

# Countdown to Travel!

## **6 months or more before the trip:**

- Apply for passport
- Contact EF Tours to *verify* your name (the name on your account must match your passport exactly)
- Purchase travel insurance (EF has a couple of different options). Check their website for specifics.
- Use the trip itinerary and do some web searches over the destination countries and cities.
- Complete the Traveler Survey and Medical Info. on the Trip Website ([www.raiderworldtravler.com/weebly](http://www.raiderworldtravler.com/weebly))

## **3 months before the trip:**

- Purchase necessary luggage (if needed). Talk to Ms. Taylor about the appropriate size. You are allowed one checked bag, one carry on, and one “personal bag” (ie: purse, or small backpack)
- Purchase travel converter and adapter to for electronic use while overseas.
- Think about who you would like to room with. We usually make the roommate list about 8-10 weeks before the trip.
- Discuss your budget with your family, and decide how much spending money you plan to take on the trip. General suggestion: \$35-50 per day of the trip. Discuss **how** you plan to spend money (just using cash, debit card, credit card, etc.)
- Turn in your tip money to Ms. Taylor

## **1 month before the trip:**

- Contact your phone company about best options for cell phone use overseas
- Secure foreign currency and/or prepaid debit card for use on the trip.
- Talk with your roommates about packing, and discuss items that you will share (ex: hair straightener, camera/phone charger, etc.)
- Purchase a passport and money “safety system.” You will need either a back-pack, or messenger bag, or a lanyard that serves as a passport/money holder. This is very important!
- Make sure you have discussed any medical or dietary issues with Ms. Taylor.

## **2 weeks before the trip:**

- Make a packing list
- Purchase necessary toiletries (no larger than 3 oz in the carry-on bag)

### **1 week before departure:**

- Start packing your bags (getting an early start will help ensure that you don't forget anything).
- Call Credit Card Company or your bank (if applicable) and notify them of your travel plans, and to confirm that your card will work overseas.
- Do you know your "Pair" and your "Squares"? Do you know your assigned chaperone?

### **The day before departure:**

- Weigh your completely packed bag. Your checked bag can be no more than 40 lbs.
- Check your carry-on for "illegal" items. No liquids bigger than 3 oz, no nail files or clippers, no pocket knives, etc.
- Be sure that you have your passport in your carry-on!!!

### **Departure Day:**

Do you have...

- Passport!!!
- Comfortable shoes
- Rain jacket/umbrella
- Medications
- Charger for phone/camera/ipod
- Toothbrush
- Contacts and solution/glasses
- Money/Debit Card