



AGENDA

Golden Hills School Division No. 75

Vision: *Inspiring confident, connected, caring citizens of the world*

Mission: *Engaging all learners in achieving their highest levels of academic and personal competence within a caring, innovative environment.*

Special Meeting of The Board of Trustees

Friday, March 31, 2017

Start time 1:30 PM

Conferene Call Meeting

AGENDA

1. **Attendance**
2. **Call to Order**
3. **Approval Of Agenda**
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - 4.1. **Action Items**
 - 4.1.1. **Field Studies/Student Excursion - Europe (Three Hills/Trochu Valley Schools) B. Daverne**
5. **ADJOURNMENT**



FIELD TRIP STUDIES/STUDENT EXCURSION Three Hills/Trochu Valley Schools

"Inspiring confident, connected, caring citizens of the world"

March 31, 2017

Background:

Three Hills and Trochu Valley Schools are jointly requesting permission, in accordance with Administrative Procedure 260 and Board Policy 2, for an international high school field trip to Europe from April 12, 2017 – April 21, 2017 during Spring Break. The trip will involve approximately 42 grades 11 and 12 students and the students will miss 2 days of school.

The administration will complete a risk assessment as required by Administration Procedure 260- *Field Studies/ Student Excursions*. The risk assessment process will ensure that all the requirements of Procedure 260 are fully completed before departure.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees approves the proposed high school field studies/excursion for Three Hills and Trochu Valley Schools to Europe from April 12, 2017 to April 21, 2017 subject to advisory notices from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada website http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries_pays/updates_mise-a-jour-eng.asp such that if a travel warning is issued prior to the trip and not rescinded before the departure date, the trip will be cancelled and parents must be advised that this will be the case.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bevan Daverne", is written over a horizontal line.

Bevan Daverne
Superintendent of Schools

YOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Fly to Paris

Board an overnight flight to Paris

Day 2: Paris

Arrive in Paris

Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Walking Tour of the Latin Quarter

Your Tour Director will lead you on a walking tour of Paris' famous Latin Quarter. Featuring a diversity of restaurants, the Latin Quarter is just a short walk down the Rue de la Seine from the museum area.

Visit Notre Dame Cathedral

Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Overnight in Paris

Day 3: Paris

Guided Sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your morning bus tour. Learn about Paris' origins as a Roman settlement as you pass through the Île de la Cité, where you will also see Notre Dame Cathedral. Pass by the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, and the École Militaire, where he graduated to Lieutenant. Continue down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde, dedicated to King Louis XV and the site where Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were executed during the French Revolution. Then, head through the Quartier Latin where you will see the world-renowned Sorbonne University, and drive along the Seine for wonderful views of the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre and the Pont de Neuf, or 'new bridge', which is ironically Paris' oldest. Finally, make a photo stop at the iconic Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair. Learn why this impressive, yet controversial, symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

Optional: Guided Excursion to Versailles (\$115)

Step back into le grand siècle as you experience the opulence of Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Built to be the envy of all Europe, France's most extravagant château continually threatened to bankrupt the national treasury. Here the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. You'll also tour the State Apartments of the King himself and walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, where France, Spain and England officially recognized the independence of the United States in 1783, and where the Treaty of Versailles, which ended WWI, was signed. You'll also witness the ornate decor of the Queen's State Apartments, furnished for Marie Antoinette. After your visit inside the palace, be sure to take some time to stroll through the elaborate gardens, designed by André Le Nôtre. *(Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace.)*

Free Time in Paris

Enjoy free time for your own explorations of Paris. You might wish to visit the Musée d'Orsay, the Rodin Museum, or the futuristic exhibits of the Centre Pompidou. Alternatively, take a stroll through the Latin Quarter or take part in the timeless Parisian tradition of people-watching over a cup of café au lait at a sidewalk café. Last but not least, for the fashion conscious traveler, a visit to the Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré is a must and don't forget to drop by and explore the famous Galeries Lafayette which have made fashion come alive for more than a century.

Overnight in Paris

Day 4: Paris

Excursion to Vimy

Visit to Vimy Ridge Historic Site Incl. tunnels & trenches
Walk along Vimy Ridge, where in 1917, Canadian troops came together to accomplish what larger British and French forces had failed to do, and what would become a defining moment in the first World War. See where these brave soldiers charged over the ridge, marching under continuous, heavy fire and cleverly isolating the German troops in their dugouts. A towering, white marble monument now marks Hill 145, the place where the capture of Vimy Ridge ended in a bayonet charge against machine-gun nests. Learn more about this stunning victory that Brigadier-General A.E. Ross called "the birth of a nation."

Return to Paris

Overnight in Paris

Day 5: Paris

Visit the Musée d'Orsay

Part of this museum's draw is the building itself, not just the artwork that adorns its walls. Built for the 1900 Universal Exposition, the Gare d'Orsay functioned as a train station until 1939 and was converted into a museum in 1986. The high, arching ceiling and enormous wall clocks hint at the days when trains zipped in and out of the spacious structure. The museum is noted for its collection of Impressionist paintings—a walk through the upper gallery will reveal works by Monet, Renoir, Degas, Sisley, Pissarro, and countless others.

Walking Tour of Montmartre and Sacré-Coeur

Visit the spectacular Sacré-Coeur, a Catholic basilica built atop the Montmartre hill. From here enjoy some of the most breathtaking views of the City of Light before heading to the cafés and shops that line the small and quaint streets. Relax at the Place du Tertre and watch talented artists at work or choose to have your own portrait done. Montmartre was once home to many struggling artists, including Picasso, Monet, and Renoir.

Board an overnight train to Florence

Overnight train Paris-Florence

Day 6: Florence

Arrive in Florence

Set deep in the heart of Tuscany is one of Italy's jewels. The city of Florence has delighted visitors for centuries with its remarkable architecture. Whether sitting by the River Arno, strolling the beautifully housed streets or viewing the renaissance masterpieces that fill the city's churches and museums, one can only be astonished by the feeling of true beauty.

Guided Sightseeing of Florence

Fall under the spell of the powerful Medici family on your guided tour. See Giotto's Bell Tower and the imposing marble cathedral in the Piazza del Duomo. Stand before Ghiberti's legendary *Gates of Paradise* (so dubbed by Michelangelo), and pass the classical statues of the Piazza della Signoria - here you can see where Michelangelo's *David* originally stood.

Overnight in Florence

Day 7: Florence | Rome

Transfer to Rome via Assisi

As you head south into Umbria you will pass the city of Perugia. Shortly afterwards stop in Assisi, birthplace of both St. Francis and St. Clare. On your visit to the basilica of St. Francis, follow the life of one of Italy's most beloved saints through Giotto's frescoes. Continue south to Rome, the Eternal City.

Guided visit of Basilica of St. Francis, Assisi

Dominating the Assisi skyline, the Basilica is actually two churches juxtaposed upon one another. Despite extensive damage by two earthquakes in the late 1990s, much of the church has been restored. Inside is the tomb of St. Francis as well as frescoes depicting his life.

Free time in Assisi

Arrive in Rome

Welcome to Rome, the Eternal City. The city is an incredible mix of archaeological gems, Roman genius, Renaissance art and religious treasure. As Italy's capital, it is also the bustling heart of this exciting country. With its fashionable shopping and café-culture, Rome really is a unique European experience.

Overnight in Rome

Day 8: Rome

Guided Sightseeing of Rome

Your guided sightseeing of ancient Rome takes you into the Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire. You will also visit the Colosseum, where gladiators once battled for their lives in front of 50,000 spectators.

Optional Excursion: Gladiator School Experience (\$90 pre-tour)

Latin for swordsman, a gladiator was a slave, criminal or professional fighter in ancient Rome. Today you will learn the origin of the warriors and learn some techniques or how they conquered their enemies.

Overnight in Rome

Day 9: Rome

Guided Sightseeing of Vatican City

The world's largest dome is located in the world's smallest country. See both as you tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected in Vatican City on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's *Pietà* and try to find the artist's signature (it is the only sculpture he ever signed). Then continue on to the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries packed with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the Chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backwards from a scaffold.

Optional Excursion: The Roman Catacombs (\$80 pre-tour)

Take an optional excursion to Rome's outlying catacombs, Christian burial grounds that date from the 2nd through 5th centuries. As you visit these mysterious burial chambers of popes and saints, keep your eyes out for early Christian art. Then journey down the ancient Appian Way, the most celebrated highway of the Roman Republic. Constructed in 312 B.C., the Appian Way led southward from Rome to Capua, and eventually to Brundisium (now Brindisi). Continue on to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the second largest church in the city of Rome, next to St. Peter's. On the basilica's peripheral walls, hang circular portraits of each pope. There is space for only eight more portraits, and legend says that once the walls fill up the world will end.

Overnight in Rome

Day 10: Depart

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will 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.co.uk.