

*Wesleyan University Alumni Association
introduces*

VILLAGE LIFE

**IN
ENGLAND'S COTSWOLDS**

May 30 to June 7, 2004



Featuring: An Exclusive tour of Blenheim Palace

Hosted by: Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill

**ALL-INCLUSIVE
ONLY
\$2595**

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



Dear Wesleyan Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

In an age where so many destinations are newly minted to attract tourism, travel seldom captures the authentic character and culture of a place. This is why we are pleased to sponsor *Village Life in England's Cotswolds*. *Village Life* programs have been designed for a unique immersion in the cultural life of a nation, bypassing the roads traveled all too often.

In England's Cotswolds, time has passed over the landscape with an unusually gentle hand. Rows of stone homes, their slate roofs bowed and rippling, have hardly changed since the 16th century.

Unpack only once! We will experience this pastoral landscape while staying for seven nights at the four-star Queen's Hotel, with its grand Neoclassical façade and superb cuisine, ideally situated directly on Cheltenham's grand Promenade. Cheltenham has been an opulent spa town since the 18th century, with stately Regency homes and bright gardens.

We will learn about the culture and history of the Cotswolds with a program of lectures, meetings with local residents, and exclusive guided tours of great historical monuments. By special arrangement, we will be greeted at the door of Blenheim Palace by Lord Charles-Spencer Churchill, Sir Winston Churchill's cousin, for an exclusive early opening of Britain's grandest private residence.

Travel from the charming Cotswolds to majestic Blenheim, Oxford, and Bath, encompassing the heart of England. With the camaraderie of fellow Wesleyan alumni, parents, and friends, and an **exceptional all-inclusive price** covering airfare, accommodations, meals, and excursions, this is a truly distinctive program. It has been very popular in the past, so make your reservation today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda W. Secord".

*Linda W. Secord
Director of
Alumni Education*



*Enjoy the bucolic parklands, meadows
and brooks of England's Cotswolds.*

MEET
LORD CHARLES
SPENCER-CHURCHILL
DURING A PRIVATE TOUR
OF BLENHEIM PALACE



Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill, cousin of Sir Winston Churchill, will be your host for this exclusive

tour of his ancestral home, Blenheim Palace. You will be greeted personally by Lord Charles and, as privileged guests, invited for a guided tour of Blenheim's Baroque grandeur during this private early opening of the palace. Admire the tranquil beauty of Blenheim's 2,200-acre park—landscaped by “Capability” Brown—featuring the world's second largest symbolic hedge maze. Afterwards, dine in the mural-lined Summer Drawing Room, which offers a delightful view of Blenheim's water terraces. Continue to the nearby village of Bladon to visit Sir Winston Churchill's humble grave.



VILLAGE LIFE: A WAY OF LIFE IN ENGLAND'S COTSWOLDS

Village Life in England's Cotswolds is one in a unique series of *Village Life* programs designed for inveterate travelers who know the vibrant character of a country is best found in the provinces, on the backroads and around the local market squares. It offers you a cultural and educational experience like no other. **All-inclusive for an exceptionally low fare**, *Village Life in England's Cotswolds* focuses on what has been known for centuries as "the heart of England." Here, for one full week, you will come to know everyday life in the 16th and 17th century wolds, and learn the tongue-twisting names of Stow-on-the-Wold and Chipping Campden. **Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill** will take us through the Baroque splendor of his childhood home of Blenheim Palace and share some personal tales of his cousin Sir Winston Churchill. You will stroll the same boulevards in Bath that Jane Austen, Beau Nash and Thomas Gainsborough once strode; and walk in the footsteps of scholars, artists and wits in the quadrangles of Oxford University.

Our *exclusive Village Forum* gathers specially identified local residents to provide their candid perspectives on the unique village life you will find here in the Cotswolds.

Explore.

Dream. Discover.

—Mark Twain

The **beautiful Queen's Hotel** has been specially selected for this program as it features the finest first-class accommodations and excellent regional cuisine with local specialties.

Unpack once! This is an *exceptional travel opportunity inclusive of all airfare, accommodations, meals and exclusively arranged excursions for an incredibly low price*. Come experience the special way of life: *Village Life in England's Cotswolds*.



Golden stone and flowering trees bedeck many of Cheltenham Spa's homes.

CHELTENHAM

Jane Austen would be right at home in Cheltenham. An opulent spa town since 1716, this “**Area of Outstanding National Beauty**” is a stately parade of Regency columns and wrought ironwork, grand homes and majestic gardens. During much of the 18th century, this wealthy retreat located in the heart of the Cotswolds became the playground of the upper classes in the social season. You can just imagine gentlemen doffing their top hats in the domed Pittville Pump Room! But beyond the Neoclassical columns and the Cheltenham racecourse, England’s premier steeplechase venue, “*olde*” English eccentricity still shows its impish head each May, villagers enjoy chasing a Double Gloucester cheese down a hill!

BLENHEIM PALACE

Britain’s largest private residence and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, Blenheim is one of the grandest structures created in the British Isles. Designed in the 18th century for the Duke of Marlborough, its epic baroque expanse served as Elsinore in Kenneth Branagh’s 1996 film of *Hamlet*. Beyond the extraordinary maze of opulent state chambers lies a bucolic 2,200-acre park, designed by the famous “Capability” Brown.

OXFORD

Deemed “city of dreaming spires,” and “rook-racked, river-rounded” by adoring poets, Britain’s oldest university counts Margaret Thatcher, Edmund Halley and John Donne among its glittering alumni. Eight hundred years on, it still turns out brilliant scholars and still adheres to its ancient—and eccentric—traditions. In magnificent cobbled Radcliffe Square, students may be seen racing to exams, college gowns billowing behind them. From Christ Church’s Tom Quad to Magdalen College’s cloister, churchbells echo through medieval alleyways and Renaissance quadrangles.



COTSWOLD VILLAGES

Almost impossibly picturesque, the Cotswold villages of **Stow-on-the-Wold** and **Chipping Campden** still embrace a time before the soot and sound of the Industrial Revolution. **Stow-on-the-Wold**, the highest Cotswold town with a



In Bath, see a spectacle of Roman ruins, Gothic and Regency splendor—all in the same place.

magnificent view, is a market village: narrow walled alleyways, called “tunes,” used to funnel sheep into the market square; a nearby medieval cross warned traders to be honest merchantmen.

Chipping Campden, often called the “most beautiful village in Britain,” is a perfect expression of a prosperous medieval town. Undulating, weather-beaten roofs cap amber-hued homes, and mullioned windows overlook the 15th-century parish church, almshouses and market hall.



This “Capital of the Cotswolds” was in an earlier age known as Corinium, a powerhouse city of Roman Britain. A swirling market place, thronging with traders’ stalls, is the heart of the town. The 15th-century Parish Church of St. John Baptist, a wonder of light, dominates a cityscape of 17th-century tea shops, Victorian townhomes, Roman walls and modern cafés. Behind a yew hedge as tall as a telephone pole, Cirencester House and its 3,000-acre park host polo matches. Nearby **Tetbury** is lovely enough to have attracted the Prince of Wales and Princess Anne, who have residences here.

CIRENCESTER

This “Capital of the Cotswolds” was in an earlier age known as Corinium, a powerhouse

BATH

Spirits lighten and the heart lifts in Bath. Since the ancient Roman occupation, this elegant city has been Britain’s little pleasure dome, its vale of health. Stately Georgian columns, curving in elegant symmetry, mingle with great spans of refreshing parkland. It is as much country estate as city. At the center of it all, Bath Abbey rises majestically in gleaming white stone before the extraordinary ancient Roman baths. Below the bustle of Pulteney Bridge, where shops and homes literally hang from its sides, swans congregate by the rushing water of the River Avon’s weir.

*We shape our buildings,
and afterwards our buildings
shape us.*

—Sir Winston Churchill



The Radcliffe Camera, with the University Church of St. Mary's behind it, are but two of the 700 historic buildings of Oxford University.

THE QUEEN'S HOTEL



Enjoy the charms of the Cotswolds at the elegant, four-star *Queen's Hotel*. Excellently situated at the top of the fine tree-lined promenade, the Queen's Hotel was founded in 1838 with a stately Neoclassical façade — modeled after Rome's Temple of Jupiter — and lovely gardens which still attract Cheltenham's finest for traditional afternoon teas. Each of the hotel's 79 guestrooms offers private facilities, satellite TV, hairdryer, trouser press and 24-hour room service.

Throughout the program, dine in the gracious Napier Restaurant, known for its haute cuisine and vintage wines. The hotel also offers a lounge, bar and Le Petit Blanc Brasserie, founded by England's most renowned chef, Raymond Blanc.

VILLAGE LIFE DAY BY DAY....

Day 1

Depart from your gateway city on a regularly scheduled flight to London.

Day 2

Motorcoach transfer through the Thames Valley to *Cheltenham* and the *Queen's Hotel*. **Private welcome reception, with fine wines and local cheeses.**

Day 3

Cheltenham's Pleasures

Exclusive Enrichment

Seminar on the history of Cheltenham.

Excursion

Guided walk through historic Cheltenham, visiting the Long Gardens.

Day 4

English Icons: Blenheim, Churchill and Oxford

Exclusive Enrichment

Enjoy a private early opening and guided tour of Blenheim Palace by Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill. Lunch in Blenheim's Summer Drawing Room. Visit Winston Churchill's grave in Bladon.

Excursion

Explore Oxford University's spectacular architecture and ancient traditions.

Day 5

Quintessential Cotswolds: A study of historic preservation

Exclusive Enrichment

Seminar on "Cotswolds Enigmas."

Excursion

Visit Stow-on-the-Wold and Chipping Campden.

Day 6

The day is at leisure in Cheltenham.

Day 7

Roman to Regency Britain: The Classical to the Neoclassical.

Exclusive Enrichment

Seminar on "Roman Cotswolds".

Excursion

Tour Cirencester and Tetbury en route to Bath, with a visit to the Roman Baths. A box lunch is included. Enjoy time at leisure to admire the city's fine Regency architecture.

Day 8

The day is at leisure in Cheltenham.


Day 9

Board your return flight to the U.S. and arrive in the afternoon.

THIS ALL-INCLUSIVE STUDY TOUR FEATURES:

- ◆ International round-trip airfare between the U.S. and London. Please refer to the reservation form for gateway information.
- ◆ Seven-night accommodations at the four-star *Queen's Hotel*.
- ◆ Private welcome reception at the hotel, featuring fine wines and local cheeses.
- ◆ Three meals each day, featuring the renowned haute cuisine of The Queen's Hotel's Napier Restaurant; and a specially arranged, private lunch in Blenheim Palace's opulent Summer Drawing Room.

All tours and excursions listed in the itinerary, led by accredited local guides of the Guild of Guides:

- ◆ Half-day walking tour of *Cheltenham*.
- ◆ Excursion to *Stow-on-the-Wold* and *Chipping Campden*.
- ◆  **Exclusive early opening and guided tour of *Blenheim Palace*.**
- ◆ Visits to *Bladon* and *Oxford*.
- ◆ Excursion to *Cirencester*, *Tetbury* and *Bath*.

Plus a full program of educational and cultural enrichment including:

- ◆ An engaging series of lectures, seminars and presentations on the region by author, artist and local historian Aylwin Sampson, covering
 - the history of Cheltenham.
 - "Cotswold Enigmas".
 - the Roman Cotswolds.

◆ **Private meeting with Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill.**

- ◆ Dinner at the hotel with a "Village Forum" discussing history, social issues and contemporary life in the Cotswolds.

And to ease your travel experience, we will also provide:

- ◆ All transfers and luggage handling abroad for passengers traveling on group flights.
- ◆ A hospitality desk in the hotel.
- ◆ The services of an experienced travel director throughout the program.
- ◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information for each passenger.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance for each passenger ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.



Ducks enjoy a summer swim in Chipping Campden.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

NOT INCLUDED: Air fare not listed in "Included Features" and associated local and airport departure taxes; airport facility taxes; land taxes; federal inspection fees; passport fees; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, meals and alcoholic beverages not listed in the "Included Features" section; optional sightseeing excursions; gratuities to local guides; drivers; services other than those specifically mentioned in the "Included Features" section; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you have not purchased your air arrangements through Gohagan & Company, or if you are arriving or departing earlier and/or later than the arrival and/or departure of the group air flight(s); accident/sickness, trip cancellation and baggage insurance; and excess baggage charges on aircraft.

HEALTH: Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until they are received in writing in the offices of Gohagan & Company. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservations are subject to a \$100 per person cancellation fee from the time of booking, through 120 days prior to departure, 95 through 119 days prior to departure, \$500 per person; 45 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariff; 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 75% of the published full regular tariff; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, a no-show or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariff. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees and administrative fees will be assessed.

Because these cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan & Company for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, as well as damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application after you make your reservations. **RESPONSIBILITY:** Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, and the sponsoring association, and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), does not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force of nature, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other

failure of airplanes or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of these trips at any time. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel manager.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any such changes. Gohagan may cancel a trip for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. It is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. All fares, as well as ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change without prior notice. Gohagan shall not be required to refund any portion of the fare or make any other compensation under these circumstances, Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational, itinerary or other changes or cancellations, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute hotels of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases.

ARBITRATION AGREEMENT: Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to these Terms and Conditions, to the Responsibility Clause, to the brochure, or any other information relating in any way to the trip, or to the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration association then existent.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure.

By forwarding of deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract.

REGISTRATION: CST: 2031868-40. WST: #601 767 666. OST #TA 0905.



Travel arrangements by:
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Chicago, IL 60604
(800) 922-3088/(312) 922-3002
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Cover: *Cirencester House and its gardens create a pinpoint picture of the Cotswolds' charms.*



Travel to quiet stone churches, like this one near the town of Chipping Campden.

\$2595 per person based on double occupancy (from New York). *

**VILLAGE LIFE IN ENGLAND'S COTSWOLDS
RESERVATION FORM**

Send to: Wesleyan University
c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company
224 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 220
Chicago, IL 60604
Tel: (312) 922-3002 or (800)922-3088

***Plus additional taxes of \$195 per person.**

I/we want to make reservations:

- Double occupancy.
- Single accommodations for \$470 additional.
- I am reserving as a single, but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

I/we authorize air reservation(s):

- On the group flights New York/London with return London/New York.
- From my/our home city of _____

to connect with the group flights listed above at an additional cost to be advised.

Contact me/us with information about:

- First Class Business Class

Note: Airfares are subject to change. Air arrangements will be made at the lowest available air fare. Complete information pertaining to your air arrangements will be mailed to you with your Reservation Confirmation. Reservations will be accepted after the final payment date, provided space is available and full payment is received.

Names

First Initial Last Class or Parent Year

First Initial Last Class or Parent Year

Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City State ZIP Code

Telephone (Home) (Business)

Email Address

Preferred name(s) on name badge(s) Tour No. 081-05/30/04-231

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$ _____ as deposit (\$500 per person).
Make check(s) payable to **2004 Village Life in England's Cotswolds.**

Deposits can also be made by credit card; however, **all FINAL payments are required to be made in cash, by check or wire transfer by February 25, 2004.**

I/we authorize you to charge my/our deposit to: Visa MasterCard

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature as it appears on credit card.