

2022

HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS

DISCOVER • LEARN • CONNECT • EXPLORE



Shakespeare's England: The Bard's Lessons in Leadership

May 2–10, 2022

with Dr. Nancy Koehn



“Be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them.”


—from *Twelfth Night*



Blenheim Palace / Ad Vertentie

On this unforgettable trip to England, walk in the footsteps of the renowned playwright William Shakespeare, led by Dr. Nancy Koehn, Professor of Business Administration at The Harvard Business School, whose research in the history of business has focused on the management styles and qualities of historical leaders.

Begin in Oxford with tours of the ancient university where Shakespearean plays have been performed and analyzed for centuries. Visit Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare’s hometown, to see the house where The Bard was born, visit the church where he was baptized, and be dazzled by a performance of the Royal Shakespeare Company. Scenic drives through the bucolic English countryside carry you into the Cotswolds to see a sixteenth century manor house typical of Shakespeare’s era and also to Blenheim Palace—home to the Dukes of Marlborough and the childhood home of Sir Winston Churchill. The final leg of the tour will take you to Shakespeare’s London where you will visit the rebuilt Globe Theater in Southwark and take a day trip to Hampton Court Palace—where Shakespeare and his King’s Men spent several weeks entertaining King James I and his court. With luxurious hotels, including the splendid Rosewood London, expert lectures, special access to memorable sites, and outstanding gourmet meals, this journey will make you fall in love with Shakespeare and England all over again!

Activity Level 3: 

A LITTLE MORE TO IT

My walking shoes are laced up tight and I’m ready to keep up with my traveling companions, even sometimes on uneven terrain and cobblestones or climbing stairs. I look forward to getting to know them on the drives we’ll take between cities. A little mental and physical stimulation will do me good!

TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL

Study Leader



Nancy F. Koehn is a historian at the Harvard Business School whose research focuses on effective leadership and how leaders, past and

present, craft lives of purpose, worth, and impact. Her recent book, *Forged in Crisis: The Power of Courageous Leadership in Turbulent Times*, spotlights how five of history’s greatest leaders successfully navigated crises and what we can each learn from their experience.

Koehn is also the author of *Ernest Shackleton: Exploring Leadership* (2012); *Oprah (Brand) Renew* (2011); *Oprah: Leading with Heart* (2011); and *The Story of American Business: From the Pages of the New York Times* (2009). She has written and supervised Harvard Business School cases on Starbucks Coffee Company, Ernest Shackleton, Oprah Winfrey, Bono and U2, Whole Foods, Wedgwood, Estée Lauder, Henry Heinz, Milton Hershey, Madam CJ Walker, and other leaders and organizations.

Koehn consults with many companies and speaks at the World Economic Forum in Davos, the Aspen Institute Ideas Festival, and the World Business Forum. She is a frequent contributor to “American Experience” and the PBS NewsHour, and has appeared on A&E’s “Biography” and other television programs. She writes for the New York Times, the Washington Post, Huffington Post, and the Harvard Business Review, and is a weekly commentator on National Public Radio.



“How far that little candle throws his beams!
So shines a good deed in a weary world.”

—from *The Merchant of Venice*

Radcliffe Camera at Oxford University

Schedule by Day

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

Departures

Depart the United States on independent flights arriving the next morning at London’s Heathrow Airport.

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022

Arrival & Windsor Castle

Upon landing at Heathrow, meet your fellow travelers and join a group transfer bound for Oxford. En route, stop at the illustrious Windsor Castle for a guided tour and learn about the royal estate’s nearly 1000-year history and the invaluable collection of Shakespeare’s works housed in Windsor’s Royal Library. Enjoy a festive welcome lunch at a local restaurant before continuing to Oxford. Check into the newly renovated Randolph Hotel, located in the center of Oxford and considered to be the city’s grandest landmark hotel.

This evening, celebrate your arrival in England at a cocktail reception at the hotel.

*Randolph Hotel, Oxford
(L, Rec)*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2022

Oxford University

Begin the day with an engaging lecture by Dr. Nancy Koehn on lessons of leadership embedded in

Shakespeare’s works. Then set out on a guided walking tour of Oxford University, one of oldest and most esteemed universities in the world. Visit the magnificent 17th-century Sheldonian Theatre; the Bodleian Library, one of the oldest libraries in Europe; the iconic Radcliff Camera; and the University Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, the center out of which Oxford University grew. Following lunch, tour the Ashmolean Museum, which houses Oxford University’s art and archaeology collection. A docent guide will highlight a number of fascinating objects related to Shakespeare’s England and the Tudor era.

This evening, enjoy a special dinner at an exclusive venue on Oxford’s campus.

*Randolph Hotel, Oxford
(B, L, D)*

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

Stratford-upon-Avon

Take a day trip to Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of Shakespeare and home to the Royal Shakespeare Company. Set out on a walking tour of the quaint Elizabethan town and visit a number of sites important to Shakespeare’s personal life and those which served as inspiration for many of his works. Visit the house where Shakespeare was born

and raised; the cottage where he courted his bride-to-be; and the church where he was baptized and laid to rest. Also see the Harvard House, once the home of John Harvard’s mother before he emigrated to Massachusetts and became the principal benefactor of Harvard University. Following lunch, attend a matinee performance at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre (pending performance schedule). Return to Oxford for an evening at leisure.

Randolph Hotel, Oxford (B, L)

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022

The Cotswolds

Spend today traversing the charming English countryside. Begin at Kelmscott Manor, a 16th-century Tudor farmhouse typical of Shakespeare’s era. Kelmscott Manor was also the longtime home of William Morris, the founder of Britain’s renowned Arts & Crafts movement, and features an exquisite collection of handmade furniture and decorative items. Continue to Cirencester, the self-proclaimed capital of the Cotswolds, and take a guided walking tour of the lovely ancient town that dates back to the Roman era. Following lunch at a local restaurant, visit Blenheim Palace, the grand



“Our doubts are traitors and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt.”

— from *Measure for Measure*

Schedule by Day

residence of the Dukes of Marlborough and the childhood home of Winston Churchill.

Randolph Hotel, Oxford (B, L)

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

Hampton Court Palace

Attend a second lecture by Dr. Nancy Koehn. Check out of the hotel and depart for London, stopping en route at Hampton Court Palace. Enjoy a privately guided tour of this grand royal residence including the Great Hall which was built in spectacular Tudor fashion for Henry VIII and where Shakespeare’s acting company performed several times for King James I. Following the tour, take time to explore the surrounding estate, featuring over 60 acres of formal gardens in the traditional English style. Continue to London and check into the five-star Rosewood London, one of the city’s finest luxury hotels. After time to freshen up, rejoin the group for an elegant dinner.

Rosewood London (B, L, D)

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

Shakespeare’s London

Delve into the artistic and fashion trends popular during Shakespeare’s lifetime on a special tour of the Victoria and Albert Museum’s collection of decorative arts, costumes, and Shakespeare-related objects in the Theatre and Performance Galleries. Enjoy free time for additional exploration of the vast museum and an independent lunch at one of the museum’s cafés. Continue to the Bankside district, where much of Shakespeare’s life in London was centered. Visit Southwark Cathedral and learn about its role as the spiritual heart for the actors and playwrights who graced the stage of Elizabethan theater. This is also the church where John Harvard was baptized in 1607. Then take a behind-the-scenes tour of the reconstructed Globe Theatre, a faithful recreation of the original iconic theater where many of Shakespeare’s greatest plays were first performed. Optional: attend an evening performance at the Globe Theatre (pending performance schedule; not

included in tour price).

Rosewood London (B)

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022

London

At the British Library, take a guided tour of the Treasures Gallery and see the British government’s collection of Shakespeare-related documents, as well as other items of invaluable historical importance. Then visit the incomparable British Museum for a highlights tour of its extensive collection of Shakespearean and Elizabethan-era artifacts. The remainder of the afternoon is free for additional time at the British Museum or independent exploration of London. This evening bid farewell to England at a festive dinner at a top London restaurant. Parting is such sweet sorrow...

Rosewood London (B)

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

Depart England

Take a group transfer to London’s Heathrow Airport for independent flights returning to the United States.

(B)

Hotel Accommodations

Randolph Hotel, Oxford

The Randolph Hotel—with over 150 years of history and an ideal location in Oxford’s cultural epicenter—is considered the city’s grandest landmark hotel. The imposing Victorian Gothic edifice underwent a complete renovation in 2021 and its fresh new design combines contemporary luxury with signature details inspired by Oxford’s academic history and traditions. The hotel’s wellness center features five treatment rooms and a wet area including steam, sauna, ice room, and jacuzzi. Directly opposite the renowned Ashmolean Museum and within a short walk of Oxford University’s most iconic sites, the Randolph Hotel is an optimal base for exploring the vibrant city.



Rosewood London

Blending English heritage with contemporary sophistication, the Rosewood London is one of the finest five-star hotels in London. Visitors arrive through wrought iron gates that lead into a peaceful inner courtyard, providing a sense of arrival more akin to a private manor house than a hotel. Inside, the lavish interior features a Renaissance-style seven-story grand staircase, an architectural tour de force in marble. The elegant guestrooms reflect the style of a British residence and offer privacy, warmth, quality, and nobility. Rosewood London has received many esteemed awards and accolades from travel organizations and magazines and is acknowledged as one of the world’s finest luxury hotels.



“How poor are they that have not patience.

What wound did ever heal but by degrees?”

—from *Othello*

