

MANCHESTER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

THE ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT The Poetry of Landscape

Sunday 9 October to Sunday 16 October 2016

Sunday 9/10 **ARRIVALS MANCHESTER**

Evening Dinner at Moor Cottage, Manchester

Monday 10/10 **GRASMERE & RYDAL**

The tour starts at Dove Cottage where Wordsworth wrote his famous *Prelude* and lived the "romantic" life. This included creating a wild flower garden. Walking via the 'Coffin Path' to Rydal Mount, his later home, reveals a more contemplative garden with Zen-like features.

Morning Depart Manchester for the Lake District.
Visit **Wordsworth Museum** and **Dove Cottage**,
home of William Wordsworth from 1799 to 1808.
Lunch and walk to **Rydal Mount**, home of William
Wordsworth from 1813 to 1850.
Tea and visit to Thomas Mawson's garden at Rydal
Hall.

Evening Dinner Tarn Cottage

Tuesday 11/10 **SAWREY**

Introduction to Beatrix Potter and the history of conservation in the Lake District. Hill Top is perhaps the most popular tourist destination in the Lakes but maintains all the charm of a farmhouse and cottage garden in true vernacular style. Afternoon walk to Hawkshead to visit the Grammar School attended by the Wordsworth.

Morning Study group: *The life and influence of Beatrix Potter*
Visit to **Hill Top**, Sawrey.

Afternoon Weather permitting, optional walk to Hawkshead
via Moss Eccles Tarn (two half hours). Picnic lunch
Non-walkers may explore the Beatrix Potter
Gallery in **Hawkshead**
The afternoon ends in Wordsworth's Grammar
School (1779 - 1787). with a short talk by the
custodian, David Warren.

Evening Dinner at Nab Cottage
 Film night: *Pandaemonium* – a film that depicts the poetry, love and betrayal that characterised the friendship between the two giant poets of English Romanticism, Wordsworth and Coleridge.

Wednesday 12/10 **DERWENTWATER**

A lake cruise on Derwentwater to Lodore Falls (waterfall) to re-enact the excursions of late eighteenth century gentlemen who considered the scenery sublime and commissioned watercolours by Turner as souvenirs. The group then drives to the pretty hamlet of Watendlath. Weather-permitting, walkers may choose to walk over to Borrowdale bore returning home.
 Cruising on the lake reveals many houses with attractive gardens all built on viewpoints.

Morning Study group *The Grand Tour in England*.
Derwentwater launch to Lodore Falls before continuing to **Watendlath** for light lunch at Caffle House
 Afternoon Optional walk to Jopperty How and Borrowdale
 Evening Keswick Theatre by the Lake production of Agatha Christie's *Dial M for Murder*

Thursday 13/10 **WINDY HALL AND LEVENS HALL**

A private visit to the garden of David and Diana Kinsman. For over 20 years David, a geologist, and Diana, an ecologist, have created moss and woodland gardens extending from densely planted terraces close to their home.
 The visit is followed by a light lunch at the Strickland Arms before moving to Levens Hall.
 In autumn the world famous topiary garden is having its annual clipping and this visit sees the culmination of the summer season's growth in the garden. The fruit and nut trees hang heavy with their harvest. In the picturesque park we walk through a 'gentleman's paradise' of mature trees, wild goats and black deer grazing by a fish filled river.

Morning Study group. *The gardens of Levens Hall*
 Private visit to Windy Hall garden accompanied by David Kinsman.
 Afternoon Lunch Strickland Arms
 Walk across the park to Levens Hall
 Evening Dinner Nab Cottage

Friday 14/10

WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP / LAKES ARTISTS AND THE LANGDALES

A relaxing day with opportunities to create a very personal souvenir of the week, go fell walking or simply shopping! Our last morning at Nab Cottage before transferring to Waterhead Hotel, Coniston, Ruskin Country, for our final night in the Lakes

Morning	Study group: <i>Life and Work of John Ruskin</i> Optional Watercolour workshop
Afternoon	Optional walk Tilberthwaite Ghyll or visit to Holehird, the garden of the Lakeland Horticultural Society Visit to Ruskin Museum, Coniston
Evening	Dinner Waterhead Hotel

Saturday 15/10

JOHN RUSKIN'S BRANTWOOD

Tolstoy called Ruskin "One of those rare men who think with their hearts". His final home, Brantwood, is the private library, museum and garden of an art critic, defender of Venice, champion of Turner and the Pre-Raphaelites and radical social philosopher. It is also a place of great beauty and can be approached from (Lake) Coniston in a steam Gondola. The garden has been recently restored and its ascent gives panoramic views across the lake to the Coniston Fells beyond.

"Truth to materials, truth to nature and context and above all truth to beauty." Many of Ruskin's architectural theories are recognised in the "Arts & Crafts" masterpiece of Blackwell designed by the international architect M.H.Baillie-Scott.

Morning	Depart for Coniston with luggage. Cruise on the Steam Yacht <i>Gondola</i> across Coniston Water to <i>Brantwood</i> , home of John Ruskin (born 1819) from 1872 to his death in 1900. Visit to Brantwood House Lunch in the Brantwood <i>Jumping Jenny</i> restaurant or picnic lunch for walkers. Optional walk through the Brantwood estate to Crag Head (233m).
Afternoon	Depart for Blackwell via the Windermere Ferry. Blackwell is an iconic building of the Arts and Crafts Movement.
Evening	Return to Manchester. Farewell Curry Night.

Sunday 16/10 **DEPARTURES**

Manchester Language School reserves the right to change the programme according to the availability of gardens, venues and speakers listed.

Accommodation in Manchester at start and end of the course:

Moor Cottage, Grange Lane, Didsbury M20 6RW or local hotel

Accommodation in the Lake District:

4 nights at Nab Cottage, Rydal LA22 9SD Tel: 00 44 15394 35311

1 night at Waterhead Hotel, Coniston, LA21 8AJ Tel: 00 44 15394 41244

**PER INFORMAZIONE O PRENOTAZIONE
CONTATTARE CLARE LITTLEWOOD:**

clare.littlewood@libero.it

oppure tel. 347 3216720