



LSA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Our annual Spring International Trips have been successful in promoting an international culture and flavor to our school for a number of years. In the past five years, our students have visited Greece, Turkey, England, France, Switzerland, Italy, and Spain. Previous trips have included China and Canada.

Included in two of these trips were visits to ACA colleges, Adventist Colleges Abroad. Giving students an opportunity to learn firsthand what opportunities are available to them when they attend an ACA affiliated college or university in the USA. We anticipate visiting other ACA international colleges on future international trips.

Our students, constituents, families, administration, and faculty consider international travel to be a great learning opportunity. World travel increases a student's perception of the world around them. Being exposed to people who not only speak different languages, but whose cultures and philosophies are different than theirs can have a profound and lasting effect on their lives.

International Travel can help develop tolerance and respect for other cultures, political and economic systems. As Mark Twain once said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness." It can help develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of our own country and cultural values.

The experience of traveling abroad can also increase self-confidence, reinforce the importance and desire to learn foreign language, and influence students to seek out a greater diversity of friends.

In addition to our annual international trips, students at LSA have an opportunity to travel as part of our community service outreach. For a number of years students at La Sierra Academy have participated in programs designed to help families and communities improve their living conditions and opportunities. In addition to the entire schools participation in our local community service day, students and staff have built homes for families in Haiti, Mexico, and New Orleans, rehabilitated a youth camp and laid the foundation for a house of worship in Costa Rica. It is our firm belief that these experiences will provide students with a better understanding and appreciation for what it means to be of service to others.