

20/09/2021

Dear Parents,

Ski Trip 19-27 February 2022 – Pila, Aosta Valley, Italy
Price: £1090 fully inclusive

I am delighted to announce that after 2 years off because of Coronavirus, we are launching our latest Italy ski trip for current Year 9 pupils. It will take place in February 2022. Please read this letter very carefully as it contains a number of points about COVID matters.

We will once again be travelling with Interski. Please take time to look at the company website: www.interski.co.uk. We will be staying at the Hotel Casale (www.hotelristorantecasale.it) which is on the outskirts of Aosta and a ten-minute drive to the gondola and ski-hire station in Aosta. The main details of the trip are summarised below:

- **Accommodation** - 6 nights hotel accommodation in a 3* hotel with breakfast and evening meal
- **Hot lunches** - Lunch vouchers for daily one hour fully supervised lunches on the mountain
- **Lift pass** - 6-day lift pass
- **Return travel** - From school to the resort by executive coach and cross channel ferry
- **Tuition** - 6-day snowsport course including 5 hours tuition per day by fully qualified English-speaking instructors
- **Ski, boot and helmet hire** - From the company's own purpose-built equipment hire centre
- **Après-ski activities** - An exciting and varied après-ski programme, with activities including pizza night, ice cream, bowling and snow tubing.
- **Insurance** - Comprehensive winter sports insurance
- **Awards** - Interski test with metal badges and certificates awarded on the final evening
- **Medical assistance** – Interski's unique 'Resort Rescue' service means there will be a dedicated member of staff on hand to translate, coordinate and liaise on insurance matters, should any students require medical attention of any kind
- **Access** to the services of Interski's in-house ski wear rental service that delivers high quality rental ski wear direct to our hotel in the resort
- **Membership of Interski Ski and Save** – which entitles students to discounts at a number of indoor and outdoor slopes in the UK

There are 45 pupil places which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If you are unable to secure a place, please email me immediately to be added to the reserve list. We appreciate that some boys will be disappointed but we are unable to take more than 45 students due to coach and hotel restrictions.

As the School has already paid a deposit to Interski, we are asking you to pay an initial deposit to secure your son's place and then the final balance by 26th November. At that point we will assess the COVID situation and make a decision on the viability of the trip. If we decide to cancel, you will receive the full amount back. If we decide to proceed, however, we will be paying the full amount to Interski and at that point we will be unable to make any refunds, unless we can find a replacement.

PLEASE ALSO BE AWARE THAT THESE PLANS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SHORT NOTICE CHANGES OR CANCELLATION DUE TO UPDATES IN COVID GUIDANCE OR ISOLATION PROCEDURES. In the event of any changes or cancellation the School, to the best of our ability, will look to reschedule or recover any costs committed. Many companies now have COVID guarantees in place and the School has undertaken due diligence checks. However, there always remains the possibility that some of the funding is unrecoverable and parents/guardians understand this when signing students up.

At this stage we do not know what the COVID travel procedures will be. However, we feel it is important to make you aware that currently there are additional requirements which would incur extra cost as your son would be required to undertake PCR tests at your expense. Additional paperwork may be required, but this would be facilitated by the School.

We would not want any pupil to not be able to take advantage of this opportunity due to financial hardship. If you would like to discuss this in confidence, please contact me.

If you would like your son to go on this trip, please log on to Parentpay, look up 'Junior Ski Trip 2022', and pay an initial deposit of £150 by **Monday 27th September**. If you are unable to pay online, please contact the Finance Office to pay by an alternative method.

There will be a presentation evening for parents and boys at School later this term to give out important information about the trip, updates on COVID travel and to answer any questions you may have, but please contact me if you have any more urgent queries.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Smith
Trip Leader
rls@rgshw.com