

Visit to Canterbury Cathedral

Date/Time	20 th May 2026 11.30 for 11.45 am start	Price	£69
Venue	Canterbury Cathedral Meet outside the main entrance at Butter Market (We will enter the Cathedral as a group. Important to arrive promptly)	Lecturer/ Guide	Dr Sally Dormer

In 1067 fire consumed the early 7th-century church constructed after Augustine's missionary campaign reintroduced Christianity to Kent in 597. Today's cathedral, seat of the senior primate of the English Church, bears witness to successive building campaigns that stretch from the late 11th to early 15th centuries. Traces of Archbishop Lanfranc's Romanesque church (1070-7), based on Norman models, survive in the crypt, a space vastly enlarged and furnished with superb, carved capitals, when Archbishop Anselm re-modelled the eastern transepts and choir (1093-1109). After a fire in 1164, the interior of Anselm's choir was rebuilt by William of Sens; one of the earliest examples of the "New" or Gothic style in England. Archbishop Thomas Becket's murder in the cathedral in 1170, and 1173 canonization, prompted a re-design of the cathedral's eastern end: the Trinity Chapel, home to Becket's lost shrine set within a surviving scheme of unparalleled miracle windows, and Corona Chapel beyond, provided space for the monastic community to celebrate their saint, and accommodate visiting pilgrims. The cathedral is also justly famed for later medieval monuments, including the statement tomb of Edward the Black Prince (d. 1376) and Henry Yevele's soaring Perpendicular nave (1377-1405).

The Visit will conclude at approximately 4.30 pm.

Lecturer

Dr Sally Dormer is a specialist medieval art historian with an MA in Medieval Art History and PhD on Medieval illuminated manuscripts from the Courtauld Institute, London University. Sally founded the ongoing V&A Late Medieval Europe and Early Renaissance Year Course 1250-1500 in 1993, and in 2009 devised the V&A Early Medieval Year Course 300-1250; she is Course Director for both courses. She has lectured for Gresham College, teaches for the Arts Society and ARTscapades and was, between 1999-2019, Dean of *European Studies*, a semester of study abroad in Europe, sponsored by two universities in Tennessee, USA.