



RICHARD LANDER SCHOOL BULLETIN

Residential Trips Special



At Richard Lander School we have a wealth of school trips on offer to our students.

Many trips take place during the school day and are not residential. These trip will be free or low cost to parents and, where possible, we plan so that students are returned to school in time for the school buses to make these opportunities as inclusive as they can possibly be.

Other non residential trips see us travelling further afield and may involve dropping and picking up students from school in the early hours of the morning as we travel to Plymouth, Bristol, London...

We always try to keep our non-residential trips as affordable as possible and we apply for funding to subsidise transport or pay for activities where it is available.

Richard Lander School also offers a wide array of residential trips. Sometimes these are for a night or 2: Around half our Year 9 cohort take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award which sees them camping away from home to complete their expedition element, Richard Lander Racing students travel and stay overnight on race weekends and when our sports teams qualify for national fixtures, this also often involves a night in a hotel.

Longer, curriculum related, residential trips which do not take place in activities week include our Modern Foreign Languages trips to Paris and Barcelona, our Geography trip to Iceland and our History trip to Germany. Most other residential trips take place in activities week and last between 3 and 7 nights.

Finally, adventurous Key Stage 4 students can travel to Uganda, India or Thailand on life changing cultural exchanges which last up to 32 days. As these trips are expensive, we offer them in Year 9 to give families the maximum time to pay for them.

This edition of the school bulletin aims to give students and parents/carers an overview of the residential trips on offer, as of January 2025, to help with planning which trips might be best for you.



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Paris - Sites, Markets, Disney and Adventure

In February, the MFL Department organise a Key Stage 3 trip to Paris, giving students the opportunity to experience French life and culture and practise their French speaking skills too!

Students stay at the majestic PGL Chateau, their home away from home for the duration of the trip, where the fabulous staff provide thrilling evening activities for our students, which may include a game of Ambush, a camp fire, crepe making, a quiz or a silent disco..

During the days, students visit famous Parisian landmarks including the Eiffel Tower, le Sacré Coeur and the artisan Montmartre and see many more on their boat and coach tours of Paris, including Notre Dame and l'Arc de Triompe.

Students practise French language skills in the market in Melun, buying souvenirs for friends and family, and immerse themselves in French culture and history at the royal palace of Fontainebleau which was the inspiration for Versailles.

A major highlight of the trip for sports enthusiasts, is a guided tour of the legendary Stade de France.

The trip culminates in a whole day at Eurodisney hanging out with Mickey and friends and a final quintessentially French experience: a visit to a French Hypermarché.

This trip will next take place in February 2026. It is likely to be 4 nights and 5 days at an approximate cost to parents of £750 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. Our Paris and Barcelona trips now take place on alternate years so students may go in either Year 8 or Year 9. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.



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Residential Trips Special

KS3



Barcelona Adventure: Exploring the Heart of Catalonia

In the week leading up to October half-term, Key Stage 3 students embark on an unforgettable trip to the vibrant city of Barcelona. Staying in a youth hostel in the heart of the city, students are immersed in the culture, history, and energy of this beautiful Catalan capital, experiencing art, architecture, sport and adventure.

The trip involves a visit to the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Família, Antoni Gaudí's architectural masterpiece. Students can marvel at the towering spires and intricate designs, gaining insight into its history and ongoing construction that has spanned more than a century. Diving deeper into the work of Antoni Gaudí, students visit Casa Milà and Casa Batlló, two of Gaudí's most iconic buildings, before arriving at Parc Güell where, as well as marvelling at vibrant mosaics, whimsical structures, and lush greenery, they are also treated to stunning panoramic views over Barcelona.

A stroll down Las Ramblas, gives students the chance to experience Barcelona's bustling central boulevard, while the vibrant and lively atmosphere of La Boquería food market, provides a sense sensation of smells of fresh produce, traditional Spanish delicacies, and local street food. El Corte Inglés, Spain's famous department store, gives students another opportunity to spend their euros!

Sports enthusiasts are thrilled to follow in the footsteps of football legends Lionel Messi, Luis Suárez, and Gerard Piqué with a guided tour of FC Barça's famous Nou Camp stadium. Students explore the pitch, locker rooms, and museum, experiencing the excitement and history of one of the world's most famous football clubs.

The adventure doesn't stop there! The trip concludes with an adrenaline-packed day at PortAventura, Spain's largest theme park. With thrilling roller coasters and attractions, it is an experience not for the faint-hearted! Finally, students end the week taking a well-deserved break, relaxing at one of Barcelona's beautiful beaches and reflecting on an unforgettable week.

This trip will next take place in October 2027. It is likely to be 6 nights and 7 days at an approximate cost to parents of £776 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. Our Paris and Barcelona trips now take place on alternate years so students may go in either Year 8 or Year 9. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.



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KS3



Sorrento Culinary Adventure: Curriculum Enrichment Week

Each year, students from Years 7, 8, and 9 embark on a culinary and cultural journey to the stunning town of Sorrento, Italy, as part of Curriculum Enrichment Week. Organized by the Food department, this week-long trip offers students an unforgettable opportunity to immerse themselves in Italian cuisine, history, and culture.

The adventure begins with a boat ride to the breath-taking island of Capri, where students explore the vibrant streets and swim in the crystal-clear waters of Marina Grande. This marks the start of a week filled with unique culinary experiences, where students get hands-on learning about Italy's rich food traditions.

One of the highlights of the trip is a visit to a local pasta-making factory. Here, students witness the age-old art of crafting pasta, learning about the history and techniques behind one of Italy's most beloved staples. The excitement continues with a visit to a buffalo mozzarella farm, where the buffalos are played classical music and can get a massage on demand!

Students are also given the chance to make their own pizzas from scratch, topping their creations with local ingredients before cooking them in a traditional wood-fired oven. All under the supervision of an Italian chef! A trip to an ice cream factory provides the sweetest experience, where students learn how to make traditional Italian gelato.

Beyond the culinary experiences, the trip includes a visit to the ancient city of Pompeii. Buried under volcanic ash during the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79, Pompeii offers a rare glimpse into life in Roman times, frozen at the moment of disaster.

The journey continues with a tour of the picturesque Amalfi Coast, where students visit the stunning towns of Ravello and Positano, taking in the spectacular scenery, bathing in the Mediterranean and capturing beautiful photographs overlooking the Bay of Naples.

This trip will next take place in July 2025. It is likely to be 5 nights and 4 days at an approximate cost to parents of £1080 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.



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KS3



The Magic of Venice: Curriculum Enrichment Week

In 2024, students from Key Stage 3 embarked on an exciting adventure to the enchanting city of Venice. This unique trip allowed students to explore the vibrant culture, history, and cuisine of Italy's famous floating city, all while engaging in a range of hands-on learning experiences.

The journey began with a boat trip to the island of Murano, where students witnessed the ancient Venetian art of glassblowing.

Back on the mainland, students explored the heart of Venice, visiting iconic landmarks such as St. Mark's Square and the Rialto Bridge. They wandered through the bustling piazzas, marvelling at Venice's stunning architecture and rich history. While taking in these beautiful sights, students had the opportunity to shop for souvenirs, choosing from traditional Venetian masks, Murano glass, and other local treasures.

A day trip to the picturesque Prosecco Valley added another dimension to the experience, with students visiting a local cheese-making facility. Here, they took part in a hands-on session where they learned how to make artisanal cheese, followed by a delicious tasting session.

The culinary adventures didn't stop there. Under the guidance of a professional chef, students learned how to make traditional Italian gnocchi from scratch.

When not busy with workshops and sightseeing, students had time to explore the labyrinth of Venice's narrow streets, discovering hidden gems in local cafés, bakeries, and shops. From trying authentic Italian gelato to tasting traditional Venetian dishes, they fully immersed themselves in the rich culinary and cultural landscape.

This trip will next take place in July 2025. It is likely to be 3 nights and 4 days at an approximate cost to parents of £1200 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.



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Alpes Adventure: Curriculum Enrichment Week

During Curriculum Enrichment Week, KS3 students embark on an extraordinary journey to the Alpes, organized by Elemental UK.

Following an epic coach ride, the group arrive to breath-taking Alpine views and warm sunshine, with temperatures soaring into the 30s. A refreshing swim in a picturesque pool provides a much-needed welcome after the long journey.

The week is packed with action and excitement. Students tackle mountain biking, rock climbing, and the thrilling Via Ferrata, suspended high above the ground before embarking on the 'Jungle Adventure', with high ropes, tree safaris, and zip wires to test students' courage and determination – a challenge they relish! The group also visits one of Europe's largest water parks, complete with water slides and wave pools and enjoy the thrill of white-water rafting.

Photographers love the chairlift ascent of a snow-capped mountain to take in stunning panoramic views followed by a long hike down allowing for reflection and appreciation of the serene Alpine landscape. A visit to the charming town of Embrun adds a cultural touch and an opportunity to explore local markets and pick up souvenirs.



Evenings provide opportunities to relax and bond with lively games of table tennis, delicious shared meals, and revitalizing swims. This creates a perfect balance of activity and downtime. The final evening features a celebratory disco and a feast of freshly made crepes, marking the end of an incredible adventure.

This Alpes trip is a transformative experience for everyone involved. Students step out of their comfort zones, embrace challenges, and form lifelong memories, developing camaraderie, confidence, and resilience.

This trip will next take place in July 2025. It is likely to be 7 nights and 8 days at an approximate cost to parents/carers of £1025 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.





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Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Expedition

Starting in Year 9 students can do a DofE programme at one of three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, leads to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

During Curriculum Enrichment Week, Year 9 students have the opportunity to complete the Bronze award expedition element with a 2 day, 1 night self guided walk and camp out in the school grounds.

In teams of four to seven, students plan, train for and then complete an adventurous, self-sufficient 2 day journey which sees them walking from school to Portreath and from school to Trelissick Gardens, carrying everything they need to survive overnight on their backs, and completing challenges along the way.

All students stay overnight in school tepees. They cook their own dinner and breakfast.

Students can only attempt this final Bronze expedition challenge if they have undertaken a training weekend previously. This is also organised by the school, before Curriculum Enrichment Week, and also involves 2 days and 1 night of camping and walking.

Any young person can do their DofE – regardless of ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award isn't a competition or about being first. It's all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.

There are four sections to complete at Bronze and Silver level. They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition.

Through a DofE programme young people have fun, make friends, improve their self-esteem and build confidence. They gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive. A DofE award enhances a CV or university/ job application and employers recognise the work-ready skills award holders bring to their business.

Currently around half of our Year 9 cohort sign up for Duke of Edinburgh Bronze with the vast majority completing the award. Many enjoy it so much that they go on to complete their Silver award in Year 10.

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Training and Assessment Expeditions will take place in the summer term of 2025. Each event will be 2 days and 1 night in duration at an approximate total cost to parents/carers of £60 per child. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.





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New Residential Trip for 2026 - Morocco Surf Trip

We are thrilled to inform you that for the first time we are offering students the chance to escape the Cornish winter and head to sunny Morocco for an unforgettable surf experience in February 2026.

This trip, in partnership with Global Boarders Surf School and Spot-M Morocco, is a bespoke, week-long surf camp designed for UK schools and colleges. Located in the vibrant village of Mirleft in southern Morocco, this adventure will provide students with the opportunity to learn or advance their surfing skills, soak up the African sunshine, and immerse themselves in Moroccan culture. In addition to surfing, students will enjoy traditional Moroccan cuisine, excellent accommodation, cultural workshops, and other activities that will allow them to engage with the fascinating Berber culture.

The trip is being organised through Global Boarders, a well-established surf school in Cornwall, and all activities will be led by fully qualified instructors. Both Global Boarders and the trip are approved by Cornwall County Council.

Trip Details:

- Location: Mirleft, Morocco (2 hours south of Agadir)
- Duration: 8 days / 7 nights
- Flights: We will be flying with EasyJet from Gatwick to Agadir. The flight duration is approximately 3.5 hours, with departure usually scheduled for either Tuesday or Wednesday morning, and an afternoon return flight on the same day a week later.
- Surfing: The majority of surfing will take place at Plage Sauvage, where Spot-M Morocco has a fantastic beachside facility. Students will be able to surf both beach and point breaks, with all necessary amenities provided on-site.
- Accommodation: Students will stay in exclusive villas, with 2-4 students per room and a teacher of the same gender in each villa. This ensures a comfortable and secure environment for all students.
- Food: All meals are locally sourced and freshly prepared by skilled chefs. Students will enjoy traditional Moroccan dishes such as tagines, couscous, kebabs, and barbecues.
- Other Activities: Students will participate in a variety of activities, including artistic workshops, sandboarding, a half-day trip to Tiznit (the jewellery capital of Morocco), and watching the sunset from the historic French fort above Mirleft. The final evening will feature a traditional Berber dance and buffet, along with a group meal out in the town.

The total cost of this trip is £1,250, which includes flights, accommodation, meals, all activities, and insurance cover. A payment plan will be available to spread the cost. Spaces are limited, and places will be allocated by random selection if more students apply than available spots. We will also refer to students' behaviour and attendance records when making final selections for this residential trip.





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Geothermal, Geysirs, Glaciers and Geography in Iceland

Each year, Year 10 Geography students embark on an awe-inspiring trip to Iceland, an island renowned for its dramatic landscapes, geothermal activity, and fascinating geographical features.



The journey begins in Iceland's capital, Reykjavík, a city steeped in history and innovation. Students learn about the city's quakeproof architecture, designed to withstand the frequent seismic activity in the region and marvel at the contrast between the city's modern infrastructure and its rugged, volcanic surroundings.

The second day ventures into Iceland's iconic landscapes of glaciers, waterfalls, and sea stacks. Standing face-to-face with these stunning yet fragile features, students are able to better understand the real-time effects of climate change.

On the third day, the focus shifts to Iceland's geothermal activity. Students visit the world's largest geothermal power station, gaining valuable insights into sustainable energy practices. Witnessing the dramatic eruptions of the Great Geysir provides a vivid demonstration of the power beneath the Earth's surface and how it can be harnessed as a renewable energy source.



The trip concludes with a day of diverse experiences, from exploring a traditional fish-drying station to taking in the beauty of Lake Kleifarvatn and the rugged Reykjanes Peninsula.

This annual trip to Iceland offers students an unparalleled opportunity to immerse themselves in the study of geography, witnessing first-hand the delicate balance of natural forces shaping our world. It provides a transformative experience that leaves them inspired and informed about the challenges and beauty of our planet.

This trip will next take place in February 2025 for 3 nights and 4 days at an approximate cost to parents/carers of £1200 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.



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History Trip to Germany

Our Munich trip offers our GCSE Historians the chance to immerse themselves in the past

On the first day, students enjoy a walking tour of Munich, exploring the cultural history of this famous city. Students visit the site of the doomed Munich Putsch of 1923, the beer halls and gardens of Munich and Munich University including the site where Hans and Sophie Scholl dropped hundreds of anti-Nazi leaflets, which led to their execution.



Day 2 involves a trek to the Mountains where Hitler enjoyed spending a lot of his time due to the astounding views. This is the location of the 'Dokumentation Centre', which focuses on Propaganda and methods of fear used by the Nazi Party, and underneath this complex, we explore Hitler's bunker.

Following this we visit Salzburg in Austria, the home to the 'Sound of Music' to immerse ourselves in Austrian culture. There is also free time for shopping and eating apple strudel!

In the evening we return to Munich for bowling.

On Day 3, we visit the site of the Zeppelin fields in Nuremberg, where Hitler planned to build an enormous stadium, and which now houses an extensive Museum covering his rise to power, methods of control and Propaganda.

In the afternoon we visit Courtroom 600 the site of the Nuremberg trials, where men and women, accused of participating, organising and killing during the holocaust, were put on trial.

Day 4 is our last day in Munich. In the morning we visit Dachau Concentration Camp and memorial - a time for reflection. Much of what we learn about during our time in Munich and Nuremberg is in preparation for this. In the afternoon we have lunch in the Englischer Garten in Munich, with traditional German music in the background, and an opportunity to relax in the sun before boarding our flight home.

In a change for 2025, our History department are taking students on a trip to Berlin for 3 nights and 4 days in June 2025. This is at an approximate cost to parents/carers of £940 per child.

The itinerary is equally exciting and includes the TV Tower, Reichstag, The Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, Visit to the Holocaust Memorial, Visit to Topography of Terror, Brandenburg Gate, Bowling, Visit to the Stasi Prison, Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, Berlin River Cruise.

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Lander4Uganda - African Adventure, Work Experience and Cultural Exchange

Our Year 10 trip to Uganda is a truly life changing experience. After a year of fundraising, students travel to East Africa for 4 weeks away from home, distributing funds and donations, and working in our partner schools as bricklayers, painters and teachers. Over the years, over a thousand students have visited Uganda, raising over £200,000.

The adventure begins when students sign up for the Uganda trip whilst in Year 9. This gives parents a year to pay for the trip and the team a year to raise money for the building and infrastructure projects our students will take part in. Over a whistle-stop year of bake sales, school sleepovers, charity auctions, quiz nights, sponsored events.. students become effective fundraisers.

The trip begins in Entebbe, where students are welcomed by the Pearl of Africa Children's Choir. After acclimatising and visiting the Equator, we head off to Molly and Paul Schools. Here, we deliver donations, carry out building works, and bond with Ugandan students over sport, performance and games nights. Students paint classrooms, work on construction sites, teach lessons, and engage in football and netball matches, drumming workshops and talent competitions with their Ugandan peers.

In the final week of the trip, students head off on a city tour of Kampala, with visits to the vibrant craft markets, the Gaddafi mosque, the Royal Palace and Idi Amin's torture chambers. We then visit the Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary, where students learn about conservation efforts for one of Uganda's most endangered species and Murchison Falls National Park, where students see elephants, giraffes, crocodiles, hippos and other iconic wildlife in a natural environment.

Students return to the UK with a renewed sense of gratitude and a broader worldview. Many note that the relationships they built, both within their teams and with the Ugandan communities, as among the most rewarding aspects of the trip. [To read all about this amazing experience please visit the L4U2023 blog.](#)

In 2023/24 and 2024/25 Richard Lander School was awarded Turing Scheme funding to pay for the cost of the trip for 12 students and 3 staff on the trip.

This trip will next take place in June/July 2025. The duration of the trip is 28 days at a cost to parents/carers of £2850 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. We have 12 Turing funded places on the trip.





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Adventure of a Lifetime in Thailand

Each year, our Year 10 students are able to spend one month in Thailand on the trip of a lifetime. The trip is both a cultural immersion and a dynamic, action packed adventure for our students.

The trip begins with 2-3 days in the capital city, Bangkok, where students get to visit some of the country's most famous landmarks including the Grand Palace and Wat Pho (The Leaning Buddha).

Following this, students spend 2 weeks in the historic northern city of Chiang Mai, close to Thailand's hilly rainforest. During this time, students go on a 3 day rainforest trek, visit an elephant sanctuary, attend meditation classes, cooking classes, basket weaving classes, Muay Thai training, visit local temples and spend 2 days visiting our partner school which is located in the foothills of the rainforest.

Students then spend over a week on the idyllic island of Koh Tao. There, students spend 7 days scuba diving and in the process gain their PADI Open Water qualification, and for some, their Advanced Open Water qualification, enabling them to scuba dive to a depth of 30 metres.

The trip also offers further cultural richness during visits to night markets, meeting with local monks and regularly dining out in traditional Thai restaurants.

This is a trip of a lifetime; a cultural immersion with a dynamic and fast paced programme of activities.

This trip will next take place in July/August 2025. The duration of the trip is 32 day at a cost to parents/carers of £3950 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.





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India Cultural Exchange

Each year, our students have the opportunity to spend 3 weeks in India. This is both an amazing cultural experience and an opportunity to form close and lasting bonds with our Indian partner school.



Our trip begins in bustling New Delhi; one of the world's largest cities. Here, our students are paired with an Indian student and their family and are welcomed into their homes, where they stay for a week and a half. During the day, students take part in a range of school based activities including art and sculpture classes, Indian dance classes, singing classes. They engage in sporting activities with our Indian partner school. In the evenings, host families offer our students a rich cultural experience; normally eating out in the evenings and going to local festivals and carnivals.



In the second half of the trip, students take a flight to Goa - a beautiful, coastal location in South India. Students stay at a hotel overlooking the Indian ocean. During the day, they partner with a local school which offers education to children who mainly come from orphaned backgrounds. They spend time in classes, sharing a cultural experience and also playing sports. In the evenings, students visit markets, restaurants, watch live cabaret and theatre and engage in a range of beach activities.



Following this trip, our Indian partner school students from New Delhi make a return visit to the UK. While they are in Cornwall, they stay at the houses of their English partner exchange students, making this a truly reciprocal partnership between two continents and forging lifetime friendships. Richard Lander School students share their love of Cornish culture during day trips to sites, the beach, camp outs and hosting craft and food workshops in school.

This trip is not running in 2025 but we hope it will run in 2026. Students will spend 18 days in India at a cost to parents/carers of £2400 per child, with an itinerary similar to the one above. All trips are subject to the required minimum number of students signing up and staff being available to lead.