

## Choir Tour to Ghent – Thursday 9 February to Monday 13 February 2017

### Itinerary

<b>Thursday</b>	Assemble in school yard (dining hall if wet) from 07.30 NB – NO PARKING Proceed to coach as directed, and register with Mr Fay before boarding. Depart (from Opposite White Hart Hotel) at 08.15 Travelling by Andrews of Tideswell coaches Depart from Dover at 12.55 Sailing by P&O Ferries Arrive at De Draecke Youth Hostel. Evening meal scheduled for 18.30 19.30 – Assemble in hostel meeting room.
<b>Friday</b>	08.00 - Breakfast 09.00 - Walk to Gravensteen (Castle of the Counts) for a visit at 09.30. Some free time in Ghent can be expected afterwards. Return to hostel for lunch/change into uniform 14.00 - Arrive St. Baafskathedraal (ST BAVO'S CATHEDRAL) for rehearsal 15.00 – 16.00 – Concert (in the Crypt) 16.30 – Guided walking tour of Ghent 17.30 - Return to hostel 18.30 - Evening meal 19.30 – Ten pin bowling!
<b>Saturday</b>	08.00 - Breakfast 09.00 - Depart for Ypres by coach (with uniform) for guided tours to Ypres Battlefields and Flanders Field Museum and Essex Farm, Tynecot and Langemark Cemeteries Free time in Ypres/lunch 15.00 – Rehearse/change at St George's Memorial Church 16.00 - Concert at St George's Memorial Church 17.30 - evening meal at T'Ganzeke restaurant 19.15 – Set up for ceremony 20.00 - Menin Gate ceremony 21.00 - Return to Youth Hostel by coach
<b>Sunday</b>	08.00 - Breakfast 09.00 - Depart for Bruges by coach (with uniform) including chocolate shop/factory tour 14.00 – Arrive Sint Salvator Cathedral for changing/rehearsal 15.00-16.00 – Concert 18.30 – Evening meal followed by informal final meeting at hostel.
<b>Monday</b>	08.00 – Breakfast 10.00 – Check out followed by last shopping opportunity in Ghent 11.45 – Depart by Andrews of Tideswell coaches 15.20 – P&O ferry crossing to Dover  20.00 - Arrive opposite White Hart Hotel

### Emergency contact details:

Mr C Fay will have a school mobile for emergencies only during the trip.  
The number is +44 7887 653368

All routine contact should be via School Reception, 01722 333851.

In an emergency Mr G Lloyd can be contacted out of school hours on 07957 932950 (M) or 01747 821951.

De Draecke Youth Hostel: St. Widostraat 11, 9000 Ghent, BELGIUM  
T: +32 9 233 7050

<http://www.jeugdherbergen.be/en/youth-hostels/city>

### Suggested Kit List

<b>Clothing</b>	<b>SCHOOL UNIFORM IS NEEDED FOR THE CONCERTS.</b> Please bring on a hanger with a suit cover if desired, as we will be carrying it/changing into it during the day on occasions. Otherwise, comfortable, tidy, discrete casual clothing is best, with flat, comfortable shoes for walking and <b>adequate protection for wet and cold weather.</b> Ensure you have enough for each day. A fleece hat will be provided for each boy on the trip.
<b>Pocket Money</b>	We will not recommend a specific amount but would like to stress that students are responsible for their own money. If younger boys wish a member of staff to look after their money for them, this can be arranged. We recommend that you change Sterling to Euros <b>before</b> departure as there will not be any time during our visit to change money. Some English money for the boat may be useful but Euros are accepted.
<b>Valuables</b>	You may bring cameras and MP3 players etc. but students are <b>entirely</b> responsible for their own possessions. <b>No equipment should be used when instructions are given or during concerts or guided tours unless it is a camera. Be aware of the cost of overseas calls and ensure you have your charger and adapter plug (for electrical goods) with you.</b> It is a good idea to bring books, playing cards, etc., for the journey.
<b>Food</b>	Please ensure you have enough food for the journey. The first meal provided is the evening meal on the Thursday. The Youth Hostel will provide packed lunches for the return journey but boys may wish to supplement this on the ferry!
<b>Travel Sickness</b>	If you are likely to be travel sick, please make sure you have taken travel sickness pills <b>before</b> we set off on any journey, and bring enough pills for the return journey. Travel bands can also be used.
<b>Medication</b>	You will need to be responsible for your own medication but please inform staff of anything important we should know about the medicines you are taking. Staff can look after clearly labelled epipens/tablets etc., if desired.
<b>Luggage</b>	You have to carry it, keep it to a minimum. Food, books etc. needed for the outward/return journey should be packed separately in a smaller bag as access to luggage during the ferry crossing is forbidden. A rucksack or shoulder bag is useful for daytrips. As the coach will be near capacity, please keep hold luggage to <b>one bag only</b> – plus a small bag which may be taken on the coach
<b>Toiletries</b>	Please make sure you have everything you need. You will need to bring a <b>TOWEL</b> as the youth hostel doesn't provide them.
<b>Behaviour</b>	Common sense and co-operation are most important. We expect everyone to listen to all instructions and to do what they are told, when they are told! Each year group will have a member of staff to report to/register with. Punctuality is essential. Do not leave the main group without permission from a member of staff. Boys will always be in groups of 3 or more. Be courteous and considerate at all times. There will be a curfew in the hostel – after which time, quiet is expected by the hostel management. <b>Older boys are reminded of the very clear school rules regarding alcohol.</b>
<b>Free Time</b>	During periods of free time outside of the hostel, boys in years 7-9 will be supervised by a member of staff. Boys in years 10 -13 may, at the staff's discretion, be allowed unsupervised time in groups of not less than 3. If parents are unhappy with this arrangement, please let us know.  <b>Staff accompanying the trip:</b> Mr C Fay Mrs J Hind Mrs H Elliott Mrs H Gosse Dr G Goodwin Mrs K Goodwin Miss J Egginton  In addition, we will have the services of a tour rep. provided by our travel company.
<b>Return Time</b>	If we are delayed on our return – or actually, more likely – going to be back in Salisbury earlier than stated, we will ask your son to phone/message you once we are about an hour away from home. If you hear nothing, we are on schedule!