

St. Mark's Summer Study Abroad Program

In 2017, we took learning outside of the classroom in a big way with our Study Abroad program. Since then, we have visited:

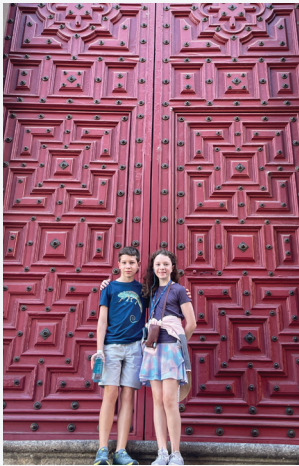
- The rainforests & volcanoes of Costa Rica (2017 & 2022)
- Peru & Machu Picchu (2018)
- Ecuador & the Galápagos Islands (2019)
- Panama including the Panama Canal (2022)
- The Atacama Desert and cities of Chile (2023)
- Buenos Aires, Argentina (2023)



Costa Rica, 2022



Machu Picchu, 2018



Summer 2024: Spain & Portugal

This summer, our rising 6th through 9th graders went to Spain and Portugal to immerse themselves in the Spanish culture and practice their language skills.

The purpose of our Study Abroad trips is multifaceted. On tour, students have the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone to try new things, taste new foods, practice Spanish with native speakers in authentic contexts, and build stronger relationships with their peers. On our trips, we've met incredible people, seen rare and fascinating plants and animals, explored breathtaking sights, and taken part in tons of authentic cultural experiences. Watching our students' awe and their lasting inspiration to learn Spanish upon our return has, without a doubt, been the greatest pleasure of my career so far. These are the types of experiences that change students' lives for the better.

Next summer, we will be traveling to Italy! We have decided to expand the scope of our Middle School Study Abroad program to explore a greater variety of world cultures. The energy around this trip has been palpable on campus, and we are so excited to welcome our current 4th through 7th graders to join us on our next adventure!

- *Caity Taylor, Head of Middle School*