

LONDON THEATRE: ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE



Day 1

Depart from home city.

Day 2: City Tour and Orientation

Upon arrival in London, get acquainted with the city on a **motorcoach overview tour** of the major sites, including **Buckingham Palace**, **Trafalgar Square**, **The Houses of Parliament** and **Clock Tower** (aka **Big Ben**), **Westminster Abbey**, **St. Paul's Cathedral**, and **The Tower of London**.

Your **Focus Director** will familiarize you with the area around your hotel and share practical information about London such as banking, mail services, phone, personal security, and health care. Check into your hotel and enjoy free time until dinner.

Feast on a **traditional dinner** of fish and chips or bangers and mash.

Day 3: City of London

Explore the history and architecture of the city's oldest section, the **City of London** – or more commonly, “the City” – beginning with the astounding **St. Paul's Cathedral**. Then head to the **Tower of London**, a site nearly 1,000 years old that has served as a residential palace, fortress, royal mint, bank, arsenal, and most infamously, a prison.

! Art or Scam?

While exploring the **Tate Modern**, discuss the spectrum of the word ‘art’ – from traditional to absurd. Students will pair up to scour the museum for the most unexpected and crazy pieces, while making notes and preparing to debate what they think is truly art!

Dine like a local with **dinner in an English pub** – a place where business is conducted, friends gather, and celebrations are unleashed.

Day 4: Go for the Globe

Relish in a **backstage tour** of the **Royal National Theatre**, known for constantly reenergizing the great traditions of the British theatre. The behind-the-scenes tour includes the three auditoriums, front-of-house, scenic workshops, and backstage areas.

In the afternoon, embrace typical 16th-century theatre life at **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre**, a faithful reproduction of his original open-air playhouse. Following a backstage tour of the Globe, groups traveling during the theatre's season (May to September) may **attend a top-notch Shakespearean performance**.

! West End Adventure

Take in the bright lights and colorful characters of the **West End theatres** as you race to complete a scavenger hunt!

Day 5: Straight to Stratford

E Stratford-upon-Avon

Set off for a full day's adventure in Shakespeare's hometown. Embark on a walking tour of his birthplace, **House on Henley Street**, followed by a visit to picturesque **Anne Hathaway's Cottage**, the countryside childhood home of Shakespeare's wife.

! The Shakespearean Source

Meet an actor from the **Royal Shakespeare Company** and learn straight from the source what it's like to perform the Bard's work. The actor will also give you a personal tour around Stratford.

Find your inspiration as a playwright within the character and history of Stratford-upon-Avon – it's worked before!

Day 6: Royal London

E Windsor Castle, Eton College

Visit the delightful town of Windsor, dominated by the majestic **Windsor Castle**. As a weekend home of the Royal Family, it has been the largest inhabited castle in the world for over 900 years. Cross the bridge to **Eton College**. Originally founded in 1440 by Henry VI as a school for paupers, Eton College is now England's finest private school. Visit the campus and have an opportunity to see how students study and live (visit pending academic calendar).

After dinner, take part in a 500-year-old London tradition by **attending a West End theatre performance**.

Day 7: Center Stage

Continue your insight into theatre production with a **backstage tour** at the **Royal Drury Lane**, one of London's oldest and best-loved theatres. The first theatre was built at the site in 1663, and the building you'll tour is the fourth incarnation! The historic tour will include the Royal Box, the Royal Entrance, lifting gear, and much more. Ask questions, take pictures, and be ready to return full of ideas!



The glitz and glamour of a West End theatre



Posing with a royal guard at Buckingham Palace



Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

LONDON

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

8*, 9 DAY PROGRAM

Landmarks

Buckingham Palace
Trafalgar Square
Houses of Parliament
Big Ben
Westminster Abbey
St. Paul's Cathedral
Tower of London
Hyde Park
House on Henley Street
Anne Hathaway's Cottage

Theatres

Royal National Theatre
Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
West End Theatres
Royal Drury Lane

Museums

British Museum

I Interactive Insights

Art or Scam?
West End Adventure
The Shakespearean Source

E Eye-opening Excursions

Stratford-upon-Avon
Windsor Castle, Eton College

* SPRING BREAK OPTION

Present yourself at **Buckingham Palace** to watch the traditional **Changing the Guard**.

In the afternoon, revel in the art of street performance as you explore London on your own. From mimes to musicians, discover extraordinary talent hidden on the city's busy street corners.

Day 8: Cheerio!

Reflect on your show-stopping exposure before you depart for home.

Day 9 option: Choose to extend your program

Take an extra day on your theatrical journey to continue exploring the streets of London, revisit your favorite site, and enjoy the culture with your expert Focus Director.

Note: *This itinerary may be modified depending on your travel dates, arrival and departure times, national holidays, and hours of operation in the host country. Prices vary depending on departure city and duration of program.*



The 'groundlings' take in a play at the Globe



Students enjoying the day in Notting Hill