

New Holstein 8th Grade Washington, D.C. April 16-20, 2020





Why I Chose Brightspark

1

Safety & Security

- 24/7 emergency hotline
- Extensive vendor audits

2

Trip Insurance

- Medical & liability insurance
- Trip cancellation program
(*Refund Guarantee Protection*)

3

Brightspark's Advantage

- 30+ years planning student tours
- No hidden fees
- Logistics planned by travel experts

4

Educational Benefits

- Licensed Tour Directors & Guides
- Attractions hand-picked to suit our educational needs

What will We See?

- **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (Pending confirmation)**
- **US Capitol Tour (Pending confirmation)**
- **George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate And Gardens**
- **World War II Memorial**
- **Library of Congress - Picture Stop**
- **White House Picture Stop**
- **Jefferson, FDR and MLK Memorials**
- **Lincoln, Vietnam and Korean Memorials**
- **Iwo Jima Memorial**
- **Arlington National Cemetery**
- **Smithsonian Institution**
- **Pentagon Memorial**
- **Washington Monument - Picture Stop**
- **Spirit Dinner and Dance Cruise**

Mt. Vernon

- ▶ Home of our 1st President, George Washington
- ▶ Owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution
- ▶ Newly renovated museum
- ▶ Still large working farm







Holocaust Museum



- ▶ One of the most powerful museums in Washington DC
- ▶ Take a four floor tour through the Holocaust years
- ▶ full of original items
- ▶ Very powerful

Dinner & Dance Cruise

- ▶ We will be taking a yacht dinner and dancing cruise up and down the Potomac River
- ▶ We will be able to see the monuments at night
- ▶ DJ's on two decks create dancing fun!





Arlington National Cemetery

- ▶ Built on the family estate of Robert E. Lee during the Civil War
- ▶ buried Union soldiers in his front yard so he would not want the property back after the war
- ▶ some graves are empty because they are soldiers who are missing in action





Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



- ▶ White Marble box containing body or body parts of unknown soldiers from all wars fought by the US
- ▶ Guarded 24 /7/365 by special group of military guards
- ▶ Students will lay a wreath here in honor of the fallen

Changing of the Guard

- ▶ Solemn ceremony that takes place every hour when the tomb guards change shifts
- ▶ Guards walk on black mat – 21 steps each way to represent 21 gun salute
- ▶ Strict rules for guards on dress, cleanliness, etc..
- ▶ Guards belong to strict, tight knit fraternity of Tomb guards





Kennedy Grave site



- Kennedy laid to rest with his wife, Jackie and their infant son, Patrick
- Robert and Teddy Kennedy are buried adjacent to JFK's grave

World War II Memorial

- Located between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument
- Small, wreathed towers represent each state that sent soldiers to fight in WWII
- Quotes and statistics from WWII carved into stones



U.S. Capitol Tour



Lincoln Memorial

- ▶ Site of Lincoln Statue
- ▶ Anchors Western end of National Mall
- ▶ Name of each state that was in the Union during Lincoln's presidency is carved around top of memorial
- ▶ Site of MLK's famous "I have a Dream" speech



Korean War Memorial



- Depicts a US patrol walking through a rice paddy
- Each statue has a unique facial expression
- At apex of memorial are the words “Our nation honors her sons and daughters, who answered a call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met”

Franklin Roosevelt Memorial

- ▶ Only open air presidential memorial
- ▶ 4 rooms to represent each of Roosevelt's four terms of office
- ▶ Many water falls to reference water's role in helping Roosevelt's polio
- ▶ If you go behind statue you can see his wheel chair wheels



Vietnam Memorial – The Wall



- Built in 1980 of black polished granite
- Made to reflect the faces of the people who visit
- People leave personal items
- All items collected and stored in Smithsonian

White House

- ▶ The White House is actually not White but the stones were whitewashed to give it its look
- ▶ Residence of the President of the US
- ▶ Accepts only student groups, no public tours



Smithsonian Museums

- ▶ 19 Museums in all, 7 on the National Mall
- ▶ We will visit:
 - ▶ Air and Space Museum
 - ▶ American History Museum
 - ▶ Natural History Museum



Smithsonian Air and Space Museum

- ▶ Airplanes and items from various world wars
- ▶ Items from past space programs and walks on the moon
- ▶ Wright brothers plane
- ▶ IMAX theatre



American History Museum



- ▶ Newly remodeled in 2008
- ▶ American history artifacts
- ▶ Special room displays US Flag flown over Ft. Mc Henry when Key wrote Star Spangled Banner



Hat and whip 1981-89

From the 1980s movie *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*
Harrison Ford wore this whip and fedora hat in his role as Indiana Jones. Filmmaker George Lucas created the globe-trekking archeologist to pay homage to classic Hollywood adventure films. Jones is a reluctant hero seeking to preserve cultural heritage. The Indiana Jones series, directed by Steven Spielberg, is among the most successful movie franchises in American history.



Indiana Jones's costume, including a fedora, leather jacket, and whip, became an icon of the cinematic hero, and was reimagined in graphics on consumer goods like this lunchbox.

Natural History Museum

- ▶ Dinosaur bones
- ▶ Gems and Jewelry
 - ▶ Hope Diamond
- ▶ Under the Sea
- ▶ Rocks and Minerals
- ▶ Butterflies
- ▶ Nature around the world



Washington Monument



- ▶ Half way through construction the Civil War broke out so work was stopped
- ▶ Work resumed again but the stone did not match the original so you can see the place where it changes

International Spy Museum

- Recently moved – reopening June 2019
- History of spy craft and law enforcement
- Spying in movies and entertainment



National Cathedral



- ▶ Multi-denominational
- ▶ Built to look like Notre Dame in Paris
- ▶ Known for its gargoyles
- ▶ Helen Keller and Woodrow Wilson buried there
- ▶ Moon rock on one of the stained glass windows

What's Included in the Tour?



All Meals in Destination (as per the itinerary)



Hotel Stay plus Overnight Security



Admissions to Scheduled Activities



Round-Trip Transportation



All tips and gratuities



Guided Sightseeing



RGP

REFUND GUARANTEE PROTECTION

With RGP, you can cancel your child's tour at any time, for any reason, and every penny spent on trip payments will be returned to you. Right up until the moment a tour departs, you are guaranteed a 100% refund on all payments — including any nonrefundable deposits (minus the cost of RGP).

Cost: \$69



COMPARISON TO CANCELLATION POLICY

DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE	TOUR COST RETURNED WITH REGULAR CANCELLATION POLICY	TOUR COST RETURNED WITH RGP*
81+	85%	100%
80-61	75%	100%
60-46	50%	100%
45-0	0%	100%

**Coverage includes EVERYTHING except for the cost of RGP*

Frequently Asked Questions

What are my options for paying for a tour?

There are three options for paying for your tour: AutoPay Payment Plan, Payment in Full Plan, and Manual Payment Plan. Payments can be made by Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, money order or personal checks.

What is not included in the tour costs?

Airline baggage fees and RGP are not included in tour costs. For international tours, Travel Guard medical insurance is not included but can be purchased for an additional cost.

If I sign up for RGP and need to cancel, how and when will my refund be received?

You will receive your payment within six weeks of your cancellation if you paid through our online portal. Refunds will be issued in the same manner with which payments are received. If you did not pay through the portal but rather paid your school, please reach out to your group leader for more information regarding cancellations and refunds.

If there is an emergency and I need to speak with my child, how can I contact them?

You will be able to contact your child on their cell phone or your group leader's cell phone. If you are unable to reach either of these contacts, call Brightspark Travel's 24-hour hotline at 800-962-0060.