Bonjour Voyageurs du Monde! Countdown to departure : 295 days



What a whirlwind this summer has been! It's hard to beat starting a summer with 36 novice travelers from little Meridian, Idaho who are now expert world adventurers! From learning how to navigate big beautiful cities, to cooking family-style dinners after exploring foreign supermarkets, to making new friends from around the world. Each student came back with a newly found confidence, with knowledge of the world and how to navigate it.

The only problem? After discovering what is out there, they have realized that there is so much more to see. As in the words of St. Augustine, "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."

This trip not only gave me testimony as to why I have chosen to plan and lead these tours, but also what travel does for students, making them lifelong learners, yearning to reach new heights as more active participants in the community of our world.

What more is there to say other than let's get planning Europe 2017!!

DATES

Our dates have been set! After speaking with my travel consultant over at Harmon Travel, we have solidified our travel dates: June 11th-June 26th (June 29th for those participating in the Iceland extension).

FLIGHTS

The group flight price will be around \$1500 (exact price will be available in a couple weeks). If you are wanting the extension, the group flight price will vary by no more than \$100 (if at all). If you choose not to participate in the group flight, remember that we are flying IN to Paris and OUT of Rome.



EXCHANGE

I am waiting to hear back from my contacts with the exchange program Terre des Langues in France to get further details on prices and dates for the students who wish to exchange. They are very friendly and willing to work with us and very excited that we have some students participating! This is what I have proposed to them:

Students can either go over for 2 weeks before our group tour (May 29-June 11) OR one week (June 3-June 11). The 2 week option would require students to take their final exams early. Right now our schedule says that school gets out on MONDAY June 5th--this is really weird and I cannot believe it's correct. If it is, then students participating in the 1-week exchange would need to take those finals the week beforehand, also. As for graduation, the schools go in a rotation and Mountain View is back at the front of the list for mid-May graduation, so that should not be an issue.

PAPILLON INTERNATIONAL EXCURSIONS, LLC

As many of you know, I decided to make our travels into an LLC for safety and legal liability for both me and the district. It makes my life easier and allows me and the district to separate ourselves from any issue that could arise. Because I am now officially an LLC, I decided to make a website where I can store all our trip information and inspire other teachers to stop using large for-profit travel companies and allow me to help them make their trips more meaningful and affordable for all students! So, if you know any high school

teachers who may be interested, please pass along the

information!

So, what's on this website?

Trip information

Testimonials from past travelers

Online payments

A trip chat room

An archive of the newsletters I will be sending out this

year

A calendar of meetings and payment due-dates

Etc, etc, etc!



Go check it out! <u>www.papillon-international.com</u> (for some reason it won't work with Chrome on my computer and only works with Safari hopefully this is a ME problem and that it works for you!)

*Please note that all payments, chat rooms, archives, and calendar are password protected and the password will only be given to those who have already signed up. If you have already paid your deposit, I will be sending you a separate email with the password needed to log-in.

REMINDER:

The deadline for signing up (requires deposit payment of \$200 per traveler) **is SEPTEMBER 30TH! Wednesday September 21st at 6:30pm is our LAST informational meeting** (you do not need to come if you have attended a previous meeting in the Spring 2016)

