

ROAD SCHOLAR®

PRESS RELEASE | For Immediate Release

International Travel Demand Rebounding Quickly for Grandparents

Boston, Mass. (July 26, 2023) — On June 4, [Road Scholar](#), the world leader in educational travel for older adults, kicked off their 38th [Grandparent Adventure](#) season. And this year, Road Scholar’s grandparents and grandkids have had their sights set on learning farther from home.

Road Scholar reports that they’re almost back up to pre-pandemic numbers for their international Grandparent Programs— despite the fact that they have far less capacity available as they rebuild their offerings. (For comparison, their domestic grandparent enrollments overall for 2023 are just over half of what they saw pre-pandemic.)

“The appetite for global exploration is stronger than ever,” says Road Scholar’s Chief Program Officer, Maeve Hartney. “Our participants have shown us that they’re really ready to get out there and explore the world again this year, and their grandkids are just as eager to travel abroad with them.”

Road Scholar is responding to this trend by offering more international programs for 2024— two-thirds of the new Grandparent and Family programs Road Scholar will debut in 2024 are international, and those programs are filling up fast.

NEW GRANDPARENT & FAMILY ADVENTURES FOR 2023: [Japan](#), [Australia](#), [Greece](#), [Idaho Whitewater Rafting](#), [Hawaii](#), [Chincoteague Bay](#), [New Hampshire](#), [Minnesota](#), [Sailing the Maine Coast](#), [Puerto Rico](#), [San Juan Islands](#), [San Diego](#), and [STEM Kansas](#)

NEW GRANDPARENT & FAMILY ADVENTURES FOR 2024: [Germany](#), [Copenhagen](#), [Amalfi Coast](#), [Alaska Family](#), [Barrier Islands Family](#), and, coming soon: Grandparent & Family Programs in Panama

Cindy and Jim Horner from Sterling, Colorado took their two grandsons on [an African safari with Road Scholar](#) in 2022, and this summer they traveled to [Iceland](#) with their two granddaughters. They said they are intentional about wanting to travel internationally with their grandchildren.

“We have chosen to take our grandchildren on international trips to expose them to different geographical settings, cultures, and standards of living,” Cindy said. “It is our hope that they return with a broadened understanding of the world, as well as a heightened appreciation for the incredible privilege it is to live in the United States.”

Jean McMillan from Wayland, New York has taken three of her grandchildren on Road Scholar adventures. She says her grandkids were the ones to choose international trips, but with her encouragement.

ROAD SCHOLAR GRANDPARENT* PROGRAM ENROLLMENTS

Program Line	2019	2022	2023
Afloat (cruise)	270	0	0
Domestic	6,514	3,620	3,461
International	995	875	940
TOTAL	7,779	4,495	4,401

**Does not include Family Programs*

“I would have taken them on any of the trips,” says Jean,” but I encouraged them to dream big so that there would be big adventures to be remembered that only we would share.”

Road Scholar has been offering program for grandparents and grandkids (often referred to in the travel industry as “skip-gen”) since 1985. They also offer Family Programs, which cater to grandparents traveling with their children *and* grandchildren together.

Learn more about Road Scholar’s Grandparent Adventures at <https://www.roadscholar.org/grandparent>. Find photos [here](#).

About Road Scholar: Road Scholar is the nation’s largest not-for-profit educational travel organization for adults — a true university of the world — offering thousands of programs in nearly 100 countries and 50 states. Road Scholar educational adventures are created by Elderhostel, the world leader in educational travel since 1975. Road Scholar has been offering programs for grandparents and their grandkids since 1985. Learn more at www.roadscholar.org/about.

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