

Hello, Washoe Academy Abroad families and travelers!  On behalf of Bernd Mathias and myself, welcome to the best travel program in northern Nevada!  I am so pleased you have all decided to join the group this year.  While we will might be adding other students in the next two weeks, the group already seems like a strong and excited one and I can’t wait to get you all together to begin this process.

Attached you will find a welcome packet.  It includes payment information, contacts, trip itinerary and class schedules.  I will continue to contact you within the next few weeks as reminders of upcoming events (like first payments and first class!).  PLEASE always feel free to contact me.  You can reach me at my district e-mail at sgrange@washoeschools.net, and my cell number is 846-7945.

I am very excited about the opportunity to grow and travel which we are all about to begin.  This is a unique opportunity to belong to something that you already know will change your life.  Grab hold and let’s go!

**FIRST CLASS IS NEXT MONDAY, OCTOBER 16TH! 6:00 CAREER CENTER**

Scott Grange

**WAA**

**Contact list**

SCOTT GRANGE

* 846-7945
* sgrange@washoeschools.net
* 1712 Karin Drive – Carson City 89706

BERND MATHIAS

* bm.reisen@t-online.de
* Lives in Munster, Germany

BARRY WALMSLY

* 440-796-8269
* Travel and Play

34900 Chardon Rd #102
Willoughby Hills OH 44094
*Travelandplay.net*
(resources tab, payments, Washoe Academy)

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Washoe Academy Abroad Website:

<http://washoeacademyabroad.weebly.com/>

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Thank you for registering for the Washoe Academy Abroad 2018 tour. Travel and Play, a licensed tour company based in Mayfield Heights, OH (outside of Cleveland), will be handling plane reservations and payments for our group this year. This document will give you an overview of that information to help you prepare for what we expect will be a great international travel experience.

Travel and Play representatives will work directly with Scott Grange to ensure all communication is consistent for the entire group. If you have any questions, or concerns, please contact me.

Please read the Terms and Conditions that are included with this communication.

Washoe Academy Abroad—

**DESTINATION:** Europe

**DATES:** July 6-23

**TOTAL COST:** $4,745.00

 **PAYMENT DEADLINES:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PAYMENT** | **AMOUNT** | **DUE** | **Paid** |
| Deposit | $500.00 | November 1, 2017 |  |
| Payment 2 | $1,000.00 | February 15, 2018 |   |
| Payment 3 | $1,000.00 | April 1, 2018 |  |
| Final Payment | $2,245.00 | May 15, 2018 |  |

**PAYMENT SUBMISSION:**
Please submit a check to

Travel and Play

1284 SOM CENTER RD

MAYFIELD HTS OH 44124

(make checks payable to Travel and Play, THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR CHECKS)

THERE IS A 3% CHARGE FOR USING CREDIT CARDS OR PAYPAL Payments can be made at TravelAndPlay.net

Passports

If you do not have a passport, we will help you. Mr. Grange will be handing out passport forms and talking to your student about the process at the October 23rd meeting. It can take up to three months to obtain a passport now and you do NOT have to wait for that meeting to begin the paperwork.

If you currently have a passport, check that your passport will be valid 6 months past your return date (January 23rd).

To apply for a new passport or to renew an existing passport, you can also visit the following website:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/apply.html>

Mr. Grange will ask for your passport information often throughout the course of the classes and during the parent meetings. Not having passport information available by MAY 1st could lead to you not being part of the group booking or travelling at a different time from the main group.

If you are not a U.S. or Canadian citizen you must inform Travel and Play in writing of your country of citizenship, passport status, refugee status, and/or if you possess any Green Cards or Visas.

Travel Insurance

**All Travel and Play payments for the Washoe Academy Abroad program are only half-refundable up through the April 1st payment, and NON-REFUNDABLE after the May 15th payment; therefore, we strongly recommend travel insurance.** This is to protect the integrity of the tour experience for the other travelers. If 2 or 3 people drop out after initially committing, it can negatively affect the tour experience for everyone else.

All participants are responsible for obtaining adequate medical coverage while abroad. Check with your health insurance provider to see if you are covered while travelling and if any additional insurance is needed.

Travel and Plays recommends Travelex for your travel insurance needs. Travelex information is included with this communication and can be purchased online at [www.travelex-insurance.com](http://www.travelex-insurance.com/). If you decide to use Travelex, please use the following locator code **35-0404**. This lets Travelex know you are travelling under Travel and Play. Yes, your payments do include basic liability insurance as required by the Washoe County School district. However, smart travelers usually have a backup plan!

Itinerary as of 9/19/17

(Subject to slight changes based on availability)

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| Day 1, 7/6 Travel day from Reno to Prague, CZECH REPUBLIC |
| Day 2, 7/7 City tour by bus with key stops, Prague Castle Tour, time in Lesser Town, group dinner |
|  Day 3, 7/8 Day trip to UNESCO site Cesky Krumlov, afternoon for time in Old Town Prague, group dinner |
| Day 4, 7/9 Travel to Munich, GERMANY. Marienplatz, Viktualienmarkt, Frauenkirche, more. Travel to Fussen, group dinner |
| Day 5, 7/10 Olympic Park, BMW museum, Dachau Memorial, evening in Old Town Fussen, group dinner |
| Day 6, 7/11 Neuschwanstein Castle, Garmish-Partinkirchen, Zugspitze, Mittenwand, Ettal Abby, group dinner |
| Day 7, 7/12 Travel to Salzburg, AUSTRIA, with stops in Oberammergau and Hellbrunn Palace, group dinner |
| Day 8, 7/13 Fortress Hohensalzburg, free time in Old Town, dinner on your own, concert in Mirabel hall |
| Day 9, 7/14 Travel to Venice, ITALY. Day in Venice, travel to Bussolengo, group dinner |
| Day 10, 7/15 Sirmione (time for exploration and swimming), Verona, dinner on your own |
| Day 11, 7/16 Travel to Milan, time in cathedral plaza. Travel to Lauterbrunnen, SWITZERLAND, train to Wengen, group dinner |
| Day 12, 7/17 Incredible day of hiking in the Bernese Alps on your own, group dinner |
| Day 13, 7/18 Travel to Reims, FRANCE. Cathedral tour, time in Old Town with possible WWII museum, group dinner |
| Day 14, 7/19 Travel to Amiens, cathedral stop. Travel to Caen area with stops at the fortress and Bayeaux, group dinner |
| Day 15, 7/20 Spend the day touring D-Day beaches and memorials, travel to Compienge, group dinner |
| Day 16, 7/21 Day in Paris. Hours in the Louvre. Walk to Notre Dame, time in Paris, dinner on your own |
| Day 17, 7/22 Versailles in the morning, top of the Eiffel Tower, time in Paris on your own, group farewell dinner |
| Day 18, 7/23 Fly from Paris to Reno |

Travel dates = 7/6/18 departure

7/23 return, 18 days

**Remember that your trip payments cover:**

* 1. All flights, taxes and flight insurance (round trip)
	2. All hotels fees and taxes
	3. $1,000,000 liability insurance
	4. 2 meals a day
	5. Our own private bus and all fees (ex. It is €130 **a day** to park in Venice…)
	6. Our own private multi-lingual currier who stays with us
	7. All scheduled group fees (concert in Salzburg, Eiffel Tower, Versailles, etc.)
	8. All class fees
	9. 24-hour contact with Mr. Grange during the tour

**WASHOE ACADEMY ABROAD**

Meeting dates and proposed syllabus

 WAA parents and students, please find below the proposed syllabus for the 2018 travel group.  It is expected, out of respect for the group and for each traveler’s own educational growth, that students attend each and every meeting for the duration. However, I do realize that life sometimes gets in the way and students might have to miss some minutes here and there. If that is the case, PLEASE make sure you get hold of me and let me know. Each student is responsible for make-up work on their own time, including exams. All information will be loaded onto the website each Tuesday following the meetings. Students who miss class will still be responsible for the information on the next exam. If a student has an attendance problem I will work with that student and their family to a point. Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held on Mondays in the Career Center at the Wooster High School library, from 6:00pm-9:00pm (ish!). In addition to what is listed below, we will constantly be monitoring the immigration issue every meeting, any pertinent current events, some type of group dynamic activity, and any other thing I through in there for the good of the group! I will also be suggesting some films for your student to watch on their own throughout the course. They are not required viewing, but can help illustrate some points and round out some information. **PARENTS, I will always give the rating of the film (and why it was rated that way), and my reasoning for suggesting that film – you always have the last say in whether your student watches it or not.** Some of these movies and documentaries will be easy for you to say “yes” to (*Sound of Music*), others are quite brutal (*Schindler’s List).* Others are outstanding and award-winning foreign films that you have probably never heard of (*The Lives of Others).* You can always ask me personally about each one, if you wish.

1. 10/16
	1. Group icebreakers
	2. Contact information, group business
	3. Who can speak a second language?
	4. Country and continent orientation
	5. Discussion of Current Event article(s)
	6. General political geography of Europe
2. 10/23
	1. German Current Events
	2. Germany
		1. All “country nights” will include information on country-specific political and cultural geography, history, current events, statistics, economics, a visual city and country tour, politics, infrastructure, educational system, famous people, language(s), architecture, food, etc.
	3. How to get a passport
3. 11/6
	1. Germany exam
	2. European music history – this ain’t your grandma’s Beethoven!
4. 11/13
	1. Music history exam
	2. Austria Current Events
	3. Austria
	4. A few German phrases (you gotta be able to order food and get to the bathroom!)
5. 11/20
	1. **PARENT MEETING #1**
	2. 7:00pm in the Wooster Career Center
6. 11/27
	1. Austria exam
	2. Continent in Conflict
7. 12/5
	1. World War I
	2. World War II
	3. World War legacies and American meddling in European affairs
8. 12/11
	1. Conflict exam
	2. Czech Republic
	3. Individual project introduction

**WINTER BREAK**

1. 1/22
	1. Eastern Europe
	2. Communism
	3. Individual project topic selection and work time
2. 2/5
	1. Czech and Communism exam
	2. Art History, going beyond the Renaissance
3. 2/12
	1. Art Exam
	2. Italy
4. 2/20
	1. **PARENT MEETING #2**
	2. Wooster Career Center, 7:00pm
5. 2/26
	1. Italy exam
	2. European political legacies
	3. Sports traditions
	4. Olympics
	5. Traveling checklist
6. 3/5
	1. LUGGAGE WALK
	2. European geology
	3. Project time
7. 3/12
	1. Switzerland
	2. Passport check
8. 3/19
	1. Switzerland exam
	2. Religion
	3. Cathedrals
	4. Castles
	5. Project time
9. 4/16
	1. Architecture/Religion exam
	2. France
10. 4/23
	1. **Parent Meeting #3**
	2. Wooster Career Center, 7:00pm
11. 4/30
	1. France exam
	2. “eeeeeeew” game
	3. The European Union
	4. Modern European economic systems
	5. Sign up for presentation times
12. 5/12
	1. Presentation day #1
	2. Wooster Career Center
13. 5/19
	1. Presentation day #2
	2. Wooster Career Center
14. 5/29
	1. FINAL MEETING
	2. Traveling safely
	3. Pick pockets
	4. Travel tips for
		1. Money
		2. Cell phones
		3. Purchases
		4. Public transportation
			1. Using the Metro
	5. Reflection essay
15. BON VOYAGE PARTY!!!
	1. Location and time TBA