



HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL
An Academy Trust

KG/ajp

4 May 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Proposed Trip to Iceland in October 2022 – Current Years 8, 9 & 10

Following on from several successful trips to Iceland in the past, we are excited to launch another trip to Iceland for October half term 2022. This trip is offered to students in current Years 8, 9 & 10.

The trip has two main aims: the first is to provide students with an opportunity to further their classroom knowledge. For A-level students the course will provide students with a variety of experiences for the A-level modules of Glaciation and Hazards and for GCSE students the course will provide them with excellent experiences to enhance their understanding of natural hazards, glaciations and energy modules. The second aim of the trip is to provide students with a shared opportunity to visit arguably the best country in Europe for physical geography. Students do not have to be doing A level or GCSE Geography to attend, some students may choose to sign up for this trip before making their option choices.

The cost of the 5-day, 4-night trip is expected to be between £1,200 and £1,300 depending on numbers and flight costs which will not be known until October 2021. Every effort has been made to ensure this price reflects an accurate assessment for 2022. The price will include travel, insurance, accommodation, full board food & excursions. What is not included is spending money, possible money for entry to a local swimming baths in Reykjavik and any additional costs associated with any travel requirements in light of the Coronavirus pandemic that either the UK Government or Icelandic Government may put in place. Iceland allows UK residents to visit for up to 90 days in any 180 day period for free so there is no VISA required.

Please note the accommodation and excursions for the trip include 3 nights in Hotel Ork near to Hveragerdi and 1 night in Hotel Cabin in the capital of Reykjavik. Excursions including a 2-3 hour guided walk (with full crampons, helmets and ice axes) on the Solheimajokull glacier, a trip by ferry over to the island of Heimaey to walk up Eldfell volcano that erupted in 1973, visits to Skogarfoss waterfall that is 25m higher than Niagara Falls, a tour of the Golden Circle and of course a chance to relax in one of the top 5 natural spas in the World – the Blue Lagoon. Finally, there is a whale watching tour included.

Head Teacher: Mr F Moane

Update from the cancelled Geography Trip to Bay of Naples & Sicily

We offered the above trip which had to be cancelled due to the pandemic and had a positive uptake. As we had always intended to return to Iceland in 2022, all those students who showed written interest in the 2021 trip and paid the deposit will be offered a place on the 2022 trip to Iceland. If you signed up for the 2021 trip, Mrs Phillips will be in touch with you to check you would still like the place for your son on this new trip.

If you would like your son to participate in the trip please complete and submit the form available on Edulink: <https://www.edulinkone.com> by **Friday 14 May 2021**. After this date we will then confirm your son's place on the trip by letter which will include the payment schedule for the trip. We will then require a deposit of £125 to be paid by **Friday 28 May**.

If the trip is oversubscribed, we will hold a draw for places. If your son is unsuccessful his name will be placed on a waiting list should another student withdraw.

If you wish to apply for financial assistance, please write to Mrs Ivory-Webb, the School Business Manager in confidence.

If your son subsequently withdraws from the trip once a place has been confirmed you may still be liable for some or all of the monies owed towards his place. In addition, some or all of the monies already paid may be non-refundable depending on the payment schedule to the tour operator.

Please note whilst this trip might be beneficial for those studying GCSE and A-Level Geography it is not essential.

For those Parents of current Year 10 students, for your son to attend the trip he will need to be a Hitchin Boy in our sixth form during the academic year of 2022-23. Should you accept a place on the trip and he subsequently does not to come back for sixth form you will still be liable for the cost of his place on the trip and any monies still owed.

The School reserves the right to withdraw a student from a trip if their behaviour in School is deemed unacceptable.

If there are insufficient numbers then the trip may have to be cancelled.

If you would like to know any more about the trip, then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school (kgraham@hitchinboys.co.uk) or Mrs Phillips our Trips Coordinator.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs K Graham
Head of Social Sciences Faculty