



Itinerary For a Three Day Art Study Tour to St Ives, Cornwall. Prepared For The Art Department.

Dates: To Be Confirmed.



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 Group 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 a tour guide commentary. The expert tour guide is able to run the tour according to Group Leader wishes. In this way Group Leaders will be free to concentrate on the care of their pupils rather than the organisation of the tour. The whole stay is underpinned by excellent accommodation, catering, transport and security.

ACCOMMODATION



Cohort Hostel

The Stennack, St. Ives, Cornwall TR26 1FF.

Tel: 01736 791664

www.stayatcohort.co.uk

The Cohort Hostel is perfectly located in the heart of St Ives, a short walk from all five beaches & the museums. It is a modern, popular & friendly hostel with dorm rooms, singles/twins for staff with USB ports, sinks in all rooms & shared separate bathrooms for males/females.

There is a pleasant covered courtyard & large reception areas with games, sofas & a café. We can block book the whole hostel for larger groups.

The hotel management are extremely friendly & helpful & we have found the Cohort Hostel to be a very popular base for our groups visiting Cornwall & St Ives.

CATERING

En Route

We ask parents to supply a packed lunch for the outward journey. On the final day, lunch is the final meal provided by Varsity Travel so participants should keep some money to purchase dinner during the return transfer.

Breakfast

A continental breakfast of croissants, bread, butter, jam, coffee, tea or hot chocolate is served either in the main or the group dining room.

Lunch

Where lunch is requested in the tour price we can distribute lunch money to students before taking the group to a particularly good area of the town for cafes, restaurants, pizzerias & of course Cornish pasties. Participants will have a wide choice of food & can either purchase a sandwich & a drink, enjoy a pizza on the terrace of a restaurant or enjoy a pasty overlooking the beach. The Tour Guide will take staff to one of the excellent local restaurants around the harbour.

Dinner

Meals are taken in some of the excellent restaurants in central St Ives. We can organise a pizza & film evening in the Cohort Hostel & a highlight for many students is our fish & chips night (beware of the local seagulls here!) We are able to cater for all special diets.

DAY ONE

06.30 Join coach at School.

06.45 Depart School. Transfer to St Ives.

We will show a feature film & make regular refreshment stops during the transfer to St Ives.

13.00 E.T.A. St Ives. Check-in at Cohort Hostel & settle into rooms.

We will have time to enjoy our packed lunch & relax after the transfer from school.

14.30 **Guided Visit to The Leach Pottery.**

The Old Pottery workshop was built in 1920 & contains the first Japanese climbing kiln in the western world. The kiln was in use for over 50 years until the mid-1970's.

Our visit will include time to sketch & photograph the old pottery with its old kilns & equipment. We will then visit the new museum before observing a demonstration of potting skill on the original Leach Kick Wheel.

This is an interesting & inspiring visit for young artists & potters.

16.30 **Exploration of central St Ives.**

Students will enjoy some time to independently explore the beautiful town of St Ives, perhaps visiting some of the local tourist shops, strolling around the ancient fishing harbour or simply enjoying an ice-cream or a drink & watching the world go by.

19.00 **Dinner at Local Fish & Chip Shop.**

Students will know that they are by the seaside once they taste the most delicious local fish & chips, famous throughout the area.

20.30 Walk to Cohort Hostel.

20.45 E.T.A. Cohort Hostel.

DAY TWO

08.00 Breakfast.

09.30 **Visit to The Tate St Ives Museum.**

The link between St Ives & art dates back to the Victorian times when numerous artists were drawn to the town, attracted by the special quality of light that many visitors to the town often comment on. Artists associated with the town include Barbara Hepworth, Naum Gabo, Alfred Wallis and Mark Rothko.

Building on the new St Ives Museum commenced in 1991 on an old gasworks site overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Indeed the present building echoes the shape of the former gasworks, notably the rotunda forming the heart of the gallery. Today the Tate St Ives Museum attracts over 240,000 visitors per year & has placed the town firmly on the list of important artistic outposts outside the capital.

Our visit will focus on the paintings in the permanent collection by artists who have lived in St Ives & influenced its art scene. The View of St Ives Harbour by Ben Nicholson was painted when the harbour was still a working fishing port. Many sculptures by Barbara Hepworth respond to and resonate with the natural world. The works she produced while living in St Ives call to mind the shapes and structures of the coastal Cornish landscape. The idea for 'Curved Form' came to Hepworth while standing on Trevalgan Hill, just west of St Ives.

Students will view works by Patrick Heron including 'Zennor'. Born in Leeds but with family connections to Cornwall, the artist went to school in St Ives & later lived in Zennor where this painting was inspired by his garden at his clifftop cottage.

Wilhelmina Barns-Graham swapped her home town of St Andrews for St Ives in 1940. She became a founding member of the Penwith Society of Arts in Cornwall and hosted the first meetings of the Crypt Group in her studio. Her painting of 'The Island' is one of her earliest responses to St Ives & focuses on a small area of land that juts out into the sea from the north of the town from where coast guards traditionally kept watch for smugglers.

12.00 Lunch in St Ives.

13.15 Coach transfer to Penzance

13.50

Visit to Penlee House Gallery, Penzance.

Built in 1865 as a gracious Victorian home, Penlee House is now a first class museum & gallery set within an attractive park in Penzance. The collection showcases the works of the Newlyn School of painting from the late nineteenth century.

The museum covers over 6000 years of West Cornwall history, from its ancient aarcheological sites to its more recent social history.

The area's spectacular scenery has attracted artists for years. In the 1880's many of the British artists that frequented the town had trained in Paris or Antwerp & found a source of inspiration in the area. The area remains a vibrant art colony to this day & hundreds of artists have lived here over the decades.

We will explore the museum before enjoying some time to visit the local town before returning to St Ives in the later afternoon.

15.15

Exploration of Penzance.

We will have time to explore the historic seaside port of Penzance after visiting the Penlee House Gallery, perhaps enjoying a traditional cream tea, ice-cream or pasty around the port area while watching the fishermen prepare their boats preparing for the next day's fishing.

16.30

Coach transfer to St Ives.

17.15

Rest & relaxation time at Cohort Hostel before dinner.

19.00

Dinner at Local Restaurant.

We will enjoy our final dinner of the tour at one of the harbourside restaurants in central St Ives. Prizes will be awarded for best sketchbook-work.

20.30

Walk to Cohort Hostel.

20.45

E.T.A. Cohort Hostel.

DAY THREE

08.00 Breakfast, check-out & loading of suitcases into coach.

09.15 Walk to The Barbara Hepworth Museum.

09.45 **Visit to The Barbara Hepworth Museum.**

The great sculptor Barbara Hepworth is one of the most famous artists linked with St Ives. This museum was opened in 1976 by Hepworth's family, following the wishes expressed in her will. The Museum has been owned and run by The Tate since 1980. It contains the largest group of Hepworth's works, permanently on display at Trewyn Studio and garden where she lived and worked from 1949 until her death in 1975.

We will admire the sculpture within the two exterior studios used for carving and working in plaster for bronze.

11.15 Meet coach & transfer to The Eden Project.

12.15 Packed lunch at The Eden Project.

We will enjoy our packed lunch at the centre's picnic area before commencing the visit.

13.00 **Visit to The Eden Project.**

'The world's most exotic, scent-filled, fun, interactive, imaginative and sheer mind-blowing classroom on the planet' The Telegraph.

Located in a former clay pit, the Eden Project has become the most famous tourist site in The West Country & attracts visitors from far afield. The complex has the appearance of a futuristic space station & students will take some time to admire the strange scene of the two huge biome domes housing thousands of plant species. The two enormous biomes recreate the conditions of a rainforest & of a Mediterranean environment & we will enter each to admire the sheer variety of plant species growing inside. We will also visit the exterior botanical garden.

Students will enjoy exploring the diverse bio-climates of the two domed biomes before visiting the shop & returning to the coach for transfer to school.

15.45 Coach transfer to School.

20.00 E.T.A. School.

Please note: This is a Suggested Itinerary only. We make hotel, coach & itinerary bookings upon receipt of the initial deposit payments. The timings, hotel & visits contained within this itinerary serve as a guide only & may change. The choice of hotel, visits & timings are confirmed upon receipt of initial deposits.