

# Somerset International Youth Choral Festival

## in England's Historic Wells Cathedral and Sherborne Abbey

### Festival-Only Tour

#### **Sunday July 5, 2009**

Departure from the USA via scheduled airline service to London, England. Enjoy full meal, beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Atlantic flight.

#### **Monday July 6, 2009 Sherborne**

Arrive in one of London's airports. After passport and customs clearance, meet your MCI Tour Manager who will assist you to awaiting motorcoach. Transfer to the southwestern English town of Sherborne. En route (if time permits), stop to see the prehistoric site of Stonehenge. Groups arrive in Sherborne and check into accommodations at the historic Sherborne School.

*Sherborne is, without doubt, one of the most beautiful towns in England. With its abundance of medieval buildings, superb Abbey, world famous schools, picturesque almshouse and two castles, Sherborne has much to offer visitors.*

#### **Tuesday July 7, 2009 Sherborne/Bath**

*Morning rehearsals.* Non-singing participants may enjoy additional sight-seeing opportunities. Afternoon guided tour of Bath, including the Roman baths and beautiful Bath Abbey. Dinner is followed by *evening rehearsals.*

#### **Wednesday July 8, 2009 Sherborne/Weymouth**

*Morning rehearsals.* Afternoon excursion to Weymouth to experience a typical English coastal town. Weymouth is a historic port, and, it was from here that John Endicott sailed in 1628 to found Salem in Massachusetts. Enjoy time in the ruins of Sandsfoot Castle, waterfront shops, the sea shore and unique ambience of this ancient seaside town. Early dinner. *Evening community concert in Sherborne Abbey, with choirs singing individually and also en masse.*

#### **Thursday July 9, 2009 Sherborne/Wells/Glastonbury**

Breakfast, and morning at leisure to enjoy Sherborne  
11:00am – hot lunch followed by a coach transfer to Wells (bringing all concert attire).  
*Dress Rehearsal in the Wells Cathedral.* Afternoon guided tour of Wells and also nearby Glastonbury. Early dinner.  
**7:30pm - Festival Finale Concert in Wells Cathedral**  
Return to Sherborne for overnight.

*Wells is a popular tourist destination, due in large part to having several historical sites and its proximity to Bath, Stonehenge and other popular sites. Parts of Wells Cathedral (widely considered one of the most beautiful in England) date back to the 10th century. The city derives its name from three wells in the grounds of the Bishop's Palace. William Penn is said to have passed through Wells shortly before leaving for America, spending a night at The Crown Inn.*

#### **Friday July 10, 2009 Depart for home**

Transfer to one of London's airports for the return flight to the USA. Arrive home in the evening of the same day.

