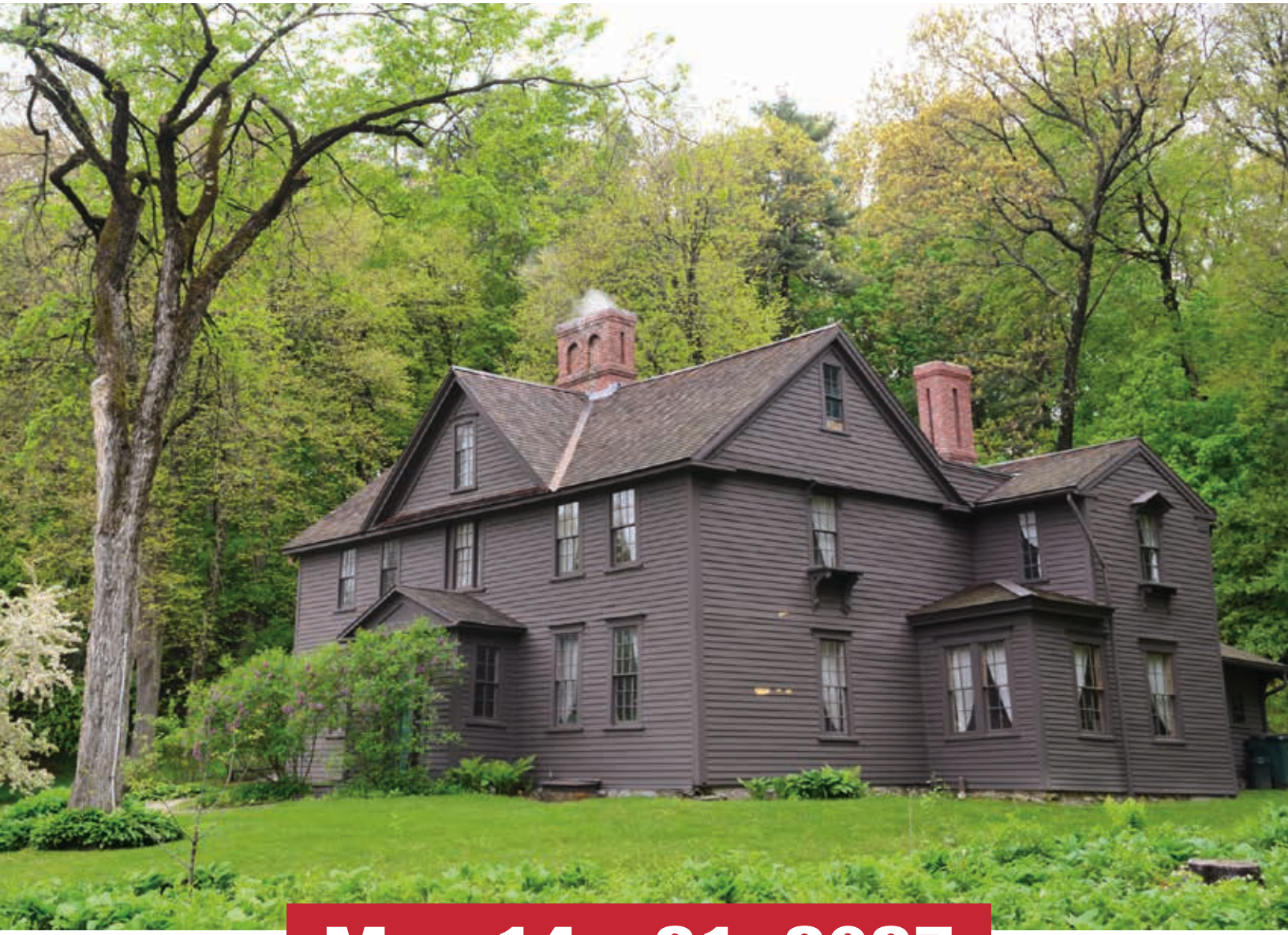
Religious & Literary Circles of
NEW ENGLAND



May 14 – 21, 2027

Led by Dr. Gary D. Schmidt

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This tour is sponsored by the Calvin University Alumni Association and Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL) in partnership with Witte Travel & Tours. As with all CALL programming, it is open to anyone who enjoys lifelong learning experiences.





Tour Inclusions:

- Flights roundtrip from Grand Rapids to Boston (other departure cities upon request)
- Land transportation by deluxe, air-conditioned motorcoach
- Accommodations for seven nights in moderate first-class hotels
- Breakfast daily, one lunch, and four dinners
- Tour manager to accompany the group throughout
- Sightseeing and admission fees in accordance with the itinerary
- Tipping & taxes for all services, including tour personnel tips
- Whisper guides (personal headsets)
- Three interesting lectures by Dr. Schmidt

Tour Cost
$4,395 per person from Grand Rapids, based on double occupancy.

Other departure cities available upon request.

REGISTER ONLINE AT
bookings.wittetravel.com
Use booking code
051427SCHM
or complete and return the printed registration form.

Led by
Dr. Gary D. Schmidt



Gary Schmidt taught in the English Department of Calvin University for 38 years, having the opportunity to focus on New England cultural history, medieval history, creative writing, and children's literature. He brought student groups out to New England most every January during those years, spicing those trips with visits to a living history experience on a farm in northern Maine, where his groups lived and worked as they would have in the year 1865. This trip won't be as cold!

Gary is a prolific writer, having written on New England cultural history in his *A Passionate Usefulness: A Study of Hannah Adams* and many novels for middle grade readers. His *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, set in Maine, won Newbery and Printz Honor Medals, as did his *The Wednesday Wars*, a novel set during the Vietnam War. More recently his *Orbiting Jupiter,* set on a small farm in northern Maine, as well as his *The Labors of Hercules Beal*, set on Truro, Cape Cod, have explored New England life. His most recent novels have played with mythology and ghosties: *Styx and Stones* came out last year, and his *When Obed Ruin Came, Again*, is due out in fall, 2027.

g.david.schmidt@gmail.com





May 2027

Friday, May 14

Departure > Arrive Boston > Plymouth

The day of departure has arrived! We meet at Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids to check in for our flights to Boston (other departure cities available upon request). Following our early afternoon arrival, we claim our luggage, meet our tour manager, and board the waiting motorcoach to make a stop for independent lunch. We then head to Plymouth, site of the first Pilgrim settlement founded in 1620. Here we walk along the shore for views of the *Mayflower II*, a full-scale replica of the ship that carried the Pilgrims across the Atlantic, as well as Plymouth Rock, which marks where the settlers landed on shore. We settle in at our hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner at a restaurant. (D)

Saturday, May 15

Plymouth > Concord

Our day begins at the hotel as Gary discusses the arrival of the "Saints and Strangers." We'll consider how their extraordinary Mayflower Compact made claims about individual rights that challenged established beliefs about social structure. We then visit Pilgrim Hall Museum, the original street of Plimoth Plantation, and see William Bradford's grave. Our afternoon is spent at Plimoth Patuxet, an outdoor living history museum that features a historic homesite, English village, and craft center. During our time here, we plan to have a native American lunch. We then travel to Concord, where we check in at our historic inn for a four-night stay and relax over dinner. (B, L, D)

Tour Pace



MODERATE – Travelers considering this tour must be aware of potential challenges for those with mobility issues. While many interesting experiences await, walking a couple miles over the course of the day, sometimes over uneven surfaces, and standing for periods of time will be required. **Passengers who require any mobility device must be accompanied by a physically able companion who enables them to keep pace.** Taxis or other transportation used to "catch up" to the group are at the passenger's expense. Your safety and comfort are our top priorities, and we are committed to ensuring an inclusive and enjoyable experience for all travelers.



About your accomodations

In Concord you will stay at the charming, historic Colonial Inn (https://concordscolonialinn.com/), which provides the feeling of being in New England and places you directly in the history of the town and region. Please note the Colonial Inn doesn't have an elevator, steps are required to reach some of the rooms, and there are a limited number of rooms with separate beds. If you wish to request ground-level rooms, please note this when you register or send an email to groups@wittetravel.com. Traditional hotels will be used in Plymouth and Boston.

❶ Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Concord
❷ Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth
❸ Old Manse, Minute Man National Historic Park, Concord
❹ Plymouth Rock, Plymouth
Cover: Orchard House, Concord





Sunday, May 16
Concord > Sudbury > Concord

This morning, we join a local congregation for worship at the Unitarian or Trinitarian church. We then take a walking tour of Concord that includes Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. Established in 1855, this is where many famous 19th-century literary figures are buried in an area known as Author's Ridge—including Emerson, Hawthorne, Thoreau, and Alcott. Later this afternoon, we visit Walden Pond, the tranquil site that inspired Henry David Thoreau's 1854 masterpiece *Walden*. Our tour may include a special visit from Thoreau himself! We return to the hotel for a chance to freshen up and enjoy Gary's talk about Ralph Waldo Emerson. In this frontier town, Emerson gathered a group of writers and artists to explore his claim, "Trust thyself!"—thus questioning cultural traditions and the Puritan religious vision. We plan to have dinner in nearby Sudbury. (B, D)

Monday, May 17
Concord

We start the day with a tour of Old Manse in the Minute Man National Historic Park. This site holds both literary significance as the birthplace of Transcendentalism and revolutionary significance due to its proximity to the "shot heard 'round the world." This afternoon, we visit Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House, the family home where she penned *Little Women*. This evening, dinner is independent, and we hope to experience a performance by Louisa May Alcott at First Parish in Concord. (B)

Tuesday, May 18
Concord

Our morning begins with a discussion led by Gary about Henry David Thoreau's *Walden* and its radical claims. We then visit the Concord Museum for a guided authors' tour focusing on Thoreau and Emerson, along with free time to explore the museum. This afternoon, we hope to take a guided tour of Ralph Waldo Emerson's House, if possible (special permission required). The rest of the day is free to walk along the river, enjoy local trails, or relax at a cafe. This evening's dinner is independent. (B)









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Wednesday, May 19

Concord > Boston

Today, Boston awaits! This capital and largest city of Massachusetts was founded in 1630, and it is one of the oldest cities in the U.S. A Duck Boat Tour provides us with an overview by land and water, followed by free time for independent lunch at Quincy Market. This afternoon, we take an audio tour of Old North Church (made famous as the starting point of Paul Revere's midnight ride) and the Paul Revere House, both located on the Freedom Trail. After checking in at our hotel for a two-night stay, the evening is free to choose from one of Boston's many restaurants. (B)

Thursday, May 20

Boston

Our day begins with a visit to the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, a floating history museum with live reenactments, exhibits, and a tearoom. The rest of the day is free to explore Boston with "hop-on/hop-off" trolley tickets. The trolley makes a variety of optional stops including the *U.S.S. Constitution*, Boston Common, Beacon Hill, and more. Other free time options include the MFA Boston or the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. This evening, we reconvene for a farewell dinner at a restaurant. (B, D)

Friday, May 21

Cambridge > Return

This morning, we visit the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University in nearby Cambridge. Designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, this 281-acre landscape has over 15,000 plants and is the oldest arboretum in North America. We make a stop for independent lunch before heading to the Boston Logan International Airport, where we check in for our flights back to Grand Rapids (or other destination). (B)

❶ Old North Church, Boston
❷ Boston Common
❸ Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum
❹ Ralph Waldo Emerson's House
courtesy https://rwema.org/
❺ Paul Revere House, Boston
❻ Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University

Back cover: Walden Pond
courtesy Erik Granlund via wikimedia





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General Data Protection Policy. We collect personal data, including, but not limited to legal name, gender, date of birth, passport information, dietary needs, and mobility concerns for the purpose of making travel arrangements on your behalf. We share this information with suppliers as it relates to the operation of your trip/tour. By signing the registration form/ agreeing to the terms in TRIP, you agree to sharing your personal data for the purpose of making travel agreements on your behalf.

The cost of your tour includes:

Air transportation roundtrip from Grand Rapids to Boston (other departure cities upon request) with any regularly scheduled air carrier, based on a nonrefundable/nonchangeable fare, which requires a minimum of 10 passengers traveling round trip together. The identity of the carrier, which may include the carrier's code-share partner, will be assigned and disclosed in your final documents. Tickets are issued 45 days prior to departure. All current airlines taxes, security fees and fuel surcharges are included. Note that these items cannot be guaranteed until tickets are issued.

Secure flight information. The requirement to collect date of birth, gender, and full name are federally mandated by the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight Program. While disclosure of this information is voluntary, if it is not provided, participants may be denied boarding. TSA's privacy policy, as well as additional details, can be found at tsa.gov using the keywords Secure Flight. Witte takes all reasonable steps to safeguard the privacy of all information collected from its clients.

Frequent flyer points are not guaranteed in connection with group airfares. Some airlines may limit group airfare credits to 25% to 50% of the frequent flyer points that apply to individuals while others do not offer any credits for group airfares.

Hazardous Materials. Federal law forbids the carriage of hazardous materials aboard aircraft in your luggage or on your person. A violation can result in five years' imprisonment and penalties of $250,000 or more (49 U.S.C. 5124). Hazardous materials include explosives, compressed gases, flammable liquids and solids, oxidizers, poisons, corrosives and radioactive materials. For more information, examples and special exceptions, visit: http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items.

Land transportation. A deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach is used for transfers, excursions, and travel between cities. Because motorcoach travel is restricted in many cities, sightseeing is often done on foot or via public transportation.

Accommodations in moderate first-class to standard first-class hotels based on two people sharing a room with private facilities. When hotels in these categories are not available, top-quality superior tourist-class properties are selected. **The supplement for single accommodations is $865.** If you register alone but want a roommate, we will do our best to assign one. If a single room must be assigned to any member of the group for any reason, even if it is at the last minute or while on tour, we will need to charge the single supplement. Changes in rooming arrangements requested by the participant 45 or fewer days prior to departure may result in additional charges.

Meals. Breakfast daily and lunches and dinners as indicated in the itinerary. Meals do not include a beverage.

Tour Personnel. A Witte tour manager to accompany the group throughout. The tour manager may be assisted by local guides at key sites.

Sightseeing and admission fees in accordance with the itinerary.

Tipping and taxes are included for all services, including the tip for the tour manager and motorcoach driver.

The tour cost does not include airline luggage fees if charged, porterage of luggage, optional travel protection plan including luggage and trip cancellation coverage, optional excursions, independent meals, and any other items not mentioned as included.

Optional travel protection. Witte recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan. For your convenience, Witte Travel offers a travel protection plan designed by Travelex Insurance Services. This plan is not available for residents of NY and WA. Please contact us for other plan options. This travel protection can be purchased at any time prior to making the final payment for your tour. **To be eligible for the waiver of pre-existing medical condition exclusion, the protection plan must be purchased within 21 days from the time you make your initial trip deposit, provided you are medically fit to travel at the time of purchase. The pre-existing medical exclusion applies to you, your traveling companion(s), and traveling family member(s). For all traveling companions to benefit from the pre-existing condition waiver, each must enroll in travel protection within 21 days of initial deposit and meet qualifications for the pre-existing condition waiver.** The plan cost for the travel protection plan that applies to your tour will be noted in your brochure and on the registration form. It may be necessary to increase the trip cost insured on the travel protection plan if you purchase additional services and/or upgrade any arrangements. This could increase the plan cost of the travel protection plan. This travel protection plan is refundable during the 21-day (30 day for IN, NH, and UT residents) review period following the purchase of the plan; as long as you have not departed on your trip or plan to file a claim.

Schedule of Coverages	**Maximum Coverage Amount** (up to the limits shown below)
Trip Cancellation	100% of Insured Trip Cost
Trip Interruption	150% of Insured Trip Cost
Trip Interruption - Return Air Only**	$750
Travel Delay (6 hours)	$750 ($150/day)
Missed Connection Air & Cruise Only (3 hours)	$750
Baggage & Personal Effects	$2,000
Baggage Delay (12 hours)	$250
Sporting Equipment Delay (8 hours)	$ 600
Emergency Medical Expense***	$50,000
Emergency Dental Expense***	$500
Emergency Evacuation and Repatriation	$250,000
Accidental Death & Dismemberment	$25,000
Exposure & Disappearance	$25,000
24 Hour Travel Assistance*	Included

*Travel Assistance Services are provided by the designated provider listed in the Policy.

**Trip Interruption and Trip Interruption - Return Air Only cannot be combined for residents of CT, IN, KS, MO, MT, & VT.

***The following states have a $50 deductible: CT, IN, KS, MO, MT, & VT

Maximum trip length allowed is 90 days. Coverage and rates may vary by state. Rates are subject to change. The product descriptions provided here are only brief summaries and may be changed without notice. The full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, are contained in the insurance policy. Prior to purchasing, you may view/download the Policy based on your state of residence at: http://policy.travelexinsurance.com/381ZA-0924. Insurance coverage underwritten by Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC #16535, state of domicile: New York), 1299 Zurich Way, Schaumburg, IL 60196. Coverages available to residents of U.S. States (excluding NY and WA) and the District of Columbia only. Certain coverages are not available in all states.

The purchase of this product is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Travelex with any existing life, health, home and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker.

Documentation: All adult passengers (18 and over) are required to show a valid U.S. federal photo ID (passport) or Real ID-compliant state-issued photo ID in order to be allowed to go through the checkpoint and onto their flight. All non-U.S. citizens should contact Witte for their special requirements. We will check the requirements for non-U.S. citizens at the time they register and again approximately 45 days prior to departure. Witte is not responsible for any changes in requirements for non-U.S. citizens that occur after our final check. All non-U.S. citizens should contact Witte for their special requirements. We will check the requirements for non-U.S. citizens at the time they register and again approximately 45 days prior to departure. Witte is not responsible for any changes in requirements for non-U.S. citizens that occur after our final check.

When travelling domestically or internationally, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) advise that everyone carry at least two forms of acceptable identification in order to board a flight found http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/acceptable-ids. Examples: DHS-designated enhanced driver's license, Real ID-compliant driver's license, U.S. Passport, a foreign government passport. The name, date of birth and gender that appears on the identification card must exactly match the same data listed on airline ticket(s) and booking records.

Minor children traveling internationally without both parents are strongly encouraged to carry a notarized note signed by both parents stating that they have permission to travel without one or both of them. It has become increasingly necessary to possess such a note, and will save time if questions arise departing from the U.S. or to exit a foreign country. In order to download a sample minor consent form go to: https://www.us-passport-service-guide.com/minor-travel-consent-form.htmlThe sample form is a guide only. Parents who share custody of their children should carry copies of the legal custody documents. Important note: Parents are responsible to contact the embassy of the country or countries the minor child will be visiting to confirm all travel entry and exit requirements, which may include obtaining additional notarized documentation.

HEALTH DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS. You are responsible to make absolutely certain to have the proper immunizations and required documentation of such immunizations before travel. Witte shall not assume responsibility for the accuracy of health requirements or vaccination documentation prior to departure or upon landing at the final destination. See your health practitioner for advice. Prior to travel, required inoculations, if any, must be recorded by your health practitioner on a valid vaccination certificate, and you must carry for proof of inoculation where required. If you are concerned about taking any medications or receiving certain inoculations, and adequate timing of such inoculations relative to your travel booking, consult your health practitioner BEFORE booking. Check the U.S. State Department websites http://travel.state.gov for relevant information relating to travel to specific destinations, the USA Centers for Disease Control http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list/ and the World Health Organization http://www.who.int/en/ relating to health issues.

Luggage allowance. You may take one suitcase with a maximum size of 62 linear inches (height plus width plus depth) and weight of 50 lbs. You may also carry a purse, a camera and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum size of 45 linear inches and weight of 15 lbs. These size and weight restrictions conform to most airlines' requirements. Hand luggage does not fit in the overhead bins on the motorcoach. There may be room for it in the storage compartment under the coach or by an empty seat on board. If not, it will need to be placed on the floor in front of your feet.

Tour cost. The tour cost is based on a group of 25 passengers and current tariffs for air and land arrangements.

Please note that these travel arrangements are subject to possible price increases due to additional charges imposed by a supplier or government. You may be charged additional sums by Witte to offset increased fees, fuel surcharges, taxes, fluctuations in foreign exchange markets, and/or changes in group size. Before passing on an increase, Witte will use its best efforts to minimize the amount. If it is necessary to increase the tour cost, participants will be advised at final billing and provided with a summary of the contributing factors. Your signature on the registration form indicates consent to any post-purchase price increases.

Reservations and payments. To make reservations on this tour, complete the Registration Form and return it as indicated. Reservations cannot be accepted over the telephone. Payments are due as follows:

Deposit of $450 per person with Registration Form. Early registration is encouraged!

Payment of $1,250 per person by December 15, 2026.

Payment of $1,250 per person by February 15, 2027.

Balance due on receipt of final invoice sent approximately 30 days prior to departure

If you are registering for the tour after one of the above payment dates, increase your deposit amount accordingly so your account will be up to date. Please note that checks returned due to insufficient funds are subject to a $30 service fee.

Credit card payments. Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express credit cards are accepted for the deposit. The deposit charge is processed shortly after receipt of your registration form.

Cancellations and refunds. Witte must receive notice of cancellation in writing. Penalties are per person and will be based on the date of receipt, as follows:

More than 90 days before departure	$300
Between 90 and 46 days before departure	$600
Between 45 and 31 days before departure	$1,650
30 or fewer days before departure	No refund

The service fee noted under "Special Flight Arrangements" and the nonrefundable portion of any special arrangements, or any other non-refundable arrangements made on behalf of the canceling participant, are also added to the above penalties. Allow four to six weeks for processing of refunds. Note that payments made by check are refunded by check to the person or organization that made the payments, and payments charged to a credit card are credited back to the same credit card.

Membership/Passenger's Responsibility. You acknowledge Witte is responsible for a comfortable and respectful atmosphere that protects the health of all travelers, creating a positive tour experience. This requires commitment from every individual on the tour to assume personal responsibility for protecting their own health and wellbeing, as well as the health and wellbeing of other travelers and tour personnel. You pledge to follow local and state laws as well as tour and sightseeing requirements related to any community health concern. If you refuse to comply with these rules of conduct, you understand that Witte Travel & Tours reserves the right to remove you from the trip and you are responsible for any associated expenses. Witte

reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a member of the tour and to expel from the tour any participant whose conduct or condition is incompatible with the interest of the group.

Land-only participants. If you wish to make your own flight arrangements, contact Witte for the land-only cost at least 90 days prior to departure. Participants who make their own flight arrangements are strongly encouraged to coordinate their flight schedules with the group's flight schedule and to use the same airports. The group's airport transfers on the arrival and return days will be timed to the group's flight schedule. Land-only participants may need to arrange for their own airport transfers. Contact Witte for information and costs on options for private transfers. Witte cannot be responsible for any inconveniences to land-only participants resulting from changes in the group's flight schedule. Participants who change their status to land-only less than 90 days prior to departure may be subject to penalties imposed by the airlines.

Domestic flight connections. Note on your registration form if you would like to fly to and from the international departure city. You will be contacted with schedule options and costs. Witte must receive requests for connecting flights at least 45 days prior to departure.

Special flight arrangements. Note on your registration form if you would like to extend your stay and/or depart from and/or return to another city. The number of passengers who can deviate from the group's flight schedule is restricted. You will be contacted to let you know if the arrangements you requested are possible and to advise you of schedule options and costs. Upon confirmation of your special arrangements, a nonrefundable service fee of $75 per person will be added to your account along with any additional air or land costs that may apply. In the event of cancellation, the service fee and any nonrefundable portion of special air or land arrangements made for you will be added to the penalties noted under "Cancellations and Refunds." Witte must receive requests for special flight arrangements at least 45 days prior to departure.

Special meal requests and food allergies. Note special meal requests and food allergies on your registration form. Witte cannot be responsible if special requests are not met but we will pass them on to the airlines, hotels and restaurants. If you have dietary restrictions or food allergies, be sure to carry your medications with you at all times. Also, discuss your special needs with your tour personnel and ask the wait staff about the foods you are served.

Mobility Concerns. Sightseeing on Witte tours almost always includes walking. Visits to historical places often mean climbing stairs and walking on uneven surfaces or cobblestones. The Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") is only applicable within the U.S., and facilities for disabled individuals are limited outside its borders. A qualified and physically able companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance. Motorized scooters and wheelchairs are unsuitable for many trips. Transportation services, including many tour motor coaches, are not equipped with wheelchair ramps. Handicap accessibility is not always available. Witte tour personnel are not able to provide attendant services.

Consult your physician if you have any concerns about your ability to participate.

Time away from the tour. Advise Witte in writing at least 45 days before departure if you plan to spend some time away from the tour. Wherever possible, you will be credited for missed hotel nights.

Final tour documents—including itinerary, hotel list, passenger list, flight schedules with departure instructions, and luggage tags—are sent about 10 days prior to departure. Flight tickets are usually made available at the airport at check-in.

Limitations of Responsibility and Disclosure. The trip outlined herein has been contracted with various suppliers. Witte acts solely as a booking agent for supplier hotels, airlines, air charters, bus companies, ground transportation, cruise lines, boat purveyors or owners, and other independent contractors providing accommodations, transportation, and/or other services, and is not the source or provider of the travel services. Each of these supplier companies is an independent entity with its own management, and is not subject to the control of Witte. Participant is advised that the suppliers whose services appear in travel documentation are responsible for providing the travel services purchased, and consents to the use of those suppliers, and understands and agrees each supplier's Terms and Conditions are contained in printed form and are set forth on their respective Web sites, which govern the transaction. All bookings are accepted by Witte as agent for the travel suppliers on your itinerary. The transportation, accommodations and other services provided by the sea, ground, and air operator suppliers offered are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the tickets, exchange orders or vouchers issued by them and/or their suppliers, including Terms and Conditions on their respective Web sites.

BECAUSE WITTE ACTS AS AGENT FOR DISCLOSED PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS, AND DOES NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONTROL THE OPERATIONS OF SUCH INDEPENDENT OPERATORS AND SUPPLIERS, YOU AGREE WITTE IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY PERSONAL INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE, WHICH MAY ARISE OUT OF THESE SERVICES. WITTE HEREBY DISCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION LIABILITY FOR ANY DIRECT, PUNITIVE, SPECIAL CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL OR INDIRECT DAMAGES, IN CONNECTION WITH THE GOODS OR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ANY PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER BOOKING THROUGH WITTE'S OFFICE OR WEB SITE, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION LIABILITY FOR ANY ACT, ERROR, OMISSION, INJURY, LOSS, ACCIDENT, DELAY OR IRREGULARITY WHICH MAY BE INCURRED THROUGH THE FAULT, NEGLIGENCE, WILLFUL ACTS, OMISSIONS OR OTHERWISE OF SUCH SUPPLIER, OR OF ANY SUPPLIER OR THEIR RESPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, SERVANTS, OR REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THEIR FAILURE TO DELIVER OR THEIR PARTIAL OR INADEQUATE DELIVERY OF SERVICES, FUEL INCREASES, AND OTHER MATTERS OUTSIDE OF WITTE CONTROL, AND PARTICIPANT HEREBY EXONERATES WITTE FROM ANY LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE SAME.

Witte, its agents, sponsors, organizers and employees shall not be responsible for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay, irregularity or expense arising from strikes, weather, sickness, acts of war or terrorism, governmental restrictions or regulations or from any act or omission on the part of any individual or company furnishing transportation, accommodations or any other services to the tour participants; absent gross negligence, Witte shall not be responsible for any injuries, death, damages, loss or delay by any means of transportation or by reason of any event beyond its actual control.

Weather conditions, including but not limited to the presence or absence of snow, sunshine, and rainfall are not guaranteed to occur or not occur, and are outside of Witte's control. Volcanic eruptions, ash clouds, and wind may be characterized as an adverse weather condition or a natural disaster by suppliers and your travel insurance company, which is beyond the control of Witte.

Witte shall not assume any responsibility for any air and/or ground schedule changes.

Witte reserves the right to make alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary.

Force Majeure. "Force Majeure" means, in relation to Witte, any circumstances beyond the reasonable control of Witte, (including, but without limitation, acts of God, explosion, tidal waves and flood, tempest, forceful wind, earthquakes, fire or accident, hostilities, war or threat of war declared or undeclared, acts or threats of terrorism, sabotage, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil disturbance, requisition, epidemic, sickness, quarantine, government intervention, invasion, act of foreign enemies, mobilization, embargo, weather conditions, defects in machinery and vehicles, delay, wildlife, contamination by radio-activity from any nuclear fuel or from any nuclear waste, or other untoward occurrences).

Witte shall not be deemed to be in breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, by reason of delay in performance, or by non-performance, of any of its obligations hereunder to the extent that any such delay or non-performance is due to any Force Majeure.

If Witte, and/or any of its travel suppliers, are affected by Force Majeure, they shall be entitled to, and may in their sole and absolute discretion, vary or cancel any itinerary or arrangement in relation to the trip. Payment of any refund by Witte to you as a result of the non-performance of any obligations due to Force Majeure shall remain in its sole and absolute discretion, although Witte shall use its reasonable efforts to reimburse you where possible. However, Witte shall be entitled to deduct from any refund recoverable the reasonable actual and potential costs to Witte of the Force Majeure and applicable cancellation fees.

Regarding civil unrest, once Witte has investigated the prevailing situation, as it deems fit, it shall remain in Witte's sole and absolute discretion whether to proceed with the trip. You may in such circumstances cancel the trip subject to Witte's and each supplier's terms and conditions.

In case of insufficient participation, geopolitical, or natural cause, or other circumstances beyond its control to the extent travel services cannot be provided wholly or partially, Witte may cancel the tour. In such cases, Witte will use its best efforts to supply alternative services and accommodations, and no refunds will be granted provided that the alternatives are comparable to the original services and accommodations included in the tour cost. In the event of cancellation of the tour by Witte, its liability will be limited to a refund in full of all monies paid by the participants. If available, Witte will offer an alternative trip, which the participants may accept or reject.

California Passengers: Witte is registered as a California Seller of Travel CST# 201-3304-40. Witte is a fully accredited tour operator with the Airlines Reporting Corporation, the International Airlines Travel Agency Network, and is a member of the National Tour Association, the mark of excellence in the group tour industry.

Assumption of Risks/Safety. Travel to certain destinations may involve greater risk than others. Witte urges all participants to remain informed daily as to current news events, as well as to review travel prohibitions, warnings, announcements, and advisories issued by the U.S. Government prior to booking travel to international destinations. Information on conditions in various countries and the level of risk associated with travel to particular international destinations may be found at http://www.state.gov, https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html, http://www.tsa.gov, http://www.dot.gov, http://www.faa.gov, http://www.cdc.gov, and https://www.cbp.gov/travel

In recognition of the inherent risk of travel and related activities in which you are intending to engage, you confirm that you are physically and mentally capable of participating in the travel booked and that you willingly and voluntarily assume full responsibility for any injury, loss, or damage suffered by you or caused by you. By registering for any related travel activities, you certify that you do not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for yourself or other participants.

The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service provided by the U.S. Government to U.S. citizens who are traveling to or living in, a foreign country. STEP allows you to enter information about your upcoming trip abroad so that the Department of State can better assist you in an emergency. Registration is recommended and provided by going to https://step.state.gov/step/

BY OFFERING FOR SALE TRAVEL TO PARTICULAR DESTINATIONS, WITTE DOES NOT REPRESENT OR WARRANT THAT TRAVEL TO SUCH POINTS IS ADVISABLE OR WITHOUT RISK, AND SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR COSTS, DAMAGES, OR LOSSES THAT MAY RESULT FROM TRAVEL TO SUCH DESTINATIONS. EACH TRAVELER'S PARTICIPATION CONSTITUTES ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH EVENTS AT THE PARTICIPANT'S OWN RISK.

Traveler acknowledges that Witte Tours or its associates may receive advice from health authorities regarding the trip which may include requirements for the wearing of masks/coverings, guidance in hand hygiene, and avoiding physical contact.

An inherent risk of exposure to communicable disease exists in any public place where people are present. Diseases can be extremely contagious and lead to severe illness and death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and guests with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By traveling on this tour, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to illness and agree to indemnify and hold Witte Tours harmless from third-party claims and any damages due to sickness or death.

Photographs/Videos Copyright Policy, Release, and Authorization. Witte reserves the right to use any photographs/videos taken at any event or during the operation of any travel activity and to use the resulting photography, videos or recordings for promotional or commercial use without the express written permission of those included in the photograph/video. By making a reservation with Witte, the parent/guardian/participant agrees to allow and authorizes his/her likeness to be used by Witte without compensation to the parent/guardian/participant, or anyone else, and releases any claims and demands ensuing from or in connection with the use of the photographs, including any expectation of confidentiality and all claims for libel and invasion of privacy.

Copyright in all photographs, video, and related materials created by participants related to Witte belong to the parent/guardian/participant upon creation. The parent/guardian/participant grants to Witte ("Witte Tour Materials") a nonexclusive, worldwide, irrevocable license to use any Witte Tour Materials provided, sent or available to Witte and/or the organizing academic institution or affiliation group or group participants (including tags) in any media now existing or subsequently developed for the following limited purposes: brochures, invitations, websites, blogs, social media, newspapers, magazines, television, on line marketing, and promotion and advertising of Witte's travel services and programs.

If the parent/guardian/participant prefers their likeness not be used, he/she must notify groups@wittetravel.com in writing prior to departure of the trip and include a photograph.

SECURITY. Any passwords used for registration on this site are for individual use only. You may not share your password with anyone. You are solely responsible for the security of your password and any use of the services by anyone else with whom you share your password. We may monitor your password and, at our discretion, require you to change it. If you use a password that we consider insecure, we may require it to be changed or we may end your account.

If you become involved in any violation of system security, we reserve the right to release your details to system administrators at other sites in order to assist them in resolving security incidents. We reserve the right to investigate all suspected violations of these Terms and Conditions.

We reserve the right to fully cooperate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting disclosure of the identity of anyone posting any E-mail messages, or publishing or otherwise making available any materials that are believed to violate these Terms and Conditions. BY ACCEPTING THIS AGREEMENT, YOU WAIVE AND HOLD HARMLESS WITTE FROM ANY CLAIMS RESULTING FROM ANY ACTION TAKEN BY WITTE DURING OR AS A RESULT OF ITS INVESTIGATIONS AND/OR FROM ANY ACTIONS TAKEN AS A CONSEQUENCE OF INVESTIGATIONS BY EITHER WITTE OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES.

Arbitration: Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement of the performance thereunder, including without limitation any claim related to bodily injury, property damage or death, shall be settled by binding arbitration in Kentwood, Michigan, U.S., in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then existing, and judgment in the arbitration award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction over the subject matter of the controversy. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive Michigan law. This agreement to arbitrate does not waive or modify the limitation of liability contained in this document.

Exclusive Governing Law and Jurisdiction: This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Michigan, without regard to conflicts of laws principles. If the right to seek arbitration is for any reason waived by both parties, or if judicial review of any arbitration is sought, any action or legal proceeding arising out of this Agreement shall be brought exclusively in the courts of Kent County, Michigan, and the parties hereby waive any objection to venue or jurisdiction in connection therewith. In connection with any action or legal proceeding arising out of this Agreement, the parties hereby specifically and knowingly waive any rights that either party might have to demand a jury trial. Use of the Witte website is unauthorized in any jurisdiction that does not give effect to all provisions of these terms and conditions, including, without limitation, this paragraph.

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If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email our customer service department at groups@wittetravel.com

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3250 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512
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REGISTRATION FORM

RELIGIOUS & LITERARY CIRCLES OF NEW ENGLAND

May 14 – 21, 2027

$4,395 per person from Grand Rapids, based on double occupancy

For office use only

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Fax: 616.957.9716

Register online at bookings.wittetravel.com using booking code 051427SCHM

or complete and return this paper form

It is your responsibility to **enter full legal name and gender exactly as it appears on your REAL ID-compliant driver's license, state ID or a U.S. passport or passport card**. Errors matching name and gender to drivers license/ state ID may incur change fees and risk being denied boarding at the time of departure.

Passenger #1 PRINT CLEARLY

First name _____ Middle ☐ I do not have a middle name Last _____ Preferred First Name _____

☐ M ☐ F ☐ X Birthdate mm_____/ dd_____/ yyyy_____ Citizenship: ☐ U.S. ☐ Other _____

(Home _____ (Work _____ (Cell _____

E-mail _____ Known Traveler Number (if you have one) _____

Dietary Needs:

☐ Vegan ☐ Low Sodium ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Diabetic ☐ Gluten free ☐ Other _____

Food allergies: _____

Accessibility & Support Needs Please detail your medical/accessibility needs or support devices (e.g., hearing aids, allergies, mobility devices, CPAP water requirements, etc.) so we can best support you during your trip.

_____

Passenger #2 PRINT CLEARLY

First name _____ Middle ☐ I do not have a middle name Last _____ Preferred First Name _____

☐ M ☐ F ☐ X Birthdate mm_____/ dd_____/ yyyy_____ Citizenship: ☐ U.S. ☐ Other _____

(Home _____ (Work _____ (Cell _____

E-mail _____ Known Traveler Number (if you have one) _____

Dietary Needs:

☐ Vegan ☐ Low Sodium ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Diabetic ☐ Gluten free ☐ Other _____

Food allergies: _____

Accessibility & Support Needs Please detail your medical/accessibility needs or support devices (e.g., hearing aids, allergies, mobility devices, CPAP water requirements, etc.) so we can best support you during your trip.

_____

Mailing Address

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Emergency Contact

NOT TRAVELING WITH YOU _____ Phone (_____) _____

Accommodations

☐ Double occupancy. Roommate's name: _____

☐ Roommate not yet known ☐ Assistance needed finding a roommate

I understand that if a roommate is not available, I will be responsible for the cost of single occupancy.

☐ Single occupancy (+ $865 per person = $5,260)

CONTINUED ON REVERSE

Optional Travel Protection

Witte Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your trip investment.

The per person premium for this travel protection is $322* for double or single occupancy.

☐ I/we wish to purchase the travel protection at this time. Full payment of the plan cost is included with my deposit. I have read and understand the policy, which includes the full coverage term details, including exclusions and limitations.

☐ I/we wish to decline the travel protection at this time. I/we understand that travel protection can be purchased later, as long as it is done prior to making final payment on the tour.

*It may be necessary to increase the trip cost insured on the travel protection plan for participants who purchase additional services and/or upgrade their arrangements. This could increase the plan cost.

The full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, are contained in the insurance policy. To view/download the Policy based on your state of residence at: http://policy.travelexinsurance.com/381ZA-0924. Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Insurance coverage underwritten by Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC #16535, state of domicile: New York), 1299 Zurich Way, Schaumburg, IL 60196. Coverages available to residents of U.S. States (excluding NY and WA) and the District of Columbia only. Certain coverages are not available in all states.

Travel Protection Information:

- This plan is not available to residents of NY and WA. Please contact us for other plan options.
- You can enroll in this plan when you register for the tour or at any time prior to making final payment on the tour.
- **The pre-existing medical condition exclusion is waived if you purchase within 21 days of your initial trip payment, provided all insureds are medically able to travel. This exclusion applies to You and Traveling Companions as well as traveling Family Members.**
- This travel protection plan is refundable during the 21-day (30 day for IN, NH, & UT residents) review period following the purchase of the plan; as long as you have not departed on your trip or plan to file a claim.
- For more information and an outline of the included benefits, see “Optional travel protection” in the Terms and Conditions of your tour brochure.
- Any person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a loss or benefit or knowingly presents false information in an application for insurance is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in prison. Please visit www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning to view the state specific fraud warnings or call 844.858.9910.

Special Arrangements

Upon confirmation of your special arrangements, a nonrefundable service fee of $75 per person will be added to your account along with any additional air or land costs that may apply.

Flight Connections from _____ to _____.

Special Air Arrangements: To spend additional time away, I/we would like to depart on _____ and return on _____. To request special land arrangements (car rentals, hotels, etc.), include a note and we’ll contact you.

Signature

I/we have read, understand and accept the terms and conditions as outlined in the tour brochure. I/we acknowledge receipt of information about Witte’s Travel Protection Plan as well as the Price Increase Rules.

1. _____ Date_____

2. _____ Date_____

Note – Payment reminders will be e-mailed to Passenger #1. If no e-mail is provided, payment reminders will be sent by U.S. mail.

Early registration is encouraged!

Register online at bookings.wittetravel.com
using booking code 051427SCHM

or complete and return this paper form to:
Witte Travel & Tours
3250 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Enclose your deposit of $450 per person. If you are purchasing Optional Travel Protection add the full plan cost to your deposit.

CREDIT CARD/eCHECK PAYMENT FORM

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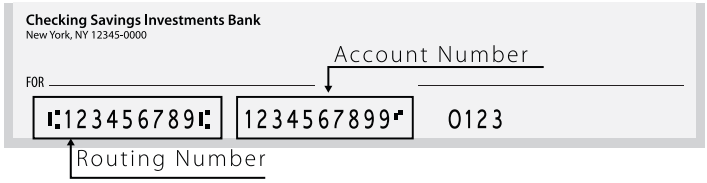
It is not secure to e-mail the credit card form. Please fax or mail back.

Name of Passenger(s):

1. _____

2. _____

☐ **eCheck Payment**



Routing Number _____

Account Number _____

Name as it appears on bank account _____
(Please Print)

☐ **Credit Card Payment**

Type of card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit card number _____ Expiration date _____ Security code _____

Name as it appears on card _____
(Please Print)

Billing address of credit card (if other than on application):

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Billing phone _____ / _____

I hereby authorize Witte Travel & Tours to charge this bank account/credit card for the deposit and full travel-protection premium (if selected). Remaining payments may be made by either by going to bookings.wittetravel.com/login to pay via eCheck or credit card, by sending a check, or by calling 1/800-469-4883. For security reasons, we are unable to store your bank account/credit card information.

Cardholder's signature _____ Date _____

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Reservation ID_____

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Deposit of $450 per person with Registration Form
Payment of $1,250 per person by December 15, 2026
Payment of $1,250 per person by February 15, 2027
Balance due approximately 30 days prior to departure