



23 October 2019

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC TOUR 2020 - EUROPE

The St Margaret's Music Department is very pleased to extend an invitation to Year 7 Music students (Year 8 2020) to participate in the 2020 Music Tour to France and Belgium during the June/July holidays. The tour 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. The draft itinerary is attached.

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 and workshops at the World Choir Games. This event is the largest international choral festival in the world and brings together choirs from around the globe. 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>.

Ensemble Commitment: Students who are interested in participating in the tour will be required to be members of Elevasi Voices (Mondays 3:30-4:30pm) and Volare (Mondays 4:30-5:00pm) which will require an audition. Students may also be required to attend occasional Encorah rehearsals on Thursday afternoons (3:30-4:30pm).

Early auditions for Volare will be held on Friday 1 November at 3pm in the Sister Helen Orchestra Room for students wishing to join the tour group. Students are asked to prepare a short section of a song (only one verse and chorus required). Feedback will be provided to students following their audition confirming if they are at an appropriate standard to participate in Volare and the Europe Tour.

Cost/Payment: Final costs are still to be confirmed and will be dependent on final numbers committing to the tour. However, we are aiming for a ceiling cost of \$6,400. Upon confirmation of acceptance into Volare, parents are encouraged **to secure a place on the tour with an initial deposit of \$750**. Deposit payments can be made via Flexischools: www.flexischools.com.au.

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