



Ghana

Fairtrade Beads, Cocoa & Conservation

9 days

We journey through Ghana, starting in the vibrant capital of Accra before immersing ourselves in the country's natural beauty, rich culture, and warm communities. From wildlife encounters and mountain hikes to hands-on service projects in remote villages, we experience daily life alongside locals learning traditional crafts, exploring fair-trade cocoa farms, and contributing to conservation efforts. Along the way, we reflect on Ghana's powerful history at Cape Coast Castle, celebrate with drumming and dance on the beach, and return home with unforgettable memories of connection, learning, and impact.



[Learn more about our Carbon Labels](#)

Your Recommended Expedition Itinerary

Day 1	UK to Accra <p>We arrive in Accra in the early evening and receive a warm Ghanaian welcome (Akwaaba!). Then it's straight to our accommodation to freshen up, followed by a relaxed welcome, orientation and safety briefing. Early night so we're ready to hit the ground running tomorrow.</p>	LD
Day 2	Shai Hills Reserve and Fairtrade Krobo Beads <p>After breakfast, we wave goodbye to Accra and head into the Volta Region, with our first stop at Shai Hills for a guided walk to the Obonu Tem caves and a bit of wildlife spotting. Later, we swing by Krobo to see how the famous beads are made—and we'll even make our own wrist beads to take home. We then settle in for a relaxed evening and overnight in Akosombo.</p>	BLD
Day 3	Mt Afajato and West Africa's Highest Waterfall <p>After breakfast we're off nice and early to hike Mount Afajato—Ghana's highest peak—alongside expert local guides. After lunch, we head to the Wli (Agumatsa) Falls, the tallest waterfall in West Africa, for a well-earned dip and some time by the pool beneath the falls. We return in the evening for another night in Akosombo.</p>	BLD
Day 4	Markets, Biking and Local Cooking Class <p>It's an early start (around 06:00) as we travel to New Edubiase, with a lunch stop along the way. Once we arrive, we'll head to the local market to pick up ingredients, then hop on bikes and cycle out to the village to meet the guesthouse team. In the afternoon we roll up our sleeves for a hands-on cooking session and get to know what the project is all about.</p>	BLD
Day 5	Bonkro Project - Fairtrade Cocoa, Black Soap, Gari <p>We kick things off by making a local breakfast in small groups, with community cooks on hand to help (and to introduce a few new favourites). The rest of the day is all about getting stuck into project work—what we do depends on what's most needed and will be confirmed later, whether that's at the school, in the community, or out in the rainforest. We finish up back at the lodge to eat, share highlights and unwind.</p>	BLD
Day 6	Bonkro Project <p>After an early breakfast and a busy morning on the project, we head into the rainforest for a hike to the nesting site of the endangered Yellow-headed Picathartes. With our local guides, we'll also keep an eye out for signs of pangolins and hear how the community is protecting wildlife here. Back at the lodge, it's dinner, journals and a relaxed group catch-up.</p>	BLD
Day 7	School Project, Canopy Walkway, Drumming and Dance <p>We start the day by planting native trees to help offset our carbon footprint, then we say our goodbyes and travel down to the coast near Elmina. On the way, we stop at Kakum National Park for the famous canopy walkway—expect big views and a few wobbly bridges! We finish the day at Brenu Akyinim with kayaking, drumming and dance lessons, then dinner and a beach bonfire.</p>	BLD
Day 8	Beach Clean, Cape Coast Castle, Baobab Foundation and Batik <p>We start with a quick pre-breakfast beach clean—small effort, big impact—then head to Cape Coast Castle for a powerful guided visit. Next up is lunch at the Baobab Children's Foundation, where we'll learn more about the amazing work they do. In the afternoon we get creative making batik with local artisans before heading back to the beach resort to relax.</p>	BLD
Day 9	Elmina Markets, Boat Builders, Castle and Fantasy Coffins <p>We keep the morning relaxed, then head out to explore Elmina's lively markets, fishing harbour and traditional boat builders. We also visit Elmina Castle (St. George) for an essential look at local</p>	BLD

history, before travelling back to Accra with lunch on the way. In the evening we stop at the famous Fantasy Coffins workshop, share a farewell meal, and then it's off to the airport for departure.



Look what's included:

- International flights
- All accommodation, transportation and activities
- All food as described above
- Local, bi-lingual, first-aid qualified STC leader
- Parent and student trip launch presentation
- Pre-travel information sessions
- ATOL financial protection
- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Donations to two carbon & conservation charities
- Free Fairtrade t-shirt for every participant and teacher
- Free travel guide book to your destination on request

What's not included:

- Transport to airport in UK
- Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations
- Emergency Medical & Repatriation Insurance
- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters (ask for guidance)
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- Personal effects and cancellation insurance



A word about Responsible Tourism

On our expeditions and educational journeys, we strive to connect teachers and students with the people they meet, nurture the cultures they experience and protect the beautiful environments they are lucky enough to explore.

Many companies talk the talk, few truly walk the walk. We are far from perfect, but we are leading the way in sustainability in the school travel sector. In 2018 we were the first UK travel company to become **Travelife Certified** – a verified sustainability certificate formally recognised by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council.

This is our passion, and we'd love to tell you more about it in due course. In the meantime, for more information on some of the steps we take as a company to make our operations more sustainable, please visit:

<https://www.thestc.co.uk/travel/what-do-we-do/>

Trees for Life

Physical Rating for this trip: Grade 3



Moderate physical activities are included in Grade 3 trips. Good health and reasonable fitness are important to get the most out of the trip. Trips of this grading are likely to include multiple consecutive days activity either walking at moderate altitude (up to 2,500m) or paddling. With between five and seven hours of activity with occasional longer/harder days. The trip may contain other activities such as cycling, rafting, remote camping which also require physical effort and a reasonable level of fitness and resilience. Steady preparation and an increase in your underlying fitness levels will help you get the most from this grade trip.

Cultural Rating for this trip: Grade 3



Students should expect some culture shock. You'll be exposed to signs of poverty. The food will be quite different to home and English, whilst still spoken, will be less prevalent. Respecting the local culture will make it easier to fit in and get the most out of your trip. We're likely to visit remoter locations on this tour where access to western-style services may be sporadic. Often on trips of this grading there are parts of the itinerary which are more remote, interspersed with sections which are more 'comfortable'.



Travel Safety & Other Expedition Training

Preparing students and teachers for their upcoming adventure is an opportunity to teach important life skills and a vital part of our overall approach to safety management. Please ask for your quote for the training schedule specific to your expedition. Topics covered will include:

Responsible Tourism workshop

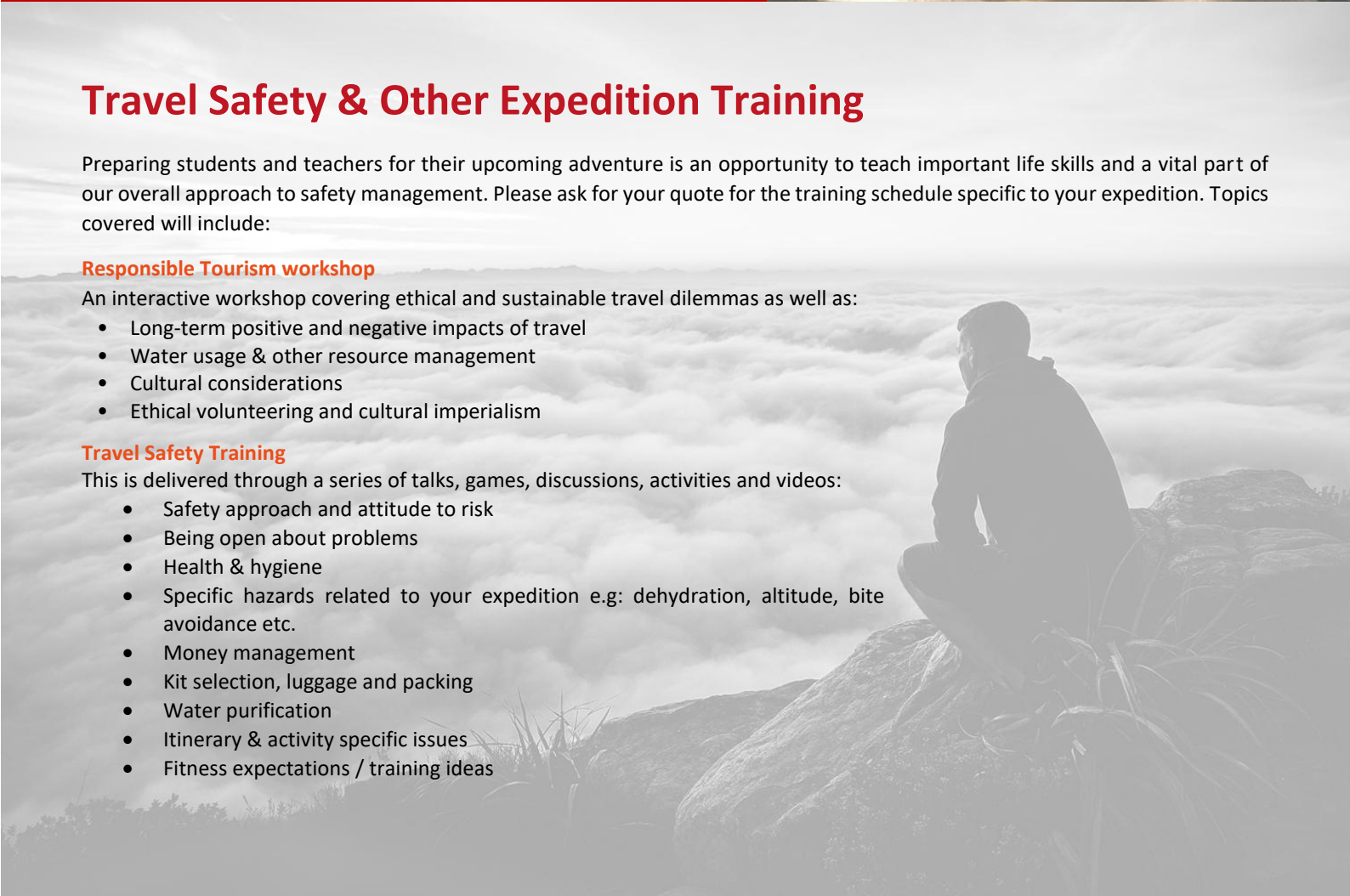
An interactive workshop covering ethical and sustainable travel dilemmas as well as:

- Long-term positive and negative impacts of travel
- Water usage & other resource management
- Cultural considerations
- Ethical volunteering and cultural imperialism

Travel Safety Training

This is delivered through a series of talks, games, discussions, activities and videos:

- Safety approach and attitude to risk
- Being open about problems
- Health & hygiene
- Specific hazards related to your expedition e.g: dehydration, altitude, bite avoidance etc.
- Money management
- Kit selection, luggage and packing
- Water purification
- Itinerary & activity specific issues
- Fitness expectations / training ideas





A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your expedition journey

1 Ask for your personalised quote & further information

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your expedition itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an adventure that's just right for you and your students. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk and threat assessments to help you with your expedition approval process. Ask for posters and your Pre-Booking Information Pack too.

3 Arrange an expedition launch evening

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the expedition with a comprehensive information evening covering the itinerary, safety management, the build-up to the trip and lots more. There is also plenty of opportunity for questions.



The home of the modern, innovative school expedition, where a sustainable, ethical approach guarantees unique experiences and a life-enhancing adventure.

"I am being completely serious when I say that I won't ever run a school trip without you guys. I trust you and your team completely - and the in-country staff that you carefully cultivate and train are a cut above the rest."

Teacher feedback, King's High Warwick

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