



Dear 7th Grade Parkway Parents and/or Guardians,

Parkway Academy is teaming up with EF Explore America again to create an unforgettable, educational tour experience for your student **next year when they are in 8th grade**. EF Explore America has a mission to provide experiences that change students' lives and inspire them to love learning both inside the classroom and out. This 7-day, Washington D.C., Philadelphia, New York City, and Boston adventure will be taking off Spring of 2024 during the first week of Spring Break. Our tentative travel dates are Sunday, April 2nd through Saturday, April 8, 2023.

Your child will venture throughout our Nation's Capital, The Big Apple, and Boston for a glimpse into U.S. history-from our Revolutionary beginnings to modern-day. As they travel to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, New York City and Boston students will explore the most popular and historic sites, while soaking up the history and ambiance of these amazing cities. You will find more information on my school website.

Enroll online at www.efexploreamerica.com and enter our tour number to sign up quickly and easily online! All you need is your tour ID, which is **2585221TR**, and a **\$99.00** deposit. The total cost of the tour is approximately \$2999.00 for those who enroll prior to January 31, 2023. There are several payment options available. The tour price will increase throughout the year with the next increase on February 1, 2024. Once you enroll, your payments will be divided evenly until March 2024. If you need more assistance please call the customer service number at **888-333-9756** or contact me directly. You may also find additional information on my website listed below or through the Parkway Academy webpage.

I am excited about providing this educational opportunity to your child, and I look forward to leading this once-in-a-lifetime experience! Feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stacey Leichtamer'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stacey Leichtamer
Parkway Sports and Health Sciences Academy
Technology/Yearbook
[Mrs. Leichtamer's Website](#)
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Education First

Explore America

THE EASTERN SEABOARD

7 days | Washington, D.C. | Philadelphia | New York City | Boston



Your itinerary

Day 1

Welcome to Washington, D.C.!

Planned by Charles L'Enfant, Washington, D.C. has served as the seat of Congress since 1800. Upon arrival, meet your EF Explore America Tour Director, who will accompany you throughout your stay.

Dinner Included

Tour Director distributes \$15 each.

Guided Evening Sightseeing of Washington, D.C.

Experience the magic of seeing Washington's most impressive sights illuminated during your evening scenic tour downtown. Points of interest on your tour include the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the Korean War Memorial.

Hotel in Washington, D.C. area

Arrive and check into your hotel.

Overnight in Washington, D.C. area

Day 2

Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

Arlington National Cemetery

Observe the quiet dignity of Arlington National Cemetery, the final resting place of more than 200,000 veterans and their families. As you enter the Cemetery, you'll see the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, the only major national memorial honoring women who have served in the US Armed Forces. You'll also witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The United States Marine Corps Memorial

The cast bronze depiction of Marines raising the flag at Iwo Jima honors all those who have served in the Marine Corps since its inception in 1775.

Lunch at Pentagon City Mall

Local meal voucher included.

Excursion to Mount Vernon

Travel through the Virginia countryside to Mount Vernon, the lovely retreat overlooking the Potomac River where George and Martha Washington lived from 1754 to 1799. Explore the elegant estate's 500 acres of grounds and gardens, including the reconstructed slave quarters, Slave Memorial, and Washington's tomb.

Dinner in Washington, D.C.

Enjoy your evening meal, provided by EF Explore America.

Explore the Tidal Basin

Continue your exploration of Washington, D.C. with a walk around the Tidal Basin for some of the most impressive memorials in D.C.: the Jefferson Memorial, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial.

Overnight in Washington, D.C. area

Day 3

Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

Guided Sightseeing of Washington, D.C.

Your Tour Director, a licensed Washington, D.C. guide, introduces you to the sites where national policies and political reputations are formed and reformed daily. Take a photo in front of the White House, home of every U.S. president except George Washington. View the iconic Washington Monument from the grassy National Mall, and look for your home state at the National WWII Memorial, the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II.

U.S. Capitol Building & Visitor Center

Visit the U.S. Capitol Building, the city's epicenter and the heart of the American legislature. Tour subject to availability.

Photo Stop at the Library of Congress and U.S. Supreme Court

Make a photo stop at the green-domed Library of Congress and the imposing white-marble Supreme Court building.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Permanent Exhibition

The Permanent Exhibition presents a narrative history using more than 900 artifacts, 70 video monitors, and four theaters that include historic film footage and eyewitness testimonies. Subject to availability.

Lunch Included

Tour Director distributes \$15 each.

The Smithsonian Museums

Explore all that the Smithsonian's museums have to offer during a self-guided visit. The Smithsonian Institution is the world's largest museum and research complex, endowed by James Smithson and created by an act of Congress in 1846.

Dinner Cruise on the Potomac River

Enjoy a buffet dinner, then dance the night away with friends on a boat cruise down the historic Potomac River, a waterway that was explored by Captain John Smith in 1608.

Overnight in Washington, D.C. area

Day 4

Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

Travel to Philadelphia

Independence National Historical Park

Visit Independence National Historical Park, where you will see Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell Center.

Lunch at Reading Terminal Market

Reading Terminal Market is an enclosed public market where over one hundred merchants offer fresh produce, meats, fish, groceries, ice cream, flowers, baked goods, crafts, books, clothing, and specialty and ethnic foods that include merchants from the Pennsylvania Dutch counties. *Tour Director distributes \$15 each.*

Guided Visit of Independence Hall

A local guide shows you Independence Hall, a World Heritage Site where the Declaration of Independence was adopted and the U.S. Constitution was written. George Washington oversaw the debate of the Constitution here over a four-month period in 1787 before it was ratified by nine states, taking effect on June 21, 1788.

Visit to the Liberty Bell Center

The Liberty Bell Center is home to the Liberty Bell, the famously cracked 2,000-pound bell made of mainly copper and tin that was originally cast for the Pennsylvania State House.

Photo Stop on the Rocky Steps

At the far end of Fairmont Park, rising up on the hill, you'll find the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The museum is widely recognized for its steps- the very ones that Rocky Balboa trains on in the movie Rocky. Try them out for yourself!

Travel to New York City

Dinner in New York City

Enjoy your evening meal, provided by EF Explore America.

Hotel in New Jersey

Arrive and check into your hotel.

Overnight in New Jersey

Day 5

Breakfast in New Jersey

Circle Line Liberty Cruise

Experience the grandeur of New York on the Circle Line Cruise. You'll enjoy magnificent views of the world's premier skyline and a close-up view of Lady Liberty.

Lunch Included

Tour Director distributes \$15 each.

Central Park

Make a stop in 843-acre Central Park, an idyllic oasis in the concrete jungle. Join the more than 35 million annual visitors that make Central Park the most visited urban park in the United States.

Guided Tour of New York City

A licensed guide leads your sightseeing tour of New York City. You'll explore the mosaic of Manhattan neighborhoods that make the city so unique. Drive through Greenwich Village, New York's eclectic province of bohemians, immigrants and students, and pass the cast-iron architecture of impossibly trendy SoHo (from "SOuth of HOuston Street"). It just might feel as if you've left the States and crossed an ocean as you take in the vibrant life of Chinatown and the personality of Little Italy.

New York City One-Way Subway Ride

Do as the locals do and hop on the subway for an unforgettable ride underneath Manhattan.

Dinner in New York City

Enjoy your evening meal, provided by EF Explore America.

Times Square

Be dazzled by a dizzying array of towering electronic billboards, sounds of street performers and the buzz of the crowds that make this intersection a one-of-a-kind spectacle.

Premium Broadway Show

Enjoy your Broadway show, sure to be an unforgettable theater experience!

Overnight in New Jersey

Day 6

Breakfast in New Jersey

Travel to Boston

Lunch Included

Tour Director distributes \$15 each.

Walking Tour of Charlestown and the North End

Explore some of Boston's oldest neighborhoods on your walking tour of Charlestown and the North End. See the Bunker Hill Monument, Charlestown Navy Yard, and the USS Constitution before crossing the Charles River into the North End, where you'll find famous landmarks such as Old North Church and Paul Revere's House. Finish your tour with an exploration of the Black Heritage Trail, the largest collection of historic sites relating to life with a free Black community prior to the Civil War.

Dinner in Boston

Enjoy your evening meal, provided by EF Explore America.

Evening Activity in Boston

Enjoy an evening activity tonight. Experience Boston's ghoulish past on a ghost tour of the city.

Hotel in Boston area

Arrive and check into your hotel.

Overnight in Boston area

Day 7

Breakfast in Boston

Fenway Park Tour

Enjoy a guided tour of the oldest ballpark in Major League Baseball - Fenway Park.

Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum

At the Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum, become part of the famous event that changed the course of American History! Live actors, high-tech, interactive exhibits, authentically restored tea ships and the stirring, multi-sensory documentary "Let it Begin Here," are just a taste of what you'll see, hear and feel!

Lunch at Faneuil Hall

Find over 36 international food vendors inside of the Quincy Market Colonnade, the largest food hall in New England!

USS Constitution

See the USS Constitution, nicknamed "Old Ironsides," the world's oldest commissioned warship. Tours narrated by USS Constitution's active-duty US Sailors.

Depart for Home!

Your tour director assists with your return home.

Dear Guardians, Parents, and Students,

It is necessary to clarify the discipline requirements for the Washington DC trip. Please understand in order for your child to attend the trip, he/she must display a pattern of behavior that demonstrates respect, responsibility, safety, and consideration of both other students and adults. Students should not have any N's or U's in citizenship and must maintain a 2.5 GPA on all report cards during their 2023-2024 eighth-grade school year. If a student is struggling in one specific area, we will work with that student to address the individual issue. Students must maintain a positive presence on social media and while using technology.

Students are expected to follow the dress code and all tour behavior rules described in the student handbook and EF's Rules of the Road while on the trip. If your child does not follow the discipline guidelines as explained in EF Rules of the Road and Parkway's Student Handbook, they risk being removed from the tour or sent home.

This trip is an opportunity for students to gain historical insight, grow in personal character and responsibility and have fun with friends. The safety and enjoyment of each student are paramount.

Thank you in advance for all of your support and prepare yourselves for an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime adventure

Thank You

Stacey Leichtamer
Stacey.Lleichtamer@lmsvschools.org

I have read and agree to the discipline requirements for the Spring 2023 Washington D.C. tour. I allow the advisor to monitor my child's grades and citizenship.

Parent names (please print)

Student name (please print)

Parent Signature

Student signature

Stacey Leichtamer

Technology/Media/Yearbook Advisor

619.668.5810

Parkway PRIDE

Peace...Responsibility...Integrity...Determination...Empathy