

STUDENT PACKET

MPD Tour America, Inc. *NEW YORK HOLIDAY*

Dear Traveler and Host Family:

We hope you are looking forward to your wonderful Holiday in NY Tour. This is a trip where you will experience so much of what New York has to offer. You'll see the great neighborhoods, famous sites, and places of historical significance. But best off all you'll see New York all decked out for the Holiday Season. Of course no New York visit will be complete without a live Broadway Show. You will be traveling along with other students from around the world that are now studying in the U.S.

Your native New Yorker tour guides and chaperones from ISE will be on tour from the time we greet you at the airport arrival day until the day we transfer you from the hotel to the airport for your return home to your host family.

The hotel you will be lodging at for 5 nights is:

COUNTRY INN & SUITES - 100 Glimcher Realty, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201

Telephone #: 1-908-282-0020

This hotel is located near Newark Liberty Airport (EWR) and is approximately 15 miles from NYC. Also, this hotel has an indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, and a small fitness room and a nearby outlet shopping outlet mall. Arrive and Depart out of (EWR) Newark-Liberty Airport.

BRIEF ITINERARY

- Day One:** Arrivals, get to know you activities and pizza party
- Day Two:** A full day begins with a ferry ride from Staten Island through the New York Harbor right past The Statue of Liberty and a great view of the NYC Skyline. We will then begin a walking tour of downtown Manhattan including Battery Park, Ground Zero, Wall Street and Saint Paul's Chapel. We will then board the bus to Chinatown, Little Italy, and Soho. After dinner a group walk on the Brooklyn Bridge.
- Day Three:** All day city tour includes an NBC Studio guided tour, Rockefeller Center and the famous Christmas tree, Times Square, Greenwich Village and St. Mark's Place.
- Day Four:** All day city tour includes Empire State Building, Macy's, Central Park, Lincoln Center and the Time Warner Center.
- Day Five:** All day city tour includes the United Nations tour, Grand Central Station, 5th Ave. and back to Times Square at night to see all the lights and a LIVE BROADWAY SHOW!
- Day Six:** Time to say good-bye to all your new friends and memories made through this trip. Flights depart all day between 8:00am – 3:00pm.

WEATHER INFORMATION:

Usually temperature averages high 20's to high 30's Fahrenheit. Sometimes we have snow in the month of December and sometimes it is warm.

WHAT DO I BRING?

- The trip is only for 6 days and casual dress, so you don't need a lot. Limit your luggage to one carry-on **or** backpack and one large suitcase. Also, check with your individual airline carrier about luggage restrictions.
- **BRING A SWIMSUIT** –There is an indoor Swimming Pool and a Jacuzzi Hot Tub. Hotel provides towels at pool free of charge!
- **BRING a JACKET or COAT** and some layers of clothing – nights are cooler and during the days are a little warmer and sometimes might need hat and gloves or mittens too!
- Comfortable shoes are a must. There is a lot of walking around in New York. We visit many of the sights on foot. We suggest not bringing any new shoes.
- Please do not bring lots of jewelry or other expensive items. Please consider Travel Checks instead of cash; they can be replaced if lost or stolen. You are responsible for taking care of your own property. New York City's crime rate is low but most of the theft is from tourists so just be aware and do not pull your money and wallets out in the street. Watch your possessions in the airports as well.
 - You will need enough money for airport snacks, and about (\$5-8) for lunches each day and for shopping for souvenirs etc.
 - Bring a camera average student uses 5-6 rolls. Most students will have digital cameras

FILM SHOULD BE IN CARRY-ON LUGGAGE – NEVER PUT IN CHECKED IN LUGGAGE. IN CARRY ON LUGGAGE PACK YOUR CELL PHONE CHARGER IF YOU HAVE A CELL PHONE.

- You will *NEED* your HEALTH INSURANCE CARD AND ID.

- You will need a phone card or lots of change if you plan on calling home. We know most of you have cell phones but it is also good to have a phone card too!

AIRPORT INFORMATION

WHEN DEPARTING FROM YOUR DEPARTURE CITY AIRPORT:

PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK IF STUDENT HAS ID WITH THEM BEFORE DEPARTING FOR AIRPORT!

Please arrive at your departure airport at least 1-1/2 hours before your flight, and allow more time if you are departing from a busy airport, airline, or terminal. Please be aware of restrictions on what you are not allowed in carry-on luggage (sharp items, liquids etc.) All airports require you to check in and get a boarding pass before going through to security check and then onto gate area. **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR PASSPORT WITH YOU OR ANOTHER PICTURE ID IN CASE YOU NEED IT.**

WHEN CHECKING IN BAGGAGE - MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A TAG WITH YOUR HOST FAMILY'S NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER ON IT! TAKE OFF YOUR NATURAL FAMILY'S TAG INFORMATION AT THIS TIME.

If you are making connecting flights, when you check in for your first flight, get assigned seats and boarding passes for your whole trip. Check your luggage through to your final destination Newark (EWR); also get assigned seats for your return flights, if you don't already have them.

If your flight is cancelled or delayed more than 60 minutes, or if you are transferred to another airline carrier please call MPD Tour America, Inc. 917-376-7225 so we know where and when to meet you. Do not miss your flight in order to telephone us. We will try and track your flight anyway if this should happen provided you gave us your flight itinerary prior to traveling. **EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER THROUGHOUT THE TOUR AND ON AIRPORT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DAYS IS 917-691-3097. Please keep in your wallet!**

ARRIVAL IN NEWARK LIBERTY (EWR)

Please go straight to baggage claim area – this is where our staff will be looking for you. Look for our staff holding a sign that reads:

MPD TOUR AMERICA, INC.



We will do our best to meet you at baggage claim area on time, however if other flights are delayed, it throws us off our schedule. If you do not see us upon arrival, we are with other students. Please give us time to get there. Staff is all over airport in different terminals and it takes time to get to each terminal for different flight arrival times. We will be looking for you at baggage claim areas – so please stay in this area.

If your luggage is lost, please let staff know as soon as they meet you so that they can assist in filing a lost luggage claim form if you did not file one already (Claim office is near baggage claim area so we will see you).

Once a student is met we advise them to call the host family and tell them that you have arrived safely! Atleast 50% will not call. PLEASE REST ASSURED THAT IF YOUR STUDENT DOES NOT SHOW UP WITH THEIR SCHEDULED FLIGHT WE WILL CALL YOU. IF YOU DO NOT HEAR FROM US – THIS MEANS EVERYTHING IS OK.

NOTE: ON DEPARTURE DAY FROM EWR TO YOUR HOST FAMILY WE WILL TRANSFER YOU FROM THE HOTEL TO NEWARK AIRPORT AND MAKE SURE FLIGHTS ARE GOING OUT. IF THERE IS A CANCELLATION OR DELAY WE WILL NOTIFY YOUR HOST FAMILY. BUT IF A CANCELLATION OR DELAY IS ON A CONNECTING FLIGHT WE WILL NOT HAVE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US SO YOU NEED TO NOTIFY YOUR HOST FAMILY OF CHANGES ONCE YOU FIND OUT IF ANY, BUT ONLY IF YOU HAVE TIME TO CALL THEM – DO NOT MISS A FLIGHT BY MAKING A TELEPHONE CALL!

REMINDER OF TRIP RULES!

There will be a curfew every night. This trip has long days, and many Night time activities. We do room checks each night to make sure everyone is in their own room, we expect cooperation with these rules.

We expect everyone to abide by all U.S. laws, as well as rules of your host organizations.

We have zero tolerance policy for drugs and alcohol. If drugs or alcohol are found in your room, we will assume the whole room is involved.

We do not discipline students: We send you back to your host family at your own expense and allow your host organization to punish you in any manner they see fit.

This is an English speaking tour. There are many languages and countries represented on this trip, please try to keep this in mind.

This is a group trip, which means that all the activities are geared to the whole group. There are opportunities to shop in little groups, but never alone. We have a policy of having at least 2 or more students together when breaking off from large groups for shopping etc.

SMOKING: This is a non-smoking trip. If you plan on smoking you will need to bring a copy of your host organization paperwork allowing you to smoke, and we will allow you to smoke then and only then. No paperwork means no smoking! Also you must abide all smoking laws in New York and New Jersey and in hotel non-smoking rooms etc.

Your guides will review further rules for this tour with you when you arrive. Just remember we want to have a safe and fun trip for All!
