LRSC Short-term Study Abroad: British Isles: May 31-June 8, 2024

Day 1: Fly overnight to Ireland

Day 2: Shannon • Killarney

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport
- Travel to Killarney
- Visit <u>Bunratty Castle</u>, a living museum where visitors can see what Medieval Irish life was like
- Enjoy dinner in Killarney

Day 3: Killarney

- <u>Cultural engagement</u>: Visit the Kerry Bog Village Museum and wander through a recreation of an Irish village from the early 1800s as costumed guides demonstrate the way of life that prevailed in 19th-century rural Ireland
- Take an excursion to the Ring of Kerry, a 112mile coastal route with incredible views of the Atlantic Ocean and the surrounding mountain range of Macgillycuddy's Reeks
- Enjoy dinner in Killarney

Day 4: Killarney • Blarney • Dublin

- Travel via Blarney to Dublin
- See the Rock of Cashel
- <u>Cultural engagement</u>: Visit Blarney Castle, the famed medieval fortification which is said to grant the gift of eloquence to anyone who kisses the Blarney Stone
- Enjoy a traditional Guinness stew dinner in Dublin

Day 5: Dublin

- Take a guided tour of Dublin and see:
- Dublin's five iconic Georgian squares, which span the north and south sides of Dublin and are surrounded by homes with colorful doors
- O'Connell Street's monuments
- St. Stephen's Green, the largest of the five Georgian squares
- Phoenix Park and the presidential residence
- See the Book of Kells at Trinity College, a manuscript created more than 1,000 years ago by Irish monks
- Visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, whose presence honors the patron saint of Ireland
- Independent group exploration: Spend a half day exploring Dublin

Day 6: Dublin • Holyhead • British Midlands

- Travel via ferry to Holyhead, a port city in Wales
- Travel via Snowdonia and see its lush greenery on your way to the British Midlands
- Visit a Welsh castle
- Enjoy dinner in the British Midlands

Day 7: British Midlands • Stratford-upon-Avon • Oxford • London

- Travel via the British Midlands to Stratfordupon-Avon, Oxford and London
- Take a tour of Stratford-upon-Avon
- Enjoy lunch in Stratford-upon-Avon
- Guided learning: Visit the half-timbered house where Shakespeare was born and visit Anne Hathaway's cottage, a picturesque farmhouse where the Bard's wife spent her a tour of Oxford, the world's oldest university town whose alma maters include Tony Blair and Margaret Thatcher

Day 8: London

- Take a guided tour of London to see
- Big Ben, an iconic London bell at the Palace of Westminster
- Houses of Parliament, home to England's governing body
- Piccadilly Circus, a five-way intersection
- St. Paul's Cathedral, a domed church which has hosted many royal events
- Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace (if scheduled)
- OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: TBD
 - o Either Windsor Castle or
 - o Globe Theater Tour
 - Enjoy a fish and chips dinner in London

Day 9: London

Depart for home

OR if we can get 20 people signed up, add the days below for a minimal fee.

Day 9: London

- Take <u>a guided cultural excursion</u> to Stonehenge and Bath
- Visit Stonehenge, whose origin and purpose is unknown, though most believe it to have been a temple and observatory or a sacred site for the burial of high-ranking citizens from societies of long ago
- Visit the Roman Baths which was a favorite vacation destination of early Romans and 18th-century English aristocracy alike and built for their enjoyment of the hot springs

Day 10: London

- Independent group exploration:
 - Visit the British Museum
 - Visit the National Gallery
 - Go on a Jack the Ripper Tour

Day 11: Depart for home