

# MYO 2016 Spain Performance Tour

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Housing and Meals

- a. We generally stay in 3 & 4 star hotels (twin occupancy). Links to the hotel websites will be included in our final itinerary.
- b. Breakfast and dinner are provided daily. Tour participants will purchase their own lunches, which will allow them freedom to try local restaurants.

### 2. Transportation

- a. Transatlantic flights to Madrid and from Barcelona are provided by American Airlines. Transportation within Spain is provided by deluxe motor coach.

### 3. Guides

- a. We will have a guide/translator who will remain with us throughout the tour. S/he will serve as our primary liaison while in Spain. Each city will also have a local tour guide on each motor coach.

### 4. Supervision

- a. MYO will provide one chaperone for every ten MYO members on the tour. Both MYO musicians and Shadow Tour participants will be assigned a number, which we will use for attendance. All chaperones will be MYO staff members, including one registered nurse.
- b. **Rules of Behavior**
  - i. We expect MYO tour participants to follow the instructions of chaperones at all times. Drugs and alcohol are strictly forbidden.
- c. **Consequences**
  - i. Consequences depend on the nature of the misconduct. Major infractions such as drug use, alcohol consumption, or violating international laws may result in the MYO member being sent home and their school administration being notified.
- d. **Room Checks**
  - i. Chaperones will do room checks each night to make sure all members ages 18 and under are in their rooms by curfew.
- e. **Free Time**
  - i. In safe areas, members will be allowed free time to explore (in groups of three or more), buy lunch, and shop for souvenirs. The areas that they are able to explore will be explained clearly, and the meeting time and place will be very specific.

### 5. Communication

#### a. With Parents

##### i. Cell Phones

1. We have found that most MYO members bring cell phones with them on tour. We would recommend checking with your carrier about international plans for talk, text and data.
2. We will collect emergency contact information for each member, whether the emergency contact is in the United States or coming on the Shadow Tour.

##### ii. Online

1. We will keep an updated blog of our tour activities on [www.myo.org](http://www.myo.org). We will also post Facebook and Twitter updates whenever possible.

**b. On the Tour**

- i. All tour participants will be aware of meeting times and locations, and we will collect cell phone numbers from all everyone.
- ii. We will provide a list of MYO tour staff contact information and staff hotel room numbers to all tour participants in case of emergency.

**6. Finances**

- a. We recommend that MYO members bring just enough money for lunches and souvenirs. A good estimate for lunch costs would be 5-10 euros per meal. The exact amount is at the parents' discretion, but chaperones are not responsible for carrying/storing additional cash or cards for members.
- b. Many credit card companies offer travel cards, or accounts with rewards such as no foreign transaction fees. If you are bringing a credit card, we would recommend looking into these options to avoid additional fees.

**7. Shadow Tour**

- a. Parents and family members will follow the tour to the same cities, joining us for concerts and other events. The Shadow Tour will stay in the same hotels and participate in many of the same sight-seeing activities, but these tour participants will have their own motor coach and dedicated tour guides. They will also have separate hotel floors and restaurant seating whenever possible.

**8. Music/Instruments**

- a. We will email the tour orchestra and choir music to MYO musicians at least six weeks before the tour. There will be a mandatory reading rehearsal on Saturday, June 4 and a mandatory week of tour rehearsals and a concert at Herricks High School June 27 - July 5.
- b. The following large instruments will be rented in Spain (at no extra cost to tour participants): Cello, Bass, Tuba, and Percussion
  - i. Cello and bass players should bring their own bows and rosin
  - ii. Tuba players should bring their own mouthpiece and tuba stand (as needed)
  - iii. Percussionists should bring their own mallets
- c. Most wind and string instruments can be included as a carry-on. However, trombones and French horns will be an additional piece of checked baggage.