



OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 17th January 2025

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13

WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK EIGHTEEN

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We trust that this update finds you and your families safe and healthy. Please read on to find out important information that is relevant to your child and/or his/her year group.

A *hearty congratulations* to our proud Marians as Saint Mary's Catholic High School secured the **FIRST PLACE** in the **SIMPLY BOTTLES RECYCLING CAMPAIGN** in conjunction with Choitrams. A hearty thank you to each and every student and parent for your selfless efforts towards the campaign.

We would like to specially congratulate some classes for the large number of plastic bottles collected and we will be felicitating these classes with a special day out once the exams are over.

The class recycling champions are 4B, 3F, 8A and 6D.

NEW UPDATES:

- **NGRT CYCLE B, YEARS 2-10: See separate circular attached.**
- **READING QUIZ (YEARS 1-10) - 28TH JANUARY 2025.**
- **INTERNATIONAL TRIP FOR STUDENTS (YEARS 6-13) JUNE 2025 -SINGAPORE -Please see separate information brochure.**
- **RECYCLING CHALLENGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BIC PENS.**

1) NGRT TEST SCHEDULES: Parents are requested to kindly make note of these schedules and PLEASE ENSURE THAT A FULLY CHARGED LAPTOP/ TABLET is sent (years 4-10) on the specified days. Children who do not have their device will be required to come in on a Saturday for the same. Please remind the children to be responsible in this regard.

20 th Jan.	YEAR 5	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
20 th Jan.	YEAR 8	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
21 st Jan.	YEAR 7	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
22 nd Jan.	YEAR 9	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
22 nd Jan	YEAR 3	IN THE COMPUTER LAB
23 rd Jan.	YEAR 10	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
23 rd Jan	YEAR 2	IN THE COMPUTER LAB
24 TH Jan.	YEAR 4	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
27 TH Jan	YEAR 6	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE

2) READING QUIZ, ALL CLASSES FROM YEAR 1-10: All parents are asked to note that the Reading Quiz has been scheduled for 28th January 2025.

3) STUDENT OVERSEAS TRIP, JUNE 2025 (YEARS 6 – 13): Please see the brochure attached for further details. There are also contact numbers on the brochure for parents who wish to contact them directly in advance. The trip has been planned for Singapore.

4) RECYCLING CHALLENGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BIC PENS UNTIL JUNE 2025: Students are invited to collect all used plastic pens and markers for recycling from now until June 2025 for a chance to win exciting prizes. More details will be shared with your class teachers.

5) SECOND TERM FEES TO BE PAID WITHOUT DELAY: All parents are requested to please pay the second term fees. The timely payment of fees is crucial to the sustainable functioning of the school. We urge those parents who have not yet made the First Term fee payments to kindly

do so without any further delay. First Term fees that have not been paid will now be considered as outstanding and we will not be able to issue corrected assessment papers, report cards and any other official documents.

We would also like to clarify that when late payments are made, papers and reports cannot be released immediately. There is a fairly lengthy process to be completed and so we request all parents to kindly be patient in this regard.

6) ABSENCES DURING EXAMINATIONS: If your child is **very ill** and unable to attend school send an email to the class teacher with the medical certificate informing them of the absence. We will only re-schedule exams that have been missed for this reason. Re-scheduled exams are usually rescheduled as soon as the child returns or if there are many then these might be scheduled for a Saturday and/ or Sunday depending on how many exams have been missed. Please do not keep children at home for minor reasons. Any illness will require a medical certificate for rescheduling an exam.

Any absence will require a medical certificate to reschedule the exam, even if the absence is only for ONE DAY. In the absence of a medical certificate, an exam will not be rescheduled, and no marks will be credited for that missed examination.

7) ADMISSION TO A-LEVELS (PARENTS OF CURRENT YEAR 11 STUDENTS):

Parents of Year 11 students are requested to kindly go through the separate circular on A-Level admissions attached to this weekly notice.

8) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025: Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2024-2025 that has been attached to this circular for your easy reference. This will help you plan ahead. If the regulators make any changes to the same, we will inform you immediately. Please note that only emergency medical leave will be approved during school days. Leave for family holidays and celebrations must coincide with the school holidays as per the KHDA calendar. **Leave for events like graduations, weddings, parties etc will not be granted during school days and if absences like this occur during exams, there will be no re-exams in that case. We expect parents to respect these dates and not request leave during school days.**

KEY DATES IN THE APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR

Parents are strongly reminded not to plan holidays/ celebrations and other events outside the approved holiday slots in the calendar as these will not be approved.

26 th AUGUST 2024	School re-opens for ALL STUDENTS
30 th SEPTEMBER 2024	Holiday for students
10 th to 23 rd OCTOBER 2024	Window for mid-term assessments
1 st NOVEMBER 2024	Diwali Holiday
11 th NOVEMBER 2024	Holiday for all students
2 nd & 3 rd DECEMBER 2024	National Day Holidays
14 th DECEMBER 2024 – 5 th JANUARY 2025 (Inclusive)	Winter Break
6 th JANUARY 2025	School re-opens after the Winter Break
10 th - 24 th JANUARY – 2025	First Term Examinations in the morning. Regular lessons after break. Students will not be allowed to go home after the morning's exam.
13 th FEBRUARY 2025	Sports Day Years 5-13 (subject to change)
17 th FEBRUARY	Holiday for all students
21 st FEBRUARY 2025	Sports Day Years 1-4
7 th to 21 st March 2025	Window for Mid-term assessments
14 th -21 st MARCH 2025 7 th to 11 th APRIL 2025	Mock Examinations years 11 and 13
22 nd MARCH – 6 TH APRIL 2025 (inclusive)	Spring Break
17 th & 18 th APRIL 2025	Holiday for all students
13 th MAY 2025	Study Holiday
14 th 15 th & 16 th MAY 2025	Final exams in parallel with regular lessons
19 th to 28 th MAY 2025	Final Exams and students go home at 11:30 am
5 th & 6 th JUNE 2025	Eid Al Adha (subject to government declaration)
26 th JUNE 2025	Government Holiday
27 th JUNE 2025	Last day of school

Please note that the GL EXAMS usually take place during the month of May and June.

9) PREDICTED GRADES POLICY FOR YEARS 12 & 13: We would like to remind all parents and students to carefully go through this Policy that is available on our school website. The situation that unfolded over the last few years made many children realise, albeit too late the true value of being consistent with their study habits and not waiting until the last minute before exams to prepare and study. It is always best for every child to be **CONSISTENT AND HIGHLY REGULAR** with their study and ensure that they maintain a good level of attainment across all their assessment opportunities and prepare as well as they can for their Board Examinations. This will also help them to achieve better predicted grades as every assessment and examination counts towards the calculation of the same.

10) SUBJECT CHANGE POLICY, YEARS 9 TO 13: We would like to request all parents of children in these year groups to please go through the Subject Change Policy which is available in the Parents' Info section of the school website.

11) STUDENT ABSENCES MUST BE INFORMED BY PARENTS: All parents are requested to kindly inform the class teacher via email whenever a child is absent, even if it is just for one day. A simple email with the reason for the absence will suffice but is mandatory. Unaccounted for absences will be marked as unjustified and will be reflected on students' progress reports.

12) URGENT QUERIES AND CONCERNS: If you have any urgent queries and concerns, kindly send an email to our Vice Principal , Ms. Lise-Ann on lpinto-smchs@smgeducation.org and she will get back to you. Please include your telephone number in case she needs to call you. We take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a safe and happy long weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)





OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE: Friday, 17th January 2025.

To **Parents of students in Years TWO to TEN:**
NGRT CYCLE B – NEW GROUP READING TEST

Dear Parents,

Warm greetings. Our school, as mandated by KHDA has to undertake the NGRT for students in Years Two to Ten. The government of Dubai has mandated that all students from ages 6 - 16 undertake a standardized reading literacy test thrice a year. We invite you to read on for further information.

NGRT is a fully adaptive, standardised, termly reading assessment. As it's adaptive, it offers a personalised experience for each student, ensuring it's accessible for those who are struggling and challenging for those who need to be stretched, so you can get to the root of any problems identified precisely and quickly.

There is no more crucial skill for success in any subject than reading, so being able to accurately assess and monitor this is essential. NGRT is proven to deliver a reliable assessment of reading comprehension, set against national benchmarks. Using it regularly helps to quickly spot problems that will hold back a child's progress, with customised practical classroom solutions for each student and the ability to demonstrate the impact of the interventions you put in place.

Parents are requested to kindly make note of these schedules and PLEASE ENSURE THAT A FULLY CHARGED LAPTOP/ TABLET is sent (years 4-10) on the specified days. Children who do not have their device will be required to come in on a Saturday for the same. Please remind the children to be responsible in this regard.

The schedule for **NGRT CYCLE B** is as follows:

20 th Jan.	YEAR 5	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
20 th Jan.	YEAR 8	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
21 st Jan.	YEAR 7	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
22 nd Jan.	YEAR 9	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
22 nd Jan	YEAR 3	IN THE COMPUTER LAB
23 rd Jan.	YEAR 10	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
23 rd Jan	YEAR 2	IN THE COMPUTER LAB
24 TH Jan.	YEAR 4	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE
27 TH Jan	YEAR 6	BRING IN A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)





OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 10 January 2025

SUBJECT: SINGAPORE TRIP (JUNE 2025)
(Students: Years 6 to 13)



Dear Parents,

In continuation of our endeavor to expose our students to different experiences for their overall development, we have organized an **educational trip to Singapore** tentatively starting between the **27th of June to 2nd July 2025 for 5 days**. The trip highlights, inclusions and payment details are mentioned below for your reference. We hope that many children will be able to benefit from this experience and we look forward to providing them with further opportunities for travel and learning.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Embark on the Night Safari -the world's first nocturnal wildlife park
- Visit Mandai Bird Paradise
- Learn the history and culture and highlights of the city of Singapore
- Visit Sentosa Island
- Enter and explore the marine realm of S.E.A. Aquarium, home to more than 100,000
- marine animals of over 1,000 species
- View Wings of time – a spectacular show about friendship and courage is staged nightly with lights, sounds and sparkle
- Visit Science Centre where Science befriends and transforms the minds of millions
- Fun filled day at the Universal Studios

TRIP INCLUSIONS

- Return International airline tickets
- Visa and Travel Insurance
- Return Airport Transfers
- Lunch and Dinner
- 4 Star Hotel stay with breakfast on twin/triple sharing
- Tours as per itinerary
- Activities and Workshops as per the itinerary
- Mandatory Tips for Tour Guide and Driver
- City Taxes and Hotel Taxes
- Private transfers in a coach as per the itinerary
- Accompanying Teacher
- Experienced Tour Manager throughout the trip City tour of Budapest

PACKAGE COST

AED 8500/- Plus 5% VAT all-inclusive of the above-mentioned trip inclusions.

1ST Instalment Nonrefundable	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment	4th Instalment	5th Instalment	6th Instalment
17 Jan 2025	15 Feb 2025	15th Mar 2025	15th Apr 2025	15th May 2025	15th Jun 2025
AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1000 + 5% VAT

Important Information:

- Open only for students from Year 6 onwards.
- Registrations will be accepted on a first come – first served basis.
- To enrol your child for this educational trip, kindly fill in the below consent slip and submit the same to the school with a passport copy and UAE residency visa copy of the student along with **1st instalment payment before 17 January 2025.**
- Please note that the initial deposit/advance payment is non-refundable once registered.
- Cancellation charges and refunds post the 1st Instalment payment will be subject to the policies of the airlines and service providers.
- For further details, you may contact the school office.

Thank You,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



ST. MARY'S Catholic High School, Dubai

PARENT CONSENT SLIP

INTERNATIONAL TRIP TO SINGAPORE- 2025

I, _____ Parent of student _____
studying in YEAR _____ would like to enrol my child on this **educational trip to Singapore.**

I hereby give my consent to enrolling my child for this trip by submitting the Copies of the initial documents and paying the non-refundable advance payment of AED 1500/-. I would like to be contacted for further communication through emails on _____ and through calls on _____.

Father's Signature:

Mother's Signature:

Date: _____

Date: _____

Please follow the below guidelines for payment.

1. Download SKIPLY App from **google play store on your android device /App store on your apple device.**
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ae.skiply.rakbank&hl=en&gl=US>
2. Sign up by entering your mobile number and email address. Select **"Create Account"**.
3. The next page will take you onto the main page. Select **"Schools"** in the Institutions & Services section below. Among the list of school's **search and type "SCRAVEL"** and **click "Next"**. *(Please note that you won't be able to search for your school directly)*
4. Enter student info. Fill in the student details and **select "Add Student"**. Once added, **click "Got it"**.
5. Student is now added. Please note that step 1 to step 4 is a 1-time registration process for new users. For future trips, please select log in and you will be redirected to the main page. If you have **multiple students**, you can **click "Add Student"** and repeat the process of typing **"SCRAVEL"** like in the Step 3 and entering the student info like in the Step 4.
6. To make any payment, please **Click on the "student's section"** and you will be redirected to the list of students you have added. **Find and select the name of your student** whom you wanted to make a payment.
7. After clicking the name of your student, you will be redirected to the list of schools. Find and select **"INTERNATIONAL TRIP 2025- SMCHS"**.
8. Select **the specified field trip "INTERNATIONAL TRIP TO SINGAPORE"** and **click "Checkout"**.
9. Please read through the Consent Form and scroll down below. Fill in all the necessary details. Then **click "Next"**.
10. You will be asked to put your signature, **click "Submit"** and **click "Checkout"**.
11. You will be redirected to the payment method. You can change or add new card by clicking **"Add new card"**. Once decided, **click the "circle button"** and proceed clicking **"Pay"**. Make sure that the payment should be successful and **click "View Receipt"**.
12. Once payment is done, you will be redirected to the Receipt section where you can see the Order and purchase details. **Click "Send receipt"**, enter your email address, and **click "Send"** to keep a copy for yourself.

For further detail/assistance Kindly contact +971507701975 | support@scravel.com



Singapore Educational Journey!

Best described as a microcosm of modern Asia, Singapore is a melting pot of culture and history, and an extravaganza of culinary delights. Officially known as the Republic of Singapore, it is both a city and a country located in Southeast Asia. One of Asia's most visited destinations, Singapore is best described as an amalgam of a fast-paced life and an off-the-back-street inheritance. Singapore is the quintessential cosmopolitan, having the highest religious diversity in any country. Spread 42 km east to west and 23 km north to south, today it boasts the world's busiest port. Singapore has climbed to be one of Asia's hit-list destinations with its efficient and widespread transport system - whizzing in this country is just a matter of minutes!



DAY 1 – SINGAPORE

- Arrive in Singapore
- Complete immigration process at the airport
- Proceed to hotel
- Check In and freshen Up
- Depart for Night Safari
- Enjoy the wonderful experience at the Night Safari
- Overnight stay in the hotel



Night Safari, the world's first nocturnal wildlife park, is a 13-time winner of the Best Attraction category awarded by Singapore Tourism Board. This internationally acclaimed leisure attraction has close to 900 animals from approximately 100 species inhabit the 35-hectare park. In line with its mission to promote biodiversity, the park focuses on the captive breeding of threatened species.



1987

Mr Goh Chok Tong, the then Prime Minister of Singapore, enjoyed a night tour at the Zoo so much that he mooted the idea of having regular night tours, to be called 'Singapore Safari'.

At around the same time, the Zoo team, led by Dr Ong Swee Law, founding father of Singapore Zoo and Lyn de Alwis, zoo design consultant, was exploring the concept of displaying tropical animals at night, in vast, safari-style habitats. Many tropical animals are nocturnal; showcasing their behaviour in a jungle setting after sunset would bring people closer to wildlife.

30 Years of the World's First Night Safari
Celebrating the Past and the Present

DAY 2 – SINGAPORE

- Wake Up Call & Breakfast
- Explore the city of Singapore
- Visit Bird Paradise
- Overnight stay in the hotel



See modern Singapore. Get a photo of the Merlion against the city skyline and marvel at the magical, Avatar-like Supertrees at Gardens by the Bay. Discover Singapore's colonial past and cultural heritage through a visit to the historic Civic District, Chinatown, and the picturesque Kampong Gelam.

In Singapore's circa-1820 Chinatown stands the red-and-gold Buddha Tooth Relic Temple, said to house one of Buddha's teeth.

Did you know? Singapore is the third-biggest creditor nation by net international investment position per capita.



Whether you're hunting for nature, history, stories or architecture, explore the vibrant cultures and rich heritage of Singapore and create your own adventures.

Heritage. Made in Singapore.



A peek into Paradise

Immerse in the symphony of colours at Asia's largest bird park.

DAY 3 – SINGAPORE

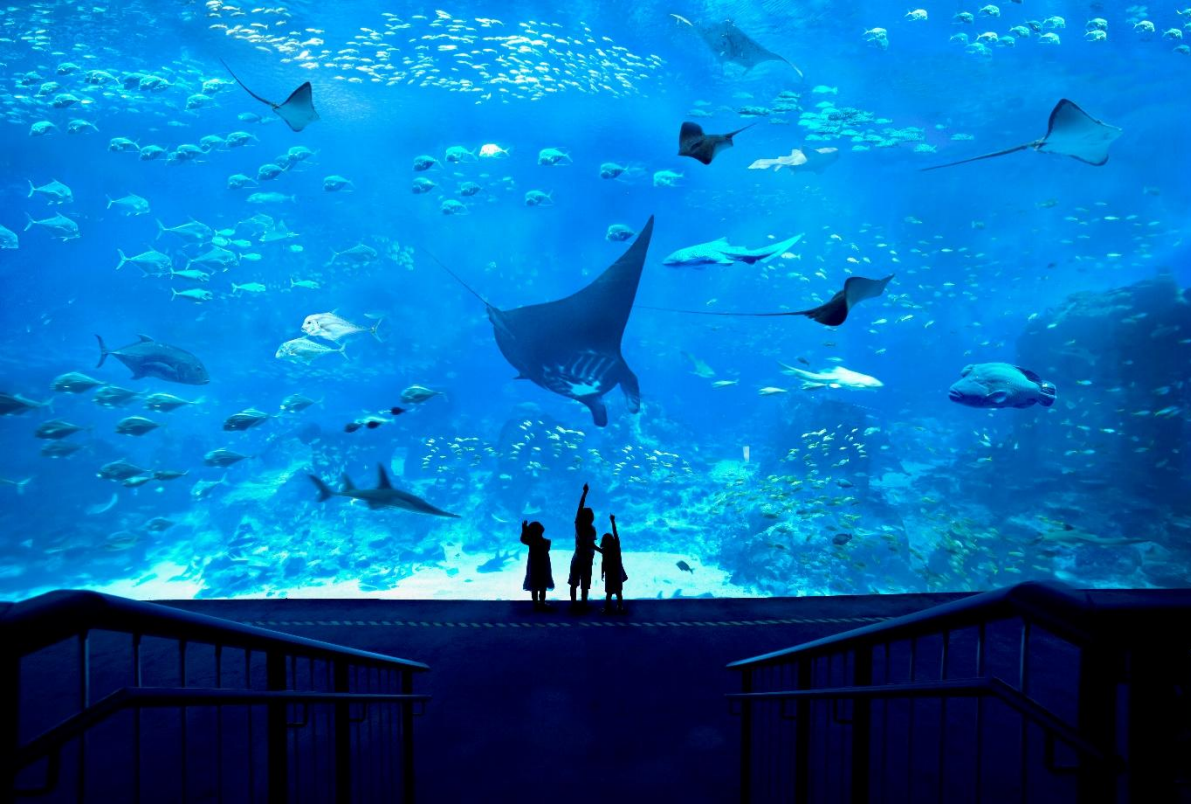
- Wake Up Call & Breakfast
- Visit Sentosa Island
- Take the cable car ride to the island
- Visit the S.E.A Aquarium
- Enjoy a spectacular show on friendship and courage -Wings of Time
- Overnight stay in the hotel



Sentosa is an island resort off Singapore's southern coast, connected to the city by road, cable car, pedestrian boardwalk and monorail. By Sentosa Station, Tiger Sky Tower has panoramic views that can stretch as far as Indonesia.

Did you know? There's a number of Merlion statues in Singapore, but the one in Sentosa is the largest, standing at 37m tall.

**Sentosa, An Island of
Endless Discovery**



Enter and explore the marine realm of S.E.A. Aquarium, home to more than 100,000 marine animals of over 1,000 species, across 50 different habitats, each one as fascinating as the next.

It's a marine life experience you won't forget.



Wings of Time. A fitting end to your day out at Sentosa, this spectacular show about friendship and courage is staged nightly. Be wowed by spellbinding laser, fire and water effects set to a majestic soundtrack, complete with a jaw dropping fireworks display.



DAY 4- SINGAPORE

- Wake Up Call & Breakfast
- • Spend the entire day at the Universal Studios
- • Overnight stay in the hotel



Experience Southeast Asia's first and only Universal Studios theme park based on your favourite blockbuster films and television series.



DAY 5 – SINGAPORE

- Wake Up Call & Breakfast
- Check out from the airport
- Spend the morning where learning meets fun at Science Centre
- Proceed to airport
- Fly back to UAE

Where Science Comes Alive

Science Centre Singapore



Science Centre is a place where Science befriends and transforms the minds of millions.

Why a Science Centre?

While formal educational institutions make sure we are raising a nation of “science literate people”, Science Centre Singapore takes this to the next level. Science Centre makes science accessible and engaging, creating an environment where Singaporeans are empowered to advance their own learning and, hopefully, are inspired to do something incredible with their futures.

Where Science Comes Alive

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Embark on the Night Safari -the world's first nocturnal wildlife park
- Visit Mandai Bird Paradise
- Learn the history and culture and highlights of the city of Singapore
- Visit Sentosa Island
- Enter and explore the marine realm of S.E.A. Aquarium, home to more than 100,000 marine animals of over 1,000 species
- View Wings of time – a spectacular show about friendship and courage is staged nightly with lights, sounds and sparkle
- Visit Science Centre where Science befriends and transforms the minds of millions
- Fun filled day at the Universal Studios

TRIP INCLUSIONS

- Return International airline tickets
- Visa and Travel Insurance
- Return Airport Transfers
- Lunch and Dinner
- 4 Star Hotel stay with breakfast on twin/triple sharing
- Tours as per itinerary
- Activities and Workshops as per the itinerary
- Mandatory Tips to Tour Guide and Driver
- City Taxes and Hotel Taxes
- Private transfers in a coach as per the itinerary
- Accompanying Teacher
- Experienced Tour Manager throughout the trip

PACKAGE COST

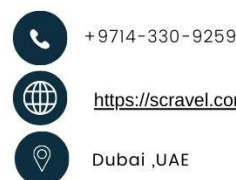
- AED 8,500/- Plus 5% VAT all-inclusive of the above-mentioned trip inclusions.

Tentative Travel dates: between 25th June to 2nd July 2025 for 5 days

1 ST Instalment Nonrefundable	2 nd Instalment	3 rd Instalment	4 th Instalment	5 th Instalment	6 th Instalment
17 Jan 2025	15 Feb 2025	15th Mar 2025	15th Apr 2025	15th May 2025	15th Jun 2025
AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1500 + 5% VAT	AED 1000 + 5% VAT

PLEASE NOTE

- Group size comprises a minimum of 20 paying students
- Package can be customized and will incur additional charges for the changes
- All visa related documents will be shared upon trip confirmation



STUDENT FIELD TRIPS | INTERNATIONAL EDU TRIPS | UAE LOCAL ATTRACTIONS | FLIGHTS | HOTELS | HOLIDAY PACKAGES | VISAS

