

Travel Notes #2: Bus Ride to the Boat

Leader Instruction: Cover these points with the team during the bus ride from the airport to the boat.

1. Welcome to the Jungle!

- **Prayer of Thanks:** Lead the team in a short prayer of gratitude for safe travel.
- **God's Trip:** Remind everyone that this trip belongs to Him and He has a purpose for each person being here.
- **Teach the "Discipline of Disturbance":**
 - Expect to feel exhausted, overwhelmed, or disoriented at this point—that is completely normal.
 - Don't let discomfort disturb or frustrate you; accept it as an opportunity for personal and spiritual growth.
 - We naturally love being in control, but God often does His greatest work when we step outside our comfort zone and realize we aren't in control.

2. Arrival & Unloading at the Boat

- **Primary Goal:** Efficiently move all luggage off the bus and onto the boat.
- **Team Effort:** Grab your own bags, plus any extra bags you can carry to help others.
- **Safety Warning:** If loading at the AO Base, be extremely cautious on the steep ramp leading to the boat—especially once you pass the gate.
- **Luggage Placement:**
 - **Checked Bags:** Take down to the **bottom deck**.
 - **Carry-Ons:** Take up to your hammock area.
- **Men's Action Item:** Guys, please return to the bus to assist with heavy lifting until all luggage is successfully loaded onto the boat.
- **Footwear:** No need to change into dedicated "boat shoes" today—just dust off your current shoes.

3. Life on the Boat

Deck Assignments

- **2nd Deck:** Ladies

- **3rd Deck:** Guys
(Note: Some adult groups may adjust this arrangement).
- **Leader Placement:** Team leaders should assign themselves hammocks near the back of the boat for easy access and to help direct team members.

Luggage & Space Management

- **1st Floor:** Place all checked bags strictly inside the painted white lines.
- **2nd Floor:** Store carry-ons and personal items directly beneath your hammock.
- **3rd Floor:** Store carry-ons and personal items in the provided cubbies.
- **Important:** You will soon retrieve all personal items/toiletries you will need for the night.
- **Housekeeping:** Keep your sleeping and living areas tidy and organized at all times.

Meals & Common Areas

- **Snacks & Drinks:** Available on the 3rd floor if needed. Go easy on the highly caffeinated *Guaraná* / *BARR* sodas!
- **First Meal:** The next meal will be at **[Insert Time]**.
- **3rd Deck Morning Routine:** The 3rd deck doubles as the dining area. Those sleeping on the 3rd deck must roll up their hammocks and set up dining tables **before breakfast** each morning.
- **Quiet Hours:** Early risers and night owls should gather at the **front of the boat** to talk so they don't disturb sleeping team members.



4. Passport & Wallet Security

- **Collection:** Collect all passports immediately. Store them in **three 1-gallon Ziploc bags**.
- **Valuables:** Offer to lock up team members' wallets until you reach the gift shop/tourist stop ("Stuckey's") later in the trip.
- **Priority Action:** Securely store and lock up all passports as soon as you are settled on the boat.
- **Captain Hand-off:** Work with the **lead translator** to safely hand over the passports to the boat Captain.



5. Boat Essentials & Guidelines

The Meaning Behind the Names

- Our boat's name reflects our mission—bringing the love and hope of Jesus to the local villages:
 - ***Amor e Esperança***: "Love and Hope"
 - ***Linda Esperança***: "Beautiful Hope"

Bathroom & Shower Rules (2nd Floor)

- **Privacy**: Always lock the door when inside ("*What's seen cannot be unseen!*").
- **Toilet Paper Only**: Flush **only** toilet paper down the toilets. **No feminine products** or wipes under any circumstances.
- **Flushing**: Hold down the flush lever completely until the bowl is entirely clear.

Drinking Water

- **NEVER** drink tap water from the sinks or showers.
- Drink **ONLY** from the filtered water dispensers located on each deck.