



ESHER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL
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 www.esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk
Headteacher : Mr M Boddington

30 November 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Year 10 Geography Field Trip to The Azores

We are delighted to be able to offer your child the opportunity to take part in a field trip to The Azores. This trip is being offered to students who take Geography for GCSE. During this trip, pupils will have a unique experience that will complement their GCSE Geography course. They encounter spectacular, unspoilt landscapes and cultural differences in both the rural and urban settings of an isolated, self-sufficient island community.

The tour will be 5 days, 4 nights, and students will experience the beauty and power of volcanic islands. Our first day will take us on a lakeside walk along Furnas valley, an area of intense volcanic activity, where we will see hot springs, fumaroles and mud pools. We will learn about the global success of the Azores’ development of renewable and sustainable energy in the geothermal village and power plant and explore Europe’s only tea plantation. Our trip will also take us to Lago de Fogo nature reserve and Caldeira Velha geothermal pools where we will enjoy the warmth of the waterfalls and hot springs. Finally, we will circumnavigate Sete Cidades, a collapsed caldera boasting a couple of spectacular lakes, get our hard hats and head torches on as we wander in the darkness of Gruta do Carvao lava tubes and cave system and, if we’re lucky, spot whales breaching the surface of the Atlantic Ocean on a boat tour.

This trip is a true geographer’s paradise, boasting rugged and wild coastal landscapes carved by the North Atlantic Ocean, stunning volcanic landforms, as well as lush green forests and a warm climate.

Provisional details for this trip are as follows:

Dates	Sunday 20 October-Thursday 24 October 2019 (these dates are awaiting final confirmation by our tour operator)
Departure time	6:00am from Heathrow (exact meet and departure times will be confirmed)
Return Time	9.50pm at Heathrow (subject to final confirmation)
Destination	Ponta Delgada and its surroundings (The Azores, Portugal)
Type of accommodation	Thomas Hostel, Half board with 4 packed lunches
Methods of transport	Airplane and coach (<i>Please note: Transport to and from Heathrow airport will not be provided</i>)
Meals	Provided
Passport	All students must have their own valid passport to take part in this trip. Students who do NOT have a British passport should indicate this on the Consent Form so that visa details can be checked well before the date of travel

The total cost of the trip will be £990 including all accommodation, activities, food, transport and staffing.

If you would like your child to take part in this trip, please complete the attached consent form and return to Mrs Trier, via Student Services, along with a deposit of £100 (cash/cheque made payable to Esher C of E High School) **by 7 December 2018**, however, places will be allocated on a first come, served basis. Once your child's place is confirmed on the trip, this deposit will become non-refundable.

The outstanding balance of £890 will be paid in three further installments:

	Amount	Due Date
Deposit	£100.00	7 December 2018
1 st Installment	£200.00	4 February 2019
2 nd Installment	£350.00	5 April 2019
Final Payment	£340.00	1 July 2019

A parent's information evening will be held in the first half term of the new academic year. This will provide specific information and details about the trip, and answer any questions you may have. You can also go onto the Discover the World website to find out more <https://www.discover-the-world.com/study-trips>.

Please see our website for the school's standard terms and conditions for trips, including allocation of places and cancellation information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about the above named trip: cheugh@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully

C Heugh

Miss C Heugh
Trip Leader/Teacher of Geography