

IONIAN VILLAGE 2012

PRE-DEPARTURE ESSENTIALS



Use this list to help you shop and pack for the summer. Please keep in mind that Ionian Village is an Orthodox Christian Camp, and that the program resides in an Orthodox country. As an Ionian Village participant, you are a representative of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and should dress appropriately.

- ✓ Please limit yourself to the essentials and pack lightly. **Each passenger is allowed to check in one piece of luggage not exceeding 50 LBS, and one carry-on. Please pack lightly.** You will be traveling a great deal this summer, and carrying around heavy suitcases is not fun. In addition, space and weight restrictions are limited on our flights and buses. So, the lighter you pack, the better it is for everyone.
- ✓ Your Bible, prayer book, and stationary to write letters home.
- ✓ Toiletries should include soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, etc. and whatever you need for daily grooming. If you will be using a hair-dryer, or any other electrical appliances, you will need an adaptor for a **220V** current.
- ✓ Clothing should be practical and include a couple of nice “dressy” outfits (two or three for Church and one for a nice dinner). Each Sunday for Divine Liturgy at camp, as well as when we visit nearby churches and monasteries, we ask that you wear appropriate church attire. **For women, appropriate wear for church is a below the knee length dress or skirt and no sleeveless tops. For men, appropriate wear for church is a nice dress shirt and pants.** Ties and jackets are not required, but are welcome if campers wish to bring them. A light jacket, sweater, and long pants or jeans are recommended for those breezy Greek evenings
- ✓ **Women will need one wrap around (below the knee) length skirt** to wear on top of shorts while visiting churches and monasteries. **Men will need a pair of pants (not jeans or sweats)** to put over shorts for the same purpose. Loose fitting khaki style pants are recommended.
- ✓ Sleeveless shirts, tank tops and cut-off shorts are not allowed on trips or off campgrounds.
- ✓ Comfortable casual clothes for traveling and playing sports – please make sure that it is in good taste. Modest style tops and Bermuda-type shorts are ideal. Tank tops and other sleeveless shirts must not be low cut and cover the mid-section. The bottom of your shirt must touch the top of your pants. **Tube tops, Cut-off shirts, open back shirts and midriffs are not allowed at all.** The Camp Director ultimately discerns appropriate dress.
- ✓ **Clothing with inappropriate logos, profane or sexually explicit language or images, or clothing that promotes or depicts illegal activity is not allowed.**
- ✓ Swimwear must be in good taste. Females must wear one-piece bathing suits that cover the stomach (**No bikinis or tankinis**), and males must wear loose fitting swim trunks that fall at least to mid- thigh.
- ✓ Sandals, good walking shoes for climbing, and a pair of sneakers. Sunscreen, a hat, and a UV-blocking pair of sunglasses are recommended as well.
- ✓ Two flat twin size sheets and one pillowcase.
- ✓ The essentials, including at least eight pairs of underwear, socks, a pair of light pajamas, a bathrobe (*the bathrooms are in a separate building*), a bath towel, a face towel, wash cloth, beach towel, and a pair of flip-flops for the shower.
- ✓ To ensure proper safety while traveling abroad, the Travel Bureau recommends not wearing articles of clothing which stand out as Touristy (*American Flag, T-shirts from various Clothing stores, etc.*)

- ✓ Camera, and extra film/memory cards and batteries. iPods and MP3 players are allowed in your cabins and on trips only and are used at the discretion of your cabin staff member. These items are your responsibility. Please label your electronics because many look exactly the same.
- ✓ Keep jewelry to a minimum. It's your responsibility!

Do I need a cell phone?

No. If you choose to bring one, please know that it will be collected at the beginning of the session and returned at the end of the session in Athens. This is done in an effort to maintain the serenity and tight knit character of the camp. Campers will have access to a pay phone at camp; however, time will be limited due to the large number of campers. Parents who need to contact their children in case of an emergency may call the camp office. Additionally, cell phones with MP3 capabilities are treated as cell phones and will not be released while camp is in session.

Will I be able to do laundry?

Yes. You are allowed to do laundry at camp, "horiatiko" (village) style. In other words, you will wash your clothes by hand and hang them up to dry. You can buy detergent and clothespins at the camp store.

Can I bring a musical instrument?

Yes. Musical talent is encouraged and appreciated. Keep in mind that these items are your responsibility.

Must I always look neat?

Yes. Please remember that you are a guest in Greece and are representing the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

What should I leave at home?

Illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, weapons (*of any kind*), cell phones.

What type of money should I bring?

The currency in Greece is the Euro. In addition to bringing American Dollars to be exchanged in Greece, campers may use an ATM card to make withdrawals on trips; however, ATM's will not be available on every travel day (small villages, monasteries, etc). Also, exchanging Dollars to Euros is traditionally cheaper in the United States than when done in Greece. As always, Traveler's Checks are a nice way to travel with money; however, Ionian Village will not provide a Dollar to Euro exchange for campers with Traveler's Checks. Ionian Village provides a few opportunities at the camp to exchange Dollars to Euros with **cash only**.

FINAL CHECKLIST

Before you leave your house for the airport, please check to make sure you have the following items:

- Pre-Departure Essentials**
- Passport**
- Suitcase and carry-on**
- Flight Information**
- Money**
- Any medication (with prescription labels)**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Ionian Village at 212-570-3536.