

# F. ITINERARY (Standard Routing)<sup>1</sup>

Take this with you this summer

Approximate distances are given in kilometers/miles.

6/25	Orientation in Brussels	
6/26}	to Copenhagen <sup>2</sup>	980/600
6/27}		
6/28	Copenhagen	
6/29}		
6/30}	to Stockholm	640/400
7/ 1}		
7/ 2	Stockholm (Service VWs)	
	Overnight ferry from	
	Kapellskar, Sweden,	
	to Naantali, Finland	
7/ 3	to Helsinki	165/105
*7/ 4	Helsinki	

-ENTER USSR-

7/ 5	to Leningrad	405/250
7/ 6}	Leningrad	
7/12}		
7/13	to Novgorod	190/120
7/14	Novgorod	
7/15	to Moscow	530/320
*7/16}	Moscow	
7/22}		
7/23	to Orel	340/210
7/24	to Kiev	520/325
7/25}	Kiev	
7/26}		
7/27	to Kharkov	480/290
7/28	to Rostov	475/285
7/29	Rostov	
7/30	to Piatigorsk	500/300
7/31}	Piatigorsk	
8/ 1}		
8/ 2	to Tbilisi	400/240
*8/ 3	Tbilisi	
8/ 4	to Sukhumi	470/285
8/ 5	to Sochi (Adler)	160/100
8/ 6}	Sochi	
8/ 8}	Steamship to Odessa	
8/ 9}	via Yalta	
8/10}		
8/11}	Odessa	
8/13}		
8/14	to Romanian Border	265/165

-LEAVE USSR-

Buses are free to choose their own way back to Brussels. Given here is the most leisurely route back. The longest return practical would be about 50% further, via Bucharest, Sofia, Skopje, and Dubrovnik.

8/15	Across Transylvania	
8/16	to Cluj	350/220
8/17	to Debrecen	225/140
8/18	to Budapest	235/145
8/19	Budapest	
8/20	to Prague	550/340
8/21	Prague	
8/22	to Frankfurt	510/315
*8/23	to Brussels	410/245
8/24	Fly to Boston/NY	

## DRIVING DISTANCES

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Average per</u>
			<u>Driving Day</u>
Kms. 8,800		144	350

Miles 5,280	87	210
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\*Mail pick-up.

<sup>1</sup>Two groups will be traveling on the Standard Routing, one day apart. This means that you may be in a group which will spend one day less in Scandinavia than is shown on this itinerary, and you will enter the Soviet Union on 7/4. The extra day will be spent in Sochi. Both groups will travel to Odessa on the same boat.

<sup>2</sup>Repeated inquiries to the Baltic Shipping Company regarding the ferry Gdansk--Helsinki have gone unanswered for the past eight months. Rather than jeopardizing the trip, we've decided not to go via Poland but to route the groups via Scandinavia instead.

121 2194



# PIONEER TRAVEL SERVICE

2 GARDEN TERRACE CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 (617) 547-1127

May 25, 1981

This is the final mailing you will receive before the trip begins. It contains:

- A. Flight information
- B. Arriving in Europe (meeting place and orientation)
- C. Insurance
- D. Some last minute odds and ends.
- E. Summer mailing addresses and the dates of mail pick-up
- F. Summer itinerary

## A. Flight Information

NY/Boston--Brussels. Departure on June 23. Capitol Airways Flight #202. Leaves JFK at 6:30 p.m. (check-in at Delta/Northwest Terminal). Arrives in Boston at 7:30 p.m. Leaves Boston at 8:30 p.m. Arrival in Brussels at 9:15 a.m., June 24. Check-in is 1½ hrs. before departure. If you are planning to board the flight in New York, let us know immediately, so that a correctly written out ticket can be sent to you. Also, indicate if you'll be returning to New York. Otherwise, I'll hold on to all the tickets until we meet at the Capitol Airways counter in the International Departures Building at Logan Airport. I'll be carrying a sign with a big "S" (for Soviet Union).

Brussels--Boston/NY. Departure on August 24. Capitol Airways Flight #203. Leaves Brussels at 11:15 a.m. Arrives in Boston at 1:15 p.m. Leaves Boston at 2:45 p.m. Arrives at JFK at 3:45 p.m.

Refund. If you are on our flight (and you've paid in full by the time this mailing goes out), a check for \$41 is enclosed. Since we were able to arrange this flight at \$529 round-trip, instead of the \$570 we projected in our literature, the difference is yours.

## B. Arriving in Europe

1. For those on our flight. Arrive in Brussels on June 24. Two VW busses will shuttle us to the campground in Wezembeek-Oppem. It's a 10-15 minute drive from the airport. After a brief presentation on how to set up a tent, you'll be free to do whatever you wish with the rest of the day (although we'd urge you to get some sleep before heading into town).
2. For those meeting us in Europe: Come out to "Paul Rosmant" Camping, Warandeborg 52, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem. Tel. 02/731 07 74, by 9:00 a.m. of June 25. The campground is about 4 km east of Brussels. We hope to have explicit directions for getting to the campground by public transport. If we receive it before June 10, we'll send it to you. Otherwise, if you need directions from Brussels, call the reception desk at the campground.

Should you be in Brussels on June 23 with time on your hands, you may want to get a hold of David Friedman, leader of one of the Soviet groups, who will be at the campground getting the equipment ready. I'm sure he'll

*Specializing in Travel to Eastern Europe and The Balkans*



appreciate your help if not your company. But do call first before making a trip to the campground.

Orientation. The orientation will start at 9:00 a.m. on June 25, at Paul Rosnaut Camping, Warandenberg 52, 1970 Wezenbeek-Oppem. This is one day earlier than planned, because of the earlier flight date.

### C. Insurance

While in the busses, you are covered for third-party liability. This means that if the bus you're in causes harm to a third party (someone outside the bus) and they sue you, this insurance will protect you against such suits. It does not, however, cover you for accidents that may happen to you. So if there is an accident in which both you and a third party are injured, the insurance will protect you against damage suits, but will not pay your own medical expenses, property damage, or your trip back to the U.S., if that should be medically necessary.

For those who want coverage for accident or death, medical expenses, baggage and fare protection, a travel insurance application form is enclosed. The insurance is of course optional. Before signing up for it, check to see what coverage you already have, since this policy might duplicate your existing coverage.

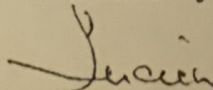
### D. Odds & Ends

1. The groups. There are two groups; both travelling on the Standard Routing. One group has 15 people -- 9 women and 6 men -- and will be led by me. The other group has 14 people -- 7 men and 7 women -- and is led by David Friedman. There will also be a third group going on our flight. This group, led by Lynn Stevens, will be heading for Warsaw. From there they will be biking to Sophia, Bulgaria.
2. Customs search. When crossing any border, including your arrival in Europe, you're liable to a customs and police search for drugs, i.e., hashish, marijuana, etc.
3. Packing. The volume limit of one moderately thin 21-inch suitcase is intended to be taken seriously. I'll have a tape measure in Brussels. If your suitcase is larger, you'll have to get a new one before leaving. It has to be that way if it's going to be kind of trip that we've described in our literature. You'll bless me for this as the summer develops.

If you'd like to bring such items as a guitar, a cassette tape recorder or anything else from which the entire group would benefit, let us know so that we'll avoid bringing items that will duplicate one another and unnecessarily take up prime space in the busses. Such items would, of course, not be counted within your 21-inch limit.

That's it until I see you at Logan Airport or in Europe. Don't hesitate to write or call as questions come up.

Sincerely,



Lucien Weisbrod



1981

INFORMATION SHEET

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WRITE OR CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS



## A. THE USSR PORTION OF THE TRIP

### 1. Getting Involved

This trip is set up to give you every opportunity to learn about the Soviet Union -- its language, people, and culture. It allows for leisurely sight-seeing, but it also encourages you to get involved in Soviet life. Some of the simplest ways of getting involved are:

- a. Buying your own food. It means having to live one part of your life as Soviet citizens do--comparing quality in different stores, learning what foods are available where, how much they cost, and above all, having the daily experience of standing in Soviet lines not as a curious tourist but as a hungry, often harrassed individual who is trying to meet Soviets on their own grounds. It's often unpleasant and irritating, but this is one of the things you've come to experience. And it can be exhilarating to find in stock some exotic item that you've been trying to get for days (like tomatoes).
- b. Minor mishaps. Since you're doing things for yourself, some things are bound to go wrong: running out of gas, sitting in the wrong seat in a movie, getting on the wrong bus and ending up somewhere you've never heard of--and then trying to get back on another city bus. Annoying but enriching. Perhaps the most enriching experience of all is to get sick--but not too sick--and getting to spend some time in the ward of a Soviet hospital (see page 4, Health). But even going to an outpatient clinic is well worth doing. If you don't succeed in getting sick in the Soviet Union, you might want to invent something during your last week. (However, do not invent a stomach or digestive ailment, or you might be quarantined for a week--enriching, but no fun at all.) It can teach you some things that any number of museum tours cannot. Needless to say, if you really get into trouble, we'll bail you out.

By far the best way of becoming involved is to leave the group entirely for a period of time: wander around, sit in a park, shop, go to a soccer game, join a group of Soviet tourists on their own guided tours, visit a lower court where wifebeating, drunkenness, "anti-social behavior" cases come up--but by yourself. It is while doing things of this sort that you are most likely to meet people in a meaningful way--as opposed to the formal meetings with youth groups arranged by Intourist. But go on one of those too--they're interesting to experience at least once.

### 2. The Group: On being with it and getting away from it.

The basic strategy of the trip is to provide a group for the times you want or need one, but make it easy to get away from the group for the times you don't. The group has its uses. Some of them are:

- a. For company. It's sometimes nice, even necessary, to have people around that you know and are comfortable with. (Some even choose to remain friends after the trip ends.)
- b. For information. The leader, who has taken the trip at least once before, can be a source of reasonably reliable information and time-saving tips. The experiences of other people in the group become a good source of information too.



- c. For administration. There are details that are not efficient or interesting to wrestle with all by yourself: hassling with bureaucrats, arranging excursions, dealing with procedures at border crossings. These are some of the things the leader can take on or delegate.
- d. For support. If you get sick, in trouble with police or customs, lose all your luggage.
- e. For economy of scale. It's cheaper and more efficient to take care of some things as a group: transportation, food buying, equipment, vehicle insurance, maps.

To get these benefits from the group, there are things you have to do in order to make it work: help pack the busses, show up on time when the bus is traveling (or let them know you're not coming), help keep the equipment usable, help bring the vehicles in for servicing, share the driving, etc. These are restrictions on your freedom that you have to be prepared to make, not because we care about the group as such, but because the group is the means of letting you do the things you've come to do. And since there are no hired drivers, chaperones, bookkeepers, mechanics, or dishwashers, you'll have to help with these things as well.

But much of the time--especially during city stays--you'll want to and should get away from the group. This is obviously a trip with no compulsory "group activities" and much encouragement to get off on your own. The more you do on your own, the more you are in keeping with the style of the trip. To do this you'll need (1) funds, so that you don't have to spend your own money, (2) information, so you'll know how to get around on your own. For that reason there are:

- a. A per diem allowance. Every few days you draw money from the group funds, mostly for food, some for local transportation, museum tickets, etc. The amount you draw is determined by how much we have found it actually costs to live in any given city (more in Helsinki, Tbilisi; less in Moscow, Belgrade). While you may want to do some things with the leader and other people in the group, you might sometimes want to take off and not be seen again until the bus leaves town.
- b. A handbook. At the orientation, you'll get a handbook of information compiled especially for this trip. You can use it to be independent of the group for purposes of sightseeing, using local transportation, finding cheap restaurants, public baths, stores.

### 3. Excursions

A number of excursions will be arranged during city stays. They will sometimes be conducted by our own leaders, sometimes by Intourist. You will almost certainly not want to participate in every excursion, and you are of course free to choose from among the ones that interest you. The excursions are to museums, places of historical interest, 19th century estates, hospitals, kolkhozes, kindergartens, youth camps. For example, there is a Pushkin tour of Leningrad (St. Petersburg) of places which he mentions in his works, places where he lived or where his close friends lived, and his grave; there is an architectural tour of Moscow, history tours of Leningrad and Moscow, visits to the homes of Turgenev, Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov. The trip itself has planned stops at Pushkin's summer home near Leningrad, Chaikovsky's and Chekhov's estates near Moscow, Tolstoy's estate at Yasnaya Polyana, and Turgenev's estate near Orel.



Upon our arrival in each city, the local Intourist organization always offers us a city tour of 2 or 3 hours, and it is a matter of local pride to them that we attend. Our attendance helps establish us as a cooperative group and facilitates our leader's day-to-day dealings with Intourist. It also means that when we do require Intourist's help (in getting theater tickets, permission to visit generally closed areas, helping us overcome red tape of various sorts), they are more likely to want to help. For that reason, we request that you attend this one tour in each city on the itinerary.

#### 4. Communicating with Russians

It is not essential to know Russian in order to get involved in the Soviet Union. Russians are curious about foreigners and generally very direct--even abrupt--about approaching them. They assume you don't know Russian and are prepared to try to communicate in their barely intelligible classroom English. (Most Russians study English in school and can speak it about as well as American high school students speak French, Spanish or Latin.) What is important is that they want to communicate, and if you do too, something will come of it. The orientation will provide hints on how and where to meet Russians, the kinds of questions you're likely to be asked, the kinds of questions they expect to be asked.

But the more Russian you know, the easier it is to get involved. And if you do know some Russian, you'll probably want to learn more. If there is sufficient interest, one of the busses will be exclusively Russian speaking. The Intourist guide assigned to us will travel in that bus. You may join and leave the Russian speaking vehicle as you wish, but as long as you are with it, you must speak only Russian. But by far the most efficient and direct way to learn Russian is to spend a maximum amount of time away from the group and with Russians. The trip is set up to make this easy to do. It's up to you.

#### 5. The State of Your Russian

Unless you've had considerable opportunity to talk Russian beforehand, you'll probably find it hard to communicate the first few days in the Soviet Union. What usually happens is that after the first few days you find yourself developing two skills:

- a. The ability to understand what people are saying even when you don't understand every word. Missing words will not rattle you as much and you will get better at picking out what is essential in the sentence. One effect of this is to give you the leisure to isolate words you don't know and ask about them. Russians are remarkably patient with foreigners trying to learn their language. They sometimes seem surprised that any foreigner knows any Russian at all.
- b. The ability to effectively use what you do know. Vocabulary and grammar that has been passive or forgotten comes to the surface as you find you really need it--not to pass a test, but to communicate something you very much want to say. Things you didn't know you had in you will come out in the heat of personal discussions, declarations of love and frantic attempts to buy food (especially when you're mad, moved, or hungry).

At the end of the summer, your knowledge of Russian grammar will perhaps not be that much greater than before, but your fluency in using what you do know should be significantly improved. Its most impressive effect will probably



be in the ease with which you then learn Russian, since you should have an intuitively solid base to work from.

One way to pick up a lot of new words: Keep a small dictionary in your pocket and look up all the words you don't know in signs. The amount of repetition may be annoying to Russians (as with advertising signs in the USA), but they're natural reading drills for you with built-in review. Also read bus tokens, signs identifying historical monuments, and parking tickets.

## 6. Souvenirs

The USSR is not a good place for bargain shopping, and the variety of goods is quite limited. The best souvenirs are momentos--coins, bus tickets, menus, posters, *znachki* (lapel buttons), newspapers (especially local ones), guide books, maps, etc., all of which are either free or very inexpensive. Two real bargains are:

- a. Books, which are relatively cheap. There are many good bookstores in every city we visit, a good variety of books to choose from, and major post offices in every city will wrap and ship them for you. The handbook gives the location of some major bookstores. The selection of Russian books is even better in Eastern Europe, and prices are lower.
- b. Vodka. Russian vodka is probably unsurpassed--smooth, potent, and almost tasteless. It's very inexpensive at special dollar stores--as little as 1/3 of what you would pay in the U.S. Even after paying U.S. duty, vodka is a real bargain. (Russian caviar is also very good but very expensive.)
- c. Amber and furs. For those with expensive taste, Russian fur hats and amber jewelry are a good buy.

## 7. Health

If you should get sick and have to stay behind, one member of the group will stay with you and the two of you will be permitted to travel independently by train or plane to catch up. The same applies if you must stay behind for any reason--someone will stay with you. The vehicles will have basic first-aid equipment and very simple medications and bandages--for cuts, diarrhea, simple infections, headaches, etc. At no time will we be more than a few hours away from a doctor, so what we take will be very simple and basic. The tour fee does not cover the cost of medical care or the expenses of catching up with the group if you are sick. However, the expenses of the person staying behind with the sick person are paid for. Travel insurance will be offered for those who want this coverage.

Before leaving, it would be a good idea to have a health examination. If you have a special health problem, please let us know about it. And if you suffer from a serious or chronic disease, have a doctor write us about what might happen during the trip and what we can do to help you if it does.



## 8. Safety and Security

The USSR is probably the safest country in Europe to travel in. Crimes of violence against foreigners are practically unknown, and the militia are very careful to see that you are not harmed or molested. Constant lectures on behavior may be trying at times (molodoy chelovek/devushka, ne znaete vy, shto eto ochen' opasno/neprilichno/nekul'turno...young man/young woman, don't you know that this is very dangerous/indecent/uncultured...) but it gives you the feeling (well grounded) that people are concerned about what you do and what happens to you. They really care, probably more than people generally do in Western Europe or the United States.

On the other hand, the few restrictions they have are seriously meant and breaking them can get you and the entire group expelled from the Soviet Union.

They are:

- (1) Breaking travel restrictions. Soviet law is very specific and very severe regarding travel restrictions. These restrictions are:
  - (a) Between cities: Travel is permitted only between cities on the approved itinerary, on the approved dates, and on the main roads connecting those cities. Travel is forbidden to any other cities, on any other dates, along any other roads. Each person on the trip will be given a copy of the approved itinerary and the approved dates.
  - (b) Inside cities: Foreigners must stay within city limits. Exceptions are permitted only with the explicit approval of Intourist and only when accompanied by an Intourist guide.
- (2) Contraband. Smuggling across the border anti-Soviet political literature, firearms, narcotics or marijuana, undeclared currency. You can take in as much currency as you want other than Soviet currency, but you must declare it at the border.
- (3) Politics. Engaging in anti-Soviet demonstrations or propagandizing against the regime.
- (4) Picture-taking. Taking pictures in border areas and of obvious military installations. Honest mistakes are usually forgiven, but your film might be confiscated.
- (5) Documents. At the border, your baggage, and sometimes your person, are likely to be searched. Printed or written materials are likely to be carefully scrutinized, ESPECIALLY, MATERIALS WRITTEN IN RUSSIAN. The customs people are looking for:
  - (a) Anti-Soviet political literature. Books, pamphlets, letters, diaries, etc., expressly written as a criticism of the Soviet political system or calling for a change in the system. It does not include books on the Soviet Union which happen to be critical of aspects of Soviet life, e.g., a book on Soviet literature critical of the quality of Soviet Russian fiction.
  - (b) Proscribed books. Books by Soviet authors which are not circulated in the Soviet Union, e.g., books by Solzhenitsyn, Amalrik, Sakharov.
  - (c) Letters or manuscripts addressed to Soviet citizens or written by Soviet citizens for delivery abroad. This will not only



get you and perhaps the group in trouble, but also the Soviet citizen for whom or by whom it was written.

- (6) Black market roubles. Selling hard currency (dollars, francs, etc.) for roubles except at official change offices or trying to bring in roubles across the border.

If any member of the group purposely breaks these rules, he/she will be disassociated from the group and sent home. Under these circumstances, no refund will be given for the unused portion of the trip.

The baggage and vehicles are likely to be searched at the border, especially when leaving the country. This search is sometimes extremely thorough, involving removal of the upholstery of the cars and searching suitcases for hidden pockets of linings. What are they looking for? Probably for these things: (1) Underground literature in manuscript form. (2) Drugs. (3) "National treasures" (e.g., old ikons, books published before 1945, old samovars) that you might be smuggling out contrary to Soviet export restrictions. (4) Soviet army insignia, army belt buckles, etc. And a last thing that they never talk about, but that might be most important of all: The names and addresses of Soviet citizens.

Although the Soviet government has no objection to Soviet citizens meeting foreigners, they are on occasion suspicious of those who maintain a close communication with foreigners once the foreigner leaves the country. So if you have addresses of friends you have made in the USSR, keep them on your person--do not leave them in your baggage or in the car. You might thoughtlessly get some people you like into trouble.

## 9. Changes in the Itinerary

The itinerary we actually follow may differ from the printed brochure. The main reason for this is that Intourist retains--and often exercises--the right to change the itinerary due to: road conditions, overbooking in certain cities, their desire to have us spend a longer or shorter time in a given place. These are things anyone traveling in the Soviet Union learns to put up with--the changes are seldom earth-shaking and they sometimes yield enriching experiences. Our best advice is to hang loose and see what surprises Intourist has in store for us, given that there's nothing we can do about it anyway.

## B. THE NON-USSR PORTION OF THE TRIP

### 1. The flight

- a. Final flight information. You will receive the final flight information about one month before the start of the trip. It will include: Flight number, time of departure and final details of the return flight from Europe.
- b. Returning on alternate dates. If you plan to stay on in Europe after the trip ends, we can probably arrange for you to go over with us and return at a later date. If you want to do this, indicate your return date on your application or let us know as soon as you can.



- c. Refund if you don't use the flight. If you provide your own trans-Atlantic transportation, deduct \$570 from the cost of the trip.

N.B. As of this writing, our carrier is not yet willing to commit itself to a firm fare for the month of June; \$570 is their best guess to date--the final fare may be higher or lower. Around March 15, we should have a firm price.

## 2. Meeting in Europe

For those of you not on the flight, and hence meeting us in Europe, the information about our meeting place in Brussels will be sent to you in the final mailing, about one month before the start of the trip.

## 3. From the Soviet Union to Western Europe

The dotted lines on the brochure map are merely suggestions. Once they leave the Soviet Union, vehicles are free to follow any route they choose and will have their individual food, gas and expense money and set of maps, as well as suggested routings and information on local conditions. The leader's vehicle will follow the printed itinerary, so you can find the leader when and if you wish.

People who decide to get back to Western Europe entirely on their own will draw a per diem allowance from the time they leave the group. This allowance should cover food and very modest lodging, but not transportation. So if you take a train, you'll probably have to spend some of your own money; if you hitchhike, you probably won't. (Hitchhiking is also more enriching.)

# C. PREPARATION FOR THE TRIP

## 1. Passport

If you don't have a valid passport, apply for one immediately. Don't put it off until later in the spring, or you may not get it in time. We cannot get your visa for you until you have been issued a passport. It has happened in the past that people were unable to go on the trip because they failed to apply for passports in time. You can get the forms from the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, STATE DEPARTMENT, PASSPORT AGENCY. Look it up in that order in the phone book. You'll need:



- a. A birth certificate with a raised seal, which you can obtain from the hospital where you were born. Make it clear to them that it's for a passport.
- b. Two identical passport photos (snapshots won't do) 2½ inches square. Where they ask which countries you're traveling to, list them and they'll send you information sheets on some of those countries.

Passports are valid for 5 years. Be sure your passport will not expire before the end of the trip. Fill in the information on the inside front cover and sign the bottom of the second page.

## 2. Photos and Visa

Get an additional 10 photos for visas and for emergencies on the trip, plus two more if you're going to drive and will therefore need an international driver's license. These need not be regulation passport photos, but while you're having the two made for the passport, you can have the additional 10 or 12 printed at the same time. To save money, you can send to one of the mail photo reproduction services that advertise in popular magazines.

Extra prints make good presents on the trip. If time is short, have 4 photos made at a photographer's, cut them down to 1-1/2 x 1-3/4 inches, sign the back and one side of each photo, and send them immediately with your Soviet visa application so we can get your Soviet visa without delay. Take the remaining 8 photos with you for the other visas you will need, which we will get for you in Europe.

### How to Fill Out the Soviet Visa Application

Instructions are on the application itself. Leave blank the items "Route of the journey" and "Index and name of tourist group". If you have relatives in the USSR, it is probably better not to list them in the final question of the application.

When you have your passport and photos, send to us (not to Progressive Tours Ltd.) the completed visa application. Be sure you've signed it, stapled 3 signed photos as instructed, and included your passport number (just the number, not the passport itself). In addition, send one photo of yourself so that we can recognize you when we first meet. This will leave you 6 photos to take with you this summer.

IMPORTANT!!! WE WILL NEED YOUR VISA APPLICATION AND PHOTOS BY MAY 1.

## 3. International Driving Permit

If you want to do any driving this summer and can drive a standard shift car, get an International Driving Permit from the AAA or ALA. You don't have to be a member to get one. For this purpose you'll need 2 photos, a driver's license, and \$5.00.



#### 4. Immunization

As of this writing the U.S. Public Health Service neither requires nor recommends any immunizations for travelers to any of the areas of the trip. If this should change, we'll let you know.

#### 5. Insurance

The Coverage We Have. While in the buses you are covered for third party liability insurance. This means that if the bus you are in causes harm to a third party (someone outside the bus) the insurance will protect you against damage suits brought by them on their insurance companies. This insurance is invalid if you are driving and (1) you are under 18 years of age, (2) you have been drinking. This protects you against damage suits by others, but does not cover you for accidents that happen to you. So if you were in an accident in which both you and a third party were injured, the insurance would protect you against damage suits by the third party, but would not pay your own medical expenses, damaged caused to your property, or the cost of your transportation back to the United States if that should be medically necessary.

Additional Coverage Possible. We have made arrangements with an insurance company to provide additional coverage for those who want it, both while in the busses and out of them. Several weeks before leaving for Europe, we'll send you a description of the coverage and tell you how to sign up if you want it. Before signing up for this coverage, check to see what insurance coverage you already have and whether it covers you abroad.

#### 6. Documents You Will Need

You will need the following documents when you leave the country:

- a. Your passport
- b. International Driving Permit if you wish to drive this summer
- c. 6 photos
- d. If you are a full-time student, you might want an identification card (with picture if possible) in order to show that you qualify for a reduced admission to theatres, museums, etc. If you might be traveling on your own, an International Student Identity Card qualifies you for European student charter planes, trains, buses, and ship. They are widely available from student travel offices. One such is:

Harvard Student Agencies  
Thayer Hall, Harvard University  
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Tell them your name, birthdate, and citizenship; send them one small photo, \$6.00, and conclusive evidence that you were a student this year. (You don't have to be a Harvard student to get one from them.)

#### 7. Carrying Money

Most of your personal money should be carried in travelers checks. In addition, take about 20 one-dollar bills and some small change. You'll be grateful you have it while others are getting change in candy and Lenin pins in the dollar stores.



## 8. Other Information You Will Receive

Before you leave you will receive:

1. A flight schedule
2. A description of the additional insurance coverage available
3. Mailing addresses in Europe
4. Schedule of the orientation
5. Instructions for meeting the group if you are traveling independently to Europe.

### D. MAILING ADDRESSES

Before leaving you will receive a list of your summer mailing addresses, spaced an average of 2 weeks apart. That is, you will be able to receive mail on the average of every 2 weeks.

### E. EMERGENCIES

Upon arriving in the Soviet Union, we will submit a group list and a daily itinerary to the U.S. Embassy, so that you may be contacted if necessary. In the event of a personal emergency at home, you may be reached by a cable sent to: American Embassy, Moscow.

In the event of a personal emergency not covered by the funds you have brought with you, you may have to send home for money. So make arrangements for money to be cabled you. Money can be cabled by sending a Western Union money order payable to:

Department of State  
Special Consular Services  
Washington, D.C. 20520

The wire should read: "For \_\_\_\_\_, Moscow." Include an additional \$5 for cable charges. They will forward the money to the American Embassy in Moscow, who will contact you. This form of transferring money is for use only in emergencies. If you have any questions, you may call: (202) 632-3816.

If the emergency is such that you can't wait for a cable, the leader is authorized to cash a personal check for you from group funds. This is basically meant to cover medical emergencies or a crisis necessitating your flying home. It is not meant to cover money for souvenirs, side trips, personal spending money, etc. And again, we only will cash a check if there is some reason you cannot wait for a return cable from home.

### F. PAYMENT, CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

#### 1. Payment

The deposit holds your place until April 15. The second payment is (or was) due on April 15. The balance is due on May 1. The dates reflect payments we must meet to Intourist, the airlines and the vehicle leasing company. Please



meet them promptly. If you cannot meet these payment dates, let us know immediately and perhaps we can set up a different schedule of payments. Otherwise, you may lose your place on the trip. Make checks payable to Pioneer Travel Service.

## 2. Cancellation

The cancellation schedule reflects our average non-recoverable expenses at about these dates. It may be high or low for any particular person, but we will keep to the following schedule in every case:

<u>If you cancel</u>	<u>We will deduct from your refund</u>
Before April 15	\$50 (the non-refundable deposit)
After April 15	\$100
After May 24	\$480
After June 10	\$710

If you cancel your place but simultaneously provide an acceptable substitute before June 1 you will lose only your \$50 deposit.

## 3. Refunds

Once you leave the Soviet Union you might possibly decide to take off for a few days or even to make your way back to Western Europe entirely on your own. Or you might get sick at some point during the summer (see Health, page 4) or have to return home for reasons of health, family crisis, etc. Whatever the reason, you will receive a per diem allowance for any days you are not with the group and hence not spending group funds for food. Also, if your absence results in a refund from Intourist, we will pass on to you whatever we recover. BUT PLEASE NOTE: Once the trip is under way, this per diem allowance plus Intourist refund money is essentially the only expense we save from your absence, and hence the only refund we can allow. Sorry it's so little.

## G. PACKING

### Volume Limit

1. Mobility requires traveling light. Baggage slows you down and everyone else with you, crowds the vehicle, makes it difficult to find things, makes taking off in the morning a terrible drag, and generally corrodes the style of the summer.
2. People invariably take more than they need.

- Therefore -

You are limited to:

1. One suitcase no larger than 21 inches long, 15 inches high, and 6 inches wide. No suitcase larger than this will be permitted in the buses.
2. An air mattress or ground cloth, or raincoat in lieu of a mattress or cloth.
3. A sleeping bag.



This may seem too little. In fact, it was too much. It was the general opinion of past participants that:

1. A 21-inch suitcase was completely adequate.
2. The suitcase should not be fully packed, because:
  - a. It was almost impossible to know what they needed until after the trip started.
  - b. Shopping in Europe itself was a worthwhile experience.
  - c. Room had to be left in the suitcase for things picked up during the summer that could not be mailed home. If there was no room in the suitcase for them, they cluttered the vehicles and made otherwise decent people eliminate and destroy each other's vodka, samovars, balalaikas, and wall-sized posters. (But books and posters are easy and cheap to mail; vodka, balalaikas, and samovars caused no feuds when they were well wrapped and stored under the seats.)

A Case Study. Rick Cueto (1969) left Boston with nothing but an empty guitar case, and outfitted himself luxuriously with other people's excess baggage. The picking was particularly rich as people started acquiring souvenirs and found that they had no room in their suitcases for a fourth change of garterbelt or a full 2-year supply of peppermint-flavored mouth and throat gargle (which they quite correctly assumed would not be obtainable in Leningrad).

#### Weather

Russian summers are typically cool and wet in the north, hot and dry in the south, and blistering hot in the Caucasus. Above all it is unpredictable, but to be safe assume the worst and pack for cool, hot, wet, and dry.

#### Principles of Packing

1. Keeping warm and dry is a consideration for about 1/3 of the summer.
2. You'll be able to wash and dry clothes at least every 3 days, but clothes will take a long time to dry in North Russia (Leningrad and Moscow).
3. Take the lightest, smallest, quickest-drying things you can.
4. Make each item serve as many functions as possible, e.g., raincoat doubling as bathrobe doubling as groundcloth.
5. Backpacks: Because of their shape, backpacks do not fit well in the buses, and we recommend that you bring a suitcase. But if you are likely to be backpacking before or after the trip, by all means bring it instead of a suitcase.

#### What To Take

Consistent with the above, we recommend:

1. A warm sleeping bag.
2. A warm sweater.
3. A raincoat or poncho, to double as a bathrobe to double as a ground cloth.
4. A few changes of socks and underwear, including one pair of warm socks.
5. A small cloth bag for carrying things in cities and on walks.
6. Comfortable, light, loose travelling clothes--shorts, slacks, whatever, of quick-drying fabric. For evenings at the theater or opera, men: bring a shirt with a collar (jacket optional); women: include a dress or skirt.



7. A bathing suit of quick-drying fabric.
8. A quick-drying towel.
9. Toilet articles for 10 days. (Women: bring napkins or tampons.)
10. A flashlight. Very important!
11. A pocket knife. Very important!
12. Film. You cannot buy film in the Soviet Union that can be developed in the United States.
13. Small presents: pictures of your family, home, city, school; cancelled stamps; pens with writing on them; paperback books (ones you'd like to read yourself before giving away); picture postcards of scenes in America (great conversation starters). Especially in the Soviet Union exchanging gifts is common, and you might feel like a boor having nothing in return for presents you get. The space produced as you give away will probably be taken up with things you acquire along the way.
14. If you wear glasses, an extra pair and prescription.
15. Several polyethylene bags, useful for protection against dust and damp.
16. Tiny pocket dictionaries.
17. A small sewing kit.
18. Anti-diarrhea medicine; e.g., Lomatil.
19. Insect repellent.
20. Handy wipes, or washcloths in a plastic bag.
21. Perhaps: rubber shower sandals ("flip-flops"), clothesline and pins, inflatable hangers (for drying drip-dry clothes), sink stopper that fits any size sink.
22. Air mattress? More for warmth than for a mattress. If you sleep cold, consider bringing one.
23. Cassette tapes. Thanks to the advent of cassette tape recorders, cassettes of Western music are very popular in the Soviet Union, and usually someone on the trip has brought along a tape recorder. You might want to bring a tape or two of your favorite music for your own entertainment, which usually ends up generating spontaneous contacts with Russians.

The sleeping bag does not count in your 21-inch limit. All other items recommended above should fit with room to spare for items you pick up on the way. The list assumes that you will board the plane wearing: shoes (stout, broken-in walking shoes), underwear, socks, (dress)pants, shirt. Anything else, whether or not you carry it on the plane, counts toward the volume limit.

#### We Will Supply

Anything of general utility: camping equipment other than sleeping bags, cooking and eating utensils, maps, and anything else that the group finds it requires once under way (within reason--but we would consider things like an espresso coffee-maker to be within reason, so don't bring your own).