

28/09/2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The History Department is delighted to announce the 2019 Easter History Tour to Krakow and Auschwitz.

We will leave the UK on Saturday 6 April 2019 and arrive back late on Tuesday 9 April. The trip will focus on the two events which dominated and shaped the 20th Century: World War Two and the ensuing Cold War. The exact itinerary is still being refined but is likely to include the following:

Day One: An afternoon flight will take us to Krakow, widely regarded as one of Eastern Europe's most beautiful cities. After settling into our accommodation, the early evening will be used to visit the impressive Cloth Hall in the heart of the Old Town.

Day Two: Using an expert local guide, we will learn about Poland's long History in a walking tour through Krakow's medieval streets, once sacked by the advancing Mongol warriors. The afternoon will be spent in the magnificence of Wavel Castle, infamously used by the Nazis as their opulent headquarters. We will also learn more about Polish History while on a boat ride along the River Vistula.

Day Three: The morning will be based in the old Jewish Quarter of the city, learning about daily life before the arrival of the Nazis. We then depart for Auschwitz. The largest death camp of World War Two, it was liberated by the Red Army in the closing stages of the war, but only after the extermination of one million people.

Day Four: We begin in the Gestapo Museum, Pormoska Street, visiting the cells once used to imprison members of the Polish resistance. As the Nazis left the city in the final stages of World War Two, a second, much longer Soviet occupation began. Their imprint on the city will be highlighted in a guided walking tour round Nowa Huta, a model Communist housing district. The tour will end with a visit to the world-famous Salt Mines, now a United Nations World Heritage site.

The cost of the trip will be £590 which covers:

- RGS to RGS transport
- flights with carry-on luggage, which will be sufficient for a trip of this length
- accommodation
- excursions
- breakfast and evening meals, but not lunches

In the first instance we will require a deposit of £320 to allow us to secure the booking with Select School Tours. The remainder of the balance will then be due by Monday 17th December 2019.

If you wish your son to take part in the trip, can you please log on to ParentPay, look up "Easter History Trip 2019" and pay the deposit of £320. If you are unable to pay online, please contact the Finance Office to pay by an alternative method.

If you feel that the cost involved is prohibitive, please do contact me in strictest confidence and I will see if there is any funding available to assist you. Please note, where the School is required to make non-refundable payments to the trip provider, we would not be able to make any refunds should you withdraw your son from the trip.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the visit.

Yours sincerely

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