's New Year's Day Parade Route – great history and stories, logistically and very helpful to LNYDP performers.

The South Bank – a walk from the London Eye to Southwark Cathedral and The Borough Market. Historic Southwark to 21st century Southwark in one walk.

London, Rock & Roll Capital of the World – exploring the history of the Swinging Sixties, Glam Rock, Punk Rock, Brit Pop and much more.

Harry Potter's London – see for real all of the London sites that are so evocatively written about in J K Rowling's Harry Potter Series.

Princes, Palaces & Power – walk shoulder to shoulder through Westminster with 1,000 years of Royalty.

As well as the two hour walks Tyler has also produced a series of special short tracks highlighting places and buildings associated with the great and intertwining history of the UK and the USA.

Tyler has also created a scavenger hunt style walking tour called '**Guide & Seek**'. This is a self guided tour following a route to collect answers using the clues provided.



LNYDP: VISITOR OYSTER CARD



This is your passport to London. A terrific prepaid travel card for all of London's excellent public transport systems.

The card can be used on:

- The London Underground (Tube)
- London Buses all those famous red double deckers and more besides
- The London 'Overground 'Railway System (within certain limits)
- The Docklands Light Railway
- The Emirates Air Line Cable Car.

It's so easy to use your Oyster. Touch on and off at tube, DLR and overground station barriers. Touch in when you get on a bus – no need when you get off.

We have put an amount of value on your card that will cover all of your itinerary activities. If you look like you are running out of value simply top up your card at any station – quick easy and simple.

Find out all about the Oyster Card.



LNYDP: NEW YEAR'S EVE





It's time to party – but not till too late as you'll be taking part in the greatest show on earth the following day – and there may well be an early morning call for performers in LNYDP!

But we do throw a great party to welcome in the New Year.

- A private room is reserved at the hotel for you and all the other groups of performers staying in your hotel.
- The room will be prepared for the party by the hotel's tour assistants you are always welcome to help out.
- We provide glow bands, balloons and party poppers to help the evening go with a bang!
- A top rated disco and light show will be provided with a terrific playlist of just about anything you can think of – give your tour assistant advance notice and your favourite tracks can be ready to go – or you can request on the evening.
- We provide pizza and sodas to boost the calories you shed with the dancing.
- All parties are 100% secure, free of alcohol, and exclusive to LNYDP performers.

LNYDP: UNIQUE SERVICE





A little earlier we looked at the great DEL team who organise LNYDP and your London hospitality arrangements. If you want to refresh your memory just <u>click here</u>.

Likewise you are in really good hands with the Youth Music/Performance Travel teams in the USA and UK. Again if you want a reminder of who they all are just click here.

So you have great people taking care of you but what else makes our service so special?

- Our Group Organiser's Guide. An absolutely invaluable manual detailing out every step of the way how we need you to prepare for your group's participation in LNYDP. This guide is delivered to you electronically in the early part of the year that you travel. Regular updates are sent as modifications and improvements are made.
- Summer site inspection. It is imperative that every group is represented by its leader/s on a fixed date Summer site inspection programme in London. On this site inspection there are a series of seminars, meetings, venue tours, Parade route walks and hotel tours that prepare you for leading your group at the end of the year.
- Virtual site inspection. After site section we provide you with a copy of a digital presentation covering everything that has been discussed and shown to you in London, but in a way that can be presented to your group.
- The ace up our sleeve is our team of Tour Assistants. Each group will be allocated one. Your Tour Assistant will have been carefully trained and will be an ever present resource of organisation information and friendship whilst you are in London - '24/7', from the moment you arrive until the time you leave. During site inspection we will secure from you the profile of the type of person you want and then we will make our staff allocation in November. We will have your allocated Tour Assistant contact you in December to introduce him or herself and see what they can do to help you in your last minute preparations. Our Tour Assistants are terrific people, none less than 21 and none more than 29 years of age. All University educated and all with a deep knowledge and passion for London and LNYDP.





LNYDP: IMPORTANT EXTRAS







For performers:

- All performers in LNYDP are presented with a specially struck medal to acknowledge their contribution to the greatest event in the greatest city in the world. You can only receive a medal if you take part they are highly sought after.
- Every performer will receive a digital version of the group photo taken either on New Year's Day or at a gala concert.

LNYDP truly welcomes family members, friends, alumni and supporters of all performing groups and offers them the same arrangements as for performers. So we are delighted to offer the following to all categories of non-performer in every group as a little extra.

- A complimentary concert ticket to each and every concert that their group performs in.
- Priority access on the highly sought after LNYDP grandstand tickets. Tickets go on sale to the general public on 1st July each year and sell out within hours, but seats will be held for non-performing members of overseas performing groups until the 1st October provided the tickets are ordered as a group through the LNYDP London office. Payment will be through Youth Music as a supplement to the group billing. Grandstand tickets ordered after 1st October cannot be guaranteed.

LNYDP: SECURITY & PEACE OF MIND



A comprehensive travel insurance policy is included for everyone on the performance tour programme to LNYDP.

Coverage includes:

- cancellation
- medical and emergency expenses
- personal accident
- baggage
- delayed baggage
- musical instruments

• rental or replacement musical instrument This protects the vast majority of the performance tour cost should you be forced to cancel for a significant number of reasons.







LNYDP: WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?

Youth Music's (YM) Directors of International Participation, along with their consultants, are constantly scouring the Americas for groups we would like to invite to take part in LNYDP and the Festival.

If you are contacted by a member of the YM team and are interested in going a step further then Youth Music will ask LNYDP to put your name before the steering committee for approval. If you secure this approval LNYDP, will write to tell you that you have been accepted for invitation.

You will then enter into negotiations with YM who will produce for you a document entitled 'Offer of Performance Tour'. This encapsulates your discussion with YM, listing out the dates that you would travel and the gateway you would travel from, the number of places we can offer you, an exact listing of performance, hospitality and educational touring features, a cost and a payment schedule. The final page of this document requests that you secure signatures from all relevant parties that you may accept the offer.

Once accepted, the Offer Document is returned to Youth Music/Performance Travel who then create a contract based on the contents of the Offer. Once you have signed and returned the contract you will then be contacted by LNYDP to set up a date for the presentation of the official invitation. This will be undertaken during a visit to your group in the USA by one of the Senior or Principal Patrons of LNYDP. You are not deemed invited and the contract is invalidated, if you do not receive the official invitational visit.









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