

12th January 2018

Dear Parent

Re: Visit to Quinta De Sao Pedro, Portugal 2018

The new A level Geography course specifies that all students need to complete 5 days in the field, to support their piece of coursework they need to complete as 20% of their final grade. For several years the Geography department at Arnold Hill has taken year 12 students to Lisbon, Portugal to complete this fieldwork. As you may be aware, this visit is arranged independently with ourselves putting together the package: flights; meals; accommodation; transfers etc. We always aim to keep costs to a minimum but some elements such as changing exchange rates may impact on the final cost. I will inform you of the final balance at the earliest opportunity after the flights are booked.

Important dates

Following my previous email, the field visit will take place from the 8th to the 12th July 2018. There has been a slight change due to flight prices. A final itinerary will be provided once flights are booked.

Payment

The current costing of the visit is a total of £420 for the full 5 days. I do not anticipate this to change much if numbers of students do not change, but it is important that flights are booked as soon as possible. This sum includes flights, transport in Portugal, accommodation, evening meals (except for one evening in Lisbon at Hard Rock Cafe) and all other main meals whilst staying at the Quinta. While the price is anticipated as £420, I will be in contact if the price exceeds £450.

If you would like your child to participate in this visit please make your payment of the deposit of £220 by Monday 22nd January 2018, via your online payment account at www.scopay.com/arnoldhillacademy. Guidance is available on the school website at <http://www.arnoldhillacademy.co.uk/index.php/payments>.

The remaining balance should be paid no later than Friday 12th May 2018, although early payment would be appreciated. Deposits will not be accepted after the deadline and payments for this trip will be non-refundable once flights and/ or accommodation have been booked.

As well as the deposit payment I will require a photo copy of your child's passport by Monday 22nd January 2018. This is necessary to book flights. If needed, the passport can be photocopied in school. The parental consent form [Quinta De Sao Pedro, Portugal 2018 Consent Form](#) should also be completed and returned by Monday 22nd January 2018

Spending money

Students should bring appropriate monies for food/drinks to accompany meals/snacks and for spending throughout the day whilst out in the field (last year students brought between £30-50).

They will also need to purchase one evening meal in Lisbon.

Students need to organise their own foreign currency to bring with them.

Arnold Hill Academy is part of the Trent Academies Group.

The registered office is Trent Academies Group, Rushcliffe School, Boundary Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7BW

The company's registered number is 8128513

Trip Policy

The Portugal field trip has a strictly no drinking policy in line with the Academy trip policy.

Study routine

Students will be working between 9.00am and 7.00pm each day. Each evening there will be a classroom follow up and preparation for activities for the next day. Free time will be allocated around these sessions.

Transport

Transport will involve coach travel to Luton, and flights arranged through Easy Jet. Flight details will be sent out after flights have been booked. Whilst in Portugal transport will be by coach. Although Portuguese coaches are not covered by the same regulations as in the UK they do usually have seat belts.

Accommodation/field centre/staffing

Male and female students will have separate dormitories – these are basic, though comfortable. Students will sleep on mattresses on a raised sleeping platform. The field centre is securely enclosed within a 2/3 metre wall and gates. Students are asked, however, to be very careful with valuables and to keep these with them if at all possible. Full study facilities are provided; the field centre has 2 labs and a lecture theatre/room. There is no fire certificate system in Portugal at this type of accommodation but each dormitory is at ground level with easy means of escape. The centre is also equipped with smoke alarms and fire extinguishers.

There are approximately 31 students going on the field trip, accompanied by 3-4 staff (depending if all 31 students do attend). The Centre Manager is tri-lingual and will be at the Centre during the trip to offer support if needed.

STUDENTS NEED TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE VALID PASSPORTS AVAILABLE FOR THE TRIP.

****Please note students must have a passport that has 6 months of validity from the date of departure****

It is also important that students have EHIC cards.

Clothing/equipment

Average temperature for Lisbon in July is 24°C but there is a chance of rainfall. The following is a list of useful clothing/equipment – it should be securely packed in appropriate baggage. Within the price includes 15kg of luggage. Students will also be asked to carry one piece of field equipment in their luggage allowance of 15kg.

- () T-shirts
- () Jeans/ shorts
- () Jumper for evening
- () Indoor shoes
- () Appropriate outdoor footwear (walking shoes/trainers)
- () Sleeping bag and pillow
- () Sun cream/hat/sunglasses
- () Appropriate study materials (paper/pens/pencils)
- () Small day sack

I would strongly advise students to take mobile phones but they should check network coverage in the Lisbon area, particularly when contacting the UK.

Address of the Field Centre:

Centre Manager:

Benjamin Richter

Quinta de São Pedro
Rua Movimento Forças Armadas
2815-786 Sobreda
PORTUGAL

Tel.: l.: +351 91 665 24 24

E-Mail: benjamin.richter@naturasolta.pt

Web: www.quintasaopedro.pt

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Quinta-Sao-Pedro/273192009476137>

A place on this trip can only be reserved once payment of the deposit has been made, and a parental consent form completed and returned.

There are a limited number of places available and, should the trip be oversubscribed, we will select names randomly after the closing date from those who have paid and returned a completed consent form.

We reserve the right to exclude from this trip, any child whose behaviour gives us a cause for concern.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours faithfully

Emma Collins
Head of Geography
Emma.collins@arnoldhillacademy.co.uk