

## Grand Tour Permission Form

Dear Parents of Rockbridge Academy Juniors,

We would like to invite your child to participate in Rockbridge Academy's upcoming Grand Tour, tentatively scheduled for this coming **May 27-June 12, 2007**. Please read the following, sign the bottom and return it to the school at your earliest convenience. Until Rockbridge Academy is in receipt of this signed agreement, your child will not be officially considered to be a participant in the Grand Tour.

- I. Rockbridge Academy's Grand Tour is considered an integral part of our students' education. It is not to be viewed as a vacation, or an extended field trip. It is an educational opportunity for our students to study, firsthand, the roots of their own history, i.e., Western Civilization. As such, certain work requirements will be made of the participating students:
  - A. Students will be required to journal daily during the tour. The journal should not only reflect what the students do and see each day, but should also include the students' impressions, thoughts, and ideas about what they are seeing and its importance and place in their overall education. The journal should make reference to, or draw upon the education the students have been receiving at Rockbridge Academy where appropriate.
  - B. Upon returning to school the following fall, students will be required to prepare a 10- to 15-minute oral presentation, for a grade, in both history and Rhetoric II classes. The presentation will be required to focus on some aspect of the trip of particular interest to the student, and should reflect his personal experiences on the trip, his study of history, and biblical integration. The students may use visual aids, such as Power Point, slides, posters, etc. The student chosen by a panel of the faculty to have made the best presentation will be required to make his presentation before a school assembly as well.
  
- II. Rockbridge Academy pays for the students' participation in the Grand Tour, except for personal spending money, lunch daily, and certain dinners. Therefore, students who participate in the Grand Tour and yet fail to re-enroll in Rockbridge Academy for their senior year, or who withdraw prior to graduation from Rockbridge Academy, will be required to reimburse the school for the entire cost of the trip. No transcripts or academic records of any kind will be released to other high schools, colleges, or universities before all reimbursements have been made. Rockbridge Academy's right to reimbursement is a contract right, enforceable at law, with the additional right to reimbursement of any cost of collection, including attorneys fees.
  
- III. As this is a Rockbridge Academy sponsored and funded trip, all school standards apply. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - A. Standards of respect and obedience toward all school chaperones, tour guides, adults, and one another (I Peter 2:17, 3:8; Eph. 4:29).
  - B. Standards of dress and modesty. While students are not required to wear school uniforms on the trip, they are required to dress in such a manner as is consistent with the school's standards of modesty and decorum (I Tim. 2:9; I Peter 3:3). Without attempting to provide an exhaustive list, girls' clothing articles such as spaghetti straps, halter-tops, midriffs, low-cut shirts, short-shorts or mini-skirts, etc., will not be permitted. As a practical consideration, churches in Greece and Italy, of which we will be visiting many and almost daily, do not permit females to dress in these kinds of apparel, nor young men to wear shorts. The school chaperones have ultimate responsibility to decide whether these standards are being met, not the students themselves.

- C. Standards of educational interest and involvement. As this is an educational trip, students are to be engaged in the lectures provided by tour guides, ask appropriate questions, and engage in discussion groups lead by tour chaperones. Tour guides may speak at any time, and discussion may ensue without prior warning. It is imperative that students be ready to engage at all times. Therefore, electronic devices, such as CD players, Walkmen, etc., are not to be used at any time on the trip during which a tour guide or chaperone is or may be speaking, or during a guided discussion. Their use is to be limited so as not to interfere with the students' ability to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available on the Trip. In addition, as the amount of touring, walking, listening, and engaging can be quite draining, it is imperative that students comply with chaperones in regard to sleep. If students do not get sufficient amounts of sleep, their ability to fully participate in the Tour will be handicapped. Failure to fully cooperate is grounds for being taken home.
- D. Alcohol consumption. While some students may be of age to consume alcohol under the laws of countries visited, Rockbridge Academy will not take responsibility for supervision of students who drink alcoholic beverages on the Trip. Therefore, students are not permitted to drink alcoholic beverages while on the Trip unless the student's accompanying parent grants them permission and takes full responsibility for the students' supervision.

IV. Failure to comply with the above standards may result in the student being sent/taken home with an accompanying parent/chaperone prior to the completion of the trip. Should such be necessary, any and all additional costs, including costs of the chaperone, are to be borne by the parents, not Rockbridge Academy.

V. Rockbridge Academy will not be held liable for lost or stolen items, or for injury occurring during the Grand Tour. Students are responsible to maintain control and care of their possessions. Rockbridge Academy bears no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged property.

Please sign and return this form to the school office.

I agree to the above stipulations, and request that my child be granted permission to participate in Rockbridge Academy's Grand Tour, June 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print parent name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print student name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date