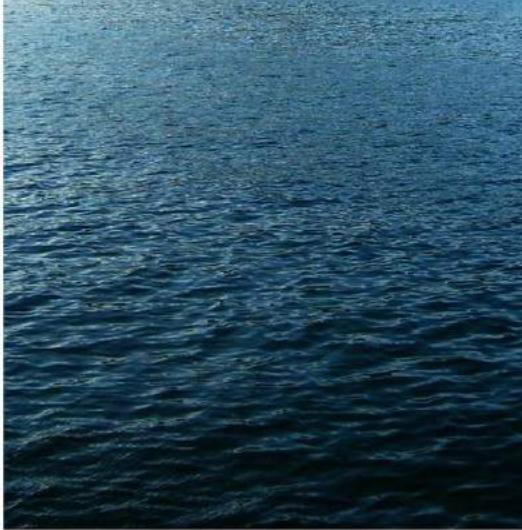


# FAMILY TRIPS



**EVOLVE**  
TOURS  
ADVENTURE • INSIGHT • TRAVEL



# FAMILY TRIPS

Here you will discover everything you need to know about planning a Family Trip.

## 1. CUSTOM TRIPS

Every single one of our programs is customizable. Within family trips there is obviously many areas of focus. Honing in on your focus will be up to you. Within each discipline we organized many transformational and progressive workshops to help enhance your goal. Here are some experiences that are possible for each focus.

### a. AREA OF FOCUS: ADVENTURE

*The Adventure focus explores outdoor adventures like rock climbing, ropes courses, canoeing and more. Families will be given every opportunity to experience and enhance their outdoor adventure skills to better connect with and enjoy time with their family members.*

- i. Experience adventure sports
- ii. Backcountry hikes and exploration
- iii. Local boat, bike, or horseback tours
- iv. Focus on rock climbing, skiing, kayaking, mountain biking, etc.
- v. Hands-on workshops: sport clinics

### b. AREA OF FOCUS: CULTURE

*The Culture focus dives into the art forms, sounds, and movements that have come to define local communities. From art galleries to performances to interactive workshops, families will be given every opportunity to experience these traditions through workshops, performances, museum exploration, and cultural events with each other.*

- i. Meet and greets with locals
- ii. Museum and cultural exploration
- iii. Local led walking tours
- iv. Performances and film festivals
- v. Hands-on workshops: art, music, and dance

### c. AREA OF FOCUS: ENVIRONMENT

*The Environment focus explores the flora, fauna, and diversity of the wildest places on Earth. Families will be given every opportunity to experience and learn about the diversity that connects us with our natural spaces and the challenges that exist within them.*

- i. Meet and greet with locals
- ii. Backcountry hikes and exploration
- iii. Scientific museum exploration
- iv. Local zoological tours
- v. Hands-on workshops: permaculture



## 2. HOW TO PLAN

### a. WHO ALL IS INCLUDED?

Who will be joining you on this trip? Will it just be your immediate family? What about the extended family? Is this just a trip for older siblings? Will parents be included? Who all is going?



### b. BRAINSTORM INTERESTS

What does each family member like to do? Would a tour of a Nicaraguan coffee plantation be fitting? What about a Kenyan safari expedition? Or even a multi-day trip to Skaftafell National Park in Iceland?

### c. WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THIS TRIP?

Do you want to see world-renowned sites? Do you want to share a meal with locals? What experiences do you want to have on this trip?

### d. HOW LONG WILL YOU BE TRAVELING?

Do you want your trip to be one week or a month long experience? Longer still?

### e. WHAT TIME OF YEAR DO YOU WANT TO TRAVEL?

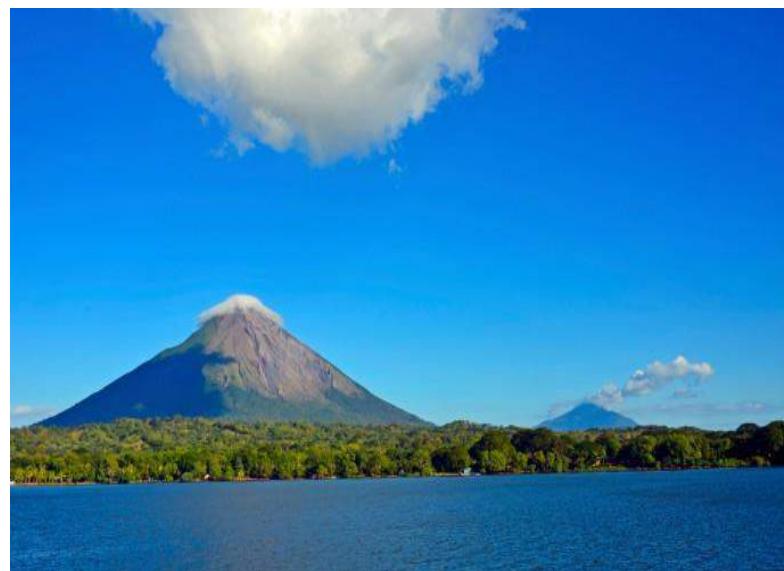
Do you want to ski the Swiss Alps in the winter? What about Brazil during Carnival? Or China during the New Year Festivals?

### f. DO YOU HAVE A BUDGET? IF SO, WHAT IS THE LIMIT?

How much money are you willing and able to spend? What about everyone else on this trip with you? What is the total budget you have set? What can your institution cover?

### g. WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

Australian Outback? Countries in the Mediterranean Sea? What about Central and South America? Or even the Himalayas in Nepal and India?





### 3. TOP DESTINATIONS

It would be tough for us to tell you the MUST go to destinations, there are just too many amazing places in the world to visit. So much culture, so much influence, so many choices. Based on what many schools have done in the past the following locations tend to be popular, cost effective and easy to get to.

#### KENYA

**What to Expect:** Kenya holds a special place in our hearts. As our most visited African destination, lasting friendships and bonds have been formed through many local projects, interactions, safaris, and love. Mingle with our good friends in the country, ranging from the Maasai people and local school children, the Big Five on safari, local NGO's and major players in African business and development as well.

**Activities:**

- Take in the 'Big 5' on a Safari
- Learn about the Maasai culture
- Tour a Kenyan flower farm
- Embark on an overnight bike safari trek
- Participate in grassroots community service



#### COSTA RICA

**What to Expect:** Immaculate rainforests, warm rivers, white-sand beaches, and a Pura Vida ('pure life') lifestyle that is unmatched throughout the world.

**Activities:**

- Walking tour of San Jose
- Hike at La Paz Waterfall Gardens
- Bike and kayak at Lake Arenal
- Catamaran boat Tour
- Crocodile Tour



## NEPAL

**What to Expect:** We will immerse ourselves in the impossibly peaceful Buddhist and Hindu temples and holy sites present through the country. Spend a few days in a remote Nepali community working with school children and community leaders offering a cultural exchange and lasting service contributions. We will hike in the shadows of seven of the world's highest mountains, which is as inspiring as it is humbling.

**Activities:**

- Tour Kathmandu
- Learn about Buddhism and Hinduism
- Visit ancient temples and Stupas
- Trek the Poonhill Trail



## NICARAGUA

**What to Expect:** Dramatic terrain of lakes, volcanoes, and beaches, and friendly people who make up one of the world's most diverse ecosystems.

**Activities:**

- Introduction to Permaculture
- Chocolate Making Workshop
- Granada City Tour
- Visit Ojo del Agua
- Surf Lessons in San Juan del Sur



## PERU

**What to Expect:** Visit the incredible 9th Wonder of the World, Machu Picchu. Play volleyball against an indigenous tribe on a man-made reed island in the highest lake in the world, Titicaca. Community service, homestays, and espanol

**Activities:**

- Guided tour of Lima
- Guided tour of Cusco
- Stay on a reed island on Lake Titicaca
- Trek to Machu Picchu
- Multi-day cultural interaction



## ECUADOR & THE GALAPAGOS

**What to Expect:** Help sheer alpaca with a Quichua community living in the shadows of 6,000 meter mountain, explore unparalleled biodiversity living in the Amazon Rainforest, help eradicate invasive species and go deep sea snorkeling in the Galapagos!

**Activities:**

- Walking tour of Quito
- Hike to the base of Chimborazo Volcano
- See colonies of marine animals
- Deep ocean snorkeling
- See the biodiversity of the Galapagos



## HAWAII

**What to Expect:** Learn about the indigenous people of Hawaii, experience the history of the islands, all while gaining a greater understanding of the unique geography and culture of the U.S. far west



### **Activities:**

- Visit the Pearl Harbor Monuments
- Ulalena Cultural and Acrobatic Shows
- Tour the Maui Ocean Center
- Hike along the Kapalua Coastal Trail
- Explore authentic Hawaiian villages

## ICELAND

**What to Expect:** The tiny island country of Iceland is quickly growing into a favourite tourist destination, while the natural beauty and incredible architecture have yet to be tainted by the influx of outsiders. Witness the most reliable geyser, Strokkur, spew lava one day, then take a bike tour through stunning valleys and small cities the next!

### **Activities:**

- Explore Snaefellsjokull National Park
- 'Hunt' at night for the Aurora Borealis
- Soothe your muscles in the Blue lagoon
- Guided Lava Cave Tour
- Embark on a Renewable Energy Tour

## MOROCCO

**What to Expect:** Beautiful architecture, exotic aromas and spices and desert as far as the eye can see. Be prepared for action packed adventure! Riding sand dunes, waves and camels along with Muslim hospitality and French culture from ancient to modern times awaits you. Welcome to Morocco.

### **Activities:**

- Introduction to Arabic
- Participate in sand boarding
- Camel trek and a night in a Bivouac Tent
- Explore the palaces of Marrakech.





## 4. KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

### a. WHERE TO STAY

Our trips are jam packed affairs, we really only use our accommodations to sleep for the night; the rest of the day we are out touring, exploring, and experiencing! Nevertheless, where you stay on your trip certainly is an important component as well.

There are many considerations that go into where you should stay on your trip. For example:

- If you are travelling by private bus, it oftentimes makes sense to stay on the outskirts of the city. These hotels are more economical, helping to keep the price of the trip lower, and offer a space for your bus to park for the night
- If you are travelling by public transportation during the trip, then you are better off staying in the heart of the city, easily accessible to transit options. We work with a number of student friendly hostels and B&Bs that provide a quaint, comfortable, and central home away from home.

### b. HOW TO GET AROUND

Evolve personally organizes your trip to match what makes sense for your group! For trips that include a number of different cities, or many activities on the outskirts of the city, having a private coach bus usually makes most sense. Alternatively, if you are flying into one city and spending your whole trip there (i.e. New York City), it actually usually makes more sense to organize the trip around public transit - less sitting in traffic, more time experiencing the true city! No matter your destination or desires, we'll create a program that matches your exact needs and desires.

### c. WHO GUIDES THE TRIPS

You will have an Evolve Tour Director with you for the duration of your trip. Our tour directors are artists and musicians and actors as well, so they bring their own energy and enthusiasm to all the great activities ahead! Evolve Tour Directors are leaders, youth workers, teachers, and travelers. Only the most qualified candidates pass through our rigorous interview process, and then all tour directors undergo thorough training to ensure the smoothest and most fun trip for your family! You will also likely be led by additional local guides at museums, activities, and tours as well.



## 6. HOW MANY TRAVELERS; WHAT IS THE COST?

This is totally variable - based on where you are travelling to, from where, how many travelers, time of year, activities included, etc. The best way for us to give you an idea of costing is for us to discuss the right program for your group, and then put together a customized proposal for you to review. Generally speaking, the more people you are able to sign up, the more economical the trip will be per person. Our programs include essentially every component of the trip: travel, accommodation, all activities, even most meals (we can adjust this as you desire).





## Evolve Tours

At Evolve Tours, we've been running student trips around the world since 2006 and have been perfecting the trip planning process ever since. After deciding you want your students to experience educational travel, there's a lot involved in organizing a trip before hopping on that bus. There's the logistics of accommodations, transportation, meals, activities and more - when planned properly they come together to ensure an incredible and memorable student trip.

If you have any questions about any of the content in this guide, please email us at [info@evolvetours.com](mailto:info@evolvetours.com), or call us at 1.888.222.5066 (Toll Free)

You can also check out sample itineraries of our trips online at [www.evolvetours.com](http://www.evolvetours.com)

We'd be happy to work together to plan your student trip, or just talk travel!

Happy Travels!

Evolve Tours

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