

## WHY IS TRAVEL ESSENTIAL TO THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN?

I am a firm believer that education through travel is a necessary rite of passage for every young American. This experience will be the most important week in the lives of your students.

The key to ensuring this lies in the selection of an educational tour company and its willingness in serving the needs of the students and parents while fully safeguarding the travelers, the trip leaders, their school and district.

# SCHOOL TOURS OF AMERICA IS THE FIRST CHOICE AMONG EDUCATORS.

We routinely work alongside principals, board members, headmasters and superintendents to ensure the trip never places the district or its employees at risk. STA has the best safety and tour record of any company in the industry. I invite you to visit our website at: www.schooltoursofamerica.com/reviews.html to hear testimonials from our tours.

On behalf of the School Tours of America family, **THANK YOU** for giving us an opportunity to offer your students this life-changing, educational experience.

Owner & Founder School Tours of America

## HOW WE EXCEL AS EDUCATIONAL TOUR PROVIDERS:

At School Tours of America (STA) we are parents and former educators, so we understand what it takes to provide the best care possible for our teachers, parents, and students.



Exclusive focus on America's
East Coast



Tour planners average 21 years of experience



Pre-booked appointments to avoid long lines



Tours customized to fit each group's unique needs



Master Guides specializing in educating youth



Quality, centrally-located hotels near tour sites

## We are proud members and partners of:

**Student & Youth Travel Association (SYTA) -** STA is a longtime member of SYTA, the most trusted resource for educators, administrators and parents in educational travel with the most stringent financial and ethical requirements. Visit: www.syta.org/

Adams State University - STA is proud to partner with Adams State University to offer educators and students continuing education credits and programs. Visit: www.adams.edu/

STA is also in good standing with the National Tour Association, the International Air Transport Association and the Airlines Reporting Corporation.





#### **Academic Focus:**

All student participants are eligible for the Presidential Leadership Program and high school students are eligible for undergraduate credit through our partnership with Adams State University.

Tour sites and activities are closely tied to curriculum and educational objectives for a truly immersive educational experience.

Expert guides are chosen for their unique ability to connect with students and convey information in a memorable way.

#### **Personal Growth:**

Prior to traveling, students develop a sense of accomplishment and responsibility as they work toward funding their tour.

The significance of lessons learned during the tour ignites lasting educational motivation and a passion for learning.

Educational travel connects classroom studies to the real world, thus building a foundation for future academic success.

## THE BEST SAFETY RECORD IN STUDENT TRAVEL.

We dedicate our efforts to providing the safest, most secure tour possible for each traveler.

## **Every tour includes:**



#### **Emergency Response**

Staff trained with a detailed Emergency Contingency Plan. Our East Coast office serves as the main point of contact, providing immediate response and communication with local and federal authorities.



#### **On-Call Physicians**

School Tours of America utilizes the services of on-call physicians who can meet the group at the hotel, and if necessary, students always have access to the region's first-rate hospitals.



#### **Buddy System**

Students are never alone and must participate in all activities with at least one other student.



#### Hotel Representatives

A representative from STA stays in the hotel 24/7 to ensure a direct line of communication at all times.



#### Hotline

School Tours of America maintains a 24-hour, toll-free emergency phone number (866.491.1543) exclusively for students and parents.



### **GPS Tracking**

Access to GPS tracking is available through a 3rd party app that allows group leaders to message and locate participants.



#### Professional, Bonded Security

Private guards are stationed on hotel floors each night, ensuring that students adhere to the strict nightly curfew.



#### Communication

All tour personnel carry cell phones and we encourage all students to bring their own cell phones.



#### Medical, Dental & Accident Insurance

Tour participants are automatically covered by medical, dental and accident insurance.



#### Identification

All students wear a wristband or lanyard listing our 24/7 emergency contact information.

## GROUP TRAVEL NEWS

Nation - Business - Education - Lifestyle - Travel - Weather

Issue: 222

THE NATIONS BEST SELLING TRAVEL NEWSPAPER

EST - 2002

First Edition

# School Tours of America steps up during unexpected travel challenges.

#### **WINTER STORM STELLA - 2017**

Conducting a group tour always requires experience and careful planning, but these attributes become critical when unforeseen situations arise on tour. School Tours of America (STA) has experience in successfully handling every imaginable emergency scenario and maintains Emergency Contingency Plans in the event that unexpected situations emerge.

In the event that any group is stranded due to an "Act of God", STA covers all expenses, including: hotels, meals, ground transportation, airline fees and additional sightseeing/admissions.

On March 13, 2017, Winter Storm Stella provided another unanticipated challenge that resulted in thousands of canceled flights and closed attractions. The staff of School Tours of America was fully prepared and did a tremendous job to ensure not only that every traveler was safe and comfortable, but that each traveler was able to obtain the life-changing tour experience they expected.

#### Examples of STA's detailed emergency planning:

- The Operations Department monitors all incoming & outgoing flights to avoid potential delays.
- The Airlines Department works around the clock to secure the best flights available.
- Coordinators re-book appointments, meals, and anything necessary to maximize sightseeing.
- STA provides an on-site representative and a 24-hour emergency tour line to ensure groups are never left alone.

Safety and security is always the number one priority at School Tours of America, and emergency contingency preparation and experience is a hallmark. The entire staff is focused on ensuring every traveler is secure, comfortable, and safe.

You are invited to visit their testimonial wall at: (https://www.schooltoursofamerica.com/wall-teachers.html) to hear educators such as Michael Jones and Mike Blackley testify to the strength of their knowledge and expertise. School Tours of America is confident you will not find a more caring and experienced company in all of educational travel.



## Safeguarding the School, School District, and Travelers:

Over 30 years experience working with principals and administrators ensures ours tours never place a school, district, or employee under any liability.

Each parent accepts and signs a contract stating the tour is a non-school sponsored event and is not affiliated with or endorsed by the school, administration, or district.

At your request, STA can specifically name the school and district in our \$5 million liability policy.

## **Liability Protection:**

- All tour leaders, chaperones, and STA tour personnel are fully covered
- Bodily injury and property damage insurance: \$5 million per occurrence
- Personal injury insurance: \$5 million per occurrence
- Non-owned and hired auto liability insurance: \$5 million per occurrence
- Professional liability insurance: \$5 million per occurrence



## We maintain industry-leading insurance coverage for every traveler:



Emergency Evacuation



Accident Medical Expense



Accidental Dental



Sickness Medical Expense



Accidental Dismemberment

### **Emergency Medical Insurance:**

School Tours of America provides 24/7 access to medical assistance, including on-call physicians and medical professionals who travel to the group or hotel if needed.

## STA IS KNOWN FOR WORKING WITH FAMILIES.

## We value honesty and transparency:



**NO Late Fees** 



**NO Fuel Surcharges** 



## Our policies are designed to help:

**Full-service accounting department** – Not only do we work with families, but we provide essential support to our trip leaders. We handle all the money and details so teachers can focus on doing what they do best!

**Payment Plans** – Families have the option to send monthly payments utilizing payment coupons.

**MyTourFund.com** – Students create their own crowdfunding web page where 100% of the funds raised are automatically applied to their trip cost.



School Tours of America operates on the belief that every child deserves an opportunity to experience the power of travel.

