

# Stanford **TRAVEL/STUDY**

## LITERARY SOUTH

**October 21 to 28, 2021**

Delve into the works of numerous Southern-born and -influenced authors with professor of English literature Elaine Treharne during daily lectures and discussion sessions.

- **Uncovering a rich and complex history.** Explore the colorful pasts of Savannah and Charleston and their environs. Visit the cities' beautifully preserved 18th-century historic districts dotted with Victorian-era squares, the sprawling grounds of nearby former plantations, a famous cemetery, Old Fort Jackson above the Savannah River and an historic light station.
- **A nation within a nation.** During our visit to St. Helena Island, learn all about the Gullah/Geechee Nation and how the Gullah developed their own Creole language and culture after being isolated from mainland influences over many decades.
- **Reading list.** Examine the lives and works of a dizzying array of authors, including Flannery O'Connor, William Faulkner, Isabel Wilkerson, Richard Wright, C. Van Woodward and Jesmyn Ward.

## FACULTY LEADER

### Elaine Treharne

Elaine Treharne is the Roberta Bowman Denning Professor of Humanities and a professor of English at Stanford's School of Humanities and Sciences. She is also the Robert K. Packard University Fellow in Undergraduate Education. She is the director of Stanford Text Technologies and a number of data science projects. Elaine has many core research interests, principally involving the way in which early literature is created and transmitted within its various contexts of production, and particularly contexts that involve colonialism and cultural trauma. She also investigates the long history of global technologies of text from circa 70,000 BCE to the present day and beyond. She is an expert in digital and computational humanities and a qualified archivist. Within the archives, Elaine's main focus is the recovery of previously silenced voices, and the recuperation of individuals' stories.

Elaine is British, but has visited 45 of the United States, spent a glorious year in Princeton as a graduate fellow, and lived in the Florida Panhandle for almost six years when working as a Professor before coming to Stanford. She has travelled extensively in the American South, which was profoundly eye-opening in ways that affect her still and that has had a lasting impact on her research, her reading, and her thinking. Among the topics Professor Treharne will discuss are the complex history and multiculturalism of the region, and the fraught narratives that explore the character of the South. As a trained medievalist, Elaine is also particularly interested in the genre of the Gothic through time, and especially in the work of some of our authors. How this manifests in our readings will be a joy to discover with participants.

- Roberta Bowman Denning Professor of Humanities, Robert K. Packard University Fellow in Undergraduate Education, Professor of English and, by courtesy, of German Studies and of Comparative Literature, Stanford University

- Fellow: English Association; Society of Antiquaries of London; Royal Historical Society; Learned Society of Wales
- Procter Fellow, Princeton University
- Trustee of the National Library of Wales
- BA, English, University of Manchester
- MA, archive administration, University of Liverpool
- PhD, medieval literature, University of Manchester

## ITINERARY

Thursday, October 21

### SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

After arriving independently from home cities, check in to our luxury hotel within steps of the Savannah Historic District. Gather this evening for a welcome reception and dinner to launch our exploration of the South's literary heritage. PERRY LANE HOTEL (D)

Friday, October 22

### SAVANNAH

Begin the day with our first seminar and an overview of what's ahead for us this week. After lunch, tour Savannah's Historic District, both by coach and on foot. Founded in 1733, America's first planned city boasts some 24 public squares. At Lafayette Square, visit two of the city's treasures: the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist, a Victorian Gothic cathedral with two massive towers and Georgia's oldest Catholic Church (built in 1876 and immediately rebuilt after a fire in 1898), and the Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home, where author O'Connor was born in 1926 and spent her younger years. Explore some of the other public squares and view the district's numerous historic buildings displaying the stately signature architecture of the South in the 18th and 19th centuries. Spend the rest of the day and evening discovering more of Savannah independently. PERRY LANE HOTEL (B,L)

Saturday, October 23

### SAVANNAH

Following a full morning of seminars and lunch at our hotel, head east of the city to a bluff overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway, first stopping at the Bonaventure Cemetery, established in 1846 as a Victorian-era cemetery and gaining 20th-century fame as a primary location for the novel and subsequent movie, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. In 1867, the famed naturalist John Muir slept on the graves there for six nights in the middle of his epic walk from Indiana to the eastern coastline down to Florida and the Gulf, giving a detailed account of his unusual choice of lodgings in his book, *A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf*. Continue south along the bluff dotted with elegant homes to the 822-acre Wormsloe Historic Site, which encompasses the plantation of one of Georgia's colonial founders, Noble Jones. While here, we view the former plantation's 1.5-mile-long oak-lined avenue and visit a house fortified by "tabby"—a mortar made of burnt oyster shell-based quicklime, water, sand, ash and broken oyster shells. Our last stop on the tour is the family-run Byrd Cookie Company founded in 1924 where we enjoy refreshments that include the company's signature Scotch oatmeal cookies. Dine this evening at The Grey, set in a restored, art deco-styled Greyhound bus terminal built in 1938 and serving up "port city" southern cuisine with African influences. PERRY LANE HOTEL (B,L,D)

Sunday, October 24

**SAVANNAH**

Enjoy another morning seminar and, after lunch, depart by coach for Old Fort Jackson (aka Fort James Jackson), on the Savannah River, which was built in the early 1800s to protect the city from foes coming up the river from the sea. The restored fort also served as the headquarters for Confederate river defenses during the Civil War. Witness the firing of a cannon during our visit. Continue east to Tybee Island where we stop at the Tybee Island Light Station and Museum to view Georgia's oldest and tallest lighthouse. The 145-foot-tall lighthouse's history dates back to 1736; in 1732, General James Oglethorpe, governor of the 13th colony, ordered its construction. The five-acre light station complex, which is one of the country's most intact, includes three light-keepers' cottages, an 1899 military battery and a museum that includes an exhibit about the Euchee tribe. Back in Savannah, enjoy an independent evening back in Savannah. PERRY LANE HOTEL (B,L)

Monday, October 25

**SAVANNAH / ST. HELENA ISLAND / CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

This morning after breakfast, check out of our hotel and travel by coach to Beaufort and St. Helena Island, situated in the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor created by Congress in 2006 to preserve the Gullah culture—a corridor that extends from southern North Carolina to northern Florida. The Gullah, also called Geechee, are African Americans who became isolated from mainland influences over many decades and developed their own distinctive Creole language and traditions that have preserved much of their Central and West African cultural heritages. While here, visit a Lowcountry plantation; some of the area's churches, and the Penn Center, a museum and learning center located in a building that housed one of the country's first schools for emancipated slaves. During lunch at the Sea Islands Center, listen to stories told by the center's Gullah storytellers. Next head to Middleton Place National Historic Landmark, the beautifully preserved 18th-century plantation of the Middleton family, whose many generations of patriarchs stretch across America's first century. Explore the beautifully laid-out gardens, the Middleton Place House Museum and the plantation's stable yards. In the former slave quarters, view a 10-year effort to find the names and record the stories of some of the slaves who worked here. Continue to Charleston by coach and check in to our luxury landmark hotel located in the heart of the Historic District and overlooking the Charleston City Market. PLANTERS INN (B,L,D)

Tuesday, October 26

**CHARLESTON**

After our morning seminar and lunch, take in Charleston's Historic District, where history is found around every corner. Start in a horse-drawn carriage and hear the stories behind the historic houses, mansions, churches and parks we pass along the way. Then proceed on foot for closer looks at those mansions, homes and gardens where stops may include Rainbow Row, a stretch of 13 Georgian-style townhouses; the White Point Gardens; the Charleston Battery; and the Four Corners of Law, an intersection whose four corners include the Charleston City Hall, St. Michael's Episcopal Church and two courthouses. Returning to our hotel, enjoy an evening at leisure. PLANTERS INN (B,L)

Wednesday, October 27

**CHARLESTON**

This morning, we attend our final seminar. After lunch together, enjoy an afternoon of free time to discover more of charming Charleston on our own. This evening, gather at a local restaurant to bid farewell to our journey and share our own stories after a week of dissecting and exploring the literature, history and ambience of the American south. PLANTERS INN (B,L,D)

Thursday, October 28

## **CHARLESTON / HOME**

After breakfast at our hotel, transfer independently to the airport for individual flights back to home cities. (B)

## **INFORMATION**

### **Covid-19 and Travel**

With travel requirements and local Covid-19 conditions changing weekly, travel protocols for specific destinations will be shared with confirmed travelers closer to departure. To read more about Travel/Study's approach to ensuring traveler health and safety, visit our [Covid-19 Travel page](#).

### **Size**

This trip requires a minimum of 12 participants and is limited to 25. Travel/Study is committed to providing a low-density experience on all programs and will implement protocols to do so, including social distancing on transportation as well as during lectures, meals and excursions. Single accommodations are limited—please call for availability.

### **Cost\***

\$7,295 per person, double occupancy

\$8,495 per person, single occupancy

\*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add \$300 per person

### **Included**

- 7 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 4 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- On-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- General medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and predeparture materials, including an education resource list, complimentary books and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

### **Not Included**

- Your personal flights to and from the program
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Airport transfers
- Nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- Baggage insurance
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

### **Air Arrangements**

You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare to the start location and from the end location of the program. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we will send you details with your confirmation materials on when to arrive and depart.

### **What to Expect**

This program is designed for those who are looking for a provocative and memorable intellectual travel experience. Throughout our week in Savannah and Charleston, we will enjoy mornings (approximately three to four hours each day) of lectures, group discussions and ample time for reflection on the literary tradition of the American South. Prior to the trip, you will be sent a full syllabus and selection of complimentary books, along with some discussion topics, which will be explored as a group once we are gathered in Georgia and South Carolina.

When we are not “in class,” we will head out into the historic areas of Savannah and Charleston and their surroundings to explore the rich history, beautiful architecture, and unique cultural treasures of these two dynamic cities. While both Savannah and Charleston are relatively flat cities, we consider this program to be moderately active. On average, daily excursions involve one to two miles of walking, sometimes on uneven cobblestone streets or sidewalks. The walking tours at Wormsloe and Middleton Place each last approximately 2 hours and take place over grassy fields and dirt paths. Significant walking and climbing of stairs may also be required at museums, historic houses, and on guided tours. All participants must be physically fit and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **Eligibility**

We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is \$300 more than the members' price. A person traveling as a paid guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, call (650) 725-0692 or visit [alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership](http://alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership).

### **Deposits, Payments and Cancellations**

A \$1,000-per-person deposit is required to reserve space on this program. Final payment is due 90 days prior to program start. Deposits and any payments are fully refundable until 90 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) is resold, in which case a \$1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

### **Insurance**

Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage, as well as on-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage, under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage and/or baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be included in your

confirmation materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your insurance within 14 days of receiving your welcome email.

**Responsibility**

The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates include arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. We reserve the right to cancel any program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. We also reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, nor Stanford University, nor our operators accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect at the time the brochure is published and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign an Assumption of Risk.

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