



The essential checklist for choosing an educational travel partner

Educational travel matters. And who you travel with matters just as much. Whether you are planning your first tour or building upon a legacy of showing students the world, the travel partner you choose could mark the beginning of a lifelong relationship. While your students will feel the impact of your trip in the eye-opening interactions and experiences that happen on tour, you know its success will be measured from the moment you decide to lead them someplace new.

Picking a partner who can help plan, guide, and bring a seamless educational tour to life is even more important than selecting your destination. Because if you choose well, you only have to choose once.

Use this quick and comprehensive checklist to consider some of the most impactful factors in building a strong partnership and a successful travel program at your school.

Ready to learn more about traveling with EF?

Call 800-637-8222, and we'll connect you with an expert Tour Consultant who can answer all of your questions.

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Long-term stability

Planning a tour often happens many months, if not years, in advance. Which means the travel partner you choose will be making financial commitments on behalf of your students—and with your and your administration's involvement—well ahead of the actual trip.

| ✓ | CONSIDER:

- Is this partner strong, established, and ready to deliver on your future tour, regardless of the economic climate?
- If necessary, will refunds or travel credits be available?
- Are there competing priorities or business challenges for the partner's staff that could distract them from being fully focused on your experience?

True global support

So often in travel, local relationships and on-the-ground experience are more valuable than the kind of knowledge that's gained from behind a desk. From exclusive access to off-the-beaten-path experiences to real-time, in-person assistance during an emergency, local expertise has the power to impact every aspect of your tour for the better.

| ✓ | CONSIDER:

- Does this partner have on-the-ground staff in the countries you want to visit?
- Does this partner have 24/7 global support to assist in any kind of emergency?
- Does this partner have the ability to re-route or reschedule tours at any time?

Family-first policies

As the world continues to change around us, families will want to know that you understand flexibility and peace of mind matter more than ever.

| ✓ | CONSIDER:

- Does this partner offer policies that are transparent, fair, and consistent?
- Will families feel confident that their investment is protected with this partner, and do they offer families alternatives if travel can't happen as planned?

Passion that matches yours

A strong relationship is rooted in shared values. Having a travel partner who understands what's important to you—and who values the same things—is critical. That's how you develop trust and the foundation for a travel program that's exactly right for you and your students.

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- Is this organization built to serve teachers and students first?
- Does the leadership of this company have history and experience in education?
- Does this partner believe travel is for everyone—with pricing, policies, and scholarship options that support more students seeing the world?
- Does this partner promote and share diverse perspectives as a part of their travel programs?

Opportunities for professional & personal growth

The ability to earn high school, college, and professional learning credit should be built into any educational travel experience. But all credit-earning opportunities are not created equal.

| ✓ | CONSIDER:

- Does this partner offer a comprehensive learning tool that accompanies your tour to help guide, enhance, and celebrate a student-centered learning experience?
- Is this partner associated with organizations and institutions that will meaningfully improve your and your students' travel experience?
- Does the partner offer credit to you and your students from accredited educational institutions?
- Is the cost of their credit-earning programs affordable?