

Albuquerque Youth Symphony 50th Anniversary

Tour to Brazil

Instruments

Following the bon voyage concert some instruments will be packed up on the van. The instruments to be put on the van, at a minimum, include:

- String Bass
- Bass Clarinet
- Cellos
- Tuba
- Trombones
- French Horns

It is likely that other instruments will be added to this list. We will let you know as soon as we can.

Airport & Flight Procedures

Albuquerque

1. Eat well before arriving at the airport and bring some extra snacks for travel.
2. Everyone should arrive at the airport at least two hours prior to their flight. Please be prompt! Getting 100 people organized at the airport will take some time and security can be over 1 ½ hours long in Albuquerque.
3. Meet at the inside American Airlines ticket counter. A chaperone will be there to help you check in, give you instructions and your passport, which will then be recollected.
4. Be sure to bring a photo ID to use when you check-in.
5. **Do not joke about security!** No bomb jokes or anything of the kind. This is treated very seriously and may mean not being able to go with us. Don't do it!!

Luggage

6. AYS ID ribbons and tags will be put on luggage at check-in.
7. You are limited to one checked suitcase (50 pound limit), which you must be able to carry by yourself along with any carry-on items you have, such as an instrument and/or daypack. Any additional charges for luggage over the weight limit will be the responsibility of the traveler (student).
 - a. Carry-on luggage will be x-rayed and/or searched. Put all sharp instrument tools or extra strings in your checked luggage. You will

Information for the AYS Tour to Brazil – May 29 – June 10

not be able to carry these items on the plane. They could be confiscated if you try to bring them through security.

- b. If you are bringing extra film, you should carry it in your carry-on. The x-ray machine that the checked luggage goes through could ruin your film.
 - c. Carry-on items are limited to two. If you are carrying your instrument you can take it and a small backpack or purse.
8. After you have checked in you will proceed through security to the boarding gate.
 9. Once through security, go directly to the assigned gate and check in with the chaperone that will be there.

10. AYS Buddy System Policy – Students must be with one or more persons from our group at all times.

11. At the gate chaperones will pass out meal money for the day. There will be limited meal service on the domestic flights so plan accordingly.

Miami

12. We will have plenty of time to get dinner in Miami. Please meet at the assigned gate at 8:00 pm, where chaperones will check everyone in for our flight.

Sao Paulo

13. We will have breakfast on board the plane. When we arrive at the Sao Paulo International Airport everyone will need to claim their own luggage and instruments and proceed through customs.
14. Proceed with chaperones directly to boarding gate. The plane will stop at Brasilia, but we will stay on board until we arrive in Manaus.
15. Collect luggage and instruments from the baggage claim, proceed to buses and go on a sightseeing tour of the city. The tour will conclude at the theater of Manaus.

Hotel Procedures

1. All hotel information is provided at the end of this document.
2. When we arrive at the hotel, students are to stay on the bus until chaperones have checked-in.
3. A few people will be asked to help unload the luggage.
4. You will be dismissed from the bus according to room assignments. Pick up your luggage and proceed to your assigned rooms.
5. Check your room for any damage or other problems. Inform a chaperone of any problems.
6. All phone calls should be made from pay phones. You will not be able to make calls from your room, even if you are using an 800# or phone card.
7. Each hotel room will be assigned a student captain. The captain is responsible for checking the rooms prior to check out to make sure that all clothing and personal items (especially uniforms) have been packed and nothing has been left behind.

8. The AYS has a very strict room policy. **At no time is a student of the opposite gender allowed in your room.**
9. No one is allowed to order food delivered to their room.
10. No one is allowed to charge anything to the room.

General Procedures

1. You will be assigned a chaperone with your room. This chaperone will be the one giving you money and information throughout the trip. You will usually be accompanying this chaperone when going from place to place. Please stay with this chaperone, and check in with them whenever we are leaving the hotel.

Free Time

2. Free time – there are several occasions when students are free to explore. **During these times students must use the Buddy System.** They are also to follow these rules:
 - a. No use of public transportation, including the bus, taxis or subway systems. You must travel by foot during free time
 - b. Stay within the announced boundaries during free time. We have researched the different areas we will be visiting and set these boundaries for your safety. Maps will be provided.

Meals

3. All meals are provided. For some meals students will be given money and can get their own meals. Other meals have been pre-ordered, and we will all eat together. The chaperones will give the students their meal money and information about what they have ordered on a daily basis.
4. Our schedule is extremely busy and on many days we will have long periods of time between meals. Please look at our schedule and plan ahead for your personal needs. It is extremely important that everyone keep hydrated and well nourished. We will have plenty of bottled water available throughout the day. We need students to carry any extra food they think they might need in addition to the scheduled meals. As in many countries, dinner is traditionally a much later meal than many of us are used to, so please keep that in mind during the day, and plan accordingly.

Cell Phones

5. Please leave cell phones at home. International phone calls and text messaging can be very expensive, depending on your cell phone plan. The chaperone group will have a cell phone with international service for emergencies.

Dress Code

We have three different dress codes for this trip. Please remember that you are representing the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program as well as Albuquerque, New Mexico, and we want to make a good impression!

Casual Dress

No revealing, excessively baggy, torn or dirty clothes. APS dress code might be a good standard to follow.

Wear comfortable walking shoes. We will be doing a lot of walking!
If chaperones consider your clothing inappropriate you may be asked to change.

Dress Clothes

We are recommending that you bring one casual, dressy outfit.

Gentlemen – khaki pants (no jeans, denim or corduroys) and shirt with collar (polo shirt or button-down) and clean sneakers.

Ladies – Casual dress, skirt and top or nice pants and top with collar.
Shoes should be comfortable as we will be doing a lot of walking. High heeled shoes are discouraged.

Concert Dress

AYS uniforms will be worn for all five concerts.

Gentlemen – dress shirts, ties, black slacks and uniform blazer. Black socks and shoes. Please be sure to bring a couple of extra button-down shirts, just in case.

Ladies – We recommend knee-high stockings rather than panty hose, due to the heat and humidity. No flip flops, and please wear black shoes for concerts.

Additional Items

- AYS T-shirt
- warm sweater or light jacket
- Umbrella or rain poncho (can buy at Target or Kmart for about \$5.00, folds up into a nice little square for packing and carrying).
- Medication should be carried in labeled, original containers.
- Extra contacts or glasses
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen – we will be doing a lot of outside activities, walking tours and the beach!
- Bug repellent with DEET (recommended)
- Camera and film – recommended that film go in carry on luggage (see Luggage section 7b)
- Music Stand (each student must bring own, please label and pack in checked luggage)
- Backpack or small overnight bag for boat trip
- Books, playing cards
- Portable music devices

Information for the AYS Tour to Brazil – May 29 – June 10

- Batteries
- Feminine hygiene products
- **An inexpensive watch** so that each student will know when to return during free time (since they will not have a cell phone to tell the time by)
- A small baggie with powdered laundry detergent since there will not be any laundry facilities available
- Copy of Passport (which will be provided to you at the airport – we recommend that each student carry this **with** their Photo ID throughout the trip)
- Photo ID (school ID or drivers license)
- Luggage Tags
- Aqua shoes or thongs for the beach (optional/suggested)
- Adapter plugs
- Spending money already converted into Brazilian currency which is a real or reais (plural). **The students will not have time to exchange their money once they get to Brazil.** Most US banks need to be notified that you want to convert your money at least 5 days ahead of time. Check with your bank for their policies on foreign money conversion. Each student may want to bring between \$50 to \$100 for additional snacks, additional bottled water (each student will be provided with 2 bottled waters each day), souvenirs, etc...

Safety

1. **Always travel with a least one other person from our group (the Buddy System).**
2. Keep purses with straps around your neck and also held in the hand.
3. Wallets should be carried in the front, not the back pocket.
4. Stay alert and pay attention to your surroundings.
5. Avoid eye contact with strangers.
6. Be wary of strangers who offer to hold anything for you (such as cameras, purse or instrument).
7. Do not give strangers information, such as your name or where we are staying.
8. Be wary if strangers offer you anything.
9. If a stranger makes you uncomfortable ignore them and walk away. In a worst case scenario, scream to attract attention from passers-by.
10. Avoid stray animals (immunization regulations are not as stringent in other countries).
11. Immediately report any incident to chaperones.

Information on Brazil

You may want to check out the following web sites to get more information about Brazil so you will be aware of the cultural differences of the country while we are touring:

Information for the AYS Tour to Brazil – May 29 – June 10

www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/br.html
www.vivabrazil.com/
www.braziltourism.org/

We are looking forward to a great trip with excellent concerts and outstanding audiences. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the trip please call AYSPA President Mike Kruchoski at 480-5000.

Hotel Information

May 30th

Hotel Tropical

Estrada da Ponta Negra, s/n
69037-000 Manaus, State of Amazonas
Phone: (92) 2123-5000
Fax: (92) 3658-3034

May 31st

Overnight on boats

June 1st

Hotel Tropical

Estrada da Ponta Negra, s/n
69037-000 Manaus, State of Amazonas
69037-000 Manaus, am
Phone: (92) 2123-5000
Fax: (92) 3658-3034

June 2nd – 3rd

Estalagem das Minas Gerais
Rodovia dos Inconfidentes, km 90
Cep 35400-000 Ouro Preto
Phone: (31) 3551-2122
Fax: (31) 3551-2709

June 4th – 5th

Hotel Parthenon – Vila da Serra
Alameda da Serra – 405
Bairro Vila da Serra
Nova Lima, Minas Gerais
Phone: (31) 3289-8100
Fax: (31) 3289-1577

June 6th – 8th

Othon Hotel Copacabana

Information for the AYS Tour to Brazil – May 29 – June 10

Avenida Atlantica 3264
Rio de Janeiro, RJ Brazil
Phone: 011 (55) 21 2525 1500
Fax: 011 (55) 21 2522 1697