

Europe 2017 – CUPrep Quick Reference Info

Background: This will be the seventh trip taken to London/Paris/Edinburgh over Spring break by Charter University Prep. This trip is open to juniors and seniors offered every other year. On alternating years, we offer a trip to 8th and 9th grade students to Washington D.C. Completing pre-trip assignments, participation in the trip and post trip assignments will count as one semester of high school Art History credit. Most students will also take one semester of Art History on site, thus earning a full year of UC a-g Fine Arts credits.

This year, we will take 23 students, 3 staff (Mike Harris, Pico vanHoutryve, and WilleJune Eggert), 2 parent chaperones and a colleague from Oak Ridge High School, Jon Owens, who is looking at putting a similar trip together at his school. Mike Harris will lead the trip, set the itinerary, and book all of the necessary hotels, planes, trains and venues. No tour company is used. All funds are processed through the Parent Booster Club account at Bank of America.

Costs/Finances: Approximate cost \$2000 ea., plus food. Costs will be paid for by students, with assistance from group and individual fundraising efforts. We anticipate raising funds through yard sale to be held at the school in March. Families of trip attendees will have booths. Monies from fundraising are not used to support staff or parent chaperones.

As in previous years, we will be using \$3600 (\$1200 per staff member) from Charter University Prep's conference funds to reimburse teachers for airline and partial housing costs. Priority to supporting this educational experience is highlighted in the Charter Alternative Program Single Plan. Individual staff members will be responsible for the remaining housing, food, venue and other travel expenses of approximately \$1100 each.

A meeting last spring was held with students and parents to explain the trip and trip costs, fundraising options and the payment timeline we would use. No students were turned away due to finances or educational disability. The primary criteria were 1) student behavior record, 2) academic effort, and 3) willingness to work toward earning (at least some of) the funds to go on the trip. 23 of the 54 eligible juniors and seniors have elected to participate in this trip.

Liability Information:

All students have signed the Student Field Trip (outside California) Authorization forms as prepared by SIA

All Chaperones will

- 1) Have signed SIA Chaperone Authorization forms as prepared by SIA
- 2) Pass fingerprint clearance according to EDCOE policy

Housing: Students will stay in dorm hostels in Dublin, Paris, Edinburgh, and London with same-sex chaperones in the room.

Communication: We have prepared an extensive private website for the trip, where students and parents can log on from anywhere in the world to track our trip. Included are all reservations, directions, and itineraries for each day.

Itinerary (abridged):

Thursday, April 6: Fly out of San Francisco – Chartered bus from Charles Brown Education Center in Placerville to SFO

Friday, April 7: Arrive Dublin and take bus to hostel approx 2:00 p.m. Check bags, then travel to downtown Dublin for an overview of the city. Eat dinner and return to hostel area for the evening to de-jetlag.

Saturday, April 8: Day trip to Newgrange: Bus to ancient World Heritage site. Visit UC Dublin to see Book of Kells, attend music festival downtown

Sunday, April 9: Bus to Airport; quick flight to Edinburg. Check in at hostel & tour/shop at High Street near the Castle.

Monday, April 10:

- Spend the day shopping and site-seeing in small groups in the country,

Tuesday, April 11: Train to London, check into hostel and take subway to Westminster and get oriented on the city. We will work on learning how to navigate the subway system and will walk to:

- Big Ben
- Westminster Abby
- Buckingham Palace
- Marble Arch
- Leicester Square

Wednesday, April 12:

- Take tube to the Tower of London – do tour (crown jewels, beefeaters, etc...)
- Take tube to St Paul's Cathedral – climb the cupola, study artwork in the dome, explore the crypt
- Take tube to British Museum – Look at cultural ancient artifacts from around the world
- Take tube to Piccadilly Circus and go see Phantom of the Opera at Her Majesty's Theater at 7PM

Thursday, April 13: This is a day on the town in London. Students will go out in small groups and visit places of interest which may include: Camden Markets, Theater district, Hyde Park,

Friday, April 14: get up early (6:00 am)

- Take tube to King's Cross station, catch the 8:40 am Eurostar Train to Paris (3.5 hours)
- Arrive Paris at Noon
- Take Metro to Notre Dame, eat Lunch, Check bags into hotel
- Walk down the Champs de Elysees and see Napoleon's Arch
- Take metro to and Climb the Eiffel Tower, tour Paris at night

Saturday, April 15

- Take RER (suburb trains) to Versailles. Tour Palace and Gardens, eat lunch in Versailles
- Take RER to Louvre: spend all afternoon in the Louvre
- Eat dinner, then nice long walk around Paris at night – Visit Eiffel Tower or Sacre Coeur at night

Sunday, April 16 Spend the day walking/Subway around Paris in small groups.

Monday, April 17

- Check out of hostel, catch the metro to the airport
- Flight leaves at 11 AM PM
- Arrive San Francisco at 2:30 pm
- Arrive Placerville by chartered bus between 5 and 7 pm