



# Paths to Pilgrimage

## FOR GROUPS

“And specially, from every shires ende  
Of Engelond, to Caunterbury they wende,  
The hooly blisful martir for to seke”

*Geoffrey Chaucer, poet and author*



Canterbury  
Cathedral

Charity no. 1206913

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in March 2026



# Introduction

A prayer for pilgrimage:

O God,  
Be for us our companion on the walk,  
Our guide at the crossroads,  
Our breath in our weariness,  
Our protection in danger,  
Our refuge on the Way,  
Our shade in the heat,  
Our light in the darkness,  
Our consolation in our discouragements,  
And our strength in our intentions.  
So that with your guidance  
we may arrive  
safe and sound  
at the end of the Road  
enriched with grace and virtue  
may we return safely to our homes  
filled with joy.  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

What is pilgrimage?

Pilgrimage is a meaningful journey to a sacred place. It provides the opportunity to step out of the non-stop busyness of our lives, to seek a time of quiet reflection and revelation.

When and why do people go on Pilgrimage?

There are as many reasons to go on pilgrimage as there are pilgrims.

The act of pilgrimage is an opportunity to 'walk through' issues that we may have on our minds. Often, people go on pilgrimage when they are at a crossroads in their lives, when undergoing a change in their life's direction or relationships.

Some may be in search of a deeper spirituality, healing and forgiveness. For some it may mark a special birthday, retirement or other occasion for giving thanks.

For others, it is simply a journey with God.

**Jesus said "I am the way..."**

***John 14:6***

**Blessed are those whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.**

***Psalms 84:5***



## Welcome from the Dean

We are first a place of daily Christian worship and a community serving Jesus Christ.

Our ministry embraces children, refugees, homeless people and those wishing to explore faith as pilgrims and seekers.

We are the seat (cathedra) of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who leads the worldwide Anglican Communion, and the focus for the Church of England Diocese of Canterbury serving East Kent.

We are not a museum, but we do steward this holy place which, along with St Augustine's Abbey and St Martin's Church, is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We conserve stained glass, stone, manuscripts and historical treasures. We invest in choral music and education. The Cathedral Lodge offers hospitality. Our gardens provide beauty and biodiversity. We are addressing climate change as part of our Christian vocation.

Some of our heritage recalls painful stories of injustice and oppression – other aspects celebrate the victory of good over evil.

It is people who make places live - so during your pilgrimage, please do speak with our Cathedral clergy, staff and volunteers. The Bible reminds us that, in such encounters, we may even 'entertain angels unawares'.

*The Very Reverend Dr David Monteith, Dean of Canterbury*

## Your Path to Pilgrimage

Whilst it is always free to come to Canterbury Cathedral on pilgrimage, to attend services of worship, and to pray, with our 'Path to Pilgrimage' options, we invite you to build and tailor your experience to your unique needs and interests

Immerse yourself in the religious significance of this holy place, attending our services and interacting closely with our clergy, whilst staying at our Cathedral Lodge hotel, within the Cathedral Precincts.

You may also choose to enhance your time here with experiences such as a guided pilgrimage through Canterbury, a UNESCO site tour, or a Cathedral tour.

With our range of specialised tours you can discover the stories from our 1,400 years of history or go behind the scenes to experience the inner workings of the Cathedral, and meet our skilled staff who work to preserve and develop this special place for the future.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Cathedral.

### Build your Path to Pilgrimage:

**Step 1:** Choose your accommodation

**Step 2:** Add your experiences

**Step 3:** Contact us to discuss/book your Path to Pilgrimage.

### All packages include our standard goody bag:

- Welcome refreshments hosted by the Canon in Residence
- The 'Inside Story' Tour - a guided tour of Canterbury Cathedral
- Group seating at Evensong
- Bedroom welcome pack
- Pilgrim Passport
- Pilgrim Certificate (*signed by The Dean*)
- Pilgrim Badge replica
- Cathedral Guide Book
- Spring water in Cathedral Bottle



# Step I: Accommodation

## Stay at Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge has proudly received the Travelers' Choice Award for over 10 years in a row, in recognition of its position in the top 10% of hotels worldwide for reviews and ratings.

The Lodge is our unique hotel and conference venue, benefitting from its location situated within the Cathedral Precincts, with stunning views of the Cathedral and comfortable accommodation.

It is also a superb venue for meetings, conferences and events, as well as parties and wedding receptions.

Facilities within the hotel include en-suite bathrooms, complimentary Wi-Fi, tea and coffee making facilities, direct dial telephones, mini fridges, safes and 42inch smart TV's.

Breakfast, light lunch and dinner is served in the Refectory Restaurant, which has additional alfresco seating on the terrace during summer months. If you do choose half board, there is a large choice of restaurants that offer lunch, just a couple of minutes' walk from the Lodge and several offering Lodge guests a discount.

Find out more at [www.canterburycathedrallodge.org](http://www.canterburycathedrallodge.org)

If you have accessibility requirements, food allergies or require any additional arrangements, our friendly Cathedral Lodge team will be happy to help:

[stay@canterburycathedrallodge.org](mailto:stay@canterburycathedrallodge.org)

+44 (0)1227 865350



### Half board

Including full Kentish breakfast, and three-course dinner.

#### First night:

Sole occupancy - £250 per pilgrim

Shared double occupancy - £170 per pilgrim

#### Subsequent nights:

Sole occupancy - £190 per pilgrim/ night

Shared double occupancy - £110 per pilgrim/ night

### Full board

Including full Kentish breakfast, light lunch, and three-course dinner.

#### First night:

Sole occupancy - £270 per pilgrim

Shared double occupancy - £190 per pilgrim

#### Subsequent nights:

Sole occupancy - £210 per pilgrim/ night

Shared double occupancy - £130 per pilgrim/ night

### Additional services

**Luggage transfer to/from Canterbury Coach station - £5 per person each way**



## Step 2: Experiences

### Add to your pilgrimage with our range of special experiences.

All experiences are subject to availability and scheduling, but we will always do our best to provide your preferred pilgrimage experience. We can discuss your requirements with you when you book.

*Where group size is stated, larger groups may be accommodated if possible.*

### One-day Fully Guided Pilgrimage

**Duration:** Full day (approx. 7 hours)

A one-day fully guided walking tour through the historic pilgrimage sites of Canterbury.

Starting in the nearby village of Harbledown, this walking tour of around 3 miles includes retracing the route into the city taken by pilgrims for centuries, a visit to the St Thomas of Canterbury Roman Catholic Church to view the relic of St Thomas, and the chance to receive a pilgrim stamp. Refreshments are included.

**Approx. £150 per person.** Group Size: Min. 2 - Max. 20 people. Please enquire as to availability and pricing.

### Candlelight Pilgrimage

**Duration:** Approx. 45 minutes

Join us after dark, to walk and pray by candlelight through the Cathedral. Appreciate the quiet and darkness as we walk together and connect with God. This will usually be led by a member of our Cathedral Clergy.

**Suggested donation of £10 per person.** Group Size: Min. 10 - Max. 20 people. Please enquire as to availability.

### Private Evening Tour

**Duration:** 90 minutes

There is nothing more atmospheric than a private Cathedral visit, just for you and your group.

Explore the Cathedral when it is closed to the public, on this exclusive guided tour, taken 'after hours'.

**£40 per person** (minimum spend of £1,000, for 25 people)

(Optional add-on) Drinks reception after your tour, at our on-site accommodation Cathedral Lodge.

**Additional £6 per person.**

### Stained Glass Studio Tour

**Duration:** 2 hours

The Cathedral Studios workshop is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of Stained Glass Heritage. Book a visit to the studio to learn more about their work specialising in the conservation, restoration and protection of stained glass from the 12th Century to the 20th Century.

**£50 per person** Group Size: Min. 4 - Max. 10 people.

*Sensible footwear must be worn. This tour is not suitable for under 18s.*

### Stonemasons Tour

**Duration:** 2 hours

Canterbury Cathedral has its own team of stonemasons, who repair and preserve the amazing stonework on site. Learn about the never-ending task of conservation and maintenance - and how they use the skills of this centuries-old craft to preserve the beauty and history of this wonderful place - as you are taken around the Stonemasons' Studio, tucked away in the Cathedral Precincts on a true behind-the-scenes-tour.

**£50 per person.** Group Size: Min. 4 - Max. 15 people.

### Senior Gardener Tour

**Duration:** 2 hours

Enjoy a guided tour of Canterbury Cathedral's private Deanery Gardens and other special green spaces on this unique guided tour led by one of the senior gardening team.

Our special tours offer great insight into the care and restoration of these historic sites, with the opportunity to ask questions of our skilled and knowledgeable garden team.

**£50 per person** Group Size: Min. 4 - Max. 25 people.

### 'St Thomas Becket' Guided Tour

**Duration:** 75 minutes

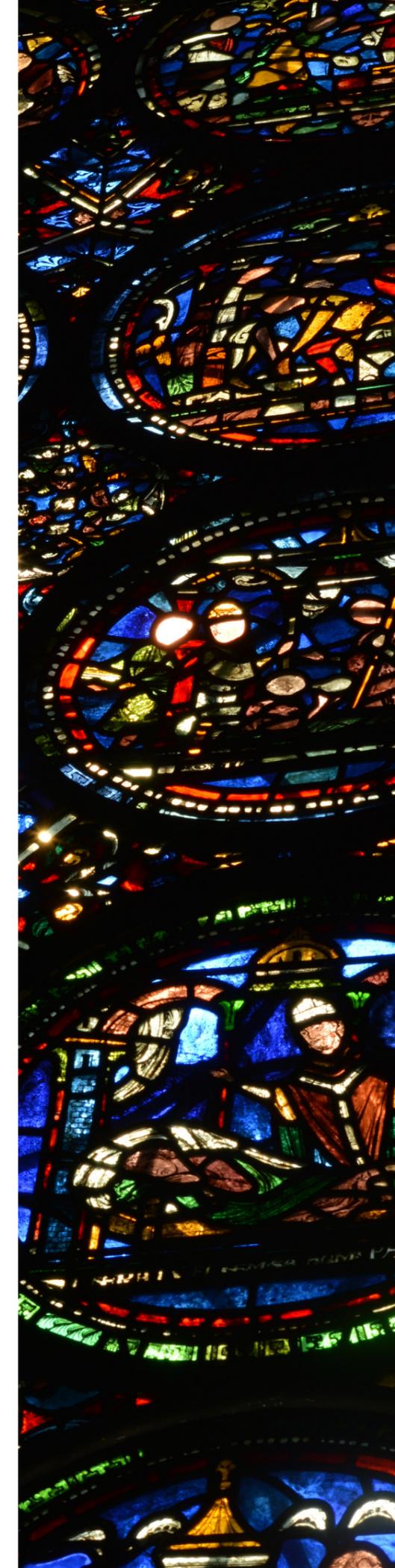
Uncover the full story of St Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral, where echoes of his life and legacy resound. This tour will take you to the places in the Cathedral associated with the life and death of the renowned saint and martyr, from the place of his death to the site of his first tomb, where over 700 miracles were reported.

Along the way you will:

- Learn about the shocking murder of Archbishop Becket in 1170, as you visit the Martyrdom site.
- Explore the Crypt and trace the site of Thomas' first tomb and place of over 700 reported miracles.
- Discover the Miracle Windows - its stained glass tells the story of those who visited Becket's tomb.
- Discover the Trinity Chapel, the site of Becket's lavish shrine from 1220 and scene of destruction under Henry VIII.

There will also be time at the end of the tour to ask questions.

**£40 per person.** Group Size: Min. 4 - Max. 15 people.



## Unesco Tour:

### 'Foundations of Faith: A Journey through Early Christianity in Kent'

**Duration:** Full Day (approx. 7 hours)

Discover the introduction of Roman Christianity to Britain on this fully-guided tour experience.

Visit St Martin's Church, the oldest church in the English-speaking world still in use, explore the remains of St Augustine's Abbey, resting place of St Augustine and the first Archbishops of Canterbury, and experience the beauty of Canterbury Cathedral, Mother Church of the Church of England.

Together, these three historic places form Canterbury's UNESCO World Heritage Site which gained UNESCO listing in 1988.

A guided tour at each site offers a fascinating insight into the story, and allows you to explore successive architectural responses to Canterbury's developing role as focus of the Church in England.

#### Itinerary

- Start at St Martin's Church, used by Queen Bertha who welcomed St Augustine to England, where the doorway she used is still visible today.
- A 90-minute guided tour of the monastic ruins of St Augustine's Abbey - originally created as a burial place for the first Archbishops and Anglo-Saxon kings and queens of Kent.
- Buffet sandwich lunch and refreshments in the picturesque Campanile Gardens, with wonderful views of the Cathedral (indoor provisions if wet).
- A 90-minute guided tour of Canterbury Cathedral - described as 'England in Stone' as its history is so entwined with England's story.
- Your tour ends with the opportunity to ask questions of your guide, and a chance to discuss your day's discoveries with your fellow travellers.

Afterwards, all are welcome to attend our daily evening service of Choral Evensong or Said Prayer, at 17:30.

**£60 per person.** Group Size: Min. 4 - max. 44 people.

## Bespoke Add-ons

Talks and presentations may be arranged on request, on a range of topics related to Canterbury Cathedral, and our Anglican faith - ranging from short talks through to more in-depth experiences, to suit your needs.

*Please enquire to discuss your requirements, availability and pricing.*



## Step 3. Booking

To book your Path to Pilgrimage, please contact our Lodge reservations team at:

stay@canterburycathedrallodge.org

+44 (0)1227 865350

If you have accessibility requirements, food allergies or require any additional arrangements, please let our friendly Cathedral Lodge team know and they will be happy to help.

### Accessibility in the Cathedral

We aim to provide a warm welcome and first-class experience to all of our visitors and worshippers.

The Cathedral is a medieval building, and although it is not always possible to provide all the facilities we would like, we always do our best to make the Cathedral as accessible – and welcoming – as possible.

Find out more at [canterbury-cathedral.org/accessibility](http://canterbury-cathedral.org/accessibility)

## Our Recommendations

### The Queen Bertha Pilgrimage Path

Walk in the footsteps of Queen Bertha of Kent, the Christian queen who influenced her pagan husband, King Ethelbert, and welcomed St Augustine's mission to convert the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity.

- Participate in our daily pattern of prayer and worship (always free to attend)
- 3 nights half board, sole occupancy
- UNESCO Tour
- Private Evening Tour

**Only £730 per person, based on 25 people on pilgrimage**

### The Becket Pilgrimage Path

Retrace the route taken by pilgrims for centuries, visit the relic of St Thomas and discover Becket's story etched throughout Canterbury Cathedral.

- Participate in our daily pattern of prayer and worship (always free to attend)
- 3 nights half board, sole occupancy
- One-day fully guided pilgrimage
- 'St Thomas Becket' Guided Tour

**Only £820 per person (approx.), based on 25 people on pilgrimage**

## Goody Bags

**Upgrade your goody bag and take home your very own piece of Canterbury Cathedral!**

### Standard Goody Bag

*(Included with all packages)*

- Welcome refreshments hosted by the Canon in Residence
- The 'Inside Story' Tour - a guided tour of Canterbury Cathedral
- Group seating at Evensong
- Bedroom welcome pack
- Pilgrim Passport
- Pilgrim Certificate *(signed by The Dean)*
- Pilgrim Badge replica
- Cathedral Guide Book
- Spring water in Cathedral Bottle

### £70 Goody Bag

*Our standard goody bag, plus:*

#### **Small Sterling Silver Canterbury Cross Pendant**

Inspired by the famous Anglo-Saxon Canterbury Cross. The original cross was made of bronze, and found in a street in Canterbury in 1867. Today, the Canterbury Cross is known as a symbol of the Christian faith and the Anglican church, as well as the Cathedral and City of Canterbury.



### £120 Goody Bag

*Our standard goody bag, plus:*

#### **Small Sterling Silver Canterbury Cross Pendant**

**AND**

#### **Nave Roof Oak Fountain Pen**

Handmade using reclaimed 14th century medieval oak - saved from the Cathedral Nave roof, as part of a renovation project - with silver coloured fittings.



# Worship

For more than 1,400 years God has been worshipped in Canterbury Cathedral.  
There's history in every chime of our bells, and passion in every note sang by our choir.

All are welcome to join our worship and services at Canterbury Cathedral.  
It is always free to attend a service of worship or come to pray.

## Regular worship times

Matins	07.30 Monday - Friday 09.15 Weekends and Bank Holidays
Daily Eucharist	08.00 Monday - Sunday
The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) and Counsel	12:00-13:00 Fridays, in The Holy Innocents Chapel (subject to change around events) <i>Outside of these times, Chaplains are always available should you want to speak with them.</i>
Lunchtime Eucharist	12.30 (Wednesdays only)
Daily Choral Evensong or Said Evening Prayer with Organ Meditation*	17.30 Monday - Sunday
Sunday Choral Eucharist*	11.00 Sunday

\*Live streamed online, on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/@CanterburyCathedralOfficial](https://www.youtube.com/@CanterburyCathedralOfficial)

You can find all our services and events in our Service and Music Lists or Events Calendar on our website.

You can also contact the Visits Office for up-to-date service information:

+44 (0) 1227 865279

[visits@canterbury-cathedral.org](mailto:visits@canterbury-cathedral.org)

## Access for Services

The Cathedral is a medieval building on several levels and arrangements vary depending on the area used or the format of the service. Our Music Lists and Events Calendar includes details of the service locations. Large print copies of Orders of Service are usually available; please ask the Virgers or Stewards on arrival.

Advance notice is preferred so that we can best accommodate you, especially for special events, but staff and service stewards will always do their best to make suitable arrangements for anyone attending a service or event.

To help us plan seating arrangements in advance, please contact us:

+44(0)1227 762862 (Cathedral House Reception) during normal office hours.

[access@canterbury-cathedral.org](mailto:access@canterbury-cathedral.org)



We look forward to welcoming you on  
your pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral.

Discover more at [www.canterbury-cathedral.org/pilgrimage](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/pilgrimage)



The scallop shell is a long-standing symbol of pilgrimage.  
Keep a look out for these shell symbols on your journey.  
Remember to tag us in your posts, photos and stories on  
Facebook, Instagram and Bluesky:

   @CburyCathedral

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Canterbury  
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Charity no. 1206913