



EDUCATIONAL
TOURS

Global Travel Program Proposal



Your partner in travel-based learning

Our mission

We're educators, just like you. And we're dedicated to helping students become more future ready.

EF stands for Education First. For almost 60 years, we've worked in service of our mission, *Opening the World Through Education*, to help learners of all ages overcome barriers of culture, language, and geography to increase global understanding. We partner with educators to provide innovative, immersive programs that prepare students to succeed in college, in their careers, and throughout their adult lives. Here's how we'll collaborate with your school to create meaningful learning experiences.

What's in this document

- pg. 2 Learning outcomes
- pg. 4 Academic credit & professional learning
- pg. 5 Building equitable travel programs
- pg. 6 Managing cost & payments
- pg. 7 Safety
- pg. 9 Protection for travelers, schools & districts
- pg. 11 Travel logistics
- pg. 13 Next steps



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Learning outcomes

It's our goal to put “education first” in every single tour. That's why we carefully design our itineraries to complement your teaching, offering students hands-on experiences that deepen their understanding, build essential skills, and inspire them to apply their learning in meaningful ways.

Our method

We enhance what you teach with relevant experiences outside the classroom.

Our proven travel-based learning method safely takes students out of their comfort zones and helps them understand more about themselves and the world around them. It sparks a true journey of self-discovery, empowering them to take action and make a positive impact in their communities and beyond.

Our programs

We design every EF program with a curriculum of immersive, hands-on learning that builds essential skills.

EF learning journeys offer incredible growth opportunities. Through professionally guided travel, authentic cultural exchange, experiential learning, and independent discovery, students develop critical skills they'll carry with them through the rest of their lives.



Learning outcomes

Continued

EF students build essential skills in these key growth areas:

Cultural awareness

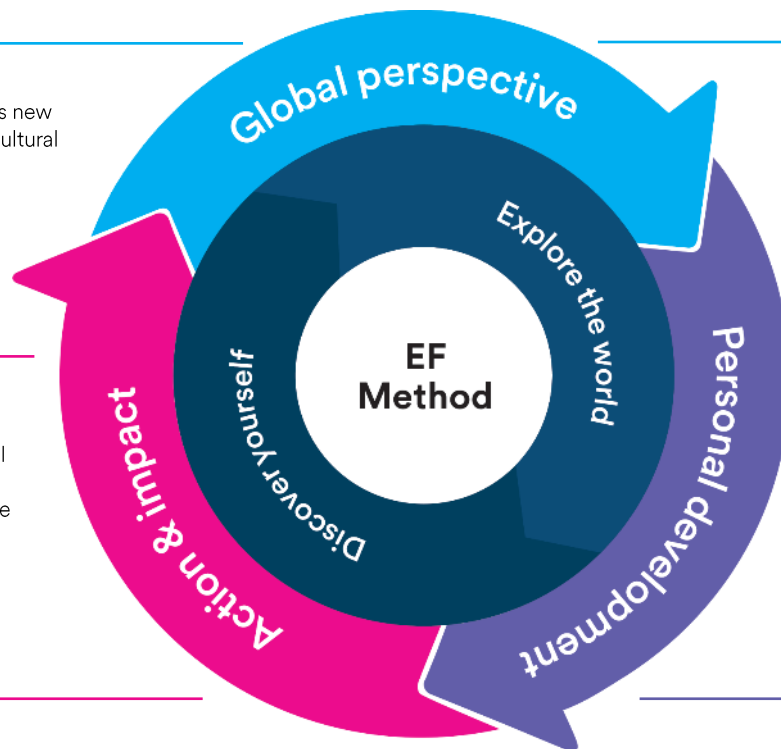
Changing your context creates new experiences that build cross-cultural knowledge and skills

Collaboration

You develop the interpersonal skills to flourish in multicultural teams: to find new and better solutions, take action, and have real impact

Communication

You connect with others more deeply by listening, empathizing, and appreciating—then sharing your own point of view



Growth mindset

Broadening your worldview helps you become more curious, open, and adaptable; you embrace becoming a lifelong learner

Self-awareness

Connecting with others in meaningful ways reflects your own biases and beliefs back to you, leading to a change of mindset

Agency

Knowing yourself helps you decide who you want to be and the mark you want to make—and enables you to become a better advocate for your dreams

Academic credit & professional learning

We provide opportunities for students to earn academic credit and for educators to pursue professional development, supplementing their travel experiences with real-world educational achievements.

EF is an accredited institution

We echo your commitment to education. Our travel-based learning approach is designed to blend classroom and experiential learning. This allows us to meet the same rigorous standards as schools like yours, ensuring students gain valuable experiences that transform the way they look at the world.



Academic credit for students

EF makes it easy for students to turn their tour experience into high school credit, college credit, or to get a head start on their college essays, further enriching their travel experiences.

- Students in grades 6–12 can earn half an elective high school credit by successfully completing the final project that's part of EF's Personalized Learning Guide. Tuition is free.
- Students in grades 9–12 can earn 3.0 undergraduate credits, along with the confidence that comes with taking a college course, by completing a series of assignments and a final research project with our partner, Southern New Hampshire University—all for just \$360.

Professional learning for educators

We're equally invested in giving educators professional development opportunities that will change their lives. Experiencing an EF tour allows your teaching staff to grow in countless ways and equips them with fresh perspectives to bring back to their classrooms.

- Group Leaders can earn **25 professional learning hours** by participating in the seminars and scheduled activities on an EF training tour.
- Group Leaders can earn **45 professional learning hours** by completing EF's in-house course, "Cultures, Comparisons & Connections." This includes pre-tour research and coursework.
- Group Leaders can earn **3 or 6 graduate-level credits** (\$360/\$720) upon the completion of a 16-week, online course, "Leading Global Discussions," with Southern New Hampshire University the year after their tour.

To learn more about EF's educational philosophy, visit [**eftours.com/education**](https://eftours.com/education)

Building equitable travel programs

One tour can open up countless possibilities for a group of students. A sustainable, multi-tour travel program extends those possibilities to even more students—year after year. It also promotes greater equity by giving families time to fund travel and by offering options that cater to different interests.

A multi-tour program could include:

2025

London, Paris & Rome (Summer)

Japan: Land of the Rising Sun (Summer)

2026

Belize: Conservation from Ridge to Reef (Spring)

Greece & Italy (Summer)

Culture & Service in Thailand (Summer)

2027

Costa Rican Explorer (Spring)

Language Immersion through Spain (Summer)

Marine Conservation in the Dominican Republic (Summer)

Managing cost & payments

We believe in the life-changing power of educational travel and want as many students as possible to be able to experience it. With flexible payment options, fundraising tools, and scholarships, we aim to make these transformative experiences more widely accessible.

Automatic Payment Plan

Our recommended payment plan allows travelers to break their tour fee into manageable installments. Since most tours are planned well in advance, travelers can enroll for only \$95 and then spread the tour cost over an extended period—often up to 18 months or two years—with the final payment due 30 days before departure. Families make payments directly to EF, with no payments going through the school.

Fundraising pages

Each student receives their own unique and customizable fundraising page. This easy-to-share page makes it simple for friends and family to contribute directly to the tour cost, with no fees

Global Citizen Scholarship Fund

Every year, EF Educational Tours awards \$100,000 in scholarships to students across the country. Any student can apply for the Global Citizen Scholarship, which is granted on both a merit and needs basis.

Risk-Free Enrollment Period

New travelers who enroll can cancel for any reason up to 7 days after enrollment for a full refund of 100% of the money paid to EF. Travelers must pay in full or enroll in our Automatic Payment Plan at the time of program enrollment and must remain either paid in full or enrolled in our Automatic Payment Plan and in good financial standing at the time of cancellation to remain eligible. To be eligible, the traveler must enroll on a tour at least 110 days prior to the scheduled departure date.



Safety

Our travelers' safety is our top priority. With an extensive global presence, industry-leading experience, and close relationships with U.S. and international authorities, that's a statement we can back up with confidence. We ensure that every situation is managed with the utmost care.

Worldwide presence

EF's global presence is truly unmatched. We have staff on the ground 365 days a year in over 50 countries around the world. And we don't just work in those countries—we call them home. Better yet, EF has team members in nearly every one of our tour destinations, providing local knowledge and ensuring the safety of our groups. This presence allows us to support travelers wherever and whenever they need us.

24/7 emergency support

In the event that anything on tour goes wrong, EF staff are always available to help. Your Tour Director serves as your group's constant companion and first point of contact in an emergency. Our fully trained support teams are also on call 24/7, ready to assist teachers with any issues and provide the necessary resources to get things back on track. Finally our Safety and Incident Response Team—comprised of industry experts, healthcare experts, and even former FBI personnel—is ready to spring into action 365 days a year.



Safety

Continued

Your school's team

These EF staff are fully committed to your school's travel program and the safety of every student.

OPERATIONS SAFETY & INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM

This team is strategically based in our Boston, Panama, and Zurich offices to accommodate all time zones. Available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, they are trained to react quickly if travelers need help. The team uses a combination of extensive training, simulations, incident response planning, and experience to manage emergencies. They also facilitate additional support for groups on tour, solve operational issues, arrange assistance from outside specialists, and liaise with local and international authorities as needed.

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.

TOUR DIRECTOR

Tour Directors are assigned exclusively to each tour for the duration of the trip. They meet your group at the airport and stay with them until their departure home. All Tour Directors undergo a background check as permissible by local law every two years and are required to participate in ongoing EF safety trainings.

They're the first point of contact in an emergency and provide safety information to the travelers in their group. Tour Directors assist Group Leaders with hotel check-ins, coordinate meals, facilitate excursions with local guides, and much more. They're culturally connected and expertly trained to support impactful learning experiences.

EF TRAVEL TEAM

This team—comprised of a Tour Consultant and an EF Experience Specialist—is your school's main point of contact at EF. The Tour Consultant serves as your itinerary expert and is devoted to making sure your students get the most out of their travel experience. They partner with your school on everything from finding the perfect tour and enrolling travelers to developing long-term programs for your district and community. The EF Experience Specialist handles the finer details that make your experience with EF seamless. They work directly with Group Leaders (your teachers) right up until the moment of departure, ensuring everything goes smoothly.

TRAVELER SUPPORT

Our team of Travel Support Specialists are readily available to walk families through insurance inquiries, payment plans, food allergy issues, and any other topics that arise.

CHAPERONES

For every six travelers who enroll on a school's tour, the group is eligible to bring along a chaperone for free (with the first spot reserved for the Group Leader). This creates a 6:1 student-to-chaperone ratio, and allows chaperones to assist Group Leaders in supervising students.

Protection for travelers, schools & districts

We understand that unpredictable situations can happen, whether on tour or before departure. That's why we offer a range of protections to make sure travelers, schools, and districts are covered no matter what. We do everything we can to make planning for the future as flexible as possible.

General liability insurance

All Group Leaders, schools, and districts who travel with EF are added as additional insureds under our **\$50 million General Liability Policy**, whether or not the tour is considered a school event. 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.

Peace of Mind Program

Provided to all groups

When your school decides to travel with EF, we want you to feel secure in that decision. This benefit, built into every EF program, gives groups the flexibility to change their tour dates or destination. It can be enacted up to 45 days prior to departure for any reason, including terrorism or other world events.



Protection for travelers, schools & districts

[Continued](#)

Protection for individual travelers

While on tour, travelers can help protect their investment and themselves from certain unexpected events and expenses with our Global Travel Protection and Global Travel Protection Plus plans.

GLOBAL TRAVEL PROTECTION

Available to all travelers

Designed specifically with EF travelers in mind, this plan provides both pre-departure and post-departure benefits, including medical expense coverage that may apply on tour and tour cancellation coverage for specified reasons.

GLOBAL TRAVEL PROTECTION PLUS

Available to all travelers

This plan provides all of the benefits included in the Global Travel Protection Plan as well as expanded cancellation protection.

Background checks for adult travelers

EF requires all adults (20 years and older) to pass a criminal background check before travelling on our student tours. This provides a safer tour experience for all and aligns with the process many school districts have for adults who volunteer or chaperone school activities. Conducted by a leading professional provider, the secure background check only flags individuals who could present a risk to student travelers while on tour.



Travel logistics

Proposed tour for Nikki Snyder Roberts in Summer 2026

Price of this tour

The tour program price covers a wide range of services that ensure students have an incredible travel experience. It includes all the planning and preparation that leads up to departure, travel and accommodations, and logistical support once the group reaches their destination.

Full, flexible travel window: June 13-27, 2026
Requested travel dates: June 16-24, 2026

Price Details

Charting the Galápagos Islands

Program Price ¹	\$4,919
Includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Round-trip airfare and on tour transportation• Hotels with private bathrooms• Breakfast and dinner (see your itinerary for meal details)• Full-time Tour Director• Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions	
Early Enrollment Discount	-\$200
EF's Peace of Mind Program [*]	Free
Total for Students (under 20)	\$4,719
10 monthly payments	\$463/mo
<hr/>	
Adult Supplement ²	\$730
Total for Adults	\$5,449
10 monthly payments	\$536/mo

Travel logistics

Continued

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 expectations & examples of hotels travelers may encounter at your proposed destination:

Quito, Ecuador

Throughout your stay in Ecuador, you will stay in tourist-class hotels. While in Quito, your hotel will be located in the downtown area. Electrical voltage and outlets in Ecuador are the same as in the U.S., so you will not need an adapter or converter.

Fenix Hotel

<https://www.fenixhotel.ec/>

Address: Queseras del Medio E11-205, Quito

Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

Hotels on the Galápagos Islands are all 3-star accommodations, but it is important to know that these hotels tend to be more rustic than their counterparts on mainland Ecuador. They are mostly small, family-owned organizations with limited to no Wi-Fi access, which proves to be true across the entirety of the Islands.

Hotel Deja Vu

<https://www.hoteldejavugalapagos.com/>

Address: Fragata y Daphne (junto al parque El Eden),
Puerto Ayora, Galapagos, 200350

Grand Hotel León Marino

<https://lobodemar.com.ec/>

Address: Charles Darwin Avenue And 12 Febrero, Puerto
Ayora 200102, Ecuador

Meals

Meals are chosen to provide a more immersive cultural experience, giving students the chance to sample traditional cuisine and experience local dining customs. Below are examples of dishes travelers may encounter at your proposed destination:

Ecuador: Sample Meals

Soup, roasted chicken with rice and vegetables, fresh fruit, salad

On tour, breakfast is typically simple and served at the hotel, either plated or buffet-style. Lunch usually gives travelers the opportunity to explore the local cuisine on their own. Dinners will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties, all served from a pre-set group menu.

Next steps

September Enrollment Meeting

My name is Malayna Vines and I'm the dedicated Senior Tour Consultant for Owatonna High School. I'll be working closely with your Group Leader, Nikki Snyder Roberts, every step of the way to make sure your student tour is perfectly planned. If you have any questions or need additional information, don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Malayna Vines
Senior Tour Consultant
malayna.vines@ef.com

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Student travel strengthens our mission of making future graduates into global citizens. After their travels, our students return more well-rounded and success-driven because they now understand the connections between what is taught in the classroom and what is needed in the global market.

Mitch S., Administrator

