## Milton High School Band Trip 2020



GENERAL TRIP MEETING
Tuesday March 3, 2020



## What Can You Expect?

Long bus rides

Lots of walking...and lots of stairs!

Tired / Exhaustion — "This ain't Vacation!"

Seeing lots of cool sights — "Been there...seen that!"

Lots of fun and laughs!

**Great memories!** 

One of the most rewarding trips of your life!!!

It's all in your ATTITUDE! Be flexible! Past experiences...





### Meet Our Tour Director – Lisa Scalzo

- Experience in the group travel industry for 9 years.
- Taken groups from 25 to 1,200 students!!!
- From Northern Virginia.
- Three sons, one daughter, and four grandchildren.
- She'll meet us in Washington DC and stay with us until we depart New York City.

## Not a School-Board Approved Trip / Outside of School District Guidelines

- Trip isn't an official School Function OR School-Board Approved Trip.
- Discussion with Director of High Schools.
- Payments & Planning by Group Travel Network / Follow their Guidelines & Policies.
- Pre-Arranged Absences for Students. (to be completed by band directors)

### Coronavirus Concerns

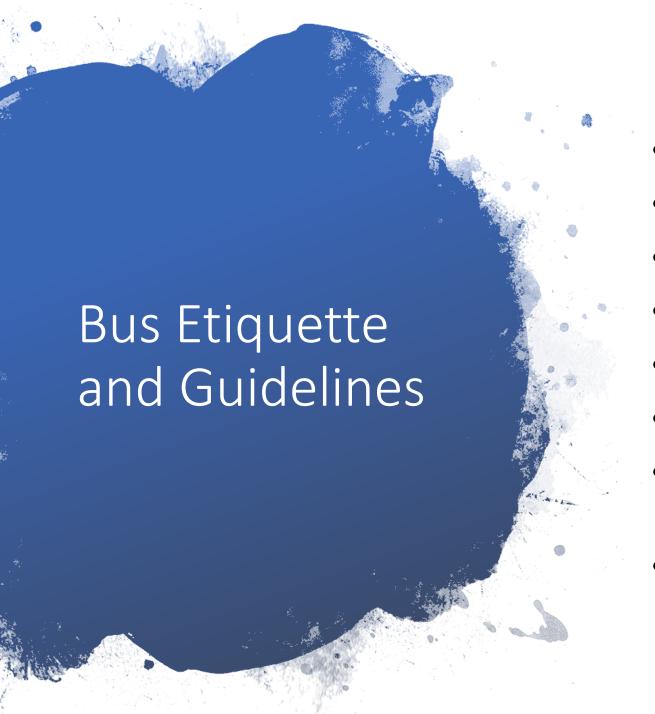
- Closely monitoring information from the Center for Disease Control and Local Authorities.
- Communicate with you if anything changes.
- Recommendations from the CDC:
  - Wash hands frequently with soap OR use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
  - Cough and Sneeze into elbows or tissues...not hands!
  - Dispose of tissues immediately.
  - Limit touching your face and mouth.
  - Don't eat or drink after each other.
  - Avoid contact with anyone exhibiting cold-like symptoms.
  - Frequently clean surfaces that are regularly touched.
  - Talk to your children about their concerns.

## Charter Buses Information

- Gulf Coast Tours (Mobile, AL) 2016 or newer!
- 56-passenger buses (110 seats / 87 attendees)
- Two Students per seat / One Adult per seat
- Blankets (Buses are kept cold!)
- Snacks & drinks
- Stops about every 3-4 hours
- Wi-Fi, Power Outlets, DirectTV, Movies, Restrooms
- Bus Assignments







- Public Display of Affection
- Sleeping Arrangements
- Food & Drinks
- Trash & No Spills!!!
- Electronic Devices (Use Headphones!)
- Restrooms onboard for emergencies
- Be respectful of others / tiredness & weariness
- Quiet Time on Buses



### Meals Provided in Cost of Trip – Washington DC

#### Day 1

- Breakfast at Golden Corral in Gastonia, NC
- Pizza Dinner at Hotel
  - 3 slices per person + water

#### Day 3

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Sausage, Fresh Muffins, Breakfast Pastries, Croissants, Fresh Melons, Seasonal Berries, Bananas, & Seasonal Fruit, Chilled Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Assorted Teas
- Family-Style Dinner @ Bucca di Beppo
  - Mixed Green Salad, Caesar Salad, Spaghetti Marinara, Fettuccine Alfredo, Chicken Parmigiana, Cheesecake, Soft Drinks, Coffee, Tea

#### Day 2

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Sausage, Fresh Muffins, Breakfast Pastries, Croissants, Fresh Melons, Seasonal Berries, Bananas, & Seasonal Fruit, Chilled Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Assorted Teas
- Dinner Buffet at Chevy's Fresh Mex
  - Beef, Chicken, Tortillas, Beans, Mexican Rice, Shredded Cheese, Lettuce, Sour Cream, Pico de Gallo, Vanilla Ice Cream, Soft Drinks, Coffee, Tea

#### Day 4

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Sausage, Fresh Muffins, Breakfast Pastries, Croissants, Fresh Melons, Seasonal Berries, Bananas, & Seasonal Fruit, Chilled Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Assorted Teas
- Lunch Buffet @ Harriet's
  - Tossed Green Salad, Cheeseburgers, Veggie Burgers, Mac n Cheese, French Fries, Chicken Tenders, Cookies, Soft Drinks

Meals Provided in Cost of Trip – New York City

#### Day 5

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Eggs, Sausage or Bacon, Waffles, Cinnamon Buns, Bagels, Yogurts, Cereals, Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Tea
- Dinner at Hard Rock Café
  - Choices: Burger w/fries; Veggie Burger w/fries; Pulled Pork Sandwich w/fries; Twisted Mac & Cheese with Grilled Chicken; Chicken Tenders w/fries; Chicken Caesar Salad

#### Day 7

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Eggs, Sausage or Bacon, Waffles, Cinnamon Buns, Bagels, Yogurts, Cereals, Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Tea

#### Day 6

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Eggs, Sausage or Bacon, Waffles, Cinnamon Buns, Bagels, Yogurts, Cereals, Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Tea
- Cast Party Dinner at Rowland's
  - Cheeseburger Meal OR Pasta Meal (already ordered)

#### Day 8

- Breakfast at Hotel
  - Eggs, Sausage or Bacon, Waffles, Cinnamon Buns, Bagels, Yogurts, Cereals, Juices, Skim Milk, Coffee, Tea

## Meals Not Provided – Washington DC

DAY 1

Lunch at Chesterfield
Towne Center Mall

**Food Options:** 

Auntie Annie's, Basil Thai Kitchen, Carabba's, Casa Del Barco, Chik-Fil-A, China Max, Cina-Monster, Five Guys, Great Punjab, Honolulu BarBQ, Island Shrimp Company, Jimmy John's, Little Tokyo, Nestle Toll House Café, Nutty Bavarian, Qdoba Mexican Eats, & Red Robin

\$10-15 estimated

DAY 2

Lunch at Eat at National Place

**Food Options:** 

Esprinto Café, Five Guys, Grill Kabob, Kabuki Sushi & Teriyaki, Moe's Southwest Grill, Slice of Italy Pizzeria, TaKorean Korean Taco Grill

\$10-15 estimated

DAY 3

Lunch at Smithsonian Museum Food
Courts or Outside Food Trucks

**Food Options:** 

#### **American History Museum**

- Eat at America's Table (burgers, BBQ, sandwiches, salads)
- Jazz Café (sandwiches, salads, soups, ice cream, pastries)

#### **Natural History Museum**

- Atrium Café (burgers, BBQ, flatbreads, pastas)
- Ocean Terrace Café (grain bowl, sandwiches, pastries)

Air & Space Museum (Food Court Under Renovation)

#### **African American Museum**

Sweet Home Café (down home cooking)

\$10-15 estimated

I encourage you NOT to eat at Chain Restaurants that are available in our area!!! EAT LOCAL!!! DAY 4

Dinner in Times Square area

\$15-30 estimated

Shake Shack (Burgers)

Xi'an Famous Foods (Homemade Chinese Noodles)

**Gray Papaya** (Hot Dogs)

The Halal Guys (Middle Eastern)

Junior's (Deli Sandwiches & Famous Cheesecake)

John's Pizzeria (Pizza)

Carmine's (Italian)

### Meals Not Provided – Pay On Your Own

#### DAY 5

#### Lunch in Downtown Manhattan

**Food Recommendations:** 

Restaurants

NY-Style Deli

Food Carts & Food Trucks

Unique Fast Food Places

\$15-20 estimated

#### DAY 6

Lunch in NYC

**Food Recommendations:** 

Restaurants

NY-Style Deli

**Food Carts & Food Trucks** 

Unique Fast Food Places

\$15-20 estimated

#### DAY 7

Lunch & Dinner
On Your Own

**Food Recommendations:** 

Restaurants

NY-Style Deli

**Food Carts & Food Trucks** 

**Unique Fast Food Places** 

\$30-60 estimated

#### DAY 8

Lunch & Dinner On The Road Home
-Mall Food Courts (about 1 hour each)\$20-30 estimated

## SUGGESTED AMOUNT NEEDED FOR MEALS

Five (5) Food Court/Cafeteria Style Meals (\$10-\$15 each)

Three (3) New York City Lunches (\$15-\$20 each)

Two (2) New York City Dinners (\$15-30 each)

10 Meals Total – Estimated \$125-\$195

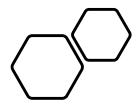






SUGGESTED AMOUNT NEEDED FOR SNACKS & SOUVENIRS

8 Days at \$12-\$25 per day



Estimated \$100-200 total



## Hotel Etiquette & Expectations for Students

Quiet in hallways

No hanging out in hallways or stairwells

Be courteous of other guests

"Stealth" Mode

Not allowed in rooms of opposite sex

Curfew / Room Checks

**Opening Doors after Curfew** 

Quiet time in rooms after curfew

Rooming Lists Distribution via Remind Text

Nightly Monitors Provided at Hotels

Issues???

Wake-Up Calls / Breakfast

### Doubletree Hotel - Gaithersburg, MD

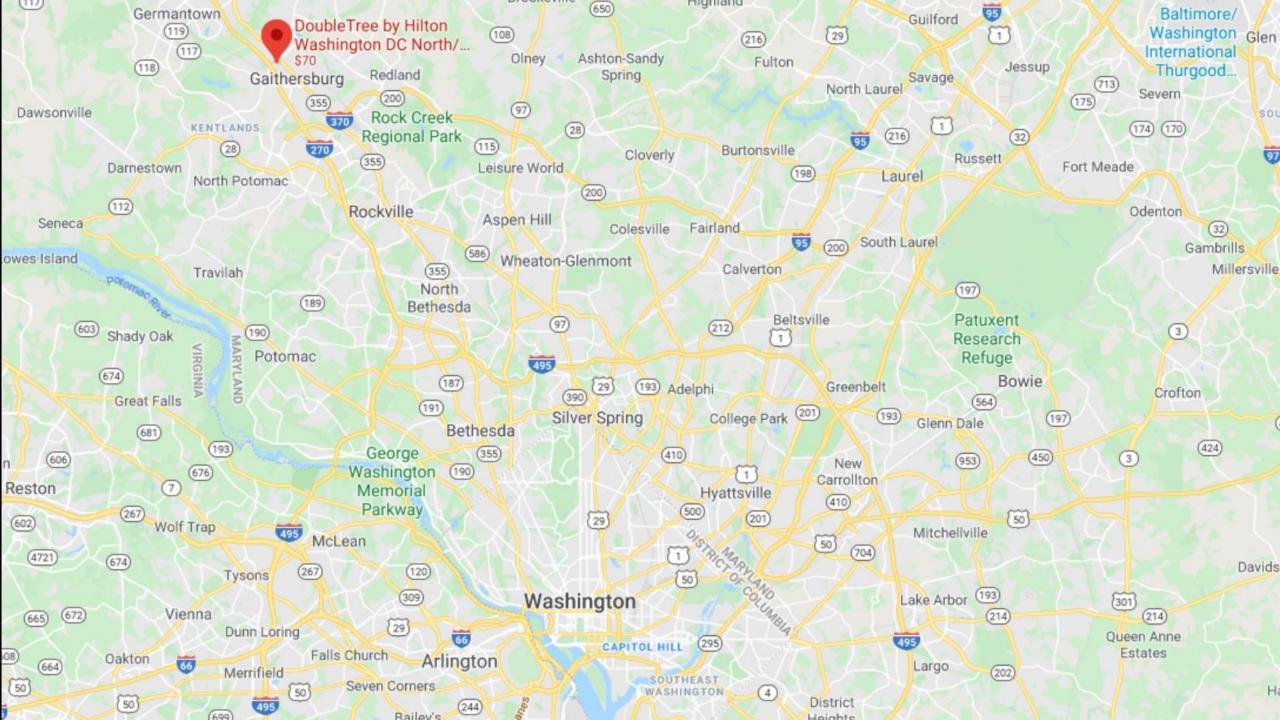
**Interior Hallways Checking In Process** 22 Miles from Washington Monument Hot Breakfast Included Indoor Swimming Pool (Bring Swimsuits!) Laundry Services located on site Issues with Your Room?

Starbucks located in the lobby (can't delay our departures)



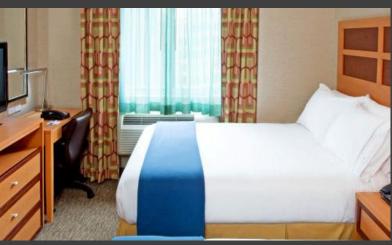












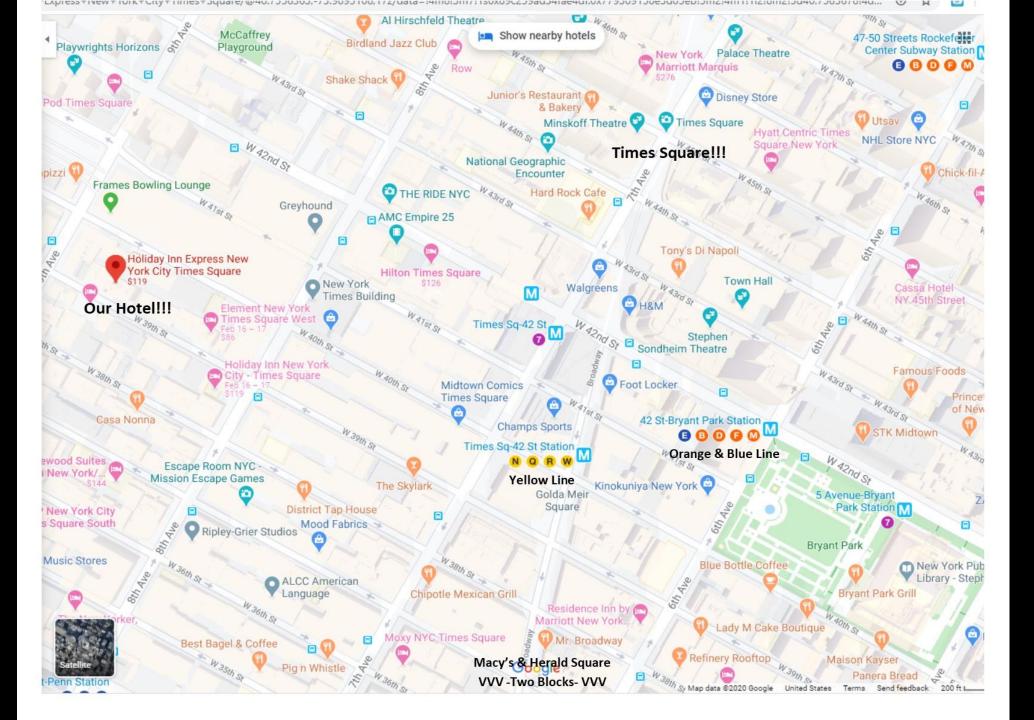






## HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS Times Square NYC

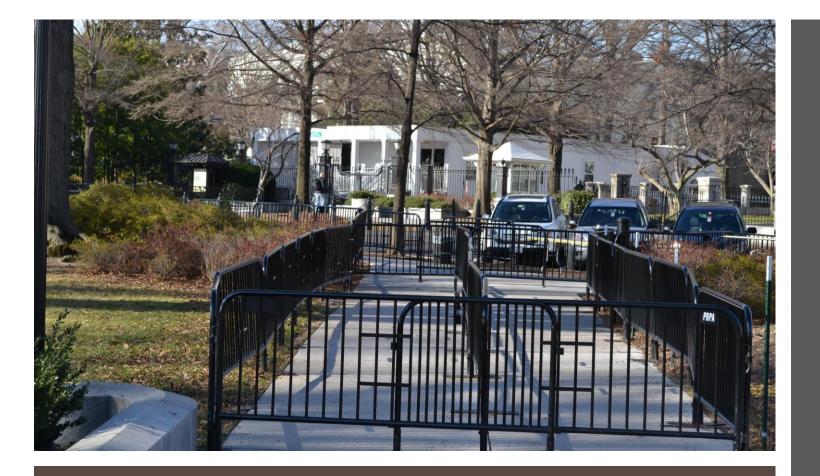
- Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
- Small Eating Space
- Elevators (only 2...somewhat small)
- Free Coffee & Tea available 24 hours
- Free High-Speed Internet
- Close to Metro Stations (red line, orange/blue lines)
- Small Rooms (typical in NYC)
- Great location!!!
  - 1 ½ long blocks west & 6 short blocks south from the center of Times Square





- Students will be given parameters and time frames.
- Students will be required to stay in groups of 3 or more.
- If you get separated from your group...
- Homeless people on the National Mall
- Security checkpoints
- Personal Security (neck wallets, front pockets, backpacks, etc.)
- Buses Loading & Unloading
- Utilizing Touring Teams to check roll

## Sightseeing Washington DC



## Security and Personal Belongings

#### WHITE HOUSE

Prohibited Items: Cameras, video recorders, handbags, backpacks, purses, food, beverages, tobacco products, personal grooming items (make-up, lotions, etc.), any pointed objects, aerosol containers, guns, ammo, fireworks, electric stun guns, mace, martial arts weapons, knives.

<u>Items Allowed:</u> Umbrellas, cell phones (must be turned "off" OR "airplane mode"), wallets, compact camera.

No flash photography, live streaming, texting, or talking on cell phones (phone may be confiscated by US Secret Service).

Guests 18 or older must have government-issued ID (driver's license, military ID, or passport). Guests 17 & under aren't required to have ID, however it is recommended.

### Security and Personal Belongings

#### **Smithsonian Museums**

#### **Metal Detectors**

Many museums have them. Be prepared.

#### **Bags and Baggage**

- All bags will be checked
- Encouraged not to bring backpacks OR large bags

#### **Not Allowed**

 No sharp items (knives, scissors, screwdrivers, etc), weapons, pepper spray/mace, selfie sticks, tripods, etc.



## Sightseeing NYC — The Tour Teams Approach

- Pre-Arranged Teams 4 to 10 students with 2 to 5 adults
- Trip Parents
- Split into Smaller Teams at times
- Common Interests & Attractions
- "Parametered" Free Time
- Contact Cell Phone Numbers
- Recommended Routes & Daily Activities
- Traveling Modes
  - Walking
  - Hop-On, Hop-Off Double-Decker Buses
  - NY Metro Subway System



## Security and Personal Belongings

9/11 Museum, 9/11 Memorial, & One World Observatory

#### **Metal Detectors**

All Visitors must pass through the metal detectors.

#### **Bags and Baggage**

- Must be smaller than 25x17x9 inches
- Will be x-rayed or hand-checked

#### **Prohibited Items**

 Alcohol, animals, demonstrations, glass bottles, littering, paint, smoking, fireworks, powdered substances, liquid soaps, outside food & drinks, weapons, etc.



## Getting Around the City Hop-On Hop-Off Buses

- 3-day passes (don't lose it...keep them in your neck wallets)
- New York Stylitseeing

- Narrated Tours
- Various stops on tour...buses run every 15-30 mins...look for signs!
- Different Tours:
  - Downtown Loop (2 ½ + hours / 8:30 am- 5:00 pm / 15-20 minutes)
  - Uptown Loop (2+ hours / 9:00 am- 4:00 pm / 20-30 minutes)
  - Brooklyn Loop (1 ½ + hours / 11:00, 1:00, & 3:00 pm / Catch it by Battery Park)
  - Nighttime Tour (1 ½ hours / 6:00 pm-8:00 pm)
  - Smart Phone App- "New York Sightseeing Tours"



## Getting Around the City NY Metro Subway System



- Largest rapid transit system in the world!!!
- Averages 5.6 million daily rides on weekdays...about 3 million each weekend day!
- Everyone will receive a Metro Card for Subways & Buses (do not lose!!!)
- Anxiety??? Questions??? Ask a local, the subway agent, or look at the maps located in the stations. Kids are also usually great at navigating the subway system!
- Can become extremely crowded at rush hour...especially trains exiting midtown!

### Typical Weather / How to Dress

#### **Washington DC**

• Highs around 59° / Lows around 40° / Showers Possible

#### **New York City**

• Highs around 50° / Lows around 35° / Showers Possible



Layer Your Clothing so that you can remove layers as needed. Short sleeve undershirt, long sleeve shirt, jacket/coat, gloves, scarf, hats, etc.

In NYC, a lot of your touring will be done outside!!! In packing, remember that you can re-wear some of the layers (air-out, Fabreze, wash in the sink & hang dry).



### ITINERARY FOR THE TRIP

#### AT A GLANCE

Day 1 Depart at Night

Day 2 Travel / Arrive in Washington DC

**Day 3-5 Sightsee Washington DC** 

Day 5 Travel / Evening – Arrive in NYC

Day 6-8 Sightsee NYC

Day 9 Depart NYC / Travel day & night

Day 10 Arrive in Milton early AM

#### OFFICIAL ITINERARY



- ➤ PDF Copy is Available on our Band Website
- ➤ Go to <u>www.miltonhighschoolband.com</u>
- ➤ Click on "DC/New York Trip Info"
- ➤ Select "Band Trip Itinerary" from pull-down menu
- ➤ Enter password mhsband
- Download the PDF File.

## Departure Night – Wednesday, March 11

- 7:30 pm Bandroom Opens
  - Where to place luggage
- •8:30 pm Call time & Begin Loading
  - Bus Loading (luggage, carry-on items, students, etc.)
- •9:00 pm Depart for Washington DC!!!

(950 miles / 15 hrs) – (520 miles / 8 hrs + time change to Gastonia, NC)

### Our Schedule (Day 2)

#### **Thursday, March 12**

- 7:00 am Breakfast @ Golden Corral in Gastonia (included)
- 8:00 am Depart for Richmond, VA (300 miles / 5 ½ hrs)
- 1:30 pm Lunch @ Chesterfield Towne Center in Richmond,
   VA (\$\$\$\$ needed)
- 3:00 pm Continue to Gaithersburg, MD (132 miles / 3 hrs)
- 6:00 pm Check into Hotel / Meet our Tour Guide
- 7:30 pm Dinner Pizza Party at Hotel (included)
- 8:30 pm Rest & Relax for a big day tomorrow.



### Our Schedule (Day 3)

#### Friday, March 13 – Arlington Cemetery / White House Day

6:00 am – Breakfast at Hotel

7:00 am – Depart for Arlington

8:30 am – Visit Arlington National Cemetery

11:00 am – Depart Arlington for Lunch

11:30 am – Lunch at National Place Food Hall (\$\$\$ needed)

12:30 pm – Walk to White House Tour Entrance

1:00 pm – Tour of White House

2:30 pm – Visit National Archives & US Capitol area

5:30 pm – Dinner at Chevy's Fresh Mex (Buffet Meal included)

7:00 pm – Nighttime Tour of Monuments with Tour Guides

10:00 pm – Return to Hotel





## Our Schedule (Day 5)

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Sunday, March 15 - Mount Vernon & Travel Day
 7:00 am - Breakfast at Hotel (included) / Check out of hotel
 8:00 am - Depart for Mt. Vernon
 9:15 am - Visit Mt. Vernon (Mansion Tour @ 9:55 am)
12:15 pm - Depart Mt. Vernon
 1:15 pm - Lunch at Harriet's (included)
 2:45 pm - Depart for New York City (240 miles / 4 1/2 hrs)
 7:15 pm - Arrive @ Holiday Inn Express Times Square/ Unload buses
 8:15 pm - Walk to Times Square / Group Photo Taken at 9:15 pm
 8:30 pm – Dinner in Times Square ($$$ needed)
11:00 pm - Return to Hotel
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## Our Schedule (Day 6)

#### Monday, March 16

6:30-9:30 am - Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 am -Sightsee NYC on Double-Decker Buses – Downtown Tour Only

Lunch on your own (\$\$\$ Needed)

2:00 pm – Meet at 9/11 Memorial for Flag Tribute

---Be Sure to visit One World Observatory & 9/11 Museum either before or after our 2:00 pm meeting---

6:30 pm – Meet at Hard Rock Café in Times Square

6:45 pm – Dinner at Hard Rock Café

10:30 pm – All groups back at hotel (may return earlier if desired)



## Our Schedule (Day 7) Tuesday, March 17 Happy St. Patricks Day!!!

6:00 am -Visit "Good Morning America" (optional)

6:30-9:30 am – Breakfast served @ Hotel

8:30 am - Sightsee NYC on Double-Decker Buses (8:30-3:00)

Lunch or Snack on Your Own (\$\$\$ Needed)

3:15 pm - Return to Hotel for Broadway Show Prep (Dress Attire)

4:00 pm – Depart Hotel (walking) for Cast Party Dinner at Rowland's

4:30 pm - Cast Party Dinner at Rowland's Bar & Grill in Macy's Herald Square

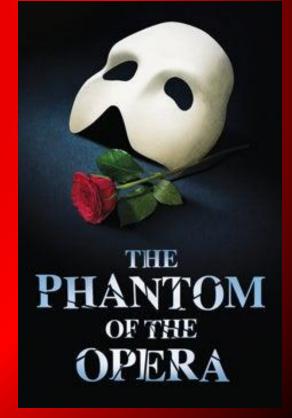
6:00 pm – Depart for the Majestic Theatre

7:00 pm – Broadway Show – Phantom of the Opera (2 ½ hours)

9:30 pm - End of Show

10:45 pm - Return to Hotel







## Our Schedule (Day 9)

#### Thursday, March 19

6:30-8:15 am - Breakfast at Hotel

8:30 am - Check Out and Load Buses

9:00 am - Depart for Milton, Florida (1,011 miles / 18 hours)

Stops for lunch, dinner, & restroom breaks along the way (+ 5 hours estimated)



---Estimated to arrive back in Milton around 6:00-7:00 am on Friday, March 20----

# Other Important Information:

- **≻**Luggage sizes
- **➢** Group Photo
- **►** Medications
- ➤ Luggage Tags / Neck Wallets
- **→** Budgeting During Your Trip / Old Band Bank
- **≻**Tour Groups
- **➢** Pizza Order
- ➤ Phone Battery Packs & Chargers
- **>"What to Pack" List**
- >\$30 cash for tips/extras due by Monday, March 9
- ➤ Remind Please join our text group!
  - > Text @mhstrip20 to 81010 or 850-396-0116
- **>9/11 Projects Due Friday**
- ➤ Student Meeting Monday, March 9 @ 4:00 pm
- **➤ Questions???**

