



Music Celebrations International and Faith Journeys

CATHEDRAL CHOIR RESIDENCY



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity



Faith Journeys

PSALLAM SPIRITU ET MENTE

“I will sing with the spirit and with the understanding also”

How can you build a greater understanding and perspective of the rich tradition of English church music? How do you inspire your choir to approach a wealth of repertoire that spans from Tallis to Tavener and Byrd to Bairstow? How will you light a spark of excitement and growth into your church’s choral program?

Music Celebrations International & Faith Journeys are proud to present its British Cathedral Residency Program. If you’re unfamiliar with the concept of a Cathedral Choir Residency, you’re not alone. These programs give choirs the opportunity to sing services in one of these glorious buildings and experience the depth and breadth of the English Choral Tradition.

Frequently Asked Questions

DO WE HAVE TO SING EVERY NIGHT?

If a service is listed, yes. Although, choirs can change around personnel to give some singers a night off. Ex. A mixed voice choir could sing one service with men’s voices one night and trebles the next.

DO WE NEED TO SUPPLY OUR OWN ORGANIST?

Yes. In almost every case this is true. The organist must be able to play all services at a very high level of competency. It is possible to engage a local organist for a fee.

DO WE NEED TO SUPPLY OUR OWN CANTOR?

This is handled differently by each Cathedral, but to be safe...Yes. Have someone prepared to be Cantor.

IS HOUSING AVAILABLE AT THE CATHEDRAL/CHOIR SCHOOL?

Most Cathedrals no longer have private schools, however, there is inexpensive housing at local boarding schools & universities.

CAN OTHER CONCERT/SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES BE ARRANGED WHILE WE'RE IN RESIDENCY?

Yes. Definitely. There are noon-time concerts as well as other services and venues available.

WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM SIZE OF A CHOIR A CATHEDRAL WILL ACCEPT?

Cathedrals within the United Kingdom can normally accommodate groups of up to 35 singers, although some have space for many more and some for fewer. We will assist you in selecting a location that will work best for your choir.

WHAT IF WE DON'T WANT TO SING SO MANY SERVICES?

Shorter residencies are available at some Cathedrals and some have weekend only residencies for choirs that only want to sing a few services.

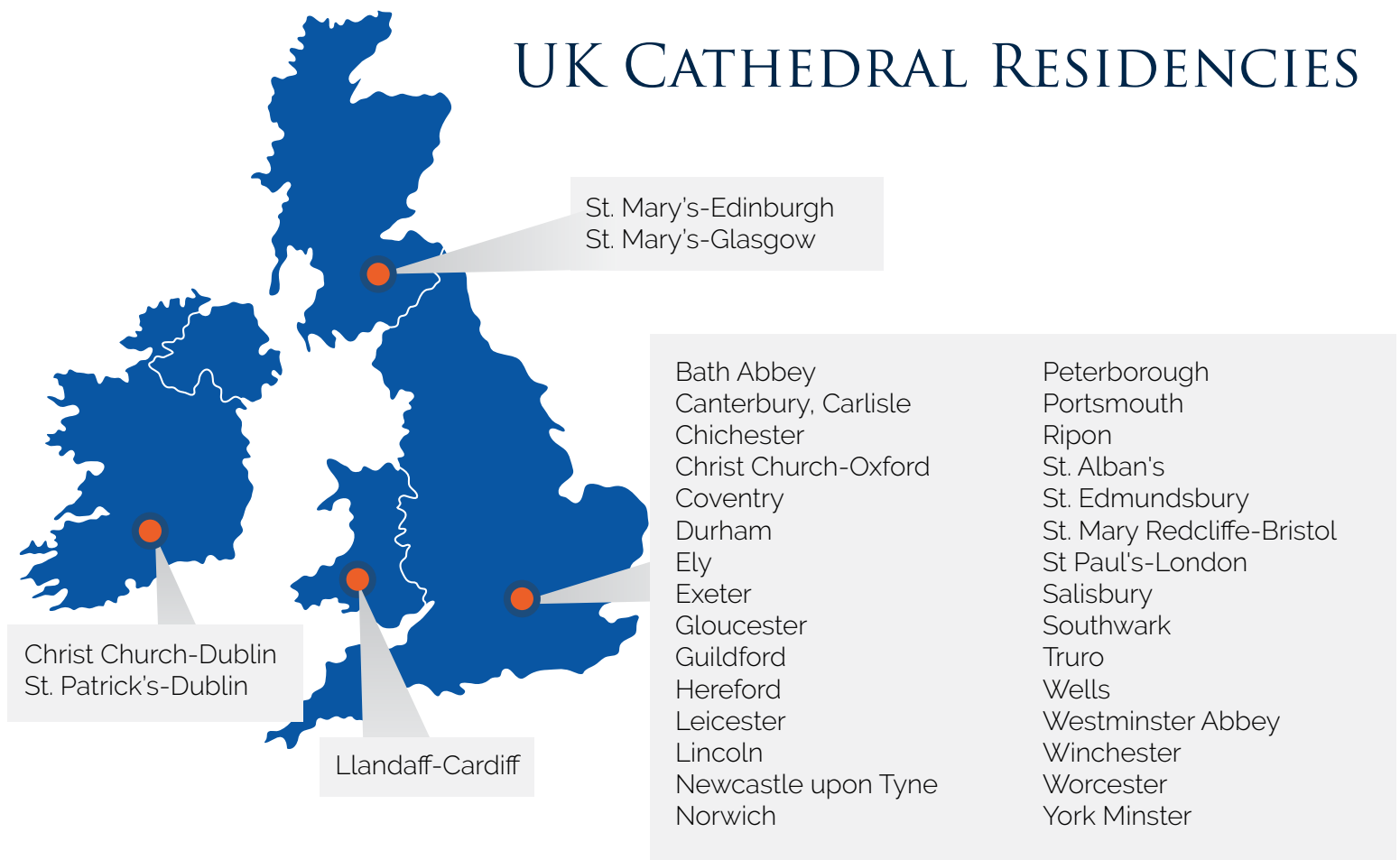
DO WE GET ANY SPECIAL PERKS FROM THE CATHEDRAL?

Yes. There are several perks that vary from Cathedral to Cathedral. Usually, your choir will get a special guided tour of the building and grounds. Some offer a special tea one day, as a thank you. You also have the opportunity to photograph your choir in and around the building and often can get permission to record the choir, in the space.

WHERE AND WHEN CAN WE REHEARSE?

Most Cathedrals have a Choir (or Song) School within the building or nearby. You are, usually, given complete access (they will give you a key) to that space for rehearsals during the day and to store your vestments. Also, they have blocks of time, prior to each service, where you may rehearse in the choir stalls, to get used to the space and acoustic. They are usually one hour before the service, but other times may be arranged, as needed. Your organist will also have time blocked for rehearsal on the instrument.

UK CATHEDRAL RESIDENCIES



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT A CATHEDRAL CHOIR RESIDENCY

A Cathedral Choir Residency is a period of time (usually one week, but could be less) when a visiting choir takes over for the regular choir at a Cathedral. The visiting choir will sing all of the services needed for that time period and act as the “Choir in Residency”.

BENEFITS:

- The choir will sing a good number of services in a great space AT NO COST!
- Tour costs are lower due to not needing a coach every day and the potential of housing at the Cathedral or a nearby school (University or boarding school)
- The choir will get to experience what it would be like to live and work in an ancient Cathedral.
- There are many opportunities for sightseeing day trips
- There is no stipulation on the type of choir (adults, children, mixed, any denomination, etc.)

CONSIDERATIONS:

- A large amount of specific repertoire is required
- The choir will be tied to one geographical location for the duration of the residency, being limited to short sightseeing excursions in order to be back at the Cathedral in time for services.
- The choir must (almost always) supply their own organist and that person must be able to play all of the service requirements (preludes, postludes, hymns, etc.). It is possible to engage a local organist for a fee.
- It is very difficult to have a successful residency without some knowledge of Anglican/Episcopal liturgy.
- Dates are booked well in advance, so early planning is encouraged.



CANTERBURY RESIDENCY PROGRAM PREVIEW

DAY ONE: DEPART USA

Our Cathedral residency begins with an overnight flight from your closest international airport – with full meal/beverage service and in-flight entertainment – to London, England and the start of our Canterbury Cathedral residency and spiritual pilgrimage.

DAY TWO: ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND

Upon arrival in London, we meet our MCI Tour Manager and board our motorcoach for Windsor Castle. The largest inhabited castle in the world and home to British Kings and Queens since 1236. The castle is also home to St. George's Chapel, the burial site of King Henry VIII. His remains are located in a vault between the choir aisles. After listening to a short service of Matins in the chapel, we can explore the castle and grounds. In the late afternoon, we'll travel to Canterbury and check-in to our accommodations and meet for a group dinner before going to bed.

DAY THREE: CANTERBURY

This is an important day. It's our only time for rehearsal before we start singing services. Following breakfast, we head to the Cathedral for a guided tour of the building and grounds, before meeting in the choir school for a morning practice session. After lunch, we have some time to walk through the city before meeting back at the Cathedral for a short rehearsal in the quire (it's the place the choir sits in a Cathedral). After we vest, we line-up in the choir aisle and process into the stalls to sing our first service of Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral. After the service, we have dinner and free time before turning in for the night.

DAY FOUR: DOVER

Today we travel the short distance to Dover and the famous White Cliffs. We enjoy have a guided tour of Dover Castle and learn more about King Henry VIII and the sinking of the Mary Rose. The remainder of the afternoon is free to explore the beach, take an optional harbor cruise or rest. In the afternoon, we return to the Cathedral to prepare for and sing a service of Evensong. After the service, we have dinner and free time.

For more information on the rest of the itinerary and planning your choir's residency, please contact us! We would be happy to talk you through the options and opportunities that are available!

1-800-395-2036

info@musiccelebrations.com

info@myfaithjourneys.com



Music Celebrations International & Faith Journeys
1440 S. Priest Dr., Suite 102 Tempe, AZ 85281
1-800-395-2036 | info@musiccelebrations.com
cathedralresidency.com