LONDON ARTS

DISCOVERY

ST LOUIS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

London Theatre Tour

Itinerary

Monday 13 - Sunday 19 July, 2026

Monday, 13 July

AM	**ARRIVE AT LONDON AIRPORT**	Transfer to Montague Hotel self-arranged or via Concierge
	THE MONTAGUE HOTEL 15 Montague Street, London WC1B 5BJ T: 020 7637 1001 E: montague@rchmail.com	Around the corner from the British Museum, The Montague on The Gardens is a 4-star hotel in tranquil, park-filled Bloomsbury. With its historic Georgian architecture and handsomely landscaped gardens, The Montague offers maximum comfort and superior service within easy access of London's main attractions.
	Full English and Continental breakfast (The Blue Door Bistro)	Monday - Friday 7.30 - 10.00am Saturday and Sunday 7.30 - 11.00am
3:00 pm	**WELCOME AND TOUR BRIEFING**	A welcome by London Arts Discovery Tour Directors. The briefing covers all aspects of the tour from extra performances and major exhibitions to recommended restaurants.
4:15 pm	**Transfer to Koha Restaurant** 10-11 Street, Martin's Court, WC2N 4AJ	
5:00 pm	**WELCOME DINNER**	A family-run restaurant in the heart of theatre land, Koha serves a modern European menu.

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7:15 pm	**Walk short distance to Noël Coward Theatre** 85-88 St Martin's Lane, WC2N 4AU	
7:30 pm	**PERFORMANCE 1: CYRANO DE BERGERAC** by Edmond Rostand; adapted by Simon Evans and Debris Stevenson	A poet, soldier and philosopher, Cyrano de Bergerac is crippled by self-doubt. As he secretly helps a handsome but inarticulate soldier woo the woman they both love, he watches in despair as Roxane falls for his words but another man's voice. Fiercely funny and intensely romantic, this heartbreaking tale of unspoken love, honour and sacrifice explores the courage it takes to speak up, and the cost of hiding who you truly are. Fresh from its triumph at the RSC, Adrian Lester brings his 'magnetic' portrayal of Cyrano de Bergerac to London's West End. **R/T 2h45**
10:15 pm	**Transfer to Montague Hotel**	

	Tuesday, 14 July	
10:30 am	**POST-SHOW DISCUSSION**	We meet with a member of the cast or creatives.
2:00 pm	**Transfer to National Theatre** (NT) South Bank, SE1 9PX	
2:30 pm	**PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR OF NT, BACKSTAGE AND AUDITORIUMS**	Housed in one of the most iconic buildings on the South Bank, the National Theatre creates and stages world-class productions across its three main auditoriums – the Olivier, Lyttelton, and Dorfman theatres. All its sets, props and scenery are produced on-site in dedicated workshops.
4:00 pm	**Transfer to Montague Hotel**	

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7:00 pm **Transfer to National Theatre**
South Bank, SE1 9PX

7:30 pm **PERFORMANCE 2: THE MISANTHROPE**
by Martin Crimp after Molière
(Lyttelton Theatre)

Alice, a brilliant novelist, despises the hollow contemporary mantras of kindness and respect. But the bolder she becomes in speaking out, the more colleagues avoid her, and the more her personal relationships begin to fracture. As she challenges fashionable ideas and lends her voice to causes others are afraid to touch, she faces intense criticism and backlash. Alice will soon learn the price she must pay as an artist and as a woman for daring to speak her mind. Award-winner Sandra Oh (*Killing Eve*) stars in Martin Crimp's (*Cyrano de Bergerac*) cutting new version of Molière's dark comedy, directed by National Theatre Director Indhu Rubasingham (*The Father and the Assassin*). **R/T tbc**

c. 10:00 pm **Transfer to Montague Hotel**

Wednesday, 15 July

Morning free

1:00 pm **INTRODUCTION TO TRACEY EMIN**

Dame Tracey Emin is one of the most important contemporary artists of her generation. She was catapulted into the public eye in the 1990s with iconic works like her Turner Prize nominated *My Bed*, which sparked fierce critical and public debate, challenging what art could be. Emin's disregard for any separation of the personal and the public, along with her commitment to unapologetic self-expression, came to define a historic moment in British culture and global art history.

2:15 pm **Transfer to Tate Modern**
Bankside, SE1 9TG

3:00 pm **TATE MODERN**

Tracey Emin A Second Life
This landmark exhibition traces 40 years of Emin's groundbreaking practice, showcasing career-defining sensations alongside works never exhibited before. Through painting, video, textiles, neons, writing, sculpture, and installation, Emin continues to challenge boundaries, using the female body as a powerful tool to explore passion, pain, and healing.

4:45 pm **Onward transfer to Southwark**

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5:00 pm	**Free time to find supper**	Guidance to be provided
7:15 pm	**Meet in foyer of Menier Chocolate Factory** 4 O'Meara Street, SE1 1TE	
7:30 pm	**PERFORMANCE 3: MIDNIGHT AT THE NEVER GET** Book, music and lyrics by Mark Sonnenblick	1965, New York City. Trevor Copeland and Arthur Brightman's love is against the law. In their secret nightclub act, "Midnight", they perform love songs in an act of defiance of a world that demands they stay hidden. As tensions rise at the start of a historic movement, Trevor and Arthur are torn between their own surreptitious romance, and the oncoming storm of social revolution. Starring Tony and Grammy Award-winner Ben Platt (*Dear Evan Hansen*) and written by Golden Globe and Grammy Award-winner Mark Sonnenblick ("Golden", *KPop Demon Hunters*).
c. 10:00 pm	**Transfer to Montague Hotel**	

	Thursday, 16 July	
10:30 am	**THE STATE WE'RE IN**	We invite a political journalist or media commentator to discuss topical events in the UK and around the world. **R/T 1h15**
	Afternoon free	
4:15 pm	**Transfer to Browns Restaurant** 82-84 St Martins Lane, WC2N 4AG	
5:00 pm	**DINNER**	Housed in the Grade II-listed, former Westminster County Court building in the heart of London's Theatreland, Browns offers classic brasserie dishes and seasonally inspired creations.

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7:15 pm **Walk short distance to Ambassadors Theatre**
West Street, WC2H 9ND

7:30 pm **PERFORMANCE 4: 1536**
by Ava Pickett

In a quiet field in Essex, three women reunite at their childhood meeting spot, eager for the latest gossip from London. Rumours swirl of a dangerous rift between King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn – and soon, whispers of betrayal closer to home ignite their own fears. As the women navigate loyalty, love and survival in a world ruled by men and monarchs, *1536* exposes how the fates of ordinary people mirror the turmoil of the crown. Sharp, haunting, and fiercely human, this Tudor drama captures the moment when history and personal rebellion collide. Her debut play, Ava Pickett won The 2024 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, as well as Best Writer at the Stage Debut Awards. **R/T 2h** (no intermission)

9:40 pm **POST-SHOW DISCUSSION IN THE THEATRE**

We meet a member of the cast or creatives.

10:05 pm **Transfer to Montague Hotel**

Friday, 17 July

Morning and afternoon free

6:45 pm **Walk (or take taxis) short distance to Soho Place Theatre**
4 Soho Place, Charing Cross Road, W1D 3BG

7:30 pm **PERFORMANCE 5: THE BOY WHO HARNESSED THE WIND**
Book and lyrics by Richy Hughes; music and lyrics by Tim Sutton. Based on the book by William Kamkwamba.

William wants to build a windmill. Nobody believes he can – not his father nor his friends. Hope feels out of reach where the land is thirsty but the rains don't come. As drought closes in on his family's farm and the village he loves, everyone prays for a miracle. All William has to hand are some library books and scraps of old machinery. The rest must come from within. Will he defy expectations? Will the wind turn the sails of his invention, produce the gift of power, and give hope for tomorrow? A bold and uplifting new musical telling the true story of William Kamkwamba, this West End premiere transfers directly from Stratford-upon-Avon, directed by Lynette Linton.
R/T 2h30

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10:00 pm	**Walk back to Montague Hotel**	

Saturday, 18 July

10:30 am	**CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS**	We invite a drama critic from one of the UK's national newspapers or media platforms to cast opinion on the plays we've seen this week. **R/T 1h15**
2:00 pm	**Transfer to Shakespeare's Globe** 21 New Globe Walk, SE1 9DT	
2:45 pm	**VISIT AND PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR OF SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE**	Founded by the pioneering American actor and director Sam Wanamaker, Shakespeare's Globe is a world-renowned theatre, education centre, and cultural landmark. It is home to two venues – the Globe Theatre and Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. Performances experiment in many different ways with the original playing conditions of Shakespeare's theatre.
4:45 pm	**Make our way to Swan Restaurant**	
5:00 pm	**FAREWELL DINNER**	Swan is the in-house restaurant at The Globe with views of St Paul's across the river. It offers a modern British menu using the very best local, seasonal produce.
7:15 pm	**Move across to Globe Theatre**	Opened in 1997, the Globe Theatre remains one of the most unique theatrical spaces in London. A 360° auditorium, the theatre is open-air. Seats are arranged in galleries all around the wide, open stage, so spectators and performers can see each other at all times, the audience becoming a vital component of the performance.
7:30 pm	**PERFORMANCE 6: LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST** by William Shakespeare (Globe Theatre)	Passion, power, and poetry collide as four women arrive in Navarre on a diplomatic mission, testing the devotion of the King and his lords whose vows are undone by love, desire, and wit. Rarely staged, Love's Labour's Lost is a raw, refreshingly human comedy that celebrates our desire for connection and dares to leave love unresolved. In her Globe Theatre directing debut, Associate Artist Indiana Lown-Collins (former Globe Resident Artist, JMK Award winner for *The Solid Life of Sugar Water,* Orange Tree Theatre) channels the warmth and vibrancy of her rural Spanish roots into this celebrated comedy, igniting it with the feeling and artistry of flamenco. **R/T tbc**
c. 10:00 pm	**Transfer to Montague Hotel**	

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Sunday, 19 July

DEPART FOR USA

SUMMARY

ACCOMMODATION X6 NIGHTS

PERFORMANCES X6	PERFORMANCE 1: CYRANO DE BERGERAC by Edmond Rostand; adapted by Simon PERFORMANCE 2: THE MISANTHROPE PERFORMANCE 3: MIDNIGHT AT THE NEVER GET PERFORMANCE 4: 1536 by Ava Pickett PERFORMANCE 5: THE BOY WHO HARNESSED THE WIND PERFORMANCE 6: LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST by William Shakespeare
MEALS X3	WELCOME DINNER DINNER FAREWELL DINNER
VISITS X3	PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR OF NT, BACKSTAGE AND AUDITORIUMS TATE MODERN VISIT AND PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR OF SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE
DISCUSSIONS X6	WELCOME AND TOUR BRIEFING POST-SHOW DISCUSSION INTRODUCTION TO TRACEY EMIN THE STATE WE'RE IN POST-SHOW DISCUSSION IN THE THEATRE CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS
COACHING	TO ALL PERFORMANCES/EVENTS NOT WITHIN EASY WALKING DISTANCE OF HOTEL; ALL SIGHTSEEING AND EXCURSIONS.

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