



The following elements can be combined to make up residential courses of varying length with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust

[Prices quoted are estimates based on 15 participants in the group]

Theatre Trips

We can arrange theatre tickets for performances at the local RSC theatres as part of our educational courses. We do not offer theatre tickets unless combined with an educational session at The Shakespeare Centre.

For short courses, theatre tickets are usually combined with a lecture on the play to be seen and a post-performance discussion about the play the following day. Question and answer sessions with RSC professionals can also sometimes be arranged, subject to availability.

Prices Vary Depending on Ticket Prices

SBT Pre-Performance or Introductory Lecture on Shakespeare Play

Pre-performance lectures prepare groups to get the most out of seeing a play on stage. The lectures explore some of the challenges and theatrical opportunities presented by Shakespeare's texts, and groups are encouraged to look out for interpretive moments in a production.

Pre-performance talks set up ideas and issues to be discussed in the group post-performance discussion.

We can also offer an introductory level lecture perfect for groups who are not already familiar with a play to be seen. This will cover plot, character, narrative and theme.

Please indicate your group's level of experience at the time of booking.

From £8.00 per participant

Group Post Performance Discussions

These seminar sessions comprise an hour's chaired discussion in which students are encouraged to share their views on how the production they recently saw rose to

the challenges of the play. Students are all encouraged to participate and lively debates ensue.

From £8.00 per participant

Question and Answer Sessions

Question and answer sessions are chaired sessions with a member of the acting company involved with the play that the group has recently seen. These sessions provide a unique insight into a production and take students behind the scenes into the world of professional theatre.

As these are arranged with the company managers we cannot guarantee the sessions nor can we promise particular speakers. Sessions are subject to availability as rehearsal schedules or matinee performances may prevent people being available.

From £9.00 per participant

ARCHIVE ILLUSTRATED TALKS & DISPLAYS WITH ITEMS FROM OUR COLLECTIONS

‘Trust Treasures’ Archive Display

Based on the unique holdings of the world-renowned library, archive and museum collections of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. See up-close some of the rare and beautiful items relating to Shakespeare and his life in Stratford-upon-Avon, including items not normally seen except in exhibitions. Look at books he used as sources for his plays, early modern museum items and maps, and explore theatre ephemera from the 18th Century to the present day, including items from the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre and the RSC. This is a one hour session usually hosted by two members of the Collections Team.

From £15 per participant

‘Texts Through Time’ Illustrated talk with rare books from the Collection

Learn about the editorial history of Shakespeare’s plays through the collections of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, from quartos and Folios via Boydell, Bowdler and the Shilling Shakespeare to online texts. Shakespeare ‘in print’ has been shaped by technological, educational and religious history, as well as editorial innovations and rivalries. This light-hearted, whirlwind tour through the history and editions of the last four hundred years brings to life the role of the editor, the changing face of Shakespeare’s readers and the evolution of his textual legacy. See an original quarto and Folio up-close and get to know the colourful characters who have taken on the challenge of editing Shakespeare afresh. This session led by two members of the collections team lasts approximately an hour, including time for questions, browsing and discussion.

From £15 per participant

SPECIALIST TALKS WITH EXPERIENCED LECTURERS

SBT Performance History Lecture

An illustrated lecture drawing on our extensive archive of images covering the performance history of any of Shakespeare's plays. From original staging through 18th, 19th and 20th century productions. Please indicate choice of play at the time of booking.

From £8.00 per participant

SBT Shakespeare's Stages Talk

This illustrated session considers the variation of stages on which Shakespeare's plays have been performed. From the stages available to Shakespeare in early modern England we trace the development of staging through to the present day.

From £8.00 per participant

SBT Sonnet Class

A seminar offering a close reading of one or two of Shakespeare's sonnets, explore interpretation and experiment with reading aloud.

From £8.00 per participant

Lectures with Dr Nick Walton

Nick Walton oversees the residential courses at The Shakespeare Centre and as an experienced lecturer regularly contributes to all of our courses.

In addition to performance histories on any of Shakespeare's plays, Nick can also provide more specialist talks as follows:

- "Not of an age, but for all time": Shakespeare's Legacy
- Shakespeare Societies: "Put a girdle round about the earth"
- Brand Shakespeare: Commodification and Commercialisation
- Shakespeare in Performance: Alternative Interpretations
- Shakespeare and Kingship
- Directors' Shakespeare / Actors' Shakespeare
- Glen Byam Shaw: The Invisible Director
- *Timon of Athens*: "He will not hear, till feel"
- *Antony and Cleopatra* on Stage
- Love in Shakespeare
- The Complete Works Festival - 2006
- Who is Shakespeare? What is he?: Shakespeare Today
- Shakespeare and War
- Mr William Shakespeare's Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies
- "Words, words, words": Shakespeare and American English

From £8.00 per participant

Lectures with Dr Anjna Chouhan

Anjna Chouhan is a Lecturer in Shakespeare Studies at The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and regularly speaks to both student and adult groups as part of our residential courses here at the Shakespeare Centre. In addition, she can offer special interest talks covering the following topics:

- An Introduction to Shakespeare and the Victorians
- The Acquisition of Shakespeare's Birthplace
- Shakespeare in the Victorian Theatre
- 19th Century *Much Ados*
- Henry Irving as a Shakespearian
- Shakespeare and the Victorian Anti-Catholics
- Shakespeare and Early Modern Theatre Audiences

From £8.00 per participant

Lectures with Lisa Peter

Lisa Peter is International Lecturer in Shakespeare Studies at The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, looking after non-English speaking international groups and specialising in Shakespeare reception around the world. Choose from one of her specialist talks on the following topics:

- Shakespeare in Translation
- Shakespeare and Popular Reception Abroad
- Shakespeare in the Language Classroom
- Shakespeare and the Literary Heritage Industry.

From £8.00 per participant

Lectures with Professor Sir Stanley Wells

Sir Stanley Wells is one of the world's leading Shakespearian scholar as well as a former Chairman and now Honorary President of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. Stanley's lectures are insightful and expertly delivered. He speaks on a range of topics many of which reflect his publications. Choose from:

- 'What Makes a Great Shakespeare Actor?'
- The Genius of Shakespeare
- Shakespeare's Dramatic Language
- Shakespeare, Man of the European Renaissance
- Shakespeare's Fellows
- Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe
- Shakespeare and London
- Love and Sex in *Romeo & Juliet*
- The Fun of Sex in Shakespeare's Comedies
- Shakespeare, Sex and Love
- *Hamlet*: 'All the Rubbish of the Fifth Act' (David Garrick) - with Paul Edmondson

- 'Shylocks' and 'What Manner of Man was He' (a discussion of ways in which we might hope to characterize Shakespeare's personality).

From £8.00 per participant

Lectures with Rev. Dr Paul Edmondson

Paul Edmondson is Head of Research and Knowledge at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. Paul's lectures are passionately delivered and impeccably researched. Choose from:

- Shakespeare in Performance
- Introduction to Shakespeare's sonnets
- Shakespeare and Spirituality
- Current Shakespearian Projects at the Shakespeare Centre
- Shakespeare and Venice.

From £8.00 per participant

Lectures with Roger Pringle

Now retired, Roger Pringle was the director of The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust for many years. An academic with a passion for the Shakespeare's heritage and cultural legacy. Roger's lectures are impeccably researched and showcase years of personal interest and experience. Choose from:

- Americans and Stratford-On-Avon
- Tudor Receptions and Shakespeare the Sportsman
- Stratford's Shakespeare Gardens
- Tudor Gardens
- Queen Elizabeth I
- Shakespeare's Early Reputation
- William Shakespeare and Stratford
- Shakespeare's Local Roots: Discoveries of the Past Forty Years.

From £8.00 per participant

More details on any of the specialist talks listed in this section are available on request.

PRACTICAL CLASSES

Shakespeare and Directing Workshop

This two hour workshop, hosted by experienced theatre directors, takes groups through the early stages of rehearsing a play, from making interpretive decisions to considering placement on stage. From the dream to the detail we consider aspects of a director's involvement with a performance. Workshops will focus on a play to be seen during your visit, please discuss this at time of booking.

From £25.50 per participant

Voice Class

Work with an experienced professional voice practitioner to explore vocal techniques used by actors and explore how you can use your own voice.

From £12.75 per participant

Stage Combat Class

Working with experienced deliverers this half day practical workshop will get you all involved in some combative moves and show how these are performed on stage.

From £46 per participant

Renaissance Dance Class

Subject to availability, this practical workshop will get you all participating in some traditional Renaissance dances.

From £17.00 per participant

VISITS TO THE HISTORIC SHAKESPEARE HOUSES

Visits to some or all of our five historic houses help to set Shakespeare's work in context.

Shakespeare's Birthplace

As the house where William Shakespeare was born and grew up, Shakespeare's Birthplace has been welcoming visitors for over 250 years. Shakespeare also spent the first five years of married life in this house with his new wife, Anne Hathaway.

For millions of Shakespeare enthusiasts worldwide, this house is a shrine. Here you will discover the world that shaped the man and find out what other famous writers thought when they visited here. Follow in the footsteps of not only Shakespeare, but other well-known visitors such as Charles Dickens, John Keats, Walter Scott and Thomas Hardy.

Shakespeare's Birthplace is a fascinating house that offers a tantalising glimpse into Shakespeare's early world.

Hall's Croft

Wander through the elegant Jacobean home of Shakespeare's daughter, Susanna and her husband Dr John Hall. Enjoy the luxurious rooms and beautiful decoration of this fascinating house, befitting a wealthy physician of Dr John Hall's status.

Relax in the beautiful gardens and breathe in the fragrant herbs as used by Dr Hall in his remedies.

Shakespeare's New Place

Visit the site of Shakespeare's final home where he lived for nineteen years and wrote some of his most iconic works including Hamlet and The Tempest. Although the house was demolished in the 18th Century, you can now walk in his footsteps through a new entrance on the site of the original gatehouse and enjoy a contemporary landscape that reveals the footprint of the Shakespeare family home.

Discover beautiful gardens and specially commissioned artworks that hint at Shakespeare's works and influences. Stroll through the Great Garden and the Wild Bank before wandering back through the sunken Knot Garden, lovingly restored to its original Victorian design.

Finally, meet the man behind the works in a fascinating new exhibition on William Shakespeare.

Anne Hathaway's Cottage

Discover where the young William Shakespeare courted his future bride Anne Hathaway at her picturesque family home.

Anne Hathaway's Cottage is a thatched farmhouse containing many original items of family furniture. It is nestled within nine acres of beautiful grounds and gardens, overflowing with fragrant blooms and traditional shrubs. Stroll along our woodland walk, and explore the sculpture trail, seeking out the giant willow creations around the cottage gardens.

The cottage is in the hamlet of Shottery, which is just over one mile from the town centre and can be accessed via a pleasant, well sign-posted footpath.

Mary Arden's Farm (open March to November)

There is so much to see and do at Mary Arden's Farm! Step back in time for all the sights, smells and sounds of a real Tudor farm and explore the house where Shakespeare's mother, Mary Arden, grew up.

Meet our costumed residents and experience for yourself the daily routine, skills and crafts that the young William would have known from visits to his grandparents in the 1570s. Meet the rare breed animals on site as well as watching falconry displays and following the nature trails, or get 'hands-on' with rural crafts and traditional pastimes.

Prices vary - discounts apply when booking multiple houses

Private VIP evening tours of Shakespeare's Birthplace can also be arranged.

LOCAL EXCURSIONS

Kenilworth Castle

Originally a medieval fortress, the ruins are best known as the home of Robert Dudley, the great love of Queen Elizabeth I. Dudley created an ornate palace here to impress his beloved Queen in 1575.

Warwick Castle

Warwick Castle was built by William the Conqueror in 1068 within or adjacent to the Anglo-Saxon burh of Warwick. It was used as a fortification until the early 17th century, when Sir Fulke Greville converted it to a country house. Today it is a busy museum complete with a large range of family orientated activities and events.

Blenheim Palace and Oxford

Blenheim Palace is home to the 11th Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Set in 2100 acres of beautiful parkland landscaped by 'Capability' Brown, Blenheim Palace is a unique example of English Baroque architecture. Only a few miles from the historic town of Oxford take the opportunity to visit the town as well.

Prices Vary

Prices as at December 2017