



# Virginia Tech RSAP Summer 2019

London | Bath | Nottingham | Dublin | Galway

Each year, Solstice partners with a select number of universities to create one-of-a-kind, fully customizable study experiences around the world. With careful guidance from Solstice's team of American and international educators, Virginia Tech RSAP students will gain invaluable insight into England and Ireland's deep-rooted history of technological innovation, as well as the future of some of their most relevant industries.

Solstice provides three core services: (1) assistance in developing your program itinerary; (2) comprehensive pre-departure support (see [www.studycli.org/rsapengland19](http://www.studycli.org/rsapengland19)); and (3) facilitation of all logistical provisions (e.g., domestic and international airfare, buses, hotel accommodations, restaurant recommendations and bookings, activity planning, and Solstice program leaders).

Please note that while the spirit of the below schedule will remain unchanged, certain aspects — in consultation with VT faculty leaders — are subject to be updated. Company and university visits are typically scheduled one to four months prior to program start date. As a result, our proposal may include a few placeholders for unspecified visits. Each will be specified in the months leading up to May 2019, and this process will be completed in close collaboration with Virginia Tech faculty leaders. Solstice maintains a strong track record of providing engaging and impactful company visits to both highly localized firms as well as multinational corporations. As always, please contact us anytime if you have questions, requests, and/or suggestions during the program planning and implementation process.

*Our team looks forward to welcoming VT RSAP back to the UK and Ireland in 2019!*

## May 19 - May 22: London | Innovation in the UK's Capital City

### Day 1 | Sunday, May 19 (Washington, DC to London)

Evening Fly from Washington, DC to London

### Day 2 | Monday, May 20 (London)

Early Morning	Arrive in London and travel into the city <i>While traveling into London, engage in a comprehensive orientation session to understand and conceptualize the journey ahead, and share program goals and expectations amongst your fellow travellers.</i>
Late Morning	Visit The Emirates Aviation Experience <i>The Emirates Aviation Experience provides visitors with unique insight into the world of modern commercial aviation. Students will have the opportunity to take to the skies in one of four state of the art flight simulators.</i>
Early Afternoon	Group lunch, then check into your hotel
Late Afternoon	Explore the streets of London on a guided bus and walking tour
Evening	Group welcome dinner downtown with program and faculty leaders!



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## Day 3 | Tuesday, May 21 (London)

Morning	Tour the Tower Bridge with two private guides <i>Discover the inner workings of one of the most famous bridges in the world. Constructed in the late 19th century, the Tower Bridge contains over 70,000 tons of concrete and 11,000 tons of steel.</i>
Noon	Walk to a group lunch at Jamie's Italian along the Thames
Afternoon/Evening	Free time to explore London and enjoy small group dinners on your own

## Day 4 | Wednesday, May 22 (London)

Early Morning	Stop by Big Ben and the British Parliament, two iconic London structures
Late Morning	Attend a company visit at Atkins
Early Afternoon	Group lunch nearby
Late Afternoon	Embark on the London Underground and Tube Tour <i>Learn about the Tube's origin, design and construction. Begin at the Sherlock Holmes statue by Baker Street Station, visit an old ghost station that has been abandoned for over 50 years, and finish at the futuristic Westminster Station.</i>
Evening	Free time to explore London and enjoy small group dinners on your own

## May 23 - May 27: Oxford, Stonehenge, Bath, and Nottingham

### Day 5 | Thursday, May 23 (London to Winchester)

Morning	Check out of your hotel and head to an engineering company visit
Early Afternoon	Free time for lunch on your own
Late Afternoon	Travel by bus to Winchester (~2 hours) and check into your hotel
Evening	Free time to explore Winchester and enjoy small group dinners on your own <i>A suggested activity is to visit the historic Winchester Cathedral, which has a daily evening prayer and choir service.</i>

### Day 6 | Friday, May 24 (Day Trip to Oxford)

Early Morning	Travel to Oxford by bus (~1.5 hours)
Late Morning	Explore the Mini Cooper Plant in Oxford <i>Manufactured to individual customer specifications, this is the birthplace of hundreds of MINIs that leave the plant's assembly lines each day.</i>
Noon	Small group lunches on your own near Oxford University
Early Afternoon	Attend a guided tour in small groups of Oxford University
Late Afternoon/Evening	Bus back to Winchester; free time for dinner on your own



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## Day 7 | Saturday, May 25 (*Winchester to Nottingham, via Bath*)

Early Morning	Check out of the hotel and travel to Stonehenge by bus (~45 min)
Late Morning	Explore the mysteries of Stonehenge, followed by a bus ride to Bath (~1 hour)
Noon	Group lunch at Yak Yeti Yak, a family-run Nepalese townhouse restaurant
Early Afternoon	Take in the charming Georgian architecture of Bath on a guided tour, then visit the Roman Baths on your own <i>Bath is a breathtaking town that features elegant Georgian squares. It was the favorite destination of Queen Victoria, Lord Nelson, and Jane Austen.</i>
Late Afternoon	Free time in Bath for exploration and small group dinners
Evening	Bus to Nottingham (~3 hours) and check into your hotel

## Day 8 | Sunday, May 26 (*Nottingham*)

Morning	Visit Peak District National Park for hiking or cycling (~1 hour bus from hotel) <i>Explore the spectacular countryside of Peak District by bicycle on bridleways, quiet lanes and traffic-free trails. Lovely villages, superb views, interesting history, fascinating wildlife and geology — it's all in Peak District for you to enjoy. This guided cycling activity is optional; you may also choose to hike or simply relax in the park.</i>
Noon	Stipend lunches in the nearby town center
Afternoon/Evening	Return to the hotel; free time to explore Nottingham

## Day 9 | Monday, May 27 (*Nottingham to Liverpool*)

Morning	Check out of the hotel and head to the University of Nottingham for cultural exchange activities <i>Tour the campus with local students and attend a guest lecture covering some of England's most significant engineering projects.</i>
Noon	Group lunch with local students on campus
Early Afternoon	Bus to JCB Excavators (~50 min) for a private tour of manufacturing facilities <i>Our visit will begin with welcome refreshments and a short presentation showcasing JCB's global manufacturing facilities and products. We'll then continue onto the assembly line of the world famous Backhoe Loader machine. Here we'll see how the machine is built from sheet steel, profiling, laser cutting, welding, painting, and assembling.</i>
Late Afternoon	Continue along the road to Liverpool (~1 hour 50 min)
Evening	Check into your hotel; free time for small group dinners and exploration



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## May 28 - June 1: Dublin & Galway | Discovering Ireland's Natural Beauty

### Day 10 | Tuesday, May 28 (*Liverpool to Dublin*)

Morning	Transfer to Holyhead Station to catch the ferry to Dublin (~2 hours)
Early Afternoon	Lunch on your own on the ferry; check into your hotel upon arrival to Dublin
Late Afternoon	Visit the historic and renowned St. Patrick's Cathedral
Evening	Enjoy a traditional Irish group dinner downtown

### Day 11 | Wednesday, May 29 (*Dublin*)

Morning	Attend an organizational visit to Foodcloud <i>This is a successful Irish startup that uses technology to connect businesses with surplus food and charities that help low-income communities.</i>
Noon	Small group lunches on your own <i>Choose between Eddie Rockets, Against the Grain, The Noodle House, Roma II, Charley's Malay &amp; Chinese Restaurant, or Bobo's Gourmet Irish Burger, all within two blocks of one another.</i>
Afternoon	Visit Trinity College, followed by a tour of Science Gallery Dublin <i>This personalized tour of Ireland's most prestigious university will provide insight into students' daily life and education. The visit is arranged in cooperation with Trinity College's Engineering Department.</i>
Evening	Free time to explore Dublin; small group dinners on your own

### Day 12 | Thursday, May 30 (*Dublin to Galway*)

Morning	Check out of the hotel and board a train to Galway (~2.5 hours) <i>Enjoy this morning's train ride through the Irish countryside en route to Galway, the cultural and artistic capital of the west of Ireland, as well as one of the best places to listen to traditional Irish music.</i>
Early Afternoon	Check into your hotel, followed by free time and small group lunches on your own in Eyre Square
Late Afternoon	Attend a company visit at Boston Scientific
Evening	Free time to explore Galway and small group dinners on your own

### Day 13 | Friday, May 31 (*Galway*)

Morning	Visit the Cliffs of Moher (~1.5 hours by bus from hotel) <i>Enjoy a guided excursion to these cliffs that tower an imperious 750 feet above the Atlantic. This region is considered to house some of Ireland's most haunting and stunning natural wonders.</i>
Afternoon	Group lunch nearby, then return to Galway by bus
Evening	Enjoy a group farewell dinner and reflection in downtown Galway!



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**Day 14 | Saturday, June 1 (*Galway to Washington, DC*)**

All Day

Fly back to the USA

*Please see the following page for additional information.*