



Tour: L.A. EARTH
 Middle School Edition

Destination: Los Angeles, California
Dates: Year-round

L.A. EARTH - MIDDLE SCHOOL EDITION

Exploring STEM, Arts & History

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
1	Travel to Los Angeles, California; hotel check-in		Welcome, Safety & Orientation Meeting	
2	California Science Center, Space Shuttle Endeavor Pavilion & IMAX	Aquarium of the Pacific Long Beach with Classroom Lab & Discovery Lab	Local Dinner	Griffith Observatory, Planetarium & Show
3	La Brea Tar Pits & Page Museum	L.A. Natural History Museum with Tour & 3D Cinema Experience	Medieval Times Dinner Theatre	
4	Redline's Hollywood Walking Tour	Warner Bros. Studio Tour	iFly STEM Master Class + Instructor-Led Jumps	Farewell Dinner
5	Free time until departure		Depart Los Angeles for home	



As with all sample itineraries, please be advised that this is an 'example' of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.



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A Message From Our Team

At STEM Study Tours, we believe students learn best when they're immersed, engaged, and inspired. Every program is built with intention - blending hands-on discovery, academic depth, and meaningful experiences that help students see the world (and themselves) in new ways. Our goal is for each itinerary to spark curiosity, build confidence, and create moments students carry long after the trip ends. We're honored to partner with schools who share that vision and to help bring learning to life beyond the classroom.

— Michele & The Hammock Expeditions Team

Why Travel With Hammock Expeditions & STEM Study Tours

Schools choose us because we design programs that are organized, intentional, and built around real learning. Our itineraries combine strong academics with smooth logistics, giving teachers confidence and giving students opportunities to explore, ask questions, and grow. We partner with trusted local experts, communicate clearly, and support groups every step of the way so educators can focus on their students - not the logistics.

What Sets Us Apart

- **Purpose-Driven Itineraries** - Students actively participate in meaningful, real-world learning.
- **Safety, Structure & Professionalism** - From 24-hour support to vetted partners and clear communication, we ensure teachers can focus on their students while we handle the logistics.
- **Hands-On, High-Impact Learning** - Our programs emphasize field science, conservation, and experiential learning - the kind that sticks with students long after the trip ends.
- **Student-Centered Design** - We balance learning with fun, reflection with adventure, and structure with flexibility. Every day is crafted to keep students engaged, energized, and supported.
- **A Team That Travels With Purpose** - We're educators, planners, naturalists, and travel professionals who care deeply about student growth. Your goals become our goals.

Our Commitment to You

When you travel with us, you gain a partner who understands your vision, anticipates your needs, and delivers an experience your students will remember for years to come. We're here to support your school, empower your students, and make every moment meaningful.

We want to be your educational partner. Let us know how we may serve you.

Michele, Christina, Izzy, Dana, Taylor, and the Team



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Welcome to Los Angeles!

Designed especially for grades 6–8, our L.A. Earth Middle School Edition blends science, creativity, and culture into one unforgettable adventure. Students explore the city’s most inspiring STEM destinations, connect classroom learning to real-world discovery, and experience the excitement of Los Angeles through hands-on labs, interactive exhibits, and memorable group evenings.



Los Angeles is a city where imagination meets innovation — a place that inspires students to think big, explore boldly, and see learning come alive. From world-class science centers and marine labs to film studios and cultural landmarks, every experience invites middle schoolers to ask questions, experiment, and discover how creativity and science shape the world around them.

Day 1

Dinner included

Your adventure begins as students arrive in sunny Los Angeles and get settled into the hotel. After check-in, everyone gathers for our Welcome, Safety & Orientation Meeting — a chance to meet the team, review expectations, and set the tone for a fun, safe, and supportive week together. We walk students through trip logistics, group norms, and what to expect in the days ahead so they feel confident, prepared, and excited for the journey. Throughout the week, our team stays with the group, ensuring students feel supported, safe, and confident from the moment they arrive. With everyone oriented and ready to explore, the group heads to the iconic Santa Monica Pier for the perfect first-night experience.

Santa Monica Pier Exploration – A perfect first-night experience, the Santa Monica Pier gives students a classic California welcome with ocean views, bright lights, and plenty of energy. Middle schoolers love the mix of movement and freedom here — strolling the boardwalk, watching street performers, exploring the arcade, and taking in the sights from the end of the pier. Pacific Park adds an extra layer of fun with its iconic Ferris wheel and rides, while the beach below offers space to relax, take photos, and enjoy the sunset. It’s lively, safe, and endlessly engaging, making it an ideal spot for students to unwind from travel, bond as a group, and soak up the excitement of Los Angeles from the very start of the trip.



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Day 2

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Today's activities include:

California Science Center & Space Shuttle Endeavor Pavilion - At the California Science Center, students dive into hands-on STEM learning that feels exciting, accessible, and unforgettable. They'll explore interactive galleries that bring physics, ecosystems, engineering, and human biology to life before stepping into the **Space Shuttle Endeavour Pavilion**, where the real shuttle towers above them as a breathtaking example of innovation and teamwork. Middle schoolers connect instantly with the scale and story of Endeavour — it's one of those rare "wow" moments that makes space exploration feel real. The experience continues with a giant-screen **IMAX film**, immersing students in science, space, or natural-world storytelling that deepens their understanding while keeping them fully engaged. It's the perfect blend of inspiration, discovery, and age-appropriate STEM learning.



Aquarium of the Pacific with Classroom Lab & Discovery Lab - Students dive into the wonders of marine science at the Aquarium of the Pacific, one of the most dynamic STEM learning environments on the West Coast. Their experience begins with an **educator-led Classroom Lab**, where they explore ocean concepts through hands-on activities designed specifically for middle school learners. Whether they're examining marine adaptations, investigating ecosystems, or working with real bio-artifacts, the lab gives students a chance to think like scientists and make meaningful connections to their classroom learning.



The adventure continues with a **Discovery Lab**, an immersive, inquiry-based session where students use tools, specimens, and data to explore topics such as plankton, watersheds, or ocean chemistry. These labs are fast-paced, tactile, and perfectly aligned with the curiosity and energy of ages 11–14. After their guided sessions, students enjoy time to explore the Aquarium's touch tanks, shark lagoon, and vibrant galleries — all supported by knowledgeable staff educators who bring the ocean to life. It's a full, engaging STEM experience that leaves students inspired by the incredible world beneath the waves.

Griffith Observatory: Planetarium Show & Observatory Exploration - Students experience space science in an unforgettable way at Griffith Observatory, beginning with a live **planetarium show** that takes them on a journey through the night sky using one of the world's most advanced star projectors. The immersive visuals and storytelling spark curiosity and big questions, making it a perfect fit for middle school learners. After the show, students explore the Observatory's hands-on exhibits about light, gravity, telescopes, and the solar system, and can even look through historic instruments while taking in sweeping views of Los Angeles. It's an inspiring blend of science, discovery, and iconic LA scenery that becomes a highlight of the trip.



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Day 3

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Today's activities include:

La Brea Tar Pits & Page Museum: Excavation Sites, Page Museum & 3D Experience - Students step back in time at the La Brea Tar Pits, one of the world's most famous active Ice Age fossil sites. They'll explore the bubbling tar pits, watch paleontologists working on real excavations, and see how scientists uncover clues about life in Los Angeles thousands of years ago. Inside the Page Museum, students come face-to-face with mammoths, saber-toothed cats, dire wolves, and other Ice Age giants, all brought to life through interactive exhibits that make natural history feel exciting and accessible. The visit includes a 3D experience that immerses students in the Ice Age world, helping them visualize how these animals lived, moved, and survived. It's a fascinating blend of science, discovery, and storytelling that middle schoolers connect with instantly.



Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County: Private Tour & 3D Experience - Students explore one of the nation's premier natural history museums with a private, educator-led tour that brings science and storytelling to life. From towering dinosaur skeletons to sparkling gems and minerals, the museum's galleries give students a vivid look at Earth's past and the forces that shaped our planet. The private tour allows students to dive deeper into the exhibits, ask questions, and engage with artifacts in a more personal, interactive way. Their visit also includes a 3D experience that immerses them in the natural world, helping them visualize ancient ecosystems, prehistoric creatures, or scientific phenomena in a dynamic, cinematic format. It's a rich blend of discovery, exploration, and hands-on learning that resonates beautifully with this age group.

Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament - Students step into a world of knights, horses, and high-energy competition at Medieval Times, one of the most exciting and student-friendly evening experiences in Southern California. As they enjoy a four-course feast, the arena comes alive with jousting, swordplay, falconry, and dramatic storytelling that keeps students fully engaged from start to finish. The cheering sections, colorful banners, and immersive atmosphere make it easy to get swept up in the action, creating a lively, memorable night that blends history, performance, and pure fun. It's a perfect group activity that feels both structured and spectacular — a highlight of the trip.



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Day 4

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Today's activities include:

Hollywood Walking Tour with Redline - Students get an up-close look at the heart of Hollywood on this engaging guided walking tour led by Redline, known for its fun, student-friendly storytelling. As they explore famous landmarks like the Walk of Fame, the Chinese Theatre, and the Dolby Theatre, students learn how Hollywood became the center of the entertainment industry and discover surprising behind-the-scenes history that brings the neighborhood to life. The guides keep the pace lively and interactive, sharing stories, pointing out hidden details, and connecting the sights to the movies and pop culture students know. It's a great way for middle schoolers to experience the energy of Hollywood while gaining a deeper understanding of its past, its icons, and its role in shaping global entertainment.



Warner Bros. Studio Tour - Students step behind the scenes of one of the world's most iconic film studios on this engaging and interactive tour that brings the magic of moviemaking to life. Riding through active backlots, exploring real soundstages, and seeing sets, props, and costumes up close, students get an exciting look at how stories move from script to screen. The tour also highlights the STEM behind filmmaking — from digital animation and sound engineering to special effects, set design, and the technology that powers modern production. Hands-on areas, including green-screen experiences and interactive design spaces, let students experiment with these concepts in real time, imagining themselves as part of the creative and technical process. With guides who tailor their storytelling to student groups, the tour blends creativity, engineering, and behind-the-scenes discovery into an unforgettable experience that feels both educational and “wow-worthy.”

iFly: Physics Class & Instructor-Led Jumps - Students experience the science of flight in the most exciting way possible at iFly, where a dynamic STEM class introduces them to the physics behind vertical wind tunnels — including force, motion, airflow, and engineering design. Instructors use real demonstrations and hands-on experiments to help students understand how body position, velocity, and stability work together to create human flight. After the lesson, students suit up for instructor-led jumps, stepping into the wind tunnel to feel those principles in action as they float on a powerful column of air. The combination of high-energy learning and real-world application makes this one of the most memorable and confidence-boosting experiences of the entire trip.



El Capitan Theatre - Students experience Hollywood magic at the historic El Capitan Theatre, a beautifully restored movie palace owned by Disney and known for its immersive, high-energy presentations. From the moment they step inside, the ornate architecture, dramatic lighting, and classic stage effects make the experience feel special and uniquely “Hollywood.” Middle schoolers love the combination of big-screen entertainment, live pre-show elements, and the theatre's signature showmanship that turns a movie into an event. Whether it's behind-the-scenes features, character moments, or special effects



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demonstrations, El Capitan delivers a fun, memorable outing that blends storytelling, nostalgia, and pure Disney charm.

Day 5

Breakfast (dependent upon departure times)

Reflection Circle - Before heading to the airport, students gather for a final reflection on their week in Los Angeles — a chance to celebrate everything they’ve learned, experienced, and accomplished together. From hands-on STEM labs to behind-the-scenes Hollywood discoveries, they look back on the moments that challenged them, inspired them, and brought the group closer. It’s a warm, meaningful pause in the day where students share highlights, thank their leaders, and recognize how much they’ve grown. With new confidence, new friendships, and a deeper understanding of the world around them, the group begins their journey home — carrying memories that will stay with them long after the trip ends.



Want to add on activities to your itinerary?

Please let us know your thoughts and we will help you to create the perfect itinerary for your group!

[Animal Tracks](#)

[Bicycling on the Venice Boardwalk](#)

[Disney California Adventure Park](#)

[Disneyland Park](#)

[Flight Path Museum at LAX](#)

[Knott’s Berry Farm Theme Park](#)

[Los Angeles Zoo](#)

[Newport Landing Whale Watching Tours](#)

[The Getty Museum of Los Angeles](#)

[Walt Disney Concert Hall - Tour](#)



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Minimum Booking Numbers:	20 students
What's Included:	Round-trip flights or motorcoach transfers 4-nights' accommodation Breakfasts & dinners daily starting with dinner on arrival and ending with breakfast on departure (dependent upon departure time) Transportation for programmed activities California Science Center with Endeavor Pavilion admission and IMAX Santa Monica Pier excursion Aquarium of the Pacific Long Beach with Classroom Lab & Discovery Lab La Brea Tar Pits, Page Museum & 3D Experience L.A. Natural History Museum with private Tour & 3D Experience Medieval Times Dinner Theatre Griffith Observatory & Planetarium with Show Hollywood Walking Tour with Redline Warner Bros. Studio Tour iFly Physics Master Class & Instructor-led Jumps El Capitan Theatre Personal Tour Director 24-hour emergency cover
What's Not Included:	Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory) Baggage costs, pay directly to airline if required Baggage handling - everyone should be able to pull / load their own bag Transfers to/from home airport Lunches, snacks or beverages other than at designated mealtimes Meal selections other than ones provided for the entire group (we are generally able to cater for allergy conditions, vegetarians, halal and in some cases vegan) Cost of personal passports, visas or visa waiver fees Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel Sightseeing / Entertainment / Transport not shown in Itinerary Hotel incidental deposits & bills – mini-bar, movies, etc. Gratuities – drivers, hotel services, local guides, tour director Credit card fees if individuals wish to pay via credit card instead of ACH Additional taxes, fuel surcharges or fees levied by governments / suppliers

As always, our staff are always available to you to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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