

COLYTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Colyford, Colyton, Devon, EX24 6HN



Tel: 01297 552327 Email: admin@colytongrammar.devon.sch.uk Fax: 01297 553853

CGS CHOIR TOUR 2017 - PADUA Final Information

PREPARATION

In this section: matters which need to be done before we set off.

Personal information: Thank you for supplying details on the original application form, if anything has changed since then please let us know.

Packing should be in one moderate-sized case, you are also allowed to have a small bag as hand luggage during the flight. But please be careful about packing this – liquids and sharp objects should be in your main case. [Click here for the BA website](#) which has more details.

List:

- **Concert clothes**
Gentlemen - Dark Suit [please take a jacket, although I am aware that we might decide not to wear them]; white shirt [more than 1 please]; own tie not a bow tie; black socks and shoes
Ladies – White blouse/shirt with at least $\frac{3}{4}$ length sleeves [more than 1 please]; Long black skirt – if not full length, please have some black tights.
- **Informal 'uniform'** – Choir Tour 2017 polo shirts have been made as part of the cost of the trip, these are available to collect before we leave. These are worn with cream/sandy coloured chinos [or similar]. You do not need to wear this to travel in, we will advise during the trip of when these are to be worn.
- **Music & Music Folders** – unlike tours in this country where we have use of a coach for the whole time and can carry our music in crates, on foreign tours we ask each student to pack their music within their main luggage. Singers in Y13 are asked to take their folder after the summer concert on Tuesday 4 July. If unable to attend that concert, please arrange a time to call in and collect your folder during Leavers' Day or before. Please look after folders and music carefully at all times.
- **Casual clothes** – a sensible collection of clothes please, bear in mind the likelihood of hot sunny weather – get the balance right between being able to enjoy the sun and be protected from it [hats, sun cream etc.] - soap and towel. **NB** We will be walking around Padua each day for varying amounts of time. Whilst you do not need to bring 'Ten Tors style' walking boots, some shoes that will not result in blisters will be good. Flip flops are often a good idea to have to wear in the hostel [to and from showers for example] but not for everyday walking.

Rehearsals will continue in the second half of Monday and Friday lunchtimes [with the exception of Friday 30 June].

Concert: There is a concert before we go: **CGS Summer Concert** on Tuesday 4 July in the Cottrill Hall at 7pm, informal uniform – meet at school at 6.30pm

TRAVEL

General we travel in our own casual clothes, no need to wear Choir Tour polo shirts. We fly from Gatwick to Marco Polo, Venice: so there is a 4 hour coach journey, then a 2 hour flight and then a 1 hour coach journey to Padua. It is important that everyone prepares for this, with suitable reading material, listening, games, conversation etc., ready to pass the time in an amiable fashion. **Please bring a packed meal for the outward coach journey.**

Leave from Seaton Underfleet coach park on **Thursday 20 July at 7am** (loading from 6.45am) – with Swards Coaches **Please be respectful of local residents at this time of day, and arrive quietly ready to be organised on to the coaches quietly and efficiently.**

Flying from Gatwick on British Airways flight BA2584 at 13:00
landing in Venice at 16:10 Coach transfer from Marco Polo airport to Padua Youth Hostel .
Arrive Padua 5.30pm approx. [local time]

Return Coach transfer from Youth Hostel to Marco Polo airport and then on British Airways flight BA2581 leaving Venice at 15:45, landing at Gatwick at 17:00
Arriving at Seaton Underfleet coach park on **Tuesday 25 July at 10.00pm**
Please be respectful of local residents at this time of day, and be ready to unpack coaches quietly and efficiently.

NB If there is likely to be a time change we will ask students to advise you. Please DO NOT leave an instruction such as ‘text me when you’re at Axminster’

ON TOUR

We are staying in a youth hostel in Padua. There are dormitory-style rooms, accommodating mostly four students. Rooming is being sorted out as I type. Please do this without fuss.

It is always important to be able to manage the conditions when on tour – having plenty of water to drink, protecting against the sun, cream or spray if you are susceptible to insect bites, taking the chance to rest when you can, getting to sleep and, importantly, **following the advice of staff.**

Organisation - with 90 in the party the way that we are organised is vital. I have already outlined the travelling groups, we will also be all together [for which occasions **knowing your Choir Tour number is important**], and of course a major feature of CGS Choir Tours is the division into ‘families’. This provides a quick method of checking everyone, passing on information, getting to know other students, and sometimes making sight-seeing visits.

Your choir tour number and families for this year are available in the Music Centre. Y13 please contact me directly if you have not managed to see this list.

There will also be occasions where students are organised in Year groups. Friendship groups are used when students are given free time, e.g. for shopping, but we always ask for **groups of at least three**. We are able to provide supervision at all times if requested.

School rules apply equally to trips as to school-based activities. We look for respect and care of others and surroundings. No smoking or alcohol. Choir tours have always been positive musical and social experiences for all concerned. I am sure this will continue and look forward to a fantastic time in Padua.

Mobile ‘phones - staff will exchange contact numbers with all their ‘family’ members so that contact can be made if necessary. It is useful to stay in touch, but in these days of instant ‘status updates’ I would ask that care is taken about what you say and text.

Points of contact - during school hours please make contact with the school directly on 01297 552327. We also have Assistant Head, Mrs Harvey, as our official ‘out-of-hours’ contact **in case of emergency only** and she will be available on the following numbers: *[contained in version of this letter emailed to parents of all participants]*.

Pocket money - Choir tours are all-inclusive, we cater for everyone throughout the trip. However, there may well be occasions when students want to buy their own food, souvenirs, an additional visit etc. Students will need to be responsible for their own money. Please aim for having enough (tourist prices can be very high – we will be arranging some visits but there may be others you wish to make) but avoid very large amounts. As a guide I might suggest the equivalent of £10 / day. In Padua Euros € will be required, please arrange your own exchange.

NB please also have some sterling for this country - airport and motorway service stations.

Be careful with money at all times.

Any updated information from now on will be on website / sent on ParentMail.

OUTLINE ITINERARY

We are singing each day – there will be plenty of informal singing too. The plan as it stands looks like this:

Thursday 20 July

Outward travel - Seaton 7am departure

Travel and evening meal in Padua at Hotel al Santo

Friday 21 July

- Orientation walk around centre of Padua
 - Giotto frescoes at the Scrovegni chapel
 - **5pm Mass at St. Anthony's Basilica**
- Meal at Hotel al Santo

Saturday 22 July

- Visit University of Padua Botanical Garden
 - Visit University of Padua Anatomical Theatre [Palazzo Bo]
 - **5pm Mass at St. Anthony's Basilica**
- Meal at Hotel al Santo

Sunday 23 July

- Day in Venice [travelling by train from Padua to Venice]
 - **Sing in morning service at St. George's Church**
[English speaking] – very small so only about ¼ of the choir will sing
 - **4.30pm Concert at Gesuati Church**
 - **6.45pm Mass at St. Mark's Basilica**
- Evening meal in Venice

Monday 24 July

- Pilgrimage trail at St. Anthony's Basilica
 - **5pm Mass at St. Anthony's Basilica**
- Meal at Hotel al Santo

Tuesday 25 July

Return travel - see times above

FINALLY

We are looking forward to a fantastic tour. One of the keys to making this happen is for everyone to be prepared and to aim to enjoy every part of it – travel, sightseeing, socialising and the singing!

If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact me by email via:

admin@colytongrammar.devon.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support of music at the school.

Mr D G House
Director of Music