



## PLANNING • WHAT TO EXPECT

### *July 4-17 Tour*

- The Trip Itinerary will be linked here soon.
- [General Information Overview for International Travel \(most topics on this document apply to our tour situation, but not all\)](#)
- Luggage restrictions (one large suitcase)-size/weight restrictions.
  - See your specific airline's website information for specific restrictions for size and weight.
  - You can only bring one large suitcase (due to limitations with storage on the motor coaches).
  - Besides your checked luggage, one small carry-on and one small personal item is permitted on the plane with you (smaller instruments should be carried on).
- Oversized/Overweight Instruments (sizes and costs)
  - See your specific airline's website for dimensions and weight restrictions.
  - Your instrument will count as your second piece of checked luggage.
  - If your instrument is oversized or overweight, you must be prepared to pay a fee at check-in for the departure flight check-in and the return flight.
  - Some airlines waive the fee for music groups, but some don't, so be prepared if you fall into this category when checking into your flights.
  - OAM covers the cost of the Oversized Percussion and OAM equipment that we assign to percussionists (and other students that play smaller instruments if needed).
- What to pack/bring
  - Uniform (don't pack your tour t-shirt as you will be wearing your tour t-shirt in the airport).
  - Clothes for warm, cold, and wet weather.
  - Toiletries.
  - Chargers/Electrical adapters for the various countries we visit (see General Information Overview Document linked above).
  - Plastic bag for dirty laundry.
  - Leave space for souvenirs.
  - [Recommended Packing List](#)
- Spending Money
  - The amount is up to you.
  - Traveler's Checks are not recommended.
  - Many students bring some of each currency and pre-loaded debit cards or just regular debit/credit cards work well.
  - Setting up a Venmo/Cash app/account for both the student and the parent/guardian is one of the easiest ways to transfer money between family members if needed.



- Language/Communicating in foreign countries
  - Most Europeans speak English or at least enough to get you through any situation.
  - We will provide some basic phrases/sayings in each language/country we visit.
  - We have several staff members and MCI Tour Managers that can assist you if needed.
- Student Behavior Agreement
  - A reminder to review the behavior agreement that you and your parent/legal guardian signed.
  - In the event you break a rule, there will be consequences. The most serious consequence is that you will be sent home at your own expense.
  - As your parent/guardian gave you permission or did not give you permission to have ONE alcoholic beverage ONLY at an evening meal and while in the PRESENCE of your chaperone, this will be monitored by each chaperone at each evening meal. There are no other circumstances where you may have alcohol (even if you are of age in that country). Breaking this rule is one that will have you sent home at your own expense from the nearest airport at the earliest available time.
  - In the event you have to be sent home, and a chaperone needs to go with you for a period of time, you will also be responsible for the expenses of the chaperone in addition to your own.
- Bus Coordinators
  - You will have a staff member on your bus that will be your bus Coordinator.
  - This person is in charge of your bus and will guide you through the trip once we land in Europe.
  - You must follow all of their rules and instructions.
  - Your chaperone will also be on your bus and they work with your Bus Coordinator (for some, your chaperone and your Bus Coordinator will be the same person).
  - There will also be an MCI Tour Manager on your bus at times. Follow their instructions as well.
  - With all bus drivers, be kind and patient.
- Chaperones/Supervision
  - Every student will have an assigned chaperone. This person is in charge of you and the group of students you are in for the entire tour.
  - Follow all instructions from your chaperone.
  - Your chaperone will initiate official room checks before lights out each evening. Stay in appropriate attire until room checks are complete.
- Always have your Passport with you
  - Your Passport needs to be with you at all times (never packed away or left behind).
- Information about each city we visit (some history/facts and how to say basic phrases in that language, etc.).
  - There will be a document provided along with your detailed itinerary that will cover important information about each place we will visit.
- Dress Code
  - Please review the dress code for all OAM activities ([see linked copy](#)).