



## THE SUMMIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

### ITALY & GREECE June 17 - 26, 2024

October 5, 2023

Dear Parents and Students:

Mr. Dean and I are excited to announce our upcoming international trip! This will be a tour of Italy & Greece for students who are currently in 7<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade. We will depart on June 17<sup>th</sup> and travel for 10 days, returning on June 26, 2024. Please take this opportunity to peruse the travel information and our itinerary. We have purposefully selected the destinations and daily activities to create a fast-paced itinerary that provides a multitude of educational experiences while still leaving plenty of time to relax and take in all that Italy & Greece have to offer. The tour will allow travelers to learn about history and art from the pre-Roman to modern eras as well as to experience beautiful scenery. In addition to several Summit Country Day adult chaperones, our Explorica tour director will remain with the group 24 hours a day.

We will travel from Summit Country Day via motor coach to Detroit. From there we will fly to Milan and meet our tour director who will remain with us until our flight home. By eliminating the domestic flights and in place using a motor coach, we are able to cut the cost by approximately \$300 per student and ensure that we will be on time for our international departure.

Pricing should be thought of in three sections: (1) Explorica's tour fee, (2) auxiliary fee, and (3) spending money. The Explorica tour fee is inclusive: air and land travel, admissions, lodging, breakfasts, and dinners. There are several payment options, all of which are paid through their website. Explorica highly recommends everyone carry travel insurance; please note that the price for this coverage should be added to the cost of the trip. You may be aware that on trips such as these the cost varies in relation to the number of participants. The price quoted below reflects an estimated number of participants. The cost may increase if we do not reach that goal. The auxiliary fee is paid to Summit for the bus, tips and shirt. It will be paid in two installments of \$200 due in late April and late May of 2024. Travelers' only additional expenses will involve securing a passport, buying lunches and extra beverages with meals, as well as purchasing souvenirs.

In order to secure a place on the trip, you are requested to submit the Participant Commitment form (pages 5 & 6 below) as soon as possible and register at [explorica.com](http://explorica.com) with our TourCenter ID: Mays-7674. Turning in this form is a clear commitment and should be turned in only when you have made your final decision. There is an incentive of a \$100 discount if you pay the deposit on or before October 24<sup>th</sup>. Please see the attached information regarding payment options offered by Explorica.

Additionally, in support of both the Summit Country Day Mission Statement and the National Junior Classical League, I am also pleased to invite The Wellington School's Latin teacher and their students to join the Summit on a tour of Italy & Greece. As both schools are chapters of the NJCL, we felt it important to focus on their creed which affirms that "the JCL experience develops leadership, fosters community, promotes enthusiasm, inspires dedication and enriches our total growth." We will not be traveling as two schools who happen to be on the same bus, rather as one group with the same expectations for respect, behavior, and having fun.

I am pleased to be offering such an exciting community travel opportunity, and I hope that you will reserve your place with our tour.

Foreign travel enriches the study of literature, language, and history by offering a personal perspective on events and sites which have shaped our world. we look forward to traveling with you.

Lisa Mays & Larry Dean  
Middle and Upper School Latin Teachers, SCDS

Emelie Inderhees  
Middle and Upper School Latin Teachers, Wellington

## ITALY & GREECE June 17 - 26, 2024

### COST BREAK-DOWN

oExplorica Fee -\$4,222

Includes:

oAirfare

oHotels

oBreakfasts/Dinners

oTour Director, Guides, Site Entrance Fees

oAuxiliary Fee -\$400

oBus to/from DTW

oTips

oShirt

oPaid to Summit in April and May, 2024 (2 checks for \$200)

oSpending Money

oLunches

oSouvenirs

oInsurance? See next page

### Conditions of Participation:

I am aware that participation in the trip to Italy & Greece will require the following:

- permission of parents/guardians
- adherence to the school's drug and alcohol policy
- obtaining a valid passport
- being prompt in completing all forms
- paying the full program costs (dependent upon the total number of participants)
- agreeing to uphold standards of exemplary behavior as a representative of The Summit Country Day School while abroad
- OPTIONAL - purchasing a medical/travel insurance plan

## **Helpful Information Regarding Cost**

Explorica offers three convenient payment plans and accepts Visa and MasterCard (credit and debit), checks, electronic checking account payments, online banking and money orders. Payments can be made online, over the telephone or by mail.

### **Monthly Automated Plan:**

Pay your \$50 deposit and travel protection plan costs with credit/debit card or checking account upon enrollment, and the balance of your Tour Fee will be automatically charged to your card or debited from your account in equal monthly installments until 35 days prior to your departure date (checking account) or 65 days prior to your departure date (credit/debit card). Please note that you must make all payments by credit card, debit card, or checking account. If two consecutive payments are returned NSF or declined by your bank or credit card company, we will change your account to the designated Manual Plan.

### **Full Payment Plan:**

Pay in full at time of enrollment.

### **4-Step Manual Plan:**

Pay your \$99 deposit and travel protection plan costs upon enrollment, \$500 toward your Tour Fee 30 days later, and 75% of your remaining balance at 110 days prior to departure. The final remaining balance is due 65 days prior to departure and can be paid by check, credit or debit card, or checking account. If you enroll 150 days prior to departure or later, you will make only three payments - \$99 deposit and travel protection plan costs at enrollment, 75% of your remaining balance at 110 days prior to departure, and the final balance at 65 days prior to departure. Please note that we do not automatically deduct payments on this plan; you must make each payment manually. All full-paying participants, including participants who have previously traveled with Explorica, are required to pay the \$99 deposit upon enrollment. Any participant who has already paid the deposit for a previous tour will receive a \$100 credit on his or her Explorica account.

## **EXPLORICA'S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLANS**

Our standard travel protection plan provides coverage for a number of events including:

- The injury, sickness, or death of a student or family member
- Documented theft of a passport or visa
- Flight cancellations due to strike or bad weather
- Loss of luggage and personal effects
- Medical expenses incurred while on the trip
- And much more...

Please see plan details for a full list of covered reasons: [Plan Details](#)

### **EXPLORICA'S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN PLUS**

Along with the benefits provided by the standard plan you may also have the option to upgrade to the Explorica Travel Protection Plan Plus which includes our exclusive Cancel For Any Reason Waiver.

With our Cancel For Any Reason Waiver, if you cancel your trip for any reason not otherwise covered by this policy, we will reimburse you for 75% of the non-refundable cancellation fees which apply to your trip, provided:

- 1) Payment for this plan is received by Explorica within 14 days of your initial deposit/payment for your trip; and
- 2) You cancel your trip 2 days or more before your scheduled trip departure date.

The timeframe to remove this benefit is 24 hours after purchase.

This Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit does not cover penalties associated with any air or other travel arrangements not provided by Explorica.

The Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit is provided by Explorica and is not an insurance benefit underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company.

All of the above can also be found at: <https://www.explorica.com/faq.aspx#PAYMENT%20PLANS%20AND%20OPTIONS>

**Italy & Greece June 2024 Commitment Form**

STUDENT'S FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_, LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT CELL \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVES TEXT? YES NO

STUDENT EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HOW OFTEN IS THIS EMAIL READ? (CIRCLE ONE) MONTHLY WEEKLY DAILY

STUDENT'S AGE IN JUNE 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

2023-2024 YEAR IN SCHOOL                      7           8           9           10           11

LANGUAGE/S TAKEN IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

DOES THE STUDENT HAVE A PASSPORT THAT WILL BE VALID IN 2024? YES NO

I have read and understand the expectations for behavior on pages 3 & 7 . I agree to behave in a respectful and lawful way. I understand that any behavior contrary to these expectations will have consequences including the possibility of being sent home at my family's expense.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

OVER

**PRIMARY CONTACT** (First parent or guardian notified in case of emergency)

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION TO STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVES TEXTS? YES NO

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL READ? (CIRCLE) MONTHLY WEEKLY DAILY

I have read and understand the expectations for behavior on pages 3 & 7. I have discussed the behavior with my student and feel that they understand the expectations. I understand that any behavior contrary to these expectations will have consequences including the possibility of the student being sent home at my expense.

\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact Signature

**SECONDARY CONTACT** (Second parent or guardian notified in case of emergency)

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION TO STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVES TEXTS? YES NO

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL READ? (CIRCLE) MONTHLY WEEKLY DAILY

I have read and understand the expectations for behavior on pages 3 & 7. I have discussed the behavior with my student and feel that they understand the expectations. I understand that any behavior contrary to these expectations will have consequences including the possibility of the student being sent home at my expense.

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact Signature

### Behavior Contract

**All participants are required to follow all school rules as applicable on any field trip, including those who are 18 and/or recent graduates.** This pertains especially to dress and grooming as well as behavior. Participants are expected to abide by all laws of the United States, Greece and Italy. Explorica staff, Wellington and Summit Country Day faculty reserve the right to search students' belongings in the occasion that illegal activities are reasonably suspected. No drinking is permitted, even when it is permitted by the law of the country. Any violation of this rule will result in automatic and immediate expulsion from the group.

- I have reviewed all documents related to this trip.
- Respect:
  - I will be respectful at all times of the faculty chaperones, tour guides, my fellow student travelers, bus drivers and all people with whom I may come in contact during the trip.
  - I will respect the need for polite behavior and quiet in all hotels, restaurants, museums, buses, and sights, whether in my room, in the halls, or in the common areas.
  - I will be open to new experiences and try all activities with an open mind, a positive attitude, and without complaint.
- Responsibility
  - I will not leave any site (hotel, restaurant, bus, etc.) without the permission of my trip leaders.
  - I will not leave my room after the time designated by the trip leaders.
  - I will not be in a room (mine or any others') with a member of the opposite gender at any time for any reason.
  - I will not endanger myself or any other person through any action on my part.
    - I will not carry nor purchase any item that would be deemed improper to bring to school.
    - I will not use/sell, or in any way contribute to the use/sale of any tobacco related product, alcohol, or any drug related product.
  - I acknowledge that I jeopardize my participation in future trips by not behaving properly on this one.

### Consequences of Rule Violations

The following violations result in immediate removal from the group (sent home), at the parents' expense:

- Violation of any U.S. law (including consumption of alcoholic beverages)
- Violation of any law of the countries being visited
- Gambling, drug use, theft, willfully leaving supervision (i.e. sneaking off)

Other violations will be dealt with on a "3 strikes" system. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> offense, the student would be removed from the group and sent home.

**I WILL RESPECTFULLY FOLLOW ANY INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO ME BY MY FACULTY CHAPERONES OR ANY OTHER ADULT INVOLVED IN ANY ACTIVITY OF WHICH I AM A PART DURING THIS TRIP WHO IS DIRECTING MY LEARNING, SAFETY OR RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE TRIP VENUE OR THE SUMMIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL.**

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**My child and I have discussed Summit's expectations and understand our responsibilities as outlined above and in other trip documents. I will support The Summit Country Day School faculty if a problem occurs which may involve my child's behavior. I understand that if there is a significant or recurring problem the faculty may send my child home at my expense or I may be called to come and get my child.**

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_