SONAS TRAVEL
SCHOOL TOURS - YOUR WAY

SCHOOL TOUR BROCHURE
2019 / 2020
School tours are all about you – you the teacher and you the student.

Students want an itinerary that’s designed around what they enjoy doing (and not necessarily what the tour company sets out for them!). Teachers want a tour that’s enjoyable, practical and easy to organise.

And everybody wants a tour that’s affordable!

So where does Sonas Travel fit in?

We have had a look at a small number of destinations to see where we can improve your tour. Just because “it was always done this way” doesn’t mean that it can’t be bettered. New accommodation options, itineraries that sit together better, variations that allow you to tweak your tour to suit your wish list.

We don’t want to be a company that offers 80 different trips – we want to be the best option possible for the destinations that we do offer. We will continue to work at improving the trips, so that you know that your experience will be a great one.

After all, it’s your school tour.

THE FOUNDERS

Stefano Sale is from Rome and has also lived in Madrid and London. Fluent in Italian, Spanish and English, Dublin is now home for Stefano and his family.

In his third decade working in the travel industry, if there’s somebody better-qualified to run the itineraries we offer, we have yet to meet them!

Eoin Garvey is from Clare and is the founder of Camino Groups, the only Irish company dedicated to school tours on the Camino.

20 years of organising school tours from within the school gives Eoin a unique insight into what works best for schools. The testimonials of schools who have travelled with Camino Groups give you an indication of what’s in store for Sonas Travel!
WHY CHOOSE SONAS?

“Your Price”
Our itinerary templates give a clear price, so you know exactly what you’re getting!

No “Ballpark” or “From” prices that don’t mean anything anyway. Very straight forward – if you choose the itinerary given, you know the price you’ll pay. We book flights for you at cost – we don’t charge booking fees or commission.

Our Price Guarantee
For our destinations, we guarantee the lowest price of any school tour operator, on a like for like basis. Show us what you’ve been quoted elsewhere and let us compare for you.

Simplicity
We make our itineraries as easy as possible for you to understand – if you want to make any alterations, we will advise and re-quote you accordingly.

Our custom-made Deposit Payment System (DPS) takes all the pressure off the organising teacher.

“The Basics on a Budget” concept
If you want to get a close-up view of a city’s highlights, but budget is key, ask us for our “Basics on A Budget” itinerary.

Back-Up Support
We offer a range of support services to you to give you ease of mind when making your booking:
• 24/7 Back-up Support
• Industry-leading travel insurance cover. As standard for all our tours, we include Premier Plus cover – the highest level of cover available from Blue Insurance.
• Crisis Assist – In the unlikely event of an emergency or crisis situation abroad, our Crisis Assist cover helps you to deal with this.
• Licensed and Bonded in Ireland by the Commission for Aviation Regulation.

Teacher Acknowledgement Scheme
Every school tour company offers incentives, but usually in the form of an inspection tour – set dates and destinations that you might never use. Book a tour with Sonas and we offer you 3 options:
• An upfront payment to allow you to choose your own getaway.
• 3 nights (B&B) for 2 people in the destination your school will be visiting.
• Waive this scheme and we will deduct the equivalent amount from your school’s tour.

Our Pupil:Teacher Ratio of 8:1
No other school tour company offers a lower ratio as standard!
Organising a tour should be straight-forward, here’s how the process works:

**CONTACT US**

We can be contacted by phone or by email as per the “Contact Us” section of this brochure or our website.

**TOP TIP** – Start the process as far in advance as possible! By booking 9 to 12 months in advance of your departure date, it helps to avail of the lowest available flight prices, as well as getting the widest range of accommodation options.

**CHOOSE A DESTINATION**

Our brochure makes your enquiry as straight forward as possible. We offer you clear itineraries with clear prices. If you wish to change an itinerary, or if available flight times make this necessary, we will prepare a revised itinerary and price for you. This will depend on factors such as:

- The dates of your trip.
- Destination.
- The type of accommodation required.
- How many students to bring and the number of teachers required. We offer a student:teacher ratio of 8:1 as standard – any changes to this are applied on a pro-rata basis.

**DECIDE ON DATES!**

Keep in mind – the earlier you book, the better!

**TOP TIP** – If you can avoid the main school holidays (February mid-term, Easter and October mid-term), it usually makes flight bookings cheaper.

**CONFIRMING A BOOKING**

Bookings are confirmed upon receipt of a first deposit and the return of a booking form.

At this stage, we require a full list of students and teachers travelling and we provide you with an easy to complete template for this. Upon receipt of same, we take out your travel insurance policy so that your group has this level of protection from the word go.
COLLECTING DEPOSITS

Schools have two ways of paying the 1st (and subsequent) deposits: through our unique DPS (Deposit Payment System) or by direct payment from the school. DPS allows the organising teacher to:

• Pass the burden of collecting payment – students pay directly through the online system.
• See at a glance the amount that students have paid as well as when they paid.
• Once we have the names, we set up the entire system for you including unique access codes for students and a separate access code for the organiser so that he/she sees the overall payment history of the group.

If the school makes their payments directly to us, it reduces our workload – so we offer a discount to the student price in recognition of that.

IT’S TIME TO GO!!

Enjoy our school tour with Sonas – happiness every step of the way!

• We will provide you with your full travel pack 2 weeks before you go.
• **TOP TIP** - Teachers usually carry a small Contingency Fund. If you don’t need it, you can always get ice-cream!
• We are available 24/7 for emergency support while you’re away.
• Bain taitneamh agus sonas as!

PRE TOUR ORGANISATION

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

You will need to provide passport details for each person travelling.

**TOP TIP** – Look for student (and teacher!) passport details from the word go – it will highlight anybody who needs to renew a passport and save on anxious moments later on. Making sure that passports (and travel visas if applicable) are valid for the time of travel is the responsibility of the school – now is the time to get to work on this. We can provide you with a Visa Assist letter if required. Every person travelling should also bring a EHIC card.

SPECIAL NEEDS AND REQUESTS

Any such request must be made at the time of booking. Depending on the request, it may or may not be possible to accommodate.

CHANGES TO THE BOOKING

Changes to the booking are covered by our Booking Terms and Conditions. Name changes may be possible if one student can be replaced by another – this will depend on the airline’s own conditions.

Late itinerary changes can be considered if the opportunity arises and that the changes are practical from an organisational point of view, – for example, the opportunity to avail of cheap tickets for a West End Show in London.
London is like no other European capital – you could go on 10 different school tours there and find something new to do each time! It's modern and vibrant yet steeped in history and mystery. No other tour destination is as accessible – daily flights are available from regional airports as well as from Dublin to Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. You also have the option of driving there by coach and eliminating concerns about luggage allowances.

London can be an expensive city, but whatever your budget – there is an itinerary there for you. That’s why we offer the "Smart London" option – our carefully-selected self-guided walking loops allow you to explore so much of what London has to offer without the accompanying hit to the bottom line. These itineraries are based on 3* standard near Russell Square (subject to availability of course) so you’re in the heart of London throughout your stay. It’s a higher quality accommodation than you can expect from other tour companies for this destination!

Let us know what suits you!

2 NIGHT / 3 DAY ITINERARY - THE WHIRLWIND TOUR

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MORNING</th>
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<th>EVENING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td>Airport pick up followed by a 2-hour guided coach tour of London.</td>
<td>The London Bridge Experience, free time for lunch, then the Tower of London.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
<td>Madame Tussaud’s Museum followed by a Thames Riverboat cruise.</td>
<td>London Dungeon followed by free time for lunch. Transfer to Marble Arch for shopping time along Oxford and Regent Streets, including Hamleys Toy Shop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong></td>
<td>Full day in Thorpe Park (seasonal).</td>
<td>Transfer to airport for return flight.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOUR PRICE €515 PER STUDENT

DID YOU KNOW?

London was the first city to reach 1 million inhabitants (in 1812) and was also the home to the world’s first traffic light (in 1868, but it blew up the following year). About half of the London Underground is actually over ground, though if original plans were carried through, people would have been travelling on water instead of by train!
London has many interesting museums that can be visited for free. The British Museum opens late on Friday evenings so if you can time your itinerary to include a Friday, you have an evening activity for free! Discounted West End tickets are usually only available mid-week.

### 2 NIGHT / 3 DAY ITINERARY - SMART LONDON

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport pick up followed by a 2-hour guided coach tour of London.</td>
<td>The Natural History Museum followed by Walking Loop A (includes Hyde Park, Marble Arch, Oxford Street, Hamleys)</td>
<td>Accommodation check-in. British Museum and evening meal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Full day in Thorpe Park (seasonal).</td>
<td>Transfer to airport for return flight.</td>
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### LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

London has many interesting museums that can be visited for free. The British Museum opens late on Friday evenings so if you can time your itinerary to include a Friday, you have an evening activity for free! Discounted West End tickets are usually only available mid-week.

### YOU MIGHT CONSIDER

Ask us about our London Wembley option! By staying in Wembley, you have access to nearby Wembley Stadium and London Designer Outlet – a good opportunity for passing away a few hours. The Outlet has a number of retail stores offering brands at low prices, plenty of eateries and a modern cinema.

Staying in Wembley reduces accommodation costs to help bring down your prices, but it requires a different itinerary as you are quite a bit away from central London (you’ll need to use coach transfers or to use the Underground).

### PRICING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- “Your Price” represents the itinerary as shown. This includes all entrance fees mentioned and meals on a HB basis. Discounted West End musical tickets are subject to availability and are usually only available midweek. Changes to the itinerary can be accommodated and quoted accordingly.
- Price is based on 40 students + 5 free teacher places. We can also quote you directly for 32 + 4 or 24 + 3.
- On top of this, we offer a further discount of €15 per student if schools elect to pay by single transfer.
- Flight are not included but are booked at cost for your group – no booking fees or extra non-airline fees apply.
And now for something different!

Transylvania immediately brings thought of Dracula to mind, but it is so much more than that. Beautiful medieval towns, amazing castles, stunning landscapes around the Carpathian mountains and loads of fun-filled activities.

It’s an historical melting-pot of nations and civilisations, where modern-day Romania meets with Germanic and Turkish pasts.

For Irish schools, our Transylvania tours represent something quite different. In partnership with our friends in WST, we offer schools 4* accommodation and an English-speaking guide to accompany you every step of the way. It’s a journey away from the usual - scenery, food and culture. You won’t be disappointed!

Bine ați venit în România!

3 NIGHT / 4 DAY ITINERARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arrival in Bucharest</td>
<td>Arrival in Bucharest and transfer to The Museum of Senses.</td>
<td>After check-in, stroll to the Old Town for a traditional welcome dinner at a local restaurant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Depart for Transylvania, stopping at Rasnov Dino Park and Rasnov Fortress.</td>
<td>Continue to Bran, the home of Dracula’s Castle.</td>
<td>Dinner at Bran Castle Tea House. Transfer to Vulcan for overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Explore Brasov, the Black Church and Rope Street – the narrowest street in the world.</td>
<td>3 hours of activities in Brasov Adventure park. Visit Peles Castle in Sinaia – one of Europe’s most beautiful castles.</td>
<td>Return to Bucharest where you will have a cooking class in traditional Romanian dishes. Guess what’s for dinner?!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Palace of Parliament is huge in size and splendid in decoration.</td>
<td>Return to the airport for departure.</td>
<td>Visit the Palace of Parliament: huge in size and splendid in decoration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOUR PRICE

€465 PER STUDENT

DID YOU KNOW?

Bram Stoker was born in Clontarf in 1847. Today, he’s best known as the author of Dracula, but he never actually saw Bran Castle! All references to Dracula’s Castle in the novel are based on accounts and sketches.
4 NIGHT / 5 DAY ITINERARY

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<tr>
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</thead>
</table>
| **DAY 1**  
Arrival in Bucharest | Arrival in Bucharest and transfer to The Museum of Senses. | After check-in, stroll to the Old Town for a traditional welcome dinner at a local restaurant. |
| **DAY 2**  
Kings and Dinosaurs | Depart for Transylvania, to visit Peles Castle in Sinaia – one of Europe’s most beautiful castles. | Visit Rasnov Dino Park, the largest of its kind in south-east Europe. Climb up to Rasnov Fortress to learn of its knights and history. |
| | | Continue to Vulcan for dinner and overnight. |
| **DAY 3**  
Footsteps of Count Dracula | Visit the medieval town of Sighisoara, where you will see where Vlad the Impaler was born. Climb the Clock Tower inside the UNESCO-listed old citadel. | Spend 4 hours enjoying the waterslides, saunas and pools of Therme Waterpark. |
| | | Continue to Bucharest for dinner and overnight. |
| **DAY 4**  
Heights and Waterslides | Explore Brasov, the Black Church and Rope Street – the narrowest street in the world. | Spend 4 hours enjoying the waterslides, saunas and pools of Therme Waterpark. |
| | | Continue to Bucharest for dinner and overnight. |
| **DAY 5**  
Worlds 2nd largest Building | The Palace of Parliament is huge in size and splendid in decoration. | Return to the airport for departure. La revedere! |

PRICING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- “Your Price” represents the itinerary as shown. Changes to the itinerary can be accommodated and quoted accordingly.
- Price is based on 40 students + 5 free teacher places. We can also quote you directly for 32 + 4 or 24 + 3.
- On top of this, we offer a further discount of €15 per student if schools elect to pay by single transfer.
- Flight are not included but are booked at cost for your group – no booking fees or extra non-airline fees apply.
Barcelona is a vibrant multi-cultural city, rich in history, art and fashion. Be captivated by the talent of its artists, visible throughout the city’s museums, landmarks and attractions: Antoni Gaudí’s Sagrada Familia stands out against the city skyline.

Barcelona’s rise to prominence has been helped by its hosting of the 1992 Olympic Games, as well as the fame of FC Barcelona and the Camp Nou stadium.

Of course, no school tour would be complete without a visit to the amazing PortAventura Theme Park!

### 2 NIGHT / 3 DAY ITINERARY - ESSENTIAL BARCELONA

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrival in Barcelona</td>
<td>Meet your guide for a sightseeing bus tour of the most important landmarks in Barcelona.</td>
<td>Discover Poble Espanyol with its varied programme of events, architectural buildings and working artisans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fly to Barcelona.</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.</td>
<td>Take an interactive Flamenco course with Spanish cooking lessons – a chance to eat your own dinner!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Depart for Montjuic Hill. See the 1992 Olympic Stadium, experience the Magic Fountain and finish up at Spanish village at Poble Espanyol.</td>
<td>Hotel check-in and overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Football and Art</td>
<td>Gaudi’s walking tour From Park Guell to Sagrada Familia, Casa Mila and Casa Batllo. Antoni Gaudi’s best-known works are the undisputed symbols of Barcelona.</td>
<td>Visit the Sea Life Aquarium, home to some 11,000 animals representing 450 species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After breakfast depart to F.C. Barcelona for a self-guided tour of the Camp Nou stadium and museum. Find out why Barcelona is “Més que un club”!</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.</td>
<td>Free time for shopping at the Maremagnum Centre, a place almost completely surrounded by water.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Visit the Museum of Illusions and fill your photo albums with some unusual optical tricks.</td>
<td>Dinner and overnight.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Continue your walk along Las Ramblas boulevard, via the Gothic quarter, to finish up the Columbus Monument.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thrills and Adventure</td>
<td>Hotel check out.</td>
<td>Coach transfer to Airport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After breakfast depart to PortAventura World Theme Park in Salou. Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions.</td>
<td>Full day at PortAventura.</td>
<td>Fly back to Dublin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own food arrangements at the Theme Park.</td>
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### DID YOU KNOW?

- Catalan as a language is closer to French and Italian than Spanish, it’s also the official language of nearby Andorra!
- The Sagrada Familia has taken longer to build than the Great Pyramid of Giza! The FC Barcelona Museum didn’t take anywhere near as long, but it is the most visited museum of Barcelona.
- The Barceloneta city beaches are all man-made, created for the 1992 Olympics. Barcelona was also supposed to host the 1936 Olympics (the Olympic Stadium was first built for this purpose), but the Spanish Civil War broke out and the Olympics were moved to Berlin instead. That’s a whole other story!

### ACCOMMODATION

- Our preferred accommodation is based around Barcelona city centre, subject to availability.
- Accommodation is in 2/3* hotels with ensuite rooms.
- Staying in hostels? “Your price” is reduced by €5 per student per night.
- We also offer the possibility of staying in Vilanova Park Holiday Resort. An alternative lodging with free access to on-site facilities such as supermarket, restaurants, bars, sports grounds, swimming pools and water slides (seasonal).
- Breakfast, lunch (either at a restaurant or a packed lunch) and dinners are provided, unless specified in the itinerary.

### YOUR PRICE

- €395 PER STUDENT
# 3 NIGHT / 4 DAY ITINERARY - BARCELONA & BEYOND

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<th>MORNING</th>
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<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td>Fly to Barcelona.</td>
<td>Meet your guide for a sightseeing bus tour of the most important landmarks in Barcelona. Stop for lunch. Depart for Montjuic Hill. See the 1992 Olympic Stadium, experience the Magic Fountain and finish up at Spanish village at Poble Espanyol.</td>
<td>Discover Poble Espanyol with its varied programme of events, architectural buildings and working artisans. Take an interactive Flamenco course with Spanish cooking lessons – a chance to eat your own dinner! Hotel check-in and overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arrival in</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Barcelona</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gaudi’s walking tour From Park Güell to Sagrada Familia, Casa Milà and Casa Batlló. Antoni Gaudí’s best-known works are the undisputed symbols of Barcelona. Stop for lunch. Visit the Museum of Illusions and fill your photo albums with some unusual optical tricks. Continue your walk along Las Ramblas boulevard, via the Gothic quarter, to finish up the Columbus Monument.</td>
<td>Visit the Sea Life Aquarium, home to some 11,000 animals representing 450 species. Free time for shopping at the Maremagnum Centre, a place almost completely surrounded by water. Dinner and overnight.</td>
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<td><strong>Football and</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Art</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Full day at PortAventura. Own food arrangements at the Theme Park.</td>
<td>Return to the hotel for overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thrills and</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adventure</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DAY 4</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Heights</strong></td>
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<td><strong>and History</strong></td>
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**LOCAL KNOWLEDGE**

- Don’t get too political! It’s fine to ask locals their opinion on Catalan independence but be wary of voicing strong opinions either way!
- Las Ramblas is full of life and people, but this also translates to full of pick-pockets – be alert!

**PRICING TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- “Your Price” represents the itinerary as shown. Changes to the itinerary can be accommodated and quoted accordingly.
- Price is based on 40 students + 5 free teacher places. We can also quote you directly for 32 + 4 or 24 + 3.
- On top of this, we offer a further discount of €15 per student if schools elect to pay by single transfer.
- Flight are not included but are booked at cost for your group – no booking fees or extra non-airline fees apply.
- Itinerary based on flights to Barcelona El Prat. Flights to other airports might require a change to the itinerary.
Madrid is the capital of Spain, home to the Spanish Government and the Spanish Royal family. Its landmarks include the Royal Palace, the Plaza Mayor and some of the world’s finest art museums, such as the Prado and the Reina Sofia.

The nerve centre of the city lies around Puerta del Sol along the Gran Via shopping boulevard. The city is also famous for its vibrant nightlife and its two football teams, Atlético de Madrid and Real Madrid.

**2 NIGHT / 3 DAY ITINERARY - ESSENTIAL MADRID**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Arrival in Madrid</td>
<td>Fly to Madrid.&lt;br&gt;Meet your guide for a sightseeing bus tour of the most important landmarks in Madrid.</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.&lt;br&gt;Visit the Reina Sofia art museum, home to works by Spain’s finest artists such as Goya, Velasquez and of course, Pablo Picasso’s famous Guernica.&lt;br&gt;Enjoy a stroll around the nearby Retiro Park, a peaceful place filled beautiful sculptures, monuments, boats and lakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Football and Art</td>
<td>After breakfast, depart to Real Madrid C.F. for a self-guided tour of the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium and Museum.&lt;br&gt;Find out why it is considered the most successful football club in the world.</td>
<td>The Royal walking tour:&lt;br&gt;Visit the Royal Palace and gardens, the official residence of the Spanish Royal Family.&lt;br&gt;Stop for lunch.&lt;br&gt;Continue your walk to the San Miguel Market and Plaza Mayor, finishing up at the Puerta del Sol.&lt;br&gt;Free time for shopping at popular fashion retailers such as El Corte Inglés.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thrills and Adventure</td>
<td>Breakfast and hotel check-out.&lt;br&gt;Coach transfer to Parque Warner Theme Park.&lt;br&gt;Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions.</td>
<td>Full day at Parque Warner Theme Park.&lt;br&gt;Own food arrangements at the Theme Park.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Madrid lies at the highest altitude of any capital in Europe at 667 metres/2,188 ft.
- Madrid’s official symbol is The Bear and The Strawberry Tree and it’s the symbol of the football team Atlético de Madrid. The title of Real Madrid was bestowed to the club by King in 1920 with the royal crown as part of the emblem.
- Madrid has the oldest restaurant in the world according to the Guinness Book of Records, the Sobrino de Botín restaurant was founded in 1725.
- Madrid hosts the largest bullring in Spain, Las Ventas, established in 1929.

**ACCOMMODATION**

- Our preferred accommodation is based around Madrid city centre, subject to availability.
- Accommodation is in 2/3* hotels with ensuite rooms.
- Staying in hostels? “Your price” is reduced by €5 per student per night.
- Breakfast, lunch (either at a restaurant or as a packed lunch) and dinners are provided, unless specified in the itinerary.

**YOUR PRICE**

€395<br>PER STUDENT
3 NIGHT / 4 DAY ITINERARY - MADRID & BEYOND

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<th></th>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td>Fly to Madrid.</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.</td>
<td>Evening activity – Bowling or ice-skating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrival in Madrid</td>
<td>Meet your guide for a sightseeing bus tour Of the most important landmarks in Madrid.</td>
<td>Visit the Reina Sofia art museum, home to works by Spain’s finest artists such as Goya, Velasquez and of course, Pablo Picasso’s famous Guernica.</td>
<td>Dinner and overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Enjoy a stroll around the nearby Retiro Park, a peaceful place filled with beautiful sculptures, monuments, boats and lakes.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
<td>After breakfast, depart to Real Madrid C.F. for a self-guided tour of the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium and Museum. Find out why it is considered the most successful football club in the world.</td>
<td>The Royal walking tour: Visit the Royal Palace and gardens, the official residence of the Spanish Royal Family. Stop for lunch. Continue your walk to the San Miguel Market and Plaza Mayor, finishing up at the Puerta del Sol. Free time for shopping at popular fashion retailers such as El Corte Ingles.</td>
<td>Evening activity – Bowling or ice-skating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football and Art</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dinner and overnight.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong></td>
<td>Breakfast.</td>
<td>Full day at Parque Warner Theme Park. Own food arrangements at the Theme Park.</td>
<td>Return to the hotel for overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrills and Adventure</td>
<td>Coach transfer to Parque Warner Theme Park. Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 4</strong></td>
<td>Breakfast and hotel check out. Depart to Segovia, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit the old Roman aqueduct and castle, which helped to inspire Walt Disney’s Cinderella Castle.</td>
<td>Stop for lunch. Continue to El Escorial Palace, the historical residence of the King of Spain. This is also a UNESCO World Heritage site.</td>
<td>Coach transfer to Airport. Fly back to Dublin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Religion</td>
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</table>

**LOCAL KNOWLEDGE**

The Spanish tradition of La Siesta means that Madrileños take a nap in the afternoon. As a result, they often don’t eat dinner before 10pm. Many shops will close in the afternoon and open up again in the evening.

**PRICING TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- “Your Price” represents the itinerary as shown. Changes to the itinerary can be accommodated and quoted accordingly.
- Price is based on 40 students + 5 free teacher places. We can also quote you directly for 32 + 4 or 24 + 3.
- On top of this, we offer a further discount of €15 per student if schools elect to pay by single transfer.
- Flight are not included but are booked at cost for your group – no booking fees or extra non-airline fees apply.
A mix of Roman ruins, inspiring art and vibrant street life, Italy’s hot-blooded capital is one of the world’s most romantic and charismatic cities.

Rome is an exhilarating 2000 years old: ancient icons such as the Colosseum, Roman Forum and Pantheon recall the city’s golden age as Caput Mundi or Capital of the World. It is also the home of the Catholic Church, with St. Peter’s Basilica towering over the Vatican. Elsewhere, vibrant piazzas and hundreds of churches and fountains add to the city’s captivating streets.

2 NIGHT / 3 DAY ITINERARY - ESSENTIAL ROME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Arrival in Rome</td>
<td>Fly to Rome.</td>
<td>Meet your guide for a sightseeing bus tour into the most important landmarks in Rome. Stop for lunch. The Gladiator’s walking tour – including the Roman Forum and the Colosseum. Time Elevator Experience Learn about ancient Rome in a 3D multisensory experience that combines video, moving platforms and surround sound. Transfer to Hotel Dinner and Overnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Vatican and La Dolce Vita</td>
<td>The Holy Tour&lt;br&gt;• After breakfast depart to Vatican City to explore St. Peter’s Basilica and the Vatican Museums.&lt;br&gt;• Highlights include the Gallery of the Tapestries, the Gallery of the Maps and the Sistine Chapel.</td>
<td>La Dolce Vita walking tour from Castel Sant’Angelo over the bridge to Piazza Navona. Stop for lunch. Continue to the Spanish Steps via the Pantheon, throw a coin in the Trevi Fountain and finish up seeing Villa Borghese and the Piazza del Popolo. Free time for shopping in Via Del Corso! Dinner and Overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thrills and Adventure</td>
<td>Breakfast Hotel check-out. Coach transfer to Rainbow Magic Land. Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions. Full day at Rainbow Magic Land. Own food arrangements at the Theme Park.</td>
<td>Coach transfer to Airport. Fly back to Dublin.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Romans had built a road network of 53,000 miles by the early fourth century. Each Roman mile was about 4,800 feet and marked by a milestone, giving birth to the saying “All roads lead to Rome.”

The mascot of Rome is a she-wolf that cared for brothers Romulus and Remus, the mythological founders of Rome. St Peter’s basilica inside Vatican City is the largest church ever constructed: modern Rome has 280 fountains and more than 900 churches.

The Colosseum was not called “The Colosseum” (at least not when it was first built – it was the “Amphitheatrum Flavium” back then). Nor are the Spanish Steps Spanish! That name comes from the location of the Spanish Embassy at the time of their construction. Some €3,000 is thrown into the Trevi Fountain every day, mainly by tourists keen to pay heed to the idea that if you toss a coin over your left shoulder and into the fountain, using your right hand, you will return to the city some day. All proceeds are donated to charities to help those in need.

**ACCOMMODATION**

- Our preferred accommodation is based around Rome city centre, subject to availability.
- Accommodation is in 2/3* hotels with ensuite rooms.
- Staying in hostels? “Your price” is reduced by €5 per student per night.
- We also offer the possibility of staying in Rome Capitol Holiday Resort in Ostia Antica: an alternative lodging with free access to on-site facilities such as supermarket, restaurants, bars, sports grounds and swimming pools (seasonal).
- Breakfast, lunch (either at a restaurant or a packed lunch) and dinners are provided, unless specified in the itinerary.
3 NIGHT / 4 DAY ITINERARY - ROME & BEYOND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td>Arrival in Rome</td>
<td>Meet your guide for a sightseeing bus tour into the most important landmarks in Rome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fly to Rome.</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.</td>
<td>Learn about ancient Rome in a 3D multisensory experience that combines video, moving platforms and surround sound.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Gladiator’s walking tour – including the Roman Forum and the Colosseum.</td>
<td>Transfer to Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dinner and Overnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
<td>Vatican and La Dolce Vita</td>
<td>La Dolce Vita walking tour from Castel Sant’Angelo over the bridge to Piazza Navona.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Holy Tour.</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.</td>
<td>Dinner and Overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After breakfast depart to Vatican City to explore St. Peter’s Basilica and the Vatican Museums.</td>
<td>Continue to the Spanish Steps via the Pantheon, throw a coin in the Trevi Fountain and finish up seeing Villa Borghese and the Piazza del Popolo.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights include the Gallery of the Tapestries, the Gallery of the Maps and the Sistine Chapel.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong></td>
<td>Thrills and Adventure</td>
<td>Full day at Rainbow Magic Land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast.</td>
<td>Own food arrangements at the Theme Park.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach transfer to Rainbow Magic Land. Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 4</strong></td>
<td>History and Religion</td>
<td>Stop for lunch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast.</td>
<td>Explore the secrets of Ostia Antica, the ancient port of the Roman Empire.</td>
<td>Fly back to Dublin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel check-out.</td>
<td>The site is known as “the other Pompeii” and ranks among the best-preserved Roman ruins in the world.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoy a trip to Castel Gandolfo holy town in the picturesque setting of the Roman hills.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoy the stunning views over the volcano-shaped lake from the Pope summer residence.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LOCAL KNOWLEDGE**

Thought of going to Pompeii? We have a better idea: Ostia Antica! American Travel Writer Rick Steves is amongst those who believe that Ostia Antica offers more ancient thrills than rival Pompeii. Plus, Ostia has less crowds and is only around 45 minutes from the Colosseum (Pompeii is 3 hours away from Rome).

**PRICING TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- “Your Price” represents the itinerary as shown. Changes to the itinerary can be accommodated and quoted accordingly.
- Price is based on 40 students + 5 free teacher places. We can also quote you directly for 32 + 4 or 24 + 3.
- On top of this, we offer a further discount of €15 per student if schools elect to pay by single transfer.
- Flight are not included but are booked at cost for your group – no booking fees or extra non-airline fees apply.
- Itinerary based on flights to a Rome airport. Changes to other airports might require a change to the itinerary.
Lake Garda refers to more than just a beautiful lake – these tours can also contain elements of the Italian cities of Milan, Verona and Venice. Lake Garda itself acts as a stunning backdrop to these famous cities.

The floating city of Venice is an enchanting mix of gondolas, canals and iconic buildings such as the Basilica of St. Marks, Ponte Rialto and the Bridge of Sighs.

Verona is home to Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet and a still-used Roman Arena while Milan is famous for its Duomo Cathedral and the San Siro Stadium.

### 3 NIGHT / 4 DAY ITINERARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Day Trip to Venice</td>
<td>After breakfast, depart to Venice to explore the floating city’s main attractions. Take a water taxi to St. Mark’s square, before pausing for lunch. Visit Venice’s most famous attractions, including the Doge’s Palace, the Bridge of Sighs, Rialto market and more.</td>
<td>Return to your hotel near Lake Garda for dinner and overnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thrills and Adventure</td>
<td>Breakfast. Transfer to Gardaland Theme Park. Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions. Full day at Gardaland. Own lunch and dinner at Theme Park.</td>
<td>Return to your hotel near Lake Garda for overnight.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ACCOMMODATION

- Our preferred accommodation is based around Lake Garda, subject to availability.
- Accommodation is in 2/3* hotels with ensuite rooms on a half board basis.
- Staying in hostels? “Your price” is reduced by €5 per student per night.
- Breakfast, lunch (either at a restaurant or a packed lunch) and dinners are provided, unless specified in the itinerary.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Venice is made up of 118 islands and more than 170 canals, where 350 gondolas are seen in action.

Venice is facing many ecological challenges due to its unique structure – its population has halved and movable barriers are being developed to control the high tides. It has been suggested that Venice will only be a tourist park by as soon as 2030!

The Verona Arena was originally used to host gladiator, circus, and equestrian events. Today, you can watch opera while sitting on the same carved stone steps that were used in Roman times.

Milan is the Italian and indeed global capital of fashion – you’ll find an array of fashion brands located around the Quadrilatero d’Oro (that’s the Golden Quadrilateral to you and I)
### 4 NIGHT / 5 DAY ITINERARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **DAY 1**  
Arrival in Milan  
Fly to Milan.  
Meet your guide and depart to Verona. | Explore Verona, a romantic city made famous by Shakespeare’s play Romeo and Juliet.  
Visit The Square of Lords and the impressive Arena Amphitheatre.  
Discover Romeo and Juliet’s famous house and stone balcony. | Free time for shopping (maybe just window-shopping!) in Via Mazzini, one of the most elegant streets in Italy.  
Transfer to your hotel near Lake Garda for dinner and overnight. |
| After breakfast, depart for a multi-stop tour around Lake Garda’s most important landmarks. | Discover some of the most beautiful towns located along the banks of Lake Garda.  
Stop for lunch.  
Enjoy a boat trip on Italy’s largest lake. | Return to your hotel near Lake Garda for dinner and overnight. |
| **DAY 3**  
Day Trip to Venice  
After breakfast, depart to Venice to explore the floating city’s main attractions. | Take a water taxi to St. Mark’s square, before pausing for lunch.  
Visit Venice’s most famous attractions, including the Doge’s Palace, the Bridge of Sighs, Rialto market and more. | Return to your hotel near Lake Garda for dinner and overnight. |
| **DAY 4**  
Thrills and Adventure  
After breakfast, depart to Gardaland Theme Park.  
Get ready to embark on an exciting trip featuring rides, shows and attractions. | Visit the Piazza Duomo and Cathedral, before stopping for lunch.  
Visit the San Siro Stadium and Museum. | Return to your hotel near Lake Garda for dinner and overnight. |
| **DAY 5**  
Day trip to Milan  
Breakfast and hotel check out.  
Depart to Milan. | Visit the Piazza Duomo and Cathedral, before stopping for lunch.  
Visit the San Siro Stadium and Museum. | Coach transfer to Airport.  
Fly back to Dublin. |

### LOCAL KNOWLEDGE
- Venice’s extraordinary sights and locally-loved bacari (hole-in-the-wall bars) are worth going that extra mile for, across footbridges and flagstones.
- If you get to visit Verona in February, you might be lucky enough to be there for the Verona in Love festival (based around guess who?!) or the Venardi Gnocular, the oldest carnival in Italy!

### PRICING TERMS AND CONDITIONS
- “Your Price” represents the itinerary as shown. Changes to the itinerary can be accommodated and quoted accordingly.
- Price is based on 40 students + 5 free teacher places. We can also quote you directly for 32 + 4 or 24 + 3.
- On top of this, we offer a further discount of €15 per student if schools elect to pay by single transfer.
- Flight are not included but are booked at cost for your group – no booking fees or extra non-airline fees apply.
- Itinerary based on flights to a Milan airport. Changes to airport destination might require a change to the itinerary.
THE CAMINO IS MORE THAN A SCHOOL TOUR
– IT’S A LIFE EXPERIENCE

For over 1,000 years, pilgrim have walked from all parts of Spain and beyond to reach the city of Santiago De Compostela. Santiago is the resting place of St. James the Disciple and the entire network of routes is now include in UNESCO’s World Heritage List.

Camino Groups, a sister company of Sonas Travel, was set up in 2014 as a company specialising in school tours to the Camino. To this day, it remains Ireland’s only such company.

Yes, some other school tour companies offer the Camino as a destination, but they usually end up farming out the booking to 3rd parties (including Camino Groups!) as they simply don’t understand what’s involved in booking a Camino tour.

So why pay a middleman when you can book directly with Camino Groups? With us, you’re guaranteed the best price and you’re guaranteed the most comprehensive service available.

AVAILABLE ROUTES

Although the Camino is a wide network of routes, very few of those are suitable for school groups. Our tours to date have usually come under one of the following 4 headings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 week – From Sarria / Triacastela to Santiago</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarria is the 1st town on what’s called the French Camino to lie more than 100km from Santiago. To get the official Camino cert, you must walk at least this distance and also finish in Santiago.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You will walk this section in 5 days but for a lot of the school year, limited flight availability determines the time you spend away. The big plus to a week-long trip is that you get a free day in Santiago at the end – a gem of a city worth a trip in its own right!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some schools choose to walk for a 6th day instead of having a free day in Santiago, adding an extra stage at the start of the walk.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5 nights – From Ferreiros to Santiago</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject to flight schedules, it can be possible to compact the 100km into a 5 night trip, starting with a short walk on the day you arrive in Spain. It’s a cheaper option, though a bit more rushed!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For some schools, the experience is what it it’s all about and they choose to walk a shorter Camino. We can tailor any tour to your requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Camino Portugués

It’s also possible to walk the last 100km of the Portugues route (don’t be confused by the name – this section is all in Spain).

The big difference here is that this section doesn’t have the same availability of Albergues (hostels) that are much more common on the Camino Francés – this means that private beds are used more and this puts up the cost a little (but not too much!).

New for 2019/2020 – The Camino Finisterre!

A 5-night trip sees you walk 90km from Santiago to Finisterre – it’s not an official Camino, but you do get the Fisterra cert upon its completion.

Finisterre is the “end of the world” and the finishing point for many people’s Camino. This is a quieter route, but the scenery upon reaching the Atlantic Ocean makes all the walking worthwhile.
HOW TO BOOK:
As every tour is a bespoke itinerary, contact us directly and we will guide you through the process. All our tours include the following:

- **FLIGHTS BOOKED AT COST**
- **ACCOMMODATION IN ALBERGUES OR ENSUITE ROOMS**
- **FULL MEALS PACKAGE** (BREAKFAST, “MENÚ DEL DÍA” DINNERS AND PACKED LUNCHES WHERE REQUIRED)
- **AIRPORT TRANSFERS**
- **BAG TRANSFERS EACH DAY**
- **PILGRIM PASSPORTS PROVIDED BY CAMINO SOCIETY IRELAND**
- **WALKING NOTES**
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE (PREMIER PLUS COVER – THE HIGHEST COVER AVAILABLE)**
- **A SCHOOL PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS**
- **TEACHER REWARD SCHEME**

OPTIONAL EXTRAS: GUIDED DAY TOURS / GROUP CAMINO CLOTHING (WALKING TOPS, HOODIES, FLEECES OR BACKPACKS)

DID YOU KNOW?
A Holy Year is when St James’ feast day (July 25th) falls on a Sunday. Numbers on the Camino spike in Holy Years – the previous one was in 2010 and 2021 is the next. If you plan on walking on the Camino in 2021, make sure you get in early!

A record number of pilgrims received Camino certs in 2018 – just over 300,000.
If you’re looking for a 1-day or 2-day short trip for your school – Alton Towers might just be your answer! Located in the countryside of Staffordshire, it’s the ideal place to bring a group of students. Set on over 900 acres of country estate land, it first opened to the public in 1860. Nowadays, it attracts over 2 million visitors a year and is the 2nd most-visited theme park in the U.K. (after Lego Windsor).

WHAT CAN YOU GET UP TO?
With plenty of high-octane attractions, teenagers won’t get bored! The balance between the large grounds and the number of white-knuckle rides means that it’s a full day for any student.

There are food options throughout the park, so from the organiser’s point of view, it’s the perfect place to let students wander to their hearts content all day long!

For those staying overnight, either in the park or nearby, Alton Towers also has a Waterpark, so you can easily keep yourself occupied for a day and a half!

THE PRACTICALITIES
From Holyhead port, Alton Towers is about a 3:30 hour drive by coach. You pass close to Manchester and Liverpool, so a flying visit to Old Trafford or Anfield can be a great way to add value to a few hours, depending on ferry times.

Similarly, the Trafford Centre is the U.K.’s 3rd largest shopping centre – another option if you have a few hours to spare!

You can also fly to Manchester (and some school tour companies advertise this), but given the time lost at airports, the concern regarding luggage (what if you win a huge teddy?!?) and the cost for what is a short tour, it doesn’t make any sense.

OVERNIGHTS
A visit to Alton Towers can be structured over 1 or 2 days – a lot depends on the ferry schedule and where in Ireland you’re starting out from! Overnight can be in Stoke (about 30 minutes away) or closer to Manchester. Top tip – The best value coach you will get is probably the very same people who bring your students to school and your teams to matches! We can organise that part of your trip for you, but we are also keen to save you some money where possible!

HOW DO I BOOK?
Let us know what you have in mind and we’ll put a price together for you. As itineraries and wish lists vary a lot, putting a price in a brochure for this tour doesn’t mean much. But like all our Sonas tours – you know you’ll get the best price and service here!
Sonas Travel is a new school tour company, but the ground has been prepared for it by the work of Camino Groups.

Going on these testimonials from schools in 2018, here’s what you can expect from your Sonas booking:

“I cannot recommend Camino Groups highly enough. From my very first communication with Eoin he couldn’t have been any more attentive, supportive and understanding. His “there are no problems only solutions” attitude is just what a busy school teacher needs. Camino Groups offers an attention to detail which is second to none. Eoin’s personal wealth of experience affords a particular insight that other tour groups may not always have. The parents were 100% satisfied with their child’s experience and the students said it was the highlight of their TY year.

Thank you so much for a great experience! And yes, we’ve already booked for 2019!!”

Fiona Clancy, Castleknock CC. (Organising teacher)

“Having been involved in school trips and youth organisations for the past 34 years I can say that our school trip with ‘Camino Groups’ to the Camino at Easter 2018 was the best organised trip I have been on. Everything ran smoothly and it was good value for the cost. We brought 23 second year students who were aged 13 – 14 years old. We will be booking again with ‘Camino Groups’ for Easter 2019.”

David Madden, St. Joseph’s CBS, Drogheda. (Principal)

“We have dealt with Camino Groups for the past two years and on both occasions we have been extremely happy with their professionalism and helpfulness in organising our trip. Their knowledge for the Camino is second to none and we always know that Eoin will be on the other end of the phone whenever we need assistance or to offer advice. We would highly recommend booking a trip through Camino Groups.”

Siobhán and Edel, Scoil Mhuiire, Trim. (Joint organisers)

“The accommodation from start to finish was amazing. The help and support available on call was brilliant to have and the local and in-depth knowledge that Eoin had was brilliant and so helpful. I would 100 percent recommend Eoin Garvey and his company. Thank you!”

Aoife Lynskey Keane, Gort C.S. (organising teacher).
1 - Making Bookings

All bookings are made with Sonas Travel Limited, also trading as Camino Groups (we / us / our). 'Client' refers to the full group making a booking with us. 'Member(s)' refers to an individual person/persons within the group making a tour booking.

You do not have a contract with us until we have received a completed and signed Booking Form as well as payment of a first deposit of €150 for each member of the travelling party. The second deposit of €150 becomes payable 6 weeks after the payment of the first deposit.

The first and second deposits are known together as the 'Booking Deposit'. If you book a tour less than 12 weeks before the departure date, you must pay the full cost of the tour at the time of booking. The group leader must complete, sign and return the booking form. Return by email will be considered as sufficient to meet this condition. By signing the booking form, the group leader confirms that they have the permission of each member of the party to deal with us, or in the case of U-18s that they have the authority of the parents/ legal guardians to do so, and that all members of the travelling party are aware of this condition. In the case of a school tour booking, it is assumed that that the group leader is acting with the consent of the relevant school management body.

Bookings must be accompanied by a full list of names of members of the group. Only a director of our company can add to or change any of the conditions and can only do so in writing, having signed the conditions.

2 - Pricing, Payment and Deposits

Pricing

Prices quoted by us at the time of enquiry and at the time of booking are referred to as ‘Guideline’ Prices.

A Guideline price is made up of two components; the core package price as quoted by us and the total cost of the flight booking. Together these two components are referred to as the ‘Guideline Cost’. The core package consists of all elements of the package offered by us to the client, as agreed between us and the client and as included by us on the Booking Form.

We will not increase the price of the core element of the package unless by agreement with the client, for example, where the client wishes to change elements of the package and where it is possible to do so. We do, however, reserve the right to reduce the core package cost if discounts/reductions can be made in booking that are favourable to the client.

We do reserve the right to increase the total cost of the flight if the actual booking cost of the flight is greater than the flight cost as quoted as part of the Guideline cost.

If it is a case that the actual cost of the flight is less than the flight cost as quoted as part of the Guideline cost, then we guarantee to pass this saving on to the client.

When the total cost of the flight has been confirmed and booked with the airline in question, then we will inform the client as to the 'Confirmed' price. No alteration will be made to the Confirmed price except as per the exceptions listed below.

Exceptions

We reserve the right to alter the Confirmed Price, up to 28 days in advance of the departure date of the tour in question, in the following circumstances:

• Unforeseen Government tax increases or new taxes affecting the Confirmed price.
• Changes in currency exchange rates that increase the Confirmed price. This does not apply within the Euro zone (e.g. for tours to Spain from Ireland).
• Unforeseen actions by the Irish Government or by other agencies that lead to an increase in the confirmed price, e.g. declaration of war.

Payment and Deposits

Deposits shall be paid as follows, unless by prior agreement with the client:

1. First deposit of €150 per travelling member, payable with receipt of Booking Form.
2. Second deposit of €150 per travelling member, payable 6 weeks after receipt of Booking Form.
3. Third deposit of €150 per travelling member, payable 10 weeks after receipt of Booking Form.
4. Final payment of the balance remaining is payable no later than 8 weeks before the departure date of the tour in question. After each deposit payment, we will issue the client with an updated invoice, indicating the amount paid to date, outstanding balance and due dates of remaining deposits. If we do not receive the ‘Booking Deposit’, i.e. the first and second deposits, on time, we reserve the right to cancel the booking applicable to any/all individuals who have not paid their deposits on time.

3 - Refunds, Cancellations and Name Changes.

In the case of a request for cancellations or name changes, the Group Leader must inform us by email or in writing of any such request and the detail thereof. Only upon receipt of such a request will we act upon the request in question.

A. Cancellation Charges

First and second deposits (The 'Booking Deposit') are non-refundable. Any cancellations made after receipt of the second deposit and up to 6 weeks before the departure date will be charged the full amount of the Booking Deposit as well as 75% of the remaining Tour Price. Any cancellations made within 6 weeks of the departure date will be charged the full amount of the Tour Price. As part of our booking policy, we provide each member of the group with a standard travel insurance policy with our insurers. In the event of a cancellation of a booking, affected members are free to pursue a refund of money/deposits paid through this insurance policy. We do not take responsibility for this; this responsibility lies entirely with the members affected.
Responsibilities of Clients which cover consumer liability.

We have the benefit of any limitations of compensation respect of travel, accommodation and baggage. For the avoidance of doubt, we have the right to make such changes unless they significantly alter the tour package.

In circumstances where such a change significantly alters the tour package, you can choose to accept the revised package as provided by us or receive a full refund of all deposits paid by you, except as outlined in 4 (B) and 4 (C) below, less reasonable expenses incurred by us.

B. Name Changes

In the case of a request for a name change, we cannot guarantee that this can be accommodated, but will endeavour to facilitate such a request where possible.

Any costs associated with such a change will be borne entirely by the client. Such costs could include Airline Charges and necessary changes to accommodation bookings.

4 - Alterations to Tour Package

A. We endeavour to meet the all aspects of the booking arrangements made by us on behalf of our clients. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, it may be necessary to make alterations to the tour package as agreed upon with the client (e.g. Closure of accommodation provider). We reserve the right to make such changes unless they significantly alter the tour package.

B. Airline Alterations. If we need to alter your booking because of a change in the schedule of the airline you are booked to travel with, the refund conditions relating to that airline will apply. Details of these conditions are available from us on request.

C. Events outside our control / Force Majeure. Except where otherwise stated in these Booking Conditions, we cannot accept liability or pay any compensation for events outside our control. Such events include war or the threat of war, terrorist activity, political unrest, riots, civil unrest, industrial disputes, natural disasters, closure of airports or ports, technical problems with or accidents involving aircraft, ferries, coaches or other transport, outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, fire, bad weather and other events outside our control.

5 - Liability

We do not accept liability for injuries, death or losses suffered by members of the group while on tour. While we will always endeavour to assist groups in such cases by offering practical advice and assistance, responsibility in such cases lies with the travelling group.

In the case of complaints arising from the service provided by the service providers engaged by us to carry out an element of our tour package, clients must notify the service provider of the nature of the complaint immediately and in writing and notify us of same as soon as is practicable.

In the event of liability on our part, compensation payable will not exceed the amount paid for the tour package to date. Compensation will not be paid unless the following conditions have been met by the client:

- The client must notify us immediately or as soon as is practicable of the nature of the complaint and also do so, in writing, within 21 days after your return.
- You must transfer any rights that you may have, in respect of your injury, illness or death against any person to us.
- You must cooperate fully with us and/or our insurers to enforce such rights.
- Any payments that we may be obliged to make will be in accordance with the International Convention concerned in respect of travel, accommodation and baggage. For the avoidance of doubt, we have the benefit of any limitations of compensation contained in these Conventions or subsequent amendments which cover consumer liability.

Responsibilities of Clients

A. Travel Documentation.

The client shall check the travel documentation immediately upon receipt of same. If the client considers that any document is incorrect or has a query regarding any element of the documentation, he/she shall notify us of this concern as soon as is practicable.

B. Arrival at Port of Departure.

It is the sole responsibility of the client to present himself/herself and all members of the travelling party at the port of departure in sufficient time (as indicated by us in the travel documentation provided to the client) prior to the designated departure time to complete embarkation requirements. In situations where the client misses out on arranged transport as a result of not arriving at the departure point on time, we shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the client in arranging alternative transport and we shall not be liable for any refund for elements of the package arranged by us that cannot be taken up by the client arising from such a situation.

C. Baggage Restrictions.

The client is restricted by regulations of carriers and executive authorities with regard to weight, type and contents of baggage which he/she may take on board the craft and/or vehicles used in connection with the holiday.

D. Travel Instructions.

The client hereby agrees that he/she and all members of the travelling party shall abide by all instructions or directions given by a member of our staff or any crew member of a carrier’s craft or vehicle used in connection with the holiday and hereby agrees to indemnify us against any loss or injury suffered or incurred by any person as a consequence of the client’s or a member of the travelling party’s failure to act in accordance with any such direction or instruction.

E. Travel Documentation.

It is the responsibility of the client to ensure that each member of the travelling group is in possession of all the travel and health documentation necessary and that all such documentation is in order. The client agrees to indemnify us against for any costs incurred by him as a consequence of the client being denied transportation either as a consequence of the client/members of the travelling party failing to have their travel documentation or same not being in order.

6 - Special Needs

Any special needs requirements must be put in writing to us and we will endeavour to satisfy such requests where possible. It might not be possible to accommodate such requests and our failure to do so does not constitute a breach of contract unless we have guaranteed these to you in writing.

7 - Insurance Cover

A travel insurance policy is taken out in the name of each member of the travelling group with our insurers as soon as payment of the first deposit is received, unless the client advises us in writing that they do not wish this to take place.

It is the responsibility of the group leader to ensure that all members of the group are made aware of the terms, conditions and limitations of this travel insurance policy.

8 - Governing Law

Our contract with you is governed by the law of Ireland and you must accept the jurisdiction of the courts of Ireland.