



The Chantry School

EXCELLENCE IN ALL | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 8 French and German trip to Freiburg, the Black Forest and Alsace

I am excited to be offering a Year 8 trip abroad to support the global aspirations of our school, to expose pupils to French and German culture and create a unique bonding experience as a year group.

Freiburg is a historic town quintessentially German. It is the city of miniature streams and cobble-stone streets as well as the European Green Capital of Europe. Freiburg is a hidden gem in the middle of the Black Forest. This is one of the largest low mountain ranges of central Europe situated close to the border with Switzerland and France. As the setting of countless Grimm Brothers' fairy tales, the Black Forest happily plays up to its image as a land of cuckoo clocks, cherry gâteaux, outlandish traditional garb, hefty half-timbered farmhouses and hill upon hill of dark evergreen forest.

The Alsace region is in the north-east part of France and it is a unique mixture of French and German culture. The region is known particularly for the "tarte flambée" and "choucroutes", its white wines and beautiful Christmas markets, the picturesque villages with half timbered-houses with flower-covered balconies, which line cobbled alleyways and hang over the canals and their bridges, and its medieval castles. Particularly symbolic of the Alsace region is the city of Strasbourg, with its gothic cathedral, the European Parliament and the "Petite France" quarter which can be admired from one of the several bateaux-mouches, and Colmar, with its "Petite Venice" romantic quarter.

The key details about the planned trip are as follows:

- 9 days and 8 nights
- Departs on Thursday 4th July 2024 in the afternoon
- Returns on Friday 11th July 2024 in the afternoon
- 49 Year 8 pupils (studying either French or German) maximum and 4 members of staff
- The provisional cost is **£820 per pupil**

This price includes:

- Coach and Eurotunnel to and from Germany/France
- Accommodation on a full board basis in the Hotel Rebstock, Rust, Germany for 6 nights
- School travel insurance
- All visits included in the itinerary

The group size is **49 pupils plus 4 members of staff**

The itinerary for the trip will include the following:

- visit to Freiburg im Breisgau
- visit to the little town of Triberg im Schwarzwald, including a walk to the highest waterfalls in Germany and a guided tour of the world's biggest cuckoo clock
- the experience of the Rodelbahn, the German Alpine roller coaster
- a boat cruise on the lake Titisee, an idyllic place in an astounding natural setting
- swimming at a local Freibad, a supervised open air swimming pool with water slides
- one day at the Europa Park, the second most popular theme park in Europe, a fantasy version of the continent with 100 rides across 13 different lands
- visit to the French city of Strasbourg, with its astonishing gothic cathedral and the European Parliament + guided tour on the typical local boats
- visit to the town of Colmar, with its picturesque Petite Venice quarter
- visit to the French Volairie des Aigles and La Montagne des Singes in Alsace
- the opportunity to do some shopping

In addition to the trip cost, pupils will need money only to buy snacks, drinks and souvenirs.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Each pupil must be in possession of

- **a valid passport;**
- **a EHIC card** which does not expire before the trip ends. Alternatively, please apply for a UK GHIC as soon as possible (more info on <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>).

Your child's passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

Check both the issue date and the expiry date in your passport. If you renewed your passport early, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. This could affect the requirement for your passport to be less than 10 years old.

HOW TO SECURE A PLACE

To secure a place for your son/ daughter on this trip, **a non-refundable** deposit payment of **£100.00** must be completed on the School Gateway by **Monday 2nd October**. If the trip is over-subscribed, we will draw names from all of the pupils who have paid deposits by the deadline. Any unsuccessful pupils will have their deposits returned. We also reserve the right to withdraw a pupil from the trip later on in the year if we have serious behaviour concerns.

We very much hope your son/daughter will be able to take advantage of this excellent trip. Their awareness of cultural diversity and their appreciation of a different language and different traditions will be heightened immeasurably by this experience.

Prior to the trip departing, I will arrange a parents information evening in June. Please do not hesitate to contact me at adesantis@chantryschool.com if you have any questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Ambrogio De Santis
Head of Modern Foreign Languages