## Cracking the American Student Educational Travel Sector

Please Take Our Children



# What IS group student travel?

- Generally High School, 9<sup>th</sup>-12th grade (15-18 yr old)
- Likely to be a special interest group vs whole class
- Already "built" group, not individual sign ups
- Low end 8-12 pax, 1-2 teacher
  - Prob wouldn't use a coach, needs to be mass transit
- High end 2-3 coaches
- Most likely: 25-45 pax, 2-4 teachers
- 1-2 weeks durations

### Who is OUR customer?

- Not the kids...
- Not the parents...
- Not the other teachers...
- The Group Leader
- Generally a teacher
- Plans, recruits and sells trip
- Build long term relationships



#### Why do schools travel?



#### **Reasons Groups Travel**

- Tradition of Travel
- Curriculum Goals
- Personal Interest

#### **Barriers to Travel**

- \$\$\$ (or £££)
- School Schedule
- Fear
- Lack of Interest
- Not swayed by anniversaries/key dates/etc

## What kinds of schools/groups travel?

- History
  - AP European
  - World War II/American History
  - World Histories and Cultures
- Literature
- Language
- Adventure/Outdoor Education
- STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Math)
- Performance

#### What "Sells" a Trip?

- Thriller vs Filler
  - Thriller
    - Well known landmark or site
    - Stuff parents want a picture of their kid in front of
  - Filler
    - Bridge gaps in the itinerary
    - Make a trip "flow"

Fillers are the best part of a trip!!!

