

Ireland and Scotland 2028



Agenda

1. Travel Progression
2. Who Can Go
3. Itinerary
4. What's Included
5. The Cost
6. Questions

Why I Travel

Amber Carson

Girl Leadership and Awards
Coordinator

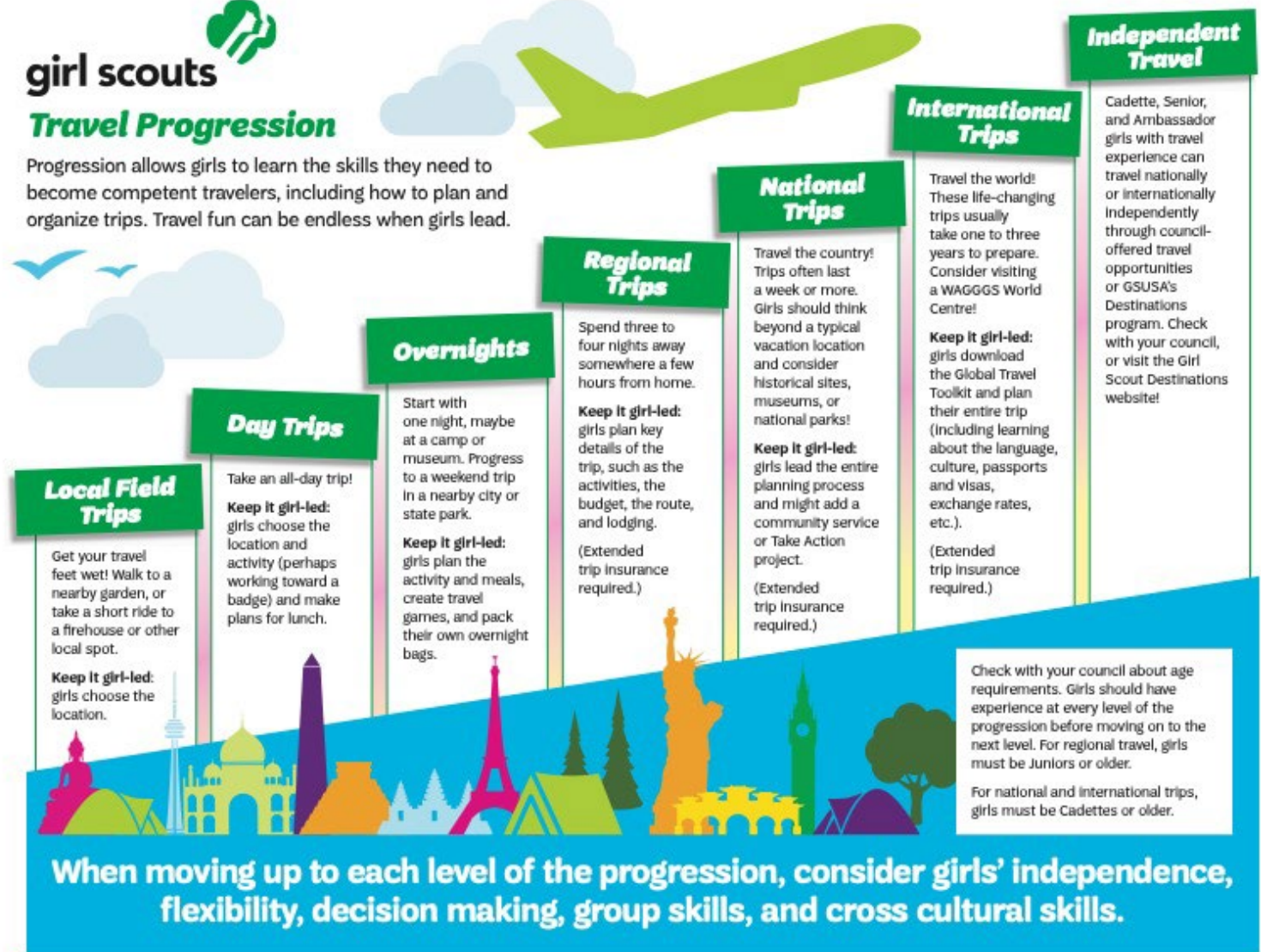


Travel opportunities for our council Girl Scouts to travel as troops or individually with a caregiver.

Council Travel

girl scouts Travel Progression

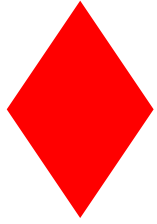
Progression allows girls to learn the skills they need to become competent travelers, including how to plan and organize trips. Travel fun can be endless when girls lead.





Scotland & Ireland

June 19, 2028 - July 3, 2028



Cadettes

With caregiver or troop



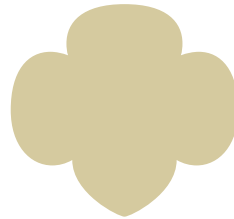
Seniors

With caregiver or troop or
independently



Ambassadors

With caregiver or troop or
independently



Adults

Must have membership &
clearances on file with GSWPA

Benefits of Educational Travel



Expanded worldview

- Understanding and appreciation of different cultures



Personal growth

- Increased confidence and competence
- Language and cultural immersion



Life skills

- Demonstrates maturity and worldliness
- Enhances college and job applications

Travel impact by the numbers...

92% of students

who have traveled report the experience had a lasting impact on their world view.



On Average, students who travel...



Score 19% higher on their SATs



Hold a GPA that's 23% higher



Are 32% more likely to attend college



Are 61% more likely to be employed full time

Why Explorica?



Proven experience

- 55 years of safe travel experiences
- More than 1 million travelers
- Tours to 75 countries on all 7 continents



Excellent value

- Fully inclusive
- Quality hotels, meals & activities
- Guaranteed best prices



Incredible Tour Directors

- Professionally trained, multilingual Tour Directors
- Specialized in student travel
- Local experts bring the destination to life
- With group 24/7



Exceptional safety record

- Proven systems in place at all levels of operations
- Worldwide network of support
- Local staff and partnerships
- Proactive risk management
- 24/7 On-Call Support Team
- *Unmatched in industry*

Scotland & Ireland



Where we're going

And why...

- **June 19, 2028 - July 3, 2028**
- **15 days**

Visit the metropolitan centers of Scotland and Ireland, travel through the Scottish highlands dotted with peaceful glens, tranquil lochs, and quaint country towns, and discover the famous Giant's Causeway along the breathtaking Antrim Coast.

Next up

Our itinerary day by day →

Tour Itinerary

DAY 1 | Overnight Flight to Scotland (Edinburgh)

DAY 2 | Hello Edinburgh

- Meet your tour director and check into hotel
- Edinburgh city walk: Royal Mile (Old Town), St. Giles Cathedral

DAY 3 | Edinburgh landmarks

- Edinburgh guided sightseeing tour: Royal Mile (Old Town), Georgian New Town, Palace of Holyroodhouse, Sir Walter Scott Monument
- Edinburgh Castle visit
- Edinburgh guided ghost tour

DAY 4 | Edinburgh--Highlands

- **Travel to Highlands via the Trossachs**
- Stirling Castle visit



Tour Itinerary

DAY 5 | Highlands

- Glencoe and Loch Ness excursion: Loch Ness boat cruise, Culloden Moor

DAY 6 | Highlands--Glasgow

- [Travel to Glasgow via Loch Lomond](#)
- Glasgow city walk: Strathclyde University, City Chambers, George Square

DAY 7 | Glasgow--Belfast

- [Ferry to Belfast](#)
- Travel along the Antrim Coast
- Giant's Causeway excursion



Tour Itinerary

DAY 8 | Belfast--Dublin

- Belfast guided sightseeing tour: Lower Falls, Shankill Road, Belfast murals
- **Travel to Dublin**
- Dublin city walk: Ha'Penny Bridge, Temple Bar, Molly Malone statue

DAY 9 | Dublin landmarks

- Dublin guided sightseeing tour: O'Connell Street, Parnell Square, Phoenix Park, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity College & Book of Kells visit
- Glasnevin Cemetery Museum visit
- **Optional Irish folklore evening \$65**
- Traditional public house dinner



DUBLIN



ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



Tour Itinerary

DAY 10 | Start extension to Ring of Kerry

- EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum
- **Travel to Galway**

DAY 11 | Galway

- Galway city walk: Spanish Arch, Quay Street, St. Nicholas' Church, Eyre Square
- Connemara excursion
- Kylemore Abbey visit

DAY 12 | Galway--Killarney

- **Travel to Killarney**
- Cliffs of Moher visit
- Limerick city walk

King John's Castle, St. Mary's Cathedral



RING OF KERRY 



CLIFFS OF MOHER 

Tour Itinerary

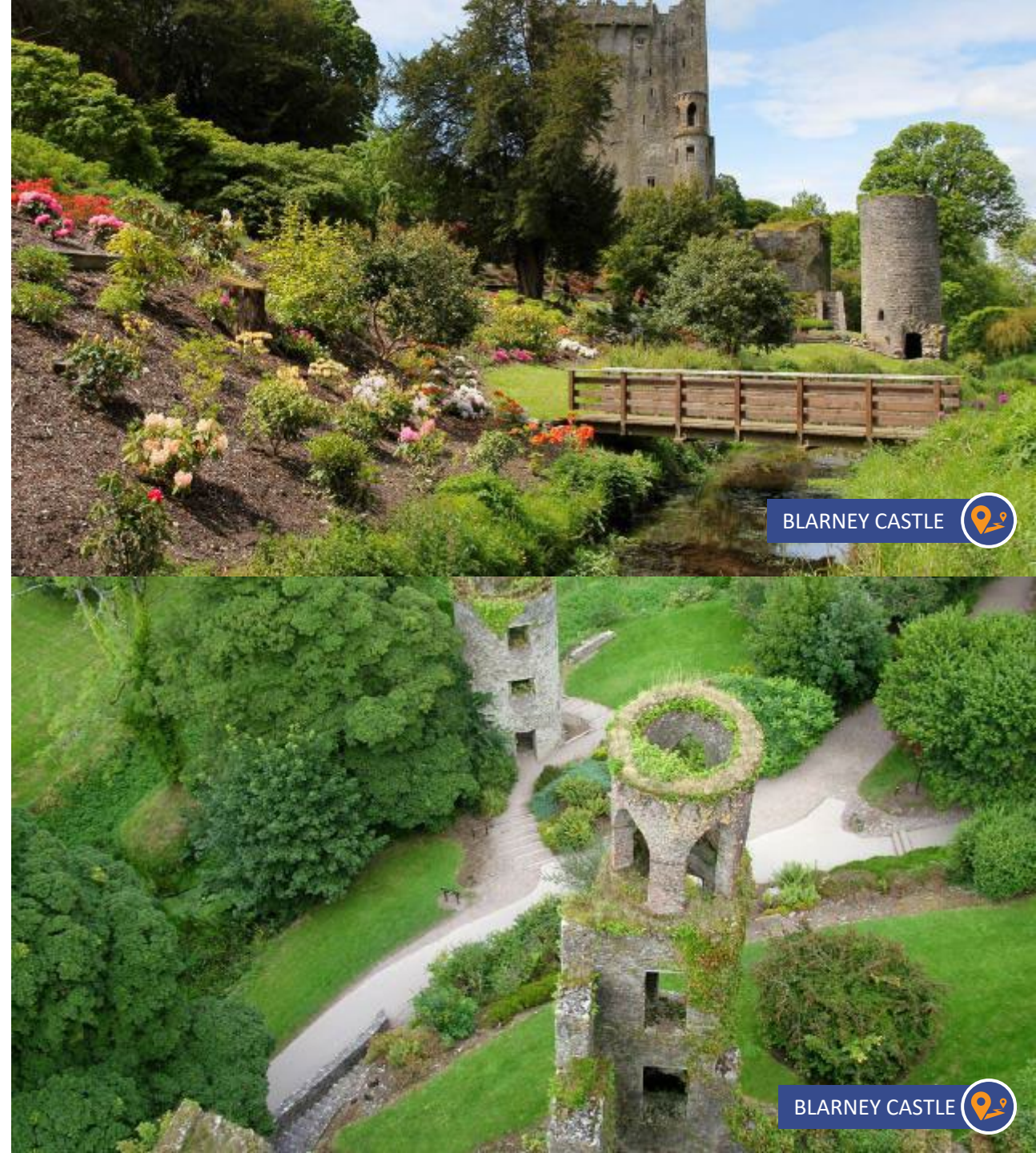
DAY 13 | Ring of Kerry

- Ring of Kerry excursion
- Sheep farm visit (March to October)

DAY 14 | Killarney--Dublin

- **Travel to Dublin via Blarney Castle**
- Blarney Castle visit

DAY 15 | Flight home from Dublin



Castles, Cliffs, and Celtic tradition! Travel to Scotland and Ireland with a blend of urban city exploration and a touch of natural wonder. Visit Edinburgh and Sterling Castles and see if you can spot the Loch Ness on a boat cruise. Explore Glasgow before heading to Belfast as you travel along the Antrim Coast and stroll on the Giants Causeway. A stop in Dublin for a city walk and a visit to Phoenix park, then off to the Ring a Kerry to check out Galway, Connemara, Killarney, the Cliffs of Moher, and a city walk through Limerick - Ireland's 3rd largest City. End it all and trip to Blarney Castle! This trip is jammed packed with fun, so bring your sense of adventure.

- This is GSWPA's 2nd trip with Explorica. We took a fabulous trip to London and Paris in 2025. Explorica was easy to work with, while keeping our safety at the forefront. Even with a slight hiccup with flight delays, they were quick to respond and ensure we got home!
- I work closely with our Explorica account manager to customize our travel – From Trip planning to meals, to payments, flights, and more.
- Tour days go from approximately 8am – 8pm, give or take, with some free time each day to explore the area we are in.
- This trip includes some travel between cities and countries, so we will have some travel days that may affect our day start time and end time.
- Optional excursions provide an amazing learning opportunity for travelers and are highly suggested. If you choose not to sign up for the optional portions, you will have additional free time.
- We decided that it would be a shame to go to Ireland and not see everything the Emerald Island had to offer, so we extended the trip to include the Blarney Castle and the Cliffs of Moher.

What's included

Almost everything!



Round-trip airfare – All flights out of Pittsburgh, PA



All on-tour transportation



Accommodation in triple or quad rooms with private bathrooms



Full breakfast daily



Hearty, authentic dinner daily



Entrance fees to attractions per itinerary



Guided sightseeing tours and city walks per itinerary



Full-time, professional Tour Director



Online Tour Diary™, so you can follow our journey from home



24-hour emergency service

Pricing through June 18, 2026

\$6382 for youth Girl Scouts
\$7091 for adults.

Or 24 monthly payments of
\$263.83
After initial payment of
\$50.00

Total Fee:* \$6,382.00

Program Quote Breakdown

The following fees apply to your full-paying participants:

Tour Fee*	\$6,121.00
Irish folklore evening	\$65.00
On-Tour Tipping	\$196.00
Council Fees	\$200.00
** EarlySavings28	\$ -200.00

Total Fee* \$6,382.00

OR 24 monthly payments of \$263.83
After initial payment of \$50.00

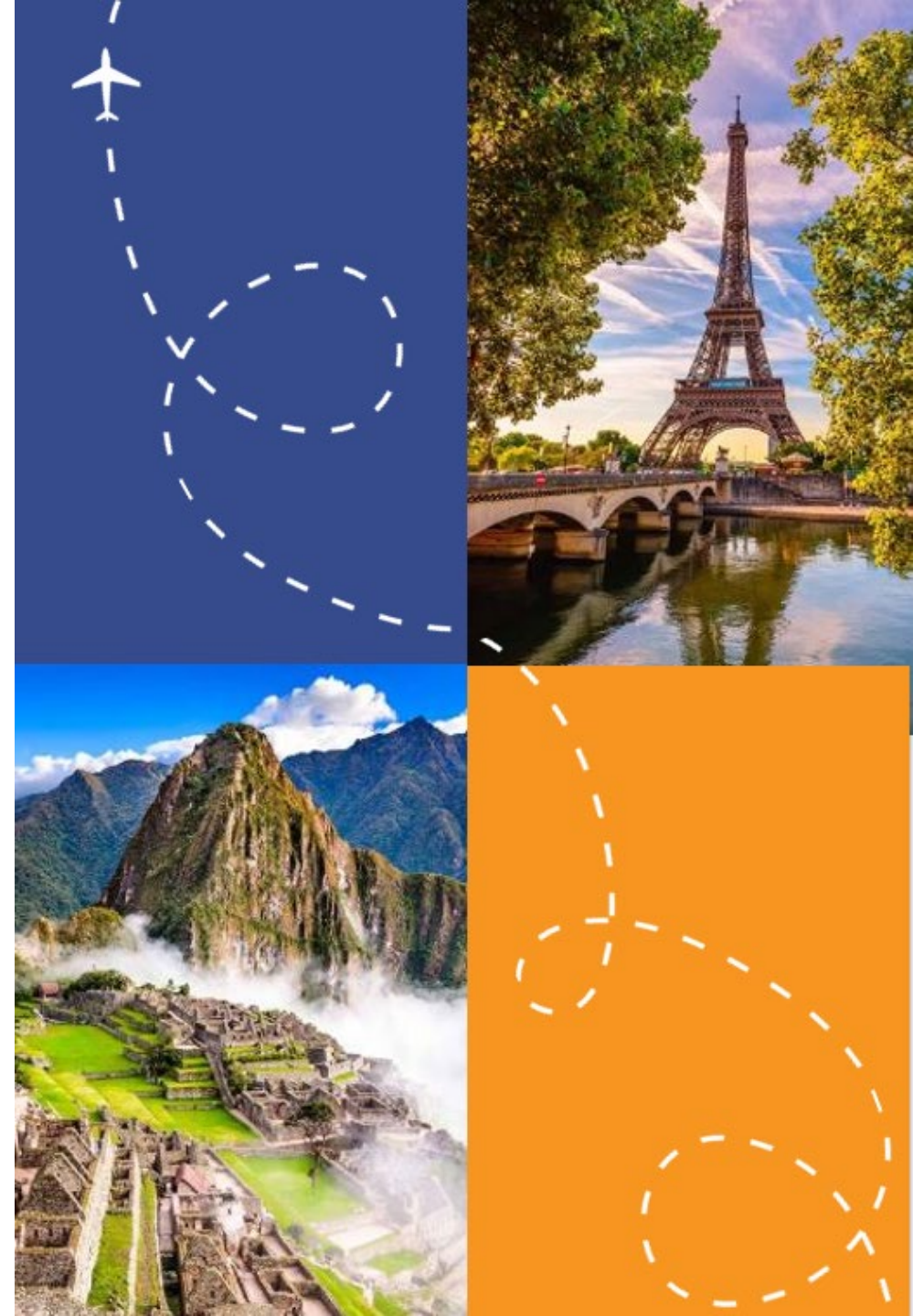
* Last day for this Program Fee is June 18, 2026.

** Only valid with voucher code EarlySavings28

Additional Adult Fees

The following additional fees apply only to full-paying participants 23 and older and are not included in the total price listed above.

Adult Supplement	\$125.00
Twin Room Upgrade	\$585.00
Additional Adult Fee	\$710.00



If you are a group of six or more, please contact Amber Carson at acarson@gswpa.org to inquire about special group discounts.

Easy ways to pay

Making it possible for every student to travel

1

Pay in full at enrollment

- Entire trip paid upon registration
 - No remaining balance
- Payment rendered manually

2

Automatic monthly payment plan

- \$50 deposit paid upon registration
- Balance divided into equal monthly installments
 - Payments charged automatically

3

Manual payment plan

- \$99 deposit paid upon registration
- Balance divided into 4 installments
 - Payments rendered manually



Product Program Rewards

Youth Girl Scouts can now use a portion of their Product Program Reward – both cookie and fall sales by joining the council sponsored travel troop. This is optional and a great way to raise funds for the trip. All Product Program Rewards will be split between the two troops.

All other participation remains the same.

Easy ways to pay

Making it possible for every student to travel



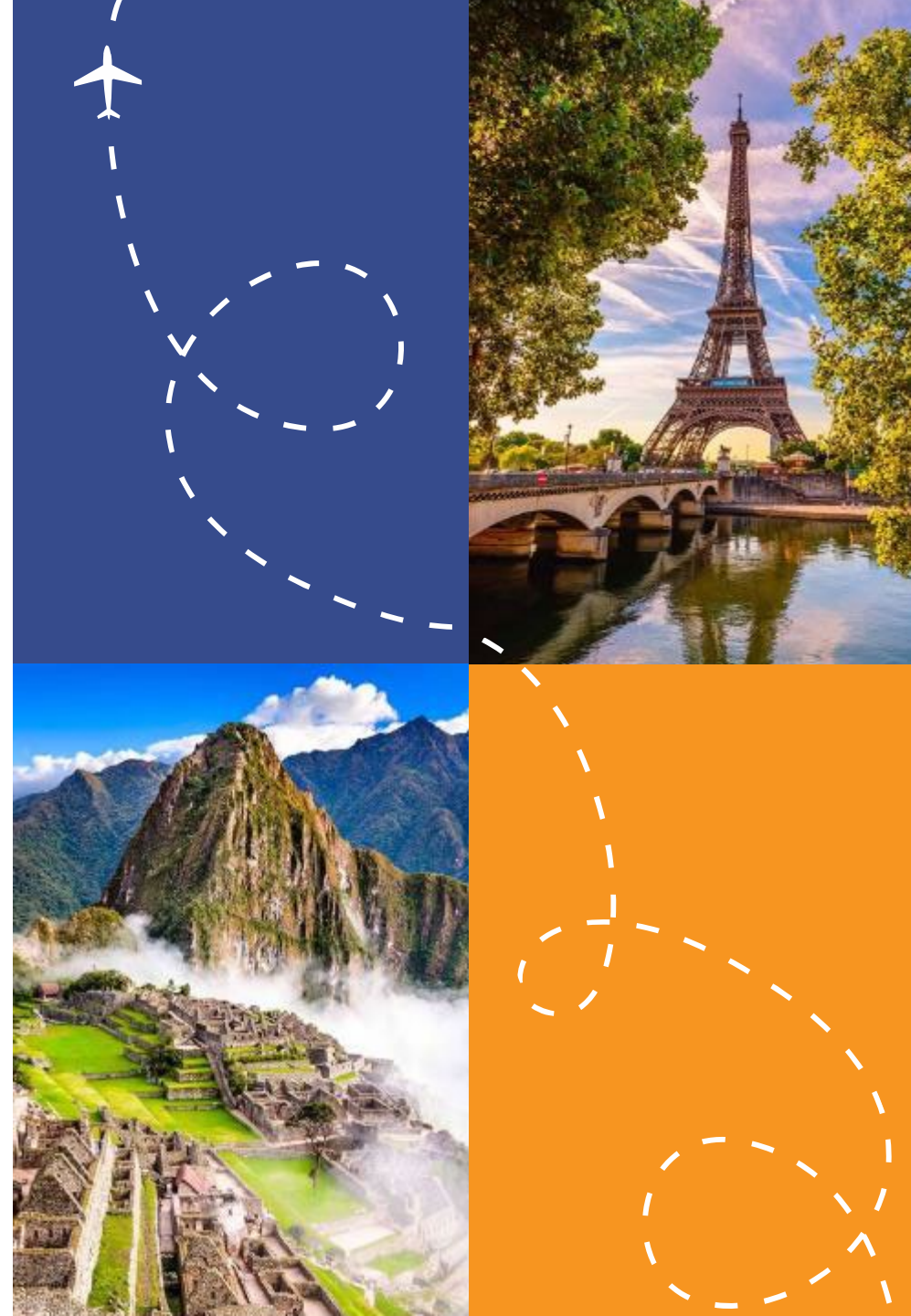
Fundraising support

- Personal fundraising page on explorica.com
- Easily request and accept credit card donations from friends and family



Financial assistance

- Need-based support for qualifying families
- Confidential application



Your responsibilities

These costs vary and are not included in the tour fee:



Acquiring a passport and
visa (if applicable)



Travel to and from the
airport, for departure and
arrival back home



Tips for our tour director
and bus driver
(Already Included)



Spending money for
optional excursions, free
time activities, lunches,
beverages/snacks, and
souvenirs

These are all necessities each traveler will be responsible for during the tour—please plan accordingly for them.

Passports & visas

All travelers are responsible for securing the necessary documentation for travel. These pieces of documentation may include a passport and visa.



Passports

- Passports are needed 4 months prior to your departure date.
- The application process takes 8-12 weeks, so plan accordingly.
- Passports will need to be valid through 6 months after the trip = December 2028



Visas

- Since requirements vary for each nationality, we recommend all travelers verify the individual requirements for their nationality with the local consulate for all the countries to be visited, or VisaCentral, Explorica's partner for travel visas.
- Visa is needed for Scotland and it's part of the UK. This is simple and easy to obtain only and costs approximately \$22.

Important note: Passports must be valid for at least six months after our scheduled return date.

Your responsibilities

Optional travel protection



Travel Protection Plan

Educational travel is an investment in your child's future. We recommend you protect that investment with our Travel Protection Plan, which covers you for the following events:

- A traveler's injury, sickness, or death of a family member
- Theft of passport or visas
- Flight cancellations due to strike or bad weather
- Loss of luggage and personal effects
- Trip cancellation or trip interruption due to covered reasons such as a covered sickness, illness, or injury
- Trip cancellation or trip interruption due to terrorist acts, as defined

*Cost of plan is due in full at the time it is selected.
This plan must be selected before your final trip payment.*



Travel Protection Plan PLUS

Along with providing you the same benefits as the Travel Protection Plan, our Travel Protection Plan Plus also includes the Cancel For Any Reason Benefit:

- If you cancel 48 hours (2 days) or more before your scheduled trip departure date for any reason not otherwise covered by this policy, we reimburse you for 75% of the non-refundable cancellation fees which apply to your trip

*Cost of plan is due in full at the time it is selected.
This plan must be selected within 14 days of trip enrollment.*

Learn more at



Adult Trip Chaperones

Trip Chaperones are partners in travel with the Group Leader (council staff) and assist with safety and logistics during travel, like room check, wake up calls, enforcing curfews, and managing the group to and from trip destinations.

Interested in being a trip chaperone? Please complete this form.

Discount rates may apply depending on a total number of travelers and will be applied to your trip balance 60 days before departure.

Academic Credit

How this differs from a family trip

- Students can complete assignments before, during, and/or after the tour.
- This option provides the opportunity to earn high school and/or college credit for their travel experience.



High school credit (students in grades 6-12)

- Middle and high school students can earn **free high school credit** in conjunction with their trip. To participate, choose a course from the options carefully paired with your travel program, then work at your own pace to complete the online coursework within six months of your tour. (.5 HS credits)



College credit (students in grades 9-12)

- Explorica partners with George Mason University to issue college credit in conjunction with our travel programs.
- High school students can earn college credit by successfully completing a course after they return from their travel program. Choose a **1-credit or 3-credit** course option, then work at your own pace to complete the online coursework within six months of your tour.
- The cost of credits is based on George Mason University's competitive fees.



Give your child *the world*

You're in the position to encourage your child to:

- **Explore exciting destinations**
- **Create lifelong memories and new friends**
- **Grow and mature as a person**
- **Prepare for a successful future**



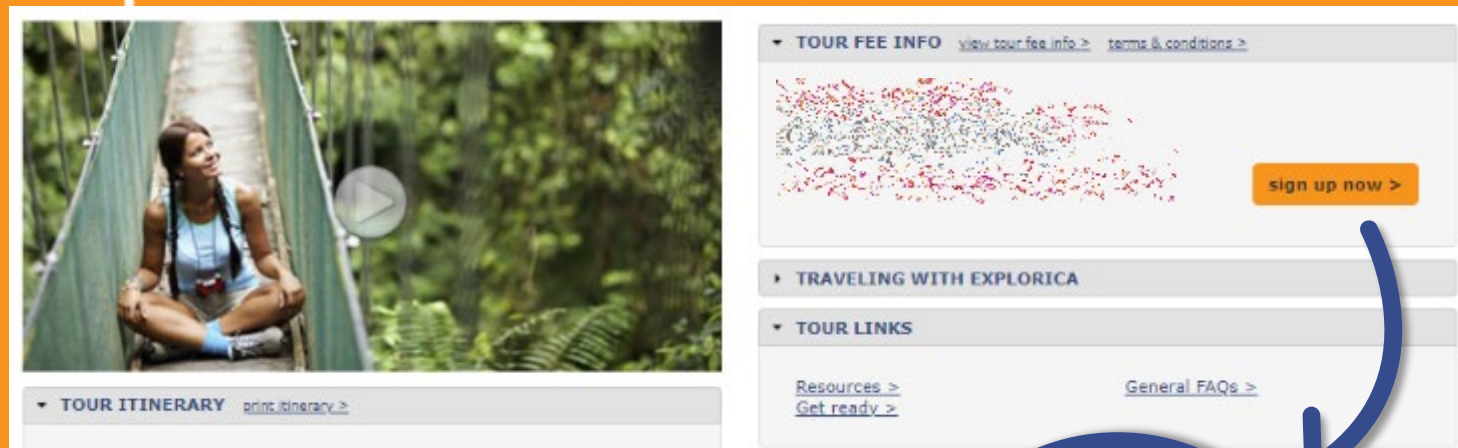
How to enroll

You can enroll your child through any of the following methods:

- Start here for our council record
<https://gswpa.wufoo.com/forms/ze543lq1xzg3/>
- Then, register with Explorica and choose your payment options at <http://program.worldstrides.com/Carson-6704> (most popular!)

You can also register with Explorica:

- By phone at 1-888-310-7121
- By mail when you complete the paper application and send it to:
Explorica by Worldstrides
701 E. Water Street, Suite 200
Charlottesville, VA 22902



Thanks for joining us!

Enroll online at:

Worldstides.com/Carson-6507

Questions? Please contact:

Program Leader: Amber Carson

Email: acarson@gswpa.org



We look forward to traveling with you!

