



Santa Barbara Museum of Art

*Art, Arboreta, and Estates of England's East Anglia Region
Cambridge, Norfolk, and London
with Oliver Gerrish*

June 14 to 25, 2026

This special tour, designed for and exclusive to SBMA Members, will be based in Cambridge, a stately home in Norfolk that is privately owned and where we will likely be the only guests, and London. Explore outstanding art in private homes, the Victoria and Albert Museum, The Royal Academy of Arts, Sir John Soane's Museum by candlelight as Sir John Soane envisioned, the Fitzwilliam Museum, Kettle's Yard, and among the grand 18-century setting of Houghton Hall. Experience being the honored guests at ancestral homes not generally open to the public, where you will be received by the owners. Delight in wandering the splendid gardens and exquisite interiors of these historic and family-owned estates.

Study Leader



Tour Study Leader Oliver Gerrish

Accompanying the tour as the study leader and welcoming us into the homes on his personal network is Oliver Gerrish, an architectural historian, building consultant, and bespoke tour organizer. A graduate of the University of Cambridge, he has been working in the world of architectural preservation and research for twenty years. When he was only nineteen he reestablished the dormant youth chapter (the Young Georgians) of architectural charity, The Georgian Group. As Chairman, he built up a large membership through tours to over one hundred historic houses, lectures and social events. He was a trustee of the Georgian Group for nine years and has been a trustee of the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust since 2009.

In 2016 Oliver co-founded Historic Decoration alongside interior designer Caroline Percy. He has written extensively for *Country Life* (with two feature articles in 2022 on Radbourne Hall and Thirsk Hall), as well as *The Georgian, House & Garden* and the American journal *Tether*.

Oliver has been a panelist on BBC Front Row and has appeared on a number of television shows and series. He has consulted on numerous projects, from entire houses to garden buildings.

Hotels



University Arms in Cambridge ~ Three Nights

Originally built in 1834 as a coaching inn, the interiors by Martin Brudnizki (of Annabel's and Ivy fame) echo the famous colleges of Cambridge University. Conveniently a short distance from the historical city center, it overlooks Parker's Piece, a lush green common near the center of Cambridge.



Photo by Paul Highnam for *Country Life*

Wolterton Hall in North Norfolk ~ Three Nights

Privately owned—and fabulous—this stately Palladian country house built by Thomas Ripley for Horatio Walpole is a stunning 18th-century estate in Aylsham in North Norfolk, which has been lovingly restored and redecorated since 2016. It overlooks a park, designed by Charles Bridgeman, with a 10-acre lake among 500 acres of fields and woodland.



Haymarket Hotel in London ~ Four Nights

Situated in the heart of London's theatre district, this stylish 5-star hotel is located next to the Theatre Royal Haymarket and within walking distance of Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly, and St. James's Park. The hotel showcases owner-designer Kit Kemp's signature style.

Itinerary

Sunday, June 14 ~ U.S. to London

If traveling from the U.S., departures will likely be on June 14 for a June 15 arrival. A suggested flight schedule from Santa Barbara or LAX will be provided to confirmed participants once the group has been formed.

Monday, June 15 ~ London Airport to Cambridge

Arrive at London Heathrow Airport, where you will be warmly welcomed by tour leaders. Transfer together to Cambridge and check into the elegant University Arms Hotel for three nights. This evening, gather for a welcome drinks reception with an introductory talk by Oliver Gerrish, followed by dinner in the Watson Room. (R, D)



Tuesday, June 16 ~ Cambridge

Begin with a **guided walking tour of Cambridge**, including a **special visit to the Parker Library at Corpus Christi College**, home to **one of the world's most significant collections of medieval and Renaissance manuscripts**, including the 6th-century St Augustine Gospels and the earliest version of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. After lunch at a local restaurant,

enjoy a **private tour of the Fitzwilliam Museum's main galleries and the Founder's Library with art historian Sarah Burles**. Return to the hotel with an early evening **option to attend Choral Evensong at King's College Chapel**. (B, L)

Image: Fitzwilliam Museum interior, at the University of Cambridge



Kettle's Yard, an art gallery and house in Cambridge

Wednesday, June 17 ~ Cambridge to Audley End and Return

Travel to **Audley End** for a **private curator-led tour** of this grand Jacobean mansion, including the Great Hall, state rooms, and private apartments. Once the largest house in England, it boasts an exceptional collection of Old Masters, early English portraits, and Italian landscapes. After lunch together, return to Cambridge and visit **Kettle's Yard for a private tour** of the gallery spaces and the house itself where artworks by Joan Miró, Ben and Winifred Nicholson, Christopher Wood, and Alfred Wallis are displayed alongside textiles, ceramics, and furniture. Conclude the day with a **private tour of the Wren Library at Trinity College**. Designed by renowned architect Sir Christopher Wren in the 17th century, it houses a remarkable collection of rare books and manuscripts, including works by Newton and Milton. **(B, L)**

Thursday, June 18 ~ Cambridge to Norfolk

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and depart for Norfolk for an **exclusive out-of-hours tour of Houghton Hall**, an 18-century masterpiece of Palladian architecture built by Sir Robert Walpole, Britain's first Prime Minister. Restored to its former grandeur by his descendant, the Marquess of Cholmondeley, the Queen's Lord Great Chamberlain, Houghton Hall is also renowned for its innovative contemporary art program. During our visit, see *Steven Cox: Myth*, the most comprehensive exhibition of the acclaimed British sculptor's career, with monumental marble and stone works throughout the park and gardens, and smaller pieces inside the hall. Conclude the visit with a guided stroll through the walled garden, featuring separate areas for fruit and vegetables, a formal rose garden with over 150 varieties, and elegant herbaceous borders, with the head gardener. Continue to **lunch privately at the home of the Earl and Countess of Romney**, prepared by the Countess with produce from the garden and game hunted by the Earl. Check into Wolterton Park in Norfolk, for a three-night stay with exclusive use of The Hall and Stewards House (likely, depending upon group size). A relaxed buffet dinner in the library is a perfect end to a full travel day. **(B, L, D)**



Houghton Hall, Norfolk

Friday, June 19 ~ Norfolk and surrounding

This morning, depart by coach for **Blickling Estate**, where we are invited to a **private out-of-hours tour of Blickling Hall and a special talk by Rebecca Feakes**, the property librarian who will share select treasures to show from the library. Blickling Hall dates to the 15th century when it belonged to the Boleyn family – Anne Boleyn was reputedly born here. Proceed to **The National Trust's Textile Conservation Center to meet conservators at work**. Continue to **Elsing Hall, a medieval moated manor house** built in the 15th century, for a private buffet lunch with the owners and a tour of the house and garden, restored in the Victorian period by gifted designer and architect Thomas Jeckyll. Return to Wolterton Hall before an early evening departure for a **private evening at Sennowe Park, hosted by the owners, including a drinks reception and dinner**. Sennowe was built to the grand design of Albert Cook, grandson of the successful holiday travel agent Thomas Cook and the rooms are filled with period family memorabilia. **(B, L, D)**



Sennowe Park

Saturday, June 20 ~ Estates near Norfolk

Depart for **Gunton Park** and meet **Kit Martin CBE**, a **British architectural designer**, who will discuss his process of restoring the parkland and show us England's oldest working sawmill and St. Andrew's Church, Robert Adam's only complete church in England. Lunch will follow at the nearby **The Suffield Arms**, a **pub owned by the influential art collector Ivor Braka and adorned with works from his collection**. Continue to **Sheringham Hall**, where we will be **received privately for a visit and a drink with the owners**. The property was designed by the architect and landscape designer Humphry Repton and his son John Adey Repton. Return to Wolterton for dinner in the State Dining Room. **(B, L, D)**

Sunday, June 21 ~ Norfolk to London

Check out and depart this morning for **Hatfield House**, one of the finest private houses in **England**. It is the site of Elizabeth I's childhood home, now owned by the Cecil Family. The present building is a masterpiece of Jacobean architecture built in 1611 by Robert Cecil, the first Earl of Salisbury and minister to King James I. Lunch will be in the Coach House Kitchen on the property. **Tour the garden privately with the head gardener, followed by a tour of the house and tea with Lady Salisbury**. Continue to London and check into the Haymarket Hotel for a four-night stay. Dinner is at a nearby restaurant. **(B, L, D)**



Hatfield House

Monday, June 22 ~ London to Knightsbridge and Return

Leave by coach to visit the **Victoria and Albert Museum** with part of the guided tour to include the exhibition ***Schiaparelli: Fashion Becomes Art***. The Victoria and Albert Museum holds over 2.8 million objects with a collection that includes an array of ceramics, textiles, furniture, sculpture, paintings, and jewelry from across Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Highlights include the Ardabil Carpet, the Raphael Cartoons, and the world's largest collection of post-classical sculpture. By special arrangement, visit a **private collection in Brompton Square, Knightsbridge**, with its curator, followed by lunch at a local restaurant in Knightsbridge. The afternoon and evening are at leisure, and an optional ballet or opera at London Opera House or a West End performance. (B, L)



Victoria and Albert Museum

Tuesday, June 23 ~ London

Begin the day with a **private viewing at The Royal Academy of Arts**, located in Burlington House on Piccadilly, including the annual summer exhibition, a tradition since 1769, which showcases prints, paintings, films, photography, sculpture, and architectural works. Continue for a **private visit at Spencer House**, one of London's only intact 18th-century grand private residences. Walk through the State Rooms, among the first neo-classical interiors in Europe. After lunch at Fortnum & Mason's, enjoy a **private visit by special arrangement to St James's Palace**, including the Chapel Royal with its magnificent ceiling, and 17th-century Queen's Chapel by famed architect Inigo Jones. Within the grounds of this palace are the London residences of The Princess Royal and Princess Alexandra. (B, L)



Spencer House

Wednesday, June 24 ~ London

Tour **Chiswick House privately**, a Neo-Palladian villa by the 3rd Earl of Burlington, and stroll its garden, considered among the earliest examples of the English landscape garden. Continue to lunch at Villa di Geggiano, followed by a visit to **Syon Park House and Garden, home to the Duke of Northumberland**, with coffee/tea in the Duke's Private Sitting Room and a private tour of Robert Adam's celebrated interiors.



Chiswick House

This evening, experience **Sir John Soane's Museum by candlelight**, exactly as the architect intended, exploring the unique collection of art and antiquities. A highlight is the famous Picture Room, uniquely installed by Soane, with works by Canaletto, JMW Turner, and William Hogarth. Return to the hotel for a special Farewell Dinner at the hotel. **(B, L, D)**



Sir John Soane's Museum

Thursday, June 25 ~ Departure from London

Check out of the hotel and transfer to London Heathrow airport for departing flights. **(B)**

Tour Costs:

- ❖ **Per person in shared room at hotels: \$12,770**
- ❖ **Room to yourself: add \$2,720**
- ❖ **Plus SBMA donation: \$850 per person**

Included:

- ❖ Hotel accommodations as described
- ❖ Breakfasts daily, some lunches and dinners
- ❖ All land transportation by private coach for included activities including airport transfers in England for those on the suggested flights
- ❖ Private visits and special access through SBMA connections
- ❖ Admissions to museums and monuments, sightseeing, and tours as described
- ❖ Expertise of study leader throughout, plus experts at certain local venues and sites
- ❖ Services of Tour Manager
- ❖ Services of SBMA Host (at 15 participants)
- ❖ Most gratuities
- ❖ A pre-tour gathering in Santa Barbara a few weeks before departure

Not included: Flights from home gateway to and from London; airport transfers within the U.S.; airport transfers in England for those not on the suggested flights; personal travel insurance for health, baggage and trip cancellation; passport fees; customary tips to guide and hotel housekeeping; items of a personal nature such as room service, not-included meals and beverages; telephone or internet charges; deviations from the scheduled tour; and any items not specifically mentioned as included.

Payment Schedule and Cancellation Policy: Your reservation deposit (\$3,500 per person) is refundable until September 10, 2025, minus a \$400 cancellation penalty. An interim payment of \$2,500 is due December 14, 2025 (6 months prior to departure) and becomes fully non-refundable January 14, 2026. Final payment is due by check March 14, 2026 (3 months prior to departure) and becomes fully non-refundable April 14, 2026. (Between those dates, cancellation penalty amount increases as departure nears.) The \$850 tour-associated donation to SBMA may be paid anytime before March 14, 2026 and is not refundable and not insurable. **By placing a deposit on the tour, you are acknowledging acceptance of terms and cancellation penalty, and that you have read the section on Requirements. Please consider travel insurance.**

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance information will be sent to you upon receipt of your tour deposit. While optional, travel insurance is highly recommended. Adding the “CFAR” option is recommended if you are a more cautious traveler and might cancel because of personal reasons due to world events while the trip is still operating, as having this option will be your only means for getting a partial return of your funds. If you do not purchase insurance and have to cancel, there will be *no flexibility with the cancellation terms for any reason* including but not limited to any illness or fear of travel due to a health outbreak or political unrest. While the need for insurance is always unexpected, the benefits can be significant. Travel insurance can be time-sensitive depending on the benefits desired.

Air Arrangements: To allow maximum flexibility for travelers, the flights to and from London are not included in the cost of the tour. A suggested flight schedule will be sent once the group has been formed. **Please do not book your flights until you are notified by SBMA that the minimum group size has been reached.** Flights are subject to change. In the case of flight changes the participant is responsible for any costs for hotels, transfers, and meals required as a result. Trip Cancellation/Interruption Insurance is strongly encouraged.

England passport/ETA Requirement: Passports must be valid for the duration of your stay in the United Kingdom. Additionally, there are new regulations in place for travel to the UK. Beginning January 2025, it

became mandatory for US citizens to apply for an ETA for travel to the UK unless they already have a visa or dual nationality. The ETA is similar to the U.S. ESTA system and acts as a pre-clearance for travel. Applications can be done online, cost £10, usually take a few days for approval, and last for two years. SBMA will send more information prior to departure.

Museum Membership Requirement: Travel is a benefit of Museum Membership. Non-members will be required to join at the “Friend” (\$100 per household) level (\$80 senior rate) or higher and will receive full membership benefits for a year. Those at the \$1,000 “Curator’s Circle” Membership receive advanced notice about SBMA’s custom travel programs and many other benefits. Visit www.sbma.net/support/membership for full Membership details.

Activity Level/Other Requirements: In order to make the most of being in the destination, this is an active, full itinerary with moderate levels of activity. It requires participants to be in active good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. Days will be busy with a moderate amount of walking and standing during tours. Sightseeing excursions may last for a few hours with distances of up to a few miles and participants must be able to keep pace with a larger group, get on and off of buses, and navigate uneven terrain, stairs, and slippery surfaces with ease. You may average around 10,000 steps per day. Good health and stamina plus a sense of adventure and a positive, flexible attitude about delays and inconveniences are also essential. Participants should enjoy being part of a group tour and be willing to comply with tour rules and/or requests made by staff. The right is reserved to decline or retain any person as member of the tour when such action is determined by SBMA to be in the best interests of the health, safety, enjoyment, or general welfare of the tour group or the individual participant. We reserve the right to ask you for health information. ***Please read every day of the itinerary and contact SBMA Travel if you have any concerns about your ability to take part in the activities.***

Other Health Considerations: When participating in this group tour, travelers should be in a healthy state. We urge everyone to be cautious before departure and to take precautions while traveling and on tour to prevent the spread of all illnesses, not just Covid-19. If you come down with a contagious illness before or during the tour, we ask that you not participate in tour activities and/or take precautions, in order to prevent the spread of illness to others. The contagious period may be determined by a doctor or current CDC guidelines at the time. We recommend, but do not require, that each traveler is vaccinated for Covid-19 and is up to date with booster dose(s) as advised by their doctor and/or CDC guidance. Safety guidelines can change at anytime and tour participants are asked to comply. We highly recommend travel insurance and you should confirm with the insurance company what will (and will not) be covered in the event you are ill and are unable to join or continue on the tour. Travel always has inherent risks and when choosing to travel, you are accepting all risks. We greatly appreciate your help with keeping yourself and those around you as safe as possible.

Additional Notes: All arrangements are subject to change. Visits with individuals are always subject to final confirmation. Although SBMA and its suppliers will make every effort to adhere to the printed itinerary, on occasion it may be necessary to adjust arrangements because of circumstances beyond our control. Should an itinerary adjustment be necessary, substitution will be made to the best of our ability and additional costs necessitated by such changes may have to be covered by the tour member. If due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, participants are required to spend any additional days or nights in the destination, they will be responsible for any additional expenses incurred, including hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Should you decide not to participate in certain parts of the program, or are for any reason prevented from joining parts of the tour, no refunds will be made for those unused parts of the program. There are no refunds if a portion of the tour is missed due to flight delays or cancellations. Depending on the situation, trip insurance may reimburse for missed portions of the tour. If a staff member is unable to participate, SBMA will make every effort to find a replacement with similar qualifications and no refunds will be made. The tour cost is based on a minimum of 18 participants, a maximum of 22, and is subject to change due to tariffs or other changes. Aside from the deposit, tour payments should be made by check. SBMA’s California Seller of Travel License #: 209026

RESERVATION FORM ~ England

SEND TO: SBMA TRAVEL, 1130 STATE STREET, SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

OR FAX TO: (805) 966-6840

OR RESERVE BY PHONE: (805) 884-6431

TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE ON THE TOUR, A \$3,500 PER PERSON DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD. AN INTERIM PAYMENT IS DUE DECEMBER 14, 2025. FINAL PAYMENT AND \$850 TOUR-ASSOCIATED DONATION TO SBMA ARE DUE BY CHECK MARCH 14, 2026.

BY PLACING A DEPOSIT ON THE TOUR, YOU ARE ACKNOWLEDGING ACCEPTANCE OF ALL TERMS & CONDITIONS, INCLUDING STRICT CANCELLATION PENALTY AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE. **SBMA WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE FLEXIBLE WITH THE CANCELLATION TERMS FOR ANY REASON AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDS TRAVEL INSURANCE AS AN IMPORTANT WAY OF PROTECTING YOUR INVESTMENT.**

☐ A CHECK FOR THE DEPOSIT (\$3,500 PER PERSON), MADE PAYABLE TO "SBMA", IS ENCLOSED.

☐ PLEASE CHARGE THE DEPOSIT TO MY CREDIT CARD: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXPIRES: _____

NAME AS ON CARD: _____ SECURITY CODE: _____

☐ I/WE ARE NOT CURRENT MEMBERS; PLEASE CHARGE FOR "FRIEND" MEMBERSHIP: ☐ \$100 OR ☐ SENIOR RATE \$80 OR ☐ \$1,000 "CURATOR'S CIRCLE" MEMBERSHIP, WHICH GIVES YOU ADVANCED NOTICE ABOUT SBMA'S CUSTOM TRAVEL PROGRAMS AND MANY OTHER BENEFITS. VISIT WWW.SBMA.NET/SUPPORT/MEMBERSHIP FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP DETAILS.

☐ I WILL BE SHARING A ROOM WITH _____ OR ☐ SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

☐ ONE BED OR ☐ TWO BEDS (BASED ON AVAILABILITY)

☐ PLEASE SHARE ANY ROOM REQUESTS OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND/OR LIMITATIONS YOU HAVE:

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL _____ E-MAIL _____

IMPORTANT: BY PLACING A DEPOSIT ON THE TOUR, YOU ARE ACKNOWLEDGING ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND STRICT CANCELLATION PENALTY, AND THAT YOU HAVE READ THE SECTION ON REQUIREMENTS. A CONFIRMATION LETTER AND TRAVEL INSURANCE INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND DEPOSIT. WHILE OPTIONAL, TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND CAN BE TIME-SENSITIVE DEPENDING ON THE BENEFITS DESIRED.