The Association of Former Students, Texas A&M

TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE®

CAMBRIDGE • OXFORD • COTSWOLDS

Featuring Downton Abbey • Blenheim Palace

July 27 to August 4, 2018

BOOKING SAVINGS

600 PER C



Howdy, Ags!

For many, the unspoiled nature of England, Shakespeare's "blessed plot," lies in the traditional ways of town and country life found in its pastoral villages, picturesque countrysides and idyllic university towns. Experience the time-honored quest for knowledge as played out in the hallowed classrooms, dining halls and quadrangles of Oxford and Cambridge. Learn more about how the legacy of days gone by transcends time and forms the roots of contemporary country life as you interact with village residents. Visit the hallowed grounds of the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial, honoring fallen American soldiers, and at Bletchley Park see where Allied cryptographers cracked the German Enigma code during World War II. Uncover the deep history behind Highclere Castle, the authentic Victorian manor house now known as "Downton Abbey." Meet Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill, cousin to Winston Churchill, when you call on the family's stunning Blenheim Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Savor the extraordinary experience of traveling in a small, merry group through university towns and the Cotswold region—town and country juxtaposed—discovering the great heritage and character of England's historic academic centers, great country manor houses and enchanting villages.

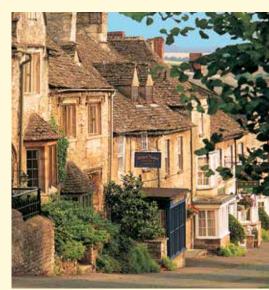
Stroll the venerated grounds of the University of Cambridge; relive history in the iconic, 14th-century Eagle Pub, where the discovery of DNA was announced; and marvel at the vast collection of the university's library. Explore the age-old traditions of Oxford and become more familiar with the lives of great authors and icons of English history who were educated here or hailed from the surrounding region. Admire the picture-perfect scenery of thatched-roof cottages, English flower gardens and gentle streams, framed by the bucolic Cotswold landscape and dotted with evocative ruins and spectacular medieval churches built from the wealth of the wool trade. Hear about contemporary life from the local ladies and gents during the exclusive TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE® FORUM. Experience the best of quintessentially English culture while staying in an elegant landmark, Five-Star hotel that offers award-winning food in the heart of Oxford; and a centrally located hotel in Cambridge within walking distance of its exquisite university buildings.

This comprehensive, one-of-a-kind, small group travel program is an exceptional value and the best way to experience the charm and beauty of English town and country life. So don't delay—this popular program sells out quickly.

Gig 'em! Jermfer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D. Director of Travel Programs Traveling Aggies Phone: (979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514 Fax: (979) 845-9263

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our tour supplier.



Cover: Wander amidst Oxford's honeyed, historic walls.

Stroll alongside the row houses of Burford, Oxfordshire.

ITINERARY

Day

1 Depart the U.S.

- 2 London,[®] England/Cambridge
 - Check into the Five-Star HILTON CAMBRIDGE CITY CENTRE.
- 3 Cambridge
 - Walking tour, visits to Emmanuel College, Wren Chapel and King's College Chapel.
 CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
 - Coffee break in the famous Eagle Pub.

4 Cambridge

- Visit to the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial.
- Cultural Enrichment:
- Visit to the Taylor-Schechter Cairo Genizah Collection.

5 Cambridge/Bletchley Park/Oxford

- Check into the Five-Star
- Macdonald Randolph Hotel.
- **CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:**
- Tour of Bletchley Park.

6 Oxford

- Walking tour of Oxford and its colleges.
 <u>Cultural Enrichment:</u>
- ◆ Town & Country Life® Forum.

7 Oxford/Highclere Castle/Bampton

- CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
- Visit to Highclere Castle, the authentic country house featured in *Downton Abbey*.
- Visit to Bampton, a pastoral village filming location for *Downton Abbey*.

8 Oxford/Cotswolds/ Blenheim Palace[®]/Bladon

- Privately guided tour of Blenheim Palace.
- Visit to Sir Winston Churchill's grave in Bladon.

Cultural Enrichments:

- Excursion to Costwold villages of Burford and Bibury.
- Exclusive welcome by Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill in Blenheim Palace.
- Private luncheon in Blenheim Palace.
- Traditional Formal Hall Farewell Dinner.

9 Oxford/Check out of hotel/London Post-Program London Option* or

• Return to the U.S.

*Available at additional cost



Experience firsthand the storied destinations and steadfast traditions that have shaped English character for centuries in Oxford and Cambridge—two beacons of academia—and in the quintessentially English Cotswold villages, where bucolic country life unfolds across the rolling vales and lush woodlands of England's verdant shires. Immerse yourself the rhythms of daily life and the in generations-old customs of hallowed university towns, chat with the ladies and chaps of the villages and countryside, and enjoy custom-designed CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS such as a visit to UNESCO-designated Blenheim Palace, hosted by Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill; a tour of Highclere Castle of Downton Abbey fame; and a formal dinner in one of Oxford University's venerated dining halls. This exclusive program is one of the popular Town & Country LIFE* series that immerses you in an intimate, comprehensive travel experience at just the right pace and includes deluxe accommodations, specially arranged meals and all excursions—an excellent value.



A perfect English twilight sweeps over a quintessential Cotswold village, where history is deeply rooted in the wool trade.



Arlington Row in Bibury is an architectural conservation area consisting of honey-colored 17th-century stone cottages.

Cambridge, England

Experience the beauty of Cambridge University's Emmanuel College and its spectacular landscape where the buildings range in date from the medieval to the late 20th century. Contemplate the solemn crosses and the stars of David in the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial, the only World War II American Cemetery in England, commemorating the casualties in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Visit the Baroque-style Wren Chapel, whose Tudor and Corinthian capitals are linked by a frieze of intricate garlands. Tour King's College Chapel, begun in 1446 by Henry VI and completed over a century later, featuring fine medieval stained glass and the largest fan-vaulted ceiling in the world.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

Enjoy a tea/coffee break in the famous 14th-century Eagle Pub and sit where Watson and Crick announced to the world they had discovered the secret of life—DNA.



Pembroke College was the first in Cambridge to have a chapel of its own, Wren Chapel.

View the largest collection of medieval religious and secular Jewish texts during a tour of the Cambridge University Library's Taylor-Schechter Cairo Genizah Collection.

Bletchley Park

Tour this influential complex, England's best-kept secret during World War II, and learn more about the top secret resident cryptographers led by Alan Turing, who cracked the German Enigma code.

Oxford

Affectionately named the "city of dreaming spires" by adoring poets, Oxford is home to one of England's most venerated universities, which counts Sir Thomas More, Percy Bysshe Shelley and Margaret Thatcher among its illustrious alumni. Steeped in eight centuries of history, here, the exclusive customs of a Formal Hall dinner require



Bletchley Park is best known as the location where the German Enigma cipher was decrypted.



Punting along the serene River Cam through the idyllic College Backs is a treasured summer pastime in Cambridge.

proper attire and are still honored with a three-course meal and waiter service. Learn more about student life at Oxford as you walk the cobblestone squares, medieval alleyways and Renaissance quadrangles of the oldest university in the English-speaking world.

Cultural Enrichments:

Local residents will discuss contemporary life in the Cotswolds during the exclusive TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE® FORUM.

Join your traveling companions for a specially arranged, exclusive and private Farewell Dinner in one of the college's hallowed dining halls.

Highclere Castle

Spectacular Highclere Castle, featured in the acclaimed PBS Masterpiece series *Downton Abbey*, is set in an Edwardian-period property among 1000 acres of magnificent parklands. The richly decorated staterooms have been restored with authentic elements including embossed Spanish leather wall coverings, Italian embroideries, silk bed hangings and 400 years' worth of paintings and furniture, including a mahogany desk and chair that once belonged to Napoleon. Scenes from *Downton Abbey* were also filmed in Bampton, one of the oldest villages in England.

Cultural Enrichment:

Tour one of the great manor houses of England, where the Carnarvon family has lived since 1679, and see the antiquities that celebrate the fifth Earl of Carnarvon's love of Egyptology. His combined efforts with archaeologist Howard Carter led to the discovery and excavation of Egyptian King Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922.

Cotswold Villages

The gentle, rolling hillsides, thatched-roof cottages and country paths found in the charming Cotswolds are something from the pages of a time-worn, pastoral storybook. These scenic villages span the boundaries of Old English shires—counties established during the Norman Conquest of England.

Artist and designer William Morris called the picturesque hamlet of **Bibury** "the most beautiful village in England." Its Saxon Church of St. Mary's and famed Arlington Row of 17th-century weavers' houses are quintessentially Cotswolds.

The magnificent Church of St. John the Baptist is tucked away at the bottom of **Burford's** main road in Oxfordshire. Inside, the monument to a gentleman of Henry VIII's Privy Chamber is said to contain England's first depictions of Amazonian Indians, inhabitants of the "New World."



Your Farewell Dinner will be held in one of Oxford's oldest and most beautiful dining halls.

IDEALLY LOCATED HOTELS



Macdonald Randolph Hotel

Located in an elegant landmark building, the Five-Star MACDONALD RANDOLPH HOTEL offers award-winning food in the heart of Oxford. Having played host to prime ministers and presidents, the hotel's renowned Morse Bar is instantly recognizable as the pub favored by Colin Dexter's fictional detective, Inspector Morse. The beautiful architecture and historic setting provide the perfect venue to enjoy afternoon tea, while each room has all the modern amenities of a fine hotel.



Hilton Cambridge City Centre

Located amidst Cambridge University's renowned academic most museums, the HILTON CAMBRIDGE CITY CENTRE hotel provides the perfect, centrally located base from which to explore the cobblestoned passageways, verdant quads and dignified halls of this storied university town. Accommodations feature stylish and contemporary décor, while the personable staff provides excellent service with quintessential English hospitality.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:

Enjoy time at leisure to explore these unique, quaint villages on your own.

Blenheim Palace

Sir Winston Churchill remarked that he had made two of the most important decisions of his life at Blenheim Palaceto be born and to marry. He continued, in that dry wit of his, to say he was "content with the decision I took on both occasions." This 18th-century Baroque masterpiece was built by another national hero, Sir John Churchill, the first Duke of Marlborough, with funds donated by a grateful Queen Anne after his victory at the Battle of Blenheim. Today, it is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of England's most treasured stately country houses, with 2200 acres of parkland and gardens designed by the legendary English landscape architect "Capability" Brown.

Cultural Enrichment:

By special arrangement, meet Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill and enjoy a privately guided tour through the splendid palace before an exclusive, private luncheon.

Regal London Post-Program Option

In stately London, living history makes each successive visit more enjoyable than the last. Visit imposing Hampton Court Palace,



the royal Tudor mansion and gardens along The River Thames favored by King Henry VIII. Tour the fascinating WWII Cabinet War Rooms in the Churchill Museum and explore the British Museum's vast, world-famous collection of art and artifacts. Accommodations for three nights are in the Five-Star ATHENAEUM HOTEL, located just steps away from leafy Hyde Park.

The Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.



See stately Parliament and the iconic Big Ben on the Regal London Post-Program Option.

Included Features

<mark>In Cambridge,</mark> England

- Three nights in the comfortable, centrally located, HILTON CAMBRIDGE CITY CENTRE.
- Private Welcome Reception in the hotel.
- Breakfast each day.

<mark>In Oxfo</mark>rd

- Four nights in the Five-Star MACDONALD RANDOLPH HOTEL, located in the heart of Oxford.
- Breakfast each day and one dinner in the hotel.
- Exclusive and private Farewell Dinner in one of Oxford University's storied college dining halls.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments and Excursions Led by Accredited Local Guides

- Walking tour of Cambridge's medieval city center.
- Tour of the colleges and gardens of **Cambridge University,** including the Taylo-Schechter Cairo Genizah collection in the University Library.
- Visit to the famous King's College Chapel and Wren Chapel.
- Visit to the poignant Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial.
- Time to enjoy tea or coffee in the famous, 14th-century Eagle Pub frequented by RAF pilots returning from the two world wars.
- Excursion to historic Bletchley Park, the iconic World War II code-breaking site.
- Walking tour of the legendary university town of Oxford.
- Specially arranged Town & COUNTRY LIFE® FORUM of local residents who will share their stories and discuss contemporary life in Oxford.
- Unique perspective of the English countryside's architecture, cultural traditions and timeless way of life during an excursion to historic Cotswold villages, which lie across Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.
- Specially arranged visit to authentic Highclere Castle, also known as "Downton Abbey," and the village of Bampton featured in PBS Masterpiece's Downton Abbey.
- Exclusive opportunity to meet Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill in **Blenheim Palace**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, including a guided tour of the palace interior and its magnificent gardens, with a specially arranged **private luncheon**.
- Visit to Sir Winston Churchill's grave in Bladon.

Enhanced Travel Services

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Complimentary bottled water is provided on excursions.
- Hospitality desk in the hotels.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Program Directors at your service.
- Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

Meet Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill during a Private Tour

Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill, scion of the house of Marlborough and the American Vanderbilt family, is an accomplished interior designer, author, public speaker,

businesswoman and advocate for the preservation of UNESCO World Heritage-designated



Blenheim Palace. An expert on the history of the palace, she spent many of her formative years at Blenheim and has participated in several of the estate's restoration projects, has written and published 11 books on the history of interior design and architecture—including *Blenheim and the Churchill Family: A Personal Portrait* (2005)—and is a member of the British Institute of Interior Design.

Lady Spencer-Churchill personally welcomes you as a privileged guest before our privately guided tour through the Baroque grandeur of this splendid palace. During your special visit, learn more about the estate's storied past and marvel at the priceless furnishings and artifacts. Enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the life of one of history's greatest figures, Sir Winston Churchill, and a private lunch in the elegant Marlborough Room or Indian Room. Outdoors, enjoy the tranquil beauty of Blenheim's 2200-acre park—designed by the noted English landscape architect, "Capability" Brown featuring the world's second largest symbolic hedge maze and one of Britain's most exquisite formal gardens. Afterwards, continue to the nearby village of Bladon where Sir Winston Churchill lies buried in a modest grave alongside his beloved wife.

Scheduled guest speakers may be altered due to circumstances beyond our control. See Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

In the company of Lady Henrietta, learn more about the rich history of Blenheim Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site.



Highclere Castle, a spectacular Victorian family home, was the filming site for PBS MASTERPIECE'S popular Downton Abbey television series.

LAND TARIFF excluding taxes*		; Tariff* through Tariff* after y 9, 2018 January 9, 2018	
		295 \$4595	
Singles are available upon request for an additional \$1100.*			
*Taxes are an additional \$295 per person and are subject to change.			
TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE• CAMBRIDGE • OXFORD • COTSWOLDS RESERVATION FORM			
Send to: Traveling Aggies		Please make my/our reservation(s):	
505 George Bush Drive College Station, TX 77840		Double occupancy (two twin beds).	
(979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514		Double occupancy	
Fax: (979) 845-9263		(one queen bed).	
		Single accommodations.	
Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)	Class Year	I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select	
Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)	Class Year	my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).	
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)		Please make my/our reservation(s):	
		Regal London Post-Program Option	
City State ZIP Co	ode	Double at \$1,470 per person.	
Telephone (Home) (Mobile)		□ Single at \$2,170 per person.	
		I am reserving as a single but	
Email Address (Business)		prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot	
Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 125	07/27/18-104	be guaranteed).	
Program reservations require a deposit of \$600 per person and \$200 per person Regal London Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.		I/We want you to book my/our air, at additional cost to be advised, [*] from:	
 Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$as deposit. Make checks payable to 2018 Town & Country Life Cambridge, Oxford and Cotswolds. 		(fill in departure city)	
 □ I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of \$ to: □ Visa □ MasterCard 		Economy Class	
		Upgraded Economy	
		Business Class	
Card Number E	Exp. Date	First Class	
Signature as it appears on credit card		[†] Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.	
All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by April 23, 2018.		I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.	



The enchanting patchwork of the Cotswolds is dotted with picturesque manors, farms and villages.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airling, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local error do are the area to a transport of antional arguments for do arrive

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thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders or third parties, or who Gohagan determines to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line. Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any teason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules,

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NOT INCLUDED: Taxes; passport, visas and associated fees; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls and Internet access; accident/sickness, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; gratuities to accutent/statues, in cancentation, and baggage instance; gradintes to hotel personnel; optional sightseeing excursions; baggage charges on aircraft; local departure air/airport tax(es); airfare and associated local taxes, airport facility and security taxes and federal inspection fees not listed in the "Included Features" section of the brochure; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled grown transfer(a) and unspecified. or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); any overnight on land due to flight schedule(s); meals, alcoholic or other beverages and all other services not specifically mentioned in the "Included Features" section.

AIRFARE: Arfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan. LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice. PHYSICALACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment. DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the

required deposit, by **January 9**, 2018. In the event a "discounted approximation of the second secon be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.



CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a \$200 (\$50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, \$600 (\$200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 45 through 94 days prior to departure, 60% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 44 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

of reimbursement. RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases. **BUDING ARBITRATION**: CST#: 2031868 440, WST#: 601 767 666, OST#: TA 0905. **BINDING ARBITRATION**: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant

to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedura) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of diasbility that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participant accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability,

other participants and accept's the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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Thomas P. Gohagan & Company 209 South LaSalle Street Suite 500

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