

Packing for an English Language Evangelism Event in Eastern Europe

Our suggestions will stress the practical, and will assume your own common sense and maturity level. We are representing Christ before people who will watch us closely.

An Overview

Think in terms of the length of your stay and a busy schedule. Therefore, pack with this in mind; choose clothing items that are easy care clothing, practical and adequate for more than one function.

Realize that most Americans tend to take too much and then regret it. Therefore, reduce clothing items to a basic minimum. Remember these things:

- (1) you will be before adults two to four times daily in a teaching situation (therefore, choose skirts and slacks, casual but appropriate),
- (2) you will be in several church services,
- (3) you will be in transit three days (wear something comfortable.)

Physically, try to condition yourself for long days, long walks, and more physical exercise than may be normal for you. Start walking a mile per day in the shoes you will wear in Eastern Europe.

Remember also, you will be among people who are living on \$2,000 - \$3,000 annually and we are not operating a style show. We will dress conservatively. Please note - leave expensive jewelry and watches at home. Also, in some congregations evident make-up is offensive.

With this overview in mind please note the four major points of emphasis that will follow.

Ministry Items

You will bring your Bible and a devotional guide of your choice. Tracts and other hand-outs will be supplied to you as needed. Bring a personal copy of your three-minute testimony for review.

Personal Items

1. Luggage - Please note, only one personal suitcase or back-pack can be taken. This bag cannot be larger than 55" total when you add the length, width and height. A carry-on not larger than 40" total may be carried aboard the aircraft. These packing instructions must be followed exactly because we are taking supplies for the church and teaching materials for our ministry. These materials will count for your second checked bag.

2. Clothes - Suggestions for women: Comfortable shoes for walking, 2 or 3 pairs of jeans or slacks, 3 or 4 skirts (denim travels well), 7 or 8 shirts or tops, 2 sweaters or sweatshirts, 1 light jacket and 2 pajamas or nightshirts. All toilet articles and make-up you use at home. Bring an umbrella or a fold-down rain coat. The weather in Eastern Europe in summer ranges from 50 to 95 degrees, so please be prepared for anything.

Suggestions for men: Comfortable shoes for walking, 2 or 3 pairs of jeans or docker-type pants, 2 pair of slacks, 7 or 8 casual shirts and 2 dress shirts, 2 or 3 sweaters or sweatshirts, pajamas or T-shirts, 1 light jacket, a sport coat and a tie or two. All toilet articles you normally use at home. Bring

an umbrella or a fold-down rain coat.

3. Medications - Bring all prescription medications that you normally take plus a little extra, just in case. You may also wish to bring a pain reliever, a cold medicine, a cough syrup, a stomach medicine like Pepto Bismol chewables, and an anti-diarrhea medication. To be safe, think as if you could not buy any medications while you are away and had to stay two weeks longer you planned.

4. Extras That Are Important - Two thin towels and washcloths, toilet articles, soap powder or tube of Woolite, small travel iron and a hair dryer. Optional: you may wish to bring your own Sweet'n Low, instant coffee, tea bags, snacks (trail mix, peanut butter, etc.) if you are used to snacking. Candy and cookies can be bought in the cities where we work.

Passports

Passports should be carried throughout the entire trip. (There will be a passport check every time we enter a country.) Check your passport to make sure it has not expired. Make photo-copies of your passport, leave one copy at home and pack one with you in another piece of luggage.

Visas are required for Belarus and Ukraine.

Points of Special Importance

1. Money - Your air, bus and train, lodging, and all but three meals are included in the trip price. \$200 will be more than enough for your out-of-pocket expenses. You may want to take more if you plan to buy a lot of souvenirs and gifts to bring home. Your money should be taken in small denominations cash (10's and 20's new, clean bills with no ink marks). Traveler's checks are not easy to cash in Eastern Europe.

2. Electric Appliances - Europe uses 220 V instead of 110 V, so you will need a converter for irons, hair dryers, etc. These items are about \$25.00, so before you buy one, you may wish to borrow one from someone who has been to Europe.

3. Gifts - We will give each student a pocket planner as a gift on the final day of English School. Team leaders may assign each team member to bring a gift for a specific person (for the pastor or staff who help us). You may wish to bring a few extra gifts such as lotions, pens, or instant coffee to give to any who invite you to their home. **Please do not bring extra gifts for students.**