

BRANDYWINE HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL
Europe Tour 2015
Wednesday, March 25 – Saturday, April 4, 2015

Summary of February 24th Europe Trip Meeting

Thanks to all who attended the February 24th trip meeting! Included is a summary of the discussion and a copy of the itinerary. . This information is also available on the HS Music website at bhmusichome.wikispaces.com.



Questions/Items/Suggestions from the Meeting:

- Adults - If you are keeping your car at the high school during the trip, you may park in the back corner of the parking lot nearest to the field hockey field. Please know that the school district cannot monitor or be responsible for your vehicle.
- Parents – you are welcome to come to school to say goodbye to your children!
- Students may store their textbooks, laptops, school items in band lockers during the trip.
- Recommendation: Place shampoo, etc. in plastic bag in your checked luggage to avoid a mess if there are spills.
- Clothing – to save space, pack articles of clothing that you can wear more than once.
- Adaptors can be purchased on Amazon/Walmart/Best Buy – for more information, contact Mrs. Rhodes
- Remember to notify your credit card company/bank that you will be travelling abroad.

Paperwork Thank you for submitting the following items! We will contact you if anything else is needed.

1. Digital copies of passport, birth certificate, medical form – send to Mrs. Rhodes
2. Any doctor prescription notes – digital or hard copies – send to Mrs. Rhodes
3. Adult BHASD requirements

At the Airport

1. Lufthansa Baggage Requirements – for details, check the Lufthansa website
2. You may take three items on the flight:
 - a. Large piece of luggage to be checked in
 - maximum weight – 50 lbs
 - maximum dimensions 158 cm (width + height + depth)
 - anything larger or heavier, a fee will be charged.
 - Students with larger instruments will check in their instrument.
 - b. Carry-on (hand luggage) – personal documents, medicines, valuables, phone, laptop; you can put your small instrument in your carryon so you can still bring a personal item.
 - Maximum weight – 17 lbs
 - Maximum dimensions - 55 x 40 x 23 cm
 - No scissors, pocket knives, etc.
 - c. Personal item – handbag, laptop bag, your small instrument
 - Maximum dimensions 30 x 40 x 10 cm

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3. Liquids in your carry-on (hand luggage):

- Containers with liquids and gel-like products may contain up to 100 millilitres (approx.. 3 oz.)
- All containers must be carried in a plastic bag (transparent, resealable, max. capacity 1 litre).
- One bag per person
- The bag must be presented separately at the security check
- Medicines and special food (e.g. baby food) which are needed during a flight may be transported outside the plastic zip-lock bag and must also be presented at security.

Security/Customs Do not use your cell phone while going through customs.

- While still on the plane approaching Germany, you may be asked to fill out a form – have a pen in your carry-on.
- When we get off the plane, we will move to *passport control* to have our passports stamped.
- We will then proceed to baggage claim.
- After we collect our bags we will proceed through the customs area.
- You or your bags might be randomly searched – metal detector, wand, frisked.
- After moving through customs, we will meet our tour guide.

What to Pack After luggage check, colored tape will be attached to each piece of luggage for easy identification.

1. Carry-on:

Change of clothes, meds that you need, passport, identification, money, bring a pen for customs; mp3 player with earbuds, etc. Instrumentalists carry your instrument if it meets the size requirements. No knives, scissors, etc.

2. Checked-in Baggage:

- Performance attire: Ladies – black gown, dress shoes, optional nylons; Guys – white dress shirt, long tie, dress pants, dress shoes
- Concert – the Rudolfinum: “Smart casual” – dress pants, nice shoes, button down shirt or blouse or sweater/shirt; Guys, you could wear your performance attire; No Jeans or sneakers
- During tours/excursions/dinner – comfortable shoes; jeans, coat, hat etc. check the weather – it might be cold!

Luggage check

- Students shall bring all luggage to school on the morning of Wednesday, April 25. *You may also bring your luggage to store in the H.S. music room between 2:15 – 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24.* Adults are welcome to do this too.
- On Wednesday morning, luggage will be inspected by the directors. Mr. Van Voorhis/Mr. Schwoyer will inspect the men’s luggage and Mrs. Rhodes/Mrs. Paxson will inspect the girl’s luggage.
- Luggage be weighed prior to departure

Departure

- 1:30 p.m. departure on charter bus to Philadelphia airport
- Adults, plan to arrive at the high school by 12:30 p.m.

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Recommendations for this final month

- Get your Euros and Czech Crowns here prior to departure; the hotel in Salzburg will do currency exchange (thanks Lisa Radcliff!)
- Check the weather
- Have a plan for communication with family. Internet is not always free in Europe.
- Have a plan for spending money – how much should you take; plan for safekeeping

Itinerary

- During “free time for independent sightseeing” – students must always be with an adult
- In enclosed areas (castle tour) – students must be in groups of four
- Research the sites on the itinerary. It’s exciting!
- Communication – I am creating a group email and plan to send out short emails of our status when an internet connection is available.

MONEY

Currency in Munich and Salzburg The currency in Munich and Salzburg is the Euro.

- Exchange rate: currently, 1 Euro equals 1.13 US Dollar.
- Credit cards - In Germany, American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard, and Visa are commonly accepted, with the latter two cards predominating. Check shop windows and entrance doors for credit card logos to see which cards you can use.

Currency in Prague: Czech Crown (czk) The currency in Prague is the Czech Crown (czk).

- Czech banknotes are issued in the following denominations: 100/200/500/1000/2000/5000.
- Exchange Rate: Currently, 1000czk = \$42.

Credit cards are accepted in most hotels, international shops and more expensive restaurants. Local shops and cheaper restaurants may not take credit cards. Again, check shop windows and entrance doors for credit card logos.

Feel free to contact Mrs. Rhodes with your questions and discoveries! See you soon!