



Summerfield

WALDORF SCHOOL & FARM

Field Trips by Grade

The “WHY” behind field trips and what the significance of the location and learning is for each grade.

Waldorf education emphasizes experiential learning, and field trips are an essential part of their curriculum. Each grade level takes specific field trips that align with the developmental stage of the students and the subjects they are studying. These trips are designed to deepen their learning through real-world experiences. These trips provide hands-on learning, foster independence, and strengthen the class community. The structure is intentional, supporting both academic subjects and students' social-emotional development at each stage.

Lower School

- **1st & 2nd Grade:** Simple nature walks and farm visits to connect with the natural world.
- **3rd Grade:** Trips to farms or homesteads, reinforcing their study of farming, shelters, and practical life skills.
- **4th Grade:** Local geography trips, often including visits to rivers, mountains, or historical sites.
- **5th Grade:** A "Greek Olympics" event, supporting their studies of Ancient Greece and physical education.
- **6th Grade:** Geology field trips, medieval history tours, and physics-related excursions.
- **7th Grade:** Renaissance-inspired trips, such as visits to museums and historical sites.
- **8th Grade:** A culminating trip, often including outdoor adventures, cultural experiences, or service-learning projects

High School

Reasons for Field Trips in Waldorf High Schools:

In Waldorf high schools, field trips serve a deeper purpose than just supplementing classroom learning—they are integral to the holistic, experiential approach of Waldorf education. Field trips are carefully curated to support students' academic, emotional, spiritual, and personal growth as they prepare for adulthood. Each trip enhances experiential learning, strengthens class bonds, and fosters personal development.

- **9th Grade:** Outdoor adventure trips (e.g., rock climbing, backpacking) to build resilience and teamwork, often tied to earth sciences and geography.
- **10th Grade:** Field studies in geology, literature, or history, often including visits to natural formations, cultural sites, or service-learning experiences.
- **11th Grade:** Immersive trips focusing on social responsibility, such as community service projects, historical studies, or farm stays.
- **12th Grade:** A culminating trip, often international or service-oriented, fostering independence, global awareness, and a transition into adulthood.