

Travel abroad

Memories to last a lifetime



Nothing replaces seeing first-hand the wonders of God's world. Since 2004, high school history and social studies teacher Steve Whitener has organized various summer international tours for students. In Whitener's view, travel for high school students isn't checking off sites, it's about experiencing a culture in all its wonderful diversity.

Typically, about a dozen participants travel for ten days, staying in one hotel the entire time. Day trips are made to the surrounding areas. Staying in one hotel allows them to spend more time experiencing a country and less time on generic buses full of other Americans traveling from place to place. They become travelers, not tourists. These trips are not packaged tours, but rather customized for Calvin's needs.

The last trip was in June 2014, when a group traveled to Paris, France. Students not only experienced the classic sites and Parisian lifestyle, but also rode Segways from the Eiffel Tower to the Louvre museum, walked up the Eiffel Tower, took a bullet train to the royal city of Reims, worshiped (in English) with other believers in a French Protestant church, experienced a performance at the Paris Opera House, and spent a day at the palace and gardens of Versailles.

In addition to Paris, in past tours students have experienced London, Rome, and Berlin.

