



AMPLEFORTH
COLLEGE

Ampleforth College
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06 February 2026

Dear Parents of Year 10, 11, & 12,

**RE: Ampleforth College USA Trip: New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC
4 February – 13 February 2027**

We propose to take a group of students on a trip to the USA during the February half-term 2027, taking in New York, Philadelphia, and Washington DC. Our 2024 trip to the USA was a great success, and we have already started work on another exciting and varied itinerary.

Led by the Politics department, and open to students of other subjects, this promises to be a highly enriching trip, allowing students to delve into the politics, history, culture, and business environment of the USA. We will do this through a variety of pre-booked experiences, and there will be free time for students to explore these cities themselves. The itinerary below offers an outline of the main features of the trip, though some details are subject to change.

The trip will cost **£3700** per pupil, which includes accommodation, breakfasts and evening meals, entry fees to the pre-booked experiences, and travel (except for the \$40 ESTA waiver fee). The payment schedule for the trip is outlined below, although you are welcome to pay for the trip in full.

Saturday 28 February 2026	£740 (deposit to secure place)
Saturday 27 June 2026	£1480
Thursday 22 October 2026	£1480

If you would like your child to have a place on this trip, please complete the form (Link: [Ampleforth USA trip Feb 2027](#)) and make a **deposit payment of £740** by the **28 February 2026**. The College's bank account details are:

Barclays Bank, York.
Account Name: St Laurence Education Trust
Account Number: 03744795 Sort Code: 20-99-15
Swiftcode/BIC: BARC GB22 IBAN: GB49 BARC 2099 1503 7447 95
Reference: B500-185

If you have questions about this trip, please get in touch via email (chris.starkey@ampleforth.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Chris Starkey
Housemaster St John's / Head of Politics

Draft itinerary

Thursday 4 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private coach to London Heathrow Airport. • Bed and breakfast stay at airport hotel.
Friday 5 Feb – Sunday 7 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning flight to New York and private transfer to hotel. • 3 nights' accommodation (twin room) at a 4-star hotel in New York. • Pre-booked experiences including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Statue of Liberty cruise and Ellis Island visit. ➢ Empire State Building (86th floor observation deck daytime tickets). ➢ 9/11 Memorial Museum. ➢ Metropolitan Museum of Art. ➢ Broadway show. ➢ Sports fixture e.g. NBA game. • Variety of free activities, such as exploring Central Park, Grand Central Station, The Highline, and Times Square.
Monday 8 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private coach to Philadelphia on 8 Feb, with tour of Princeton University enroute. • 1 night accommodation (twin room) at a 4-star hotel in Philadelphia. • Pre-booked experiences including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Liberty Bell & Independence Hall (where the Declaration of Independence was signed).
Tuesday 9 Feb- Thursday 12 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private coach to Washington DC on 9 Feb. • 3 nights' accommodation (twin room) at a 4-star hotel in Washington DC. • Pre-booked experiences including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Guided tour of the Capitol Building (home of the US Congress) and Library of Congress. ➢ National Archives Building (home to the US Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence). ➢ Smithsonian Air & Space Museum. ➢ The People's House (an immersive journey through the history and legacy of the White House). ➢ International Spy Museum. ➢ Mount Vernon (George Washington's residence). • Variety of free activities, such as visiting the White House; exploring the monuments of the National Mall (e.g. The Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial); visiting Arlington National Cemetery, including the gravesite of JFK and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. • Private transfer to airport in Washington DC and evening flight to London Heathrow Airport on 12 Feb.
Friday 13 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive at London Heathrow Airport.