

## 2024 Bolivia Missions Training Program

### AIRPORT INFORMATION

Our trip will take us through 7 airports: Saskatoon (YXE), Toronto (YYZ), Miami (MIA), Lima (LIM), Santa Cruz (VVI), Los Angeles (LAX), and Calgary (YYC).

There are 3 security aspects airport officials are concerned with: your personal safety while flying, immigration, and customs, so be prepared to be subjected to numerous checks involving all 3 at various points in our trip. Airport security is there to keep you safe but is viewed as a hassle by many travellers. Be patient and keep in mind how hard it is to ensure security at big airports like Los Angeles, Miami, and Toronto. On the day we will be there, Miami airport will process around 138,800 passengers.

To give you an idea of the challenge security poses at large airports, Miami International is one of the busiest airports in the world. In 2022, it had over 80 airlines move 50 million passengers to over 150 destinations around the world.

I am sure some of you consider yourselves experienced travellers but please remember that however awesome you think you are at travelling by yourself or with your family, your experience is not especially useful for a trip like this one. There are all sorts of complications and potential pitfalls that are unique to travelling as a group (like clearing US customs and immigration in Toronto in the short time we have until our flight to Miami departs).

To get us through all of the security procedures as quickly and effortlessly as possible, we have prepared a list of our expectations for you as we travel as a group from Saskatoon all the way until we get out into the airport parking lot in Santa Cruz:

- **HERD MENTALITY:**
  - We will travel as a herd so be prepared to be “managed” – don’t fight it!
  - Mr. Harris will always be at the head of the group (unless we designate another chaperone to be the lead). Ms. Clendining will always be the tail of the group. You will NEVER be behind Ms. Clendining at any point as she will wait for you no matter what is causing the delay.
  - We move through the airports as a group so we will create impromptu meeting points along the way because various checkpoints will cause us to separate temporarily. After clearing a checkpoint, if you end up at the front of the group (likely because the leader at the head of the group is delayed/detained), look for a suitable collection point for the group and wait there until a leader shows up. Be aware that officials can be pretty fussy about groups of people collecting too close to security. As always, pay attention to where those in front of you are heading so you are together when one of the leaders catches up to the group.
  - You will wear your team shirt on top of any other article of clothing (so if you are cold, be prepared to wear additional layers UNDER your team shirt).
  - You will wear your passport holder (given to you at the pack’n’pray night) around your neck and under your team shirt. Random spot checks may be done by leaders so be prepared to show that you have your passport holder and that it is still around your neck. At a minimum, your passport holder will contain your passport, yellow fever

vaccination card and any boarding passes you are issued. If you lose your passport, you and an adult chaperone are stuck in whatever city you are in until an emergency passport is issued. Depending on the circumstances, this may even result in one of your parents flying out to take responsibility for you so the chaperone can rejoin the group.

- Because we are a large group and will be wearing the same colour shirts, we are easily identifiable. This is really useful for getting us through the various checkpoints but it also means that we stand out. Behave accordingly so we stand out for all the right reasons.
- You must NEVER leave the group on your own or without asking permission from a leader.
- ATTITUDE. The #1 reason people have problems or cause delays in the processing at airports is attitude. The security officers at gates, customs, immigration, and other various security checkpoints are the boss. They have a mostly tedious job to do but with enormous responsibilities and the authority to really mess us up. Be polite, answer their questions and pay attention.
- LANGUAGE. This may be hard to believe but not everything you say is pure comedy gold. Be particularly careful with your language while we are travelling because security is serious business and many travellers are already nervous enough. For obvious reasons, it is completely inappropriate to make ANY references to any of the following while we are travelling: terror/terrorist/terrorism, violence, bombs, guns, jihad, extremist, drugs, smuggling, kidnapping, etc.
- BAGGAGE:
  - You must know what is in your baggage (carry-on and your SCS duffle bag).
  - Do not leave baggage unattended at any time.
  - You are responsible for moving your baggage when in your possession. When possible, we may stack the duffle bags on baggage carts.
  - Liquids in carry-on baggage is limited to 100ml max per container and must be stored in a clear Ziploc bag. Total liquids allowed is 1l.
  - Do not bring matches, lighters, knives or any other such items in your carry-on baggage.
  - Carry-on baggage includes 1 standard item (21.5" x 8" x 14", max. 15 lbs) and 1 personal item (17" x 6" x 13", max. 15 lbs).
  - Your duffle bag may be late showing up in Bolivia so pack what you need for a day or two in your carry-on.
  - Medications should be in original packaging and packed in your carry-on.
  - Ensure all electronic devices are charged and can power on. Electronics larger than a phone will have to be scanned separately and be able to be removed from protective cases/covers.
  - You are welcome to bring snacks on the plane but remember no drinks are permitted through security. Purchase them on the other side of security, if necessary. **WARNING:** although you are permitted to take fruits, vegetables, meats and some nuts onto the plane, you will not be allowed to take them into the US or Bolivia. Please make sure you eat these items during the flight or throw them out before leaving the plane.
  - Toronto airport is a designated a pre-clearance airport for the purposes of US customs and immigration. This means you should not have to pick up your duffle bag and re-check it through a US security checkpoint before boarding the flight to Miami.

- **IN-FLIGHT ENTERTAINMENT:**
  - Bring your earbuds or headset if you plan to enjoy the in-flight entertainment. Not all aircraft have onboard power so make sure your device is fully charged prior to the flight.
  - AC1932 (stream to your device), AC1200 (seatback touch screen), LA2481/LA2478 (seatback touch screen), OB741/OB748 (shared TV), WJ1511/WJ406 (stream to your device).
- **TRAVEL DECLARATIONS:**
  - US CBP Declaration Form – may be required in Toronto on the way to Bolivia and in Miami on the way back. Enter “IN TRANSIT TO – BOLIVIA” or “IN TRANSIT TO – CANADA” in the address section.
  - Canadian travel declaration – use the kiosks at the Calgary airport.
- Bring spending money (USD) for dinner and snacks in the Miami airport on the way down and for dinner in the Miami airport and snacks in the Toronto airport on the way back.
- Seating on the flights will generally be alphabetic based on your last name. Seat assignments will only change under exceptional circumstances and requires the permission of a leader.
- Clearing security, customs and immigration at the Santa Cruz airport will not be as organized as at the Toronto, Miami and Lima airports so be prepared to be flexible. All 3 leaders will help with any necessary Spanish translation.
- If you are prone to motion sickness, take Gravol or Dramamine 1 hour before flying. Leaders will have extra medication with them. This medication will also make you drowsy. Try to sleep on the flight from Lima to Santa Cruz because we hit the ground running.
- Parents will be provided with an official flight itinerary at the pack’n’pray evening. There are no paper tickets - boarding passes will be issued to each traveller when we check in for our flights.

Date	Flight	Departure City	Departure Time	Arrival City	Arrival Time
24-Mar	Air Canada 1932	Saskatoon	5:00 am	Toronto	10:23 am
<b>Transit time: 1 hour and 42 minutes</b>					
24-Mar	Air Canada 1200	Toronto	12:05 pm	Miami	3:30 pm
<b>Transit time: 1 hour and 25 minutes</b>					
24-Mar	LATAM Airlines 2481	Miami	4:55 pm	Lima	9:25 pm
<b>Transit time: 3 hours and 15 minutes</b>					
25-Mar	BoA Airlines 741	Lima	12:40 am	Santa Cruz	4:10 am

Date	Flight	Departure City	Departure Time	Arrival City	Arrival Time
3-Apr	BoA Airlines 748	Santa Cruz	6:30 pm	Lima	8:00 pm
<b>Transit time: 5 hours and 0 minutes</b>					
4-Apr	LATAM Airlines 2478	Lima	1:00 am	Los Angeles	7:55 am
<b>Transit Time: 4 hours 55 minutes</b>					
4-Apr	WestJet 1511	Los Angeles	12:50 pm	Calgary	5:00 pm
<b>Transit Time: 1 hour 50 minutes</b>					
4-Apr	WestJet 406	Calgary	6:50 pm	Saskatoon	8:00 pm