



**2025**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRIP**

**WASHINGTON**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**NEW YORK**



# GEOTOURS

- Founded by Matt Ebner in 2010
  - College Geography Professor for 30+ yrs.
- Organized & led college study abroad groups
- International tours to 85 different countries
  - Carefully designed itineraries
  - Organize detailed logistics
  - Provide essential information & guidance to participants
  - Conscientiously lead the tours



# GEOTOURS

- Competent, Professional, Responsible, Excellent Value
- Accessible (Local, at Church/School)
- Legal
  - GEOTOURS LLC, registered with CA Secretary of State
  - SELLER OF TRAVEL, registered with CA Dept. of Justice
  - BUSINESS LICENSE with the city of Covina
  - LIABILITY INSURANCE specifically for Tour Operators



# GOALS OF AN 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRIP

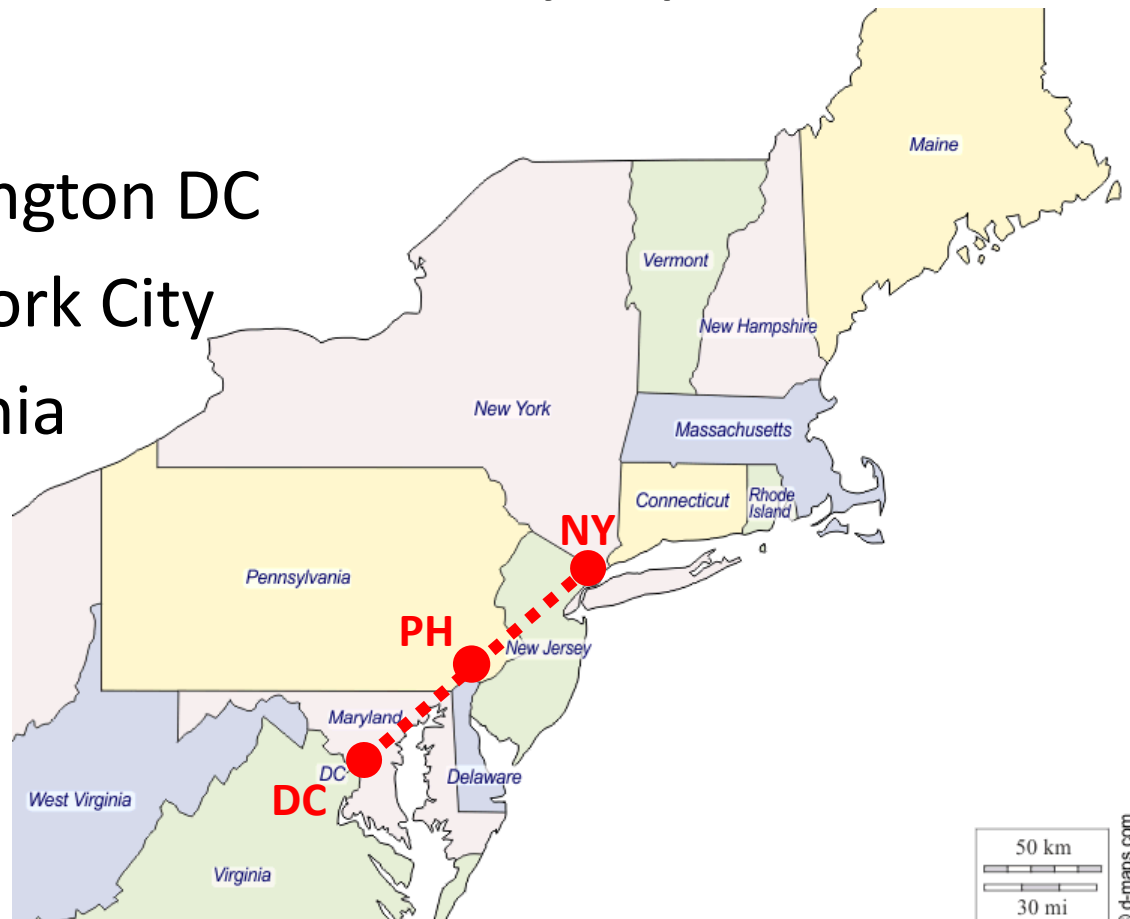
- EDUCATIONAL
  - Expands on topics studied in 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- FUN
  - New experiences shared with friends
- INSPIRATIONAL
  - **INSPIRED** by American achievements & sacrifices
  - **INCREASED INTEREST** in US History & Govt.
  - **APPRECIATE** the greatness of America
- EVERYONE STAYS SAFE & ENJOYS THE TRIP!



# ITINERARY – 2025 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE TRIP

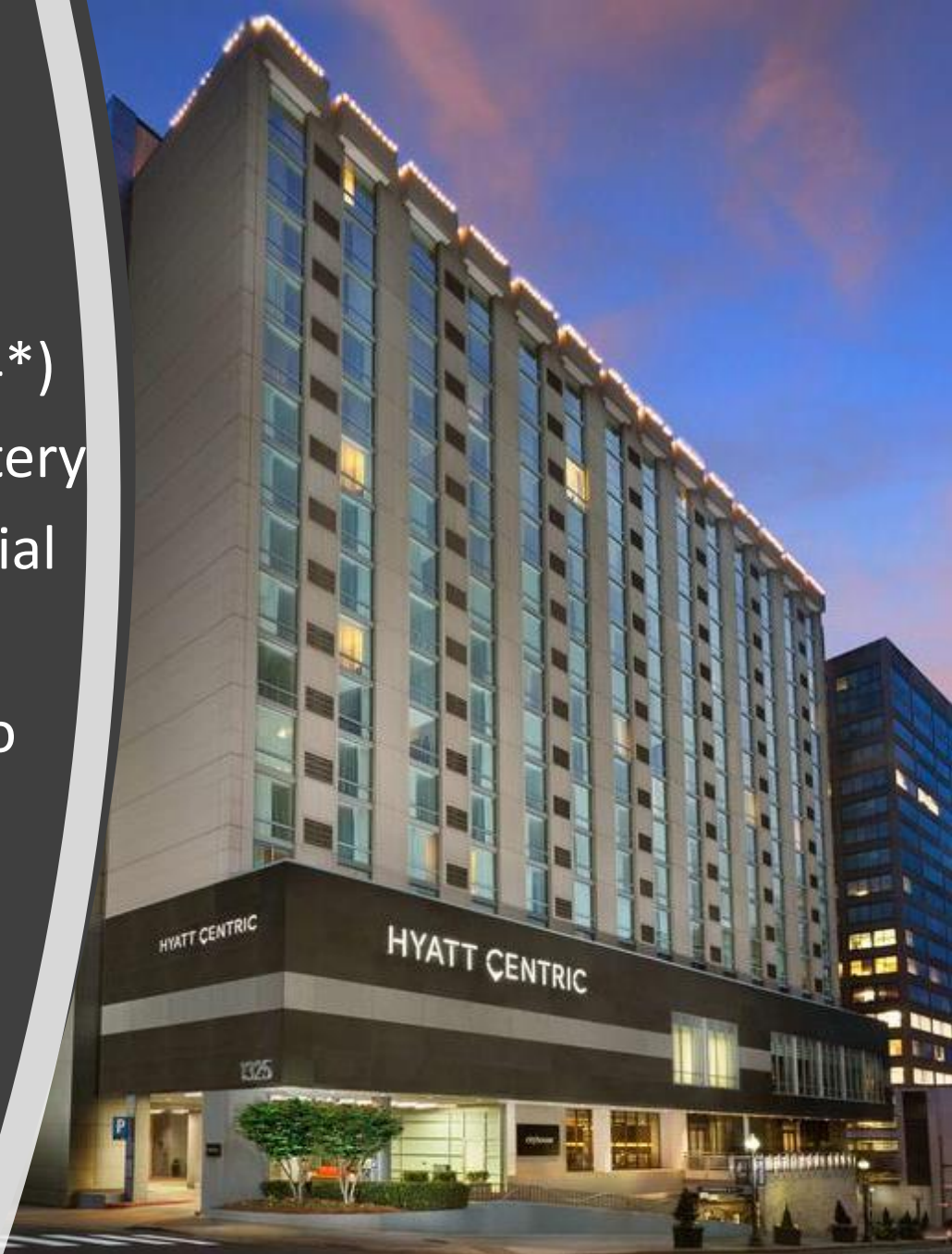
## WASHINGTON DC & NEW YORK

- Monday, April 21, 2025 – Saturday, April 26, 2025
- 6 Days/5 Nights
  - 3 nights in Washington DC
  - 2 nights in New York City
  - Stop in Philadelphia



# 3 NIGHTS IN WASHINGTON DC

- Hyatt Centric Hotel Arlington (4\*)
- 1 mile from Arlington Cemetery
  - 2 miles from Lincoln Memorial
  - 4 miles from US Capitol
  - Across the street from metro (subway) station



# 2 NIGHTS IN NEW YORK CITY

- New York Marriott at Brooklyn Bridge (4\*)
  - 5-minute walk to subway station
  - 20-minute ride to Times Square, Empire State Building...



VIEW FROM THE HOTEL



# MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

- Celebrate Easter Sunday at church/home
- Fly nonstop LAX-Washington
  - 8:00 am departure, arrives Wash. 4:00 pm
  - Meet our 56-seat bus at airport

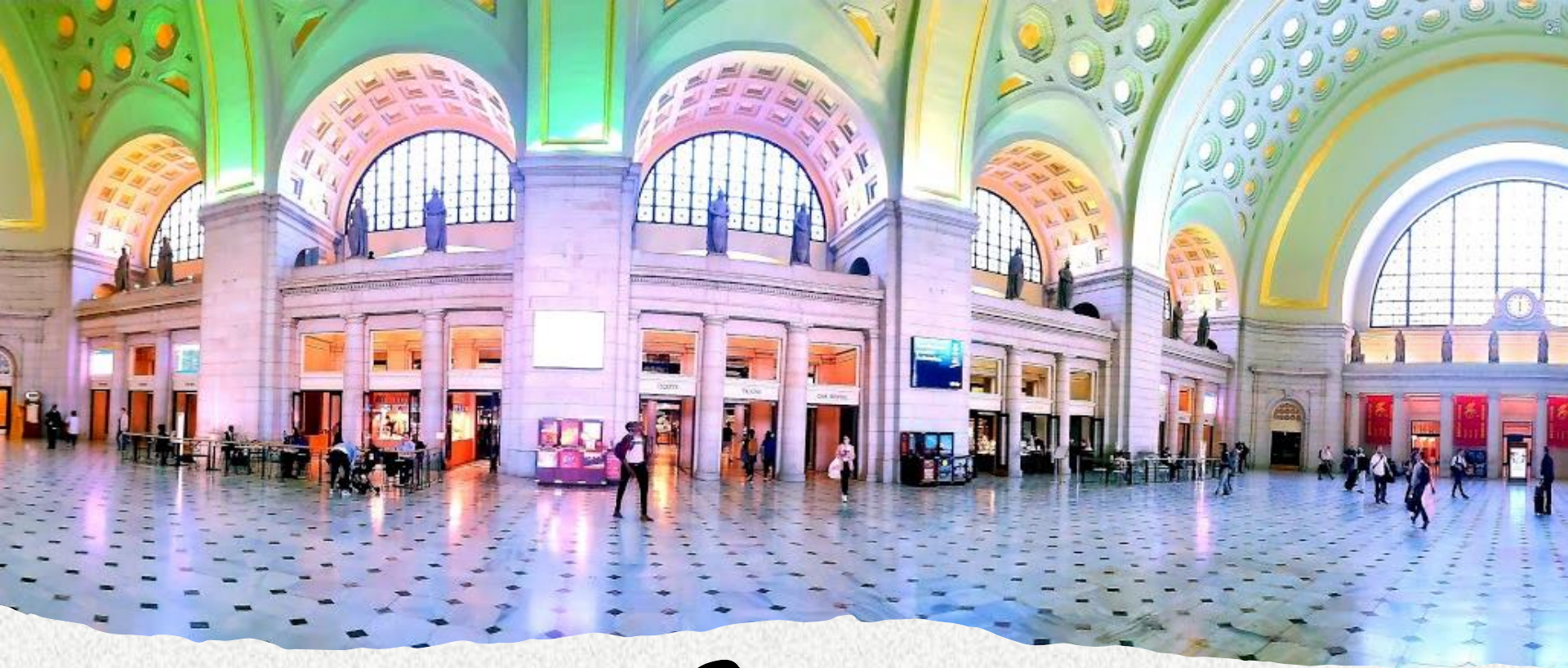






# GROUP PHOTO AT US CAPITOL





**MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025**

- Dinner at Union Station



**MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025**

- Nighttime tour of the monuments  
– Washington Monument



# MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

- Nighttime tour of the memorials  
– WW II Memorial





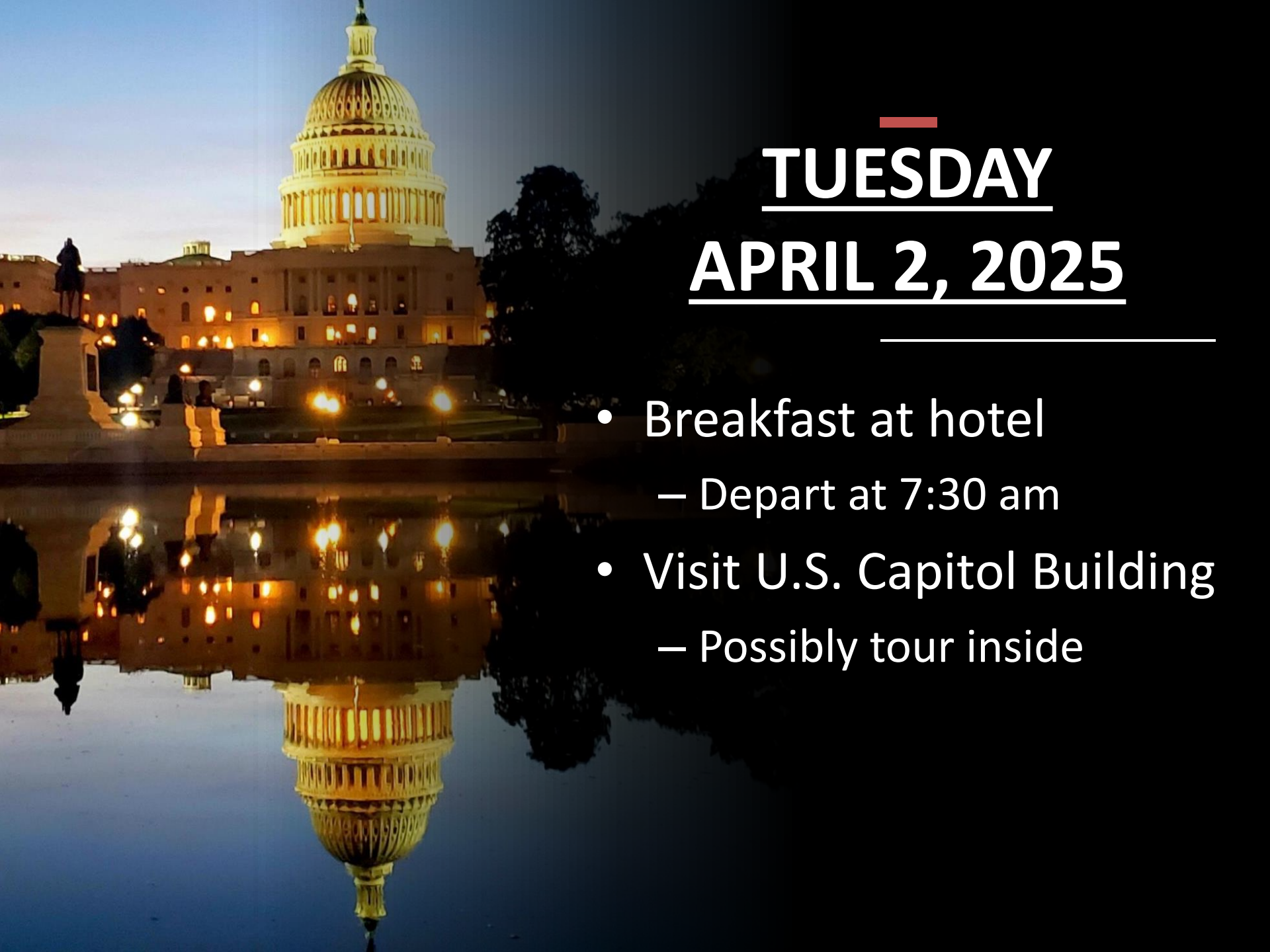
**MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025**

- Nighttime tour of the memorials  
– Lincoln Memorial

# MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

- Nighttime tour of the memorials
  - Korean War Memorial





**TUESDAY**  
**APRIL 2, 2025**

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- Breakfast at hotel
  - Depart at 7:30 am
- Visit U.S. Capitol Building
  - Possibly tour inside





**TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2025**

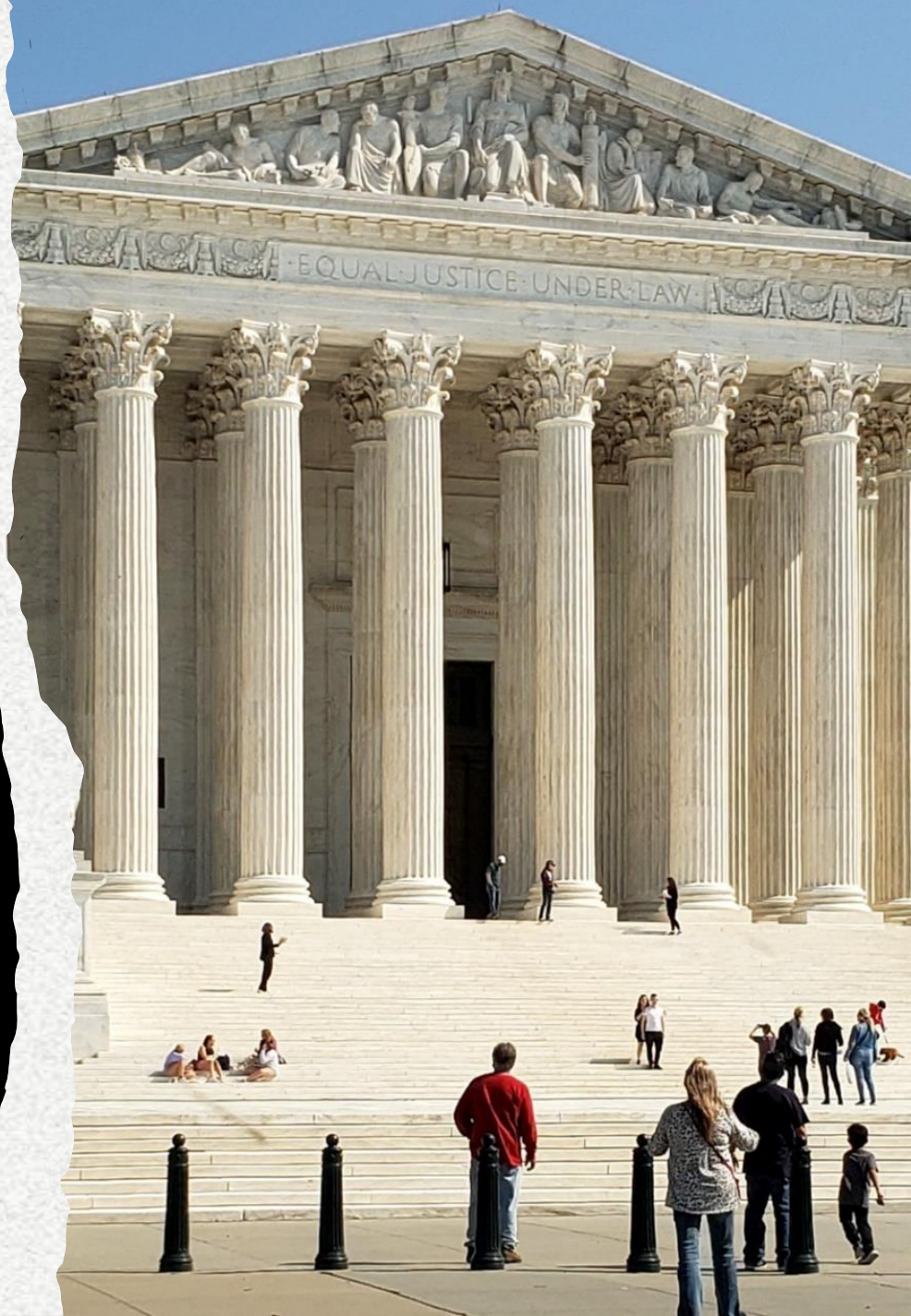
- Library of Congress (visit inside)



TUESDAY

APRIL 21, 2025

- U.S. Supreme Court  
(outside only)





# WASHINGTON MONUMENT

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Possibly go to the top for  
the views





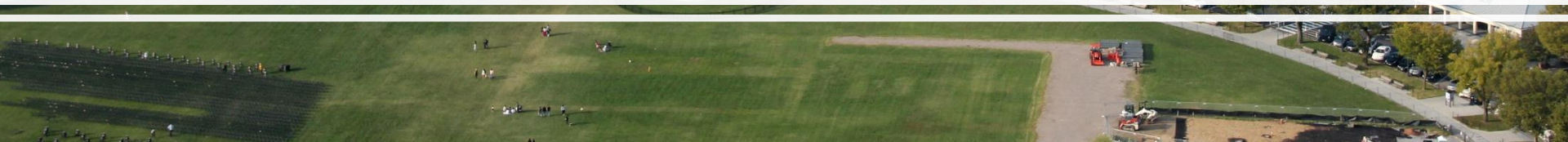
# WASHINGTON MONUMENT VIEW







# WASHINGTON MONUMENT VIEW





MARTIN  
LUTHER KING  
MEMORIAL

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# JEFFERSON MEMORIAL





# ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY





# ARLINGTON CEMETERY TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER



# MARINE CORPS (IWO JIMA) MEMORIAL





VIEWPOINT  
NEAR IWO JIMA  
MEMORIAL





# SPRING TULIPS



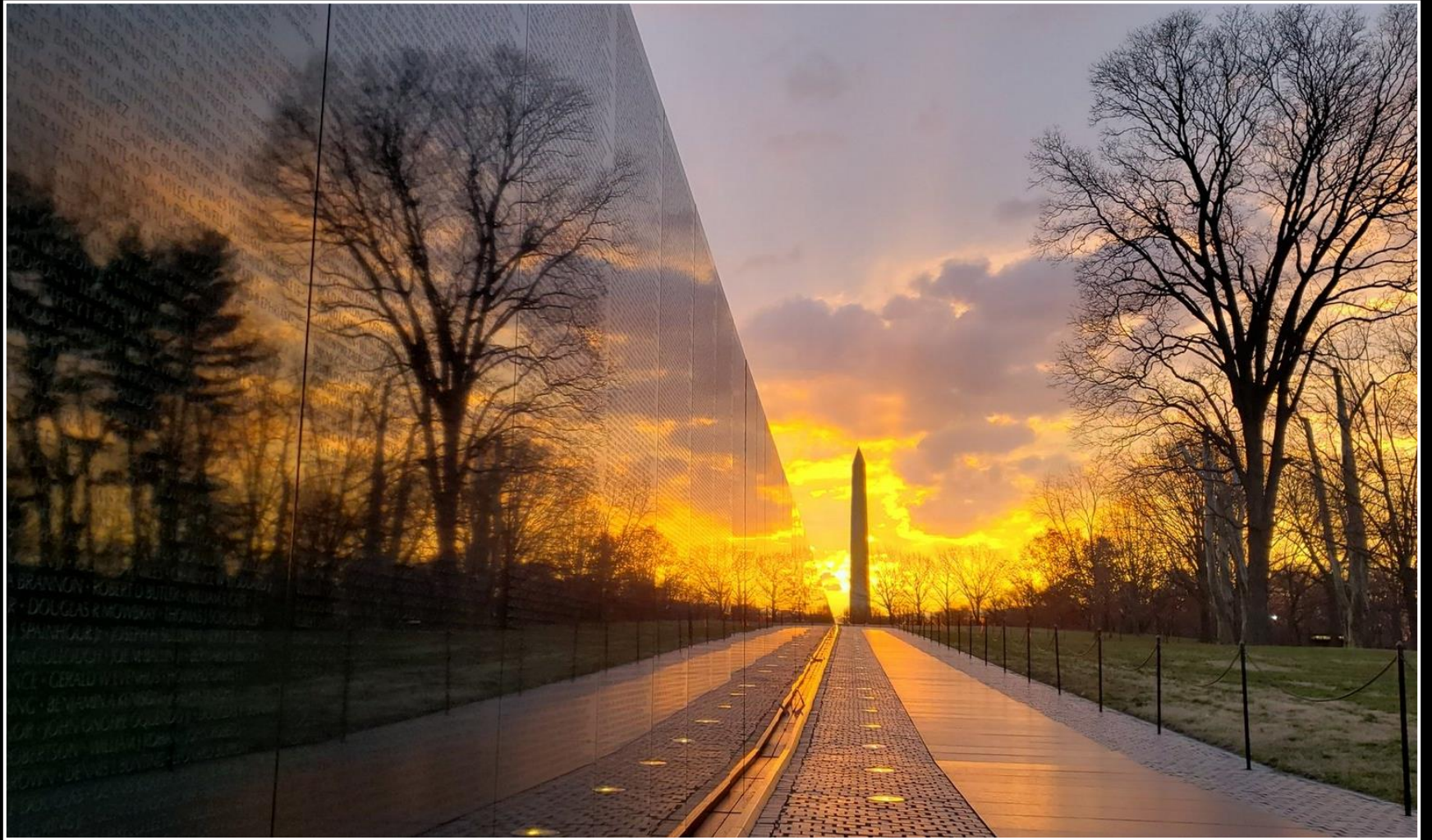


# WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

- White House – possibly tour inside







# VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL



# LINCOLN MEMORIAL





IN THIS TEMPLE  
AS IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE  
FOR WHOM HE SAVED THE UNION  
THE MEMORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN  
IS ENSHRINED FOREVER



# LINCOLN MEMORIAL



I HAVE A DREAM  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON  
FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM  
AUGUST 28, 1963



# SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY



## Gold Fever

The discovery of gold nuggets in the American River near Sacramento, California, brought waves of people to the region. With no official mint, private companies soon began striking their own coins. The U.S. Assayer of Gold, a government

- 2 Gold from Sutter's Mill, 1848  
James Marshall found this tiny piece of pure gold in the tailrace of John Sutter's Coloma, California, sawmill on January 24, 1848. This is the actual nugget that sparked the rush for California gold.  
Government Transfer



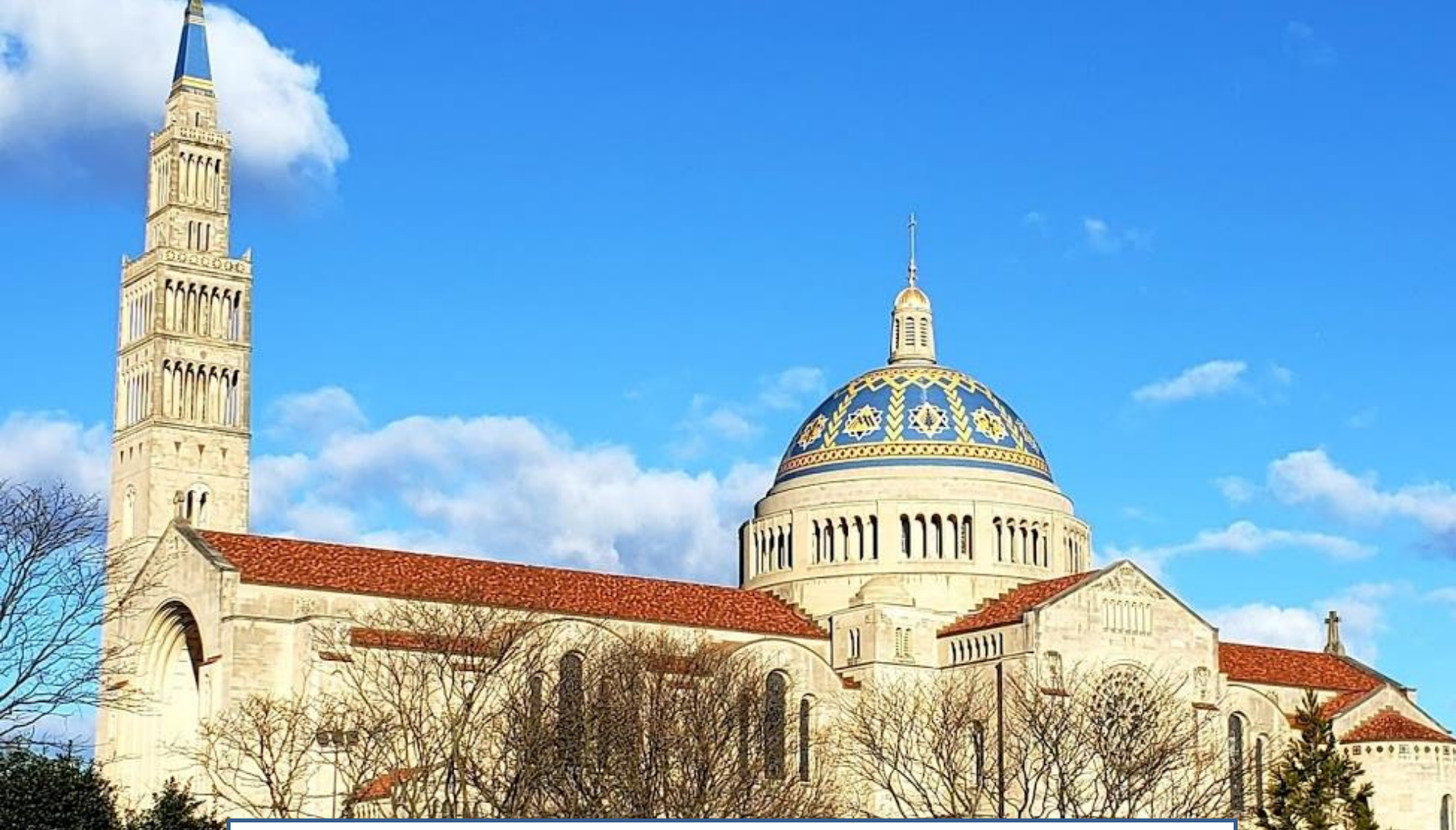


# MID-DAY FREE TIME (2 HOURS)

- LUNCH + TIME FOR:
  - NATIONAL ARCHIVES
  - OR ANOTHER MUSEUM
    - AIR & SPACE
    - NATURAL HISTORY







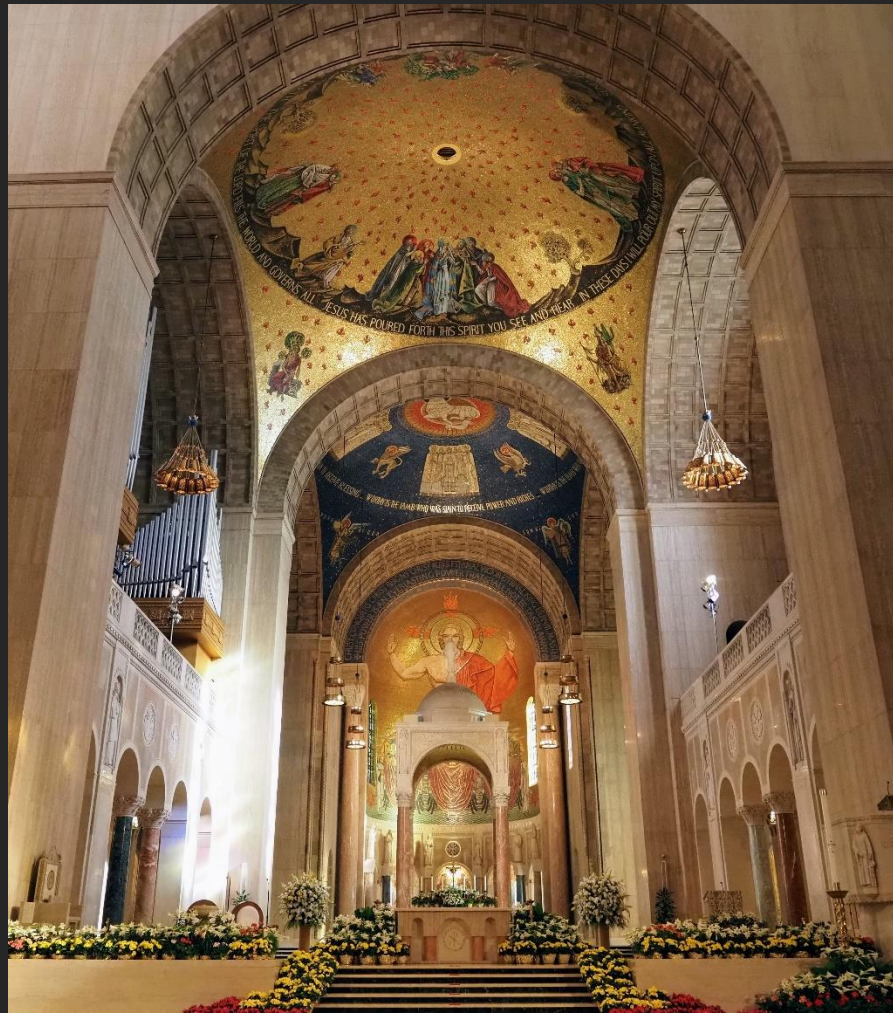
**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE**  
**OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**





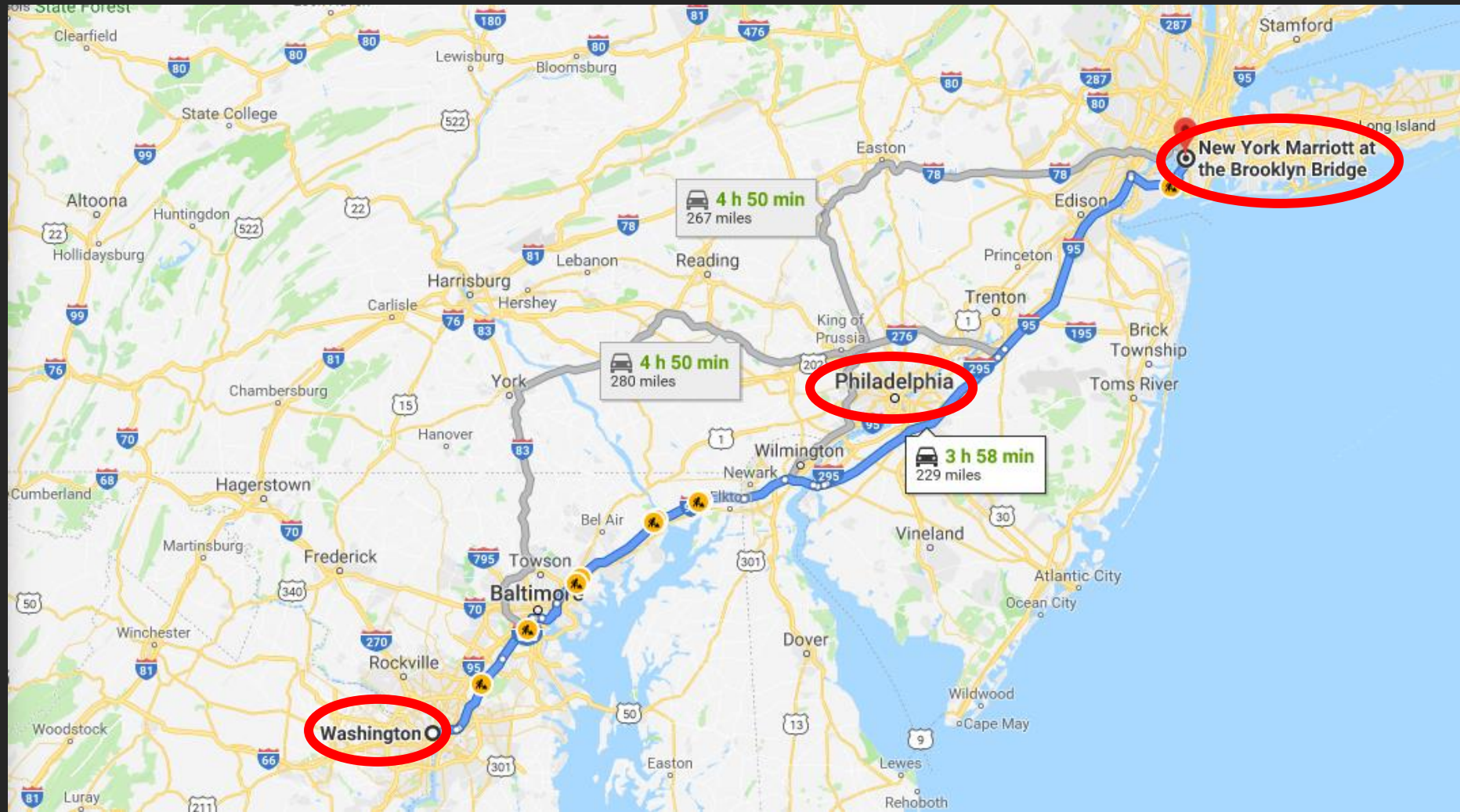
# BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

- Possibly attend Mass



# WASHINGTON TO NEW YORK

## 5 HOURS BY BUS







**THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2025**

- Bus ride for 2.5 hours to Philadelphia



# PHILADELPHIA

- LIBERTY BELL & INDEPENDENCE HALL





# LUNCH IN PHILADELPHIA

10TH AVENUE  
BREAKFAST  
SAUSAGE  
ANDWICHES

W/ PEPPERS, ONIONS, RED SAUCE OR CHEESE WIZ-

FRENCH FRIES • HOT DOGS & MORE!!!

Place Order Here

THE GRILL @  
**SMUCKER'S**

BREAKFAST & LUNCH  
SERVED ALL DAY

HOME OF THE TENDER POT ROAST BEEF SANDWICH

Jonathan Be  
GOURMET GROC  
Party Foods, Sandwiches, Soup City &  
Best of Philly Spreads & Dips  
★ ★ ★ ★







# THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

- Arrive in New York City
- Check in to hotel near Brooklyn Bridge





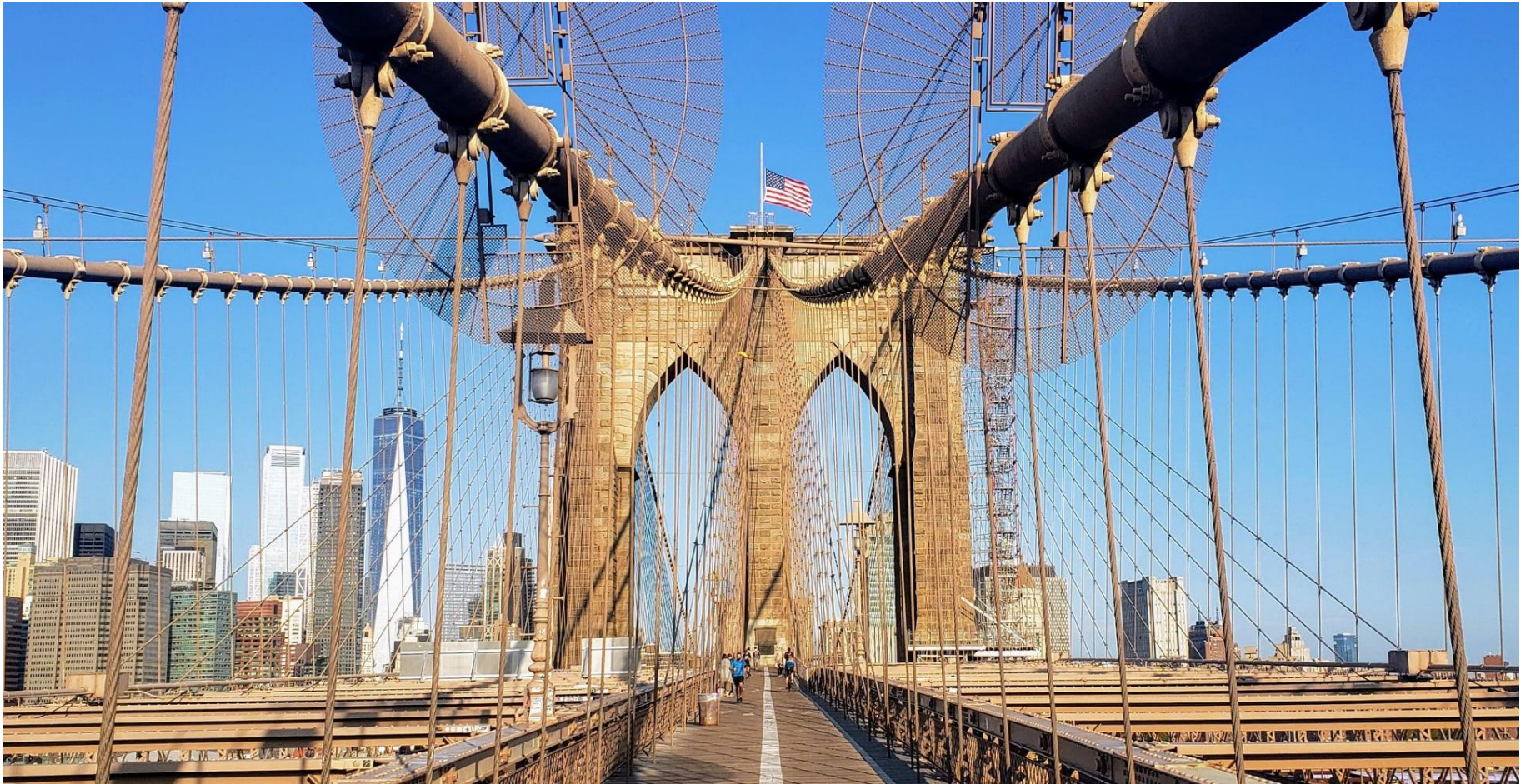
**THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025**  
**WALK BROOKLYN HEIGHTS**





**THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025**  
**EVENING VIEW AT BROOKLYN BRIDGE**





**FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025**  
**BROOKLYN BRIDGE WALK**





# RIDE THE SUBWAY



# THE SUMMIT OBERVATORY ONE VANDERBILT







# CENTRAL PARK





# ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



# TIMES SQUARE

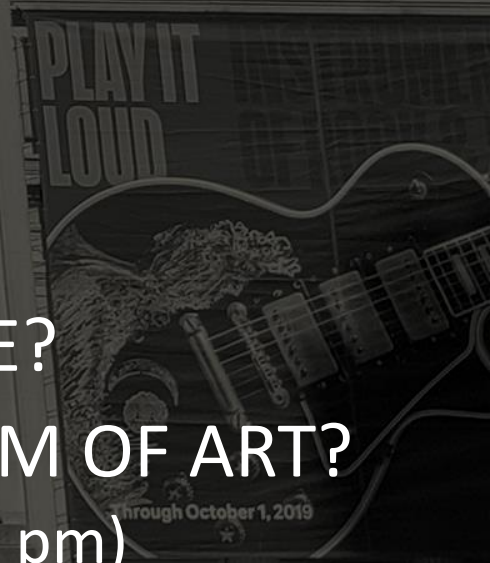






# FREE EVENING FRIDAY APRIL 25

- BROADWAY SHOW?
- YANKEE BASEBALL GAME?
- METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART?  
(open til 9 pm)







**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 26, 2025**

**STATUE OF LIBERTY**





# ELLIS ISLAND





# WALL STREET

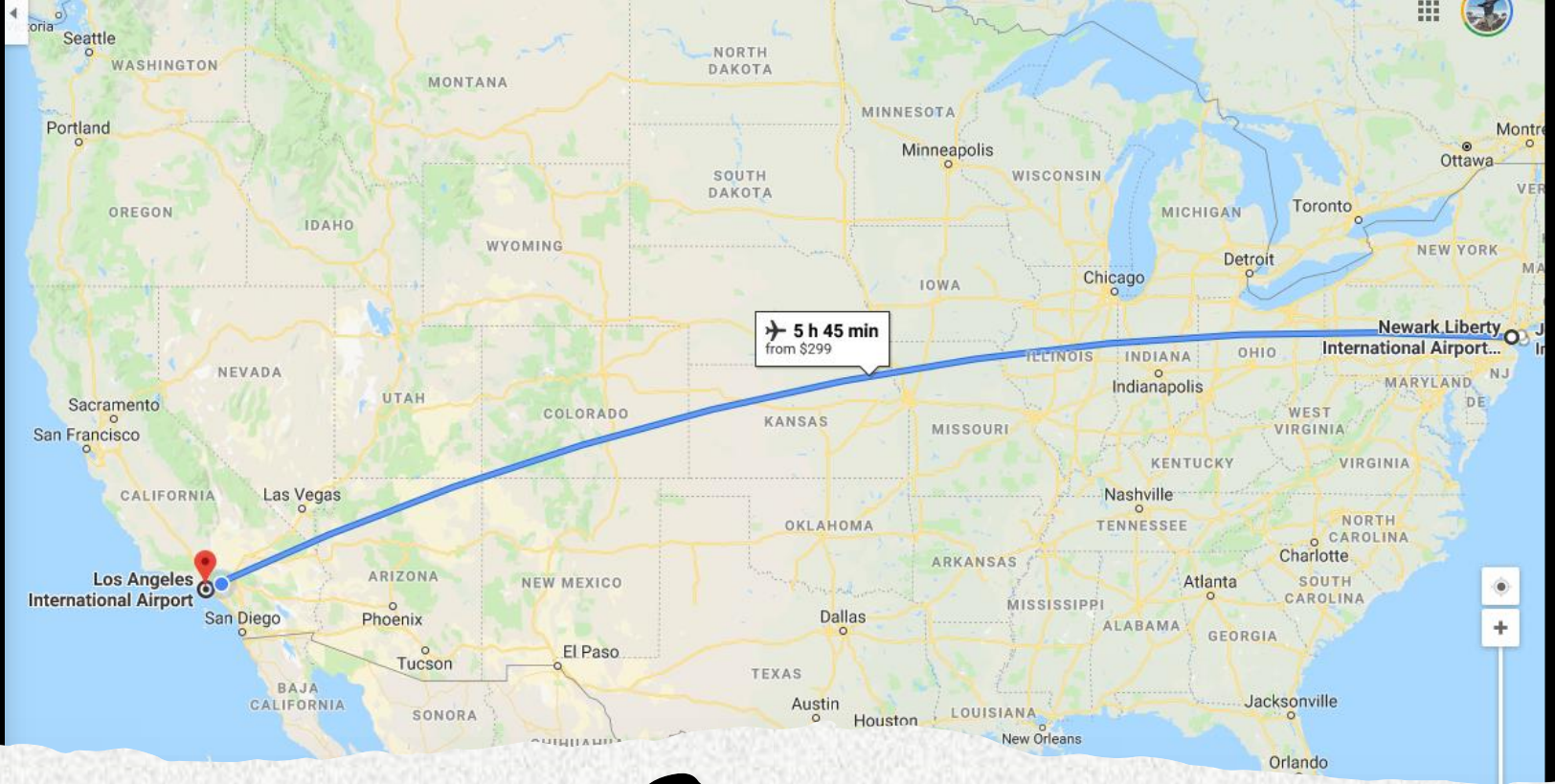






# 9/11 MEMORIAL





**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 26, 2025**

- Fly nonstop New York - LAX
  - Late afternoon departure
  - Arrive LAX ~11:00 pm



# ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Go inside places, don't just see from the outside
- Catholic perspective (Easter at home, Mass in DC)
- Will not combine our kids with another school
  - Bus should have several empty seats
- Unbeatable price for this itinerary with 4\* hotels
  - About \$500 less per person than any comparable program



# IMPORTANT POINTS

- Up to 5 or 6 miles a day of walking.
- Weather could be hot or cold, might rain.
- Early schedule: breakfast 6:30, leave hotel at 7:30.
- Strict schedule with limited time at each place.
- Everyone must be on time.

## This trip is NOT recommended for:

- Those who are unable to spend hours on their feet.
- Those who want to spend hours at a single place.
- Those who want to sleep late.
- Those who want to have long, leisurely meals, or who expect gourmet restaurants.



# PRICING – 2024 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE TRIP

## WASHINGTON DC & NEW YORK

- 6 Days/5 Nights (3 nights DC; 2 nights NY)
- Pricing per person (pp) including airfare
  - \$2390 pp – Quad Room (2 Queen beds)
  - \$2490 pp – Triple Room (2 Queen beds)
  - \$2690 pp – Double Room (2 Queens or 1 King)
  - \$3390 pp – Single Room (2 Queens or 1 King)
- Price requires \$200 deposit pp by May 20, 2024



# TRIP PRICE INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airline tix
- 5 nights at centrally located hotels
- Breakfasts & Dinners
- All transport (56-seat bus) + subway tickets
- Entries/Activities
- Professional tour guides
- Matt & Suzan Ebiner as group leaders
- Tips to guides & drivers

# TRIP PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Lunches
- Shopping
- Transport to and from LAX
  - Can arrange for group for an extra cost
    - \$20 pp each way
- Optional activities
- Personal Travel Insurance



# ADDITIONAL PERKS



- Free custom hoody for students if we have 20+ students

# ADDITIONAL PERKS

Permission to access and download Matt Ebner's trip photos, to be posted on Google Photos

2023.04.15 - DCNY - Day 6

Apr 15





# ADDITIONAL PERKS

- DC Information Packet
  - 20 pages
  - Written by M. Ebner
  - Summarizes the places visited

## WASHINGTON, DC INFORMATION PACKET

St. Louise de Marillac 8<sup>th</sup>-Grade Trip, 2023

Written and Photos by Matt Ebner

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF WASHINGTON DC

- 1776 – Declaration of Independence (signed in Philadelphia on July 4, USA's birthday!)
- 1781 - Revolutionary War ends with US defeating the British
  - o George Washington was general during the war, and then elected as first US president
  - o GW was from Mt. Vernon, Virginia, a short distance from present day Washington DC
- 1780s – Philadelphia was the US capital
- 1790s – Washington DC laid out as a new capital city, planned on paper before any construction
- 1800 – Washington DC became the capital city of the USA
  - o In 1776-1799 – capital city was mostly Philadelphia, but also New York City for awhile
  - o John Adams, 2<sup>nd</sup> president, was first president to live in DC
- War of 1812 vs. the British; White House, Capitol Building, Library of Congress all burned down
- 1863 – Emancipation Proclamation, Washington DC was a safe haven for escaped or freed slaves; Civil War was 1861-1865



## IMPORTANT NAMES IN WASHINGTON DC'S HISTORY, MONUMENTS, MEMORIALS

- George Washington – 1<sup>st</sup> president of the US, 1789-1797
- John Adams – 2<sup>nd</sup> president of the US, 1797-1801; 1<sup>st</sup> president to live in the White House
- Thomas Jefferson – 3<sup>rd</sup> president of the US, 1801-1809
  - o Died July 4, 1826, exactly 50 years after the Declaration of Independence
- Abraham Lincoln – 16<sup>th</sup> president of the US; 1861-1865 during the Civil War; freed the slaves
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) – 32<sup>nd</sup> president of the US, 1933-1945 during WW 2
- Martin Luther King, Jr. – Civil rights leader in the 1950s, 1960s; assassinated 1968
- Pierre Charles l'Enfant – in the 1790s designed the city of Washington DC on paper before any streets or buildings were built. Born in France, moved to America in 1773, joined the American (Continental) Army in the Revolutionary War against the British (a lot of French hated the British), then spent the rest of his life in the USA. He wanted the city to have grand boulevards and magnificent ceremonial spaces similar to those in Paris. Did a great job but was later fired. Died in poverty in 1820 and now buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



## VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

- Designed in 1981 by a 21-year old architecture student from Yale University as a final project in her class. She only got a B- in the course but her design was selected from 1,421 entries for the memorial
- Finished in 1982, just 7 years after the VN War ended in 1975
- Design was controversial since it was modernistic, not classical like the Lincoln or Jefferson Memorials
- Polished black granite (very reflective) with names of 58,000 Americans who died in the war
- Wall bends at an angle; each half of the wall is triangular, highest in the middle
  - o One end of the wall points towards Washington Monument
  - o Other end points towards the Lincoln Memorial
- Names are in chronological order from 1<sup>st</sup> death in 1959 until the last death in 1975
  - o Names with a diamond are those who died in the war
  - o Cross indicates those who were missing in action
- Bring a piece of paper and a pencil to make a rubbing of a name





# 2025 DCNY 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRIP

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- \$200 deposit pp (per person) due by May 20, 2024
- \$400 pp due August 31, 2024
- \$600 pp due November 30, 2024
- Final payment due January 31, 2025
  - Late fee of \$50 pp applies after February 17, 2025
- OTHER PAYMENT PLANS ARE AVAILABLE
  - Smaller, more frequent payments, for example

# HOW TO SIGN UP FOR TRIP?

- [Online registration form](#)
  - Link will be emailed to parents
- Deposit of \$200 per person is due by May 20



# HOW TO MAKE PAYMENTS



- Check sent by US mail to GeoTours
- Venmo to 310-686-8171 or Matt-Ebiner
- Zelle (most banks do this) to 310-686-8171



**WE HOPE**  
**YOU WILL JOIN**  
**THE TRIP!**

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**GEOTOURS**  
EXPLORE THE WORLD