



# HCC Trip 2025 Portugal & Spain



**Final Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 2 2025**

# Agenda

- 
- 
- Travel Information
  - Routing
  - Tour Rules
  - Packing Reminders
  - Money Reminders
  - Communication Home
  - Dress /Attire
  - Bus and Rooming lists
  - Helpful Tips
  - Other
  - Questions

# Travel Information: APP

## EF Tour App

- Download APP



## Tour Number & Access Code

- Tour Number: **2663566RX**      Access Code: **984338**

## APP Info

- Itinerary - day by day (Daily detailed itinerary is shared each night at hotel)
- Hotel Info
- EF Emergency Number

# Travel Information: Pre-Departure

## Essential Items to Bring

- **PASSPORT** – Take a **photo of it** as a backup!
- **Various forms of currency:**
  - **Euros (€)** for cash expenses
  - **Debit and/or credit card** for emergencies

## Airport & Departure

- **You are responsible** for getting to **Calgary International Airport (YYC)** on departure day and arranging pickup on return.
- **Check-in on time** – We are a **large group**, and it will take time.
- **Review Air Canada's website** for **carry-on baggage allowances** and restrictions.

## Bag & Belongings

- **Always keep an eye on your bags!**
- **NEVER** leave them unattended.

# Travel Information - Routing

**Flight Itinerary – Departing to Lisbon (Saturday, April 19, 2025)**

## Group 1: EVANS

- **Meeting Time:** 9:00 AM
- **Meeting Location:** International Wing (Look for Air Canada)

### ✈ **Flight 1**

- **Airline:** Air Canada (AC 0322)
- **Departure:** Calgary (YYC) – 12:00 PM
- **Arrival:** Montreal (YUL) – 6:16 PM

### ✈ **Flight 2**

- **Airline:** Air Canada (AC 0812)
- **Departure:** Montreal (YUL) – 9:35 PM
- **Arrival:** Lisbon (LIS) – 9:20 AM (Next Day)

# Travel Information - Routing

**Flight Itinerary – Departing to Lisbon (Saturday, April 19, 2025)**

## Group 2: HANSON

- **Meeting Time:** 12:15 PM
- **Meeting Location:** International Wing (Look for Air Canada)

### ✈ **Flight 1**

- **Airline:** Air Canada (AC 0148)
- **Departure:** Calgary (YYC) – 3:15 PM
- **Arrival:** Toronto (YYZ) – 9:10 PM

### ✈ **Flight 2**

- **Airline:** Air Canada (AC 0810)
- **Departure:** Toronto (YYZ) – 10:50 PM
- **Arrival:** Lisbon (LIS) – 11:10 AM (Next Day)

# Travel Information - Routing

**Return Flight: Departing Barcelona (Monday, April 28, 2025)**

## Group 1 & Group 2 (Same Return Flight)

### ✈ Flight 1

- **Airline:** Air Canada (AC 0821)
- **Departure:** Barcelona (BCN) – 1:15 PM
- **Arrival:** Toronto (YYZ) – 4:00 PM

### ✈ Flight 2

- **Airline:** Air Canada (AC 0153)
- **Departure:** Toronto (YYZ) – 6:55 PM
- **Arrival:** Calgary (YYC) – 9:08 PM

# Travel Information - Return Home

- Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation home (Strathmore) from Calgary International Airport (YYC).
- **Make pickup arrangements in advance** to avoid delays upon return.
- **Monitor return flights** to ensure participants have a ride home.
- **Chaperones will NOT be responsible** for waiting at the airport after arrival back at YYC.

# Tour Rules

## Attendance

- All scheduled activities are mandatory.

## Curfew

- Curfew times will be determined based on hotels and daily schedules.
- Students must be in their designated rooms at curfew time.
- Room checks will be conducted by chaperones.

## Alcohol Policy

- Alcohol is strictly forbidden—this includes:
  - Drinking during the trip
  - Bringing alcohol home as gifts
- Any incidents will be reported to CTR Divisional Superintendents.
- **Please do NOT jeopardize future trips!**

# Tour Rules - Continued

## Bus Etiquette

- Remain seated until given further instructions before getting off the bus.
- When guides are on microphone, please stay quiet.
- Front seats are reserved for the tour guide & Mr. Evans/Mr. Hanson.

## Buddy System – Rule of 3

- Participants must always be in a group of at least 3.
- Follow this buddy system faithfully for safety.

## Carrying Travel Cards

- Always carry travel cards with hotel and tour guide contact info (handed out tonight).

## Hotel Room Responsibility

- Respect hotel rooms—any damages are the responsibility of the occupants. Damages must be paid for before leaving the hotel.
- Many hotels use actual keys—return them to the front desk daily.
- Fines for damages can range from €100-200 and must be settled before departure.

# Packing Reminders

## Luggage & Carry-On

- Pack in one suitcase and one backpack only.
- You must be able to carry both up and down a long flight of stairs—if it's too heavy, eliminate unnecessary items!

## Carry-On Essentials

- Pack at least 2 days' worth of clothing in your carry-on in case your suitcase is lost.

## Luggage Identification

- Attach name & address tags to your bags.
- Add a Canadian symbol (tag, patch, or sticker) to easily identify your luggage.
- Use the pink ribbon (shared tonight) for your checked bag.
- Attach the school tag to your backpack.

## Electronics & Adapters

- European countries require a voltage converter for electrical appliances.

# Packing Reminders Continued

## Smart Packing Strategies

- If you can't wear it multiple times, don't pack it! (*except socks & underwear*)
- Use space-saving techniques:
  - Fill your backpack/suitcase efficiently.
  - Roll your clothes to prevent wrinkles and save space

## Dressing for the Weather

- Be prepared to layer! Temperatures range from morning to afternoon.
- Expect rain—pack accordingly (light rain jacket, waterproof gear).

## Footwear for Walking

- You'll be **walking a lot**—bring **comfortable walking shoes or runners**.
- Make sure they are not a “NEW” pair of shoes.

# Packing Reminders Continued

- ✓ **Money Safety:** Use a money belt or fanny pack to secure cash.
- ✓ **Comfortable Shoes:** Expect a lot of walking—bring supportive footwear.
- ✓ **Music & Headphones:** For long travel times or personal downtime.
- ✓ **Layered Clothing:** Bring a light rain jacket and clothing for changing weather.
- ✓ **At Least 1 Pair of Pants:** Essential for cooler weather and varied activities.
- ✓ **Snacks:** Granola bars or small non-perishable snacks.
- ✓ **Contacts & Glasses:** If you wear contacts, bring backup glasses.
- ✓ **Laundry Solution:** A plastic garbage bag (or two) for dirty clothes.
- ✓ **Electrical Adapter:** Required for plugging in appliances (hairdryers, chargers, etc.).
- ✓ **Easter Sunday Mass:** Hopefully attending in Lisbon on Monday, April 21st.
- ✓ **Positive, Flexible Attitude!** This will make your trip more enjoyable for everyone!

# Money Reminders

## Money Preparation for Travel to Europe

- Bring €500-700 in cash before departing from Canada.
- Budget for 20% more than usual for lunches due to higher prices.
  - Example: A Big Mac meal in Lisbon costs €9-11 (\$15-17 CAD).
- Emergency cash: Hide small amounts of Euros separately in your baggage.
- Carry some Canadian dollars for use in Canadian airports.
- Passports will be managed by chaperones/parents, but individuals are responsible for their own money.

# Money Reminders Continued

## Carrying Money Safely

- Avoid carrying large amounts of money at any time—pickpockets are common.
- Use a money belt or fanny pack for extra security.

## For Female Participants:

- If carrying a purse, hold it in front of you at all times.

## For Male Participants:

- If carrying a wallet, keep it in a front pocket, not a back pocket.

# Credit/Debit Cards

## Credit Card

- Recommended to bring a credit card for emergencies.
- It can be under your parents' account in your name or your own.
- A large credit limit is not necessary—just enough for emergencies.

## ATM / Debit Cards

- Can be useful, but you must be prepared for currency exchange rates at the time of withdrawal.
- Limited usability: ATM/debit cards may not work in all restaurants and shops.
- Not all ATMs are widely available.
- Must be European compliant—check with your bank before traveling.

# Communication Back Home

## Phone Calls & Personal Expenses

- **Mobile Data Plans:**
  - Be familiar with your data plan and roaming charges from your provider.
  - Consider an International plan or a local SIM card to avoid high costs.
- **Hotel Charges:** Any personal expenses (such as phone calls or other services used in hotels) must be paid by students before departure.



# Excursions

- Unexpected excursions may be available during the tour.
- Set aside **€50-80** from your total budget for these activities (safe estimate).
- Example: Biking in Barcelona
- Excursion participation will be discussed with EF and Group Leaders to ensure safety.

# Bus and Rooming Lists

## Student Rooming Lists

- A meeting was held to finalize room assignments.
- Students were asked to form partners/groups, but must be flexible as room types may vary:
  - Some nights may have **double, triple, or quad rooms.**

## Bus Assignments

- The busing list will be finalized in Portugal the first night
- **Bus 1:** Mr. Evans (TBD)
- **Bus 2:** Mr. Hanson (TBD)

# Helpful Concluding Tips

## Safety & Awareness While Traveling

- You will be visiting highly popular areas in Europe.
- Easter season means crowds and increased travel activity—stay alert.

## Rule of 3

- Never go anywhere alone—always stay in a group of at least 3.

## Pickpocket Prevention

- Carry your day pack or purse across your chest, especially in:
  - Public transport
  - Escalators
  - Crowded plazas
- Keep daily spending money separate from your main bankroll.
- Avoid exposing large amounts of cash in public.
- Consider using a money belt or fanny pack for added security.

# Helpful Concluding Tips Continued

## Restrooms

- Use the washroom whenever you can—public toilets are scarce.
- **Expect to pay €1-2 per use.**
- McDonald's is a reliable option for free or low-cost restrooms.

## Buying Lunch

- You will likely buy lunch independently from the group.
- Check menus outside before entering a restaurant.
- Table service costs at least double—opt for takeaway like the locals do to save money.

## Snacks & Food Prep

- Pack your favorite snacks in your suitcase to last 10 days.
- After security, consider buying extra food for the flight. A meal should be provided on the second leg of the trip.

# Helpful Concluding Tips Continued

## Hotel Charges

- Any room charges incurred overnight must be cleared by you before the group can leave each morning.
- Avoid the mini-bar! Even snacks and drinks can be very expensive (€25 for soda, for example).
- Don't put your roommates in an awkward situation by leaving unpaid charges!

## Carry-On & Security Restrictions

- Check your carry-on contents carefully:
  - Remove anything that could be considered a sharp object or potential weapon.
  - Aerosol or pressurized products should be left at home.

## Representing Holy Cross

- ***Your behavior reflects our school***—we expect respectful and responsible conduct throughout the trip.

# Questions

