

Friends of Lambeth Palace Library Visits Programme 2023

Please contact Lucy Pinkney if you would like to take part in any of these visits on Lucy.pinkney@churchofengland.org, 020 7898 1474, or Lambeth Palace Library, 15 Lambeth Palace Road, London, SE1 7JT.

The College of Arms, Monday 3 April at 6pm

130 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4BT

This evening tour will be led by Mark Scott, Bluemantle Pursuivant, and will begin at 6.00pm. Mr Scott will speak about the history of heraldry and the role of the heralds before he takes us into the record room and shows us a selection of records dating back to 1484. A glass of wine will be provided while he talks, and the group will then be offered another glass of wine (or two) with a buffet supper of cold meats and fish, pasta and salad, followed by cheese, fruit and a mini-sweet. The cost, including supper and drinks, for a group of twenty people (the maximum number) will be £55 a head, including a donation to the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library. Mr Scott recommends taking supper there to avoid having to search for it afterwards! The visit will end at about 9:15pm.

A couple of places on this visit are still available. Please let us know your interest as soon as possible. Once your attendance is confirmed, the cost should be sent in the form of a cheque or Bank Transfer made out to the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library (sort code 56-00-33; account no. 04927257 and please give your reference as 'Coll. of Arms visit').

Strasbourg, Sélestat and Colmar: Monday 22 May to Friday 26 May

This five-day visit will be based in the beautiful old city of Strasbourg, "where cultures cross". Strasbourg will also be preparing to be UNESCO's World Book Capital for 2024. We will travel out independently on the Monday and back on the Friday afternoon or Saturday. Our programme will include formal visits in Strasbourg to the Bibliothèque Nationale et Universitaire, and the Bibliothèque Municipale, both of which have rich collections of mediaeval manuscripts and incunabula, and to the Cathédrale Notre Dame with its glorious stained glass and astronomical clock. There should also be a free afternoon to allow private visits to the Palais Rohan Museum and Palais d'Œuvre Notre Dame. We will spend a day in Colmar at the Musée Unterlinden, which houses Grünewald's Issenheim Altarpieces, and the Bibliothèque des Dominicains with its wonderful heritage collection. We will also visit the Bibliothèque Humaniste in Sélestat which houses the library of the humanist scholar and book collector Beatus Rhenanus (1485-1547). The visits to libraries will be led by the directors of the respective heritage collections, and those to museums by English-speaking guides.

About ten places on this visit are still available. Please let us know your interest as soon as possible. The cost, payable in advance, will be £120 per person, which will include the four library tours, the boat tour and group visits to the cathedral and Musée Unterlinden, as well as a donation to Lambeth Palace Library. Please let us know your interest as soon as possible. Once your attendance is confirmed, the cost should be sent in the form of a cheque or Bank Transfer made out to the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library (sort code 56-00-33; account no. 04927257 and please give your reference as 'Strasbourg visit').

As with the visit to Bruges, Friends will be expected to book their travel by train to Strasbourg and their accommodation individually. We will not be making block bookings for lunch. This visit will be more strenuous than Bruges, with much longer walks between stations, libraries and museums. Taxi company telephone numbers will be provided but, as in the UK, they are not always immediately available.

Timetable:

Monday 22nd May

Travel independently to Strasbourg.

Meet as a group for an evening drink in the Meteor Brasserie: it is large, recommended by the Tourist Office, welcomes groups and does reasonable food if people want to eat there.

Tuesday 23rd May: Strasbourg

09:00 to 11:15: Tour of the Bibliothèque Nationale et Universitaire and its treasures led by Frédéric Blin, Head of Heritage Collections

11:45 to 12:45: Cathédrale Notre Dame de Strasbourg astronomical clock

Lunch: probably independently, but we will have suggestions for suitable places

14:30 to 15:30: Tour of the Cathedral led by an English-speaking guide

16:30 to 17:30: Boat tour of central Strasbourg including the European Parliament

Wednesday 24th May: Colmar

Travel there by train from Strasbourg – about 30 minutes

10:30 to 12:00: Musée Unterlinden. The first hour in the mediaeval section including the Issenheim Altar Panels by Grünewald, then 30 minutes in the Dominican Church principally to see the Madonna of the Rose Bush by Schoengaur

12:30: Lunch, probably in the Meistermann Restaurant (recommended by Bénédicte Gonnet at the Tourist Office)

14:30 to 16:00: A tour of the Bibliothèque des Dominicains, led by Rémy Casin, Conservateur en Chef

Thursday 25th May: Strasbourg

10:00 to 12:00: Tour of the Bibliothèque Municipale led by Bernadette Litschgi, Head of Rare Books

Afternoon free for Friends to visit other places of interest like the Œuvre Notre Dame Museum and the Palais Rohan State rooms, or have a siesta.

Friday 26th May: Sélestat optional visit

Travel by train from Strasbourg – about 20 minutes on the line to Colmar.

10:00 to 11:30: Guided tour in English of the Library of the Humanist School and library of Beatus Rhenanus

Friends would return home individually on Friday or Saturday.

**Riverside Palaces: An Architectural Treasure Hunt, Tuesday 20 June at 11am
A London Book Walk led by Anthony Davis.**

A lively guided walk beside the Thames to trace the remnants of palaces and mansions of the rich and famous dating back hundreds of years. Our 'Treasure Map' is a printed scene of riverside Westminster from 1720, and we explore the changing architecture and developing use of London's riverside over five centuries. We admire Queen Mary's steps and the

Archbishop of York's gateway and (if we are lucky) peer into a 'Roman' bathroom and William Waldorf Astor's windows. We hear about the 'Great Stink' and the transformational embankment project of Sir Joseph Bazalgette and the Victorians. This walk starts near Westminster station and finishes at Temple station.

16 places are available for this visit. Please let us know your interest as soon as possible.

St Albans, City and Cathedral, October 2023

The day will start with a tour of Roman and mediaeval St Albans led by Friend David Roberts and, following lunch at a local restaurant (probably Côte), a guided tour of the Cathedral with its ancient wall paintings and shrines.

16 places are available for this visit. Please let us know your interest as soon as possible.