

SOUTHAMPTON YOUTH ORCHESTRA
SIX DAY TOUR TO BELGIUM
24TH – 29TH JULY 2009
ITINERARY

Day 1 – Friday 24th July

Travel to Belgium

08.00	Coaches arrive (Motts Coaches of Aylesbury)	
08.45	dep. Southampton	
12.00	arr. Dover	152m/245km
	Check in P&O Ferries	
13.00	dep. Dover	
	Lunch on ferry (independent arrangements)	
15.30	arr. Calais (local time)	
17.15	arr. Heuvelland-Kemmel (12km south of Ypres)	103km/64m
	Check in:	
	<i>De Lork Centre</i>	
	<i>Kattekerkhofstraat 2</i>	
	<i>B-8950 Heuvelland-Kemmel</i>	
	<i>Tel: +32.(0)57 44 59 70</i>	
	<i>Fax: +32.(0)57 44 68 89</i>	
	<i>www.lork.be</i>	
18.30	Evening meal in Centre	
19.30 –	Rehearsal in Sports Hall for Sunday Concert	
21.30	(Vaughan-Williams x 2, Butterworth, Mozart, Elgar)	

Day 2 – Saturday 25th July

Antwerp

08.00	Breakfast in De Lork Centre	
09.00 –	Rehearsal in Sports Hall for Rubenshuis Concert	
11.30	(Shostakovich)	
12.00	Lunch in De Lork Centre	
	Collect packed supper	
13.00	dep. De Lork Centre with instruments, concert clothes, music and music stands	
15.00	arr. Antwerp (<i>Rubenshuis, Wapper 9-11</i>)	139km/86m
	Meet up with Annelies Mermans, Tour Guide	

Day 2 – continued

Antwerp's location on the banks of the river Scheldt has established it as one of the great European cities. Its port is one of the biggest in the world, and for almost five hundred years Antwerp has been recognised as the 'Diamond Centre' of the world. Elected European City of Culture in 1993, Antwerp is also the birthplace of the artists Rubens.

15.15 – **Set up and rehearsal** in a marquee in the gardens
17.00 of the Rubenshuis

17.00 **Visit:** *The Rubenshuis museum and some time for local sightseeing*

Rubenshuis

In 1610, Pieter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) – court painter, recently returned from Italy, and newly married – found himself in a position to buy a large house, where he lived and worked until his death. After centuries of neglect, the house was rescued by the City of Antwerp in 1937, and has since been refurbished and re-furnished to look as it might have done in Rubens' day. Quite apart from the sheer charm of the place, it provides a rare opportunity to see the physical context in which great works of art were made.

19.00 Return to the Rubenshuis to eat packed meal and change for concert

20.00 **Concert**

- *Festival Overture:* Shostakovich
- *Euphonium Concerto:* Horowitz
- *Symphony No. 8 in G Op.88:* Dvorak

22.00 dep. Antwerp

23.45 arr. Heuvelland-Kemmel 139km/86m

Day 3 – Sunday 26th July

Bruges

08.00 Breakfast in De Lork Centre
Collect packed lunch

09.30 dep. Heuvelland-Kemmel

11.00 arr. Bruges (Coach Park) 75km/47m
Walk to centre of Bruges (10mn)

Bruges has earned its fame in Europe through its impressive historical and cultural heritage. In

Day 3 – continued

2000, the historic city centre of Bruges was added to the list of World Heritage by UNESCO. Its medieval street pattern, meandering canals and green ramparts make it a popular place to visit.

Places to visit:

- *Market Square*
- *Belfry & Halles*
- *Basilica & Museum of the Holy Blood*
- *City Hall (The Burg)*
- *Beguinage*

13.00	Meet for picnic lunch (packed lunch from De Lork) Meet up with Annelies Mermans, Tour Guide Help unload the van into St Saviour's Cathedral	
14.00	Set up and acoustic rehearsal <i>St Saviour's Cathedral</i> <i>Oldest parish church in Bruges (12th – 15th century). Of note are, the choir stalls, the rood loft with organ, the medieval tombs with murals and the extensive collection of Flemish art (16th – 18th centuries) and tapestries.</i>	
15.00	Concert (max. 1 hour) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Fantasia on Greensleeves: V-Williams</i>• <i>A Shropshire Lad: Butterworth</i>• <i>Concerto for Oboe: Mozart</i>• <i>Fantasia on a theme from Thomas Tallis: Vaughan-Williams</i>• <i>Pomp & Circumstance March No.1: Elgar</i>	
16.30	dep. Bruges	
18.00	arr. Heuvelland-Kemmel	75km/47m
18.30	Evening meal in De Lork Centre	
19.30	Coach transfer to Menin Gate in Ypres	10km/6m
20.00	<i>Attend Last Post ceremony</i> <i>Visit: The Yorkshire, French & military cemetery at Essex Farm</i> Transfer back to De Lork Centre	

Day 4 – Monday 27th July

Ghent

- 08.00 Breakfast in De Lork Centre
Collect packed lunch
- 09.30 dep. Heuvelland-Kemmel with instruments,
concert clothes, music and music stands
- 10.15 arr. Ghent (St Michielskerk, Sint Michiels Plein) 35km/22m

Ghent

In medieval times, Ghent was Europe's largest cloth producer and the continent's largest city outside Paris, Today, criss-crossed by canals and the Scheldt and Leie rivers, Ghent still has a fine array of impressive buildings from medieval times. Its collection of more than 900 listed buildings is the largest in Flanders.

Meet up with Annelies Mermans, Tour Guide

- 11.00 Unload van and set up as quickly as possible

Rehearsal until 13.00

Sint-Michielskerk

Sint-Michielskerk was built between the 15th and 17th centuries in a mostly gothic style. Its steeple should have stood out above all the others, but history decided otherwise. The 134 metre high planned 'monument of triumph' has remained at 24 metres. In 1828, the unfinished tower finally acquired a closed roof. The church contains numerous paintings and sculptures by famous masters, including 'Christ on the Cross' by Van Dyck.

Packed lunch in room under St Michiel's Church

- 14.00 Boat trip on the canal to see medieval Ghent from the water.

Further suggestions for sightseeing:

- *Three Towers of Ghent: St Nicholas Church, the Belfry and St Bavo's Cathedral*
- *The Grasslei and the Korenlei: The elegant façades of the gabled guildhouses and private mansions reflect different architectural styles*
- *Gravensteen (Castle of the Counts): Medieval fortress built in 1180 by Philip of Alsace*

Day 4 – continued

15.45	Meet at the church to change and get ready	
16.30	Concert in Sint-Michielskerk <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The Planets</i>: Holst	
18.30	Evening meal in: <i>Brasserie Het Volk</i> <i>Poel 7</i> <i>9000 Ghent</i> <i>Tel: +32.(0)9.265.44.70</i>	
20.30	dep. Ghent	
22.00	arr. Heuvelland-Kemmel	35km/22m

Day 5 – Tuesday 28th July

Brussels (Free Day)

08.00	Breakfast in De Lork Centre Collect packed lunch	
09.00	dep. Heuvelland-Kemmel	
11.30	arr. Brussels	132km/82m
	Visit (1 hr): <i>European Parliament</i> <i>Square de Meeus 37 (4th Floor)</i> <i>Tel: +32.(0)2.791.75.00</i>	
	Walk to Parc de Buxelles (en route to Instruments Museum)	
13.15	Packed lunch in the park	
13.45	Walk to: <i>Instruments Museum</i> <i>rue Montagne de la Cour</i> <i>Tel: +32.(0)2.514.20.46</i>	
14.00	Visit: Musée des Instruments de Musique <i>The Musée des Instruments de Musique, often referred to as “Le MIM”, has a magnificent collection of musical instruments from ancient to modern. The exhibits – selected from a collection totalling more than 6,000 pieces – have recently been beautifully rearranged, and headphones permit visitors to hear what the instruments actually sound like. The museum is now housed in an exhilarating location: the classic Art Nouveau department store called “Old England”. You can</i>	

Day 5 – continued

go up to the Café du Mim on the top floor, which has one of the best views over Brussels.

- 15.45 Coach transfer to:
*Cocoa and Chocolate Museum
Rue de la Tête d’Or 9-11
Tel: +32.(0)2.514.20.48*
- 16.00 **Visit: Museum of Cocoa and Chocolate**
See and taste chocolate in the making
- 17.15 Free time in the Grand Place
Brussel’s Grand Place is the focal point of the city. It is an uplifting masterpiece of unified architecture and is flanked by tightly packed rows of former guildhouses. It was the setting for markets and fairs, pageants and jousts, for the proclamation of decrees, and public executions. Even without its old political and economic prestige and the bustle of through traffic, it remains the vibrant heart of the city.
- 18.45 Assemble in the Grand Place outside the restaurant ‘Le Roy d’Espagne’
- 19.00 Evening meal in:
*Restaurant “Le Roy d’Espagne”
(private room on the 3rd floor overlooking the Grand Place)*
- 12.00 dep. Brussels
- 23.00 arr. De Lork Centre 132km/82m

Day 6 – Wednesday 29th July

Travel to Southampton

- 08.30 Breakfast in De Lork Centre
Collect packed lunch
Check out De Lork Centre
- 09.15 dep. Heuvelland-Kemmel
- 09.45 arr. Ypres 10km/6m
- Ypres is a typical Flemish small town with a large main square. The town was completely destroyed during the First World War but was rebuilt in its old style over a twenty year period. The main reasons to visit are the mementoes of World War I.*

Day 6 – continued

10.00	<i>Visit: The famous exhibition at the Cloth Hall, “In Flanders Fields”</i> <i>This is a sensitively presented interactive museum. It is a reminder of the extraordinary devastation that happened to the town of Ypres (Ieper), and the amazing restoration of the town. It is thought-provoking and disturbing and is an important historical experience.</i> Packed lunch	
12.30	Assemble at coach meeting point	
13.00	dep. Ypres	
14.25	arr. Calais	103km/64m
	Check in P&O Ferries	
15.25	dep. Calais	
	Meal on ferry (independent arrangements)	
15.55	arr. Dover (local time)	
19.30	arr. Southampton	152m/245km