



Discover Churches

Hidden Stories, Open Doors

The history of Music and Literature on the Welsh Borders



- Join our guided 2-day tour as an individual, couple or as part of a group.
- Take part in evensong at Hereford Cathedral.
- Visit a church that was close to the heart of William Wordsworth.
- Follow in the footsteps of composer Sir Edward Elgar, poets Elizabeth Barratt Browning & John Masefield, author Rev Francis Kilvert, poet and religious writer Thomas Treherne.
- Visit Hereford – which hosts one of the world's oldest classical choral music festivals every three years.
- Visit Hay on Wye, the town of books home to one of the worlds biggest literature festivals.

HCTG, c/o Leintwardine House, Leintwardine, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 0LB

Resilient Heritage Lottery funded Project. Sustainable Tourism for Sustainable Churches.



This 2-day experience is a great way to immerse yourself in the undulating scenery on the Welsh Border and discover why the county holds so many musical and literary connections.

Herefordshire and border Churches feature highly in the history that shaped some of our music and literary greats.

This tour visits many of these churches as part of 'the history of Music and Literature' tour.

The tour is based in Hereford in a hotel on Half Board basis for the duration. This is where we will meet your tour guide to start the wonderful Music and Literature guided tour.

The first day begins heading east towards the town of Ledbury where poet Elizabeth Barret Browning spent her childhood and John Masefield was born. You will take in the scenery of the Malvern Hills which inspired Sir Edward Elgar, Charles Dickens and A.E Houseman on their travels. Not to forget poet William Langland who was possibly the first to celebrate the Malverns.

Close to Ledbury is an area that captured the imagination of the 'Dymock Poets' who generally comprised of Robert Frost, Lascelles Abercrombie, Rupert Brooke, Edward Thomas, Wilfrid Wilson Gibson, and John Drinkwater.

The second day will head west to the city of Hereford with its iconic Cathedral on the River Wye as well as discovering the picturesque landscape of Kington and Hay on Wye which inspired Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Rev Frances Kilvert, William Wordsworth and Thomas Treherne to name a few - Where very little has changed the rolling rural countryside.

However, we cannot forget modern day talents such as musician **Mike Oldfield** with Tubular Bells, **Mott the Hoople**, **Ellie Goulding** and supernatural and mystery novel author **Phil Rickman**, as well as the Festival of Literature that put 'town of books' Hay on Wye on the map and has been welcoming visitors for over 20 years.

For further information contact Tony & Liz:

Churches Tourism Officers- Email: tourismofficer@visitherefordshirechurches.co.uk