



9 May 2019

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC TOUR 2020 - EUROPE

The St Margaret's Music Department is very pleased to be offering an exciting tour opportunity in 2020 during the June/July holidays. This tour will be open to students currently in Years 8-11. The music tour to France and Belgium promises to be a unique and rewarding experience, not only from a musical perspective but also from a cultural and historical perspective, providing girls with memories that will last a lifetime.

Travel: The departure date for the tour is Monday 29 June, returning to Brisbane on Saturday 11 July 2020. We are working with Gullivers Music Travel to organise the specifics of the tour. This company has vast experience organising tours for schools. Please feel free to visit their website at www.gulliversmusictravel.com.au. At this stage the itinerary is in draft form and will be finalised in due course. Parents will be kept fully informed of itinerary changes.

During the tour girls will visit Paris where they will perform in spectacular venues such as the Madeleine Church. Students will also take a backstage tour of Palais Garnier, the Paris National Opera House. En route to Belgium, students will visit Villers-Bretonneux for a WWI historical tour and also provide a performance at the Menin Gate Ceremony in Ypres. The tour will then proceed to Flanders where the girls will participate in performances, workshops and competitions at the World Choir Games. This event is the largest global choral festival in the world and brings together choirs from around the world. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the opening ceremony which brings together 20,000 choristers in a single venue. This promises to be a truly unique experience, bringing together thousands of people with a love of singing. Further details may be found here: <https://www.interkultur.com/events/world-choir-games/flanders-2020/>. A YouTube clip advertising the World Choir Games may be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpP3dpo2RdU>.

Payment: Final costs are still to be confirmed and will be dependent on final numbers committing to the tour. However, we are aiming for an approximate cost of \$6,200 based on 30 students travelling together with four staff on the attached draft itinerary. **To secure a place on the tour, an initial deposit of \$750 is required.** Deposit payments can be made via Flexischools: www.flexischools.com.au. (The deposit is fully refundable if insufficient numbers sign up for the tour.)

Once a willingness to participate in the tour has been indicated by paying the deposit, parents will be informed of the final cost. Upon confirmation with parents, the amount paid will then become non-refundable. Details will follow regarding final instalments of tour costs.

To reserve a place for your daughter on the International Music Tour 2020, please register your initial deposit of \$750 via Flexischools **by Friday 14 June**. As you would understand, the tour will occur in the Europe peak season and it is important that we provide definite numbers as soon as possible to allow for flight and accommodation bookings to be made.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to your daughter's involvement in this very exciting tour.

Yours sincerely

Brad King
Head of Performance