



Executive Headteacher:
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St Martin's School

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1 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Trip to Hollywood, L.A. 4 April to the 9 April 2025

We are excited to announce that we are organising a trip to Hollywood California, USA in April 2025. This is the fifth overseas trip organised to Hollywood and it is offered to the current students in Year 8 & 9 who are interested in drama, film, media and music.

The cost of the trip will be £1690.00 per student which will need to be paid in instalments; this is a fantastic price for such a large trip. The cost of the trip will include:

- Flights and all transport costs in the UK and in America
- Hotel accommodation • Breakfast and evening meals
- A USA tour representative for the duration of our stay
- Administrative costs, gratuities and a contingency fund

The cost will also include a number of excursions which will be presented to yourself in January 2025. Examples of previous excursions that have been run, have included:

Two workshops
Dolby Theatre tour (home to the Oscars)
Hollywood behind the scenes tour
Admission to Universal Studios Hollywood Theme Park
Admission to Universal Studios Hollywood Warner Bros Studio
Santa Monica/Venice Beach excursion cycle rental

The excursions noted above are not indicative and may be subject to change. We will be staying in down town Hollywood, and all rooms sleep up to four per room with two double beds in each room. A continental breakfast is included in the room rate; lunch and other expenses, such as any optional activities, are not included but can be attended in pupils free time.

Please be aware that the itinerary and activities offered may change depending on availability and the tour company and trip leader reserve the right to change or swap any activity throughout the trip.

We will be leaving on Friday 4 April and returning on Wednesday 9 April 2025. I suggest that students allow about £15 per day for extra food, drinks and incidentals. This is the ninth time the school has organised a trip of this scale and we are running this trip through the travel company 'Redline Group Travel' whom we have used on our last seven trips.

Explicit instructions on where students are permitted to go, what they may do, and to where and when they should return will be given. No student is permitted to wander



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alone or outside the defined area. Students will be required to stay in small groups at all times, unless given specific instructions by a member of staff; the exact degree of freedom students will be given will depend upon the activity, but it will often require the whole group staying together. It is important that parents realise that individual students will not be under the direct supervision of staff at all times during the visit, although staff will remain within the designated areas and will be available should difficulties arise.

No smoking, vaping or alcohol will be permitted on this trip. If you are interested in your son or daughter taking part, please return the attached consent form to the Finance office by **Friday 16 February 2024**. Once places are confirmed, a non-refundable deposit of £169 will be due by Friday **1 March 2024** to secure your place. A monthly payment of £169 will then need to be paid at the beginning of each month from March, with the final instalment due in **December 2024**.

Please be aware that deposits are non-refundable and if a student is not able to attend the trip once payments have been made, we cannot guarantee a refund unless a replacement is found. If the trip is over-subscribed, students who have shown an aptitude to Drama and Music will get priority. Please also be aware that the school reserve the right to withdraw a student from the trip if they continue to defy the school's behaviour policy and thus their attendance on the trip will be deemed a risk.

This trip has been approved by the Local Schools Committee.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at jpage@st-martins.essex.sch.uk or 01277 238366.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Page
Head of Year 12 & 13 and Trip Leader