



UFBA-FBUA 94th Congress Surrey

Thursday 9th – Sunday 12th May 2024

Overview – please read in conjunction with Programme and Booking Form

The county of Surrey is located in the South-East of England and borders Greater London to the north. Major towns include Guildford, Woking, Reigate, Farnham and those in the north now contiguous with London such as Staines, Walton, Epsom and Caterham.

Surrey's boundary has changed over the years and until the 19th century, Surrey's northern boundary was on the south bank of the Thames in London. Today the boundary line is ten to fifteen miles further south on the edge of Greater London.

Until transport improved during the 19th Century, and in particular with the arrival of the railways, Surrey's mainly rural economy had revolved around the woollen cloth industry and it was seen as a rural backwater by comparison with the dynamic economies of the northern English cities. It had no major towns and architectural effort focused on London at its northern end.

The arrival of the railways enabled commuting into London and there was a dramatic growth in building, population and wealth as the northern part was absorbed into London and the southern part became, in places, like an enormous garden city. The transformation of Surrey continued into the 20th Century with the creation of the M25 orbital motorway, the building of both Gatwick and Heathrow airports on either side of the county and the establishment of the University of Surrey in Guildford.

We will be based in Guildford which is the geographical centre of the county and retains some of the character of the original market town located at the crossing of the River Wey and on the militarily significant old main road from London to Portsmouth.

The principal hotel will be the Guildford Harbour Hotel which is located within easy reach of the old centre of Guildford and is where we will board coaches for visits. There is car parking and it is within a ten minute walk of London Road Station (on the Guildford via Oxshott line) not to be confused with Guildford Station which is a twenty minute walk or a taxi ride away.

The three-day programme will include visits to:

Royal Horticultural Society
gardens at Wisley and the
Hilltop garden science
building designed by
Wilkinson Eyre



A new state school, Three Rivers Academy designed by Scott Brownrigg and Turner



World Wildlife Fund Headquarters in Woking. The Living | Planet Centre designed by Hopkins Architects with a BREEAM outstanding rating on completion in 2013.



Moors Nook, Woking, a scheme for older people designed by Coffey Architects for Peagsus Life



McLaren HQ and Technology Centre, Woking designed by Foster and Partners



Alderbrook Park, a private house by Pringle Sharratts Richards Architects with Ai WeiWei sculptures, set in the Surrey Hills



Charterhouse School, a famous private (“public”) school with a nineteenth century campus and some more recent modern buildings including teaching building by Design Engine Architects



Vann, a house created by blending earlier buildings with new designs in the nineteenth century and home to four generations of an architectural family, the latest generation of which will be our guides.



We will also be visiting at least one other private house and garden, either a house designed by Edwin Lutyens or a recently completed modern house.

The programme will also include a short walking tour of Guildford and the Gala Dinner will be at Denbies Vineyard near Dorking, a nearby town, on Friday evening.

Booking

To book, please download the PDF form you have been sent and complete it by typing into the boxes provided and return to the Secretary as indicated on the form. If this does not work, please download and print the form and complete by hand. Payment instructions are provided on the form. Forms should be completed by 11th April.

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