Greetings from DOC Trips!
We hope you have had a great summer & are looking forward to coming to Dartmouth! We’ve been very busy preparing for your arrival and would like to share some important information about your trip. Please review ALL the information below, refer to our website for further details, and contact us if you still have questions. We want you to feel as comfortable and prepared as possible, so let us know how we can help!

Trip Assignment & Dates
Confirm your DOC Trip assignment online (NetID log-in required): https://www.dartmouth.edu/~doc/firstyeartrips/2013/incomingstudent/

• Pay close attention to the date you need to be on-campus for the start of your trip. If you need to change your trip assignment for any reason, please contact us ASAP.

Packing List & Equipment
Each type of trip has a specific packing list; these are available online. Please review your packing list & be sure you have everything you need. We encourage you to borrow gear from family & friends - you do NOT need all "new" items. If you have questions or concerns about what you need to bring, please let us know!

• Specifically, you should NOT bring brand new hiking boots for your trip...wear them ahead of time so your feet get used to them. Students who bring new shoes on their trip will likely get blisters, so it’s essential you "break-in" your hiking boots ahead of time by wearing them for a few days before the trip.

• You NEED to bring at least two 1-liter water bottles. Plastic, bottled water is not sufficient - you should have at least two sturdy water bottles that hold 1+ liters each.

• Students on the fishing trips are welcome to bring their own fishing gear; students on the nature photography trips are encouraged to bring any sort of camera. DOC Trips will provide all other "group gear" such as stoves, tarps/tents, etc.

• If you requested equipment from DOC Trips by August 1st, we will be able to provide you with the items you requested. However, we encourage you to borrow from friends/family if possible.

Arriving for DOC Trips
All students should plan to check-in for your DOC Trip at Robinson Hall between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM the day your trip begins; we encourage you to check-in starting at 2:00 PM, if at all possible. Once you have checked-in, your DOC Trip has begun! Please come to Robinson Hall with just the gear you need for your trip. We’re happy to securely store your valuables (i.e. phones, wallets) while you’re on your trip, but we do NOT offer any storage space for your other belongings.

**Sections E-J:** You may store your belongings in your residence hall room the day the trip begins.

• Students on Trips sections A-D will NOT be able to access their residence hall rooms before the trip. ONLY travel to Dartmouth with the items you need for your DOC Trip
  • If you are assigned to one of the DOC Trips-chartered buses (sections A-D only), specific pick-up information will be available online (NetID log-in required):
    https://www.dartmouth.edu/~doc/firstyeartrips/2013/incomingstudent/
  • If you do NOT need a seat on a DOC Trips-chartered bus, please let us know ASAP so we can remove the charge from your account.

• Students on Trips sections E-J can access their residence hall room the SAME day the trip begins to drop off any suitcases/boxes/etc... International students may access their room the day before, if needed.
  • The Housing Office will be open the day you arrive for you to get your key. Please be sure to keep your key in a safe place while on your trip as you will need it when you return to get back into your room and get settled!
• If you are flying to Boston’s Logan International Airport, we suggest using the Dartmouth Coach bus service to get to campus. If you are flying to Manchester Regional Airport, we suggest Greyhound Bus or Upper Valley Shuttle. DOC Trips does not provide any airport pick-up services for students.

• If you are driving yourself to campus for your trip, please park your car in A-Lot, which is a 10 minute walk from campus. Directions to A-Lot can be found online.

• If you will NOT be able to arrive by 4:00 PM for check-in, please contact us. We may need to adjust your trip assignment, but will do our best to accommodate your travel schedule.

• Check out this blog post from the DOC Trips blog about arriving to Hanover for your Trip; it has some great information!

After Your Trip

• Sections A-D: You will NOT be able to move-in to your residence hall room until September 10th. You should plan to go home after the trip & return to campus on September 10th for move-in day. The New Student Orientation website has more details.
  o *Students typically return to campus from their trip between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Do NOT make any travel arrangements before 4:00 PM; we cannot guarantee that students will return any earlier.
  o If you are participating in FYSEP, and/or International Student Orientation, you will receive information from those programs about moving in & the program schedule.

• Sections E-J: You WILL be able to return to your residence hall room the day your trip returns to campus. The Housing Office will be open the day you arrive so you can get your room key before the trip starts. The morning following your return to campus, please plan to attend your Technology Set-Up & Services session at 10:00 AM in Kemeny Hall.

• International Students: The International Student Programs Office will contact you with details about the International Student Orientation schedule. Please contact Steve Silver with any questions about this program.

Final Reminders

• Please update us with any dietary restrictions, accessibility needs, or medical conditions that have changed since you registered for your DOC Trip. If you'd like to talk through any accommodations or specific concerns about your trip, please don't hesitate to contact us. We work closely with the College's Student Accessibility Services and are happy to provide any accommodations necessary.

• Questions? You (and your families) probably have some questions about your trip -- what will it be like, what to pack, what not to pack, where to go...and many more! Please join us on Sunday August 18 at 8:00 PM eastern for a live, video Q&A where we can help answer any and all questions about DOC Trips! Families welcome to watch & participate, no webcam required. Even if you don't have a specific question, feel free to tune in! Watch online: http://docfirstyeartrips.wordpress.com/live-video-chat/

• Parents/Families - The Dean of the College office will be hosting several informal parent receptions during the Trips program as a chance for families to meet with deans & administrative staff. If you are traveling to Hanover to drop-off or pick-up your child, stop by Robinson Hall and we can provide you with more details about these events.

We know the summer before college can be full of anticipation and nervousness - that's okay! As you begin planning your arrival to campus, please know that we (and 350+ student volunteers) are looking to make your first days at Dartmouth as welcoming as possible, and to do that, we need you to be yourself -- nerves, excitement, and all. If there's anything we can do to help in these final days, don't hesitate to let us know.
Relax and enjoy the rest of your summer; we'll see you soon!

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Chris & Anneliesse

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