

OUR UNQUALIFIED COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS NATIONWIDE

When traveling with Casterbridge, you join a community of middle schools nationwide that recognize our exceptional commitment to delivering security, safety, and quality on all of our travel programs. Since 1979, our goal has always been to provide the highest level of educational experience, as well as complete peace of mind for all of our middle school participants.

FINANCIAL AND HEALTH ASSURANCES

Casterbridge carries a major tour operator liability coverage and all travelers are protected through the **\$1 million USTOA Travelers Assistance Program**. Casterbridge also offers all participants extensive accident, medical, and dental insurance.

COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE

We offer an optional **TravelGuard** Insurance Policy that includes full medical, property, and trip cancellation. Please see the enclosed brochure to learn more about this **valuable protection** and further assurances when traveling.

EARN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT

All teachers and chaperones who travel on a Casterbridge program are **eligible to receive professional development hours/points/CEUs**. There is also an additional option to earn up to 3 hours of **graduate credit** at a discounted rate.

Please contact your program leader for information on any of the items above.



INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT GUIDE



Casterbridge
ASPIRE • EXPLORE • ACHIEVE

Casterbridge Tours, Casterbridge House, 32 N. Augusta St., Staunton, VA 24401, Tel: 1-800-522-2398 Fax: (540) 885-0566

Please return this completed enrollment slip and your deposit check to your program leader

Participant Name: _____ Date of Birth (Relevant for Rooming/Insurance): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Group Name: _____ Amount Enclosed as Payment \$ _____

- I am purchasing the travel insurance & have included the premium with my deposit in order to have the Pre-Existing Condition Clause waived
- I am choosing to decline the option of taking the Casterbridge Insurance Policy CST # 2056887-40
- I have read and agree to the enclosed Casterbridge Terms and Conditions

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

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EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL TRAVEL FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS SINCE 1979

The Ideal Travel Partner for Middle School Groups



Casterbridge Tours is the only international tour operator that is also a **travel study school**, independently accredited by **all accrediting bodies** in regions across the United States.

Our fundamental touring structure provides middle school students, parents, teachers, and administrators with an unparalleled range of assurances. All these benefits combine to make Casterbridge the operator of choice for discerning middle school and youth groups.



EXPERIENCE

1 EXCELLENCE IN GROUP TRAVEL SINCE 1979

Casterbridge Tours has been leading **private** and **customized** educational travel programs since 1979. We were founded by educators, for educators. Our mission was to provide groups with an alternative to pre-set itineraries and the combining of groups. We are proud to have hosted over 3,000 groups and more than 65,000 participants on our travel programs.

2 AN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EMPHASIS

The Casterbridge motto is "Learn to Travel, Travel to Learn" and we passionately believe in the educational and **cultural benefits** of travel. We are the perfect fit for groups interested in a **truly enriching** travel experience, where material taught in the classroom comes to life when visited in person.



SAFETY

3 ALWAYS A PRIVATE TOUR FOR EVERY GROUP

Every group that travels with Casterbridge is guaranteed to have their **own private tour**. Your group will never be combined with other groups. Traveling as a private tour is the safest form of group travel and is ideal for middle school age groups. Independent travel on a customized itinerary for every group is at the core of the Casterbridge travel philosophy.

4 TOUR MANAGER/GUIDE 24 HOURS A DAY

Each group that travels with Casterbridge will benefit from the exclusive services of a Tour Manager/Guide who will accompany the group 24 hours per day, from initial arrival, through the final departure. The Tour Manager/Guide's exclusive dedication to your group throughout the entire tour will help provide peace of mind.

INTEGRITY

5 ALL INCLUSIVE PRICES AND NO HIDDEN COSTS

All admissions and excursions on your group's itinerary will be included in the tour prices. Casterbridge does not have optional admissions or excursions that have to be paid for while on tour. With Casterbridge, there are **no hidden fees**, such as registration fees, adult supplements, optional excursions, or airport taxes to add to our tour prices.

6 THE BEST FLIGHTS ON GUARANTEED DATES

Our goal at Casterbridge is to provide every group with the very **best flight routing** possible. We work with most of the major airlines and are able to secure the best possible flight option for each group. We also guarantee your group's travel dates at the time of booking and often can secure group flight space up to 10 months prior the group's departure date.

QUALITY

7 CLEAN, COMFORTABLE & SAFE ACCOMMODATIONS

While on tour the level of accommodations for your group is very important and at Casterbridge we take great pride in providing accommodations that are **clean, comfortable, and safe**. We use 3-star (occasional 4-star or superior 2-star) hotels throughout all of our destinations. Our rooming is based on **twin rooming** (with an occasional triple).

8 AN EMPHASIS ON NATIVE CUISINE

We believe that experiencing the cuisine native to the region you are visiting is an important cultural element of travel. As such, Casterbridge includes **authentic** and **traditional meals** on tour. Our standard programs include breakfast at the hotel on a daily basis, as well as dinner each evening. In major cities, we often use local restaurants for dinners.

PEACE OF MIND

9 GLOBAL OFFICES & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

With offices throughout the U.S. and in Canada, Europe, and Australia, we are never far away from our clients. While on tour, each group has **24-hour** emergency contact information as well as their full-time Tour Manager/Guide. In this way, we can ensure that we can act immediately should any urgent matters affect a touring program.

10 REFERENCES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

Casterbridge has grown primarily through word of mouth, which is a testimony to the **quality** of our programs and the **unique service** that we offer. We are happy to provide references from other middle schools, in addition to contacts based on state/region, cultural emphasis, or touring destination.

"Our guide John was well versed in French history and had an easy rapport with the students, who improved their fluency by using the French language."

C.B.
M.S. Teacher, MA

