

International Travel Adventure Planning Outline

NOTE: Be sure to adhere to Scouts Canada's Camping/Outdoor Activity Guide, www.scouts.ca

Session _____

Research

- have the group do some in-depth research about the area where you plan to be travelling to; about its language, political situation, religion, economy, customs, climate, etc.
- contact International Relations (Corporate Office) for Scouting contacts and information regarding Tour Permits
- investigate immunizations /medications required for your selected destination at least 3 months in advance
- buy or borrow a guidebook for the country you will be travelling to
- find the location of the nearest Canadian consulate to check in with when you arrive.

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In-Depth Planning

- using information on the foreign currency, as well as expected prices, set out a detailed budget
- get necessary permission forms signed
- discuss transportation for participants to and from your adventure (and reconfirm!!)
- plan and obtain any group equipment that will be needed
- apply for necessary passports and Visas
- organize how money will be carried (travellers cheques, credit cards).

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Risk Management

- consider any potential risks (disease, violence) and how you would respond to them. Investigate possible preventative measures
- discuss your action plan or who will take on what role in case of an emergency
- plan regular communications to home by e-mail or phone
- collect Physical Fitness certificates for all participants
- ensure that all participants have the appropriate health insurance
- make an official trip itinerary to leave with

parents and guardians

- make a group first aid kit to carry with you at all times.

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Personal Equipment

- ensure that each participant has a pack or bag that is large enough, closes securely (ideally with a lock) and which they are able to carry comfortably; mark all luggage inside and out
- discuss the climate and nature of your trip to decide on appropriate items to bring; remind participants not to bring anything that they can't afford to lose!!!
- make sure that each participant obtains a money belt to carry their valuables
- have a discussion about things that cannot be transported across borders, or be taken on airplanes (i.e., matches, lighters)
- make a list of items not to forget: camera, film, a journal, Canadian flags, glasses, medications...

Resources: internet, library books, travel agents, Canada Immigration, local consulates

Suggested Internet Resources:

- www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/travelreport/menu_e.htm : worldwide safety reports for Canadians
- www.letsgo.com : destination information
- www.lonelyplanet.com.au/ : lots of general travel information
- www.visaconnection.com/index1.shtml : for information on foreign visas
- www.drwise-travel.com : for travel medicine information
- www.scouts.ca/council/inter : for Trust information