

2011 El Dorado Band & Colorguard Hawaii Trip - F.A.Q.'s

How much money will I need?

You will need to purchase at least 6 lunches and 5 dinners. In addition to that, you will probably want to purchase extra items like snacks, souvenirs, rental items, or pay for any other activities you may choose. Prices may be slightly higher than they are at home. Please plan accordingly and spend wisely.

Why do I need to take a photo ID?

Due to security regulations, it is absolutely necessary to take a photo identification with you in order to board the plane. No ID, no getting on the plane! This can be a driver's license or your school ID. (If you can't locate your school ID, get a new one from the school finance office.)

I take prescription medications, what should I do?

Make absolutely sure that this information is on your medical form which was filled out at the beginning of the school year. Mr. Samson will be taking these forms along on the trip. If anything has changed since the beginning of the year, new medications, new medical conditions, new contact phone numbers in case of emergency, please inform Mr. Samson that you need to update your form.

What is the weather in Honolulu like?

The average April temperatures are in the mid 80's during the day and in the 60's at night. You may also experience a light rain shower.

What type of clothing do I need to take?

Summer type clothes - shorts, shirts and sandals will work for your free time adventures. You may want to bring a light jacket or sweater for the evening.

During our Friday events, dinner will be served. Out of respect for our host school and their student policy, we will comply with the school's dress code that states "no sunglasses or hats and no bare shoulders or midriffs" during dinner at the school.

Don't forget to bring your performance clothes (black pants, Hawaiian shirt, white v-neck t-shirts, 2 pairs of black socks, clean black marching shoes) and your show shirt. You will be given a white Hawaii t-shirt to bring also.

Where will we be staying?

Our hotel is the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel in Honolulu. If you would like information on the hotel, visit their website, www.princess-kaiulani.com

I live in Southern California, so I'm used to the sun and I want to work on my tan, why do I need sunscreen?

Since Hawaii is closer to the equator, the sun is more direct. This can result in a nasty burn if you're not protected. You may not want to try marching in the parade with a sunburn - ouch!

What can I take in my carry on?

Please remember that you have to carry the bag with you at all times while at the airport. Check your assigned airline's website and the Transportation Security Administration's website www.tsa.gov for specific size requirements and restrictions. Pay close attention to the liquids, gels and aerosol requirements.

Why do I need to bring water shoes?

There is coral in the water at the beaches in Hawaii. This coral can be very sharp and is not always visible or easily avoided. Be careful. Marching with a cut on your foot may not be very comfortable.

Why do I need to bring my packed suitcase on Friday before we leave?

We must transport the checked bags via the band trailer. (Not enough room for all of it in the buses.) We need to load the trailer for both flights in order of the flight departures. Since we are leaving so early on Saturday, it is necessary to load the trailer ahead of time.

How many bags can I take?

Checked baggage:

ONE suitcase with orange Hawaii Invitational luggage tag.

ONE instrument case with your own luggage tag.

Carry On:

ONE bag (backpack type)

ONE personal item (like a purse)

I play 2 instruments, how can I take them both?

Another member of the group that will be checking a suitcase and not checking an instrument can check in your second instrument.

I play a small instrument, what should I do with it?

All flute and clarinet type instruments should be packed in your luggage (either checked or carry on).

Will they feed me on the airplane?

The flight information states that on Hawaiian Airlines there is lunch service going and dinner service on the return flight. American Airlines states that there is food available for purchase. If you are going to purchase food to take on the plane, check the TSA website for the rules and regulations. (i.e. beverages need to be purchased after the security check. Liquids bought outside of the security checkpoint will be confiscated.)

Will I be able to use the phone in the hotel room?

No outside calls are allowed from the hotel. Feel free to use your cell phone or bring a calling card if you would like to phone home.

Will my valuables be safe?

As with any tourist area, you must be alert and responsible for your own items. Do not bring any items of any value (jewelry, etc). There will be a safe in your room to store any items you can't carry with you. Please protect your items while on the beach also. Don't leave beach bags with any valuables (cameras, cash, ATM cards, iPods) unattended while in the water - thieves look for these opportunities.

Remember all school rules apply.

Let's all have a safe and memorable trip!!