



THERE IS MORE IN YOU THAN YOU THINK!





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A UNIQUE LEARNING JOURNEY

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## WHAT IS THE EXIT PROGRAM?

The EXIT program is the name given to the weeks set aside in Billanook's curriculum for Years 7 to 11 students to 'exit' the College and participate in a large variety of local, national and international experiences.

Based on the IDEALS of Round Square, the program provides stepping stones for students to build their International understanding, learn about social justice and Democracy, increase their awareness of the need for Environmental sustainability, extend their personal boundaries through Adventure, challenge and develop Leadership skills outside the classroom and give back to their community through Service to others.

One of the many valuable aspects for students participating in the program is building a profile which reflects their practical involvement in the various components of the EXIT program.

The EXIT Program fosters a never stop learning philosophy which allows a student to achieve beyond academic excellence.



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# ROUND SQUARE

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## A ROUND SQUARE SCHOOL



### What is the Round Square?

Round Square is a network of 200 innovative schools, in 50 countries, across 6 continents, which share a commitment, beyond academic excellence, to personal development and responsibility through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding.

Round Square schools, in support of the educational philosophy of Kurt Hahn, encourage the young into challenging, instructive experiences through which they can develop

- > responsibility and care for humanity
- > commitment to principles
- > skill and confidence needed for effective service and leadership
- > a global perspective on society and the environment.

Kurt Hahn, a well-known educator and philosopher who founded two schools as well as the Outward Bound program, inspired the Round Square Conference of Schools. He believed that schools should prepare students for adulthood by enabling them to encounter life directly in ways that demand courage, generosity, imagination, kindness and principles.

To become part of Round Square a school must demonstrate how the six 'pillars' or IDEALS are offered to its students through different areas of educational practice.

- I** International Understanding
- D** Democracy
- E** Environmental Sustainability
- A** Adventure
- L** Leadership
- S** Service to Others

### Why is it called 'Round Square'?

In Scotland a 'square' has traditionally been the administrative centre of an estate. As a result of a slight historical geometric anomaly, the 'square' of Gordonstoun is a perfectly circular two storey building - The Round Square. The first conference was held in this building in 1967 and it was decided to adopt the name 'The Round Square Conference' for the association.



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www.roundsquare.org

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# ROUND SQUARE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

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## Round Square Regional and International School Exchange Program

Exchanges are a great opportunity for students not only to discover what it is like to be a student at a regional or international school, but also to live in and learn about a new community. This experience also allows students to meet new people, make friends and compare life at Billanook with that of their host school.

Students are offered a valuable learning opportunity to

- > live in and experience a different culture and community
- > investigate issues relevant to the community visited
- > develop initiative, and personal management and interpersonal skills
- > learn outside a familiar classroom environment
- > expand knowledge about local and more isolated communities.

Students in the Round Square Regional or International School Exchange program are billeted with school families or, in some cases, stay at the school's boarding house.

## Round Square Conferences

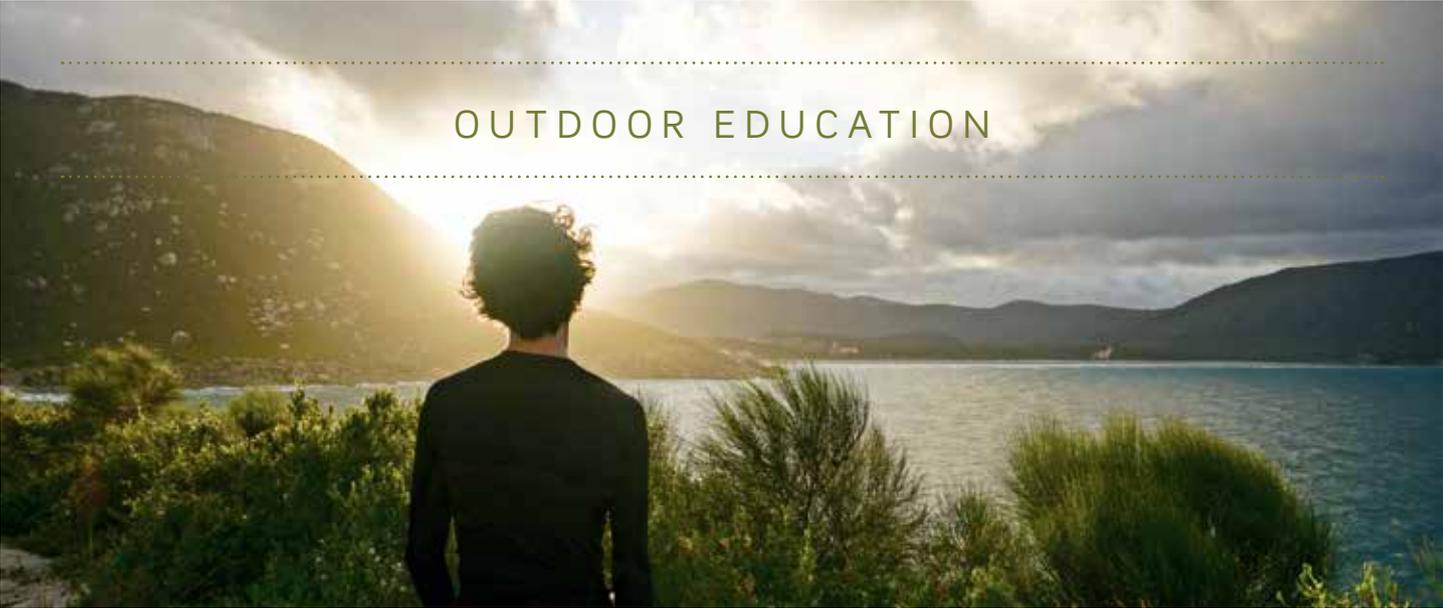
During the school year members of the Billanook community, both staff and students, actively participate in Round Square activities, including Round Square Forums (locally and globally).

Each year interested students have the opportunity to attend the following conferences:

- > Junior Round Square Conference
- > Regional Round Square Conference
- > International Round Square Conference.

“ *The Round Square Conference in India was an absolute feast for the senses. Food, temples, mountains and monks - the wonderful world of Round Square.* ”





# OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Our Years 7 to 10 Billanook students take part in a sequential Outdoor Education program that fosters independence and responsibility.

All Outdoor Education EXITs are planned to make the most of Victoria's beautiful countryside and to give students the skills they need to pursue the outdoors as a recreation later in life.

*Outdoor Education is a compulsory component of every student's Year 7 to 10 EXIT program.*

Year 11 students are encouraged, but not compelled, to select an Outdoor Education program.

## Outdoor Education Program

The Outdoor Education Program is an integral part of a student's journey through the College to achieve and enhance both academic and pastoral objectives from Years 7 to 11.

The School works to meet these goals by exposing students to situations that

- > stimulate a positive self-concept and self-confidence through successfully dealing with challenges (physical and emotional)
- > encourage positive values such as accepting responsibility for one's actions.

Billanook's Outdoor Education program

- > focuses on life skills such as interdependence, leadership, respect and support for both peers and adults, responsibility for others, setting and achieving goals, communication and conflict resolution. This process is enhanced by students working in small groups.
- > provides skills and knowledge for future safe participation in outdoor recreation and/or vocation
- > contrasts our technological and urban lifestyle with the natural world
- > ensures that students live in and reflect on a range of natural environments for extended periods of time
- > highlights the effects of our activities (both at home and in the bush) on our ecosystem
- > educates for positive and achievable environmental outcomes.

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## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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### Year 7 Camp

**Location:** Mornington Peninsula  
**Grade:** Beginner  
**Duration:** Five Days

The Year 7 Camp takes place on the Mornington Peninsula, between Somers and Point Leo.

The program begins with a visit to the Dolphin Research Institute at Hastings for Educational sessions on Mangroves and the Marine Environment. Our students begin to understand the local environment and to recognise its importance and the impacts that threaten its long and short-term health.

The program has two distinct phases. The first is at Point Leo where students learn to surf, explore rock pools and challenge themselves with various problem-solving activities.

The second involves a hike along the beach to a new campsite, cycling, exploration of the Coolart Wetlands and beach combing.

The Year 7 Camp program is designed to

- > enhance relationships between students, their teachers and school support staff.
- > introduce the skills and routines that will assist students through their future outdoor programs and outdoor experiences. e.g. setting up a camp.
- > give students experiential learning opportunities in regard to leadership, fellowship and group work
- > give a sense of place by educating students about the local environment.



### Year 8 Camp

**Location:** Murray River  
**Grade:** Beginner/Intermediate  
**Duration:** Five Days

The Year 8 Camp involves a raft building journey and a bushwalking expedition along the Murray River between Cobram and Yarrowonga.

During the Year 8 Murray River Camp:

- > Students walk or paddle their constructed raft to a new campsite.
- > The group is entirely self-sufficient for the week, carrying all food, clothing and equipment. Students are introduced to self-catering for the first time and in small groups, will menu plan, shop and cook for 24 hours of the Program. For the remainder of the camp, food will be distributed amongst the group to carry, and all students will be involved in preparing and cooking group meals.
- > Students participate in a skills development, extension and consolidation program in relation to bushwalking and camping. This includes bush safety, navigation, packing, cooking and camping skills.
- > OEG instructors assist students to develop their skills and judgement, and to take an active role in the guiding and decision-making of the group during the raft-building exercise.
- > Students are accompanied by two staff and have the further support of a specialist instructor during the raft building journey. A dedicated Course Co-ordinator is present to assist groups as required.

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Years 7-10 camps and City9 are a compulsory part of the co-curricular program



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## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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### Year 9 Camp

**Location:** Walhalla  
**Grade:** Intermediate  
**Duration:** Five Days

Students' bushwalking, camp craft, navigation, packing and cooking skills are further extended in this Program. They are responsible for self-catering 48 hours of food for the camp.

**The River Journey:** The Thomson River offers a reliable water level due to the influence of the Thomson Dam, allowing greater distances to be covered and a "remote" river trip experience. Groups camp along the river for two nights, and enjoy the tranquillity and flow that only a river can offer. Two person inflatable rafts are used, and a Specialist River Guide joins the group for this phase of the journey.

**The Historical Journey:** The Walhalla historic area offers school curriculum links into the history of the gold mining period in the 1860s. This area allows students to compare and contrast their current way of life with the life of those who lived in the area 150 years ago. Students spend a day in town exploring its history. There are many sites to visit including the old fire station, hospital, railways and graveyard. A guided tour of the Long Tunnel Gold Mine ensures that students gain an insight into the challenges of living in the 1860s.

**Exploration:** Numerous hidden treasures lie in the surrounding forest including mines, graveyards, diggings, tramways and remnants of small townships. These treasures allow students to travel "off track" to discover them. It is hoped that this provides the opportunity for students to focus on real navigation using map, compass and landscape features to guide and engage them.

### City9 Experience – Year 9

The City9 Experience (City9) is a week-long experiential learning program for our Year 9 students. Students travel to and from the City of Melbourne each day, and engage in creative and collaborative opportunities to learn more about the City of Melbourne and develop a suite of 'life skills'. Places of interest such as the MCG, War Memorial and Magistrate's Court are visited and provide the environment for real-world learning to occur. Students are briefed in the weeks leading up to City9 and are involved in a reflective presentation to their peers at the conclusion of the program.

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Years 7-10 camps and City9 are a compulsory part of the co-curricular program

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# OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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## Year 10 Camp

**Location:** Bogong High Plains

**Grade:** Varied

**Duration:** Five Days

This walk takes place in the Falls Creek/ Mt Bogong area. Students embark on a true journey, camping in tents and moving campsite each day.

There is the chance for students to select the degree of difficulty of their hike:

The culmination of four years of Outdoor Education for most students is a five day, fully self-sufficient hike through the stunning Bogong High Plains. This Program is all about handing over responsibility and direction to the students; they have to become true leaders. All the skills they have developed over their outdoor education journey will be used on this Program and they are responsible for self-catering for the whole camp.

Within their groups, students' will determine the challenge they wish to set for themselves within the vast landscape, with various options they will be guided through.

Some may choose a climb to the summit of Mt Bogong (1986m) which is a rewarding and challenging experience. The views are extensive with the far horizon dominated by the Snowy Mountains. All approaches are long and difficult and provide a grand adventure.

Others may choose the long rolling hills that stretch away to the edge of the plains, beyond which can be seen the tops of distant peaks and ranges. This area has a rich history, including many historic cattlemen's huts and aqueducts.

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Years 7-10 camps and City9 are a compulsory part of the co-curricular program



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## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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### Year 11 Horse Camp

<b>Location:</b>	Murray River Horse Trails Barmah Forest
<b>Grade:</b>	Beginner to advanced riders
<b>Duration:</b>	Five Days

This camp is run under the care of Murray River Horse Trails, a long standing and well respected horse riding program. Students learn many of the skills associated with riding and horse care. The program is also well known for its extremely strong focus on pastoral care. Some riding sessions are held in the formal training/ jumping arena, but most riding sessions are in the beautiful Barmah Forest (which runs alongside the Murray River). Students are based at the horse riding centre during the evening, where they enjoy the relative comforts of shelter, shower and toilet facilities, as well as rustic couches, and a wood fire.



### Year 11 Surf Camp

<b>Location:</b>	Wilsons Promontory
<b>Grade:</b>	Beginner/Intermediate
<b>Duration:</b>	Five Days

'The Prom' is famous for its squeaky clean white beaches and soaring granite peaks. It is also a great venue for uncrowded swimming and surfing. This program includes professional surfing skills instruction (all surfing equipment provided) by an offshore surf school and day walks to more secluded beaches or other attractions (carrying day packs). Surf conditions at 'The Prom' are particularly suitable for beginner to intermediate surfers. Students camp (in tents) at Tidal River where the comforts of hot showers and toilets are available. This trip is perfect for students who prefer day hikes and who have a love of the sea and surfing.

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## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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## THE ODYSSEY

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*“An epic journey, full of adventures”*

Location: Various  
Grade: Advanced  
Duration: Eleven Days

For many years Billanook students have taken up the Odyssey challenge. Their stories are amazing and speak of discovery, exploration, perseverance, resilience, mateship and a love of the outdoors.

Many students and staff have spoken about, and reflected on, the importance of this journey in their lives, the opportunity to get away from their daily routines, form new relationships, explore their personal limits and gain confidence.

Many stunning and challenging venues have been explored - on foot and by bike, rafts and canoes. Billanook students have traced the Mitchell River from its source high in the Victorian Alps to the sea, scaled Frenchman's Cap in Tasmania, crossed the Baw Baw Ranges, and taken deep breaths as they plunged into the thrilling gorges and rapids of the Snowy River.

This expedition seeks students who are open to adventure. Together they work towards a program that carries on the Odyssey tradition - **what will your Odyssey story be?**





Year 10 and 11 students complete a minimum of one Work Experience placement (or VET placement) in each year of the EXIT program.

“ *I had a great Work Experience week; it really helped me decide what I want to do when I leave*  
Billanook ”

## The Benefits of Work Experience

Work Experience provides students with the opportunity to

- > examine and assess initial career choices and opportunities which will assist them in course selection and career decision making
- > develop contacts with potential employers
- > be exposed to the 'real' world of work
- > find out more about work-related issues such as workplace relations, occupational health and safety, and the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees
- > develop an awareness of appropriate attitudes and behaviour in the work place
- > improve their communication skills.

Please note: Students will only be placed on Work Experience once they are 15 years of age.





## COMMUNITY SERVICE PLACEMENT

Years 10 and 11 students complete a minimum of one Community Service placement each year as part of their EXIT program.

### What our students gain by volunteering

- > development of empathy, compassion and understanding of different groups within society, and in particular of those less fortunate than themselves
- > the chance to build a strong sense of community
- > development of skills and attitudes valued by employers, including leadership and the ability to work as part of a team
- > finding a sense of belonging to a broader community
- > the opportunity to appreciate their own situation and to give something back to the community
- > an increase in their self-confidence
- > personal satisfaction
- > valuable insight into a field which may influence their future career choices
- > an introduction to people from a wide range of ages, backgrounds and cultures.



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## COMMUNITY SERVICE PLACEMENT

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“ From Meals on Wheels  
to Op Shops, Landcare  
Project to Nursing Homes,  
people who happily give their  
time to do something  
for others usually find  
they too are on the  
receiving end. ”

### Farm Stay Placement

Students may choose to complete a Farm Stay placement instead of a Community Service placement.

This is a great opportunity for students to experience what it is like to live on a working farm and to learn about a new community. Farm Stay placements allow students to meet new people, make new friends and share different experiences with the host family.

Participants will gain a valuable learning opportunity by

- > living in and experiencing a different community
- > investigating issues relevant to the community visited
- > developing initiative, personal management and interpersonal skills
- > exploring possible future career paths
- > expanding knowledge about local and more isolated communities
- > gaining new insights into managing the environment.





## Music Tour

*“ The room was electric and the kids really got into it. There is nothing like the feeling of performing and getting a crowd going. ”*

A real life experience of ‘on-the road’ touring is provided to Performing Arts students participating in the Year 10-12 Musical Tour. As part of a touring band, our musicians travel through regional Victoria, sharing their passion for music and performance. They visit a range of schools and venues as part of the circuit, tailoring the program to each audience. Valuable learning is derived from this authentic experience: rigging full PA systems, shaping audience engagement and managing the demands of multiple performances all lead to this being a genuine tour experience.



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## STUDY CAMPS

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“ *The experience of flying a glider during the Physics Camp was very impressive.* ”

### Physics Study Camp – Benalla

For students undertaking VCE Physics Units 1 and 2

This study camp provides an opportunity to study the physics of flight, and to experience gliding and powered flight.

Learning Physics in an everyday context is highly effective. The field of aviation has much to offer Physics students and many describe this study program as the most stimulating, enjoyable and interesting one in their years at Billanook.

The study program is part of the VCE Units 1 and 2 Physics course, and students are expected to complete a comprehensive work booklet.

Activities include powered and unpowered flights (optional), workshop activities, rocketry, aeronautical theory and navigation exercises.

**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this camp.

# TOURS



## Reef 'n Rainforest Environmental Tour

This highly successful tour has been running since 1993 and is open to Years 10 and 11 students. The Reef 'n Rainforest Environmental Tour is a 'hands-on' classroom where students develop an appreciation of two of the most environmentally sensitive and interesting eco-systems in Australia - the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest.

The vast array of new experiences includes

- > visiting the crocodile centre
- > walking in the Daintree Rainforest
- > participating in community service projects (these vary from year to year)
- > snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef
- > the thrills of white water rafting
- > throwing boomerangs and spears at Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Centre
- > experiencing breakfast with the birds and exotic fruit tasting
- > exploring Fitzroy Island Resort and enjoying sun, snorkelling and a service project at the Turtle Rehabilitation Centre.

Overall the Reef 'n Rainforest Environmental Tour is an eye opening and memorable adventure complementing the College's educational and recreational experiences.



**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.



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## TOURS

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### Top End Cultural Tour

The Top End Cultural Tour includes visits to:

- > Darwin City
- > Darwin Wharf
- > Mindil Beach Market
- > The Cyclone Tracy display
- > Katherine Gorge
- > Mataranka Hot Springs
- > Litchfield National Park
- > Kakadu National Park
- > Sunset at Ubirr Rock

The Top End Cultural Tour is an unforgettable journey providing opportunities to view spectacular scenery, experience the joy of discovering sensational swimming holes on hot days and share 'real time' living with indigenous communities. The Tour is open to students completing Years 10 or 11.

Highlights of the Top End tour are living with an aboriginal community and working in the classroom with indigenous primary children.

Students of Billanook College participate in the day-to-day life of the community, and experience first hand many aspects of a traditional aboriginal society. A focus of the trip is the time spent engaging with the local indigenous children.

Darwin is the smallest and most remote capital city in Australia. It is very much part of the great Australian Outback, and the way of life is dominated by its isolation and climate. These two factors are very different from the things which influence daily life in Melbourne and are part of the learning experience for students attending the tour.

We strongly encourage students to consider this tour as it provides a truly unique experience.

**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.

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## TOURS

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### Italy Art Tour

The aim of this biennial tour is to take a group of art lovers from Billanook to Italy to be inspired, to draw and paint in Tuscany, to gain insight into the broad fields of painting, architecture and sculpture, and to study the western visual arts tradition as it evolved in Rome, Florence and Venice.

The tour includes extensive study of ancient Roman and early Christian, Medieval and Renaissance baroque periods, giving deeper meaning to and understanding of the classic tradition, and the rebellion of modern art. The tour activities and content relate to both art appreciation and the practical side of the program (art technique). The tour also takes in contemporary design, food and culture, including a four-day stay in a farmhouse/villa in rural Tuscany. Students visit local artists and studios, and spend time creating personal art works in the fields of drawing, painting, sculpture and photography.

This 15-day tour is open to students in Years 10 or 11 who have a love of art and wish to expand their knowledge, skills and appreciation.

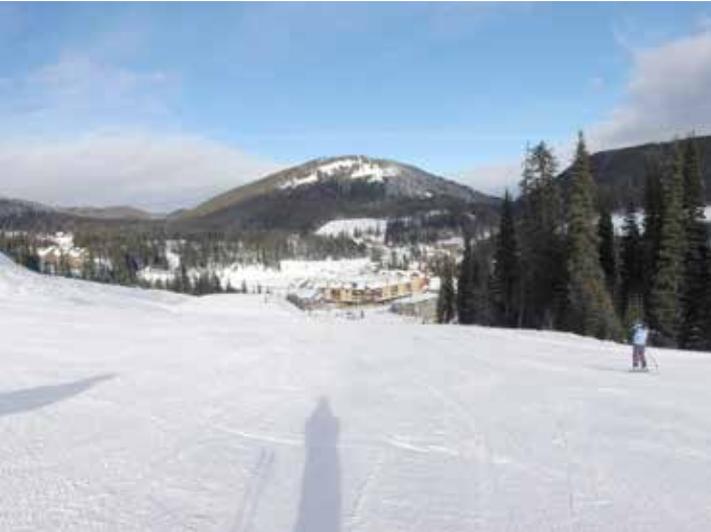
**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.



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## TOURS

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### North America Snow and Sport Tour

This biennial tour is an opportunity for sports minded Year 10 or 11 students to travel through North America for 20 days of non-stop sporting action. Previous tours have travelled to San Francisco, Vancouver and Los Angeles. Students may have the opportunity to witness first hand NBA Basketball, NHL Ice Hockey and NFL American Football. In addition they are able to participate in the best winter sports on offer, including six to seven days of skiing or snowboarding in beautiful fresh powder snow, ice skating and curling.

While in Los Angeles students take a break from sporting pursuits to check out Disneyland and Universal Studios, with the possibility of visiting a major US College/University to see their sporting programs and facilities.

The North America Snow and Sport Tour is always a huge success with all students reporting that they had an “awesome time”.

**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.

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## TOURS

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### Indonesian/Malaysian Wildlife Adventure Tour

This biennial tour is an amazing 15 day journey through Borneo, Malaysia and Java and Bali in Indonesia. The first day is spent in Borneo visiting a traditional longhouse and the Semenggoh Orang Utan Centre. Three days are then spent at the Matang Wildlife Centre doing volunteer work and participating in the orang utan conservation program with world renowned conservation leader, Leo Biddle.

From Borneo the tour heads to Indonesia, visiting the Yogyakarta region of Java. Time is spent at an orphanage, ploughing and planting rice in a village, visiting Borobudur, the biggest Buddhist Temple in the world, and also shopping at the local markets. From Yogyakarta the tour travels by train and then by horseback to visit Mount Bromo, a famous and breathtakingly beautiful volcano in East Java.

From Java, the tour then flies to Bali to stay in the cultural city of Ubud. The next stage of the tour is a visit to the Elephant Safari Park and monkey forest, as well as spending some time with Billanook's sister school in West Bali. There is also time for souvenir shopping and a visit to Waterbom Park on the final day.

All Years 10 and 11 students can apply for the tour; however students studying Indonesian in Year 10 and 11 receive preference.

**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.



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## TOURS

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### Germany / Austria Tour

This biennial tour offers extensive travel throughout Germany and Austria, and an opportunity for immersion in German culture. It also includes a brief visit to Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Students travel across Germany and Austria by coach. The tour involves train travel including an Inner-City Express (I.C.E.) trip as well as a cruise down the Rhine River. Students pass through several states with guided tours of cities including Vienna, Salzburg, Munich, Cologne and Berlin – visiting key places of significance. They visit historical villages, castles, fortresses and cathedrals dating as far back as the 12th century, and they also have opportunities for shopping and general sight seeing. They are encouraged to interact with local people to practise and become increasingly confident with their spoken German.

All Year 10 and 11 students can apply for the tour; however students studying German in Year 10 and 11 will receive preference.

**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.

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## TOURS

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### Thai Service Project

This unique annual experience combines a service project with international travel and an opportunity to embrace the culture and lifestyle of the hill tribe people in Northern Thailand. This project is open to students in Years 10 or 11.

Students participate in meaningful and challenging activities that support these communities. It is an outstanding opportunity to develop leadership skills by taking on new challenges and contributing to a vital service project.

In preparation for the tour, students participate in fundraising activities to raise money for their group project.

Past projects have involved students

- > installing water supply systems
- > painting school buildings
- > assisting in repairs/construction of school buildings
- > building vegetable gardens and fences
- > constructing children's playgrounds
- > building a bathroom/toilet facility.



Billanook students provide the physical labour for projects, so participants need to be willing and able to work hard in challenging conditions.

The project delivers an obvious benefit to the village and its people, as well as providing a life-changing experience for the students involved.

**Please note:** there are additional costs associated with this tour.



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DISCOVER

CARE

CHALLENGE

GROW

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