

## **Education, stimulation, inspiration and encouragement**

*Natalie Evans of Travelbound explores how educational visits help bring lessons and subjects to life*

Rope swings, dinosaurs, castles, sandpits, growing runner beans, water fights and learning. Yes, learning.

The best way to learn is to have fun and to experience a subject for oneself by seeing, touching and taking part. Imagine how exciting history can become with a trip to a preserved battlefield or how rewarding physics can be if you could sit in a space ship that a European astronaut had flown.



The best lessons are often outside the classroom in different, interesting, safe and enjoyable environments. When outside, you can appreciate how subjects link together - for example: the geography of the Normandy coastline significantly affected the historic D-Day landings and therefore the end of WWII.

Educational visits provide enjoyable experiences that not only add to a child's education but also give them the building blocks to encourage and grow active minds.

Cross-curricular studies can help a child to use acquired knowledge to understand the aspects of a different subject and, when combined with worksheets and diary pages, pupils can already begin to learn before, during and after the visits.

*“A school trip helps to develop the whole child on a personal, spiritual and emotional level and also encourages significant success for some children who struggle within a classroom environment.”*

Donna Thorneloe: Pastoral Head of Year

Within the present economic climate travel companies have to offer affordable school trips that are financially secure and full of worthwhile educational experiences. Party leaders deserve to be assisted all the way by knowledgeable tour co-ordinators who are on-hand to make the process of organising a trip a straight forward process. Furthermore, a typical itinerary should be tailor-made to suit the group's specific areas of study and take into consideration 'down time' moments with a variety of activities.

The Quality Badge initiative has really increased the value placed upon modern school trips and it is now much easier to identify companies that understand the importance of experiential learning while groups are away from home.

*For more information about educational visits that offer enjoyable and inspirational learning outside of the classroom, please visit [www.travelbound.co.uk](http://www.travelbound.co.uk) to find out more.*