

Current Y10 Trip to Krakow, February 2025

Dear parent/carer,

Your child may have recently informed you about a proposed GCSE Geography trip to Iceland at Easter 2025. Letters and information are available from Mr Figures (Head of Geography) about this potential trip and he is currently seeking expressions of interest to see if the trip would be viable. This trip was also explained to all Y9 and Y10 students in their Geography lesson.

We are also tentatively exploring running a trip for current Y10 students to Krakow, Poland in the February half term of 2025. I wanted to inform you of this so that you could discuss this with your child and make informed choices.

At this stage, both trips are not confirmed and will depend on the number of students who wish to attend, but we did not want to release details of the potential Krakow trip in a few weeks as this may affect any decisions about the Iceland trip.

For clarity, we are not trying to pressure you or your child into making a decision nor are we seeking for the trips to “compete” against one another, but we appreciate that with the current cost of living crisis, you will want to know that there are two potential trips on offer for your child whilst they are in Year 11.

Having been on both trips, it is impossible to recommend one above the other; both are incredible learning and cultural experiences that will provide memories to last a lifetime. Mr Figures’ letter has outlined the plans for the Iceland Trip.

The proposed itinerary for the Krakow Trip includes:

- Return flights to Krakow
- Accommodation in Hotel Alexander, Karkow on a half board basis. We stayed in the hotel in February and it was excellent.
- All coach transfers (in England and in Poland)
- A guided tour of Schindler’s Museum
- A guided tour of the Galicia Jewish Museum, with the opportunity to meet a Holocaust survivor (or family member of a survivor).
- A guided tour of the Wieliczka Salt Mine
- A full day guided tour of Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration and Extermination Camp
- A 3 hour trip to Park Wodny; Poland’s largest indoor swimming and water park (we include this so that students can have some fun after visiting some emotionally charged sites earlier in the trip).

Students will need additional spending money for their lunch each day and any additional drinks/snacks and souvenirs.

This trip appeals to GCSE History and Ethics students in particular, but we are happy to take any student who wishes to attend so students who are not studying these GCSE options are still welcome to join.

At present, we anticipate that the trip will cost c.£900 for a 4 day/3 night trip. This price is not confirmed as this will only be possible when we have final numbers and have secured our booking. This means that the price may fluctuate, though we will do everything that we can to make it cheaper!

If your child is interested in attending this trip, please complete this very short Google Form -

<https://forms.gle/NAboSyWmgeY5EnKp8>

If your child is interested in both the Iceland and Krakow Trips, please complete the expressions of interest for both trips at this stage (return the reply slip for the Iceland Trip and complete the Google Form for the Krakow Trip). If both trips are viable, you will then be contacted to decide which of the trips your child would prefer to attend. They are of course welcome to attend both should this be financially viable for you!

In the interest of fairness, the tight deadline for expressions of interest for both trips is 20 May 2024.

Again, at this stage, these are just expressions of interest and are not binding. Once we know if the trips are viable, we will contact you if you have expressed interest to confirm deposits, expected final pricing etc.

If you have any questions about the Iceland Trip, please contact Mr Figures - c.figures@millthorpe.southbank.academy

If you have any questions about the Krakow Trip, please contact me - a.baybutt@millthorpe.southbank.academy

Yours faithfully,

Mr A. Baybutt
Assistant Headteacher