

Wednesday 4th December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

TOUR OF ICELAND: Thursday 25th – Monday 29th March 2021

The Geography department is arranging a tour of Iceland in March 2021 for students in the current Years 9 and 10. Iceland truly is “the land of fire and ice” with its volcanoes, hot springs, and geysers set alongside its ice caps, glaciers, and sea ice. As the tour is not an integral assessed part of the GCSE course, participation is entirely optional.

The dates booked are Thursday 25th – Monday 29th March 2021. The visit will be organised by Discover the World Tours, a highly regarded company in the schools travel business which we have used for a number of years; they are bonded by ABTA (Association of British Travel Agents), AITO (Association of Independent Tour Operators), and the Civil Aviation Authority under the ATOL scheme. They have also introduced a “Volcano Disruption Charter” guarantee in case of future volcanic ash disruptions.

The visit is designed to give students an opportunity to enrich and reinforce their geographical knowledge and understanding, including case study information that can be used in exams etc. There is a full programme of unique educational visits and experiences with the opportunity for relaxation in the evenings. A brief overview of the itinerary can be found on the next page – and I more detailed programme will be provided in the New Year..

We have tried to create a “once in a lifetime” opportunity to visit the country on such a comprehensive package that is actually superior to our previous and highly successful Icelandic excursions. Many of you will be aware that the cost of living in Iceland is extremely high as much food is imported so we have created a package whereby very little extra money is needed.

I am delighted to announce at this stage that the total cost will be £1,170 (same as 2019!!), and this includes all transport within the UK and Iceland, flights, tour guide, fantastic hotels with hot tubs, three meals a day, boat trips and all activities mentioned above. We have been advised by the tour company that, as flights are not released until 350 days prior to departure, this price may vary slightly – but the amount is the cost estimated by the tour company based upon the current prices.

We have a maximum of 45 student places available for this trip, and if you would like the opportunity for your child to be part of the trip, please complete the attached reply slip and return it to the Print Room by Friday 20th December 2019. If the trip becomes over subscribed, in order to keep the system as fair as possible, we will draw out names from a hat and offer the fortunate students places by letter, we will also compile a reserve list.

Please note that deposits are **not required** at this stage, but once a place is confirmed, a £100.00 (non-refundable) deposit will be payable by Friday 31st January 2020. A second (non-refundable) deposit of £175.00 will be due by Friday 20th March January 2020, and the remaining balance must be received by Friday 15th January 2021.

Finally, there will be an information evening held for parents and students in December 2020, and there will of course be the opportunity to purchase an ‘Iceland Hoodie’ for the tour!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school by phone (01677 422419) or via email at **childea@bedalehighschool.org.uk**.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Childe
Head of Humanities and MFL

Outline Itinerary

Day 1	Keflavik - Reykjanes Peninsula – Lava Tunnel – Overnight Hveragerdi area
Day 2	LAVA Centre – Solheimajokull Glacier walk – Skogarfoss – Reynisfjara - Overnight Hvolsvollur
Day 3	Return Ferry Landeyjahofn to Westman Islands - Heimaey tour - Eldheimar interactive exhibition - Seljalandsfoss – Overnight Hvolsvollur
Day 4	Secret Lagoon – Golden Circle (Thingvellir National Park – Efsti Dalur - Geysir – Gullfoss) - Overnight Reykjavik
Day 5	Transfer to Keflavik airport - Fly to UK

Click here for more information: <https://www.discover-the-world.co.uk/study-trips/iceland/iceland-highlights-2>

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Bedale High School – Tour of Iceland: Thursday 25th – Monday 29th March 2021

Student Name: Form:

I would like my child to have a place on the visit to Iceland in March 2021.

Signed: Parent/Carer

Please return this slip to the Print Room by **Friday 20th December 2019**