

SAINT ANSELM COLLEGE



1889

Literary Places and Sacred Spaces of Northern England

RIEVAULX ABBEY

JUNE 14–22, 2025

WITH
Meaghan Cronin,
Professor of English
and Director of College Writing

Stephen Reno,
Chancellor Emeritus of the
University System of New Hampshire



Dear friends,

On behalf of Saint Anselm College, we invite travelers to explore Northern England's inspiring history, distinctive landscapes, sacred places, and literary sites. Many renowned English authors, such as Jane Austen, Lord Tennyson, and the Brontë sisters, found inspiration in the breathtaking landscapes of this region. From magnificent cathedrals to striking ruins, Northern England offers some of the best opportunities to delve into the country's fascinating past while enjoying its welcoming present.

Our journey begins with a visit to one of the most famous British literary estates, Chatsworth House in Derbyshire. After her own visit to the Chatsworth House, Jane Austen depicted the grandeur and natural beauty of the Elizabethan estate in her novel *Pride and Prejudice*. After spending a night in the charming spa town of Buxton, we will travel to Lincoln to explore its grand cathedral and the medieval Bishop's Palace.

Next, we head to Yorkshire County, home to the ancient city of York, which has played a pivotal role in British history since its founding as a Roman fort in 71 CE. York is also home to York Minster, one of Britain's most remarkable cathedrals, boasting more medieval stained glass than any other church in the country. With Harrogate as our base, we will visit the unspoiled hills of Brontë Country and the village of Haworth, where the Brontë family lived. Our tour includes a stop at Rievaulx Abbey, which is described as the perfect blend of architecture and nature and was once one of England's most powerful monasteries. From there, we will continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Fountains Abbey, a 12th-century Gothic abbey, and Studley Royal Water Garden, an 18th-century landscaped treasure.

We conclude our journey with a two-night stay in Chester, another city with deep Roman roots, famous for its imposing city walls. Here, we will explore Chester Cathedral, the Roman Amphitheatre, and several fascinating museums.

Accompanying you throughout the program will be two popular lecturers, Dr. Meg Cronin, who specializes in nineteenth-century British Literature, and Dr. Steve Reno, whose academic interests are in the areas of comparative symbolism, mythology, and ritual. Both will enhance your understanding of the literary places and sacred spaces of this region. For those wishing to extend their stay in England, a pre-tour to London is offered.

Joseph Emmons
Assistant Vice President
Alumni Relations and Engagement



Highlights

TOUR Chatsworth House and its extensive gardens, which are described as a second Versailles.

EXPLORE Lincoln Cathedral, one of Europe's finest Gothic buildings and once the tallest building in the world.

MARVEL at York Minster Cathedral, a medieval stone and stained-glass masterpiece.

ENJOY a guided tour of the Brontë Parsonage Museum and Haworth Village, once home to the famous Brontë Sisters.

DISCOVER the magnificent ruins of Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Water Garden, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

SEE Rievaulx Abbey, one of the first Cistercian abbeys founded in England.

STROLL through the city of Chester with its distinctive medieval shopping rows, city walls, and Roman amphitheater.





PREVIOUS PAGE: 1. MEDIEVAL CHESTER 2. RIEVAULX ABBEY 3. YORK MINSTER CATHEDRAL 4. HAWORTH MOOR, YORKSHIRE 5. GUARD CROSSING, LONDON ABOVE (LEFT TO RIGHT): AERIAL VIEW OF YORK / CEILING DETAIL AT YORK MINSTER CATHEDRAL

Itinerary

DAY 1: SATURDAY, 14TH JUNE

U.S. / Manchester, UK

Your adventure begins today as you depart on an overnight flight to Manchester, England. (MEALS ALOFT)

DAY 2: SUNDAY, 15TH JUNE

Welcome to the UK

Arrive in Manchester and meet with our guide and driver. Prepare for a scenic drive to Buxton to see one of England's most magnificent estates—Chatsworth House. Often described as England's "second Versailles," Chatsworth House is a stately masterpiece nestled within expansive parklands. The house features collections of Old Master paintings, intricate furniture, neoclassical sculptures, and much more. Chatsworth House exemplifies the visual splendor that Jane Austen famously portrayed in the stately homes of her novels. The estate features in the 2005 *Pride and Prejudice* film as Darcy's Pemberley. We'll soak in the grandeur and history before continuing our journey to the charming town of Buxton. Later we'll gather for a welcome dinner.



ENSANA BUXTON CRESNET HOTEL (D)

DAY 3: MONDAY, 16TH JUNE

Discover Buxton & Journey to Lincoln

After breakfast, we'll return to Chatsworth House to explore more of its stunning interiors and picturesque gardens. Later, we journey to Lincoln, a city rich in history and charm. Upon arrival, we'll check into our hotel in Lincoln and prepare for another day of exploration. THE LINCOLN HOTEL (B, D)

DAY 4: TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE

Lincoln to Harrogate

We'll start our day with an awe-inspiring visit to Lincoln Cathedral, one of Europe's finest Gothic structures. Once the tallest building in the world, Lincoln Cathedral offers panoramic views from its towering spires and a deep sense of history within its hallowed walls. Lincolnshire poet, Alfred, Lord Tennyson—one of England's most famous writers—is honored in a towering statue at Lincoln Cathedral. After some free time in Lincoln, we'll travel to the elegant spa town of Harrogate, known for its historic baths and quaint charm. and for its connection to mystery writer Agatha Christie. THE YORKSHIRE HOTEL (B, L)

DAY 5: WEDNESDAY, 18TH JUNE

Explore York

Today, we'll embark on a day trip to the ancient city of York. We begin with a visit to the iconic York Minster, a Gothic masterpiece that has stood the test of time. We'll explore its stained-glass windows and awe-inspiring architecture before delving into its fascinating history through the interactive exhibits in the Undercroft. We continue with a guided walking tour through York's narrow medieval streets. After strolling along the Roman walls, we'll visit the ruins of St. Mary's Abbey, and wander through The Shambles—a historic market street brimming with character. York's rich history as a Roman, Viking, and medieval stronghold will unfold with every step. After some free time, we return to Harrogate.

THE YORKSHIRE HOTEL (B, L)

DAY 6: THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE

Day trip to North Yorkshire

Today's journey will take us through the idyllic landscapes of North Yorkshire. Our first stop is Rievaulx Abbey, a hauntingly beautiful ruin with a storied past as one of the earliest Cistercian abbeys in England. We'll wander through the abbey's remains and uncover its historical significance. Next, we visit the enchanting Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Garden.



CHESTER CATHEDRAL



HORSEGUARDS

This World Heritage Site combines magnificent monastic ruins with a meticulously designed water garden. Stroll through the serene landscape and soak in the timeless beauty of the surroundings. THE YORKSHIRE HOTEL (B, L)

DAY 7: FRIDAY, 20TH JUNE
Harrogate to Chester
via Brontë Country

After breakfast, we'll head into the heart of Brontë Country, where we'll visit Haworth Village and the Brontë Parsonage Museum. Here, we'll walk in the footsteps of literary giants—Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Brontë—whose novels were inspired by these moorlands. We'll explore their family home and the church that holds the Brontë vault, then enjoy a leisurely hike to Brontë Waterfall and Brontë Bridge. We continue to Chester, a charming city steeped in Roman and medieval history.

THE QUEEN AT CHESTER HOTEL (B, L)



BRONTË PARSONAGE MUSEUM



DAY 8: SATURDAY, 21ST JUNE

Discover Chester

We'll begin our exploration of Chester with a guided walking tour through its historic streets. We'll roam the ancient Roman walls, admire the half-timbered Tudor houses, and enter the grand Chester Cathedral. From its Roman origins to its modern-day splendor, Chester Cathedral is a vibrant blend of history, culture, and architecture. In the evening, we'll enjoy a farewell dinner at a cozy local pub or restaurant, celebrating our memories of our journey through England. THE QUEEN AT CHESTER HOTEL (B, D)

DAY 9: SUNDAY, 22ND JUNE

Farewell

Today we'll bid farewell to the UK as we transfer to Manchester Airport for our return flights home.

Optional Pre-tour
to London

JUNE 11TH THROUGH 15TH

Join our pre-tour extension to London, featuring guided visits to Windsor Castle, Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London, and Hampton Court Palace. We'll also enjoy a River Thames cruise and have the opportunity to purchase tickets to a West End Show. The extension includes 3 nights at The Bailey's Hotel or similar, breakfast at the hotel and dinner, all excursions, entrance fees, guides, portage and gratuities. On our final day, we'll fly from London to Manchester. The extension price does not include the flight from London to Manchester, which will be invoiced separately. The extension price is based on a minimum of 8 participants.



Study Leaders



Dr. Meaghan Cronin

Dr. Meaghan Cronin teaches nineteenth-century British literature and specializes in the Victorian novel. She also offers courses in Detective Fiction and the Gothic Novel. Her published work focuses on the fiction of Mary Shelley, Thomas Hardy, Charlotte Brontë, and others. Her scholarship examines the

influences of religion and other forms of belief on young women in fiction—and, most recently, on nineteenth-century children's books. Dr. Cronin is a Board member of the Nineteenth-century Studies Association, and she has been involved with the Dickens Society for many years, as a trustee, a committee member, and a conference presenter, and a book reviewer for the Dickens Quarterly. She has given many public talks and presentations about poetry and novels, and she teaches these subjects in to NH high school students and in adult learning programs.



Dr. Steve Reno

Dr. Stephen Reno's academic field is comparative religion, with particular interest in sacred spaces, rituals, mythology, and symbolism. He has taught and been a guest lecturer at universities in the United States, United Kingdom and on the Continent. His published scholarship examines

differences and similarities among traditional and contemporary religious expressions such as sites and structures, ceremonies, symbols, and religious festivals. Dr. Reno is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Winchester (UK) and was Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Center for the Study of World Religion. In addition to his academic interests, he has served as President of Southern Oregon University, Chancellor of the University System of New Hampshire, and most recently retired as Executive Director of Leadership New Hampshire.



Accommodations

1 Ensana Buxton Crescent Hotel

Nestled in the heart of the Peak District, the Ensana Buxton Crescent Hotel is a five-star hotel and luxurious spa destination housed in a beautifully restored Georgian crescent. Offering elegant rooms, mineral-rich thermal waters, and a range of wellness treatments, this hotel blends historical charm with modern comfort, providing a serene escape for relaxation and rejuvenation. The hotel has air-conditioned rooms, a restaurant, bar and free Wi-Fi.

2 The Lincoln Hotel

It is a simple but modern three-star hotel convenient for the city and overlooking the magnificent Lincoln Cathedral. With its central location, we'll be able to enjoy easy access to the city's attractions, including Lincoln Castle, while relaxing in stylish rooms that offer panoramic views of the cathedral and the surrounding area. Free Wi-Fi is available in all rooms.

3 The Yorkshire Hotel

Situated in the picturesque spa town of Harrogate, The Yorkshire Hotel, a four-star hotel, boasts a prime location with elegant accommodations that blend Victorian grandeur with modern amenities. Perfect for exploring Harrogate's gardens, historic sites, and local cafes, this hotel is a welcoming retreat in the heart of North Yorkshire. The hotel has air-conditioned rooms, a bar, a restaurant, and free WiFi.

4 The Queen at Chester

Steeped in Victorian elegance, The Queen at Chester is a grand hotel known for its regal architecture and ornate interiors. Located just outside Chester's Roman city walls, it offers a mix of traditional charm and contemporary luxury, making it an ideal base for our exploration of Chester's historic sites, including the Roman amphitheater and Chester Cathedral. Featured amenities include complimentary internet access, air-conditioned rooms, a restaurant, a bar and business center.

What to Expect

This exclusive tour is designed for alumni, family of friends of Saint Anselm College who are interested in exploring captivating landscapes, literary inspiration points, sacred places, and the history of Northern England that travelers to the UK often miss. This is a moderately active tour, with some opportunities to hike over sometimes uneven terrain. In June, England typically experiences mild and relatively pleasant weather with average daytime temperatures ranging from upper-50s- and lower 60s. It can be cooler in the mornings and evenings, rarely falling below 45°F. Moderate humidity levels are typical. June often has a mix of sunny and cloudy days. There will be longer daylight hours, with the sun setting after 9:00pm. Northern England can sometimes be rainy, even in summer, umbrellas and light rain jackets are encouraged. Areas in Northern England can feel breezy at times. In order to enjoy this trip, a spirit of adventure and anticipation, and the desire to explore spectacular natural areas and small towns are musts. Travel is by private comfortable coach. We stay at five and four-star hotels with the exception of Lincoln, where we stay at a modern 3-star hotel chosen because of its central location.

Questions

For questions or new reservations, contact Royal Adventures, info@royaladventures.com or 925-820-6260 or 1-800-453-4754.

Air Arrangements

U.S. Domestic, international air, and on-tour flights within the United Kingdom are not included in this program. Valerie Wilson Travel is the preferred provider for airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 1-800-447-3560. For international flights, you are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local agent, online travel site, or the airline of your choice. However, Royal Adventures will assist and confirm and separately invoice on-tour flight arrangements from London to Manchester, England, for those passengers enrolled on the London Pre-Tour. International roundtrip airfare is not included. The estimated roundtrip airfare from Boston, Massachusetts, to Manchester, England, is approximately \$1,041 (coach class). Airfares are subject to change. A recommended flight itinerary will be made available to registered passengers departing from and returning to Boston.

Land Program Costs

MAIN PROGRAM COST \$6,670
(per person, double occupancy)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$895

OPTIONAL UPGRADES TO ROOMS

JUNIOR SUITE/SUPERIOR \$545
(Ensana Buxton Crescent Hotel, Yorkshire Hotel: Junior Suite and The Lincoln Hotel, The Queen Hotel: Superior Room)

SUITE/DELUXE \$975
(Ensana Buxton Crescent Hotel, Yorkshire Hotel, The Queen Hotel: Suite and The Lincoln Hotel: Deluxe Room)

All upgrades are subject to availability

SAMPLE COACH INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE roundtrip from Manchester, NH to Manchester England..... \$1,200
(Not included, quoted separately, subject to change)

Per-person rate is estimated cost, based on a minimum of fifteen (15) travelers. If the minimum is not met, a price supplement may apply.

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

London • June 11-15..... \$3,450
(per person, double occupancy)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$1,295
Based upon a minimum enrollment of 8 paying passengers. Does not include airfare from London to Manchester.

Program Cost Includes

Meals as outlined in the itinerary • Dinners include 3 courses with tea/coffee • Welcome and Fare Dinner with 1 glass of wine or beer • 2 meeting spaces for the Professors' lectures • Bottled water in the bus • Transportation by private motor coach • Group airport transfers • Guided field trips, excursions, and tours • Baggage handling • Tips guides, drivers, and wait staff for all group activities • Entrance fees • Service charges and taxes • Pre-trip notes, including a Travel Guide • All the normal administrative expenses, coordination, mailings • Invoicing and airline ticketing • Portal customized for St. Anselm College for registration and input of documentation • Customized luggage tags and name tags with St. Anselm College's logo • Final mailing

Program Cost Does Not Include

International airfare (quoted separately) • Airfare from London to Manchester for Pre-Tour participants • passport, visa fees or Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) • individual/private transfers, room service, alcoholic beverages aside from welcome and farewell drinks • beverages not included as part of included meals • personal items such as laundry, fax or telephone calls, meals not indicated in the itinerary, medical expenses, snacks and personal, travel or evacuation insurance, excess baggage charges or deviations from the scheduled tour are not included • airport taxes, security fees, or fuel surcharges imposed after the initial pricing of this program are not included • Tip to the guide/tour director is at the passenger's discretion.

**The price of the trip is based on the exchange rate with the British Pound as of September 2024. If there is a significant change in the British Pound in relation to the U.S. dollar, the price may need to be adjusted.*

Terms & Conditions

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, & FINAL PAYMENT To reserve a space on this program, a \$1,000 per person deposit, is required. Please either mail, email, or fax your registration form. If you wish to submit your registration online, please visit <https://royaladventures.intellibook.co/site/#/Saint-Anselm-College-England-2025/book> or scan the QR code on the reservation form with your smartphone camera. Initial deposits may be charged to a credit card. Final payment is due March 6, 2025, and must be paid by check or wire transfer only. Royal Adventures handles all invoicing. CST #2009579-40.

TOUR SIZE This tour is exclusively designed for Saint Anselm College alumni, family and friends on a first-come, first-served basis. The minimum group size is 15. Should the minimum not be met, we reserve the right to levy a small group surcharge.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS All cancellations must be received in writing by Royal Adventures from the participant. Cancellations within 14 days of booking: full refund; cancellations received up to 100 days prior to departure will be assessed as a cancellation fee equal to the full amount of deposits paid. Cancellations received within 100 days prior to departure are subject to 100% penalty of all deposits and payments, regardless of booking date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

TRAVEL INSURANCE We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance as the cancellation penalty in this brochure will apply. Trip cancellation insurance can be purchased through our recommended provider Travel Insured International, **CLICK HERE to get a quote** or call 1-800-243-3174 and mention Royal Adventures #53140. Most insurance plans need to be purchased within 14 days of paying the initial deposit in order to waive pre-existing medical conditions as well as to purchase "Cancel for Any Reason" insurance.

QUESTIONS Please call or email Royal Adventures at 925-820-6260 or 1-800-453-4754 ext 113 or carla@royaladventures.com.

RESPONSIBILITY Royal Adventures (CST #2009579-40), its owners, and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant, and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services, and transportation are offered or provided, and Saint Anselm College and Royal Adventures and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability therefor. Saint Anselm College and Royal Adventures assume no liability for any injury,

damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to sickness, epidemics, pandemics, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, quarantine, *force majeure*, animal or insect bites, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Saint Anselm College and Royal Adventures reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty, in which case participants will be issued a full refund, except in the case of a *Force Majeure* Event. A *Force Majeure* Event, in relation to this tour, shall mean any circumstances beyond our control, including, but without limitation, to acts of God, explosion, flood, forceful wind, fire or accident, war or threat of war declared or undeclared, acts of terrorism, sabotage, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil disturbance, sickness, epidemics, pandemics, quarantines, government intervention or other unforeseeable event. Saint Anselm College and/or Royal Adventures shall not be deemed to be in breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, and shall not provide any refund, by reason of delay in performance, withdrawal of the tour or by nonperformance of any of our obligations hereunder to the extent that any such delay or non-performance is due to any *Force Majeure* Event. Limitations on travel arising from the COVID-19 pandemic shall be considered a *Force Majeure* Event. If this tour is affected by a *Force Majeure* Event, Saint Anselm College and Royal Adventures shall be entitled to, and may in their sole and absolute discretion, vary, or postpone the dates of any itinerary, departure date or other arrangements in relation to this trip. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a tour member or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, security surcharge, or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Neither Saint Anselm College nor Royal Adventures accepts the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket. The air ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release, an assumption of risk, and a hold-harmless agreement.



Reservation Form

For the ease of registering online, please visit <https://royaladventures.intellibook.co/site/#/Saint-Anselm-College-England-2025/book>.

If you prefer to mail your registration, please complete the form below and return it to Royal Adventures with a deposit check (if applicable) payable to "Royal Adventures" at: Royal Adventures, 9 Crow Canyon Ct, Ste 205, San Ramon, CA 94583

Enclosed is my deposit of \$_____ \$1,000 per person to hold _____ place(s) on **Literary Places and Sacred Spaces of Northern England**, departing June 14, 2025. Final payment is due March 6, 2025 and must be paid by check.

NAME AS ON PASSPORT _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

NAME AS ON PASSPORT _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL(S) _____

MOBILE PHONE _____ OFFICE PHONE _____

FAX _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay by check made out to "Royal Adventures" OR
- Please charge the deposit of \$_____ to:
 - AMEX VISA MasterCard Discover

CARD NUMBER _____ EXP DATE / SEC CODE _____

OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

- I/We would like to register for the optional pre-trip extension in London, June 11-15, 2025

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Double 1 Bed Double 2 Beds
- Single (*limited availability*)
- I will share accommodations with _____

OPTIONAL UPGRADES TO ROOMS

- Junior Suite/Superior Room Upgrade (+\$545)
- Suite/Deluxe Room Upgrade (+\$975)

I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility sections of this brochure and agree to their terms on behalf of myself and the members of my party named above.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



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