



GOD AND MAMMON IN MEDIEVAL NORWICH

MONDAY 29 MAY TO THURSDAY 1 JUNE

For hundreds of years in the Middle Ages the most vibrant city in England, after London, was Norwich. The capital of the most populous medieval county in England, Norwich was the principal market for the goods of East Anglian wool producers. Destined for the Continent, the wool was transferred onto barges and boats for shipment on the Wensum and Yare River to Great Yarmouth and beyond. At that time, Norwich had closer links with the Low Countries than with the rest of England. Cut-throat competition for the wealth generated by the wool trade prompted the town burghers to attempt to atone for any dubious business dealings. Driven by a clergy-controlled sacramental system which constantly raised the question, "Are you really in a state of grace?" the burghers deposited great sums in the Church building fund which financed many fine churches and other buildings. Consequently, nowhere else in Britain can one find such a variety of intact medieval buildings: Norwich Cathedral, Norwich Castle, the Guildhall, The Great Hospital, St Andrew's and Blackfriars Hall- the most complete medieval friary complex surviving in this country, Dragon Hall- a huge and original timber-framed medieval warehouse once hidden behind house facades, and at least 31 extant churches.

Nicholas Friend hosts this tour of a beloved city where he taught weekly for three years, sometime ago. We have arranged private tours and special visits to the Cathedral, the most complete Norman cathedral in Britain, with magnificent roof bosses, misericords, stained glass, and the 14c Despenser family Retable. We will also examine the most distinctive 'wool' churches, an intact medieval warehouse, and public buildings, including St Peter Mancroft, St Gregory's for its wall paintings, the 13c Great Hospital, the 14c St Andrews Hall and Blackfriars Hall- the finest friary complex in England, and the magnificent timber framed 15c Dragon Hall. Like skyscrapers in modern urban centres, Norwich's many soaring Gothic churches jostle one another against the skyline as they compete for both space and glory.

MONDAY 29 MAY

- 10.00 Train leaves Liverpool Street
- 11.50 Train arrives Norwich, met by minibus
Drive to Hotel via Fye Bridge view of the Cathedral
- 12.45 Arrive Hotel
- 1.00 Group lunch and introductory remarks
- 2.30 Norwich Cathedral preview
- 4.00 St Peter Hungate
- 4.30 Tea in Assembly House
- 7.30 Group dinner in Hotel

TUESDAY 30 MAY

- 9.30 Nicholas Friend Lecture *Friars and Friction: The Halls of Norwich*
- 10.30 Coffee in hotel
- 11.30 St Andrews Hall and Blackfriars Hall private visits
- 1.00 Group Lunch in Restaurant (Hotel too far)
- 2.30 Private tour of Cathedral Stained Glass
- 3.30 Private tour of the Medieval Roof Bosses
- 4.30 Great Hospital
- 5.00 Return to Hotel
- 7.30 Optional Dinner in Hotel

WEDNESDAY 31 MAY

- 9.30 Nicholas Friend Lecture *Norwich's Medieval Mercantile Society and Politics*
- 10.30 Coffee served in hotel
- 11.15 Leave for Dragon Hall
- 3.30 Church of St Julian of Norwich
- 1.00 Group lunch
- 2.30 Guildhall
- 3.30 Optional return to hotel or architectural walk down St Benedicts Street finest medieval street in Norwich for Strangers Hall, and St Gregorys' finest wall paintings in England
- 7.30 Group dinner in hotel

THURSDAY 1 JUNE

- 10.00 Walk to St Peter Mancroft
- 11.00 Coffee
- 11.30 Walk to Norwich Castle
- 12.30 Group lunch in Norwich Castle
- 2.00 Gallery tour of Norwich School paintings
- 3.00 Minibus from hotel to station
- 3.30 Train to London
- 5.19 Train arrives London Liverpool Street



THE ASSEMBLY HOUSE

Theatre St
Norwich
NR2 1RQ

TEL: 01603 626402

The Assembly House is a Grade I-listed Georgian gem in the heart of Norwich. It was designed in 1754 by the leading architect of the day, Thomas Ivory, with no expense spared in its construction. An elegant building with chambers for society functions and gatherings, the interiors are a beautiful example of Georgian style, with intricate plasterwork ceilings and wall decoration, wood panelled walls, with fine furniture and fine art. Ivory played a leading role in transforming the landscape of Georgian Norwich, designing, among other prominent buildings, the Octagon Chapel (176), the Theatre Royal (1758). It is one of the most important buildings in Norwich. Approached by a sweeping driveway, the Assembly House's smaller function rooms have been converted into 11 luxury bedrooms. The restaurant is open daily, from breakfast to dinner with menus by director and renowned Norfolk chef Richard Hughes. In January 2017 the Assembly House will become the home of The Richard Hughes Cookery School, the inaugural winner of The British Cookery School of the Year.

COST £1225 Members, £1275 non-Members, £60 single room supplement, £250 deposit, includes three nights accommodation with breakfast, two coffees, four lunches with wine, two dinners with wine, lectures by Nicholas Friend, all private tours and visits, and all travel during the tour, VAT, tips and service. Excludes travel to and from Norwich.