Participant 5 – 21 years old

Do you plan for a trip? Yes...but no

What do you mean? Well, I've only gone on trips within a group either with my family or with friends and usually there's always someone that either wants to plan more or knows more about everything. So, I usually don't plan much, but I'm not saying we go without planning of course you have to plan, just I don't usually do a lot of it.

Have you ever planned? Well yeah, if the other person wants me to then I can, like actually when I went to Japan I planned quite a lot. That was the one time there wasn't someone that specifically wanted to plan...but other than that if someone wants to plan and they're fine with it then I don't mind.

Where have you been? Korea, Sydney, Japan, Melbourne

Who did you go with? I've been to Korea and Sydney with my family, Japan and Melbourne with friends.

What methods did you and your group use to plan? Well for the Japan trip where I actually did a lot of the planning, we used google docs but mostly just as an initial draft to list the things to do...but yeah so I eventually decided to convert the list of things to do to Miro where I put a picture of a map of the city and plotted the places we wanted to go so that we can more easily see where these activities and places would be geographically to better see the most efficient order to do things...and also just seeing what's near each other so that when I'm actually there I can refer to the map and get ideas on what to do that's nearby.

Did it end up working well? Well kind of, I didn't really use the map that much when I was there because it was clunky and not pleasant to interact with on my phone...but also I didn't really feel compelled to use it much on the spot while I was there, just looked on google maps. I did review it a lot like at the end of the day when we were back at our accommodation on my laptop to help decide on what to do the next day though, usually potential places to eat...so yeah it wasn't completely useless...but yeah, I mean still it was good as a planning tool I think because it helped visualise everything and sort of familiarise myself with where everything was geographically.

What were any pain points you found with this method? Well, it just took so much time to make, although yeah like I said it was worth it for the planning stage.

What are your main concerns/ priorities when travelling/ planning a trip? Probably just making sure I am aware of the range of things I can do there. I don't mean having like a set plan or itinerary, but just sort of being aware of any must try places to eat at or visit, or exhibitions or events that happen at a specific time so that I can make the decision to go to them if I want to.

Can you expand on that? Particularly regarding not having an itinerary. Yeah so, I don't like making detailed set plans because you never really know how you're feeling on the day during the trip, and you also aren't aware of everything there is to do until you're there. You might just come across something that you are interested in or want to do, if you know what I mean...I think it's better to just make resources such as the map to help make those spontaneous decisions on the spot, yeah.

What have you learned from previous travel experiences? That it's better to not have enough time than have too much of it. Like I think a lot of people overshoot the amount of time they

think they need because they don't want to feel like they didn't have enough time…but at least for me getting bored from having too much time is much worse than not having enough time so as a rule of thumb I always advocate for a conservative trip length.