

MPD TOUR AMERICA, INC.
SMG –SPRINGTIME IN NEW YORK/ BOSTON TOUR
APRIL 30 - MAY 6, 2011

Dear Traveler and Host Family:

We know that you are looking forward to your Springtime in New York and Boston Tour. Your tour begins in New York City where you will visit neighborhoods like Chinatown, Little Italy, Soho and Greenwich Village making stops along the way at Wall Street, Ground Zero and Battery Park. You'll view the entire city from the top of the Empire State Building. Take a ferry ride past the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Stroll down 5th Avenue and visit stores like Tiffany's, Sak's, Gucci and Niketown. Get ready to walk through Central Park and watch the flowers and leaves begin to bloom as you make your way to Strawberry Fields the John Lennon Memorial. You will shop or just window browse at Macy's the world's largest store. Then it's on to Time Square and the bright lights of Broadway to see a live show. Time to board the deluxe motor coach along with your new friends from around the world, your tour guides and chaperones and head north to the city of Boston. Here you will walk the historic Freedom Trail and experience American History. You will visit the USS Constitution, "Ole Ironsides", in the Charlestown Harbor. Then head over to the North End of Boston to relive "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere". Hungry yet?, because it's time to have lunch at the fabulous Quincy Market and maybe walk it off at the always fun Boston Common. Then it's back to the Freedom trail to catch up to the spots we didn't cover yet. Now it's time to relax with some free time at Copley Square followed by dinner at the Boston Hard Rock Café. Springtime in New York and Boston, it doesn't get any better than this!

YOU WILL BE STAYING AT THE FOLLOWING HOTELS:

This hotel you will be lodging at for 4 nights: April 30, 1, 2, and 3, check out May 4th.

COUNTRY INN & SUITES

100 Glimcher Realty Way

Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Telephone: 1-908-282-0020

This hotel is located near Newark Liberty Airport (EWR) and is approximately 15 miles from NYC.

This hotel you will be lodging at for 2 nights. May 4th & 5th, checking out May 6th.

RAMADA INN – BOSTON

900 Morrissey Blvd.

Boston, Ma 02122

Tel: 617-287-9200

This hotel is located near Logan Airport approximately 15 minutes to hotel.

BRIEF ITINERARY:

- Saturday:** Arrivals, check in hotel. Get to know you activities.
Dinner at hotel. Pizza, salad, soda.
- Sunday:** Depart hotel for NYC. Visit Empire State Building, Macy's and Madison Square Garden. Lunch own at Manhattan Mall. Drive by United Nations, Grand Central Station. Bloomingdales, Dillions, Serendipity (time permitting). Dinner Times Square Restaurant area and free time. Return to Hotel.
- Monday:** Depart hotel for a boat ride past Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Walk through Battery Park and the 9/11 Memorial and on to lower Manhattan. You will then continue walking up Broadway with stops at Bowling Green, Trinity Church, Wall Street, Ground Zero and St. Paul's Chapel. Board motor coach for Chinatown, Little Italy, and Soho. Depart for dinner via motor coach for South St. Seaport. Walk over Brooklyn Bridge and back. Return to Hotel.
- Tuesday:** Depart hotel for New York City – tour of 5th Avenue. Free time Rockefeller Center and 5th Avenue. Lunch on own. Depart for Harlem Bus tour. Transfer via motor coach for Central Park walking tour of park With stops at Strawberry Fields and the Dakota. Depart for dinner. Depart for Live Broadway Show. Return to hotel.
- Wednesday:** Depart with luggage to travel from NYC to Boston. Lunch enroute. Check in hotel. Dinner & Bowling Pisano's Restaurant. Free time to play games at Bowling alley. Return to hotel.
- Thursday:** Depart hotel for Harvard Yard and Harvard University. Transfer to Charlestown and the Constitution. Board motor coach To the North End of Boston for walking tour. Quincy Market for lunch. Tour of Freedom Trail, some walking some touring by motorcoach. Free time in Copley Square. Dinner at the Hard Rock Café. Return to hotel.
- Friday:** Departures for flights back home all day and time to say our good-byes.

WEATHER INFORMATION:

Usually temperature averages low 60's to low 70's Fahrenheit.

WHAT DO I BRING?

- The trip is only for 7 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 and weight.
- BRING a lightweight JACKET, at night temperatures drop a bit cooler.
- Comfortable shoes are a must. There is a lot of walking especially in New York. We visit a lot of 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 this goes for the same in Boston. Watch your possessions in the airports as well.
- You will need enough money for airport snacks, (\$5-8) for lunches a day and for shopping for souvenirs etc.
 - Bring a camera (a few disposables are fine) average student uses 5-6 rolls film or 4 -5 disposable cameras. Most students will have digital cameras.

FILM SHOULD BE IN CARRY-ON LUGGAGE – NEVER PUT IN CHECKED IN LUGGAGE.

- **You will *NEED* your HEALTH INSURANCE CARD AND IDENTIFICATION.**
- 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, 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 EWR Newark-Liberty Airport MAY 1st, and also get assigned seats for your return flights, if you don't already have them. Just remember you are flying out of Boston Logan (Bos) on MAY 7th.

If your flight is cancelled or delayed more than 60 minutes, or if you are transferred to another airline, please call MPD Tour America, Inc. office at 1-800-983-7780 so we know where and when to meet you and see the **ALTERNATE NUMBER** below if lines are busy at this number. 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 traveling.

ALTERNATE NUMBER:

PLEASE KEEP THESE TELEPHONE NUMBERS WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES ARRIVAL DAY, THROUGHOUT THE TOUR AND DEPARTURE DAYS FOR EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

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1-917-376-7225 OR 1-917-691-3097

ARRIVAL DAY IN EWR Newark-Liberty Airport

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 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. Also, call our emergency number 917-376-7225 when you arrive.

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).

Once a student is met we advise them to call the host family and tell them you 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 BOSTON TO YOUR HOST FAMILY WE WILL TRANSFER YOU FROM THE HOTEL TO BOSTON LOGAN 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 rooms, 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 families 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 as well. No paperwork means no smoking! Also you must abide all smoking laws in New York and New Jersey and in the 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!

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