



# *Heart of* Britain

YORKSHIRE | LAKE DISTRICT | WALES



SPONSORED BY



Ole Miss Alumni Association

September 1-13, 2025

Other dates available upon request



## Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us on an 11-night adventure in northern England and Wales and be greeted by nature's spectacular pageantry and remarkable cultural gems! Take in the rolling, green landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales, the literary legacy of the English Lake District and the sweeping valleys and rocky peaks of Snowdonia National Park in Wales.

In walled York, feel immersed in medieval England along narrow, twisting lanes and marvel at dazzling stained glass in the majestic York Minster. Delight in the extraordinary ruins of two 12th-century Cistercian abbeys, the stately Castle Howard that has starred on film, and the formidable, 13th-century Welsh castles of Conwy and Caernarfon!

Cultural heritage and education have been thoughtfully interwoven into this well-crafted itinerary. You'll sit down for a traditional English afternoon tea and feel your spirits lifted during a session with a Welsh musician. Plus, look to our expert guides for illuminating details, and delve deeper into special topics with our experienced lecturers.

Across Britain, enjoy the comfort of first-class hotels, the organizational savvy of a Travel Director and the fellowship of other curious travelers. Interest in this fascinating journey is sure to be high, so ensure your spot by reserving today!

Sincerely,

Kirk Purdom  
Chief Executive Officer

### ASSUMPTION OF RISK, WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The Alumni Association of the University of Mississippi (OMAA) and the University of Mississippi (UM), its agents and assigns serve only in a capacity of facilitating travel opportunities for its alumni and friends and in no way serve as agents for the tour operators or accept responsibility for their services and products. Although our travel program works with tour operators to offer interesting and educational trips, we do not conduct tours, nor do we act as an agent for those interested in tours. Please familiarize yourself with each tour operator's cancellation and refund policy. We encourage travelers to consider trip cancellation insurance. Neither OMAA nor UM is responsible for changes to or cancellations of trips or travel arrangements, or for losses or additional expenses from travel. Any payment to the tour operator constitutes your acceptance to the terms and conditions provided herein and by the operator, including but not limited to the cancellation terms on behalf of you, your dependents, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to release and hold harmless OMAA and UM and any of their respective officers, agents, licensees, or representatives in both their individual and official capacities from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death, or for the loss of, or damage to, his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to the tour.

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### UNESCO World Heritage

1. Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey, North Yorkshire, England
2. The English Lake District
3. Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd, Wales
4. The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales

*Right: Snowdonia in the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*







# A World of Discovery



*Welsh mountain pony, Snowdonia National Park*

Traverse the heart of the United Kingdom on this enriching journey to northern England and Wales! Be nourished by the soul-stirring natural grandeur of Britain's famed national parks and relish Author's Day in the romantic English Lake District. Marvel at majestic Welsh castles and a Neolithic stone circle. Wander the magnificent Bodnant Garden and visit the seaside, Victorian town of Llandudno. Plus, delight in the cultural traditions of English tea and Welsh music!

*Top: Rievaulx Abbey, North York Moors National Park*

*Cover: Yorkshire Dales National Park*

*Mail panel: The Shambles, York | Conwy Castle*

## Inspiring Moments



- Delight in visits to several of **Britain's renowned national parks** to witness awe-inspiring natural beauty.
- Stroll the atmospheric ruins of two **12th-century Cistercian abbeys**.
- Explore medieval York and visit the magnificent **York Minster cathedral**.
- Step inside Welsh history in the mighty **Castles of Conwy and Caernarfon**.
- Walk in the footsteps of **literary greats** in the enchanting **English Lake District**.
- Relax in the refined comforts of an elegant **Welsh country manor**.
- Relish a proper **English afternoon tea** and interact with a **Welsh musician**.
- Experience four **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.

**ALUMNI CAMPUS  
ABROAD®**



York Minster and medieval walls of York

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Manchester, United Kingdom. 🌐

Day 2 | York, United Kingdom

Upon arrival, transfer 🚗 to the Hotel Indigo York, check in and refresh with an afternoon tea. Meet your fellow travelers and get acquainted at this evening's Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | York

**Enrichment: Contemporary Britain.**

**Historic York.** Surrounded by 13th-century walls, this medieval city radiates a truly unique ambience with its quaint buildings tightly packed on the Shambles' narrow lanes and its crowning glory, the magnificent Gothic York Minster. With insights from your guide, see its highlights, stroll on the Riverside Trail, and visit the cathedral ornamented with fine stonework and impressive medieval stained glass.

**Free Time:** Enjoy some time at leisure in York.

🌐 **AHI Connects | Afternoon Tea at Bettys Café Tea Rooms.** Savor lunch and the English tradition of afternoon tea at this local landmark.

Day 4 | North Yorkshire

**Hidden Treasures of North Yorkshire.**

Take a scenic drive through heathered, open moorland to visit the 12th-century Rievaulx Abbey in North York Moors National Park. Stroll the atmospheric ruins, seeing some of the earliest surviving buildings of any European Cistercian monastery. Then, tour stately Castle Howard, one of England's grandest country estates and the filming site for TV, including "Bridgerton" and "Brideshead Revisited."

Day 5 | Yorkshire Dales | Windermere

Check out of the hotel this morning.

**Fountains Abbey & Yorkshire Dales.**

Visit Studley Royal Park for a walking tour of the magnificent, 12th-century ruins of Fountains Abbey, England's largest Cistercian abbey and Georgian water garden. Continue to marvelous Yorkshire Dales National Park followed by a visit to the small village of Grassington. Enjoy lunch on your own here and see lovely Aysgarth Falls. In the hamlet of Hardraw, opt for a walk followed by a cheese tasting at a local creamery. *(Active)* Arrive in the Lake District and check in to the Macdonald Old England Hotel & Spa. Sit down to a group dinner at the hotel this evening.

Day 6 | English Lake District

**Northern Lake District.** On a scenic tour, take in the peaceful, rolling countryside that inspired romantic poets, including William Wordsworth. Stop in charming Grasmere and walk within the atmospheric, Neolithic Castlerigg Stone Circle. Later, savor lunch and a spirits tasting at a local

Rydal Mount







*Serene Derwentwater, Lake District National Park*

distillery followed by a pleasant cruise across Derwentwater from Keswick to Lodore Falls.

#### Day 7 | **English Lake District**

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**Enrichment:** *History of the English Lakes.*

**Authors Day.** Relish a themed day devoted to the renowned literary figures who lived here. Tour Rydal Mount, Wordsworth's hillside home and relish a poetry reading in his garden. Drive to beautiful Tarn Hows for a scenic walk and to Conistan Water, which inspired author Arthur Ransome. Visit Brantwood, home of Victorian critic John Ruskin, take a walking tour of the monastic village, Hawkshead, and visit the home of author Beatrix Potter in Near Sawrey. Join your group for a dinner in the hotel.

#### Day 8 | **Chester | Deganwy, Wales**

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Check out of the hotel and depart for Wales.

**Chester.** Stop here for a guided walk to see the historic center and the original Roman

walls, built around A.D. 70, in Britain's most complete walled town. Enjoy lunch and some time at leisure here; then head to Deganwy.

Check in to the Quay Hotel & Spa in Deganwy.

#### Day 9 | **Conwy**

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**Conwy Castle, Bodnant Garden &**

**Llandudno.** Tour the grounds of medieval Conwy Castle, with its imposing towers and curtain walls. Then, roam magnificent Bodnant Garden's winding paths, flower-filled terraces, grand ponds and remarkable plant collections. Finish in the romantic Victorian seaside town, Llandudno. Stroll the waterfront promenade to experience a bit of its 19th-century grandeur.

#### Day 10 | **Snowdonia National Park | Betws-y-Coed**

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**Enrichment:** *Wales, Past & Present.*

**Snowdonia National Park.** Be dazzled with a visit to the stunning region of Snowdonia,

*Caernarfon Castle*





a national park that boasts vistas of rivers, valleys, lakes and rugged mountain ranges. On your scenic tour, visit the National Slate Museum and continue to the resort town of Betws-y-Coed for lunch and some free time.

**AHI Connects | Welsh Music Traditions.** Interact with a Welsh musician to explore the deep-rooted love of music among the Welsh.

### Day 11 | Caernarfon Castle | Llyswen

Check out of the hotel this morning.

**Caernarfon Castle.** Visit this well-preserved royal fortress and castle for a guided tour of the grounds of the immense castle. Enjoy a lunch of Welsh specialties and continue on a scenic drive through Snowdonia with photo stops and views of the Welsh countryside. Arrive in Llyswen. Check in to Llangoed Hall.

### Day 12 | Llyswen

**Free Time:** Unwind amid the hotel's lush, rural setting, or make your own plans in the area. This evening, celebrate your adventure at the Farewell Reception and Dinner in the hotel.

### Day 13 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer to the airport in Birmingham, England, for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

✈ Flights and 🔄 transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

#### Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

#### Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

## Included Features



### Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- **3 nights** in York, England, at the first-class Hotel Indigo York.
- **3 nights** in Bowness-on-Windermere at the first-class Macdonald Old England Hotel & Spa.
- **3 nights** in Deganwy (Conwy), Wales, at the first-class The Quay Hotel & Spa.
- **2 nights** in Llyswen at the first-class Llangoed Hall.

### Transfers (with baggage handling)

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

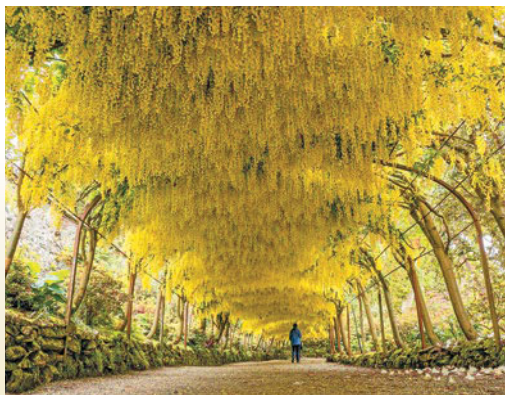
### Extensive Meal Program

- 11 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners, tea or coffee with all meals; plus wine with dinner.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- **AHI Connects | Local immersion.**
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

Bodnant Garden





## Accommodations

Our travel experts have carefully selected these first-class properties for their prime locations. They are ideally situated for exploring each region's renowned landmarks while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of their services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.



**Hotel Indigo York | York**



**Macdonald Old England Hotel & Spa | Bowness-on-Windermere**



**Quay Hotel & Spa | Deganwy**



**Llangoed Hall | Llyswen**



# Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey,  
please call our AHI Travel Experts  
at **800-323-7373** or  
visit **miss.ahitravel.com**.

## Program Dates

### Travel dates ✈

**September 1-13, 2025**

✈ Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

### Tour dates\*

**September 2-13, 2025**

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

## Land Program

Full Price	\$6,140
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Special Savings	\$750
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<b>Early Booking Special Price*</b>	<b>\$5,390</b>
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\*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by date on address panel and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person.

Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges).

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,695 (limited availability).

**Please note:** Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://miss.ahitravel.com/destinations/1896A?schoolId=107>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

## AHI FlexAir

### Let us arrange your flights

**Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:**

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

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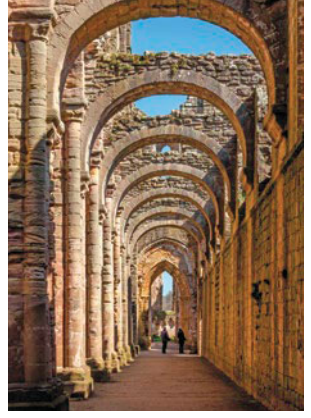
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*Eastgate clock on walls of Chester*



*Fountains Abbey*



*Castlerigg Stone Circle, Lake District*



*Iconic Castle Howard*

## AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

### *Before you go:*

**Travel Consultants** stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

**Travel & Air Coordinators** each offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

### *Once you arrive:*

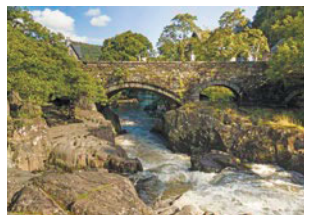
**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

**Handpicked Expert Guides** offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

**Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



*English afternoon tea*



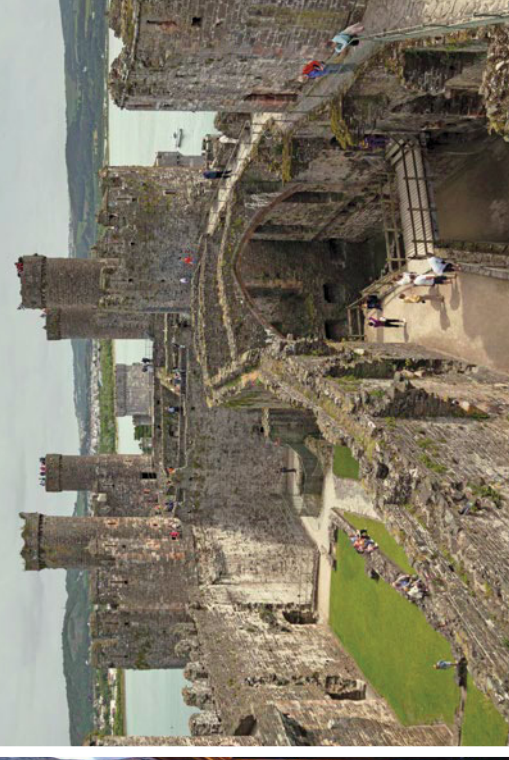
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## Discover the beauty & cultural gems of England & Wales!

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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