



**Announcing the TSCC 2022 Festive Getaway**  
**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Join us for a fantastic three day pre-Christmas break**  
**in historic Canterbury**



**Only £290 per person**  
(based on two people sharing)  
**Single occupancy - £360 per person**

*With its fascinating medieval centre dominated by Canterbury Cathedral, this historic walled-city and UNESCO world heritage site has for many centuries been a destination for pilgrims and visitors alike. We will be staying in the heart of the historic city within easy walking distance of all the sights. Knowledgeable local guides will let us into the many secrets of the old city, and the history of the Cathedral where we will learn how and why Thomas Beckett met his death. There will be free time to visit the vibrant Christmas Market and the many individual shops, where interesting presents may be found. There will also be a theatre visit and, on our return journey, a stop off at Knole, a former archbishop's palace and now an important National Trust conservation centre.*

**WHAT'S INCLUDED**

- *Two nights at the centrally located Hampton by Hilton Hotel*
- *Full English buffet breakfasts*
- *Group dinners on both evenings*
- *Private guided tour of the fascinating medieval city centre*
- *Private guided tour of Canterbury Cathedral*
- *Theatre visit to see the Chichester Festival production of South Pacific*
- *Free time to explore the city centre and the extensive Christmas Market*
- *Visit to Knole, former archbishop's palace and NT conservation centre*
- *Return coach travel from Esher*

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1

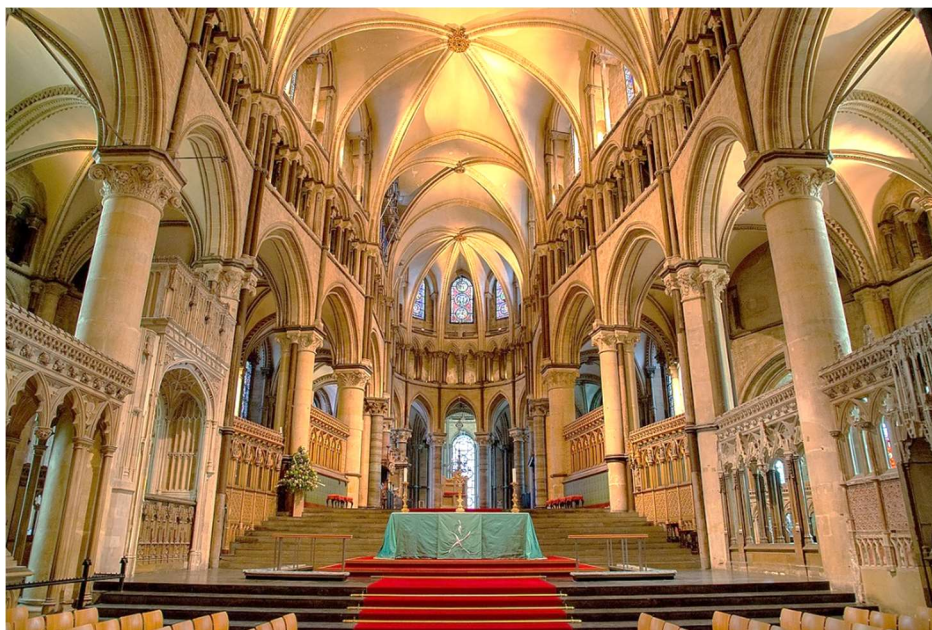
We will board our coach in Esher and arrive mid-morning at our sparkling new hotel located in the very centre of the historic medieval city. Here we will drop off our bags and enjoy a relaxing tea or coffee. Once refreshed, there will be time for a stroll to get your bearings. We will then come together for a leisurely guided walking tour when our experienced local guide will bring the history and architecture of Canterbury to life with an engaging and informative commentary. You will then



be free to relax and get a snack at one of the many nearby cafés whilst deciding on your plans for the afternoon. There are many attractions within a ten-minute walk including the Beane House of Art and Knowledge, the Roman Museum, The Kent Museum of Freemasonry, and numerous historic buildings including St Augustine's Abbey, Greyfriars Chapel (Britain's oldest Franciscan building), Eastbridge Hospital (founded to provide accommodation for the pilgrims to the tomb of Thomas Becket), and Westgate Towers (Britain's oldest surviving medieval gateway). For a more leisurely afternoon you can visit John Dane Gardens (city views from atop the 'mound'), Westgate Gardens (near Westgate Towers), or the smaller Franciscan Gardens (where you can also find Greyfriars Chapel). Alternatively, you may be tempted by the extensive Christmas market along the streets and the many independent shops where interesting Christmas presents may be found. If you enjoy choral singing, don't miss evensong at 5.30pm at the cathedral when the world-renowned choir will be in full voice. Later we will meet in the lounge ready to depart for our group dinner. Afterwards, for those not yet ready to retire, there is always a nightcap in the bar!

### DAY 2

After breakfast we will stroll to the cathedral to meet our guide for a fascinating tour of the magnificent buildings, culminating in a countdown of the events leading to the bloody murder of Thomas Becket. You will then have free time to continue your exploration of the city – or the shops and Christmas market – before getting a snack in one of the many bars or cafés. After lunch we will proceed to the Marlowe



Theatre where we will take our seats for the Chichester Festival Theatre's critically acclaimed production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic musical, *South Pacific*. After the show there will be time for a little relaxation before we meet in the hotel lounge for the short walk to the precincts of the cathedral where we will sit down for our group dinner just yards from the majestic buildings.

### DAY 3

After breakfast, there will be time for any final shopping before we board our coach for a visit to Knole, a former archbishop's palace and now a National Trust property. Situated within a thousand-acre park, this magnificent house is, by any measure, one of the largest in England. For a time, it was in royal hands but since 1603 it has been and remains the home of the Sackville family. It is also home to The Royal Oak Foundation Conservation Studio, one of the National Trust's two key conservation centres. The house itself is a treasure trove containing an important collection of Stuart

royal artifacts including furniture, paintings, objects, and textiles, plus a number of the finest 17<sup>th</sup> century tapestries, and some of the last surviving furniture from Hampton Court – plus three historically significant state

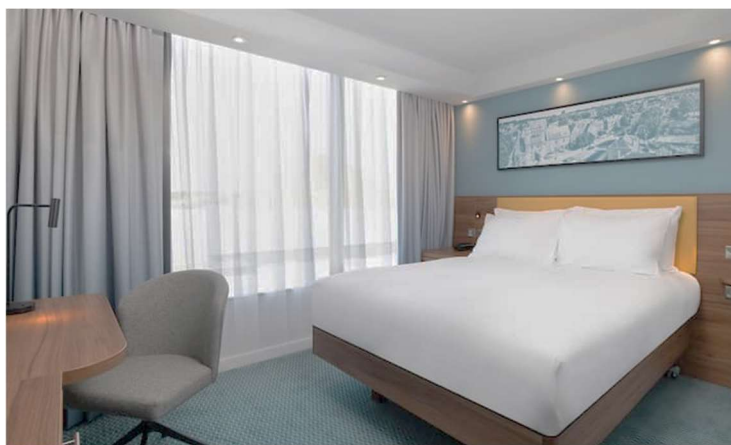


beds. Our visit will begin with an introductory tour when we will learn about the background, history and personalities of Knole. We will then pause for a lunchtime snack before exploring the house and its magnificent collections with the aid of individual audio guides. We will also be able to take a peek into the Royal Oak Foundation Studio where the skilled conservationists practice their art. Before departing to continue our journey back to Esher, there will be just time for a final cup of tea!

### ACCOMODATION

#### *The Hampton by Hilton Hotel*

This highly rated new hotel is in the very centre of the old walled city, just a couple of minutes from the iconic cathedral and at the very heart of things. The modern ensuite rooms feature flat-screen TVs, a safe for valuables, a desk/dressing table, a hairdryer, and an iron with ironing board for any last-minute needs. There is a spacious lounge for us to get together and chat, and a licenced bar. There is free Wi-Fi throughout, and lifts to all rooms.



### TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE

To reserve your place please email Jackie at [jackie.m@tsc.org.uk](mailto:jackie.m@tsc.org.uk) as soon as possible. If booking a room for double occupancy, please state whether you prefer a double bed or a pair of twins. To confirm your reservation, we need a deposit of £100 per head and the balance by mid-September.

If possible, please pay by bank transfer, and email Pauline at: [treasurer@tsc.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@tsc.org.uk) to advise how much you have transferred and what it is for. The TSCC Bank details are:

Payee: **TSCC**

Sort Code: **40-35-40**

Account Number: **81467212**

Please enter "**CANTERBURY**" as the payment reference.

If you do pay by cheque, please make this payable to **TSCC**, write "**CANTERBURY**" on the back and send it to: **6 Paddock Way, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0LF**. Please add 50p if paying by cheque.

**We do hope you will come and join us for this fantastic, great value Pre-Christmas Getaway to the historic city of Canterbury!**