



12<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**To: Parents of pupils in Years 7 - 10**

Dear Parents

## **Cultural and Geography Trip - East Coast of America - July 2019**

I am offering our current Year 7 - 10 pupils an exciting opportunity for a geographical and culturally enriching field trip to the East Coast of America from 7<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> July 2019. During this exciting trip we will visit New York and Washington DC and take in the sights such as the Statue of Liberty, Empire State Building and the White House, to name a few! A provisional itinerary for the trip is attached. The trip is organised through the school trips company 'Travel bound' who we used when we visited the west coast of America in 2017.

The cost of the trip is £1,850 per person including a £200 deposit. The remaining cost of £1650 will be spread over four payments as detailed below:

<b>Payment due date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> May 2018	£500
7 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	£450
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2018	£350
1 <sup>st</sup> March 2019	£350

If your child will be 16 at the time of travel there is an additional Air Passenger Duty (APD) which applies to pupils aged 16 years and over. The APD rate is £78 per paying person.

To gain the best price for the trip it is half board. Pupils will need to bring spending money to cover the cost of lunch each day (est. £10 per day). Breakfast and evening dinner is included as are all other costs and entrance fees.

I will host a parental information meeting on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 5.30pm in the Senior School Hall** to go over the specifics of the trip and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to attend the information meeting, please tear off, complete and return the '**Parents' Information Meeting slip**' to me by **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018**.

Following this, places will be given on a first come, first served basis and pupils are to return the '**deposit slip**' part of the attached form with a **£200 deposit direct to me by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018**.

Yours sincerely

Mrs N Howlett  
Senior Teacher-Pastoral  
Head of Geography



## East Coast USA – Deposit Slip

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

I give consent for my son / daughter to partake in the **Cultural and Geography trip to the East Coast of America from 7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019**. I acknowledge the need for obedient and responsible behaviour on their part. I understand that there is some level of risk in every activity but that this visit will be managed to minimise the risks involved.

I believe my son / daughter to be medically fit to undertake this visit.

**Deposit:** *(Please tick from one of the following)*

I enclose a cheque for £200 *(Please make cheques payable to Hollygirt School)*

I will do a BACS payment of £200 by **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018** *(Please see details below)*

BACS information: Bank: Lloyds Sort Code: 309618

Account Name: Hollygirt School

Account Number: 62101368

Please title your payment NAME/USA

**Please note that this trip is not refundable and by signing the consent form, you are agreeing to the cost even if your child does not take part in the visit. However, should the trip not run due to insufficient pupil numbers; your deposit will be fully refunded.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to Mrs Howlett by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018**



## Parents' Information Meeting – Reply slip

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

We are attending the USA parents' information evening on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Please confirm number of those attending \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to Mrs Howlett by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

## East Coast of America - Provisional Itinerary- provided by Travel Bound

**Day 1:** Depart the UK on your flight to New York. Your coach will meet you upon arrival and transfer you to your accommodation. After this, if there is time you can do a **half day guided walking tour** of Midtown Manhattan so that you can gather your bearings and see more of this amazing city. Visit some of the iconic New York landmarks such as; the Rockefeller Centre, Times Square, Grand Central Station and Central Park, before heading out locally for dinner.

**Day 2:** Head downtown on the metro to catch a **ferry ride to the Statue of Liberty**. The boat will also stop at Ellis Island where you can learn more about the great movement of Europeans to the eastern shores of America. Ellis Island has long been the first port of call for immigrants entering America for the first time. The immigrant station was in operation from 1892 – 1954 and processed over 12 million immigrant steamship passengers. In 1990 the main building was restored and opened as a museum dedicated to telling the stories and history of immigrants entering America. Your final visits of the day will be to the **9/11 Memorial and Museum**. The National September 11 Memorial is a tribute of remembrance and honour to the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Centre site and at the Pentagon, as well as the six people killed in the World Trade Centre bombing in February 1993. The Memorial's twin reflecting pools are each nearly an acre in size and feature the largest man-made waterfalls in North America. Tonight, you can have dinner at the Heartland Brewery before heading to the **Empire State building** where you will visit the observatory platform and look at the stunning views of New York at night.

**Day 3:** This morning your group will have a coach for the day. Spend some time **Soho, China Town** and **Little Italy**. Jump back on your coach to go to Rockaway where you will go on an afternoon cruise to do some **Whale Watching (subject to tour schedule)**. If you're interested in setting sail in search of these beautiful mammals, hop aboard The American Princess for a Whale Watching and Dolphin Adventure Cruise. Join us, the original New York City Whale/Dolphin Watchers, as we head out into the Atlantic Ocean and seek out these beautiful mammals. We suggest you bring a regular camera, video camera and/or binoculars if possible. Children will be encouraged to participate in helping our crew take the official whale and dolphin count. Your coach will then take you back to Manhattan. There should be enough time for your group to do a spot of shopping in **Macy's** early evening before dinner.

**Day 4:** For your last day in New York, in the morning you will spend some time at **Central Park**. See where they filmed 'Friends', numerous films and have your picture taken with the 'Imagine' floor piece, a homage to The Beatles. This afternoon, you will do a **Broadway Workshop**. In a playful and fun environment, participants are encouraged to explore spontaneity, impulse, freedom, imagination, and creativity (all vital components to good acting!) with acting exercises

and theatre games often used in professional rehearsals. 60 minutes in length. Have dinner and then tonight, as the finale to your visit in New York, you will watch a **Broadway show**.

**Day 5:** This morning check out of the accommodation and get on your coach heading to **Washington DC**. You will go via the **Brooklyn Bridge** and do the **Alternative Street Art Tour**. Delve deep into the dynamic Brooklyn neighbourhoods of Bushwick and Williamsburg through an exploration of their vibrant street art. A democratic art form offering unparalleled accessibility both to artists and their audience, street art offers a unique lens into contemporary American culture. Make your way to Bushwick and check out iconic work from bold urban artists. Learn how this subculture has been uniting people of diverse backgrounds for the past fifty years by fostering creative, non-curated public expression, and gain a new understanding of Brooklyn. Once you arrive in Washington DC, check into your hotel before taking some time with a **Half day guide** to visit the **Monuments of the Mall** – the Korean, Jefferson, Lincoln, Vietnam, WWII and Martin Luther King Jnr – that honour those who helped shape the US Nation. Have your evening meal locally.

**Day 6:** This morning, your coach will meet you and stay with you all day. You will start off with a visit to the **Capitol Building and Visitor Centre**. The meeting place of The Senate and the House of Representatives. The Capitol is among the most impressive and symbolically important buildings in the world. The Exhibition Hall displays documents, artefacts and interactive exhibits. Next stop is the **Supreme Court and Library of Congress** – students can visit the courtroom, with its velvet drape and marble pillars where the nine court justices hear some of the 6,500 cases submitted to the Supreme Court each year. The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, with nearly 128 million items, including historically significant manuscripts on around 530 miles of bookshelves. Your final visit before a late dinner will be the **White House** is the official residence of the President of the United States, recognised worldwide as a symbol of the prestige of the presidency. This sprawling 132-room mansion has been home to every President except George Washington. Although groups are unable to visit the White House interior the visitors centre nearby has a video and exhibits relating to the White House and First Families which is just as good! Have dinner in Washington before heading back to your accommodation.

**Day 7:** This morning check out of your accommodation, leaving your luggage at your accommodation for a later pick up. Today, if there is time you will visit the **Smithsonian Castle**, on the National Mall. Finally, your coach will transfer your group to the airport for your return overnight flight to the UK.

**Day 8:** Arrive UK.

