

## Ms. Taylor's Rules of the Road

### Expectations for an Enjoyable Trip!

#### The Basics

- **Listen!** Always listen to instructions; always listen while the Tour Director or Tour Guide is talking. Most problems occur because students were talking to each other and not listening when appropriate.
- Be on time. It is extremely important to be on time. We will always be on a tight schedule on tour, and do not want to waste time waiting for anyone.
- **Always travel in groups of *three* or more.** Do not go anywhere by yourself. Do not wander off when we are in a large group—even if you just want to go a short distance. Ask Ms. Taylor before stopping at the bathroom or ATM.
- **Alcohol. No one in our group (adults included) is allowed to consume alcohol**—no matter the legal age in the country we are visiting. This rule is just a safeguard for all tour members. Remember: you are on the trip to learn, not to drink. Don't break the trust of your chaperones (and your parents)...just refrain from alcohol.
- Language. Please use school appropriate language while on tour. You are a representative of our school, district and community. If it's not ok to say at school...it's not ok to say while on tour.
- PDA (public displays of affection). Please refrain from hanging all over each other while on tour (whether you are dating or not). This tends to make the people around you uncomfortable, and can become just plain tacky. Also, refrain from doing the same with students from other schools that might be traveling with us.
- **Do not hang out in rooms of the opposite sex.** Find a common area (hotel lobby) to hang out. Do not spend time in rooms of/with the opposite sex.
- **You must have an adult in your group when we split up.**
- Head count. When asked for a head count, you must make eye-contact with your travel buddies, and then report to Ms. Taylor when anyone in your group who missing.

#### Airport/Airplane:

- When we arrive at the airport, Ms. Taylor will check in first. Wait patiently in line (with passport in hand), and listen for instructions from chaperones.
- After you have cleared security, you may proceed to our assigned gate. Please wait for some other tour members and travel together while in the airport.
- **Make sure that you are at the correct gate at least *40 minutes* before departure.** Sometimes there will be a last minute gate change, and you need plenty of time to get to the new assigned gate.
- **Sit in your assigned seat! You may change seats with each other *after* the announcement has been made that they are shutting the airplane door.**
- **After exiting the plane, wait just inside the terminal door for the whole group. Do not take off to baggage claim by yourself.**
- After clearing Immigration and/or customs, wait for the group on the other side before you continue on.

#### Hotel

- Each night we will have a **"team huddle"** in the hotel lobby. Your chaperone will inform you of the meeting time each day. At the huddle, you will get instructions for the next day, and also the time for your nightly room check.



→ **Room checks.** Each night, your chaperone will come by your room at the designated time and check to see that everyone is present. You will have a piece of tape placed on your door for the night, and the chaperone will remove it the next morning. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR ROOM DURING THE NIGHT!** If you need something, call Ms. Taylor and she will come to your room to assist you.

→ **Bedtime.** Each day on tour is FULL of activity, so it is important that you go to sleep at a decent hour each night.

→ **Morning wake-up.** Your chaperone will come to your room the next morning to remove the tape and make sure that everyone is awake, so that you will be ready to leave on time.

→ **Charges to the room.** You will be responsible for all charges to your room (whether they were intentional or not). Please be careful not to make calls, use the mini bar, or other things that might incur a charge.

### Bus

→ **We will spend lots of time on the bus.** Make sure that you have something to keep yourself entertained (book, ipod, DS, etc.) A lot of people use this time to catch up on sleep...so be respectful of this.

→ **Remove ear buds when the Tour Director/Tour Guide is speaking.** The Tour Director will share lots of information with the group while we are on the bus. Please remove your ear buds...it is very rude to keep them in while he/she is speaking.

### Luggage

→ **You are responsible for your luggage at all times. It is never a good idea to leave it in the care of someone else ("will you watch my stuff?").** Make sure that you drop it off at/before the instructed time to be loaded on the bus on the mornings that we check out of the hotels.

→ **Keep the brightly colored duct tape on your bag for the duration of the trip. (you will get this piece of tape from Ms. Taylor on the morning we depart).**

### City/Subway

→ **LOOK BOTH WAYS!** Don't forget this basic rule. Often students have a "herd mentality" when traveling in a group, and think it is safe to cross the street (without looking) because the person in front of them just crossed the street.

→ **Do not get ahead of the Tour Director.** Always follow BEHIND them, even if you know the way.

→ **Actively listen while the Tour Director/Tour Guide is speaking. It is rude to listen to your ipod, talk to each other, or wander around while they are speaking.**

→ **Always listen for the name of the subway stop where we will be exiting.** When entering the subway, the Tour Director will always tell you the name of the stop to get off. **PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO THIS!** If you miss this stop, get off at the very next stop, go back to the stop where you were supposed to get off.

### Clothing

→ **Girls may not wear spaghetti straps, or extremely short-shorts. Shorts need to reach finger-tip length. It is important to cover shoulders when visiting churches.**

→ **Please refrain from wearing clothing with suggestive/vulgar sayings or images.**

→ **Everyone must have a pair of athletic shoes;** we will do lots of walking in the cities.