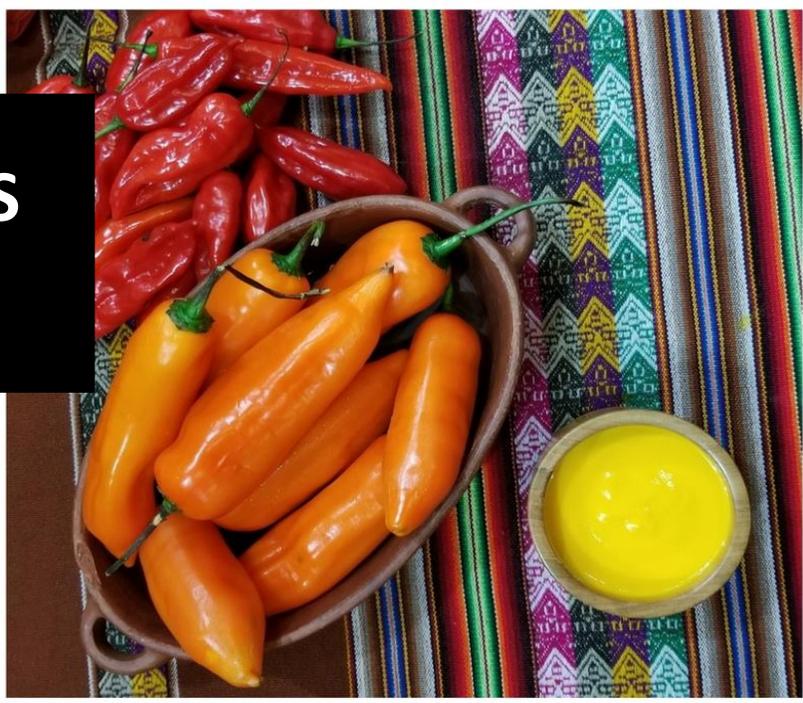


TOP 5 DESTINATIONS FOR SCHOOL TRIPS





TOP 5 DESTINATIONS FOR SCHOOL TRIPS

Here you will discover everything you need to know about planning one of top 5 destinations for school trips for your students.

All of our trips are customizable, we design fully custom trips to fit your specific needs. Based off of the answers that you provide, our experienced trip planners will work with you to design a trip customized to your educational needs. Through customization, each student will take part in authentic and engaging experiences that reinforce the goals of the trip.

1. BENEFITS OF A FOCUSED SCHOOL TRIP

By focusing on a specific area of focus, your trip will have a deeper meaning and outcome in regards to your school trip goals.

a. EDUCATION

Experiential education is at the heart of all Evolve Tours Programs. Travelers focus on community engagement, critical thinking, leadership and reflection as they apply ideas learned on our trips to complex issues at home and in school.

b. GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Evolve Tours Programs prepare travelers with 21st century skills to bring global concepts into the local sphere. We focus on sustainability, local environments, social justice and global competencies, all needed to create a better world.

c. EXPLORATION

Sustainable local and global change depends on the power of relationships developed through adventure and exploration. Based on research and experience, we have developed best practices to simultaneously facilitate collaborative exploration and intercultural immersion on our Programs.



2. QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

a. 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?

b. HOW LONG WILL YOU BE TRAVELING?

Do you want your trip to be one week or a month long experience? Or even longer?

c. HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BE GOING?

Is this a solo adventure or a school trip? How many people are planning on going on this experience with you?

d. WHAT TOPICS DO YOU WANT TO FOCUS ON DURING THE TRIP?

Do you want to focus on culture and history? Science and technology? Sports? Is this a family trip or a transformational gap experience?

e. WHAT TYPES OF EXPERIENCES DO YOU WANT TO HAVE?

Are you a museum-aficionado or food connoisseur? Do you want to go surfing or skydiving? What about conduct important biological research? Or volunteering with an organization abroad?

f. 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?

g. 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?

h. 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 5 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.

JAPAN

The Land of the Rising Sun has come a long way since the Middle Ages. Their traditions have sparked worldwide attention from traditional tea ceremonies to the Samurai.

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is the world's answer to a natural paradise. They have prioritized their natural environment over all else. Because of this Costa Rica is a combination of environmental beauty and outdoor adventure.

ICELAND

The Land of Fire and Ice has truly come to deserve that moniker. Over 100 volcanoes call Iceland home along with over 250 glaciers. With its cultural roots in both Vikings and Celts, Iceland is an incredible destination for all to explore.

PERU

The land of the Inca is home to one of the 7 Modern Wonders of the World: Machu Picchu. The wonders do not stop there either, Peru's cuisine and culture create a welcoming and adventurous atmosphere.

ITALY

Much of Western History revolves around Italy. From the Phoenicians to the Romans to the Byzantines, Italy's culture has been infused with the cultures of the Mediterranean.





JAPAN

Tokyo ~ Sapporo ~ Kyoto ~ Hiroshima

“I love Japan. I love the collision of the modern and ancient worlds coming together in that place. It’s so high-tech and cool.” - John Lasseter

EXPERIENCES TO HAVE

- Watch traditional Sumo wrestlers at Ryōgoku Kokugikan
- Learn about the events of WWII at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum
 - Participate in a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony
- Explore the Miraikan National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation
 - Visit the famous Japanese rock garden, Ryōan-jii Temple

THE GREAT OUTDOORS...

Mt Fuji
 Onsen Hot Springs
 Shiraito Falls
 Kerama Islands
 Nachi Falls

...AND THE ANIMALS WITHIN

Tanuki
 Japanese Macaque
 Hokkaido Flying Squirrel
 Moon Bear
 Okinawa Habu

CULTURE CORNER

HEAR:

[CHAMP - B'z](#)

[Taiko](#)

[Min'yō Folk Music](#)

[Pledge of Z - Momoiro Clover Z](#)

READ:

[The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle - Haruki Murakami](#)

[Memoirs of a Geisha - Arthur Golden](#)

[The Tale of Genji - Murasaki Shikibu](#)

TASTE:

Tempura

Sashimi

WATCH:

THINK:

Sushi

Adrift in Tokyo - 2007

[History of Japan](#)

Yakitori

Tokyo Sonata - 2008

[Japan 2.0](#)

Soba Noodles

Letters from Iwo Jima - 2006





COSTA RICA

San José ~ La Fortuna ~ Playa Tamarindo ~ Puerto Viejo de Talamanca

“Costa Rica, with its tourist-based economy and lack of a national army, has focused on keeping safe its beaches, parks and other public draws.” -Laura Chinchilla

EXPERIENCES TO HAVE

- Zipline through the rainforest on Volcán Rincon de la Vieja
 - Hike Cerro Chirripó, Costa Rica’s highest point
 - Explore the dense jungles of Tortuguero national Park
 - Snorkel off the coast of Tortuga Island
- Whitewater raft down the Pacuare River through Class III and IV rapids

THE GREAT OUTDOORS...

Reserva Monteverde
 Canales de Tortuguero
 Cerro Chirripó
 Volcán Arenal
 Isla del Coco

...AND THE ANIMALS WITHIN

Strawberry Poison Dart Frog
 Chestnut-Mandibled Toucan
 Mexican Tree Frog
 Ocelot
 Three-Toed Sloth

CULTURE CORNER

HEAR:

[Marimba](#)

[Merengue](#)

[Avispa - La Banda](#)

[El Barrio de los Jazmines -](#)

[Malpaís](#)

READ:

[Green Phoenix - William](#)

[Allen](#)

[Monkeys are Made of](#)

[Chocolate - Jack Ewing](#)

[Costa Rica: A Traveler's Li-](#)

[terary Companion - Bar-](#)

[bara Ras](#)

TASTE:

Rondon

Cacao Fresco

Picadillo

Chifrijo

Coffee

WATCH:

Jurassic Park - 1993

El Regreso - 2012

The Blue Butterfly - 2004

LISTEN:

[This Week in Costa Rica](#)





ICELAND

Reykjavik ~ Ísafjörður ~ Heimaey ~ Húsavík

“In Iceland, you can see the contours of the mountains wherever you go, and the swell of the hills, and always beyond that the horizon. And there’s this strange thing: you’re never sort of hidden; you always feel exposed in that landscape. But it makes it very beautiful as well.”

-Hannah Kent

EXPERIENCES TO HAVE

- Travel to the three points of the Golden Circle: Þingvellir, Geysir and Gullfoss
 - Spend a morning wading in the Blue Lagoon and other hot springs
- Become a White Walker from ‘Game of Thrones’ in Þingvellir National Park
 - Explore the black sand beaches on Iceland’s southern coastline
 - Ice climb up Iceland’s Solheimajokull Glacier

THE GREAT OUTDOORS...

Northern Lights
 Blue Lagoon
 Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon
 Gullfoss Waterfalls
 Hekla Volcano

...AND THE ANIMALS WITHIN

Arctic Fox
 Bowhead Whale
 Narwhal
 Walrus
 Sei Whale

CULTURE CORNER

HEAR:

- [Kammersveit - Bjarni Þorsteinsson](#)
- [Human Behavior - Björk](#)
- [Hoppípolla - Sigur Rós](#)
- [Birthday - The Sugarcubes](#)

READ:

- [I Remember You - Yrsa Sigurðardóttir](#)
- [Burial Rites - Hannah Kent](#)
- [Moonstone - Sjón](#)

Laufabrauð

WATCH:

- Game of Thrones - Current
- Rams - 2014
- Children of Nature - 1991

TASTE:

- Skyr
- Pylsur
- Kæstur hákarl
- Slátur

LISTEN:

- [The Iceland Podcast](#)





PERU

Lima ~ Iquitos ~ Cusco ~ Trujillo

“I am very much about promoting Lima because I think Peru and the mountains and the Incas, everybody is aware of those, but Lima is something that people should discover - especially our food.” -Mario Testino

EXPERIENCES TO HAVE

- Hike one of several ancient Inca trails to Machu Picchu
 - Explore the sacred sites of Pisac and Ollantaytambo
 - Fly across Paracas and see the curious Nazca Lines
- Learn about the cultural importance of Lake Titicaca while relaxing on its shores
 - Experience a Peruvian Cooking Class in Peru’s capital of Lima

THE GREAT OUTDOORS...

Ballestas Islands
 Paracas Desert
 Lake Titicaca
 Sacred Valley of the Incas
 Vinicunca

...AND THE ANIMALS WITHIN

Viscacha
 Spectacled Bear
 Llama
 Cock-of-the-Rock
 Jaguar

CULTURE CORNER

HEAR:

- [Virgenes del Sol - Florencio Coronado](#)
- [Peruvian Folk Dance: Valicha](#)
- [Música Criolla Peruana - Eva Ayllón](#)
- [The Best of Chicha](#)

READ:

- [Death in the Andes - Mario Vargas Llosa](#)
- [Turn Right at Machu Picchu - Mark Adams](#)
- [The Peru Reader - Orin Starn and others](#)
- [In Search of an Inca - Alberto Flores Galindo](#)

TASTE:

- Ceviche
- Lomo Saltado
- Anticuchos de Corazón
- Cuy
- Rocoto Relleno

WATCH:

- La Ciudad y los Perros - 1985
- Ciudad de M - 2000
- La Última Noticia - 2016
- When Two Worlds Collide - 2016

LISTEN:

- [Peru and Bolivia: Indie Travel Podcast](#)
- [Travel to Peru: Amateur Traveler](#)
- [Peru Travel Podcast](#)





ITALY

Rome ~ Venice ~ Naples ~ Florence

“Italy will never be a normal country. Because Italy is Italy. If we were a normal country, we wouldn’t have Rome. We wouldn’t have Florence. We wouldn’t have the marvel that is Venice.”

-Matteo Renzi

EXPERIENCES TO HAVE

- Dance in the streets of Venice during their Medieval Carnival
- Explore the history of the Catholic Church in the Vatican’s Museums
 - Unearth the marvels of Ancient Rome at the Roman Forum
 - Eat your way across Tuscany’s rolling hills
 - Escape from Rome’s underground crypts and catacombs

THE GREAT OUTDOORS...

Scala dei Turchi
 Amalfi Coast
 Blue Grotto
 Lake Como
 The Dolomites

...AND THE ANIMALS WITHIN

Apennine Chamois
 Marsican Brown Bear
 Sicilian Wall Lizard
 Crested Porcupine
 Sanderling

CULTURE CORNER

HEAR:

[Dalla: Caruso - Luciano Pa-](#)
[varotti](#)
[Tarantella](#)
[Perfect Symphony - Ed](#)
[Sheeran with Andrea](#)
[Bocelli](#)

READ:

[The Name of the Rose -](#)
[Umberto Eco](#)

[The Talented Mr. Ripley -](#)
[Patricia Highsmith](#)
[The Gargoyle - Andrew Da-](#)
[vidson](#)

TASTE:

Roman-style pizza
Risotto
Gelato
Espresso
Focaccia

WATCH:

Under the Tuscan Sun -
2003
To Rome with Love - 2012
The Godfather - 1972

LISTEN:

[The Bittersweet Life](#)
[Eye on Italy](#)



5. 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, we 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 coach 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 group! 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 students you are able to

sign up, the more economical the trip will be per student. Our programs include essentially every component of the trip: travel, accommodation, all activities, even most meals (we can adjust this as you desire). Teacher chaperones travel for free on all trips!

6. HOW DO I BEGIN?

The first step is gaging interest amongst your students - is there desire within your school culture to organize such a trip? The first trip is the hardest to get off the ground. Once the first one is done, you'll have students begging you to organize the next one before you've even caught your breath from the first.

Next you need to acquire administration approval, or whatever processes are required on your end. We are here to help provide documentation and resources to facilitate this process.

Once the green light is given, it's time to start promoting! Hanging flyers in the school, announcements over the P.A, newsletter write ups - whatever is available to you at your school.

Organize a student-parent information night. We can provide you with a PowerPoint presentation, and all steps to move forward getting students registered and signed up from here.





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, 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

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

Happy Travels!

Evolve Tours

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