

Summer Trips Abroad

By: Marin Smyth

Oak Hills has many opportunities to take summer trips abroad but unfortunately, not a lot of people know about all the available options. From trips to one specific country to excursions that go all over Europe, there are so many cool adventures that students can go on. 2020 brings many very interesting trips and luckily for those who want to go but didn't sign up for any 2020 trips, there will be many opportunities in the future too! The three big summer trips abroad recently coming up are Mr. Groh's Eastern Europe trip, Herr Vaske's Germany exchange, and Madame Ryan's France trip. Mr. Gibfried also had a Guatemala exchange program, but it hasn't been decided if they will do an exchange again next year.

Eastern Europe Trip



In the summer of 2020, Mr. Groh, Mrs. Groh, and Miss Schorsh are taking 39 students on an adventure to five different Eastern European capitals. The first place they will visit is Berlin, Germany, where they will go to the Berlin Wall, Brandenburg Gate, and Dresden. They will then go to Prague, then the Czech Republic, and then Krakow, Poland. In Krakow, they will go to a guided visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau. They will then go to Budapest, Hungary via Slovakia and the Tatra Mountains. In Budapest, they will take some

time to unwind in their famous thermal baths. Next will be Vienna, Austria for a Weiner Schnitzel dinner and some final days of exploration.

German Exchange Program

The German Exchange Program with Dingolfing at Oak Hills started in 1985. The exchange program is a three-week exchange where German exchange students come to Oak Hills in September and stay with a host family, and then their host stays with them in Dingolfing during the summer. The trip includes many planned activities and side trips. The students from Oak Hills go to Weimar, Buchenwald, Erfurt, and Leipzig. The sign-ups for the trips are in mid-January with Herr Vaske in room 414. For the next trip, the German students will come to Oak Hills in September of 2020 and the Oak Hills students will go to Dingolfing in the summer of 2021. The trip costs \$2,000 and any money that isn't used is returned. Students don't have to go to Germany to participate and get an exchange student. The students in the German program get priority but extra help is needed from time to time.

France Trip



Every summer Madame Ryan offers a trip to France for students. Although Madame Ryan offers this trip every summer, usually there's an actual trip every other summer because there typically isn't enough interest the first summer after a trip. The next France trip will be in the summer of 2020 from June 4 to June 12. On this trip, the students will travel to Paris and Nice on an exclusive, personal tour. The cost of the trip depends on how many people are going. Because it's a student trip, the more students going, the less the cost for each student. The cost of the trip encompasses all costs except for spending money, lunch money, souvenirs, and any other extra expenses. On the 2020 trip, students will visit landmarks such as the Arc de Triomphe, and the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre (where the Mona Lisa and Venus de Milo are). They will learn to make croissants at a French bakery, create their own perfume scent at an exclusive perfumery in South France, and swim in the Mediterranean. Students will also go on a dinner cruise on the Seine and travel by high-speed train along the French countryside. French students get priority, but after those students have had an opportunity to sign up, sign-ups become open to everyone.

All of these trips are a great opportunity for students to have an amazing experience and be introduced to new cultures. If anyone is interested in going on any of these trips, please contact any of the staff members listed. If anyone is interested in trips abroad other than the ones listed, next summer Miss Schoreg is leading a trip to France and Italy.