



# Ron Labrie

## Why I love working with WorldStrides Canada

They have always provided great travel experiences for our school. The customization of our itineraries, has been exemplary. It's why we've had a great relationship since 2008!

## A snapshot of my teaching career

I have been teaching from 1991 to present day.

## My favourite hobbies

Coaching senior volleyball, hockey, and golf. I also continue to work on the Broncs World Tour Cenotaph project.

## A WorldStrides Canada trip to remember

There are many, but in 2012, 2014 and 2017, we were fortunate to meet former member of the World War II French Resistance, Adrien Jobin, who at 19, hid surviving crew members of the Lancaster bomber that was shot down in his commune. His village has created a beautiful Canadian Monument in honour of the two Royal Canadian Air Force crew members that perished.

## What inspires me to organize educational tours

I have always valued education outside the traditional classroom. Despite the efforts of the best textbooks, it's impossible to replicate the sensory experiences a student will get from visiting the places that have helped shape our world. Educational tours invite stronger relationship building opportunities with students and gives them the political, social, and cultural experiences that cannot be measured by anything else. There is no better way to knock down societal barriers than to visit our neighbours and experience the multiple perspectives of our global community.

## Why I can help you lead a successful educational tour

I believe travel preparation is essential. From currency management, to surviving jet lag, and gently pushing students outside their comfort zone, my students are extremely well-prepared for their international travel experience. I value custom tours and have a lot of experience developing itineraries and finding local gems that will enhance the experience.

## My all-time favourite travel story

There are many, but without question the Vimy Memorial has a spirit about it that can only be realized by a visit to this sacred ground. The grange tunnels, shell craters, "No Man's Land", and the close proximity of the German front lines, is a personal sensory experience that can only be achieved by being there! The monument itself is also an incredible piece of Canadian architecture —with no mention of victory, domination, or revenge, it is a monument about sacrifice and remembrance. Walter Allward's masterpiece can only be truly embraced by a visit to Hill 145.

### Location

Ponoka, Alberta

### Language

English

### Commonly used travel provider

Explorica

### My favourite subjects & interests

Social Studies, Physical Education, and Travel

### My bucket list travel destinations

Vietnam and Saint Petersburg

### My favourite international food

Italian espresso with a fresh croissant

### My favourite travel destination

Europe

