

## PLANNING AN EXCURSION

**F1:** Can I help you, sir?

**M1:** Yes. I'm staying in London for a few days, but was wondering about taking an excursion to either Oxford or Cambridge, or maybe to Stonehenge?

**F1:** Hmm, when were you thinking of going, sir?

**M1:** Well, tomorrow or the day after, if possible.

**F1:** Right, well. We have a day trip to Cambridge tomorrow, leaving at 9:15 from our central base in Victoria.

**M1:** That's a coach trip, is it?

**F1:** Yes, sir. All our tours are by coach. This one arrives in Cambridge around 11 o'clock, and gives you a coach tour of the city with guided commentary in the morning.

**M1:** Mm hm.

**F1:** You then stop for lunch at a restaurant of your choice and have the afternoon at leisure to explore all the wonderful historic sites on your own until 4:30, when the group reassembles for a guided visit to King's College Chapel –

**M1:** Mm!

**F1:** – and there may be a service on then, so you might be able to hear the famous King's College Choir.

**M1:** Oh!

**F1:** And then the coach returns at eighteen hundred hours, getting back to Victoria around 8 o'clock in the evening. That's for an all-in price of £126 per person.

**M1:** And Stonehenge?

**F1:** That's a longer journey, sir, so the coach leaves at 8am. There's one short comfort stop en route, and you arrive at Stonehenge at 11 to 11:30, depending on traffic. Once again, there's a guide on the coach, and there's also a complimentary audio guide to Stonehenge once you're there. Although I should point out that visitors aren't allowed to actually walk to or through the prehistoric stones themselves.

**M1:** Oh, I see. So there's a sort of visitors' centre, is there?

**F1:** Yes, from where you have full, uninterrupted view of the stones. And you can go on guided walks *around* the monument –

**M1:** Mm, I see.

**F1:** Let me get you a brochure about that one.

### Contributed by

Derek Spafford