



LORETO GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Sincerity Freedom Justice Joy Truth Excellence Internationality



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Ref: HGR/ECR/MBO

15th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Geography Trip to West Coast USA, Saturday 24th October – Sunday 1st November 2026

We are pleased to be able to offer your daughter the opportunity to participate in the visit outlined below. If you would like your daughter to be considered for a place on this trip, please provide consent and pay the deposit using our online payment system, Scopay.

'Geography without fieldwork is like science without experiments'.

The Geography Department is delighted to be able to offer your daughter the opportunity to experience the physical and human geography of the West Coast of the USA. This once in a lifetime excursion will not only allow your daughter to see some of the greatest physical geography features to exist but will also facilitate their GCSE/A-Level geographical studies as their imagination is captured by witnessing first hand content they study in the classroom. The West Coast also boasts some of the world's most fascinating and dynamic cities, which will provide an intriguing field to supplement their Human Geography studies accordingly.

The trip will include the following activities:

- An earthquake tour of San Francisco and exploration of the human geography of the city
- A visit to and guided tour of Yosemite National Park
- A Now and Then tour of Los Angeles with tour guide, which includes views from the Griffith Park Observatory, as well as a visit to Santa Monica to explore regeneration and coastal management
- A visit to and guided tour of the Hoover Dam
- A guided tour of The Grand Canyon West including Sky Walk
- A tour of Las Vegas

The price of the trip is based on 40 students. The price includes airport transfers and flights, all accommodation on a half-board basis (breakfast and evening meals), travel insurance, coach travel between destinations, entrance to sites and tour guides. Included in this price is also a small contribution to a carbon offsetting scheme, as geographers we are particularly environmentally conscious. The cost of the trip is subject to a small change, depending on the numbers participating and the release of the exact fares by the airlines, but you will be consulted in the event of any increase or decrease to the proposed cost. Additional costs for you to consider will be lunches, spending money, air passenger duty (£102 for students aged 16+ at date of travel) and application costs for an ESTA visa (c.£17 - more information to follow).

Be such as you appear and appear such as you are – Mary Ward

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Registered office as above. An exempt charity.



As this visit is an optional extra, outside of school time, the cost is fully chargeable.

We do expect high standards of behaviour from students both when they are in School and when they are taking part in trips and activities. Please be aware that if your daughter's behaviour does not meet these expectations, her place on the trip or activity may be at risk. It is important to note that if your daughter does not attend School the day after a trip returns, this could impact on her securing a place on a future trip.

In order for your daughter to be considered for a place on this trip it is imperative that consent is given and the deposit paid by Friday 3rd October.

The Governors are delighted to endorse the many extra-curricular activities and trips at Loreto and request that, in order to ensure equity, should we have more students wishing to take part than can be accommodated, names will be selected at random, following a prioritisation of A-Level students. You will be informed of the outcome of this selection and if unsuccessful, any deposits paid will be returned. Once a place has been secured deposits are non-refundable. We do understand that if a random selection is required, students will be disappointed. However, we always ensure that we accommodate the maximum number of students that is safe to take. If you feel that your daughter will struggle to cope with the disappointment of not being selected, please consider if submitting consent is the right thing to do.

If you need any assistance accessing your online account, please contact our Finance department.

If you have any queries regarding the specific trip details, please contact me at School.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Craddock', written in a cursive style.

Miss E. Craddock
Trip Leader and Teacher of Geography



Trip Details

Visit Name and Location

West Coast USA

Date and Time

*Saturday 24th October 2026 – Sunday 1st November 2026
(October Half-Term)*

Trip leader

Miss Craddock

Mode of transport

Plane and Coach

Cost of Trip

£2,810

Payment Schedule

Deposit	£250	03/10/25
2 nd Payment	£320	15/11/25
3 rd Payment	£320	15/12/25
4 th Payment	£320	15/01/26
5 th Payment	£320	15/02/26
6 th Payment	£320	15/03/26
7 th Payment	£320	15/04/26
8 th Payment	£320	15/05/26
9 th Payment	£320	15/06/26

*[This trip will take place in accordance with Department for Education guidelines.
Should the trip be cancelled a small deduction will be made from any refunded monies to cover administration charges]*

Other important information

Please ensure you have read and understood our Covid information included in this letter.



Important Coronavirus information

As we value educational visits and the wealth of opportunities for learning beyond the classroom they provide, we are very pleased that visits both within and outside the UK are now possible. However, it is essential that the visits are conducted in the safest way possible, and therefore it is important that you understand the following:

- Students will be encouraged to bring their own sanitiser.
- Good respiratory hygiene is encouraged- catch it, bin it, kill it!
- Face coverings can be worn if students choose to wear them.
- If a student is ill, they should not take part in the visit.

By your child attending this visit you are also agreeing to the expectations above.