

BAND TRIP STUDENT MEETING AGENDA 2024

Dining Etiquette 101 “Study Guide”

- Entering the dining room
 - Allow the ladies to go first.
 - Gentlemen, help the ladies with their chairs.
- Once seated
 - No personal belongings on the table / Keep electronic devices put away.
 - No elbows on the table...forearms resting against the table are allowable.
 - No burping, farting, blowing or picking your nose, discussing inappropriate topics, etc.
 - The napkin...once the waiter hands it to you...goes across your lap.
 - The waiter will hand you a menu
- Beginning The Meal
 - Ordering the meal...appetizer or two, salad or soup, and an entrée...decide after being seated.
 - GENERAL RULE...don't reach across the table for anything that isn't in your area...ask someone to pass it to you.
 - Once you've ordered, then you may engage in casual conversation with your tablemates. Don't prolong the food ordering process because of personal conversations.
 - Drink...water, lemonade, or unsweet tea / Soda plan...let waiter know and they'll tell bartender.
- What do I do with all of these plates and utensils?
 - The Place setting (*see photo*)
 - The Underplate or “charger”
 - The “B” and the “D” (*bread plate & drink*)...use the thumb and forefinger trick!
 - Forks, knives, and spoons...a general rule, start from the outside and work your way toward your plate.
 - The waiters will sometimes change out your utensils (*steak knives, dessert, etc.*)
 - Using your utensils correctly
- Your Meal Begins to Arrive
 - Wait until at least 2/3 of the people at your table have received their meal before eating. The waiters will usually bring it all at the same time.
 - Appetizers will come first, followed by soups and salads. The waiters will only bring out one dish at a time in most situations...unless you lag behind on the food arrival schedule.
 - The main entree usually arrives at the same time for everyone at your table...so be conscientious of your tablemates when eating appetizers, soups, and salads (*don't waste time if others are waiting*).
 - Once you are finished with your main meal, place your fork and knife at the 10:20 position across your plate to let them know that you are finished (*they may still ask you if you are finished*). Then comes dessert!!!
 - Dessert...the waiters will either bring around a dessert menu or visual samples to take your order after they have cleared your main entrée plate.
- Once You've Finished the Meal
 - Set your napkin to the left of your dessert plate with the soiled side down...not on your plate.
 - Be sure to thank your dining team (*waiter, assistant waiter*) for a wonderful meal and for their service.
 - Express pleasantries to your tablemates and excuse yourself from the table. Be sure to push your chair back under the table.
- Other Things to Know
 - If you must leave the table during the meal, apologize to your tablemates for having to leave during dinner, leave your napkin on the left side of your plate with the soiled side down, and push your chair back under the table.
 - Act civilized, well-mannered, and gracious.
 - Don't spit food into your cloth napkin that you don't like. Eat it anyway...and any unpleasanties that you can't eat such as a fishbone or piece of gristle, you should remove it (*as dry as possible*) with your utensil and place on the edge of your entrée plate (*not your bread plate*).

Dinner / Formal Dinner

- We will have Late Dinner at 8pm / ASSIGNED SEATING...we'll let you change once everyone is seated.
- Everyone is required to eat in the dining room on Monday night & Tuesday night (*formal night*)
- See "What to Wear" below for the Dining Room

Finding Your Way Around the Ship

- FWD - Front / MID - Middle / AFT – Back / Portside (*Left*) & Starboard (*Right*)
- Odd-Number Cabins are Starboard / Even-Number Cabins are Portside.
- Sky (14) – Adults Only, Sun (12) – Mini Gulf/Serinity (Adults Only), Spa (11) – Gym/Sports & Spas, Panorama (10) – Pool & Buffet/Steak House/Waterslide, Lido (9) – Pools/Guy's Burger/Seafood Shack/Rosie's Buffet, Promenade (5) – Shops/Clubs/Coffee/Theatre/Casino, Atlantic (4) – Dining Rooms & Main Theatre, Lobby (3) Lobby/Theater, Main (2) Rooms, Riviera (1) -Rooms
- Grand Centrum – Center Area of ship where you see from 7th floor up to glass roof.
- Elevators and Stairs

Safety

- Always be aware of your surroundings!
- Don't climb on railings or things not intended to be climbed on.
- Buddy system on outside decks at night...stay in heavy populated areas.
- Don't go into cabins of people not associated with our group (*boys & girls cabins*).
- Curfews and Room Checks.
- Use common sense and good judgment.

Trip Parents / Check-Ins / Mandatory Meetings

- You have been assigned two-ish adults that will serve as your "Trip Parents". See handout.
- They will have you check-in at Port of Mobile and will hold onto your official documentation until we get off the ship.
- On the Days at Sea, you will be required to Check-In with them at some point around lunchtime/early afternoon.
- We will have two mandatory meetings...one on Monday afternoon and the other on Friday afternoon. We will meet with the GTN Representative for some important information.

Rules

- The legal drinking age onboard is 21 and is strictly enforced. This includes the purchase of drinks or bottles of liquor by adults for minors. Possession of alcohol by a minor will not be tolerated and any found will be confiscated (*even if found in cabin*) and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken!
- You must attend all onboard Mandatory Meetings that are set by GTN, Carnival Cruise Lines, the Band Staff, and your assigned teams.
- Purchase, possession, or consumption of drugs & tobacco products is illegal & appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.
- Passengers under the age of 18 are not permitted to use casinos or over 18 designated lounges.
- No abusive, offensive, vulgar language or behavior should be directed to other guests or to staff and crew.
- Speakers are not permitted onboard the boat in public areas. If used in your cabin, make sure that you don't disturb cabins around you.
- Headphones must be used with all sound devices in public areas.

- No running in the hallways or on decks.
- No congregating in the hallways or elevator lobbies near the cabins.
- Students shall be liable for damage or theft to staterooms.
- No noise in cabin areas or corridors after 11:00 pm. Curfew will be set each night by the band directors.
- Members may not enter cabins assigned to members of the opposite sex (*except for chaperone rooms and only on official business*).
- Members are to stay out of other passenger cabins that aren't affiliated with our group. This is for your safety!
- In order to have good communication, communicate with your Cabin Teams what your plans are onboard the ship. This will allow us to have an idea where a student is located on the ship if we need to get in touch with them.
- Room check will take place immediately following curfew each night. Each member is required to stay in their cabins until the designated ending time (5:45 am). One member of the room should stay awake until room check.
- In the event of an emergency, first try to contact your "Trip Parents", then Mr. Schultz or Mr. Coots.
- Once arriving in Cozumel, please make sure that you report to the designated location at the appropriate time and that you stay with the group or within the parameters set. Don't wander off!!!
- Always follow directions given to you by the chaperone leaders.
- Please be courteous and respectful of the other guests onboard. Behavior should be of a somewhat mature manner in all aspects of the trip.
- Don't let drama and issues beyond your control ruin your trip. Remember that you deserve an enjoyable trip...just relax and have fun!
- Always serve as a great representative of our band program, our school, your family, and our community. Let's impress people by the way we behave and represent ourselves!
- Consequences???

What to Expect

- Loading Process & Bus Trip
- Port of New Orleans
- Once Onboard...Grab Lunch / Cabins open up around 1:30 pm / Meeting at TBD in Main Theatre / Explore Ship
- Emergency Drill around 3:30 pm (*Mandatory!*)
- Bon Voyage...be on outside decks and watch as we depart...entering Gulf of Mexico (*lighthouse & oil rigs*)
- Days at Sea
- In Cozumel
- In Progresso

What to Do Onboard

- Get some sun; Swim & Waterslides; Trivia Games; Read a Book; Games with Friends; Eat; Sleep; Teen Club; Onboard Activities

What to Wear

- **During the Day Onboard:** Shorts, t-shirts, sandals, swimsuits (*wear cover-up when not in pool area*), athletic shorts are okay.
- **Dinner:** Dressy Casual (*no jeans, t-shirts, or shorts*)
- **Formal Dinner:** Ladies should wear a Sunday dress, semi-formal, or formal dress. Men wear dress pants & dress shirt with a coat & tie.

Where to Eat / How Food Works

- All food is free...with the exception of the Specialty Coffees & Desserts (*shop on Promenade*) and some special-marked food items on the dinner menu (*usually located on the bottom of the menu with price listed*)
- Room service has gratuity added...and there is a charge after a specific time at night (*usually 10:00 pm*)
- Eat what you want...but don't be wasteful!
- Lido Buffett, 24-hr Pizza & Deli, Ice Cream Machines, Guy's Burger Joint (*only open during day*), Dining Rooms, Room Service

What to Expect in Cozumel

- Excursions: meeting time & place, stay with designated adults, cash needed, what to wear & bring with you, BE ALERT!!!
- Puerta Maya Pier – Shops, Sign & Sail Card and Photo ID needed, Pressure-sales.
- Landscape and Poverty-Stricken areas....lots of mopeds!
- Beautiful Water, Beaches, and Resorts

What to Expect in Progresso

- Excursions: meeting time & place, stay with designated adults, cash needed, what to wear & bring with you, BE ALERT!!!
- Shops, Sign & Sail Card and Photo ID needed, Pressure-sales.
- Landscape and Poverty-Stricken areas....lots of mopeds!
- Beautiful Water, Beaches, and Resorts

Other Things

- Wear your band halftime show shirt
- Luggage Delivery and Luggage Pick-up onboard the ship
- Work with roommates to not duplicate things (*curling iron, hair dryers, etc.*)
- Fuses and breakers onboard the ship
- Bottled Water??? Soft Drinks???
- Pottying is a necessity! (*other bathrooms onboard*) Eating habits will change while onboard.
- BEWARE OF THE POTTY!!! (Put lid down)
- Refund checks for cash accounts / under \$10 donated to St. Jude's Hospital / Checking your account
- 18 year olds...no teen club...what to do?
- Online Check-In, Luggage Tags, & Neck Lanyards
- Passport/Birth Certificates – Take a Photo on Your Cell Phone!
- Carnival Hub App – Chat Messaging - \$5 total
- Soda Plan (\$34.75 Children, \$47.50 Adult) / Bottled Water (\$4.50 per 12-pack) / May bring a 12-pack of canned sodas.
- Prescription Medicines / Over-the-Counter Medications
- Seasickness
- Sunscreen, Beach Towels
- Carnival Beach Towels (*blue or yellow*) - \$25 charge if not turned in (take to pool but return to room)
- Photos for Story-Telling DVD – Upload photos once we return – Free gift from Festival at Seas