

LANGUAGE & FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS



Participation in this program is a privilege. Participants will be expected to conduct themselves in a mature, considerate manner, reflecting highly on themselves, their community, their country. Success of the program for all requires that each person abide by a set of common behavior expectations for the benefit and safety of all. Failure on the part of anyone to abide by these guidelines creates needless problems for the majority, wasting valuable program time. Be considerate of fellow travelers. Be aware of the burden of responsibility each leader bears and of the dedication shown in providing you this experience. Read these with your parents, along with your Student Guidebook. Sign below and return to your leader.

1. I will respect my leader and the members of my group by being on time and participating in all planned activities, including **all pre-trip preparation meetings**.
2. I will make my best effort to speak the language of the country I am visiting. I will show interest, be engaged and be helpful.
3. I will treat people I meet with respect and discretion, as I am a guest in their country. I will thoroughly review the Travel Courtesies and the Family Stay sections in the Student Guidebook.
4. I will be a safe traveler: I will keep my passport and my money safe in a neck or waist pouch; I will never venture out alone; during any free time, I agree to stay in a group of three or more; I will never accept rides from or give information to strangers.
5. I will abide by the curfews set by my leader, and will remain in my assigned room after curfew. I will conduct myself in a manner to keep my general health strong, i.e. getting a good night's rest and eating properly.
6. I agree to act, speak and dress appropriately, in a manner that is respectful of the culture I am visiting and in a manner that will not attract undue attention. I will not use inappropriate language and will not have inappropriate physical contact.
7. I will not engage in romantic/sexual involvement or in any kind of behavior leading to it.
8. I agree to not bring my cell phone and agree to consciously limit the use of e-mail or Internet communication so that I can focus on the program, the country, and the people I am visiting.
9. I will not participate in any actions that are illegal either in the U.S. or in the country I am visiting, such as consuming alcohol, using tobacco or any other controlled substance, stealing, etc. If detained by the police, I understand that I am subject to the host country's laws and authorities.
10. I will not have my body pierced or tattooed while abroad.
11. I will not drive any motorized vehicle, nor will I be a passenger on a two-wheeled motorized vehicle. If invited to participate in a high-risk activity (such as climbing, hunting, flying in a private plane...), I agree to first ask L&F to obtain the written permission of my parents.

12. I will be responsible for any loss or damage to any personal or public property, and pay damages, if applicable. This includes any damage to hotel, buses, sites visited, host family's home, and other participants' property.
13. I will be responsible for having a valid passport and any other documentation that is required. I understand that I am responsible for any expenses incurred in obtaining these documents or in replacing them if they are lost.
14. If I have any questions or concerns while abroad, I agree to first contact my leader, or during the family stay, the local coordinator, instead of my parents.
15. I agree to abide by any other rules my leader may require. I accept my leader's word as final.

Discipline procedures depend on the offense and are subject to leader discretion. Disciplinary action may include any or all of the following:

- Confrontation and grounding
- Collect call home with both student and leader present
- Return home at parental expense. Parents will be required to cover any incurred expenses: student return flight; additional travel/hotel costs for student; parent flight, if necessary. Also, additional in-country travel/hotel costs for leader if travel is required to reach an available airport.

Special note: Despite the complications and costs of sending a student home, it has been done and will be done again if such action is deemed necessary. Such action is rare but, where needed, parents will have to either agree to travel abroad – at their own expense - to pick up their child or give permission for him/her to return home alone.

I understand, respect, and accept fully the Program Expectations listed above and promise to abide by them all for my benefit as well as that of all participants—students and leaders.

Signature of participant: _____ Date: _____

**participants age 18 and over must agree to and sign the Program Expectations*

By our signatures below, we, the parents or legal guardians of the above-named participant, understand, respect, and accept the Program Expectations listed above and agree to pay all expenses incurred for returning our child to the U.S., should such action be deemed necessary by his/her leader/s and Language & Friendship. We understand that unless we give permission for our child to travel home alone, we will agree to go abroad to accompany him/her home. We will encourage our son/daughter to abide by these Program Expectations and to prepare well for the program, realizing these preparations are essential to making the experience safe, meaningful, and successful.

Signature of parent or guardian: _____ Date: _____

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