



STUDENT BEHAVIORAL CONTRACT

Trip Name: _____ Trip start date: _____

Student Name: _____

This document outlines all expectations for all student participants. If a student breaks the code of conduct as described in the Student Behavioral Contract, the student can expect consequences. In the most extreme cases, a student may be sent home at the parent's full expense. In such cases, no refunds are given. Please review the Release Statement for more details.

As you travel abroad, you are representing your family, your school, your community and your country. The key to a successful trip is your open-mind and willingness to accept new cultures and the occasional inconveniences of international travel. If you keep your eyes and your mind open, you will bring home something of lasting value. For these reasons, please read the following guidelines.

Parents, please take time to read this together with your child. You and your child are required to sign off that you have gone over this document in its entirety.

Discipline

The first infraction of this Behavioral Contract will result in a meeting with the leader at Gogi Abroad. If necessary, a collect phone call will be made to your parent(s) or guardian(s). A restriction may be imposed. Continued or similarly occurring infraction: A collect phone call to your parent(s) or guardian(s) will be made at this time. Additional restrictions will be imposed. A serious violation (such as alcohol consumption, sexual misconduct, absence after curfew, bullying or harassment, theft, etc.) will result in a collect phone call to your parent(s) or guardian(s). Gogi Abroad will decide whether to send you home at the full expense of the parent or guardian.

Homesickness (IMPORTANT)

It is not uncommon for students to adjust slowly to being away from home. Students are encouraged to discuss feelings of homesickness with the Gogi leader. We feel that contact with home is not the best solution. If homesickness is a major concern, please speak with your leader to find a solution. Going outward into a new culture takes courage. The student will grow inwardly immensely and find a new respect for themselves, and cultures. It is VERY important for the student to understand that if they are feeling homesick or have culture shock to talk with the leader. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to discuss their feelings and situation with the leader. The Gogi leaders are trained and can find solutions to make the situation more comforting. This is an important step in growing beyond one's comfort zone. Gogi leaders provide support and guidance if this should occur.

Bullying and Harassment

Harassment and bullying can take on many forms, ranging from repeatedly ignoring a person to subjecting them to unwelcome attention, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule or offence. Other more severe forms of harassment and bullying include physical threats or violence. Behavior that may appear minor as a single incident can constitute harassment or bullying when repeated, or in the context of the staff/student relationship. Even when intentional, harassment and bullying are always unacceptable. ***If a student feels that they are being harassed or bullied, they should immediately report the incident to the Gogi Abroad Leader.***

Personal Electronics and Technology

This program is designed for teens to disconnect from technology and fully connect with themselves and a new culture. This break from social media enables your child to be closer to nature and take part in a community where students have the opportunity to develop good judgment and practice self-reliance. It will also encourage them to be in the present moment. In order for this to happen, there are NO electronic devices allowed on tour, without exception. Instructors will be carrying a phone in order to handle any emergencies that may arise. Students traveling to meet their leaders from far away are allowed to bring their phones for traveling to meet the group. Leaders will collect phones for the duration of the trip and return them for their travels home.

Drug Possession/Alcohol & Use

The possession or use of illegal substances is forbidden and will result in dismissal from the group and a return home at the parents' or guardians' expense. Students are not permitted to consume alcohol or drugs.

Health Information

You will need to purchase International Travel Insurance.

If my child acquires a serious illness or gets injured, he/she may need medical treatment and I authorize Gogi Abroad to make the medical decisions necessary for my child's health and wellbeing. I understand that Gogi Abroad leaders will make every effort to contact me in the unlikely event of an emergency for the time my child is participating the program. Additionally, I authorize Gogi Abroad and to administer over-the-counter medications to my child in the event that they need medical services. I am also aware that if my insurance does not cover my child internationally, I am responsible for the cost.

Respect for Local Culture

The local people you meet are not "tourist attractions." This is their village, city, and their home; remember to act like a guest. Monuments are made for admiring; please do not climb on them. Toss trash in public wastebaskets (or put it in your pocket).

Travel Behavior Guidelines

Show consideration to others. You cannot expect English to be spoken by everyone. Learning a few courtesy phrases of the local language will go a long way. As an ambassador of the United States, show consideration and respect for other cultures and their way of life.

Curfew

Gogi Abroad will set a general nighttime curfew. Students are expected to follow the guidelines of Gogi Abroad. Students must return home at respectable hours and are not allowed to go out late **without** their host families or the Gogi group.

Adaptability

Flexibility is a key component to international travel. Traveling takes patience and a good sense of humor! Places may get crowded, traffic may be busy, planes or buses may be delayed. Go with the flow and be a positive part of the Gogi team!

Culture Shock

Culture shock is a reaction to losing all the familiar signs and symbols that you are used to. Most common areas of culture shock surround conveniences such as food, language, culture customs and possibly living conditions. It should be expected that basic conveniences of life will be different than in the United States. A big part of gaining cultural and personal maturity is how you deal with such changes.

These and other experiences are all normal responses to a new culture and environment. Remember, you will adjust, and these events will become an integral part of your memory. Commit yourself to cultural immersion by being an active participant in the visiting culture so that you get the most out of the experience. It is the student's responsibility to check in with a Gogi leader if they feel they need extra support during this transition time.

Religion

If at any point a student feels uncomfortable about anything at any point he/she is responsible for communicating with the trip leader.

Attendance at Meals

You are expected to be with the community at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. It is important for you to try new foods and help prepare food and learn about new customs and gatherings. This is a wonderful way to connect with the people and culture. Also, it is important that each student help clean up after dinner.

Traveling to the airport to meet the Flight Escort or Gogi Leader

Some students will have to travel by plane to meet up with the Gogi Abroad flight escort or Gogi leader. Gogi Abroad is not responsible for a student missing a flight. We will do our best to make special arrangements for the student to attend this trip but we cannot hold the group back.

Flight Escorts

Gogi Abroad has flight escorts that will be in charge of the students at the airport, in flight and will connect with the Gogi leader when they land. The flight escort will be designated to collect and hold all passports and airline tickets. The flight escort may or may not attend the trip. The flight escort is not a Gogi leader and is only responsible for the students during airport travel.

Driving

Students are not permitted to operate motor vehicles of any kind.

Dress Code

Your attire is an important way of showing respect for your host culture. Please follow the packing list.

Free Time Periods

Even when no organized group activities are scheduled and you are on your own, your leader must know where you are, who you are with, and when you will return. You must be in groups of two (or more) when you are not with the whole group. No student is allowed to go somewhere by themselves at any time.

Facebook and Blog Photos

I give permission for Gogi Abroad to post photos on their website, blog and Facebook. Only photos will be posted-not names.

Activities and Risks

I understand that Gogi Abroad trips are primarily traveling to new cultures, new living conditions, staying in homestays, camping and traveling outdoors. Activities vary from trip to trip and include, but are not limited to, camping, hiking, backpacking through mountains and other terrain, service learning work in small villages, biking, fishing, snorkeling, swimming, scuba diving, kayaking, and caving. I fully understand and acknowledge that the activities on the trip have risks, including risks, which are inherent. Inherent risks are those that cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the activities. The same elements that contribute to the

unique character of these activities can cause loss or damage to equipment, accidental injury, illness, or in extreme cases, permanent trauma, disability or death.

Environmental risks and hazards include, but are not limited to, flowing, deep and /or cold water; insects, snakes, predators, and large animals; falling and rolling rock; lightening, avalanches, flash floods, falling timber, and forces of nature, including weather, which may change to extreme conditions. Possible injuries and illness include hypothermia, frostbite, immersion foot, altitude illnesses, sunburn, heatstroke, dehydration, and other mild or serious conditions. Gogi Abroad activities may be strenuous-physically and/or emotionally.

Gogi Abroad is authorized to obtain or provide emergency hospitalizations, surgical or other medical care for me (or for the minor student). I understand that situations may arise in which third-party medical care is not available and which require Gogi Abroad staff to provide first aid and possibly more advanced procedures, employing wilderness first responder training. Any third party medical care provider is authorized to exchange pertinent medical information with Gogi Abroad. Costs reasonably associated with medical services, including evacuation, shall be borne by me.

THE STUDENT AND PARENT (S) OR GUARDIANS OF A MINOR STUDENT HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY AND UNDERSTAND AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO ITS TERMS, WHICH SHALL BE BINDING UPON THEM, THEIR HEIRS, ESTATE, EXECUTORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS. ANY MODIFICATIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT MUST BE APPROVED BY GOGI ABROAD IN WRITING.

It is understood by the attending student/participant and parent/guardian that the behavioral guidelines outlined herein serve as a behavioral contract. By writing in your name, you acknowledge and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in this document. Typed names or printed signatures are binding acknowledgement that the consequences of guideline infractions could result in the participant being sent home at the full expense to the parent/guardian with no refund or reimbursement.

The ultimate safety of each individual is up to each individual. It is up to you to make wise, safe decisions while traveling abroad.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

Date Signed: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

Date Signed: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ **AGE:** _____

Date Signed: _____