



Cranbrook Debating and Diplomacy

COME JOIN US

USA TOUR 2024

Sept 21st – Oct 3rd | Term 3 holidays |
NYC-Philadelphia-Washington DC



Cranbrook Debating and Diplomacy Tour to USA

Saturday September 21st – Thursday October 3rd, 2024

New York City → Philadelphia → Washington DC

About the tour

We are offering Cranbrook students involved in Debating, Public Speaking, Model UN and clubs and activities with a political focus to travel to the United States of America, one of the world's largest and most impactful representative democracies.

Over 12 days in three iconic American cities during the 2024 September-October school holidays, students will explore the heart of modern democracy, engage in lively debates, and hone their public speaking skills. They will witness history in action by visiting government institutions, monuments, and cultural landmarks. By fostering a deeper understanding of political processes and effective communication, students will attain the tools and knowledge to be active and influential voices in shaping the future of their communities, nation, and world.

Tour itinerary highlights

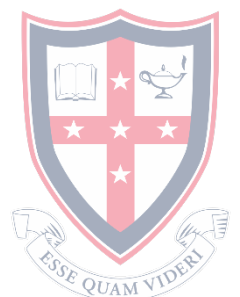
The tour begins in New York City, home to the headquarters of the United Nations. Students will visit this global institution, where they will learn about its history and present work. A focus on understanding and appreciating the way contemporary politics has been shaped by the past will continue through interactive experiences at the 9/11 Memorial Museum and on a Harlem Civil Rights Walking Tour.

Students will then travel to Philadelphia, walking in the footsteps of democratic America's founding leaders. We will explore important political landmarks in the Old City, including Independence Hall and Congress Hall, which served as the temporary home to the US Congress between 1790 and 1800.

From Philadelphia, the tour progresses south to the nation's capital and hub of global influence. Students will visit the homes of federal legislative and legal authority at the Capitol Building and Supreme Court. Opportunity to see the White House and other significant Washington DC political landmarks by day and night will be possible. From domestic affairs of state to international security, students will engage in simulation workshops at the Washington Spy Museum and may also visit the Pentagon, the headquarters of the US Department of Defense.

During their stay in New York and Washington DC, students will also engage in lively local debates and speaking workshops, learning more about North American formats like Lincoln Douglass, Public Policy and Presidential. Speaking of which, the tour will likely be in the USA around the time of one of the 2024 presidential debates, promoting further occasion to immerse in this unique style of communication.

It isn't all about politics and power, with students having some social experiences to bond with like-minded peers. A Broadway show in New York, escape room or mini golfing, movie nights, an American cultural experience at the Washington DC Six Flags theme park, and a celebratory end of tour dinner are all part of this amazing journey.



Tour eligibility

The tour is open to Cranbrook students in Years 8-12 (2024) who have interest in speaking, debating and diplomacy. Priority will be given to those students who have a proven track record within one or more of our oratory programmes.

Cost

The tour will cost approximately \$11,900 AUD per student, based on current exchange rates, which includes:

- Return economy flights on a reputable airline
- Private coach transfers while in the USA
- Twin share accommodation in 3–4-star hotels
- Breakfast each day
- Entrance to museums, tours, planned entertainment experiences, and the celebratory dinner

Excluded in this cost:

- Passport
- Travel insurance
- Travel visa (ESTA)
- Meals other than breakfast
- Spending money for discretionary purchases

Payment will be by installment, with an initial deposit payment of \$1,000 AUD, to be paid before the end of this school term. Details will be made known on the upcoming information night (see below).

Timeline for expressing interest

Should you be keen for your child to participate in this tour, use [this Google Form](#) to express interest by 9am Monday 4th December.

If we receive greater interest than the 24 spots offered, we will review subsequent requests to attend the tour and reach out to relevant families.

Information night

An information night will be held online at 6pm Wednesday 6th December, hosted by the tour company. If you wish to attend the information session, please ensure that you have completed the expression of interest via the Google Form link above and you will be emailed the online video call link the morning of the information session.

Summary

The Cranbrook Debating and Diplomacy tour to the USA in September-October 2024 promises to be a tremendous experience, taking our speakers, debaters, and budding diplomats directly to the action. This is the first international tour for our programmes, which will contribute to the further enrichment of educational offerings available to students.

Regards,

Benjamin Smith

Debating Coordinator

