



## Proposal for OVERNIGHT or EXTENDED Student Trips

Group Gull Lake Middle School Travel Club

Proposer Position Jan Thorn & Kasi Huver, Teachers

Destination Iceland City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Departure Date June 24, 2026 (tentative) Return Date June 30, 2026 (tentative)

Date by which response is needed ASAP

### A. Purpose of Trip

#### 1. What is the major place to be visited or event to be attended?

Reykjavik, Iceland - National Museum, Golden Circle, the Lava Center to learn about volcanoes and earthquakes, a visit to the geothermal hot springs, a geothermal field, and Lake Kleifarvatn.

Hvolsvollur Area - Golden Circle, the National Park, geology walk, Icelandic stables, waterfall tour, geyser tours, Viking villages and the geothermal greenhouses

**2. How is this trip related to the educational program of the District?** Students learn about a wide variety of different landforms and geographical features in their 6th grade science classes. Iceland is full of volcanic activity, geothermal pools, glaciers, geysers and plate tectonics. These tie directly into the content learned in 6th grade science. This trip will also allow students to learn about cultural diversity and provides opportunities for self exploration and discovery.

**3. In what ways will the students benefit?** Students will gain cultural awareness, use collaboration skills, obtain a global perspective, and use a growth mindset in order to experience life in a different country. We will be traveling with another school district which will allow us to learn more about another group of students as well. Students will be able to learn about different geographical phenomena and understand its impact on the rest of the world.

### B. Students and Staff

**1. How many students will be going?** Minimum of 12 students and parents

**2. What staff member will be in charge?** Jan Thorn

3. **What previous experience has the staff member had in conducting overnight/extended field trips?** Jan has planned and chaperoned Ryan Intermediate's Mackinac Island Trip.
4. **What other staff members will be going?** Kasi Huver
5. **How many chaperones, in addition to staff members, will be going?** TBD...depends on the number of paying participants.
6. **Chaperone names and affiliations with the students?** Parents / Guardians will be allowed to attend with students.
7. **How many school days will be missed?** 0
8. **How will teachers be notified in advance that students will be out of school?** NA

### C. Itinerary

1. **Where will the group be housed and fed? (list phone numbers for housing)**

#### Hotels

Every hotel we partner with must meet our strict standards for safety, quality, and cleanliness. Hotels are thoroughly vetted by our [team](#) and they're regularly inspected to ensure they continue to meet these standards. It's important to note that hotels abroad may have different amenities than travelers may be accustomed to in the United States. Below are examples of hotels travelers may encounter at your proposed destination:

#### Hvolsvöllur, Iceland

Groups stay in Hvolsvöllur, about 45 minutes by bus from the Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls. The hotels here often feature shared amenities such as communal lounges, breakfast areas, and outdoor spaces. Rooms come with private bathrooms and feature multiple single or shared double beds. Rooms may also be on the smaller side without AC, and hotels may not have elevator access.

#### Hotel Hvolsvöllur

<https://hotelhvolsvollur.is/>

Address: Hlíðarvegur 7-11, 860 Hvolsvöllur, Iceland

2. **What will be the mode of transportation? What liability insurance does the carrier have?**

## *On Tour*

EF handles everything from flights and hotels to meals and sightseeing, so the group can relax and focus on the tour experience. The group's personal, full-time Tour Director takes care of on-tour details and provides cultural insight and knowledge for students.

Everyone travels together on one tour bus and shares the same Tour Director and local guides. Groups that aren't large enough to fill an entire bus will travel with groups from other schools. With some tour and date flexibility, we are able to make travel happen for everyone at the lowest price. For more about what EF Tours are like, visit [what to expect on tour](#).

**3. What arrangements have been made for dealing with emergency situations?** The conference requires medical forms to be filled out and will carry copies with me

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES & SUPPORT TEAM**

Our support team is also available 24/7 to help resolve any issue, from a missed flight or a lost passport to more serious on-tour incidents. They're also the ones facilitating communication between travelers and families in the event of an emergency at home. The team is made up of highly trained and dedicated EF staff in our Boston and Denver offices who are equipped to solve problems and answer questions that may come up, even outside of regular business hours.

**4. If tour guides are involved, what liability insurance do they carry?**

### **General liability insurance**

All Group Leaders, schools, and districts who travel with EF are automatically added as additional insureds under our **\$50 million General Liability Policy**, regardless of whether or not the tour is affiliated with the school. EF's liability coverage is primary and non-contributory for covered third-party claims. The policy helps safeguard Group Leaders and their schools for covered third-party claims related to bodily injury or property damage, which includes providing a legal defense and covering legal costs for such claims. In addition, all travelers are required to sign EF's Release and Agreement which includes a release of liability of their Group Leader, school, and school board.

## **D. Finances**

1. **What is the estimated total cost AND cost per student?** Student - \$4,409 Adult - \$4,959. Total cost will depend on how many students/chaperones attend
  
2. **What is the source of funds?** Students/chaperones will pay their own way. Fundraisers will take place for those with financial hardships
  
3. **How will the funds be collected and safeguarded?** EF Tours takes responsibility for collecting funds, setting up payment plans, and safeguarding funds that are turned in to them. They have a policy for cancellations or travel issues that families will sign upon agreeing to go on the trip.
  
4. **How will any shortfall be made up or excess funds used?** Fundraisers will help with any shortfalls; due to the nature of the trip being primarily “self-funded”, there will not be excess funds
  
5. **What provision has been made for students who are financially unable to pay any necessary costs?** EF Tours has a list of successful fundraisers and will help us organize fundraisers if/when there is a need.

**E. Communications**

1. **How will you communicate to parents prior to, during and after the trip?** Email, in person meetings, and WhatsApp (does not require an international plan to communicate)

Jan Thorn  
 Signature of the Requestor

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Trip approved \_\_\_\_\_ Trip not approved

Carmen Maring  
 Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

