

MindStretch Travel Adventures, LLC – 2015 Programs
Europe by Eurail / June 13-30 / 18 Days
North Carolina Mountains / July 12-18 / 7 Days
Tennessee Mountains / July 26-30 / 5 Days

There are three great trips planned for the summer of 2015. The Europe by Eurail trip is an incredible experience for both new and seasoned travelers. The North Carolina Mountains & Tennessee Mountains trips are geared toward younger boys though there are no age restrictions for either trip (within reason). If your son wants to go and you're willing to send him ... then he's ready! Boys may attend both sessions.

Fee:

The fee for the **Europe by Eurail trip is \$4450**. The fee for the **North Carolina Mountains adventure is \$1375**. The **Tennessee Mountains adventure fee is \$1150**. All trips include all lodging, all meals and some snacks, all activities, all admission fees, guide services, local transportation, and gratuities. The fees do not cover souvenirs and most snack food. On domestic trips younger boys generally share a bed with another boy their age or about their age and older boys usually get individual beds though this isn't guaranteed. Usually everyone has an individual bed on the Europe trip. If your child prefers to have a single bed for every night, please contact Mark for possible options.

Some more you should know...

Europe –All lodging is in typical European hotels and pensions and possibly an occasional youth hostel. We might have sleeper cars on trains one or two nights of the trip. The fee also includes a 15-day first-class Eurail pass (good for unlimited travel through 24 European countries). The fee also covers all fees for train reservations and overnight train accommodations (if used), and all fees for other forms of local transportation including ferries, buses, metros, boats, gondolas, aerial trams, etc. Fee is based on a couple of important factors. The first is that the fee is based on our traveling with at least twelve students. We can go with a smaller number but that might involve a fee increase. The second factor is the value of the U.S. dollar to the euro. Final fee could fluctuate up or down some based on the exchange rate at the time of our departure and the final number of students traveling. On March 9, 2014 – one euro equaled \$1.39 (US). If the dollar remains within ten US cents of this amount, the fee shouldn't change. The *fee does not include* transatlantic airfare from our gateway city – most likely from Charlotte.

North Carolina & Tennessee Mountains – We'll stay in motels each night of the trip. Dinners are enjoyed in sit-down restaurants and boys can choose from the menu. There is no airfare involved for boys meeting us in Greenville or Asheville for our departure and return.

Deposits and Payments:

Europe: A \$200 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your spot. Only \$50 of that deposit is due for boys enrolling early (prior to August 1, 2014) and the balance of \$150 is due in the fall. The full \$200 is the required non-refundable deposit for boys enrolling after August 1, 2014.

North Carolina & Tennessee Trips: A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due at sign-up with only \$25 being due for boys enrolling early (prior to August 1, 2014) and the balance of \$75 is due in the fall. The full \$100 is the required non-refundable deposit for boys enrolling after August 1, 2014.

Please make your check payable to MindStretch.

Additional payments will be requested in January and in March with the balance payable in May. For Europe trekkers, once airline tickets and Eurail passes are purchased, that portion of the trip fee is non-refundable unless refundable by the airlines and by the Eurail agent. The flights will be booked in late fall/early winter and the Eurail passes will be purchased in late spring prior to trip departure. The balance of the trip fee for both trips will be due on May 1, 2015. No fees are refundable after that time for any reason.

Medical Emergencies:

If a participant becomes ill or injured, the leaders will do whatever is necessary to preserve the participant's health and safety including, without limitation, obtaining medical treatment at parents' expense. This could include transporting the participant back to his home for medical reasons. Parents agree to pay or reimburse any extra expenses incurred on the participant's behalf. Trip insurance is available from private companies that could cover special travel arrangements and overseas medical care.

Please let me know if there are any medical conditions that would necessitate special consideration and care during the trip. A "permission to treat" form will be required as is a "release of liability."

Participants:

These trips are geared for boys who like a little (or a lot) of adventure in their lives. No two days are ever the same. These are not camping trips and they are not rugged wilderness experiences. Boys can expect to hike and walk a lot and do some camp kinds of activities (especially on the North Carolina & Tennessee Mountains experiences). In Europe boys will need to be able to carry a travel pack from the train station to our hotel. In Europe you will travel with a minimum of clothing needs. Generally speaking most of our hotels will be within a 10-20 minutes walk of the train stations. Mark Levin will lead both trips and will be assisted by two to four other adult leaders. Parents are invited to inquire about joining us as a trip leader. Older boys attend as trip assistants or junior counselors depending on age and past MTA experience.

Some Fine Print:

I cannot be responsible for events beyond my control, including, without limitation, acts of nature, war, strikes, or government restrictions. I am not responsible for loss or damage to luggage or any other personal belongings.

Students are expected to obey all regulations and rules and codes of conduct that might be set by the places we visit, the country's culture, or by the trip leaders. I have the right to send home with notice to parent or guardian, at parents' expense, and without escort, any participant who does not adhere to the rules and regulations, or who infringes upon others' enjoyment of the trip.

Now sign me up. I am ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

Participant's Name _____ Birthdate _____

Sign me up for: _____ **Europe by Eurail** _____ **North Carolina Mountains** _____ **Tennessee Mountains**

Parents' Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Parents' Email Address _____

Second parent name, address, and email if parents are living separately. _____

I have read the notes about the trips and this page and have an understanding about how the program will function. I want my child to participate in this program. I agree to hold Mark Levin and all additional leaders harmless for all claims arising out of this trip. My child agrees to abide by codes of conduct as set by the leaders. A signed release of liability statement is required.

Parents' Signature _____ Date

Participant's Signature _____ Date

Please sign, make a copy for yourself, and return the original to:

Mark Levin • MindStretch Travel Adventures, LLC • 3124 Landrum Road • Columbus, NC 28722
www.MindStretchAdventures.com

Please attach a recent photo of your son to this application.

Do you have a friend who might be interested? Please list names and addresses.

