



## COVID-19 FAQs for Summer Travel 2021

### 1. Will there be any requirements for proof of vaccine prior to travel?

- a. There is little chance that the only way to enter a country is with a proof of vaccine. Other methods will be utilized until most of the world's population can be vaccinated in an effective way. For example, nations are likely to require proof of vaccine or a recent negative test. However, since the vaccine rollout has only just begun in the United States and abroad, we don't know exactly what will be necessary for each region. Each country we travel to, as well as each airline will have their own individual requirements for either proof of vaccination or proof of negative testing. We are taking this very seriously and we are constantly monitoring and heeding the advice and requirements of each of the countries we travel to and the airlines we fly on and will echo their rules and regulations. Additionally, there will be more clarity on requirements once we get closer to our departure days and will update all parents and leaders with updates as they are available to us.

### 2. What are my options if my child is unable to receive the vaccination but proof of it is required for the airline/countries visited on the trip?

- a. As mentioned above, it is unlikely that proof of vaccine will be the *only* allowable way for someone to enter a country. If, in the unlikely event that a vaccine is required for admission to a country by the time we travel and your child is unable to receive the vaccine, then we will work with the parents and students on plans to transfer to another trip or on a refund policy.

### 3. What happens if a student contracts COVID-19 while abroad?

- a. We are still monitoring what certain nations will require while student's move through their many-nation trip. If consistent testing is done and a child tests positive while abroad, insurance purchased will cover all medical expenses and quarantine lodging. This is why it is very important to purchase insurance this year especially and, in fact, many countries will require proof of travel insurance for entry this year as well.

- b. A teacher leader will stay with the student for the duration of their time in quarantine and will return to the United States with them if a parent/guardian is unable to come and stay with them abroad.

**4. What happens if a teacher leader contracts COVID-19 while abroad?**

- a. If a teacher leader contracts COVID-19 while abroad, the entire delegation will be placed in quarantine and adhere to the requirements of that particular country/region. However, as many of our leaders are in fact teachers and they are high on the list to be vaccinated, our teacher leaders will most likely be completely vaccinated by the time of departure from the United States and this issue is not anticipated to arise.

**5. Will the homestay families have to be vaccinated?**

- a. We will most likely be postponing the homestay experience this year due to the concern of COVID-19 and have the students stay in hotels with their leaders on the nights that were originally planned for homestays. The experiences that would come with their homestay families and students during the day will remain but social distancing and mask wearing will be mandatory to meet the requirements of that region.

**6. Will the teacher leaders need proof of vaccination?**

- a. As mentioned above, we anticipate all leaders to have proof of their vaccination prior to departure.

**7. Will the tour guides/drivers need to be vaccinated?**

- a. The drivers and tour guides are hired and employees of the ground operator and will have to adhere to the individual region's requirements. Regardless of a local requirement, we will make sure that all parties (tour guides, drivers, etc.) will be adhering to local laws on mask wearing, social distancing, and proper sanitization in an effort to deter potential spread of the virus.

**8. What are the requirements for social distancing, mask wearing, and sanitizing?**

- a. We will adhere to and abide by the laws in place in each country we visit as it pertains to social distancing and mask wearing. All students will have masks provided for them with a pouch for replacement filters (filters will need to be provided by parents), will have hand sanitizer on hand, and will maintain social distance where possible and required.

**9. What is the plan if certain businesses/activities are closed due to COVID-19?**

- a. We unfortunately won't know if certain businesses or activities will be closed until we get substantially closer to departure. If this is the case, we are already working on contingency plans for rerouting activities based on what is available to us at the time.

**10. What happens if there is a travel ban on Americans going to a particular country?**

- a. If this is the case, we will not be traveling to that area, although by the summertime this is highly unlikely. Europe, as much as the United States is feeling the impact of being closed for business and most countries are making necessary preparations to be receiving Americans by summer. We are monitoring the current situation globally in regards to policies allowing/not allowing American travelers. We will make a decision about re-routing a trip around that particular country as soon as possible and will be in touch if there are itinerary changes. There will be alternative locations that we will offer to travel to if there is a situation where we cannot send delegations to a particular region due to their restrictions.

**11. Will groups of travelers (as opposed to individuals) be allowed to travel?**

- a. We're hoping that our groups will be able to travel as planned, but this is subject to change based on restrictions set forth by foreign governments. If we need to, we will separate the delegation into small groups (all with an assigned teacher leader).

**12. How will you be able to provide COVID-19 tests abroad that are mandatory to board a flight back to the United States?**

- a. Many airports and individual airlines are providing rapid COVID-19 tests for travelers to take prior to departure. If there is still a policy in place come this summer for proof of negative test results prior to entering the United States, we will make sure all students receive a negative test on site at the airport or at a testing facility in country. This list of airports is growing and we will have more information on this soon.

**13. What are my options for purchasing insurance?**

- a. We are going to be offering several insurance plans that would cover many of the medical costs, including COVID-19 related quarantine while abroad. These insurance plans should be available on our website in the coming weeks.

**14. What would my insurance plan cover?**

- a. We are currently working on the details of the new insurance policies and plan on having them available to parents in the coming weeks.

**15. How would students be returned to their parents if they contract COVID-19 abroad and need to be quarantined?**

- a. A student would be with a teacher leader until the period of quarantine is complete and have proof of negative tests. At that point they will travel back to the United States together. Also, a parent is welcome to join their child abroad for the duration of the quarantine as well. Our office can assist the parents in making travel plans for joining their child.

**16. Where would the student be quarantined if they tested positive?**

- a. This is on a case-by-case basis for individual countries, but most likely it would be in a hotel or a quarantine-specific center that is organized and overseen by the local government. Either way it would be covered by your insurance plan.

**17. When will a decision be made on if travel will happen or need to be postponed?**

- a. We will make an announcement on this by the end of March but no matter what, we are planning to travel this summer. There may be itinerary changes and date changes, however, our in-country partners are making it clear that they plan to travel, and most countries we will visit are planning to receive travelers. We do not expect travel to be postponed entirely this year.

**18. What will the refund policy look like for new 2021 enrollments?**

- a. If you are a new enrollee for 2021 and we postpone the trip, you will be offered one of two options:
  - i. Transfer of all funds paid (including non-refundable deposit) to a program of your choice in 2022 or 2023.
  - ii. Receive 100% of all monies paid in a cash refund, less the non-refundable deposit IF the trip is postponed to 2022.
    - 1. If the trip has not been postponed and you would like to cancel, you will receive 25% of the tuition cost back as a future travel voucher and the remaining balance, less the non-refundable deposit as a cash refund.

**19. What will the refund policy look like for 2020 travelers who transferred to 2021?**

- a. We are currently working on this policy and will give updates as soon as possible. As always, we are working to be as flexible as we can for each situation that arises.

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