

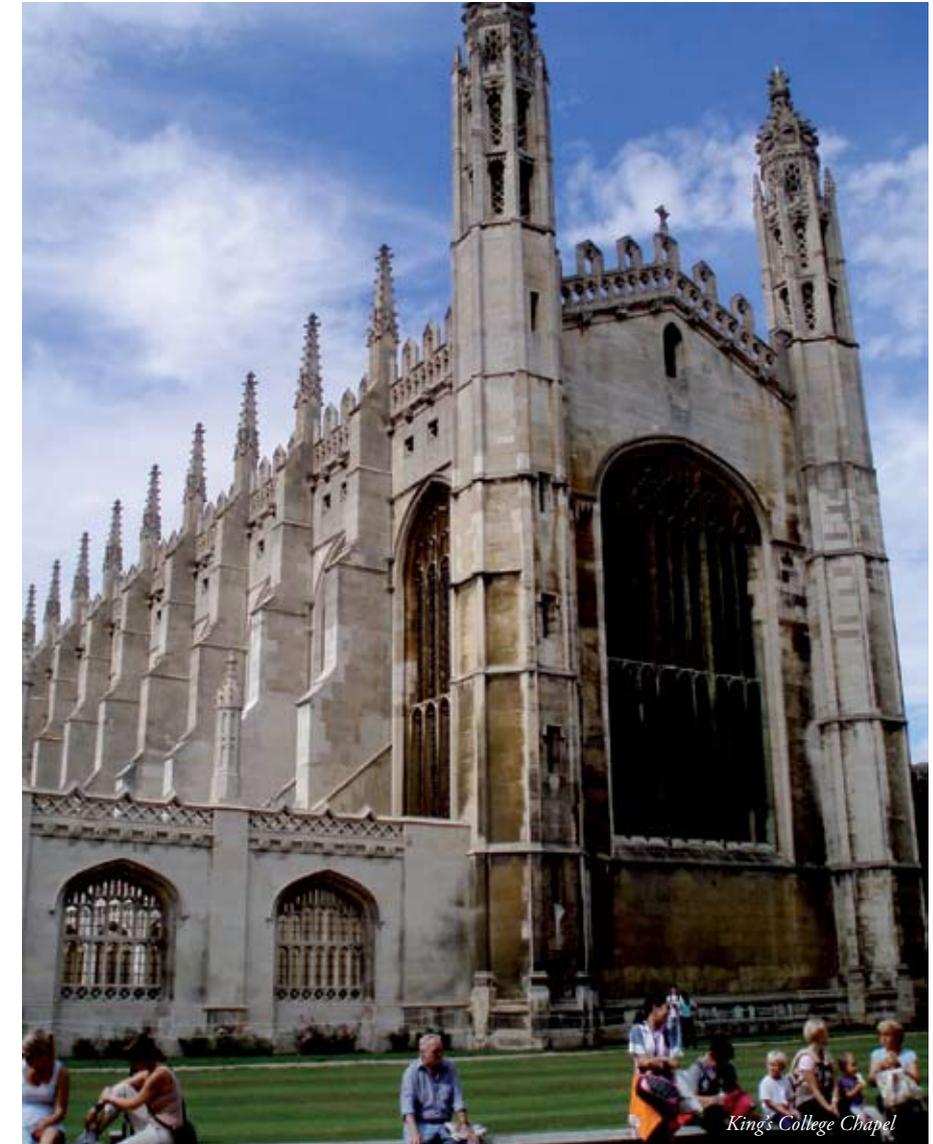
# Travel

## Kimberly Cole Takes Us On A Tour Around Cambridge

Cambridge is a 45 minute ride from Kings Cross London so is a perfect destination for a day out. It has a great atmosphere where the world famous university mixes with churches, museums and both independent and well known stores. It really does have something for everyone.

The Round Church is a very interesting building in Cambridge. It is one of four remaining round churches in Britain. It is a Norman church and is based on the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. It also has a great display about the history of Cambridge, so is a great place to start your day.

Of course, you should visit as many of the colleges as you are able to, and some of the nicest ones are off Trinity Street, including Trinity College, St John's College and Kings College. St John's was established by Henry VII's mother, Lady Margaret Beaufort. The walk through the courts are lovely, and it leads you back to the Bridge of Sighs. Rumour has



King's College Chapel

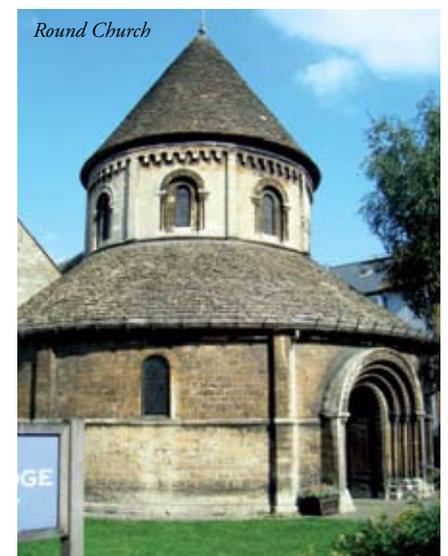
it, that it received this name because students sighed from relief when they walked over the bridge after finishing with their exams, but the truth is it is based on the Bridge of Sighs in Venice. It has also been a victim of pranks by students, including hoisting an Aston Seven in 1925 using ropes.

Trinity College is also located on Trinity Street. Its Great Court was in the movie, Chariots of Fire, where undergraduates run around the court to beat the strike of the clock. It is also the college that Isaac Newton belonged to when he calculated the speed of sound. The Wren Library, which was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, who also designed St Paul's Cathedral, holds many priceless manuscripts, including the first copy of the Winnie the Pooh stories.

Any trip to Cambridge must include a visit to King's College Chapel. This chapel sees more visitors per year than Westminster Abbey and is one of the largest examples of fan-vaulted ceilings. Above the doorway in the oak screen, you can still see the initials of Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. On Christmas Eve, the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is recorded and broadcast all over the world. It is free to attend, but you must get in line before 8:30 am in order to secure your place. Even if you are unable to attend this event, any of the Evening Songs will

allow you to appreciate the ambience of this beautiful building. King's has an attraction for students that are climbers, and in 2009, they climbed up and put Santa hats on the spires of the chapel.

Dominating the market square is St Mary the Great. It is the University's church and used to house all ceremonies until the Senate House was built. You can go up the tower for a small fee and on a clear day see Ely Cathedral in the distance. St Mary's has the only ring of



Round Church

12 bells in the country which is very unique, and you can hear them ringing on Monday and Wednesday evenings at around 7pm. The Westminster chime at Big Ben was based on the sequence developed here.

For Americans, it is imperative that you stop and visit the Eagle Pub. Here you will find in the RAF bar messages from airmen from World War II. This was a frequent watering hole for them during their passes and was close to where they stayed in town. It is also the place where Francis Crick and James Watson, on February 28, 1953, announced their discovery that DNA carries genetic information. This is also a great place to stop for a pint or lunch.

Corpus Christi is an interesting college as it was founded by the townspeople. Matthew "Nosy" Parker, who was Archbishop of

*The Eagle Pub*



Canterbury during Henry VIII's reign, was able to save the Thomas Beckett's psalter and King Alfred's copy of Anglo-Saxon Chronicle during the dissolution of the monasteries. Around the corner on the street is the Corpus Christi Clock which was unveiled by Stephen Hawking in 2008. It has no hands and has a grasshopper on the top ticking the time away.

Tour guides like to tell gullible tourists that the Mathematical Bridge was built by Isaac Newton without any nuts or bolts and that fellows or students tried to take it apart to see how he did it and were unable to put it back together again. The original bridge was built well before his time and was not built with nails, but iron pins, but they were enclosed, so this may have contributed to it. The current one was built with visible nuts and bolts in 1905.

If you come up by train, or prefer to find an easy way to get your bearings in Cambridge, the hop on and off bus is a great option. It will enable you to see more locations than walking, and will take you straight into the centre of Cambridge which is about a 30 minute walk from the station. It is also great because it will take you out to another important place to visit for Americans.

Madingley American Memorial Cemetery is in a village right outside of Cambridge. The land was donated by the University of Cambridge and it is the only American cemetery for World War II in the United Kingdom, where 3,812 American service members have been laid to rest. There is also a wall for the 5,127 missing personnel from all branches of the service which are updated with a rosette when they are recovered. They continue to hold services which are highly

attended on Memorial and Veterans Day to remember the fallen.

There are also some great museums that the University of Cambridge has, many that are perfect for little ones and are free to visit. The Fitzwilliam Museum has a wide range of collections ranging from ancient Rome, to paintings, sculptures, silver, and textiles. It is a very big museum which could take a day in itself to get around. The building that hosts these items is beautiful and worth a look.

In 2016, the Museum of Zoology will reopen and it is a great place to visit because it hosts specimens from Charles Darwin's voyage on HMS Beagle. This trip helped him write the *Origins of Species* while he was an undergraduate at Cambridge.

The Scott Polar Museum is a very unique place to visit as it is dedicated to the research of Captain Robert Falcon Scott and his team, and their expedition to reach the South Pole first. It has a great display of the equipment that they used and how things have changed over the years.

The newly redeveloped Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology has one of the most important collection's in its genre in the United Kingdom. It is also free to visit and hosts a variety of items that includes artefacts from Captain James Cook in Fiji, and Anglo-Saxons in Britain.

The shopping in Cambridge is quite diverse, boasting high end clothes retailers on Trinity Street such as Reiss and Jaegar, and independent shops like Ark and When I Was A Kid. Most shops are open from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Cambridge has a market every day of the week, held in the Market Square and an

*American Cemetery*



arts and craft one in the All Saints Garden on Trinity Street on Sundays.

A must to do in Cambridge is to take a punt on the river. You can either hire one yourself or you can get a guided tour along the banks which is one of the best ways to see the colleges. You will probably be approached by punters on the street near St Mary or the river. Just be sure to haggle with them to get the best price, £12 per person is about average.

If you would like to see the spooky side of Cambridge, a ghost tour is the best way to see it. A great company to go with is the Cambridge Ghost Tour. They are quite entertaining and let you see a side of Cambridge that cannot be done in daylight. If you are lucky, you might see something yourself!

A visit to Cambridge does not have to be an expensive one. Rather than eating lunch in one of the many restaurants, you could grab a bite of lunch from one of the grocery stores and have a picnic in one of the many parks in Cambridge. These will be crowded, especially when the sun comes out. Another place to sit and have a spot of lunch and people watch is on the wall outside of Kings College.

Cambridge hosts a variety of chain and independent restaurants as well. So there is



*Punting on the River*

quite a bit of choice! If you are looking for more ethnic foods, Mill Road is the place to go. This area has quite a lot of ethnic restaurants and shops to get those hard to find ingredients.

A day out in Cambridge is a great way to see

another side of England. It is something that can be done at any time of the year. Since most of the sights are outside, it's best to come when it is not raining in order to really appreciate this beautiful city. ■

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**CENTRE ACADEMY LONDON**  
92 St John's Hill, Battersea, SW11 1SN  
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email: info@centreacademy.net

**CENTRE ACADEMY EAST ANGLIA**  
Church rd, Breckenham, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 3QR  
Tel: 020 77382344 Fax: 01449 737861  
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