

MAY 19 – 26, 2024



VANDERBILT  
Alumni Association



Royal  
LONDON

FEATURING THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

WITH STUDY LEADER *Sarah Nichols*

# Royal LONDON



FEATURING THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW  
WITH VANDERBILT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear Vanderbilt Traveler,

Please join the Vanderbilt Alumni Association on an exciting trip to England for Royal London featuring the Chelsea Flower Show, May 19 – 26, 2024. Known as “the world’s capital”, London is an exhilarating and diverse metropolis offering culture and history around every corner and down every street. It would take a lifetime to experience all that London has to offer. On our journey we will discover quintessential London with visits to famous neighborhoods, iconic sites, and historical places.

When one thinks of London, certain sites are so emblematic that they simply cannot be missed. Explore the royalty, grand museums, dazzling architecture, and historic splendor of the city with visits to the renowned British Museum, magnificent Buckingham Palace, the significant Churchill War Rooms, and the historic landmark of Westminster Abbey. Traverse the neighborhoods of St. James’s, Knightsbridge, and Belgravia, soaking in the history and architecture. Discover London’s celebrated food scene with lunches and dinners at local pubs and restaurants, a food tour at Borough Market, and no experience is complete without afternoon tea at the famous Fortnum & Mason.

Journey outside of London on an excursion to the charming town of Windsor, steeped in historical regality. Visits include the royal residence of Windsor Castle and the elite Eton College. The jewel in the crown of our trip to London, is the annual Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Flower Show. Receive exclusive access to the world’s most prestigious flower show, which has been operating for over 100 years, and is still a leader in horticultural innovation.

Our home away from home for six nights is the grand Capital Hotel, tucked away in the heart of Knightsbridge. Offering classic British atmosphere with elegantly designed rooms, decorated with original art and antique furniture. The Capital Hotel provides the perfect setting for a traditional English experience.

I hope you will join the Vanderbilt Alumni Association on this adventure across the pond to London, England.

Warm wishes,

Cary DeWitt Allyn  
Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program



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For more details: [WWW.VUCONNECT.COM/TRAVEL](http://WWW.VUCONNECT.COM/TRAVEL)  
615.322.3673



## *Sarah Nichols: Study Leader*

Sarah served as assistant curator of decorative arts at Carnegie Museum of Art from 1982 to 1986 and returned as curator of decorative arts in 1992. Sarah was keeper of Lotherton Hall at Leeds City Art Galleries from 1986-1989, and director of York Art Studies from 1989-1992. After retiring in 2006, Sarah returned to the UK in 2011 and is actively involved in The Furniture History Society, the York Georgian Society, the Leeds Art Fund, and the Decorative Arts Society.

## *Hotel: The Capital Hotel in Knightsbridge*

As one of London’s first boutique hotels, The Capital Hotel has elegant rooms that are individually designed and classically decorated with original art and antique furniture, presenting a quintessentially British atmosphere.



## MAY 19 – 26, 2024

### SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024: USA / LONDON

### EN ROUTE

Depart the USA on your overnight flight(s) to London, England (*we are pleased to assist with your flights*).

### MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024: ARRIVE LONDON

### THE CAPITAL HOTEL

Upon arrival in London, independent transfer to The Capital Hotel, one of London's first boutique hotels. Time to settle in and explore the neighborhoods of Knightsbridge and Belgravia on your own. Synonymous with the finer things in life, Knightsbridge offers beautiful architecture, delicious dining, and luxury shops, the most famous Harrods department store. Belgravia is home to one of the grandest 19th-century squares, Belgrave Square, as well as beautiful residential streets and famous houses. Welcome dinner at a local restaurant in London. (D)

### TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024: LONDON

### THE CAPITAL HOTEL

Exclusive access to the Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Flower Show on Members Day. Held for more than a century on the grounds of the Royal Hospital, the show is the pinnacle of garden design and draws the international gardening scene. Specialist nurseries reveal new plants and the best designers show off their astonishing creations. Lunch at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show followed by a guided tour of the Royal Hospital Chelsea led by a Chelsea Pensioner. The tour tells the story of the Hospital's history, the long-standing ambassadorial role of the Chelsea Pensioners, and features The Great Hall, Chapel, and Figure Court. Evening on your own. (B,L)

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024: LONDON

### THE CAPITAL HOTEL

Guided tour of the world famous British Museum, dedicated to human history, art, and culture. See the Rosetta Stone, Lewis Chessmen and the Parthenon frieze, as well as many other fascinating objects. Continue to Borough Market for an exclusive food tasting as lunch. The market is one of the largest and oldest food markets in London with the site dating back to the 12th-century. Remainder of the afternoon and evening on your own. (B,L)

### THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024: LONDON

### THE CAPITAL HOTEL

Today is a day of iconic experiences. Morning behind-the-glass access to the Churchill War Rooms at the Imperial War Museums. Immerse yourself in the War Cabinet Room, used by Churchill and his war Cabinet during the Blitz. Explore the Map Room, Britain's global information hub, and Churchill's in-tact bedroom. Next is a private guided tour of Westminster Abbey, one of the most important Gothic buildings in the country, which was founded by Benedictine monks in 960 AD and is the final resting place to 17 monarchs. This afternoon it's teatime at Fortnum & Mason, the epitome of sophistication of afternoon high tea! Evening on your own. (B,T)

### FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024: WINDSOR

### THE CAPITAL HOTEL

Day trip to Windsor with visits to Windsor Castle and Eton College. The oldest and largest occupied castle in the world, Windsor Castle was founded by William the Conqueror and has been home to 40 monarchs. Nearby is Eton College, the largest boarding school in England, well known for its history, wealth, and notable alumni. Enjoy a quintessential pub lunch in Windsor before returning to London for evening on your own. (B,L)

### SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024: LONDON

### THE CAPITAL HOTEL

Private tour of Buckingham Palace with an expert guide. Serving as The King's official London residence, explore the magnificent State Rooms holding masterpieces from the Royal Collection. Explore the neighborhood of St. James's on a guided walking tour. Step back in time to discover the secret alleyways, hidden courtyards, and streets bursting with historic gems and colorful characters. Enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant in London. (B,L,D)

### SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024: DEPART LONDON

### EN ROUTE

Independent transfer to the London Airport for your return flight to the USA. Welcome home! (B)



## *Cost of Adventure:*

**ROYAL LONDON PROGRAM: \$8,950** PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY **SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$2,950**

**EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT BY NOVEMBER 1, 2023: \$8,750** PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED "GUIDANCE PROVIDED"**

## *Included in your program:*

- 6-night hotel stay in London • Meals as indicated by **(B), (L), (D), (T)** **B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, T=Tea**  
(6 breakfasts at hotel, 3 lunches, 1 food tasting, 1 afternoon tea, 2 dinners (with included beverages))
  - Entrance to all museums, activities, tours, and visits related to the itinerary
  - Guides throughout the trip related to the included activities, tours, and visits
    - Gratuities for guides, drivers, restaurant service per the itinerary
- Private coach transportation between hotels and visits/meals related to the itinerary

## *Not Included:*

- International flights from USA to London and return • Airport to hotel arrival and departure transportation
- Meals (breakfast outside of the hotel, 3 lunches, 4 dinners), snacks, and beverages outside of the included meals
  - Hotel room incidentals • Personal purchases

## *Payment Schedule:*

- A \$1,500 per person deposit is required to confirm services
  - Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure
- Payment is accepted by personal check, wire transfer and all major credit cards

## *Rates & Fares:*

- All rates shown are accurate at the time of publication and are subject to change
- Prices are based on foreign exchange rates the company feels will be in effect at the time of departure

## *Refunds & Cancellations:*

**All cancellations must be in writing. The per person cancellation charges are:**

- More than 90 days prior to departure: 50% of deposit • 89-60 days prior to departure: 50% of tour price
- 59-30 days prior to departure: 75% of tour price • Less than 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour price
  - There is no refund for a partially completed tour or for unused services of any kind

PROGRAM DESIGNED BY **DESTINATIONS & ADVENTURES**  
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*Cary Allyn*, VANDERBILT TRAVEL OFFICE **615.322.3673**  
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# Royal LONDON



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FEATURING **THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW**  
**VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY**  
**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • MAY 19 – 26, 2024**

**ROYAL LONDON PROGRAM DEPOSIT** \$1,500 pp is required to secure your reservation

Secure your reservation with a deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ charged to the credit card below,  
or with the enclosed check payable to **Destinations & Adventures** by **November 1, 2023** for the advertised rate.

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