



THE LONDON SPRINGTIME MUSIC FESTIVAL



Performance Travel Ltd



THE LONDON SPRINGTIME MUSIC FESTIVAL
Sample Itinerary: Choirs and Choral Groups
including Massed Choir Gala Concert

SAMPLE ITINERARY



HILTON LONDON KENSINGTON

179-199 Holland Park Avenue
London W11 4UL

☎ 020 7603 3355

🚇 Central Line

Lines from this station: Shepherd's Bush,
Holland Park

🚓 Shepherd's Bush Police Station
252 Uxbridge Road, W12 7JA

🚇 Shepherd's Bush Market

🏥 Charing Cross Hospital
Fulham Palace Road, W6 8RF

🚇 Hammersmith

🏪 Hillcrest Pharmacy
106 Holland Park Avenue, W11 4UA

🚇 Holland Park

American Embassy

33 Nine Elms Lane, SW11 7US

🚇 Vauxhall

☎ 020 7499 9000

Dial 999 for emergency services
(from all UK landlines)

Dial 112 for emergency services
(from all cell phones)

Dial 101 for non-emergency
(Police - reporting thefts etc)

Dial 111 non-emergency
(Medical advice etc.)



DAY 1 (SATURDAY)

Depart on your flight(s) to London.

Flights may be multi sectored. One main meal and one snack meal will be served on your transatlantic flight, along with complimentary soft drinks. Movies and audio entertainment will also be available on your transatlantic flight.

DAY 2 (SUNDAY)

On your arrival in London, after clearing immigration and customs, you will be assisted by the Destination Events meet & greet team in your terminal, who will show you to your coach(s).

You will be taken by motor coach to your hotel.

Your tour assistant will meet you at your hotel. They will have checked in the night before so will be already working with the management to arrange your rooms as soon as possible.

Check-in time is at 4.00pm, so there may be a wait before you have access to your room and so we will schedule lunch and a walk of the local area.

Your tour assistant will inform you of the time and place for an orientation meeting, where you will learn all about your week in London.

At this meeting, you will receive all the items you need to make the most of your exciting week ahead. This includes:

- ✦ Your pocket-sized itinerary book which you will carry with you all week. Not only does it contain this detailed daily schedule, but it also has maps and directions for your walking tours as well as a useful information section. Check out the apps!
- ✦ A wallet containing your own Visitor Oyster Card, which allows you to travel on London's underground and bus network.



- ✦ Also, your 'Ticket Restaurant' card that you will be using to purchase three of your dinners this week. You will need to activate your card before you use it. More information on how to obtain your pin number will be provided.
- ✦ A fold out street map of London with an underground section to help you plan your activities this week.

Time permitting, this afternoon you will undertake the first of your audio walks. We will have already sent you the files for each of the three walks included in your programme. These will have been loaded on to your personal cell phone or mobile device.

At the earliest opportunity, make your way to your nearest underground station and board the train to Westminster Station.

Walk upstairs and cross over to Big Ben, the starting point for the first of the wonderful audio walks that are included in your programme, Princes, Palaces and Power.

This audio tour will take you from Parliament Square to Buckingham Palace. Indulge in London's Royal history and walk in the actual footsteps of kings and queens as we take in some of the most iconic places and palaces in the world. This is a thousand years of London in just over an hour!

Return by underground to your hotel.

Dinner will be served in a private room in your hotel.

The rest of this evening is free for you to acclimatise to London time.

We recommend that you do not go to bed before 9.30pm, so that everyone's body clock is reset before the morning.



DAY 3 (MONDAY)

A substantial buffet breakfast will be served each morning in a private room on the ground floor of your hotel at the time indicated in your daily itinerary.

Breakfast is served.

Join your Blue Badge guide and board your coach.

This morning we will whisk you away on a spectacular tour of London's most famous landmarks, including the Palace of Westminster, home of the two Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London.

Soak up the atmosphere as your Blue Badge guide introduces you to over 1,000 years of history. This is also your opportunity to look out for the places you would like to visit during your unstructured time.

There will be a couple of stops for photographs.

On the list of 'must see when I am in London' is the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace which takes place this morning (weather permitting). Your guide will lead you to the front of the palace to find a good vantage point. The ceremony starts at 10.45am and it lasts about 45 minutes.

The privilege of guarding the Sovereign traditionally belongs to the Household Troops, better known as 'the Guards', who have carried out this duty since 1660. The Guards consist of five infantry regiments - the Grenadier, Coldstream, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards - and two regiments of the Household Cavalry - the Life Guards and Blues and Royals. Most of the Guards will have seen action overseas.

Continue on your panoramic tour.

Tour ends.

Lunch at leisure.



Performers will make their way by coach to one of the Festival's concert venues in London.

Rehearsal begins for your concert performance as an individual choir singing your own repertoire.

Rehearsal ends. Depart by coach and return to the hotel.

Dinner will be served in a private room in your hotel.

Board your coach and return to the concert venue for your performance.

Performance begins.

Performance ends.

Rejoin your coach and return to your hotel.

DAY 4 (TUESDAY)

Breakfast is served.

Join your Blue Badge guide and board your coach.

Today you will experience the delights of the county of Berkshire with a visit to Windsor.

Arrive in Windsor.

This beautiful historic country town is renowned for its cobbled lanes and narrow passages. At the heart of the town is the castle which for over 900 years has been residence and fortress for the British monarch.

On arrival, your guide will take you into the town centre and will accompany you on a walk that will finish at the entrance to the castle.

A highlight of the day will be a visit to Windsor Castle, where you will enjoy a self-guided audio tour of the wonderful Royal Apartments, followed by a walk of the castle walls.

Take in the splendour of St George's Chapel, one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture and one of the most beautiful ecclesiastical buildings in England.





It is the burial place of 11 monarchs including Queen Elizabeth II, Henry VIII and Charles I and the setting for many royal weddings, including that of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

Visit the King George VI Memorial Chapel off the North Quire aisle, where Queen Elizabeth II, The Duke of Edinburgh, King George VI, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret are all interred.

Lunch at leisure.

This afternoon you will have some free time to discover the town and the fantastic shops for yourself.

Time to leave Windsor.

Arrive back in London.

Coaches drop performers off at the venue for the first of the massed choir rehearsals. Work with the Festival's Choral Director and a group of professional singers/mentors.

The rehearsal will last for approximately two hours. After the rehearsal return to the hotel.

Dinner at leisure this evening using the 'Ticket Restaurant' card provided.

Your card will be used in restaurants on the three dinners scheduled outside your hotel. Just order from the menu and pay as you would with a contactless credit card.

The card may be used in any full service or fast-food restaurant, as well as most coffee and sandwich shops.

Evening at leisure.

Return to your hotel by underground.





DAY 5 (WEDNESDAY)

Breakfast is served.

This morning is free for independent sightseeing and shopping.

One option to use your time would be one of our wonderful audio tours.

Depart by underground for Tottenham Court Road Station, the starting point for the London, Rock & Roll Capital of the World audio tour.

If rock music is your thing, then no other city in the world has such a rich rock and roll history as London. All the greats have performed here, from Hendrix to the Stones, from the Beatles to Elton John. A highlight will be the sight of Abbey Road studios and the crossing used by the Beatles for the iconic picture on their album cover for Abbey Road.

Don't miss the British Museum and the National Gallery, they're free! Although you have to pay, a visit inside St. Paul's Cathedral or Westminster Abbey are a must.

Remember you will need to change your money for those important purchases!

The most famous department stores are Harrods (Knightsbridge), Liberty (Regent Street) and Selfridges (Oxford Street), although there are many more wonderful shops to choose from on Bond Street and in Covent Garden.

The most popular places to hang out are Piccadilly Circus, Leicester Square, Covent Garden and the Hard Rock Café (Hyde Park Corner).

Travel by underground to the venue for the second of the massed choir rehearsals. Work with the Festival's Choral Director and a group of professional singers/mentors.

The rehearsal will last for approximately two hours. After the rehearsal return to the hotel.



Dinner at leisure this evening using the 'Ticket Restaurant' card provided.

Return to your hotel by underground.

DAY 6 (THURSDAY)

Breakfast is served.

Join your Blue Badge guide and board your coach.

This morning you will enjoy a visit to the Tower of London.

The ancient stones reverberate with dark secrets, priceless jewels glint in fortified vaults and ravens strut the grounds. The Tower of London, founded by William the Conqueror in 1066, holds some of the most remarkable stories from across the centuries. Despite a grim reputation as a place of torture and death, this powerful and enduring fortress has been enjoyed as a royal palace, served as an armoury and for a number of years even housed a zoo!

Gaze up at the massive White Tower, tiptoe through a kings' medieval bedchamber and marvel at the priceless Crown Jewels. There are bloody tales to tell; stand where heads rolled and prisoners wept.

The Tower held many famous prisoners from the highest levels of society; some in astonishing comfort and others less so... visit the places of their confinement and read the graffiti left by prisoners from over 500 years ago.

At the end of your visit, walk the short distance across Tower Bridge to Butlers Wharf.

Board a Thames River boat for a 30 minute cruise from the Tower to Westminster Pier, passing the Palace of Westminster and the London Eye. Your crew will provide historical commentary.

Arrive at Westminster Pier, where the tour ends.

Lunch at leisure.



For supporters, this afternoon is an ideal opportunity to undertake another of the audio tours or to visit some more of London's most popular attractions and to enjoy some shopping.

Walk to Embankment Station and make your way to the Golden Jubilee Bridge, the starting point for the South Bank Stroll.

You will enjoy a walk along the south bank of the River Thames, which has played an integral part in the history of London. Highlights will be the Royal Festival Hall, the Tate Modern, Millennium Bridge, Globe Theatre, Southwark Cathedral and Borough Market.

Return to your hotel by underground.

The choir will depart by coach for a rehearsal at the Festival's Gala concert venue.

The choral rehearsal for the Massed Choirs Gala Concert begins.

You will be joined by members of the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra for the last part of your rehearsal.

Rehearsal ends.

Board your coach to return to your hotel.

Dinner will be served in a private room in your hotel.

The whole group will depart for the concert venue for your performance at this evening's 'London Springtime Music Festival Gala Concert'.

Take your seats.

The 'London Springtime Music Festival Gala Concert' begins.

Concert ends.

Your coach will be on hand to take you back to your hotel.



DAY 7 (FRIDAY)

Breakfast is served.

Join your Blue Badge guide and board your coach.

This morning we will EITHER treat you to a tour of Hampton Court which lies just 20 miles upstream of Westminster on the River Thames, OR you will experience the delights of the county of Oxfordshire with a visit to the City of Oxford.

Arrive at Hampton Court.

This spectacular palace dates from 1514 and was the favourite home of King Henry VIII, he of the 6 wives.

Your visit includes a view of his state apartments and the Tudor kitchens. Up to 800 courtiers could accompany Henry VIII, all needed to be fed. So, the king enlarged the existing Great Kitchen and it became an efficient food factory, serving 1600 meals a day.

Lunch at leisure.

The house was expanded in the late 17th century by London's most famous architect, Sir Christopher Wren and so there is much to see as you stroll around the six acres of magnificent buildings.

The beautiful gardens in their current form were largely created by William and Mary from 1689 and feature the Great Fountain Garden, the Privy Garden and the Long Water, created by Charles II around 1660. The Maze was created at the end of the 17th century.

Arrive in Oxford.

Known as the 'city of dreaming spires', the university buildings and the 39 colleges dominate the centre of the city.



Your guide will take you on a walk in the centre with views of Radcliffe Square, Old Schools Quadrangle (1613), the Radcliffe Camera (1737, a rotunda that originally housed the Radcliffe Library), the Sheldonian Theatre (1664, Sir Christopher Wren's second major building), the Ashmolean Museum (1683, the oldest museum in England) and the Bridge of Sighs (a bridge that connects two parts of Hertford College that looks very much like the famous bridge in Venice).



A highlight of the day will be a timed visit to Christ Church College. Founded in 1546 by King Henry VIII, Christ Church is amongst the largest and wealthiest at the University of Oxford, with an endowment of £596m and student body of 650. Its grounds contain a number of architecturally significant buildings including Tom Tower, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, Tom Quad, the largest quadrangle in Oxford and the Great Dining Hall,

which have all featured in films such as the Harry Potter series and The Golden Compass. The medieval chapel, with the shrine of St Frideswide and its medieval and modern stained glass windows, is a unique joint foundation with Oxford Cathedral and is home to the world famous Oxford Cathedral Choir.



The college's alumni include 15 British and international prime ministers. Other notable alumni include King Edward VII, William Penn, seventeen archbishops, Lewis Carroll (author of Alice in Wonderland), philosopher John Locke, and scientist Robert Hooke. Albert Einstein is also associated with the college.

Lunch at leisure.

Time permitting you may wish to visit the Ashmolean, widely recognised as the first modern museum in the world. Pedestrian-friendly Cornmarket Street is Oxford's busiest shopping street. Along with its many big-brand shops, it's also home to the historic Golden Cross arcade and the Covered Market (1774). Look out for shops that sell the ubiquitous Oxford University t-shirts and sweatshirts.



Re-join your coach and return to London.

Dinner at leisure, using the 'Ticket Restaurant' card provided to dine at a restaurant of your choice this evening.

Evening at leisure.

DAY 8 (SATURDAY)

Please ensure that you bring your own luggage down to reception in preparation for boarding your coach to the airport.

Board your coach and depart for Heathrow Airport.

Arrive and check in for your return flight to the US.

Our meet & greet team will once again be on hand to assist you with the check-in.

Flights may be multi sectored.

Lunch and a snack meal will be served on-board your transatlantic flight.

We wish you a safe journey home and hope very much that we will see you again in our wonderful capital city!

