

PARENT INFORMATION for International Tours



EXPLORICA BY WORLDSTRIDES HIGHLIGHTS

We help more than 400,000 students and their teachers experience new cultures, languages, and people every year. With 55 years of experience organizing trips to all seven continents, we've cultivated the knowledge and resources to provide a safe, fulfilling, and truly life-changing travel experience for your child.



International presence: With more than 70 offices around the world, you can rest assured that we're always nearby and ready to help if the need arises.



Guaranteed best prices: We don't make you pay for the things you don't need, and if you happen to find a lower price for the same tour components, we'll beat it.



Student travel grants: We offer student travel grants throughout the year to further reduce the tour fee for your travellers. We award over \$4 million in funds each year.



Doctors on Call: Dr. Neal Sikka, of the George Washington University Department of Emergency Medicine, serves on our staff as Medical Director, overseeing medical response planning and case management. Our partnership gives us access to doctors who are available 24 hours a day to provide consultations to all our travelling students, parents, and teachers (including translation services in over 100 languages).



Financial assistance: Students with limited resources or who identify with an underrepresented group are eligible to receive financial assistance to participate in our programs. Interested families should speak with their school to apply on the student's behalf.



24/7 emergency support: For any problems that may arise, our dedicated WorldAssist Team is always ready to provide assistance.



Personal fundraising pages: All paying participants are provided with their very own page on explorica.ca, which allows them to solicit and accept online donations towards their tour.



Global vigilance: Our team receives guidance from the Government of Canada, the World Health Organization (WHO), the George Washington University Department of Emergency Medicine, and other experts in the field. We also partner with Exlog Global, a leading worldwide security and risk management organization, for additional assistance in evaluating global conditions, and we actively monitor any security issues with them.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do you offer flexible payment plans?

Explorica offers three convenient payment plans: a **Monthly Automated Plan**, a **Full Payment Plan**, and a **4-Step Manual Plan**. We accept Visa and MasterCard, cheques, electronic chequing account payments, online banking, and money orders. Payments can be made online, over the telephone, or by mail.

What's included in the Tour Fee?

- Round-trip airfare or bus transportation from your departure city
- Accommodation in triple or quad rooms with private bathrooms (upgrades available)
- Airport transfers at destination and all transportation between cities
- Local public transportation to all scheduled itinerary activities
- Full European or buffet-style breakfast daily
- Dinner daily at your destination (unless otherwise noted)
- All excursions, led by professional local guides (per itinerary)
- Visits to select attractions and theatre tickets (per itinerary)
- City walks led by an Explorica Tour Director (per itinerary)
- Full-time services of a professional Tour Director
- All non-optional gratuities
- 24-hour emergency service
- Tour Diary™

How does rooming work?

While on tour, 3-4 students under the age of 23 and of the same gender will be sharing a room. These students will be from the same group unless otherwise noted. Hotel rooms are furnished with either single or double beds; single beds sleep just one person and double beds may be shared. Participants may choose to upgrade to stay in a twin room for an additional \$45 per night.

How much luggage can travellers bring?

We always recommend travelling light! Your child can bring one carry-on bag and one piece of checked luggage. Some airlines may have baggage-handling fees (which are not included in the cost of the trip), so please check directly with the airline prior to departure.

How much spending money should travellers bring?

We recommend that each participant budget \$30 to \$50 each day for souvenirs and any transportation and meals that are not included in the tour fee. Participants may need to budget an additional amount for tipping if your Program Leader selected not to include tips in the price of the tour.

What if my child has special dietary requirements?

Travellers should notify their Program Leader of any special dietary requirements or food allergies prior to departure. We will notify all hotels and restaurants in advance and do our best to work with you to meet dietary needs on a case-by-case basis.

Do you offer financial assistance or fundraising help?

WorldStrides offers additional funds for qualifying students. To be considered, the school must submit an application through our confidential application process. We also give every student their own personal fundraising page on explorica.ca—with an average donation of \$100, students can easily raise significant funds for their tour using their favourite social channels.

Do you provide on-tour updates?

Our unique online Tour Diaries allow family and friends of Explorica tour participants to check in on their loved ones and follow along with their tour.




REGISTER TODAY!

Simply enrol online, by phone, or by mail:

 explorica.ca

 1-888-378-8845

 Paper application available at explorica.ca/resources

LET'S GET SOCIAL   

Connect with us [@EXPLORICACANADA](https://www.instagram.com/EXPLORICACANADA) on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter or visit our blog at EXPLORICA.CA/BLOG.

Use the hashtag [#EXPLORICACANADA](https://www.instagram.com/EXPLORICACANADA) so we can find your shots—we share our favourites on our social media channels!