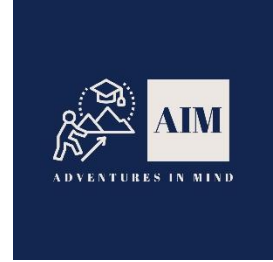


Adventures in Mind

Travelling Together ... Learning Together



2024 Adventure #2: Romantic Places/ Romantic Poems

Location: England's Lake District.

Dates (to be confirmed): Sept 12 – Oct 4, 2024 (including dates of travel to and from England).

Group Leaders: Steve Lane, Regan McKeever.

Adventures in Mind is an educational travel program for mature adults, operated by the volunteer-run, non-profit Adventures in Mind Educational Travel Association, incorporated under the BC Societies Act. It will appeal to life-long learners who are inquisitive, open-minded and looking beyond the usual tourist experience. It is open to free spirits of all ages. For all tours, a level of physical and mental fitness is highly advisable; curiosity and a sense of community are essential!

Romantic Places/ Romantic Poems takes Adventures in Mind in a slightly different direction: an Adventure for the Body, as well! Our tour is located in the English Lake District, providing us with ample opportunity for walks of varying lengths and fitness levels in order that we may more fully appreciate the beauty of this area and its influence on a number of writers. Our educational focus includes several of the English Romantic poets (William Wordsworth and his sister Dorothy, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and Robert Southey, for instance), but also later writers like John Ruskin and Beatrix Potter.

Participants will need to be fairly fit in order to get the most out of the tour. No special equipment needed, but the usual walking gear as for home: proper footwear, raingear, a hiking pole or two (if desired), day pack, water bottle, etc. Relaxed walks will be provided for those who find the hiking a bit of a challenge.

Group Leaders



Steve Lane, Ph.D., is a retired English professor and academic administrator whose doctoral work was in the area of the Romantic poets, with a dissertation on William Wordsworth. As a faculty member at Vancouver Island University (VIU), Steve taught numerous survey courses (British and American literature) and delivered upper-level courses on Romantic Poetry and Poetics and The Gothic. Specific to this tour combining literary exploration with rambling related to the works, he has presented papers on William Blake, William Wordsworth, and Lord Byron at international conferences, and hiked in England, France, and Greece. Since retiring in 2019, Steve has kept busy with a number of courses for Mid Island ElderCollege, and kept fit with daily walks/ hikes.

Regan McKeever has worked for over 20 years as a Program Manager on life-long learning programs. She is an avid traveller, having caught the bug while studying her last year of high school in the south of France, then Singapore for university. She loves traveling with her husband and teenage kids as well as participants in her program. Hailing from Ontario, she has established her roots on Vancouver Island since attending the University of Victoria in 1996. Her passions include skiing, dancing, gardening and walking on the beach with her two golden-doodles.



Tentative Itinerary

Day 1	Arrive Keswick. Settle in. Groceries. Orientation.
Day 2	Introduction to Coleridge and Southey. Walk to Castlerigg Stone Circle.
Day 3	Introduction to William Wordsworth. Boat, picnic, and hike around Derwentwater.
Day 4	Free day.
Day 5	Day trip to Cockermouth (Wordsworth birth home). Wordsworth House – National Trust.
Day 6	Introduction to Dorothy Wordsworth. Hike Cat Bells and High Spy.
Day 7	Hike to Rosthwaite. Lunch in Rosthwaite. Bus back.
Day 8	Take in the Keswick market. Attend a play?
Day 9	Walk Latrigg.
Day 10	Free day.
Day 11	Free day.
Day 12	Walk the Haystacks loop.
Day 13	Introduction to younger Romantics: Shelley, Keats, deQuincey
Day 14	Walk Skiddaw. Group dinner.
Day 15	Move to Ambleside. Settle in. Groceries.
Day 16	To Grasmere. Walk around the lake. Dove Cottage. St. Oswald's.
Day 17	Free day.
Day 18	Free day.
Day 19	To Hawkshead (Wordsworth's school). Hike around Hawkshead.
Day 20	Introduction to John Wordsworth. To Grasmere - walk Grisedale Valley to Brothers Parting Stone. Turn back OR continue to Patterdale – bus back.
Day 21	To Hill Top (Beatrix Potter house – National Trust).
Day 22	Landscape and the picturesque. Walk to Rydal Mount. Explore Wordsworth's last home. Walk back.

Presentations and discussions will be scheduled as required.

Tentative Reading List

- Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Christabel*; “Dejection: an Ode”; “The Pains of Sleep”; “To William Wordsworth”
- Robert Southey, lyric poems; *The Three Bears*
- William Wordsworth, excerpts from his *Guide to the Lakes*; excerpts from *The Prelude* dealing with his childhood; “Tintern Abbey”; “Ode: Intimations of Immortality”; “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”; “Michael”; “In Memory of My Brother, John Wordsworth, Commander of the E. I. Company’s Ship, The Earl Of Abergavenny, in which He Perished by Calamitous Shipwreck, Feb. 6th, 1805”
- Dorothy Wordsworth, excerpts from *Journals*
- Percy Bysshe Shelley, “To Wordsworth”
- Thomas De Quincey, excerpts from *Confessions of an Opium Eater*
- Beatrix Potter, *Jemima Puddleduck?*

Inclusive Packages

Package costs include program overheads, accommodation, all program-related travel within the Lake District, tourist guides, educational materials, and admissions to cultural sites and events. Participants must arrange their own air travel to England and have adequate travel insurance, including medical. Food is not included, but accommodation is in apartments which have kitchens, so that food costs are minimal.

Program Fee: \$4995 (includes \$50 membership fee for the Adventures in Mind Educational Travel Association).

Shared Accommodation (two people sharing a double or twin bedroom): included in program fee.

Single Supplement: up to \$1000, TBD.

Payment Schedule

So that we can make a firm decision to proceed with the Adventure, which depends upon enrolment, and to make bookings for accommodations etc., it is essential that we are able to cover our overheads well in advance of leaving Canada. The following payment schedule is therefore necessary:

1. On application: commitment fee of \$500 - this reserves your place
2. Due April 15, 2024: booking deposit of \$2000
3. Due June 15, 2024: payment of remaining balance

Provided you are accepted into Adventures in Mind, all payments are non-refundable, except in case of cancellation by Adventures in Mind.

Air Travel

Participants must arrange their own air travel, but **should not do so until they receive official word (probably in April 2024) that the Adventure will proceed.** Before departure you will be given instructions on what to do on arrival.

Travel Insurance

All participants are strongly advised to obtain travel medical insurance as well as coverage for trip cancellation and interruption. **Please do not buy insurance until the Adventure has been confirmed.**

For medical, safety and other advice on travelling overseas, please visit the federal government website travel.gc.ca/.

Important Notice

A level of physical and medical fitness is required to get the most out of the Adventure. Many of the sites visited are accessible only on foot (and are not wheelchair-accessible), and some visits may require lengthy periods of walking and standing. On arrival and departure you will have to carry your own luggage. If you have any limitations or concerns in this area, please consult Adventures in Mind personnel before applying.

Application Process

To register your interest in or to apply for the Adventure, please email

adventinmind@gmail.com.

adventuresinmind.org