

# explore

THE WORLD WITH RAYBURN TOURS

Why **GOING ABOVE  
AND BEYOND**  
is worth every minute!

**FREE**  
GEOGRAPHY  
RESOURCES



# Go explore, **adventure awaits.**



Here at Rayburn, we've decided that 2022 marks the year that we start looking forward to the future, to getting school trips back on the agenda, and to making a difference in young people's lives and education – it's time to get back to doing what we do best and have done for over 50 years! So, hello 2022 – it's great to be back!

Teachers are telling us that, this year, it's as much about the added benefits that being away on a school trip brings, as it is about engaging students with the subject and furthering their geographical understanding. Benefits such as a renewed sense of independence, rebuilding self confidence and an improved teacher-student relationship have never been so important.

These experiences are needed now more than ever, and we're here to help, just like we already are with many teachers who are currently planning their 2023 geography trips!

So, enjoy flicking through our 'new style' 2022/23 Geography Tours Brochure, designed to inspire, educate and ultimately, encourage you to let our team help you get geography trips back on the map in your school.



**Jamie Boyden,**  
Joint Managing Director



4.6 out of 5 average rating based  
on our customer feedback

**98%**

Of our customers would  
recommend us



**rayburntours**

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# Why going above & beyond is **worth every minute.**

I'm a full-time teacher, so what's in it for me? Now that's the burning question that will linger in your mind for all of a millisecond. It's a question that is quickly quashed when you've 'been there and done it' so to speak. We speak to **Cath Rule, Rayburn Tours Geography Tours Development Manager** who was in her previous life, a secondary school Geography teacher for 17 years at Calday Grange Grammar School in West Kirby.



Amizmiz Village  
Morocco





Reykjavik  
Iceland



▶ *A tour sees students shine, children with little confidence flourish and an overwhelming response from teachers that the teacher–pupil bond steps up a notch! Are these just some of the reasons why going above and beyond is worth every minute?*

### **Cath would certainly say so...**

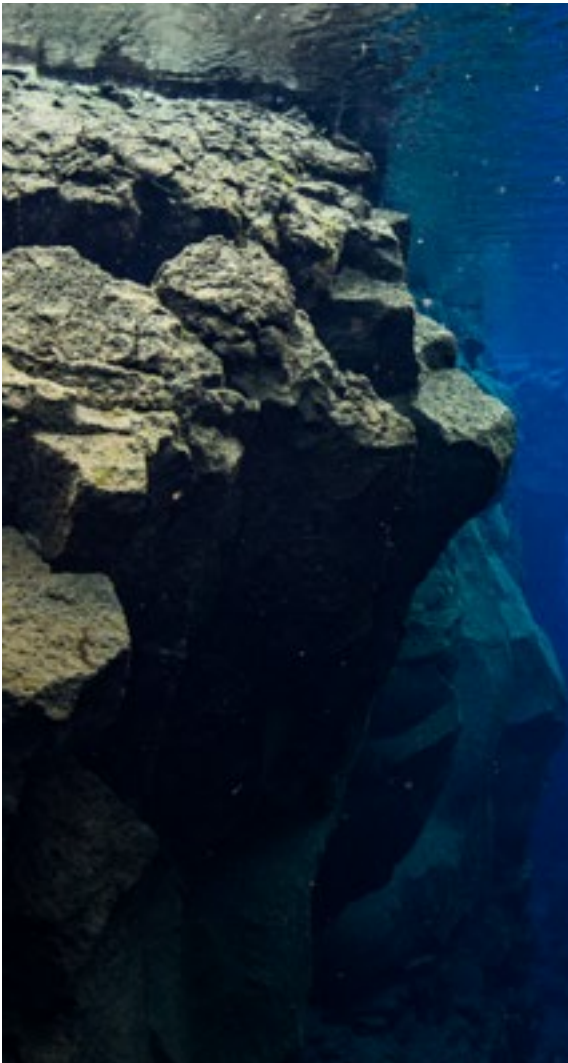
As a geography teacher I was always determined to get my students out of the classroom as much as possible. The multitude of learning opportunities and the chance for students to experience new environments, to visit places that take them beyond their comfort zone, to challenge their existing thinking and to give them new outlooks and different perspectives on the world are so valuable.



The benefits of such opportunities for students are much lauded and quite rightly they form the focus of any trip planning. However, the more I took students out of the classroom the more I started to appreciate just how rich and varied the learning opportunities were for me, as their teacher.

The reality is that it helps broaden your own experiences and brings a new perspective and deeper understanding to a subject, leading to greater confidence in your own teaching.

Away from the physical learning journey, outdoor learning opportunities have also long been proven to improve both physical and mental health and enhance wellbeing. The outcome is that students and teachers are guaranteed to return to the classroom feeling reinvigorated. We need this feeling more now than ever before!



It can **help them** to see learning from a different perspective, **improve engagement** and **positively affect motivation levels.**

Silfra Fissure  
Iceland



There are also those students that we must not forget; for those that don't necessarily perform well in a classroom, the context of being outside, on site on tour, can often be a chance for them to shine. It can help them to see learning from a different perspective, improve engagement and positively affect motivation levels. Seeing students in a different light and being able to appreciate their different learning styles can be transferred into future lesson planning. This is a benefit of touring that I appreciate more and more in my role as Geography Tours Development Manager.

Being in an informal setting gives you time to talk to students, to get to know them and find out what makes them tick. It's a chance for students to appreciate that teachers are real people with real lives outside of the classroom. Establishing a bond and developing a trusting relationship between students and teachers can only have a positive impact on classroom learning and interaction.

Organising a school trip on top of an already busy workload is of course very time demanding. You have to manage a budget, assess risk and lead not only students but staff too. Yet there is no doubt the rewards far outweigh the challenges. Learning outside the classroom has a significant impact and it is a privilege to be able to share these experiences with young people and witness their amazement and delight as they experience the world around them. In a nutshell, that is why going above and beyond as a teacher is worth every minute!

▶ Seeing students grow in confidence, experience new places, have "a lightbulb moment" and fall in love with geography right before your eyes, makes every minute of planning worthwhile. Are you ready to go 'above and beyond'? Let's get planning... [rayburntours.com/exploregeography](http://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)



Sicily  
Italy



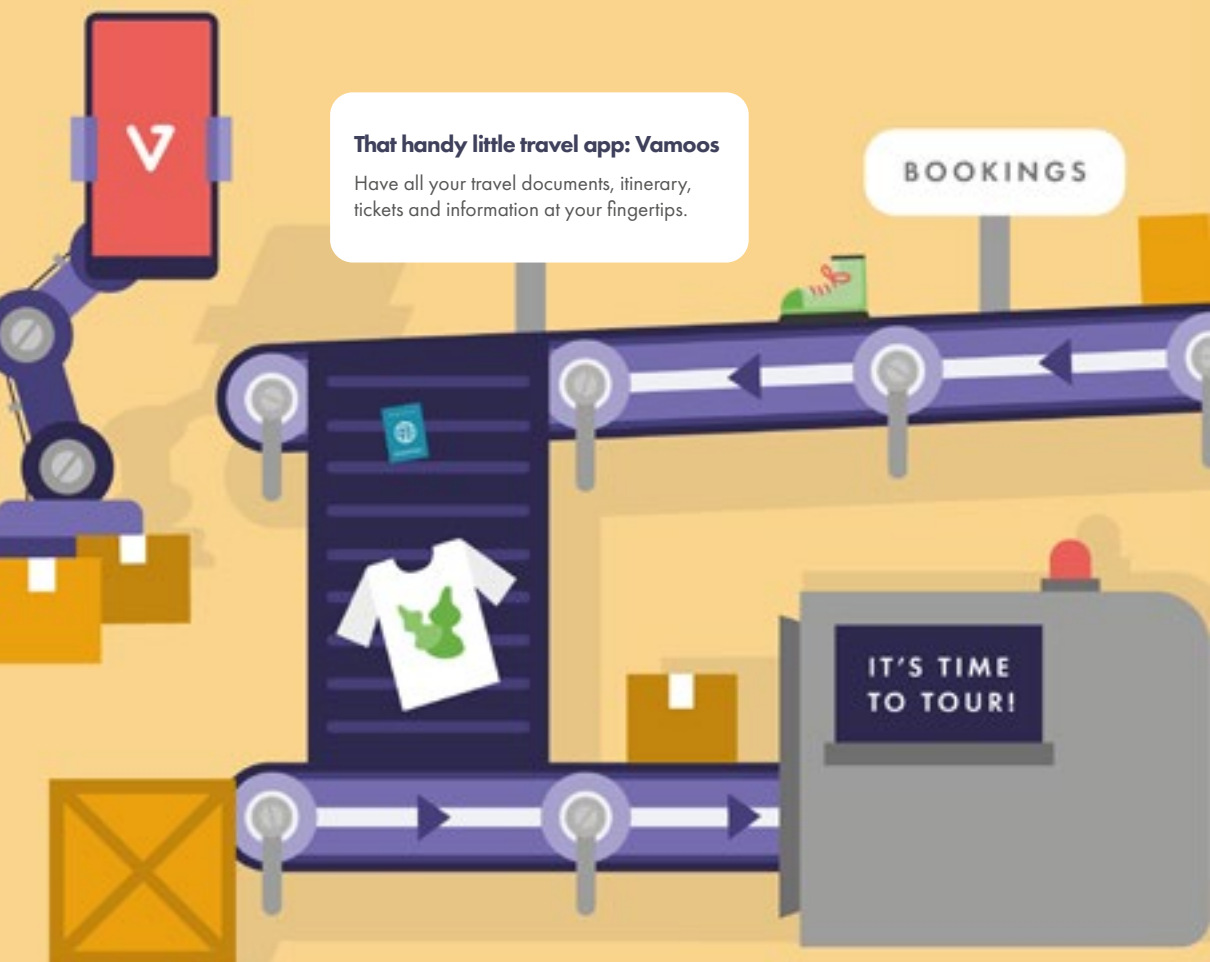
# THE RAYBURN MACHINE

*The production line to **create your perfect tour!***

Over the years, we've come to understand that when planning a tour you need one dedicated point of contact here at Rayburn Tours HQ. This contact knows your tour like the back of their hand and is there to answer any questions, help you keep on top of the tour admin and, ultimately, provide you with a first-class school trip. But they don't do it alone!

In fact, our Tour Consultants and Tour Coordinators are part of a finely tuned Rayburn Machine. Part of the production line to create the perfect tailor-made tour.

So, let us open up the doors and welcome you in to see just what goes on from the very moment you make your enquiry to ensuring you get **THE PERFECT SCHOOL TRIP!**



## That handy little travel app: Vamoos

Have all your travel documents, itinerary, tickets and information at your fingertips.

BOOKINGS

IT'S TIME  
TO TOUR!



## ENQUIRIES

### 1 Your enquiry

#### Dedicated Tour Consultant

- Understands your aims and objectives
- Offers advice and the benefit of their experience
- Provides you with your tailored tour quotation
- Helps with launch presentations

#### Supported by:

- Sales Manager and Head of Sales



### 2 Your Booking

#### Dedicated Tour Coordinator

- Specialist in your chosen destination
- Works with you to create the perfect itinerary
- Books your accommodation and all excursions
- Provides you with all the documentation you need in one handy little travel app.

#### Supported by:

- Head of Operations and Customer Relations



### 3 While on tour

Supported by our 24/7 Emergency Phonenumber should you need it.



#### Plus, you always have the support from our:

##### Product Team

Here to find the perfect excursions & accommodation for your tour

##### Marketing Team

Here to help provide launch materials

##### Transport Manager

Here to help you get the right transport at the best price

##### Finance Team

Here to ensure that the payment process is slick and simple

##### Field Study Tutors

Lead your tour, sharing their specialist knowledge and geographical insight





## UPCOMING **FREE**

# Webinars

Based on the success of our 2021 webinars launch, we will now be bringing a series of **FREE** webinars to schools and groups in 2022. Bringing together some of the best guest speakers in the industry to share their ideas and knowledge, and enhance your approach to some of the hot topics in schools including touring. We'll come together with you to discuss, share and learn!

### **First-time party leaders webinar**

**Tuesday 27th September 2022, 4:30pm - 5:00pm**

This is one we are expecting to fill up fast! Yes, if you're in the arena of contemplating the leap into planning an international tour for the first time, this will be just the tonic for you! We bring to you four different teachers from four very different schools, with varying experiences and tips to share on making the planning as enjoyable and as slick as possible. We invite all teachers considering planning an educational, sports or ski tour to attend! Already toured but want to jump on to share ideas? Then come on in!

#### **MEET THE SPEAKERS & REGISTER.**

Learn more and register your place by visiting  
[rayburntours.com/exploregeography](https://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)

# 5

## OF THE BEST

### READS ON OUR BLOGS

If we had a virtual shelf full of blogs, the goods would be flying off it! These reads are in big demand by teachers and Google loves them...so we thought we'd give you the heads up! They've been created just for you...

Have you got a suggestion for future blogs, or teaching resources you'd like to see us create? No problem, head to our website and send us your suggestions!



1

Blue Lagoon v Secret Lagoon

*We give you the lagoon low-down, so that you can decide whether you're a Blue Lagoon lover or a Secret Lagoon convert!*

FREE fact file and poster:  
COP26 - This Really Matters

2

*Our fact file sums up the hard hitting facts you want to be reminding students about and how they can play their vital part in influencing change.*



The anatomy of a tropical cyclone

3

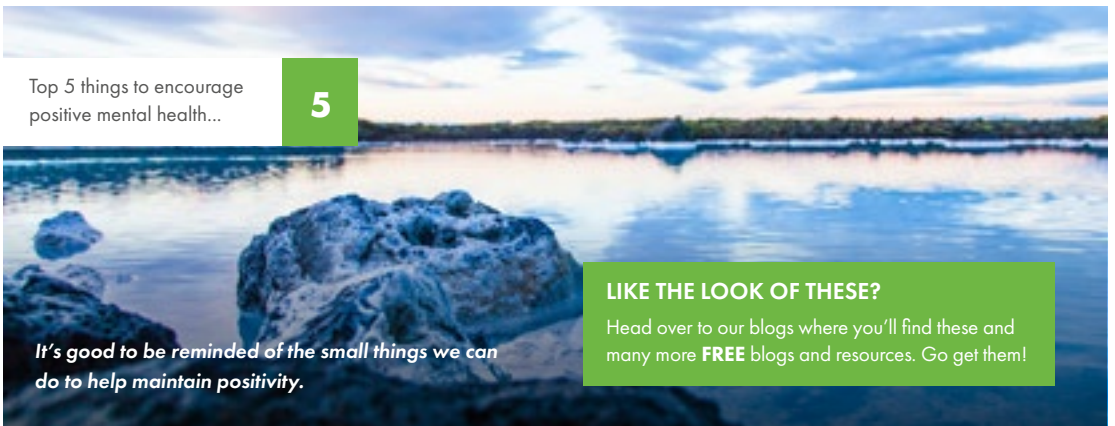
*Our free download is a great way to help students visualise the anatomy of a tropical cyclone.*



4

Rayburn COVID Guarantee

*It comes as no surprise that this is still a top read on our site. We've done everything possible to help you and your school plan ahead with confidence!*



Top 5 things to encourage positive mental health...

5

*It's good to be reminded of the small things we can do to help maintain positivity.*

#### LIKE THE LOOK OF THESE?

Head over to our blogs where you'll find these and many more **FREE** blogs and resources. Go get them!

The perfect insurance plan for schools.

# AVIVA, WE LOVE YOU!

The team at Rayburn have worked long and hard to find the right provider to be our travel insurance partner in 2022 and beyond. The safety and security of our groups out on tour is, of course, our absolute priority, and Aviva have certainly come up trumps! We ventured in for a chat with Graham Meskell, our partnership link to AVIVA, and Kelly Wigley, Rayburn Tours Head of Operations and Customer Relations. And well, what can we say... who would have thought insurance could be quite so interesting?

Purchasing the right insurance policy, giving due consideration to scenarios where you may need to claim, and deciphering the fine print is enough to give anyone palpitations. Throw in the challenges of travelling around the world with COVID-19 in the mix, and more so than ever before travellers are paying greater attention to the fine print of travel insurance policies and the cover they provide. Even more so when you have responsibility for a group of students travelling together.

**After a lengthy chat, we're keeping it simple – these were the BIG takeaways and 'must-know' points for schools.**



## Why did Rayburn Tours need to change insurance providers?

"Quite simply, policy prices were on the rise, and when we needed to include additional cover for COVID-19 related scenarios, it was clear that we could no longer offer our schools value for money with our existing insurer. There were also gaps in coverage on the existing policy, the requirement for a costly GP approval letter when travelling with pre-existing medical conditions and rising excess when making claims. COVID-19 changed the future of travel, and in terms of insurance, things were getting too complex for us and our schools. We needed to find a solution to keep things simple."

## We assume that these were some of the reasons for choosing to work with Aviva?

"Absolutely! They covered off our major challenges with ease and in simple terms everything is covered unless it explicitly states otherwise in the policy. Both our respective businesses acknowledged very early in the pandemic that there was an urgent need to adapt; it was a perfect pairing of brands. We've come together and successfully collaborated to provide a formidable insurance policy for schools."

Kelly Wigley



## Graham elaborates

- ✓ By working with schools and youth groups, we have to accept that no two tours will be the same and that the breadth of potential activities would be part of the course – so these had to be covered as standard.
- ✓ Through ongoing dialogue with Rayburn, we also all agreed that pre-existing conditions needed to be covered without costly and time consuming hoop jumping. So if someone has discussed a medical condition with a medical professional and is deemed fit to travel, no advance declaration or paperwork is required.
- ✓ COVID-19 – what can we say? It was a given that we had to include cover if COVID-19 interrupts travel. If you can't travel because you test positive for COVID-19 or have been instructed to self-isolate, you're covered. If you test positive on tour and require medical treatment or an extended stay, you're covered.
- ✓ As a broker to one of the leading insurers in the UK, we commit to conducting ourselves impeccably. It was clear and apparent that Rayburn shared these values.

Graham Meskell



Solheimajokull  
Iceland



Speaking to Kelly and Graham, it really was quite simple to understand. The unique combination of the AVIVA travel insurance policy + dedicated support of Graham's team + Rayburn's Covid guarantee + legal protection of the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018, means that moving forward, groups can book and travel with confidence, knowing that any arising challenges will not see their parents or guardians out of pocket. Nice and simple!

## About Kelly and Graham – The roles they play in supporting school travel...

**Graham Meskill, David Roberts & Partners Insurance Brokers**

Graham is not employed by AVIVA but acts as a daily intermediary between our clients, us and AVIVA. He acts as an extension to the Rayburn Tours team, and his role is focused on ensuring all our bespoke insurance needs and questions are answered. Where clients have a claim or may need advice, he and his team are the go-to for answers; they are skilled in supporting us all every step of the way. His team's knowledge and support to our clients is valued and vital.

**Kelly Wigley, Rayburn Tours Head of Operations and Customer Relations.**

Having worked at Rayburn Tours for some 15 years, Kelly is a fountain of knowledge for our clients. She works relentlessly with our entire team to ensure our clients enjoy the very best tour experience, both when things are running smoothly and when life throws a curve ball. Managing communications between Rayburn, Graham and AVIVA she is calming, thorough and knowledgeable – the perfect point of escalation for our team and party leaders alike.

Head over to our website where you will see our comprehensive list of Travel Insurance FAQs. Working together, we've got all your questions covered.  
[www.rayburntours.com/travel-insurance-faqs](http://www.rayburntours.com/travel-insurance-faqs)

# Book with confidence.

Your safety is one of our top priorities, which is why we're ABTA bonded, ATOL licensed and offer full travel insurance, with a handful of accreditations under our belts.



## Covid Guarantee

You will get a full refund if you have to cancel due to Covid-19.



## 24 Hour Tour Support

Access to our 24 hour on tour emergency telephone support.



## Financial Protection

Your trip is protected through our ABTA bonding & ATOL membership.



## Specialist Teams

We're here to guide and support you every step of the way.

# What Teachers & Students have to say about Iceland!

TEACHERS

STUDENTS ▶

We know the importance of honest feedback, and after an extended break from travel (for obvious reasons), we decided to not only survey teachers, but also ask the students. We surveyed our long-awaited February half term Geography trips to Iceland, where teachers and students gave us priceless feedback which was both informative and magical!

We surveyed both teachers and students to give you an accurate picture of what to expect.

## QUICK STATS ▼

**100%** of teachers said their pupils thrived in this outdoor setting.

**100%** of teachers said the trip had improved teacher/pupil relationships.

## What was your best experience?

*"All of it - too amazing to put one place!"*

*"There are too many wonders to pick one, standing under the secret waterfall, swimming in a thermal pool, looking out onto the edge of a glacier!"*

*"Gullfoss - incredible."*

*"Can't pin it down! Iceland is a wonderful place."*

12:05

## Teacher Questionnaire



How important do you think the trip has been to students given the pandemic?

*"Very. There has been a lot of lost learning and a loss of confidence during the pandemic where pupils have struggled with their mental health. This has been a fantastic opportunity to leave their pandemic bubble, experiencing something new and amazing."*

What would you say to another teacher thinking about planning a trip to Iceland?

*"It's an incredible opportunity, students loved it and they learned so much thanks to Ian, the Field Study Tutor who was incredible! It was scary and challenging, but we asked Rayburn Tours for help so don't lose faith because it is incredibly worthwhile."*

*"Rayburn was really helpful and gave us the confidence to do it safely, and if we can do it in this climate, you can too!"*

*"Choose Iceland, choose Rayburn."*

Here it is. The unfiltered, funny and heart-warming feedback from the students who attended our half term Geography trips to Iceland. Deciding to ask for feedback from both teachers and students after such an extended break from international travel uncovered some stark contrasts.

On one hand we had the ensuing hilarity of our Field Study Tutor Ian's impeccable knowledge of toilet locations. On the other we had the sobering reality of the effects of climate change, clearly visible in the landscape of Iceland's glaciers.

The benefits for students learning outside the classroom are immense, and the experiences they have are magic – we really enjoyed reading all their responses.

# TOP 3 EXPERIENCES

Gullfoss Waterfall  
Secret Lagoon  
Glacier Visit

AMAZING

Beautiful  
Incredible

POWERFUL

Mesmerising

100%  
of students

felt the trip gave them a better understanding of their subject in the classroom.

Describe your trip with an emoji...

😊 x 14

👨 x 6

👍 x 6

👩 x 5

## FIELD STUDY TUTOR FACT FILE



Ian Geddes

Former Geography & Deputy Head Teacher & Author.



Catherine Rule

Former Geography Teacher & Rayburn Tours Geography Tours Development Manager.

12:05

### Student Questionnaire

What will you remember about your Field Study Tutor Ian?

He was funny and compelling, especially with his top-class toilet reviews.

What do you want to say to your teacher, who organised this trip?

Thank you so much! It was the best trip and holiday I've been on. I loved learning about new things and seeing breathtaking scenery.

The most amazing thing you saw on the trip?

The glacier was like something you see in movies, and it was breathtaking. If we revisit, it sadly won't be the same ever again.

What will you remember about your Field Study Tutor, Cath?

She is very informative and kind. Her storytelling made me laugh and made the explanations engaging. She was also very passionate about the country and places we visited, which meant we learned more.

For more feedback about our trips visit  
[rayburntours.com/exploregeography](https://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)

## How to make a school trip

# MORE SUSTAINABLE!

A HOT  
TOPIC WE  
WANT TO  
SHARE!

As geography teachers we face a dilemma. Taking our students out of the classroom has always been a fundamental ingredient of the geography education we provide. However, whilst we are all well aware of the benefits, we are also much more aware of the detrimental impact international travel can have on the environment.

To stop running international school trips altogether would deprive our students of once-in-a-lifetime experiences they would never encounter at home, events that can serve to inspire and motivate even the most recalcitrant learners. We should also remember that whilst we often focus on the negative impacts of tourism, it can, in some locations, act as a vital catalyst towards social and economic development, helping to create jobs, raise living standards, reduce poverty and perhaps lead to more sustainable practices in the future.

So, what should we do? We're sure you'll agree that rather than stop travelling altogether, we need to be more conscious of how we travel, seeking to minimise the negative impacts, valuing our environment and aiming to have a positive impact for local communities. So, here are some suggestions to share with your students to encourage them to make better choices as they learn to travel responsibly.







### On the move

Transport is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, so considering how you get to your destination is an essential step towards leaving a lighter footprint. Short-haul destinations may lend themselves to train or coach travel, but flying may be the only viable choice for longer distances or where time is short, so consider taking a direct flight to minimise excess emissions.



### Say no to plastic

We are all too aware of the need to minimise the amount of plastic we use and throw away, and there is no reason we can't continue to do this when travelling. One of the easiest ways to reduce plastic consumption is to encourage your students to pack reusables: a water bottle to fill up from the tap, a coffee cup for any hot drinks, a food container for a packed lunch, a bag for any souvenir shopping.

Think about the toiletries you bring too. Decant soaps, shampoos and conditioners, from the bottles you already have, into refillable silicone bottles, choose zero waste products such as shampoo bars and deodorant paste, and opt for a bamboo toothbrush.



### Get packing

How you pack can go a long way to help reduce your footprint. Of course, the lighter your luggage, the better, as transporting each extra kilo requires more fuel, so think carefully about what goes into your bag and pack smart.



### Get rid of the paper trail

The amount of paperwork generated by a school trip can be ridiculous, but this includes essential documents containing vital information. Using our travel app means that risk assessments, medical records, insurance details, trip itineraries and more can be digitised and made easily accessible on your phone, tablet or laptop whilst you're on the go, saving on the printing.



### Leave no trace

As travellers, we need to be more aware of how our actions affect the environment we visit and the lives of local people. We should do what we can to conserve local water and energy resources. For example, taking short showers, turning off the tap when brushing your teeth and reusing towels will save precious water resources in a country such as Morocco.

Recycle any waste and never leave litter. If there are no bins, carry your rubbish with you until it can be disposed of properly. Use the footpaths provided without disturbing nature and keep noise to a minimum.



### Go local

Support the local economy where you can. Stay in locally owned accommodation, eat-in cafes and restaurants run by locals, try local cuisine made from locally sourced ingredients and buy souvenirs from local suppliers.

As much as possible, avoid chain stores and international food chains where your money does not benefit the local economy. Our Tour Consultants at Rayburn Tours are happy to talk to you about our relationship with local suppliers in many of our destinations.



### Show respect

We should always be mindful that we are visiting someone else's home, be considerate of different cultures and be open-minded to different perspectives. We can show this in how we dress, dressing modestly where appropriate and respecting dress codes, such as wearing head coverings in rural Morocco or covering your shoulders in places of worship in Italy.

Try learning a few key phrases in the local language. Even just a simple please and thank you will help you connect with local people.

Education is the best way to bring about change and make a difference.  
Read the full story online [rayburntours.com/exploregeography](https://www.rayburntours.com/exploregeography)

## HEAD OVER TO OUR WEBSITE

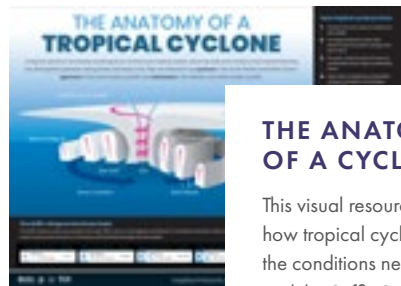
Visit our resources page to download these resources and many more, for free! [rayburntours.com/exploregeography](https://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)

# Recce our RESOURCES!

So, we've recently added to our portfolio of **FREE** teaching resources on our website. Learn more about what's hot on the resource hit list for 2022!

## DEFORESTATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

This helpful resource will give your students a greater understanding of the important topics of deforestation and sustainable management.



## THE ANATOMY OF A CYCLONE

This visual resource covers how tropical cyclones form, the conditions necessary and the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale.

## 5 COUNTRIES MOST AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

Discover more about the five countries most severely affected by the results of continuing climate change.



## DIFFERENT FORMS OF VOLCANOES

We've put together our 'Top 5 Forms of Volcano' to fire up your students' love of these explosive formations.



# THE ICELAND SERIES

**FREE  
TEACHING  
RESOURCES**

It's been a long time in the planning for us to launch an Iceland Series of resources for teachers. With individual packs to target both GCSE and A-Level teaching, we've got you covered!

They're designed to provide teachers with a wealth of practical aids to deliver Geographical teaching on a range of hot topics, using Iceland as an engaging case study.

## TOPICS FEATURED INCLUDE:

Natural Hazards

1



Energy Resources

2



Climate Change

3



Changing Places

4



Glaciation

5



We'll equip you with everything you need to deliver a series of quality lessons, with resources for both teachers and students.

- ✓ Slick looking PowerPoints
- ✓ Classroom Posters
- ✓ Online student Q&A quizzes!  
(printables provided if preferred!)

### HEAD OVER TO OUR WEBSITE

Visit our Iceland Series webpage to download these resources as they are released [rayburntours.com/exploregeography](https://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)

How can a school trip help your students to

# THINK LIKE A GEOGRAPHER?

- ✓ THINKING CRITICALLY
- ✓ CHALLENGING ACCEPTED THEORY
- ✓ IDENTIFYING ISSUES
- ✓ ASKING QUESTIONS
- ✓ MAKING LINKS
- ✓ SOLVING PROBLEMS

Geographical issues are wide ranging, important and complex. Geography should promote an awareness, interest and understanding of the world's people and places, helping students understand the world more fully. Whilst what you do in the context of a classroom is extremely valuable, taking your students to new and exciting destinations can ignite a geographical passion which is hard to replicate in a classroom setting.

Visiting any of our destinations will cultivate curiosity in your students with the desire to learn more, seek out evidence and be open to new ideas. Here's just a taste of how some of our trips can challenge students to address the big issues and promote geographical thinking as they start to see the world through the eyes of a geographer.





## SWITZERLAND

The awe-inspiring Swiss landscape is dominated by glaciers. The terrain certainly stimulates an awareness of the importance of ice, in terms of glacier formation, the effect of erosion and deposition on shaping the landscape, the significant role glaciers play as essential sources of water and renewable energy and the debilitating effects of glacial loss as a result of climate change.

First-hand experience allows students to express feelings about places and landscapes and enhances the conceptual understanding gained in the classroom, allowing connections to be made between different parts of the curriculum which can often appear unrelated in the classroom.

## MOROCCO

Travelling to Morocco provides a wonderful opportunity to explore the reality of a developing country. It allows students to consider how we measure development and make comparisons between countries around the world and, as a result, review and reconsider what they think they already know about development and inequality.

Being warmly welcomed into a Berber village is a memorable experience. Sharing everyday chores, separated by gender, gives an awareness of the challenges faced by the residents and an understanding of cultural attitudes and traditions. Students are able to make comparisons with their own lives, appreciate differences within places, regions and countries and engage critically with real world issues. They will learn to question, to empathise and to consider their roles in society in the future.

## THE NETHERLANDS

Not many countries in the world are more aware of the dangers of rising sea levels and overflowing rivers than the Netherlands. Over the course of history, the country has learned to successfully mitigate the hazards of both coastal flooding and overflowing rivers by building dykes, dunes, dams and barriers.

As students visit both hard and soft engineering projects they will start to ask and pursue critical geographical questions. Why is the Netherlands vulnerable to the effects of climate change? What geographical processes are relevant in considering this issue? How is this linked to urbanisation and demography? What are the social, economic and environmental impacts of these flood defences? Are they sustainable? Students will be guided to identify connections between different aspects of geography, both physical and human, whilst developing a coherent sense of place.

## SOUTH WEST USA

Las Vegas is big, brash and bright and may not be the first city to spring to mind as an educational experience. Built in the desert, with the reputation of gleeful self-indulgence, this 24-hour city consumes vast amounts of energy, water and food resources and at first glance appears to offer little in the way of eco-friendly practices. Can such a city be sustainable? You might be surprised by the answer.

Las Vegas and its surroundings allow students to make real world links between physical and human geography and the ability to see things in context. As active learners there is much to investigate in terms of geographical issues: urban growth and urbanisation, water resource management, hot desert environments, sustainability. Visiting the city with your students will raise countless questions, challenge what they think they already know and create a questioning attitude about information they are presented with.

▶ And this barely scratches the surface - to see more examples of how a school trip can help your students to think like a geographer, visit our website, [rayburntours.com/exploregeography](http://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)



# Things you may not know

## ABOUT ICELAND

There are always those nuggets of information about a destination that make you raise your eyebrows and say, "well I never knew that!" We went out and asked our team of Field Study Tutors, suppliers and partners out in Iceland that very question! You'll be amazed at the answers we received back! **Here are just a few...**

### Icelanders don't use umbrellas

When rain comes, you're getting drenched no matter what! If you see an umbrella in Iceland, you can be sure that you are looking at a foreigner!



### No TV on Thursdays!

Between 1966 and 1987, there were no TV programmes on a Thursday. The government implemented this to encourage families to spend quality time together!



### Icelanders love 'dried fish' as a salty snack!

Found in all the supermarkets, this snack is our equivalent of a Dorito. Left in your rucksack, people may confuse the odour with a dead mouse inside a moldy sock!



### There are no McDonalds in Iceland

The last surviving Burger in Iceland is on display in Snotra House in Hella. There is a live video online and after more than 10 years, there is no sign of decay!



### Over 95% of Iceland's drinking water is untreated groundwater

95% of all water in Iceland comes from springs, it is in fact one of the cleanest and most delicious drinking waters in the world.



Thank you to **Val Vannet** and **Ian Geddes** our fantastic long serving Field Study Tutors, and all our good friends in Iceland for contributing to this fun article!

**On power, Iceland Dive Centre** and **The Secret Lagoon**, we can't wait to get loads of schools back out to you in 2022/23 to enjoy the splendours of Iceland!

Like what you've read? There's more to read over on our 101 facts about Iceland blog at [rayburntours.com/exploregeography](https://rayburntours.com/exploregeography)

# DESTINATION SELECTION

Our school geography trips allow your students to witness some of the world's most spectacular natural wonders and better understand contemporary geographical challenges, incorporating elements of physical, human and environmental geography. Offering a wide range of destinations, we'll take you off the beaten track and provide extra support with our specialist Field Study Tutors and award-winning study resources.

Here is just a selection of our most popular destinations, but you'll find more on our website, [rayburntours.com](http://rayburntours.com).

## 24. ICELAND

Untouched wilderness and larger-than-life scenery

## 26. THE AZORES

Educate and inspire the future generation

## 28. ITALY

Coastal splendour at its finest

## 30. THE NETHERLANDS

Age-old Dutch classics meet environmental wonders

## 31. SWITZERLAND

A land of snow-capped mountains and green pastures

## 32. MOROCCO

A golden-hued realm of beauty

## 33. SOUTH WEST USA

Crank up the canyons and unleash the landscapes

## 34. UK

Diverse and exciting opportunities for fieldwork

### FIELD STUDY TUTORS

▶ Our expert Field Study Tutors are here to share their specialist knowledge and geographical insight, helping to inspire your students and take the pressure off you as the party leader.



# Iceland

*Untouched wilderness and larger-than-life scenery*

Where hot springs bubble through sulphur-crusting vents, blue-hued glaciers glisten in the midnight sun and thundering waterfalls plummet into gaping gorges, Iceland's landscape is the stuff of legends. With us, you won't just scratch the surface, you'll delve deeper to discover just what lies beneath this extraordinary environment.



## Popular excursions:

- Golden Circle Tour
- Blue Lagoon
- Secret Lagoon
- Reykjanes Geopark
- Skogafoss and Seljalandsfoss
- LAVA Centre

## Something a bit different:

### Super Jeep Adventure

Take a Super Jeep Journey into the rocky retreat of South Iceland. Travelling in 4x4s, this is one for the adventurous! Routes taken depend on conditions and time of year.

### Into the Glacier

Delve deep into the heart of Langjökull and take a Monster Truck to the entrance of the man-made ice cave, before venturing into the glacier for a unique view beneath the surface of the ice.

### Lava Tube Caving

Throw on your caving gear and explore the tube-like caves hidden beneath some of Iceland's ancient lava flows. Witness the incredible display of colours, shapes and textures, and marvel at the bizarre rock formations beneath the lava.





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**£579PP**



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## Here's how your tour **COULD** look!

### Day 1

- Morning ○ Flight to Iceland, meet FST & head to Reykjanes Geopark
- Afternoon ○ Reykjanes Geopark: including Bridge Between Two Continents, Gunnhver Hot Springs, Krysuvik & Eldborg Crater
- Evening ○ Meal at local pizzeria & check into accommodation

### Day 2

- Morning ○ Golden Circle day: including Secret Lagoon & Thingvellir National Park
- Afternoon ○ Strokkur Geysir & Gullfoss
- Evening ○ Evening meal at accommodation & quiz

### Day 3

- Morning ○ LAVA Centre, Skogafoss & Seljalandsfoss
- Afternoon ○ Glacier hike on Solheimajokull & Reynisfjara
- Evening ○ Evening meal at accommodation & study time or activity

### Day 4

- Morning ○ Full day Super Jeep Adventure
- Evening ○ Evening meal at accommodation & study time or activity

### Day 5

- Morning ○ Lava tube caving
- Afternoon ○ Investigate Reykjavik as a 'Changing Place' before your flight home

## An unforgettable experience...

### Glacier Hike

Equipped with crampons and ice axes, enjoy a 2-hour guided tour of Sólheimajökull. You'll learn about the glacier's ice, its movement and its rate of retreat, as well as discover a range of fascinating glacial features.



## Discover more!

Remember that all of our tours are tailor-made, so this is simply to fuel your imagination. See more at...

[rayburntours.com/ICE](https://rayburntours.com/ICE)

\*Based on 4 day, 3 night flight tour for 36 passengers (+4 free places) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.

# The Azores

*A rumbling mass of beauty and volcanic galore*

A far-flung archipelago of green-coated calderas, forest-ringed lakes and steaming fumaroles, the Azores is a rare mass of beauty that hums with volcanic origin. Scattered like stepping stones in the mid-Atlantic, these other-worldly islands are somewhat untouched, beckoning explorers to unearth their geographical treasures. Welcome to the other Eden.

## Popular excursions:

- Lagoa do Fogo
- Caldeira Velha Thermal Pools
- Sete Cidades
- Furnas Valley
- Volcanological & Geothermal Observatory
- Energy Trail
- Whale & Dolphin Watching Boat Trip
- Local tea plantation

## Something a bit different:

### **Gruta do Carvão Lava Tube**

This lava tube provides a fascinating insight into the movement of basalt lava flows. Believed to have formed 5,000-12,000 years ago, the cave's surfaces vary from smooth to rough, with orange and red-toned black basalt.

### **Pineapple Plantation**

The Azorean pineapple is unique in its characteristics and production methods. A self-guided walk around the plantation reveals the greenhouse and stages of cultivation, which aim to recreate the natural environment typical of a hot and humid climate.



PRICES FROM\*  
**£699PP**



### Here's how your tour **COULD** look!

#### Day 1

- Morning ○ Flight to the Azores
- Afternoon ○ Gruta do Carvao lava tube
- Evening ○ Explore Ponta Delgada before evening meal at accommodation

#### Day 2

- Morning ○ Visit Furnas Monitoring and Research Centre Lagoa das Furnas
- Afternoon ○ Terra Nostra Botanical Gardens and swim in the thermal pool
- Evening ○ Meal at accommodation & walk to Parque Atlantico shopping centre

#### Day 3

- Morning ○ Arruda Pineapple Plantation self-guided visit, Miradouro da Boca da Inferno viewpoint and Miradouro Vista do Rei viewpoint.
- Afternoon ○ Sete Cidades Volcano trek
- Evening ○ Explore Ponta Delgada before evening meal at accommodation

#### Day 4

- Morning ○ Lagoa Vulcanological and Geothermal Observatory
- Afternoon ○ Caldeira Velha and Cascada Salto do Cabrito Energy Trail Walk

#### Day 5

- Morning ○ Free time in Ponta Delgada
- Afternoon ○ Airport transfer
- Evening ○ Flight home

### A firm favourite with students:

#### Terra Nostra Gardens and Thermal Pools

If you're looking for the perfect way to end a busy day exploring the Azores, then a soak in the iron rich waters of the thermal pool in the town's beautiful Terra Nostra Botanical Gardens is just the ticket.



### Discover more!

Want to find out more about a trip to the Azores? Head over to our website for more excursion ideas, accommodation options and more.

[rayburntours.com/AZO](https://rayburntours.com/AZO)

\*Based on 4 day, 3 night flight tour for 30 passengers (+3 free places) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.

# Italy

## *The Bay of Naples or Sicily?*

**The Bay of Naples** is the perfect location for groups wishing to cover both physical and human geography topics, as well as include plenty of cultural excursions.

To get your fill of all things volcanic, as well as gain a deeper understanding of plate tectonics, natural hazards and the physical environment, it really doesn't get much better than the beautiful island of **Sicily**.

The choice is yours... or why not consider combining both in one trip?





PRICES FROM\*  
**£399PP**

## SICILY

Coastal beauty and fiery landscapes galore

Alive with restless mountains and intriguing landscapes, Sicily is a budding geographer's dream. Look over your shoulder and see a skyline dominated by the smoking hulk of Mount Etna, where you're invited to get up close to its red-raw craters and fiery features. Cool down with visits to Alcantara Gorge and Giardini Naxos, then succumb to the charms of Siracusa to discover ancient treasures that time forgot.

### Popular excursions:

- Etna Nord
- Etna Sud
- Giardini Naxos
- Alcantara Gorge
- Taormina

### Here's how your tour COULD look!

1. Flight to Sicily, visit Giardini Naxos, evening meal at hotel and walk to local gelateria
2. Full day at Mount Etna, including cable car and 4x4 jeep experience to summit
3. Travel to Milazzo and cross to Vulcano, meet Alpine Guide & trek to Gran Cratere summit. Relax in mud puddles.
4. Visit Alcantara Gorge. Taormina and Greek Theatre
5. Visit Syracuse before flight home.



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### Something a bit different:

#### Aeolian Islands

Explore the Aeolian Islands of Lipari, Vulcano and Stromboli on a scenic boat trip and discover their diverse volcanic terrain. Take a guided visit of Lipari, ascend to the summit of Gran Cratere and enjoy an evening cruise around Stromboli.



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**£339PP**

## THE BAY OF NAPLES

Where Vesuvius steals the limelight

Awash with rugged coastlines, azure seas and age-old cities, the Bay of Naples is one of the most beautiful corners of Europe. A coastal strip of terraced farmland, cliff-side settlements and archaeological riches becomes your backdrop, whilst the mighty Mount Vesuvius looms over the ancient ruins of Pompeii. Coupled with the fabled Isle of Capri and Amalfi Coast, this enchanting region is hard to resist.

### Popular excursions:

- Mount Vesuvius
- Pompeii
- Herculaneum
- Amalfi Coast drive
- Capri Day

### Here's how your tour COULD look!

1. Flight to Naples, Visit Herculaneum and check in to hotel on Sorrentine Peninsula.
2. Vesuvius summit trek to crater rim. Guided visit of Pompeii.
3. Capri boat trip and Anacapri chairlift. Ice cream making in Sorrento
4. Visit the Amalfi Coast. Fondo Galatea working farm
5. Souvenir shopping in Sorrento before flight home.



DESTINATION  
GUIDE AVAILABLE



### Always a hit with students:

#### Fondo Galatea

A guided tour of this typical Southern Italian, family-run working farm explains the farming methods and techniques practised for growing Mediterranean crops. Enjoy a mozzarella and local cheese production demonstration as well as a pizza making session!

Want to see how a tour to Sicily could look, where you could stay and what else you could see?  
Visit our website [rayburntours.com/SIC](https://www.rayburntours.com/SIC)

\*Based on 4 day, 3 night flight tour for 36 passengers (+4 free places) travelling Oct 2023. Subject to availability.

Intrigued? See more excursions, accommodation options and sample itineraries on our website.  
Visit our website [rayburntours.com/BON](https://www.rayburntours.com/BON)

\*Based on 4 day, 3 night flight tour for 36 passengers (+4 free places) travelling Oct 2023. Subject to availability.

# The Netherlands

From coastal scenes to urban streets

PRICES FROM\*  
**£259PP**

 STUDY  
HANDBOOK  
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Known for its windmills and tulip fields, there's so much more to the Netherlands than meets the eye. See beyond its stereotypes and delve into a unique geography of coastal sand dunes, agricultural brilliance and pancake-flat landscapes. Innovators at heart, the Dutch are masters of water management – making it one of the best places to study flood defences – whilst Amsterdam offers an urban contrast to the country's rural scenery.

## Here's how your tour **COULD** look!

1. Coach to the Netherlands and head to Neeltje Jans Deltapark storm surge barrier, before spending the evening in Noordwijk.
2. Spend the day in Amsterdam – urban renewal, canal cruise and Clara Maria Cheese Farm & Clog Factory
3. Visit Keringhuis Water Management Information Centre, FutureLand Port of Rotterdam, Spido Boat Trip & Euromast
4. Visit Kinderdijk World Heritage Site, coastal sand dunes & soft engineering strategies
5. Travel home



## Popular excursions:

- Neeltje Jans Deltapark
- Keringhuis Water Management Information Centre
- Visit to Noordwijk
- FutureLand Port of Rotterdam
- Kinderdijk World Heritage Site
- Clara Maria Cheese Farm & Clog Factory

## A different view of Amsterdam:

Urban Renewal in Amsterdam covers a range of community renewal and investment projects. Visit the urban development districts of East Harbour or IJburg to see new city planning and modern architecture on a massive scale.



## Intrigued?

See more excursions, accommodation options and sample itineraries on our website. [rayburntours.com/NL](https://www.rayburntours.com/NL)

\*Based on 4 day, 3 night coach tour for 44 passengers (+4 free places) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.

# Switzerland

Witness some of nature's greatest creations at work

PRICES FROM\*

£389PP



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Where snow-capped mountains overlook lost valleys and chiselled glaciers neighbour luscious, green pastures, Switzerland is the very definition of rural beauty. Underneath its layer of scenic panoramas lies a country rich in geographical phenomena, where an expanse of cascading waterfalls, open plains and pristine lakes will capture your inner explorer.

## Here's how your tour COULD look!

1. Coach to Switzerland
2. Arrive in Switzerland and head out to ride the Berneuse Cable Car
3. Ramble along the middle & upper course of the Grande Eau River and visit Maison Cailler & Maison du Gruyère
4. Visit Aiguille du Midi before heading to Mer de Glace
5. Visit Fafleralp & Lang Glacier and Lavey les Bains
6. Spend the morning in Leysin before travelling home
7. Travel home



## Popular excursions:

- The Berneuse Cable Car
- Glacier 3000
- Langgletscher
- Grande Eau River Ramble
- Maison Cailler & Maison du Gruyère
- Visit to Leysin

## A must-see for all groups:

### Mer de Glace

Take the funicular train to the viewing platform at Montenvers to admire wonderful panoramas over the glacier, as well as recognise features of an active, glaciated Alpine environment, before descending to the mouth of the ice cave.



Want a destination which screams "GEOGRAPHY"? The beauty and scale of the Swiss landscape is simply impossible to ignore, making it an unforgettable trip for Geography students. Find out more on our website. [rayburntours.com/SWISS](https://www.rayburntours.com/SWISS)

\*Based on 6 day, 3 night coach tour for 43 passengers (+4 free places) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.

# Morocco

*A golden-hued realm of rural beauty and captivating diversity*

PRICES FROM\*

**£759PP**



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As Africa's golden-hued gateway, Morocco holds an enduring fascination that's hard to resist. A haven of sweeping deserts, rural Berber villages and spice-scented souks, Morocco transports its visitors into a world of colourful contrasts and exotic beauty. Witness the country's fascinating culture first-hand and discover its captivating diversity – seen in everything from the urban vibes of Marrakech to the hidden villages in the High Atlas.

## Here's how your tour COULD look!

1. Flight to Morocco and visit Marrakech, including Jemaa el-Fnaa, souks & traditional apothecary
2. Travel across the High Atlas to Ouarzazate, with stops to investigate water transfer systems & rural development initiatives
3. Head into the Sahara where you'll stay for the night and enjoy a camel ride
4. Visit Tamegroute before returning to Ouarzazate
5. Visit Ait Benhaddou Kasbah World Heritage Site and Argan Oil Co-operative
6. Visit Douar Ould Elguern before your flight home in the evening

## Popular excursions:

- Guided walk around Amizmiz
- Visit Marrakech
- High Atlas Mountains

## Something truly unique:

### The Ultimate Sleepover

Journey by camel to the Saharan sand dunes and spend the night under the stars in a Bedouin-style encampment! Constructed as an exact replica of the original style, you'll enjoy an evening of traditional food, singing and drumming.



### Douar Ould Elguern

Take part in traditional daily activities in this rural village, where you'll consider the challenges faced and how they can be overcome. A truly unique experience that'll bring development geography to life.

For a geography tour with a difference, choose Morocco! Find out more about things to see and do, places to visit and where to stay on our website. [rayburntours.com/MOR](https://www.rayburntours.com/MOR)

\*Based on 6 day, 5 night flight tour for 36 passengers (+4 free places + Field Study Tutor) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.



# South West USA

Crank up the canyons and unleash the landscapes

PRICES FROM\*  
**£1999PP**



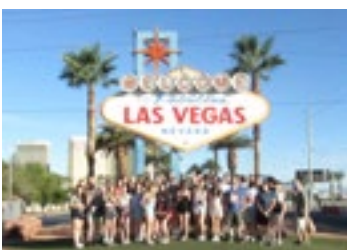
Buckle up for an adventure that's as big as the Grand Canyon! Voyage through the states of Nevada, Arizona, California and Utah and take in the vast deserts, mighty rivers and rocky gorges of the South West. Discover what makes the Grand Canyon just so grand, witness the geological treasures of Yosemite National Park and journey down the Colorado River, before lapping up the luxuries of Las Vegas!

## Here's how your tour COULD look!

1. Flight to Las Vegas
2. Visit the Alan Bible Visitor Centre and the city of Kingman on the famous Route 66
3. Time for the Grand Canyon & IMAX Theatre, rim trail & Geology Museum
4. Start with a morning boat trip on Colorado River, before a visit to Glen Canyon Dam Visitor Centre and Horseshoe Bend
5. Visit Bryce Canyon, then trek along Navajo Loop Trail & Queens Garden Trail
6. Visit the Las Vegas Sign and Springs Preserve
7. Spend the day in Vegas and enjoy a trip to Miracle Mile Shopping Centre
8. Flight home

## Popular excursions:

- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Horseshoe Bend
- Glen Canyon Dam



## Don't leave without:

### A visit to Las Vegas

Even if it's simply to see the famous sign and do a bit of shopping at one of the iconic outlet malls.

## It's the reason you're here:

### Grand Canyon

Discover a geological story that dates back over almost 2 billion years. Follow the South Rim Trail for breathtaking scenes of colourful geology and erosional landforms that are overwhelming in their vastness.



Find out more about a spectacular geography trip to the South West USA on our website. [rayburntours.com/SWU](https://rayburntours.com/SWU)

\*Based on 8 day, 6 night flight tour for 44 passengers (+4 free places +1 Field Study Tutor) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.

# United Kingdom

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**£99PP**

*Sometimes there's no need to look any further!*

UK trips aren't anything new to us – we've been offering them alongside all of our international destinations for years! But because we know some schools aren't quite ready to start thinking about travelling internationally, we've enhanced our UK portfolio to make our geography trips even more exciting, educational and great value for money.



## **NORTH WALES**

Experience one of the best examples of glacial landscape in the UK in Snowdonia National Park!



## **LIVERPOOL**

A city of unique character and perfect for studying 'Changing Places'.



## **CORNWALL AND THE WEST COUNTRY**

Areas of breath-taking beaches and stunning coastline



## **LONDON**

Diverse and exciting opportunities for fieldwork in the UK's capital.

Discover more about our range of UK Geography Trips  
[rayburntours.com/UK](https://www.rayburntours.com/UK)

\*Based on 1 day coach tour for 45 passengers (+4 free places) travelling October 2023. Subject to availability.

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