



2021 COVID-19 TRAVEL SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Last Updated: Feb-2021

Updated Travel Changes with respect to COVID-19

We closely monitor the evolving standards of the education community and the travel industry, and will continue to update our plans as new information on COVID-19 comes to our attention.

American Edventures continues to support travel programs to domestic locations. Neither the Center for Disease Control nor the Department of Health and Human Services have advised against travel to destinations where we conduct travel programs. There is no general guidance against travel. The safety and security of our travelers and participants is, and always will be, our highest priority. We will not facilitate travel for students and adult chaperones if guidance directs that it is not safe to do so.

All travelers, regardless of the destination, can follow standard hygiene practices to stay healthy. Including:

- Do not touch any part of your face without first washing your hands.
- Avoid contact with persons who are already ill.
- Avoid unnecessary touching of other persons (e.g. shaking hands in greeting) and limit touching publicly-shared surfaces, where possible.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Carry hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol) and use it for situations where handwashing might not be possible.
- When you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth with a tissue or in your elbow.

These tips will also help travelers protect themselves against the common cold and flu. There are screening measures in place at many U.S. airports, which is another preventative step that the health organizations are taking. Travelers should be prepared to arrive early and comply with screening procedures at airports.

Safety Adjustments and Revised Protocols:



Participants are encouraged to bring multiple masks to wear throughout the touring days. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the program, including on buses and at hotels. American Edventures tour guide(s) will also have contactless thermometers for temperature checks to be performed prior to boarding the touring motor coach each day. Travelers will be periodically asked questions to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms.



All American Edventures tour guides and representatives participate in mandatory COVID-19 training and briefings. Our staff will assist your group with pre-departure safety recommendations at the pre-trip meeting.



Our motor coach partners have implemented enhanced cleaning and safety protocols. Buses will be disinfected using a variety of techniques, including electrostatic and anti-microbial sprayers, foggers, and steamers. All high-touch surfaces will be wiped down multiple times a day. Air filtration system improvements promote frequent exchange of cabin air, replacing it with fresh air from the outside. In coordination with the teachers and school, students will most often be assigned a designated seat on the bus each day, and we have established bus loading and unloading procedures that limit exposure to other students.



We are in regular communication with museums, destination sites, activity locations, organizations and the many sites we visit. We will adjust each group schedule to maximize the valuable experiences on each day to account for new rules for capacity management, social distancing, masks, and more.



Group meals will be prepared by professionals who adhere to proper food safety and handling protocols, including mask wearing and frequent hand washing. We work closely with each meal vendor to determine the appropriate meal type and group seating configuration, secure outdoor dining where possible, and limit contact with other patrons. Individually packaged food items, grab and go, and plated and served meals will replace traditional self-serve buffet options.



Our hotel partners are already engaged in rigorous cleaning protocols, they are now using enhanced cleaning products and increasing the frequency of cleaning in public spaces. Housekeeping spends extra time disinfecting surfaces in guest rooms, focusing on high contact areas. The check-in process has also been modified to limit interaction between students and other guests. Changes have been made to hotel arrival and departure procedures, use of lobby and elevators, and breakfast and other hotel-based activities to promote social distancing.

SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Know the symptoms of **COVID-19**, which can include the following:



Cough



Sore throat



Fever



Muscle pain



Chills



Shortness of breath
or difficulty breathing



New loss of taste
or smell



cdc.gov/coronavirus

As always, American Edventures will be there for your group throughout each phase, from pre-tour preparations, live on-tour activities, and post-tour to ensure the safest experience possible for all travelers.

- **Pre-Tour:** We encourage all travelers to limit contact with non-household individuals and exposure to public places for 14 days prior to departure. If a student is symptomatic or tests positive within 14 days of travel, they should not travel with the group.
- **On-Tour:** If a student exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while participating on a program, we will help them get tested and safely separate them from the rest of the group while awaiting the results. If the test result is positive, we will be there every step of the way, from helping to secure the necessary care to arranging medically-required isolation.
- **Post-Trip Assistance:** Advising all participants to monitor their health for 14 days after returning home and let their school know if they become ill.

Whether preparing for travel or on tour, American Edventures strongly encourages all families to wear a mask, wash their hands frequently, and practice social distancing to help stop the spread of COVID-19.