



10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians

**The Ladies' College Ski Trip to Madonna di Campiglio, Italy, 23rd to 30th March 2024.**

Following several very frustrating years and attempts to organise off-island visits for our students, we are pleased to be able to offer your daughter the exciting opportunity to participate in this exciting ski trip. There are significant benefits to be gained from an overseas trip with the College, allowing girls to develop new skills and confidence outside of the classroom environment, cement relationships among their peers and create lifelong memories. This trip is open to all students currently in Remove to Upper Four and Upper Five, as those currently in Lower Five and Lower Sixth will be in their last few weeks leading up to GCSE and A-level examinations respectively. It is hoped that the College will offer annual ski trips in the future.

The first week of our Easter holiday next year is "off-peak", with the vast majority of the UK starting their Easter holidays the following week, giving us the chance to reduce costs slightly and hopefully enjoy less crowded pistes and roads. With the costs of travelling generally, and skiing especially, having risen significantly over recent years we feel this location offers a high-quality experience with reasonable value.

We will be accommodated at the Hotel Catturani in the main village of Madonna di Campiglio, in the Dolomiti region, which is ideally located just across the road from the village's ski-lifts and right next door to our ski school, with onsite equipment hire facilities. Reviews from other independent schools' visits are excellent, from staff as well as students, who particularly rate the food and the ski instructors.

The cost per student is yet to be finalised, but will be a maximum of £1,700 which includes:

- Return travel from Guernsey Airport (via London Gatwick)
- Accommodation, breakfast, hot lunch, and dinner each day
- Lift Pass for whole *Dolomiti di Brenta* ski area, covering 180km of pistes
- 6 days of skiing tuition in levelled groups, led by fully qualified, ski instructors, all fluent in English, for five hours each day
- A diverse programme of evening activities
- Fully comprehensive insurance covering travel, winter sports and medical expenses
- Rental of equipment including skis, boots, and helmet (compulsory)
- Any additional accommodation for overnight stays at London Gatwick\*

However, we hope to bring this cost down once the flight timetables have been released, and we can confirm travel arrangements, which we hope will not require overnight stays in London. The final instalment will be adjusted accordingly.

We will be organising the trip through 321Ski Ltd., a first-class operator backed by ABTA and School Travel Forum membership, and ATOL-licensed, ensuring that all payments made are fully secure. A deposit of £200 per student will be required by **Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023** to secure places once they have been allocated. These will be paid immediately to the operator, and will not be refundable under any circumstances, even if your daughter is unable to take up her place and it is subsequently filled by another student. Further terms and conditions will apply, with details to be made available as soon as possible.

Further instalments will be required as follows:

- Second Instalment due by Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023: £400
- Third Instalment due by Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023: £500
- Final Instalment due by Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024: £600 maximum, TBC.

Girls will require pocket money for snacks whilst travelling and skiing, and any shopping they may wish to do (please see below). Each girl will need a passport valid until at least 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Girls will need to bring their own, appropriate ski clothing and thermals for five days of skiing. A kit list will be issued to all those with places on the trip.

The Catturani is a small, 3-star hotel, where we will take up a large proportion of the rooms. Girls of similar ages will share rooms including junior suites, in small groups. College staff will be on hand throughout the trip to provide a high level of pastoral care. I have an excellent team of staff to help provide your daughter with the best possible experience, including a fluent speaker of Italian who knows the area well.

Please note that places on this trip are limited, owing to the restricted number of seats we are able to secure on flights at the base price, and that interest in previous ski trips has been considerable. Places will be allocated by a series of three draws from all those interested, to ensure we have the right balance of skiing abilities to form ski groups of comparable ability. Waiting list places will also be drawn for each group, in case anybody has to drop out.

There will not be an opportunity to snowboard on this trip unless responses suggest that a viable group of comparable ability can be formed.

During the trip there will be occasions when it is more appropriate for girls to be supervised remotely. During these times we will expect the girls to behave in a sensible manner at all times, following instructions given, staying in their allocated buddy groups and within the agreed area, and returning to the agreed location before the deadline.

Please note the requirement for all students to be able to meet Italy's entry requirements at the time of the trip. For example, whilst remaining unvaccinated for COVID would not currently present any problems, today's requirements may not be the same at our date of travel, and there are no refunds available for anybody who is unable to travel due to being unable to meet changed entry requirements. Additionally, there may be a small extra cost for any required pre-and post-travel testing.

If you would like your daughter to take part in this trip, you will need to complete the following form, which will be open for responses **for 24 hours from 10.00am on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023**. All those responding whose choices would lead their daughter to be part of a viable-sized group for skiing will be entered into the relevant draw, and all respondents will be notified as soon as the draw has been held, after which the £200 non-refundable deposits will be required to secure places.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xuX8pHkAbk-EVpVFijPt4hXjXxii3HRMumn2KFjUfpZUQVdSOFhLWlIFVzZGMEQ0UEZDRk5QMEpWSi4u>

Yours sincerely,

*David Herschel*

David Herschel.  
**Trip Leader**

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Principal  
Ms Daniele Harford-Fox, BA Oxon  
Email: [principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg)

Registrar  
Miss R McClean  
Email: [registrar@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:registrar@ladiescollege.ac.gg)

Vice Principal, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors  
Miss E Bridge MA Oxon, ACA  
Email: [bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg)

[www.ladiescollege.com](http://www.ladiescollege.com)