Eastern England Walk

August 28 to September 9, 2016

“We find these programs to be unique learning experiences. They seem to delve in depth into all aspects of the regions visited.”

SAMUEL JOHNSON FAMOUSLY PRONOUNCED IN THE 18TH CENTURY, “When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life.” When present-day Londoners need a break from their bustling city, they head to the nearby countryside for its quiet pleasures. On our new walking program through Eastern England, we’ll visit academic Cambridge, then head north to agricultural Norfolk, pastoral Suffolk and finally across the Thames where it meets the sea to Kent and Sussex, stopping at cathedrals, battlefields, splendid castles and stately homes along the way. Accompanied by English literature expert Charlie Junkerman as well as many British academics, plus Tony Morris and Peter Watson, enjoy healthy country walking and great meals. We’ll learn to love the land that inspired some of England’s most famous literature and finest pastoral paintings.
Faculty Leader

CHARLES JUNKERMAN arrived at Stanford in 1983 to teach in the Western Culture program. His courses since then have covered a wide range of subjects from the Enlightenment to the present, with a special emphasis on 19th-century English literature and modern Irish literature. His lectures during our program will focus on some of the many world-famous artists and authors with strong connections to the region. Charlie says about leading our Walk, “The challenge will be to decide what not to cover. I’d love to talk about Constable and his ‘cloud studies,’ Darwin at Cambridge, of course Chaucer and his pilgrims, and Henry James, whose house in Rye—Lamb House—is a jewel; then there’s Dickens, and Sissinghurst, and Rupert Brooke...see how hard it is to leave something out!” Charlie also looks forward to “opportunities for nice after-dinner readings from the works of some of my favorite playwrights.”

- Associate provost and dean, Continuing Studies, since 1999
- Assistant dean, undergraduate studies, 1986–1990
- President, Stanford Historical Society, 2010–2012
- Resident fellow, Wilbur Hall, 1984–1992
- Recipient of the Cuthbertson Prize for extraordinary contributions to Stanford, 2009
- BA, English, 1970, University of Wisconsin
- PhD, comparative literature, 1985, UC-Berkeley

“Charlie Junkerman is a true gem. He is intelligent, thoughtful, insightful, accessible, and his lectures are exceptional.”

—2013 Betsy Tyler, Irish Sea Walk, 2013

Itinerary

SUNDAY & MONDAY, AUGUST 28 & 29
DEPART U.S. / LONDON, ENGLAND / CAMBRIDGE
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to London’s Heathrow Airport. Upon arrival, transfer to Cambridge, and after checking in to our hotel, join our group for a welcome reception.
HOTEL DU VIN

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30
CAMBRIDGE
Today we explore this world-renowned university town, famed for its medieval heritage, as well as for being at the center of cutting-edge technology (it’s sometimes called “Silicon Fen”). Visit Cambridge’s colleges with a local academic and walk through Grantchester Meadows, celebrated in the poetry of Rupert Brooke.
HOTEL DU VIN (B,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2 hours; afternoon, approx. 1 hour city walking.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31
CAMBRIDGE / BURNHAM MARKET
Drive north toward the Norfolk coast, passing fine flint churches as we traverse the landscape. On the way pause at the great pilgrimage site of Walsingham before heading for the remote north coast and our hotel in the village of Burnham Market.
THE HOSTE (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2 hours; afternoon, approx. 1.5 hours.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
NORTH NORFOLK COAST / HOLKHAM / BURNHAM MARKET
Walk along the serene and beautiful coastal landscapes of north Norfolk coast, where England’s best-loved hero, Horatio Nelson, grew up and first went to sea. Visit the little village of Holkham and nearby Holkham Hall, the great country seat of the Earls of Leicester, with its lake and deer park. Return by road to our hotel in Burnham Market.
THE HOSTE (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2.5 hours; afternoon, approx. 1 hour.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
SUFFOLK COAST / SUTTON HOO / WOODBRIDGE
This morning we head south, crossing into the magical and little-known county of Suffolk. First we walk to the quaint medieval wool town of Lavenham, then after lunch we drive on to Sutton Hoo, site of the ship burial of an Anglo-Saxon king. The site is considered one of the most important discoveries in archaeological history. Continue by road to our hotel, a Tudor mansion on the edge of Woodbridge.
SECKFORD HALL HOTEL (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 1 hour; afternoon, approx. 1.5 hours.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
SUFFOLK / ALDEBURGH / WOODBRIDGE
This region of Suffolk is well-known for its musical connections. The composer Benjamin Britten was born here and lived in the seaside town of Aldeburgh, from where we walk to the village of Snape. Its old malting buildings are now the venue for the world-famous Aldeburgh Music Festival. Return to our hotel in Woodbridge by road.
SECKFORD HALL HOTEL (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2.5 hours; afternoon, approx. 1.5 hours

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
THAMES ESTUARY / KENT / ASHFORD
Today we traverse the pastoral countryside that inspired one of England’s most important English romantic painters, John Constable. On our walk, we explore the landscapes and gaze at the skies that inspired his famous paintings of Dedham Vale and Flatford Mill, little-changed since his day. Turning south, we make our way across the vast Thames estuary. Located at the point where the great river broadens are the twin towns of Tilbury and Gravesend, once important forts guarding the way to London, but now bustling dock centers made famous in the works of Charles Dickens. Here we cross into Kent and continue to our countryside hotel in Ashford.
EASTWELL MANOR HOTEL (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2 hours; afternoon, approx. 1 hour

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
CANTERBURY / NORTH DOWNS / ASHFORD
Today we visit the walled city of Canterbury, center of Christianity in England since the establishment of the Roman mission of St. Augustine, the first archbishop of Canterbury, in the 6th century and now the spiritual home of the Church of England. It is perhaps best-known as the site of the dramatic murder of Archbishop Thomas Becket in 1170. After exploring the cathedral crypt and cloisters, there is free time to wander around the town and enjoy lunch on our own. This afternoon, walk along a section of the
Pilgrims’ Way, following the ridge of the North Downs with its views of what is known as “The Garden of England.”

EASTWELL MANOR HOTEL (B,D)
Walking times: morning, city walking 2.5 hours; afternoon, approx. 2.5 hours

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
SISSINGHURST CASTLE / BODIAM / RYE
Our day begins at the farmhouse of Sissinghurst Castle, the quiet country refuge of Harold Nicolson and Vita Sackville-West. The world-famous gardens are now owned and maintained by the National Trust. Continue with a walk through the High Weald of Kent, pausing for lunch at the spectacular turreted castle of Bodiam, ringed by a wide moat. After our picnic lunch, walk on to the picturesque town of Rye—former home of Henry James—where our lovely small inn is located.

THE GEORGE HOTEL (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2 hours; afternoon, approx. 2.5 hours

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
RYE / PEVENSEY / HASTINGS / SENLAC FIELD / RYE
One of the most significant years in English history, the year 1066 is indelibly remembered for the Norman Conquest and the Battle of Hastings. Today we follow the advance of William the Conqueror to the battle site at Senlac Field where King Harold of England was slain and Domesday was ushered in. Return by road to our inn in Rye.

THE GEORGE HOTEL (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 1.5 hours; afternoon, approx. 1.5 hours

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
RYE / EASTBOURNE / WHITE CLIFFS’ BEACHY HEAD / CUCKMERE VALLEY / ASHDOWN
Travel west along the Strait of Dover to the promontory of Beachy Head, the southern tip of eastern England. From our vantage point atop the White Cliffs we walk down to East Dean and the beautiful Cuckmere Valley. This evening we bid farewell to our fellow travelers at a reception and dinner at our country house hotel in the forest of Ashdown.

ASHDOWN PARK HOTEL (B,L,D)
Walking times: morning, approx. 2.5 hours; afternoon, approx. 1 hour

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
ASHDOWN / LONDON / U.S.
After breakfast, transfer to London’s Heathrow Airport for our homeward-bound flights. (B)

What to Expect

All participants must be physically fit and in active good health. We consider this to be a moderately strenuous and physically demanding program that involves a great deal of walking. Our walks range in length from five to 10 miles per day, with a daily average of about six miles. The terrain of eastern England includes gently rolling hills, ridges and valleys, some open farmland and expansive coastlines. Some of the trails may be uneven, rocky or muddy and may involve some uphill or downhill grades. Sturdy, well-fitting and broken-in hiking shoes with ankle support are essential.

To participate fully in this walking tour, you need to be physically fit, agile and used to moderate exercise. Several of our daily excursions might be considered by some participants to be hikes rather than walks. However, if you are in good shape and active, you should have no problem keeping up with the group. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Information

Dates
August 28 to September 9, 2016 (13 days)

Size
This program can accommodate 32 participants. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

Cost*
$9,795 per person, double occupancy
$11,717 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

Included
- 11 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 11 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 10 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
- All walks, tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

Not Included
- International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services
Terms and Conditions

Deposit and Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space on this program. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?easternengland2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations and Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the member’s price. Families and trip companions may travel on one membership. Call (650) 725-0692 or visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership for more information or to purchase a membership.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket connected with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in November 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50
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