



# Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

## **A Level History students studying Germany - Berlin Consolidation of Learning Trip Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023**

We are pleased that your child is studying History A Level and I have the pleasure of offering a 3 days/2 nights trip to Berlin, Germany to Year 13 students. I have reserved this trip with Travelbound, the educational tour operator, for Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023. Germany is one of our examined units based on the history of Germany from 1918-45 and an extended learning opportunity is a fantastic way to provide your child with a first-hand learning experience and consolidate their learning.

I have summarised below a brief initial itinerary to give you some idea of our agenda for the 3 days. I am sure you will agree that this is a fantastic opportunity for your daughter/son to gain a unique insight into the experiences and history of Germany over the last one hundred years. It will present historical, cultural, social and linguistic opportunities for the students and will be tailored specifically to their A Level studies. This trip will allow students to revise in a more active way and understand where key events they have studied took place and furthermore to appreciate the impact of this period of time on Germany today.

I appreciate that the trip is a substantial additional cost at this time, please be assured that the trip is optional and should your child not attend, this will not negatively affect their success and achievement in A Level.

### **Brief Itinerary:**

(Please note that our tour operators, Travelbound, have worked hard to secure the best price possible and maximum time in Berlin, therefore we may be flying from Luton, Stansted or Gatwick. However, I have given our order of preference. This is subject to cost and availability at the time of confirming booking - flight times are currently approximate until secured).

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023: Early morning drop off at the airport** ready to depart for Berlin Schoenefeld Airport to arrive mid-morning in Berlin.

**Places we will visit over the 3 days:** The Reichstag, Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp Memorial and Museum, the Olympic Stadium (1936 Olympics), the German Resistance Memorial Museum and the Topography of Terror. A guided walking tour of Berlin visiting important historical sites, including the Holocaust Memorial and the Fuhrer Bunker, Alexanderplatz and the Berlin Wall, In the evenings we will be visiting the Sony Centre Berlin, East Side Gallery and Bowling. We have 10 hours of coach hire included to enable us to visit the sites outside the city centre.

**Hotel:** Two nights - Half-board.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023:** Depart Berlin by coach and arrive at Berlin Schoenefeld Airport for return flight to Stansted Airport in the later afternoon/early evening. **Collection from the airport in the evening.**

As I am sure you can appreciate, the airline seats cannot be held or the price guaranteed until the tour operator receives our deposit. As prices fluctuate daily, to secure flights at the lowest price, we need to return deposits as soon as possible. The price that I have quoted below is based on an estimation of the current price quoted by the tour operator. Obviously if the cost of the flights is more or less, I will need to adjust the cost of the trip accordingly, but I will communicate with you further on this once we have them secured.

The estimated total cost of the trip is between **£665** and **£685** dependent on flight prices. I appreciate that this is a substantial cost at this time, and want to reiterate that this trip is optional. The cost includes flights, airport transfers in Berlin, accommodation, including breakfast and evening meals, all activities and entrance costs, group travel insurance and 10 hours of coach travel. (Your child will need to bring euros to purchase lunch on the three days and any spending money for souvenirs).

For pupils in receipt of the 16-19 Bursary, please contact Mrs Jackson at [mjackson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:mjackson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk) as some assistance may be given on a case by case basis.

In order to secure the booking, accommodation and the flights, the tour company requires a deposit from each individual participating in the trip. Please pay a non-refundable deposit of **£200** by **Wednesday 1st February 2023**. BHGS pupils should pay via WisePay. Guest students should pay by cheque payable to 'Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School' or present cash in person to the Finance Department and ask for a receipt. We cannot be held responsible for loss of cash for which no receipt has been given.

As soon as all of the deposits are received, the tour company can book the flights and secure the accommodation to ensure that the costs do not change. Once these have been secured, I will send a detailed and final itinerary. If the school is required to cancel the whole trip due to there being insufficient numbers of students for it to proceed, all deposits will be refunded. The payment schedule for the balance of the trip cost is:

- i) A further instalment of £155 by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023
- ii) A further instalment of £155 by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023
- iii) The remaining £155 by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

NST Travel Group bookings come with their 'Booking with Confidence' promise. In the event of a COVID interruption to your travel arrangements, they will look to rearrange your trip to a mutually agreeable future date. If no suitable alternative date can be found, they will waive any cancellation charges that would ordinarily be payable, and provide a full cash refund.

Please note that additional costs associated with travel requirements in light of COVID that either the UK Government or German Government may put in place are not included and will be payable. Germany allows UK residents to visit for up to 90 days in any 180 day period for free, so there is no VISA required. Please check visa requirements for non-UK passports.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for these external learning opportunities that we are lucky enough to offer to our students. More information will follow shortly. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I very much hope your daughter/son will find the visit rewarding.

Kind regards,

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**"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016**



Miss S. Maisey  
Subject Leader for History

Please return this reply slip following payment of £200 to secure the booking and flights for your daughter/son to Miss Maisey by Wednesday 1st February 2023.

**A Level History students studying Germany - Berlin Consolidation of Learning Trip**  
**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023**

I would like my daughter/son ..... of..... School, to attend the residential trip to Berlin, Germany on 29th September –1st October 2023.

I appreciate that certain details may be subject to change until final numbers are confirmed and the flights are booked.

I have paid £200 via Wisepay / I enclose a payment of £200. I understand that this money is non-refundable in the event of my daughter/son being unable to attend.

Signed Parent/Carer..... Date.....

**Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School Terms and Conditions for Residential Trips**

Participation in residential trips is dependent on:

- The school's criterion of attendance of above 95% unless the absence is authorised by the school
- An outstanding level of behaviour

Travelbound Tour Operator cancellation charges are as follows:

- After First deposit, but before second instalment - loss of all deposits paid
- After second instalment, but before third instalment - loss of first and second instalment
- After third instalment up to 99 days before departure - loss of first, second and third instalment
- More than 30 days before departure - 75% of the total cost
- less than 30 days of departure - 100% of the total cost

Notes (i) Your deposit is non-refundable, even if the cancellation charge calculated is lower than the deposit amount paid; (ii) If the reason for your cancellation is covered under the terms of your insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges; (iii) certain travel arrangements may be subject to higher cancellation charges and could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements from the moment the booking is confirmed.

Payment schedules are issued for each trip; payment at more frequent intervals and smaller amounts is acceptable provided that sufficient payment has been made to meet each deadline outlined in the schedule as it occurs.

Failure to adhere to the payment schedule **may** jeopardise your child's place on the trip.

In the instance where a trip with limited spaces is oversubscribed a ballot for places will take place and be supervised by a member of the senior leadership team.