

**CENTENNIAL ISD 12
FIELD TRIP REQUEST
CLASS III INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

Trip Destination: France, Spain, and Italy

Educational Purpose: The purpose of the trip is to expose students to diverse historical sights, sounds, smells, and tastes. In addition students engage in vast cultural exchanges and often get a chance to use foreign language skills

Date(s) of trip: 6/15/28 to 6/28/28 Number of school days involved: 0

Staff in Charge: Eric Ripken

Number of students: 50-100 (TBD) Number of adult chaperones: Approximate 6:1 ratio

How will students be selected for the trip? The trip is open to all incoming 9th grade through 11th grade students. It is on a first come, first served basis. I have been able to accommodate all interested

How is this trip funded? The trip is individually funded, but fundraising is offered

Cost per student: Initially \$5,589. Price goes up incrementally as it gets closer

Transportation method & provider: The trip is done through EF (Education First)

Additional information that should be known about the field trip. (Use back for additional space if necessary.) The trip is designed between myself and EF. I work on the itinerary and EF creates the nuts and bolts of flights, transportation, activities, and accommodations. They are wonderful to work with.

Attach the following:

- Draft trip itinerary (activities planned, approximate timelines, accommodations, transportation plans)
- Funding plans (trip anticipated expenses, approximate cost to the district, student's individual costs and fundraising plans)
- Plans for parental notification and approval

Name of staff person in charge: Eric Ripken

ER

Signature of staff person in charge

Date

Name of Principal/Supervisor:

Tom Breuning



Signature of Principal/Supervisor

8/31/26

Date

_____ Date of Board Approval

_____ Denied

Superintendent

Date



Explore France, Spain and Italy

14 Days | Summer 2028

The experience of a lifetime is waiting for you. Every detail from the cities you'll stay in to the cultural discoveries you'll make have been customized by your teacher for your group. Take a look at your personal itinerary for a sneak peek of what's in store.

Included on tour



Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; project-based learning program, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily unless otherwise specified. Lunch on day 6.

Sightseeing: Paris; Bilbao

Entrances: Pont du Gard; Papal Palace, Avignon; Lavender farm, Provence; Calanques cruise, Cassis; Cinque Terre train card

Overnights: Paris (2); Basque Coast (3); Provence region (3); French Riviera (2); Cinque Terre region (2)



Your Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to France

Board your overnight flight to Paris!

Day 2: Paris

Arrive in Paris

Welcome to Paris, the cosmopolitan City of Light. While visiting, learn why Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically.

Walking tour of Paris

Join your Tour Director on a walking tour that will introduce you to Paris. Together, you might see the chic, boutique-filled Opéra district, city's largest square at the Place de la Concorde, and the geometric Tuileries gardens.

See Notre-Dame Cathedral

See the cathedral that inspired Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*. Admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Day 3: Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your panoramic bus tour. An expert local guide will accompany you as you drive through Paris' lively Latin Quarter. You will also drive down the elegant, tree-lined Champs-Élysées. Finally, be sure to snap a photo at the magnificent Eiffel Tower, an unmistakable and controversial symbol of Paris since its appearance at the 1889 World's Fair.

Exploration time in Paris

Enjoy time to explore Paris on your own. You may wish to visit one of Paris' many museums, or stroll through one of its iconic neighborhoods, like the Latin Quarter.

Day 4: Paris | Basque Coast

Board the TGV train to Bordeaux

Get on board one of France's Trains à Grande Vitesse (TGV) and watch the rolling countryside and picturesque towns roll by as you approach speeds of up to 170 miles per hour.

Travel via Arcachon and Dune du Pilat to Biarritz

En route to the Basque Coast, stop and visit the coastal town of Arcachon. If the weather is nice, kick off your shoes and walk in the same sand that the bourgeoisie of Bordeaux walked many years ago. With your Tour Director, you will see La Dune de Pilat, Europe's largest sand dune.

Arrive in Biarritz

One of the most popular resorts in France, Biarritz mixes sandy beaches with a coast that allows for a variety of water sports. Historically a small fishing port, the town developed as a tourist attraction during the 19th century due largely to its popularity with the British—a tradition that continues today.

Day 5: Basque Coast

Excursion to St. Jean de Luz

Visit the charming fishing town of St. Jean de Luz, city of Cézanne. Here Louis XIV married the Infanta Maria Teresa in 1660. Take some time on your own to explore the town or to relax at the nearby beach.

Walking tour of Biarritz

As your tour director introduces you to the town of Biarritz, enjoy views of the Atlantic and the town's sandy beaches. The area has been a favorite among international royalty since the early 19th century.

Day 6: Basque Coast

Exploration time in San Sebastian

Enjoy free time, perhaps by taking a two-hour walk to the peak of Monte Igeldo for a wonderful panoramic view of San Sebastian and its surroundings, taking a stroll along the Paseo Nuevo coastal path, or savoring a slice of burnt Basque cheesecake at one of the many cafes and restaurants in the old town.

Enjoy a pintxos-style lunch

Sample this popular culinary tradition of the Basque region with a small plate-style lunch.

Guided sightseeing of Bilbao

Journey to the heart of the Basque Country (or Euskadi, as the natives call it). Your sightseeing begins with a walk through Bilbao, a city nestled at the foot of the Pyrenees. You'll see the famed Guggenheim Museum, whose fanciful walls of titanium, limestone, and glass provide grand structure around a vast collection of 20th-century modern art, including works by Andy Warhol and Jackson Pollock. Stroll through the rustic streets of the casco viejo (old town) to the Catedral Basílica de Santiago, Bilbao's Gothic Cathedral. You may even have time for some churros y chocolate at a local café.

Lunch is included today, and a cash handout is included for dinner this evening.

Day 7: Basque Coast | Provence region

Travel via Toulouse to the Provence region

Get oriented with Toulouse as your Tour Director introduces you to the city during a walking tour.

Arrive in the Provence region

Welcome to the Provence region of France, one of the most beautiful and acclaimed parts of the country. In this region, discover a land of stunning architecture with heavy Roman influence, varied local produce, and strong artistic links, none more famous than Impressionism.

Day 8: Provence region

See the Pont du Gard

See the Pont du Gard, a portion of an aqueduct built by the Emperor Agrippa in AD 19. This spectacular work of Roman engineering is impressive in both form and function—the water conduit, atop the three levels of arches over the River Gard, brought 2,000 gallons of fresh water to the city each day.

Exploration time in Nîmes

Enjoy time to explore the ancient Gallic settlement of Nîmes on your own. You may wish to stroll through the town or see Nîmes' Roman amphitheater up close.

A cash handout is included for dinner this evening.

Day 9: Provence region

Travel to Avignon

Travel to Avignon, capital of the Provence region.

Walking tour of Avignon

Your Tour Director will introduce you to Avignon, capital of the Provence region. Together, you might see the famous Palais des Papes or stroll by the quaint shops and restaurants within the walled city.

Visit the Papal Palace

Pope Clement V, a native of France, chose Avignon as the seat of the papacy in the 1300s. Stroll through the sprawling Palais des Papes in which he and six successive popes resided. View the stunning Italian frescoes in the chapel, step inside the papal vestry, and see the hidden vaults where the Church's riches were stored.

Visit a Lavender farm

Nestled at the base of beautiful Provence, you will visit a lavender farm. The rich fragrance of lavender flowers will delight your senses and soothe your soul.

Day 10: Provence region | French Riviera

Travel via Cassis to the French Riviera

Calanques cruise

From the seaside village of Cassis, you will embark on a cruise through inlets cradled by jagged limestone cliffs. The Calanques, as these steep-sided fjords are called, create a craggy, white trim along a stretch of France's most beautiful coastline.

Your Itinerary

Arrive in the French Riviera

Welcome to the French Riviera, land of deep blue waters waving palm trees and sun-drenched promenades. Learn why this area of France is a favored resort of the rich and famous, locals and visitors alike.

Day 11: French Riviera

Walking tour of Nice

Get to know Nice during your Tour Director-led walking tour. Together you might stroll through the Vieille Ville, past white-washed villas, or see the famous Promenade des Anglais.

Exploration time in Nice

Enjoy time to explore Nice on your own. You might consider enjoying a café au lait in one of the Old Town's squares or take in breathtaking views of the Mediterranean Sea as you stroll down the Promenade des Anglais.

Day 12: French Riviera | Cinque Terre region

Travel via San Remo to the Cinque Terre region

Stop for some free time in San Remo, a Mediterranean resort town on the Italian coast. Explore the labyrinthine old town or marvel at the lavish villas of the rich and famous.

Arrive in the Cinque Terre region

Welcome to the Cinque Terre region, a cluster of towns perched on the dramatic cliffs of the Mediterranean coast. Each of the region's five Italian villages—Monterosso, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore—has its own unique character and charm.

Day 13: Cinque Terre region

Visit the Cinque Terre

Travel by train between the villages and take in views of dazzling aquamarine water, which makes the area popular with sunbathers and swimmers. From Monterosso's lively markets to Vernazza's medieval forts and Manarola's pastel-colored edifices, there is something for everyone to discover and enjoy in Cinque Terre.

Day 14: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to Genoa airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.

— The easiest ways to —
ENROLL TODAY



Enroll on our website
ef-tours.com/enroll



Enroll by phone
800-665-5364



Enroll by mail
EF Educational Tours
Two Education Circle
Cambridge, MA 02141

My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.

—CHARLOTTE, PARENT OF TRAVELER



Tour review

THE WORLD LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

For over 50 years EF has been working toward one global mission: *Opening the World Through Education*. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence. What's more:

- **We always offer the lowest prices**
so more students can travel.
- **We're fully accredited, just like your school**,
so you can earn credit while on tour.
- **All of our educational tours feature experiential learning activities** and visits to the best sites.
- **We're completely committed to your safety.**
We have more than 600 schools and offices in over 50 countries around the world, so local EF staff members can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.
- **Your full-time Tour Director is with your group**
every step of the way on tour, providing insight about your destinations as well as great local tips.



Draft Trip Itinerary: (See attached sheet for the basic itinerary.)

Some notes:

- Dates of the trip may move forward or backward a few days to ensure flights and accommodations.

Accommodations:

- Exact accommodations are not known until closer to the trip as EF has contracts with many different hotels and depending on the size of our group certain hotels may accommodate us better than others. We also get free upgraded hotels when available due to the longevity of our program here at Centennial. Here are some sample hotels that have been used with a similar itinerary:

Paris, France – Neighborhood Hotel

Neighborhood hotels put you in the heart of local culture—and within 30 minutes or less of nearby city centers in neighborhoods such as Nation or La Defense. Chosen for their lively neighborhoods and easy access to public transportation, these hotels introduce you to local life beyond downtowns. When selecting your hotel, we take your tour flow into consideration to maximize your experience and reduce unnecessary travel time.

TRIBE Paris La Défense Esplanade

<https://tribehotels.com/en/france/paris-la-defense/>

Address: 11 Rue de l'Abreuvoir, 92400 Courbevoie, France

Le Patio Bastille

<https://en.lepatiobastille.com/>

Address: 289bis Rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine, 75011 Paris, France

Provence region, France

Groups stay in areas around the Provence region such as Nimes, Uzes, and Montpellier. From the hotel, the driving time to your destination will depend on where your group is staying and what the itinerary is for that day. Accommodations meet the standard you'd expect from a typical European hotel, which means that rooms come with private bathrooms and feature multiple single or shared double beds. Rooms may be on the smaller side without AC, and hotels may not have elevator access. Hotels also do not supply pool or beach towels, so it's recommended to pack your own.

Logis Hotel Uzes Pont Du Gard

<https://bestwesternuzespontdugard.h-rez.com/>

Address: 2 Bis Rue De L'emmeraude, Uzes, 30700, France

French Riviera, France

Groups stay in areas along the Riviera such as Cannes, Frejus, Nice, or Antibes. From the hotel, the driving time to your destination will depend on where your group is staying and what the itinerary is for that day. Accommodations meet the standard you'd expect from a typical European hotel, which means that rooms come with private bathrooms and feature multiple single or shared double beds. Rooms may be on the smaller side without AC, and hotels may not have elevator access. Hotels also do not supply pool or beach towels, so it's recommended to pack your own.

Zenitude Hotel Residences Mandelieu La Napoule

https://www.zenitude-hotel-residences.com/fr_FR/residence/mandelieu-la-napoule/142

Address: 161 Rue Yves Brayer, 06210 Mandelieu-la-Napoule, France

Cinque Terre, Italy

Groups typically stay an hour or less by bus and train from the Cinque Terre villages, in nearby towns such as Moneglia, Genoa, or Massa. Accommodations meet the standard you'd expect from a typical European hotel, which means that rooms come with private bathrooms and feature multiple single or shared double beds. Rooms may also be on the smaller side without AC, and hotels may not have elevator access.

Hotel Mondial Moneglia

<https://www.hotelmondialmoneglia.eu/it/home>

Address: Via Venino, 16, 16030 Moneglia GE, Italy

Transportation:

- Flights are all with major reputable airlines. In the past we have used Delta, American, United, Air Canada, Air New Zealand, etc.
- Ground transportation is on coach buses that have plenty of comfortable seats, air conditioning, etc.

Funding Plans:

- Typically students sign up for the trip in late September to allow for the cheapest price as well as to spread out the monthly payments. The initial price is \$5,589, which is very reasonable for a 14 day trip. Travelers then sign up for the payment plan they prefer as EF gives a few options. All payments are made to EF.
- There is no cost to the district for any part of this trip.
- I offer some fundraising including chocolate bar sales, Heggie's Pizza Sales, and plant sales. If other opportunities come along I include those as well. The fundraising has helped make the trip affordable for many families in the past who may otherwise not get the opportunity to travel.

Parental Notification and Approval:

- All parent communication is done through email, in person meetings, the Groupme App, and Schoology. I guide them through every part of the process and how to prepare for the trip.