

Parents and _____ (print student traveler name),

ATLAS TOUR EXPECTATIONS CHECKLIST | Experiencing new cultures and living like the locals do is part of the **fun and excitement** of traveling abroad. The differences between American amenities and those in other countries add to the sense of **adventure**. Remember that you will return home with a **new perspective** on the world and on your own culture and heritage. Carefully read each of the following items. **Initial** as indicated for each box below and **sign at the end** to state that you have read and understand the information.

GROUP TRAVEL

Parent	Traveler	
		I understand that traveling with my group (and other groups that join us) requires thoughtfulness, a good attitude and flexibility .
		I understand that it is crucial that everyone make punctuality a priority for wake up calls, sightseeing tours, meeting times, etc. It takes just one person late to throw off the schedule for the whole group. <i>To be on time is late to be early is on time.</i>
		I know that it is important to follow instructions and be respectful at all times.
		I will carry a watch with me at all times. (Since cell phones may or may not work).
		I will attend all scheduled activities unless worked out with Korey ahead of time.

PACKING & LUGGAGE

Parent	Traveler	
		I understand that it is important to pack light in order to travel efficiently. I should bring only as much as will fit in one carry-on bag and one backpack .
		I will weigh my packed luggage at least 1 day ahead of time to make sure that it will check in without going over weight. (A good weight limit to plan for is 35 lbs.)
		I understand that I am responsible for loading and unloading all of my belongings on and off buses and into hotels.
		I understand that I am responsible for carrying all of my belongings up stairs and through buildings on my own and up and down stairs.
		It is understood that we will be doing a lot of walking and I will bring comfortable, broken in shoes that will not cause blisters and/or discomfort.
		It is recommended that travelers carry valuables, medicines, and an extra change of clothes in a carry TSA-locked backpack on the plane and in a side purse while walking around.
		I understand that I am responsible for the cost of each checked bag (over one) and for additional bag checks necessary for my purchases on the way home. I will have the money easily available in the event I go over weight on the way over or on the way home. For specifics on luggage size and weights, see the websites for our airlines.
		I understand that I need to bring both a converter and an adaptor for my electrical appliances to work properly. However, I also understand that even with the appropriate ad/conv whatever I plug into it may still blow up .

DOCUMENTS

Parent	Traveler	
		Your passport needs to be valid for at least six months after the end of the tour.
		The spelling of your name on the EF Tour website must match your passport name exactly .
		Once tickets are issued, name changes are seldom possible. If at all possible, they can range from \$200 to the price of the airline ticket.
		I have given Korey my signed passport to make a colored photocopy . (By the end of 6/20 meeting)
		Travelers who are not US citizens must contact the consulates of the countries they will be visiting or transferring through and obtain any necessary visas.

MONEY

Parent	Traveler	
		I understand that it is NOT recommended to bring travelers' checks since they are difficult to cash.
		ATMs are the most convenient method for cash withdrawals.
		I have notified my bank of the dates I will be abroad and the locations (including airports along the way) I will be and confirmed the use of said debit/credit card.
		I understand how to use my debit/credit card and have practiced with my parents.
		I have discussed with my parents an appropriate amount of money to spend on the tour.
		It is recommended to have \$30 per day for spending money. I have discussed this with my parents and have set an appropriate amount aside that can be accessed on the tour.
		I understand that the success of my trip (as well as everyone else in the group) can be strongly affected if I am not prepared to use my debit/credit card due to delays and missed appointments and lack of independence.
		I understand that I should have some money exchanged in the currency before I leave. I can do this at my bank for no additional charge, but should do so early in case I need to order it.
		I understand that I have to pay my tip money by

ACCOMODATIONS

Parent	Traveler	
		I understand that hotels abroad are often not as modern or standardized as they are in North America.
		I understand that rooms and beds are usually smaller and have single and/or shared double beds.
		I understand that rooms seldom have air conditioning or televisions.
		I understand that not all hotels abroad have elevators . I will need to be able to carry all of my luggage and belongings in one trip up several flights of stairs on my own.
		I am aware that groups for each room may change from hotel to hotel.
		I am willing to be respectful and considerate of all members in my room even if I do not know them well or they are not my first choice for roommates.
		I know that I am expected to be quiet and respectful of all roommates need for sleep and the level of noise in the room.
		I am willing to abide by all curfew rules completely and without argument or whining. Remember: Chaperones need their sleep as well to enjoy the tour and to be available for the group each day on the tour.
		I will not switch rooms that are assigned . If I have a problem with my roommates, I will discuss the situation calmly and privately with Korey.
		I understand that walls may be thin and transfer noise more than hotels in the States. I will be respectful of neighbors to the side as well as below my room (jumping, knocking on walls, etc.)
		I will leave a hotel room/cabin room/bus seat etc. looking better and cleaner than when I got there. Leaving messes will not be tolerated.

MEALS

Parent	Traveler	
		I understand that food and portions size may be different than what I am accustomed to.
		I know that breakfast typically includes cereal, bread, rolls, jam, juice, coffee (much different than the American version) and tea. Breakfast may differ from hotel to hotel.
		I understand that lunch is an opportunity to make culinary discoveries of my own and that I am responsible for the bill. This is a chance to eat authentic food from the country of focus.
		Dinners included on the tour package will be either familiar dishes or local specialties. I understand that due to the challenges of serving a large group, I will receive a pre-set meal

		rather than ordering from a menu. (I have let Korey know my dietary restrictions using the Google Form, so alternate meals could be arranged ahead of time).
		I understand that I am expected to pay for soft drinks and other beverages at dinner. Table water is always provided free of charge. <i>If soft drinks are on the table-this does not mean that they are free!</i>
		I understand that I may not leave a dinner early even if I am finished ahead of the group. It is considered disrespectful to leave a meal before all the courses have been served and everyone in the group has had enough time to eat.
		I will only try to sit by one or two friends at dinner instead of forcing a group of friends to be able to sit together. I understand that part of the adventure is getting to know new individuals and that it is not always possible to sit by everyone I want to. I need to be considerate of everyone in my group at meals. Exclusion verbally or with body language will not be tolerated.

SAFETY

Parent	Traveler	
		I understand that I must obey all rules for personal safety and the safety of others in the group.
		I understand that I must always be with a minimum of 3 in our group and will not wander off on my own. For this trip, I will be with 1 of the many adults that are going.
		I will keep all valuables close to my body and in front of me while in airport and while in crowded places so I do not get robbed. Items in a backpack or in a purse that is facing my side or back may be at risk.
		I will keep my valuables in a safe place at all times. I will not openly advertise (talk about) money or valuables that I have with me.
		I will not leave any of my valuables or belongings on any bus we use for travel. Anything I bring with me during traveling on tour needs to be able to be carried with me when I leave the bus (or other modes of transportation).
		I will not photograph or videotape people without their permission.
		I will NOT smoke or do drugs on this tour. Your behavior affects the tone of the trip for everyone, and you place your safety in jeopardy. Experimentation and breaking this rule on a tour abroad will lead to you being sent home accompanied by parent.
		I will NOT drink alcohol on this tour unless pre-approved in writing via the EF Alcohol Waiver form with Korey. You must be 18 years of age on tour to fill out and turn in this waiver – if you are 17 you cannot have any alcohol per EF policy. Upon parental release on this issue alcohol consumption will be in moderation and if one becomes intoxicated you will be sent home accompanied by parent.
		I understand that if I break or law (e.g., shoplifting, get in a fight, destroy property) or do anything that gets me in trouble with the local police force one or both of my parents may need to come to deal with the situation I have created.
		I understand that Korey is my de facto legal guardian on this trip and my decisions and actions may have a negative impact not only on this trip but on subsequent trips via reputation. Therefore, I agree to relinquish my personal sovereignty over my belongings (including backpacks and luggage) if the need arises to search the belongings for items listed above.

****NOTE: IT IS NOT MY INTENTION TO VIOLATE ANYONE'S PERSONAL SPACE OR RIGHTS, BUT TO SIMPLY KEEP A SAFE AND EDUCATIONAL TOUR FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS.**

AIRPORT CHECK-IN

Parent	Traveler	
		I know which group I am traveling with for each leg of the trip. I know who my chaperone is for my group based on the June 20, 2019 meeting.

		I will wear shoes that can easily be removed and put back on as I go through security. With a large group, it is important to be efficient and not hold the line up. Shoes must slip on and off quickly.
		I will have all of my toiletries prepared properly for check in at the airport . No liquids over 3 oz. in carry-on bags, and all carry-on liquids in a clear zipped shut bag.
		I understand that I cannot take a filled water bottle through security. I should bring an empty water bottle to fill on the other side of the gate to stay hydrated.
		I have included in my carry on things to do while waiting such as a set of cards or a book to read. I need to be prepared for delays or layovers that could add up to hours and my boredom or lack thereof is my responsibility.
		I understand that I must stay with my group and my chaperone throughout the flight process. Shopping is not my main goal at the airport. <i>Flight plans can change suddenly and unexpectedly and we don't want to leave anyone behind.</i>
		I WILL NOT LOSE MY BOARDING PASS OR PASSPORT . Make sure you do your best to keep your boarding pass and passport in a place that is safe that is accessible. Losing it could delay the entire group and cause unneeded stress.
		I will be quiet and considerate of other travelers on the plane. I understand that I am not the only one flying and my volume level could be keeping someone from napping or enjoying their flight.
		I understand that I have been assigned a seat by the airlines and will board accordingly.

I have read carefully all of the above information and understand each of the items.

Parent Name (printed)

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Traveler Name (printed)

Date

Traveler Signature

Date

***Note: Much of this is overkill; I've just included any and all issues that have arisen with EF Tours (including some that are specific to ours). Understand that I take the responsibility of making this a happy, memorable, and safe trip for every single one of us.*

Korey Hlaudy
ATLAS Group Leader