



Itinerary For a Four Day Art Study Tour to London. Prepared For The Art Department.

Dates: TBC



The itinerary is designed to balance visits of the greatest interest with recreative activities. It aims to make the maximum use of time without exhausting participants. The itinerary we have proposed is flexible and is only finalised after discussion with the Party Leader(s). Flexibility is also built into the tour itself as changes can be made at very short notice according to weather conditions etc. The tour can be guided throughout. All excursions are well-prepared and are backed by notes and a commentary. The expert tour guide is able to run the tour according to Party Leader wishes. In this way Party Leaders will be free to concentrate on the care of their pupils rather than the organisation of the tour. The visit is underpinned by excellent, catering, transport and security.



ACCOMMODATION



The Hotel Meininger London**

65-67 Queen's Gate, South Kensington, London SW7 5JS

Tel: 02033181407.

Located in the prestigious South Kensington region of London, the Hotel Meininger is perfectly sited within a 5 minute walk from Hyde Park, the Royal Albert Hall & the Natural History Museum, in the very heart of the city. Having Buckingham Palace just up the road has its advantages. The Queen herself has visited the hotel in the past (although not spent a night). There are several delightful restaurants & cafes in the surrounding area & travel connections allow for rapid transfers between visits.

There is a popular meeting area with café & bar at reception where students can meet & chat. Free superfast wifi operates throughout the hotel. The breakfasts are plentiful & will fill up young tummies for a day of sightseeing.

All bedrooms have flat-screen TV's, en-suite bathrooms with towels & toiletries provided. Some of the rooms are dormitory style with bunkbeds, each with their own nightlights & USB chargers.

The reception team are extremely helpful & friendly & we have found the Meininger Hotel to provide dynamic, exciting yet homely & comfortable accommodation for our groups visiting London.

DAY ONE

(Note: We do ask parents to provide a packed lunch for the first day).

<u>08.00</u>	Coach arrives at School.
<u>08.15</u>	Depart School. Onward transfer to London.
<u>12.00</u>	E.T.A. London. Lunch in the grounds of the National Gallery.
<u>13.00</u>	<u>Visit to The National Gallery.</u>

Founded in 1824, the National Gallery contains over 2,000 western European paintings from the mid-thirteenth to the end of the nineteenth century, including works from all of the major schools of art.

Masterpieces include Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers', Constable's 'The Hay Wain' & Seurat's 'The Bathers at Auvers'.

<u>15.30</u>	<u>Free Time in Covent Garden.</u>
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Pupils will enjoy some shopping time in the pedestrianised market of Covent Garden where they may choose to visit the tourist market stalls or the shops lining the square. Alternatively, many students often enjoy simply watching the excellent street entertainers performing their tricks in the central piazza.

<u>18.00</u>	Walk to Piccadilly.
<u>18.30</u>	<u>Dinner at Adams Rib, Piccadilly.</u>
<u>20.00</u>	Transfer to Hotel to Hotel Meininger.
<u>20.30</u>	E.T.A. Hotel Meininger. Allocate keys & settle into rooms.

DAY TWO

08.30 Breakfast.

09.30 Coach transfer to The Tower of London.

10.15 **Visit to The Tower of London.**

Overlooking the Thames at the Eastern edge of the ancient city walls, the Tower of London is one of the most important tourist sites in London. Famous as a place of imprisonment & death, the Tower has witnessed some of the goriest scenes in the nation's history. We will enter through the famous 'Traitors Gate' before viewing the famous Ravens of the Tower, each of which has a name & is fed pure beef twice a day to maintain their glossy feathers. Starting at the execution block, we will have a short talk by one of the Beefeaters about the history of the Tower. Afterwards we will visit one of the most secure buildings in the world to view the Crown Jewels. This is always a popular visit & many pupils enjoy taking a photo of Tower Bridge afterwards, which spans the river directly next to the Tower.

12.30 Picnic lunch at The Tower of London.

13.00 **Visit to Tate Modern Gallery.**

To get to Tate Modern we will walk across Tower Bridge for panoramic views over the Thames & South Bank.

Tate Modern is the most visited art museum in the world, with over 4.7 million visitors per year. It is located within the former Bankside Power Station & has collections of international modern and contemporary art dating from 1900 until today.

The Tate Collection is on display on levels three and five of the building, while level four houses large temporary exhibitions and a small exhibition space on level two houses work by contemporary artists.

15.30 Walk to HMS Belfast.

16.00 **Visit to H.M.S. Belfast**

Berthed on the Thames almost underneath Blackfriars Bridge, H.M.S. Belfast was a 6-inch battle cruiser designed for offensive action, the protection of trade vessels and a powerful support for amphibious operations.

She saw much active service including the Battle of the North Cape on 26 December 1943 and, most significantly, in the attacks on France during the D-Day Operation Overlord campaign. H.M.S. Belfast formed part of the massive bombardment force which pulverised the Normandy coastline in preparation for the infantry beach assaults. After D-Day itself, H.M.S. Belfast remained in the Channel area until 10th July bombarding enemy targets ashore and helping to protect other ships in the Task Force from surface attack. Afterwards, she sailed to the Far East to help in the war against Japan.

18.00 Walk to Planet Hollywood Restaurant, Picadilly.

19.00 **Dinner at London's Planet Hollywood Restaurant.**

Planet Hollywood is the dining experience owned by the actors Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger & Sylvester Stallone. We will enjoy a burger meal with fries & soda in a dining area specially reserved for our group.

20.30

Transfer to Hotel Britannia.

21.00

E.T.A. Hotel Britannia.

DAY THREE

08.30 Breakfast.

09.30 Transfer to central London.

10.15 **Visit to The National Portrait Gallery.**

Founded in 18565 to collect pictures of royal & political figures, it is possible to trace the history of our nation through the faces of its key players. The museum contains the only know portrait of Shakespeare as well as famous figures from the modern day.

12.30 Lunch.

13.30 **Sightseeing Cruise on The River Thames.**

After viewing London from the air, we will then view London from the river during an hour long cruise along the Thames that passes the Houses of Parliament, Battersea Bridge, The MI5 Building, The Tower of London, The Headquarters of the London Assembly & HMS Belfast. The cruise will depart & return form/to underneath the London Eye & is a great way to become familiarised with some of the city's greatest landmarks.

15.00 **The British Airways London Eye.**

This huge wheel was built for the Millenium Celebrations & it offers a spectacular view over the capital. The 'flight' takes 45 minutes after the short initial queue to board the pods.

17.00 Coach transfer to The Burger Shack.

18.00 **Dinner at The Burger Shack, Charing Cross Road. London.**

19.30 Transfer to Surrey Quays.

20.30 **Bowling at the Hollywood Bowl, Surrey Quays.**

Pupils will enjoy a game of bowling at the excellent Hollywood Bowl. There will be prizes provided for the two highest scores.

21.45 Transfer to Hotel to Hotel Britannia.

22.00 E.T.A. Hotel Britannia.

DAY FOUR

08.30 Breakfast.

09.30 Transfer to central London.

10.15 **Visit to The Saatchi Collection.**

Charles Saatchi's advertising fortune enabled him to purchase some important works & pupils will enjoy visiting his collection of modern & challenging artwork, including works by up & coming young artists.

12.00 Lunch.

12.30 **Guided Walking Tour of Royal & Political London.**

Pupils will enjoy viewing the iconic Houses of Parliament, Downing Street, Westminster Abbey, The Royal Mall, Green Park, Horse Guards Parade & Buckingham Palace before transferring to Shropshire in the later afternoon.

15.00 Depart London. Transfer to School.

19.30 **E.T.A. School.**