

GLOBAL EDUCATION ALLIES

Connecting educators and students through partnership programs that develop global awareness and foster innovative learning environments.

SUMMER 2020
Educator Excursion

Finland

THE COUNTRY OF EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Global Education Allies is hosting an educator excursion to Finland to explore the educational system that has astounded many with its top performing scores, yet boasts an approach to schooling that some call “unorthodox” with its high level of trust, shorter school days and minimal pressure to perform. This educational excursion will give participants the chance to observe the Finnish education system on many levels, ask questions of experts, and make connections with local K-12 educators and administrators. Educators will have the option of participating in pre- and post-trips, which illuminate the region’s complex, yet vibrant history.

Please see website for additional details.



- Explore the education system in Finland
- Work directly with Finnish educators in establishing lasting partnerships with local schools
- Discover the history and culture of the Baltic region
- Earn Professional Development Hours

WHO?

All interested educators and their guests

WHEN?

July 27 - August 6
(6-16 day options)

WHERE?

Finland, Sweden, Latvia, Estonia, Lapland

DEADLINE?

Priority Consideration:
January 1, 2020

Main Deadline:

February 15, 2020 (if spaces are still available)

HOW MUCH?

Main Finland Program: \$1195

Sweden, Baltics, Finland: \$2695

Finland w/ Lapland: \$2495

2020 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Optional Pre-Trip
(Part 1) to
Stockholm,
Sweden
Venice of the North
(July 27 - July 30)



- Visit many of the famous landmarks in Sweden, including the Vasa Ship and Skansen, an outdoor folk museum that replicates the country's cultural heritage
- Explore Gamla Stan (old city), the Royal Palace and the Nobel museum
- Visit an innovative youth education center

Pre-trip (part 2) to
Riga, Latvia and
Tallinn, Estonia
The Medieval Cities
(July 30 - July 31)

- Take a cruise on a large ship to Estonia across the Baltic Sea
- Discover the Old Towns of Riga and Tallinn, UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Dine at a Medieval restaurant in the Old Town square



Main program in
Finland
The Educational
Innovator (Aug 1-6)

- Visit a variety of Finnish schools and the University of Helsinki Teacher Education Department to learn why Finland ranks among the highest in the world in education
- Educators will have the opportunity to share a meal in the home of a Finnish host family and stay at a nature retreat center at a lake in the Finnish forest to get an in-depth cultural experience
- Meet many Finnish educators to exchange ideas and to create classroom-to-classroom or school-to-school partnerships
- Explore a educational nature center in the forest
- Visit the Design District, the famous Farmers Market, and an island fortress, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in Helsinki
- Experience a traditional Finnish sauna on a lake

Lapland:
The Nordic
Midsummer
Experience
(Aug 6-9)

- Experience the Nordic way of life with a visit to Lapland, the Land of the Midnight Sun
- Learn arts and crafts of the Sami people under the Arctic sun
- Visit Santa's workshop and meet the real legend in person
- Visit a Reindeer Farm and participate in a Lappish Sami initiation rite
- Learn about the Arctic Dogsled industry and interact with the dogs
- Hike around the ice-age rock formations at Devil's Churn



FUTURE EXCURSIONS

Check our webpage for updates on future programs to Finland and Singapore in 2021.

COST

The main program fee for Finland only is \$1595 (+\$150 for non-educator guests), plus airfare. Sweden, Baltics, and Finland package: \$2695. Finland including Arctic Lapland: \$2495. Discounted pricing for all experiences (five countries + Lapland) = \$3,495. The fee includes shared accommodations, two meals per day, local transportation, and most program activities, including sightseeing and entrance fees. See website for additional details.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIME-LINE

Early consideration deadline is January 1, 2020. Those hoping to do the “Nordic Experience” are encouraged to apply by this date. Thereafter, applications will be accepted only as spaces are available. The final application deadline will be February 15, 2020. Skype or in-person interviews will be held in December and January, and all selection decisions will be made by March 1, 2020. A non-refundable program deposit of \$300 will be due upon acceptance. Program balance (including any pre- and post-trip costs) must be paid in full by June 1, 2020.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

All educators and administrators are eligible to apply. Educators are encouraged to apply early for priority consideration as we have always filled our programs before the final deadline. Non-educator guests will be considered based on availability.

Apply at the following link: <https://forms.gle/FdFLTn818CrUv7FWA>

Program Staff

Dr. Lora Anderson Cook, a longtime advocate of global education and exchange programs, is the director of Global Education Allies. Dr. Cook has directed dozens of international education programs for thousands of participants on several continents. She is also the director of Au Pair Weekend, which offers intensive weekend courses in nine cities in the USA for international students. loracook@globaledallies.org

Aino Larsen, Scandinavian Language and Program Coordinator and Finnish instructor at Brigham Young University, is the associate director for Global Education Allies. She is a native of Finland and has helped develop and facilitate GEA programs with Lora since 2014. ainolarsen@globaledallies.org



GLOBAL EDUCATION ALLIES
facilitating global collaboration among educators and students

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