Dayspring Christian Academy presents the

Literary Britain Tour

June 27-July 8, 2019

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Have you ever dreamed of visiting London? How about walking Edinburgh's Royal Mile or checking out Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare's supposed birthplace, for yourself? Do you want to experience the Lake District, the inspiration for much of Wordsworth's poetry or to visit the famous Canterbury Cathedral, destination of Chaucer's fictional pilgrims? If the answer to these questions is "yes," please consider joining hosts (and seasoned English Teachers) Erin and John Frick on a 12-day literary tour of Scotland and England. This exciting excursion was planned for Dayspring Christian Academy High School Students, their families, and DCA Alumni and will highlight works and authors studied in Mrs. Frick's British Literature class; we will also visit sites of historical and cultural significance. Enjoy mind-broadening travel, fantastic sightseeing, and great fellowship on this inaugural trip!

IF = In flight meals, B = Breakfast, D = Dinner

Day 1: Thursday, June 27, 2019: Depart
We will depart from the USA on International flights to Edinburgh, Scotland. (IF)

Day 2: Friday, June 28, 2019: Edinburgh
We will arrive in Edinburgh in the early morning and meet our tour director, who will escort us to the waiting motor coach. On the way into Edinburgh, we will have an orientation tour, including viewing Holyrood Palace, before arriving at our hotel. In the afternoon, we will have a walking tour of the city, including time in the Writer's Museum, which celebrates the lives of three giants of Scottish Literature – Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson. Just outside The Writers' Museum is Makars' Court: a peaceful public space with beautifully inscribed flagstones which celebrate Scottish writers from the 14th century up to the present day. We will have some free time in the afternoon before dining in our hotel this evening. (IF/D)

Day 3: Saturday, June 29, 2018: Edinburgh, Grasmere
Our local guide will take us on a walking tour of the Royal Mile, including St. Giles Cathedral and the John Knox House. We will also tour Edinburgh Castle. We will then catch up on sleep, as we drive down to the scenic Lake District. We will check-in to our hotel and dine together in the early evening. (B/D)

Day 4: Sunday, June 30, 2019: Lake District
We will have a full day to explore the Lake District, the inspiration for many poets, artists, and writers. We will begin with a morning church service at St. Oswald's Church, where Wordsworth and his family are buried. We will also visit Dove Cottage in Grasmere, where the family lived. In the afternoon, we will visit Rydel Mount, where Wordsworth spent the last 37 years of his life. It's still owned by the Wordsworth family. Our visit will include Afternoon Tea in the tearoom. We will return to our hotel for dinner. (B/D)

Day 5: Monday, July 1, 2019: Haworth, York
Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Brontë spent most of their lives in the Parsonage in the Yorkshire village of Haworth. We will visit the museum and have a guided walk around the village, hearing stories about their lives in the Yorkshire Dales. In the afternoon, we will drive to York, a city with Norman, Viking, Roman history. We will have an evening walk around the old Roman Walls, then dine in our hotel. (B/D)

Hosted by Dayspring Christian Academy

Day 6: Tuesday, July 2, 2019: York, Stratford-upon-Avon
Our guided morning tour of York will include a tour of York Minster Cathedral, the biggest medieval church in England. Christianity has an early heritage in York. By 306, when Constantine the Great was proclaimed Emperor in York, it is believed there was a small Christian community. In 312, he issued a general edict of toleration for the Christian Church and York became a center of Christianity. After time for lunch, we will continue on to Stratford-upon-Avon. This was Shakespeare's home town for many years and the town has a world-class theater. We will dine in our hotel this evening and see a play if there is a suitable one available. (B/D)

Day 7: Wednesday, July 3, 2019: Oxford
Subject to availability, we will visit C.S. Lewis' home, The Kilns, on the way into Oxford. Oxford is one of England's famous University cities with a rich Reformation history. The early English reformer, John Wycliffe, was a professor at the university. Other well-known students included Bible translator William Tyndale and the great revivalist preacher George Whitefield. We will have a walking orientation tour including Christ Church College Cathedral, and the Martyr Memorial. In the afternoon, we will tour Magdalene College and Addison's Walk. We will dine in a local restaurant this evening. (B/D)

Day 8: Thursday, July 4, 2019: Hampton Court, London
After breakfast, we will drive to Hampton Court. In 1604, James I commissioned the King James Version of the Bible during the Hampton Court Conference and we will discuss this in the room where it happened. In the Chapel Royal, we will hear how Henry VIII's decision to allow production of the Bible was influenced by his last wife, Catherine Parr. After the tour, we will have time to stroll through the beautiful gardens, have lunch and try and find our way to the center of the maze. In the afternoon, we will have a bus orientation tour of London on the way to our hotel. (B/D)

Day 9: Friday, July 5, 2019: London
In Westminster Abbey, we'll see not only the tombs of kings and queens, but also the famous "Poet's Corner" with the tombs of many famous authors, musicians and poets. After our tour, we'll take the tube to Covent Garden and see St. Paul's Church where G.K. Chesterton was a lay preacher. It's now known as the "Actor's Church." Covent Garden is a delightful place to eat lunch and watch the many street performers. The afternoon and evening are at leisure. (B)

Day 10: Saturday, July 6, 2019: Canterbury, Rochester, London
This morning we will drive to the coast of Kent, which Dickens knew so well. In Rochester, we will have a Dickens-themed walking tour and see many of the places that he immortalized in his books. In Canterbury, we will visit the magnificent Cathedral, hear about Thomas Becket's murder in 1170, and see a number of royal tombs. We will also visit the ancient ruins of St Augustine's Abbey. We will end the tour with sung Evensong at 3:15 PM, then return to London for a late dinner. (B/D)

Day 11: Sunday, July 7, 2019: London
This morning we will have the opportunity to attend church. In the afternoon, we will visit the Dickens Museum, the British Museum, and the British Library. We will end the day with dinner in a restaurant, followed by a ride on the London Eye. (B/D)

Day 12: Monday, July 8, 2019: Return
We will transfer to Heathrow Airport for the return trip to the USA. (B)

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