

← **EXPLORICA** →  
by WorldStrides



# New Zealand & Australia

*June 17– June 26, 2024*

Join Matthew Haley and Jason Albrecht, in conjunction with Explorica by WorldStrides Student Travel, on a 10-day trip-of-a-lifetime to Australia and New Zealand! For more information and complete details please visit us at [www.globalxpeditions.weebly.com](http://www.globalxpeditions.weebly.com)



\*Note – this trip is not affiliated with Moscow Middle School or the Moscow School District. It is an independent student/parent educational opportunity.

# Tonight's Agenda



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- Introduction and Video
- Why travel as a middle school student
- Safety matters
- Travel and Covid
- Day-by-day itinerary
- Introduce the group leaders
- Introduce Explorica
- An educational experience, not a vacation
- Total number of travelers
- Expense breakdown
- Monthly payment options
- What is included?
- What is not included?
- Spending cash
- Fundraising overview
- Application process
- Selection process
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Selection timeline
- Question/Comments/Freaking outs 😊



This presentation, additional information, and travel applications are located at:

***globalxpeditions.weebly.com***

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# GlobalXpeditions

*Expanding your world view through international travel*

Moscow, Idaho – [globalxpeditions.weebly.com](http://globalxpeditions.weebly.com)



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At "Globalxpeditions"

# New Zealand & Australia 2024 Promotional Video



# Why travel as a middle school student?

- Learn and understand first-hand about people & societies around the world
- A good time to bond with your child before life gets too busy with high school activities
- A valuable world experience and personal growth opportunity that they can apply in their high school & college classes
- Creates strong friendships that only a shared travel experience can provide and genuine personal growth
- Helps students appreciate and understand where they live in a whole new light



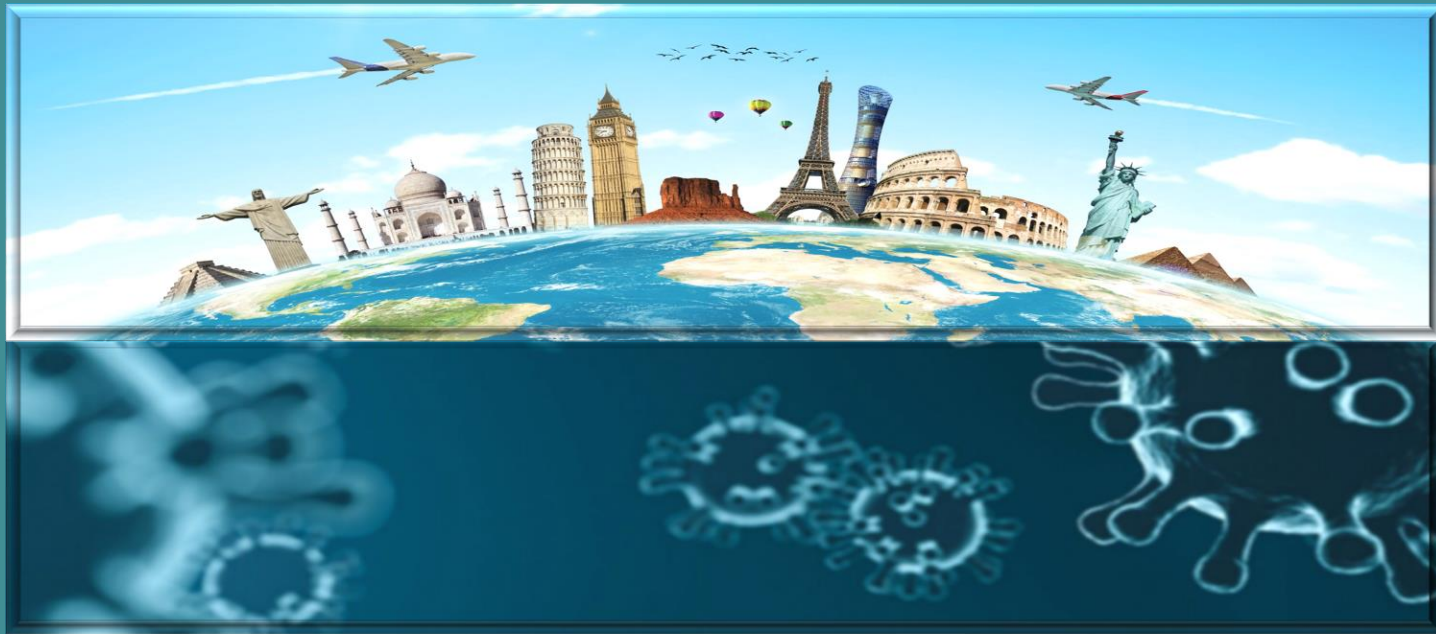


# **Safety**matters

- Explorica, State Department, CDC
  - Matthew and Jason don't decide when it is safe to travel ... we have a network of experts.
- We will re-evaluate every trip IF something arises in that area, region, etc.
- Seen it before...Japan and Tsunami, China and North Korea issues, France and train strikes, Turkey and security issues, Covid 19 pandemic.
- What happens if a new Covid surge arises
  - What if the trip cancels?
  - What if...



# How has Covid changed our trips?



## Travel in the age of Covid

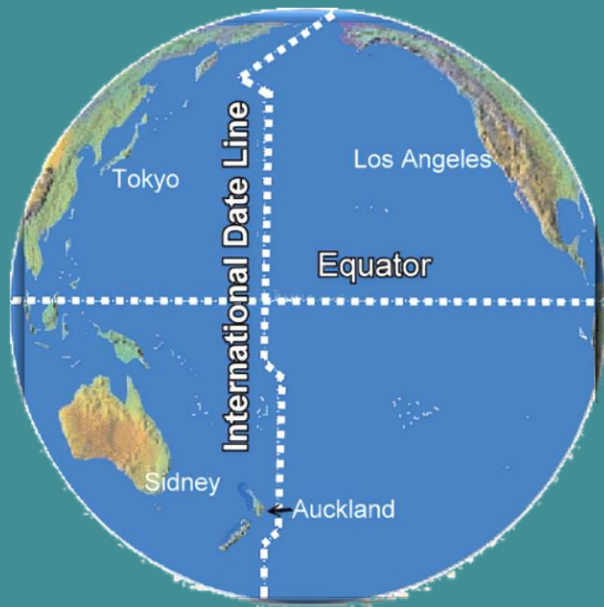
- **Flexibility and adaptability** are KEY for all international travel
- Vaccinations are required prior to travel and expect to be double boosted
  - The goal is to be healthy and remain on tour ... we will do all we can to ensure that happens. Also, it is required for entry into Australia and New Zealand and for indigenous villages and interactions
- Flights are fewer and hotels, busses, and planes have increased protocols
  - Masking is a possibility
- Reopenings are taking longer to get

# Our Trip Itinerary



## Day 1 & 2:

- Fly to New Zealand
- Crossing the International Date Line





## Day 3 – Kia Ora to Auckland and Travel to Rotorua

- Meet our tour director
- Travel to Rotorua
- Dinner and a good night's sleep



**Auckland, New Zealand**



**Rotorua, New Zealand**



## Day 4 – Rotorua

- Hobbiton Movie Set
- Tamaki Māori village visit
- Māori warrior training
- Traditional weaving lesson
- Enjoy a Māori Hangi Feast

## Hobbiton



**Tamaki Māori Village**



**Traditional Hangi Feast**

## Day 5 – Rotorua

- Rotorua guided sightseeing
- Māori Cultural Center
- Te Pula Thermal Reserve
- Skyline gondola ride
- Agrodome Visit



**Māori Culture Center**



**Te Pula Thermal Reserve**

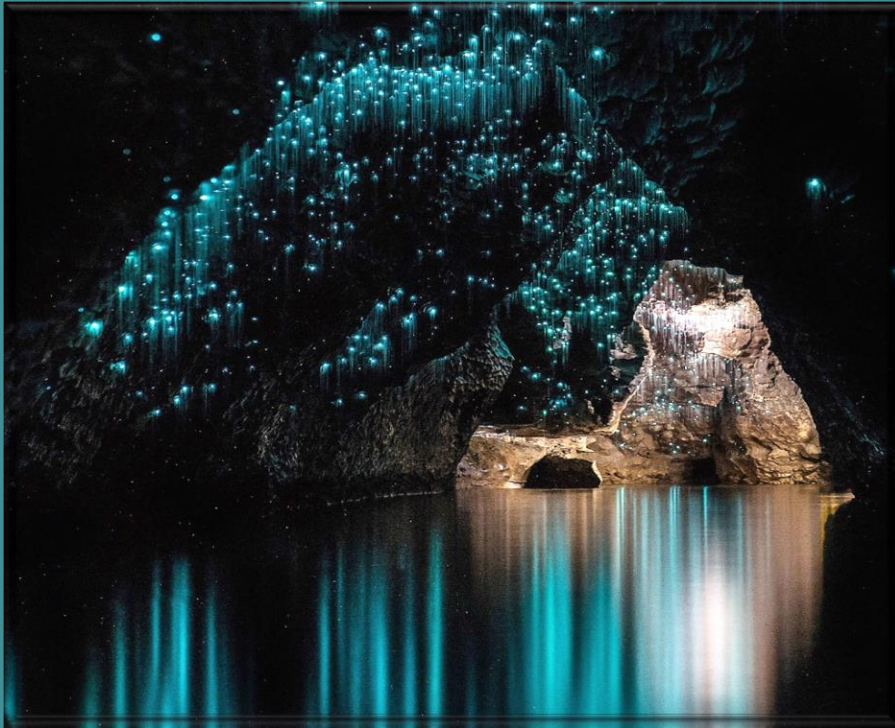


**Skyline up Mt.  
Ngongotaha**

## Day 6 – Travel from Rotorua to Auckland

- Waitomo Caves
- Glowworm caves
- Dinner

**Waitomo Caves**



**Glowworm Caves**



**Dinner**

## Day 7 – Auckland to Sydney

- Auckland sightseeing tour
- War Museum Visit
- Tarlton's Underwater World Visit
- Fly to Sydney
- Sydney Harbor Cruise and Dinner



**Auckland War Memorial**



**Sydney Harbor Dinner Cruise**



**Tarlton's Underwater World Visit**

## Day 8 – Sydney

- Sydney sightseeing tour
- Darling Harbour and the “Gap”
- Sydney Opera House Visit
- Bondi Beach Excursion



**Sydney Sightseeing**



**Visit the Sydney Opera House**



**Visit Bondi Beach**

## Day 9 – Sydney

- Travel the Blue Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary
- Farewell Dinner



**Blue Mountain & Wildlife Sanctuary**

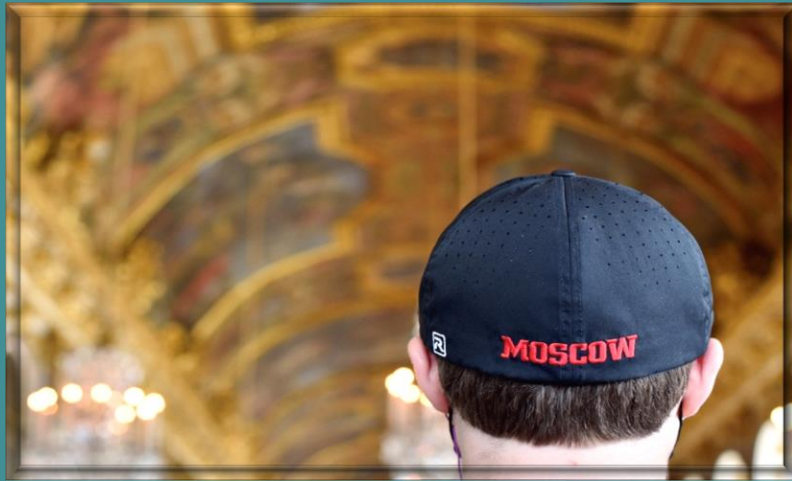


**Check out this Roo**



**and this sleepy Koala**

# Day 10 – Return Home



Memories made





# Trip Leaders: Jason Albrecht, Matthew Haley, Stacy Albrecht, Daniel Haley, and Tiffany Skinner



Student Applicants – trip focus  
Adult Applicants – supporting role

# Who is Explorica by World Strides?

*Our travel Partner*



the  
experience  
is everything.®

# Create a unique educational opportunity ... this is more than just a trip!

- Pre- and post- trip meetings – 85% attendance required for ALL travelers
- Informational meetings including history, culture, travel tips, and more
- Team building activities

- Travel preparation
  - Passports
  - Luggage



# Number of trip participants

- Trip Leaders.....5 positions
  - Matthew Haley and Jason Albrecht – Travel Leaders
  - Daniel Haley – Fundraising and Photo Guy
  - Stacy Albrecht – Social Media and Packing Guru 😊
  - Tiffany Skinner – Safety and Health Advisor
- Student Applicants..... Est. 33 spots available
- Adult Applicants.....Est. 9 spots available



**Trip total = 47 travelers**

**Note:** This is the total number  
of seats on the bus

**Student Cost = \$5,467 Est. 328.56/mo. (16 payments)**

**Adult Cost = \$5,907 Est. \$365.06/mo. (16 payments)**

<b><i>Project Cost Breakdown / Summary</i></b>	
Program Fee + Bus from Moscow to Spokane and back	\$5,440
Group Gratuity Fees and local tips	\$120
All Inclusive Travel Insurance (required)	\$160
<i>Adult Supplement (If applicable)</i>	\$440
Additional Adjustment Discounts (SOPAC253)	-\$253
Student Traveler Cost	\$5,467
Adult Traveler Cost	\$5,907
Total Due at Sign-in by December 2 <sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 pm. This will be your first payment due at signing and is deducted from the total cost.	\$210



**New Zealand Dollar  
1 USD= 1.78 NZD**



**Australian Dollar  
1 USD= 1.59 AUD**

**We will run FOUR all group fundraisers to help you raise money for the trip**

# Monthly Payment Plan Benefits

- Automatic deduction from your checking account each month. Approximately \$329/month for students and \$366/month for adults
- 16 monthly payments
- Final payment deadline up to 35 days prior to departure
- Other payment options are available



**NOTE: Is the cost of this trip tax deductible?** No, Explorica by WorldStrides is a for profit company and our trips are NOT affiliated with the Moscow School District

# What is included?

- Round trip airfare from Spokane
- Lodging in Hotels
  - Students: 3 to 4 per room depending on location (students with students)
  - Adults: 2 per room (adults with adults)
- Transportation throughout the trip from MMS back to MMS
- Explorica tour director to guide us on the ground
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Guided sightseeing/walking tours
- Entrance fees to selected attractions





# What is not included?

- \$50 for two pre-trip team building activities
- Lunches, beverages, and snacks throughout the day
- Passport fees
- Covid tests as needed
- Souvenirs
- Additional airline baggage fees
- Phone calls and Wi-Fi Access
- We recommend \$500 for additional expenses on tour (souvenirs, lunches, etc.)





# Spending Cash



- \$500 spending cash encouraged for lunches and souvenirs
- If Covid tests are required by countries or airlines, then this is an additional expense to the applicant – estimated \$200
- Use our fundraisers to help you earn this!



# Fundraisers with Daniel

## ➤ Group Fundraisers

- We will help with FOUR group fundraisers
  - Valentine's Sale
  - Mother's Day Sale
  - September Land Grove Coffee sale
  - December Christmas wreath sale

## ➤ Individual Fundraisers

- All additional fundraising will be done on your own or in groups of your choosing
  - Ideas/examples (see our website)
    - Business card templates
    - Holiday donation letter templates
- You also have access to a personal *fundraising page* through Explorica
  - <https://www.explorica.com/teachers/affordability/fundraising/personal-fundraising-pages.aspx>



# Four Steps

1. Complete an application and return it to one of the trip leaders ASAP – order matters (see application due date on top of the application – Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm).
2. Wait for a confirmation email from the trip leaders by Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> by 5:00pm
3. Once your application is accepted, complete the online instructions to enroll and pay your non-refundable \$210 (\$50 sign up plus \$160 required Insurance fee). This **must** be completed by 3:30pm Friday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.
4. Attend all group meetings



## Application process

# Selection criteria are as follows:

## *How will travelers be selected?*

1. Probability of success while abroad
2. Completeness and professionalism of application
3. Strength of application answers
4. Legacy: Has a family member traveled previously
5. Order of received application



# Applications



## International Travel Opportunity – Student Application – Australia and NZ 2024



Have you or a family member traveled with us before? Y or N

If so, which trip? \_\_\_\_\_ Who was the family member? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied to travel with us before? Y or N

### Biography Section: (Print Neatly)

Name (First): \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (mo/day/yr): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade level: \_\_\_\_\_ Current School: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (best emergency contact): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Parent/Guardian (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAMPLE Application only! See our website or one of the trip leaders for an actual application**

1. Have you ever traveled outside of the United States? If so, where and why?

2. Why are you interested in this trip and this location?

See Back 

3. Traveling abroad can be a very successful experience, please explain a stressful or difficult challenge that you have faced in your life and tell us how you overcame that challenge.

4. What do you hope to learn or gain from this once-in-a life-time opportunity?

5. If you are selected for this trip, will you be willing to attend ALL the required pre- and post-trip meetings? Yes  No

**SAMPLE Application only! See our website or one of the trip leaders for an actual application**

6. Are you able to participate in this VERY active travel trip (i.e., physically, mentally, and emotionally?) **Physically**, this will include early mornings and late evenings and walking 10,000-20,000 steps daily. **Emotionally and mentally**, this will include being with a large group, cooperating with others, being away from home in a new environment, and being able to take care of yourself while abroad? Yes  No

7. Please list the names of (no more than two) persons that you would like to travel with.  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Question # 8 is for non-Moscow Middle School students ONLY**

8. Please list at least two non-MMS teachers who would recommend you for this trip.  
Teacher 1: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone #) \_\_\_\_\_ (School) \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher 2: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone #) \_\_\_\_\_ (School) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: By signing below:

- \* I agree to be fully vaccinated and be able to travel and to complete all travel related Covid-19 tests
- \* If accepted, I am willing to obtain a passport that is valid 6 months post tour
- \* I understand that I am applying for an educational travel trip with Mr. Albrecht and Mr. Haley, this trip is not affiliated with Moscow Middle School or the Moscow School District
- \* I understand that the complete cost of this trip must be paid in full prior to the departure date
- \* I understand that although this application does not guarantee that I will have the opportunity to go on this trip. Due to a limited number of spots available, this is an application and selection process, which means that the most qualified applicants will go

**By signing I acknowledge that I have read and understand/agree with the terms above:**

Student Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**This application must be complete and submitted to Mr. Haley or Mr. Albrecht by no later than:**

**November 16 at 3:30pm**

Additional information about this travel opportunity can be found at [www.globalxpedititions.weebly.com](http://www.globalxpedititions.weebly.com) and do not forget to "LIKE" us on Facebook!



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ➤ Dietary options?

- Explorica does have different meal options depending on individual needs.

## ➤ Medications while abroad?

- Students are responsible for all needed medications (please notify trip leaders of ANY medical issues prior to the trip).







- Can adults/parents go?
  - Yes, applications are available tonight.
- How many adults/parents can go on this tour?
  - One parent per student up to 9 adults unless additional space is available.
- Can a younger or older sibling go?
  - This trip is for current 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students only.
- Can a relative go on the trip?
  - Yes, but they must complete an adult application and meet the age requirements of 21.
- What if I cannot pay the full trip cost?
  - Once you commit to this trip you are obligated to pay your way.
  - There are penalties for early withdrawal with Explorica.
- How do I know if I am a good applicant?
  - We are looking for responsible, flexible, curious, and group-centered people. This trip is about the GROUP not any one individual.
- Does applying for previous trips help or hurt my chances for this tour?
  - Every tour is independent which means previous applications do not impact this tour's selection process.

# Participant Selection Timeline

- **November 7** – Parent meeting and applications are out
- **November 16** – Applications are DUE by 3:30 pm and will be reviewed by the trip leaders
- **November 18** – Acceptance letters are sent out electronically late afternoon
- **December 2**– Accepted travelers must be enrolled online with Explorica by 3:30 pm and have paid the non-refundable \$50 fee plus required insurance \$160 (\$210 total)
- **December 2 after 3:30 pm** – Accepted applicants who are not enrolled will lose their spot to an alternate who will be informed by 6:00 pm
- **December 7th by 3:00 pm** – Alternate travelers must be signed up with Explorica
- **December 12** – 1<sup>st</sup> all group meeting 7:00 pm in the MMS MPR



# Questions, Comments, Freaking Outs?

- Any group relevant questions – Please ask now
- All group leaders are available for additional questions after the meeting
- Chat with a few adult travelers from past trips
- Contact us via email at [matthewghaley@gmail.com](mailto:matthewghaley@gmail.com)
- Contact us via phone at (509) 330-2182
- This PowerPoint and trip details can be found at our website at [Globalxpeditions.weebly.com](http://Globalxpeditions.weebly.com)
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