# GO Paris April Newsletter

**April 2, 2019**

The LeadAbroad team hopes you are excited for your upcoming adventure as we approach the final stretch of the spring semester! **Please review this email thoroughly to make sure you are up to speed for your program this summer.**

Your next newsletter will be sent on May 7th - 60 Days to Departure! **Click here to catch up on previous newsletters.**

## LeadAbroad Information Form Update (in your Oglethorpe Petrel Portal)

- All students receiving credit from Oglethorpe University this summer will receive an official welcome email from the Office of Admission with a link to submit the **LeadAbroad Information Form** in the Oglethorpe Petrel Portal. **Please complete this form as soon as you receive the email.**
- If you have trouble accessing your Oglethorpe Petrel Portal, search your email for "Your LeadAbroad Application! Oglethorpe University"
- Contact Evan Simmons at esimmons@oglethorpe.edu or 404.364.8459 with any questions about your Petrel Portal or the form.

## Program Leader Applications Due Friday, April 5th!

- Looking for an international leadership opportunity while abroad? Apply to be a program leader!
- Application links for all positions are posted on the **Community Leader Application** under the "Optional Forms" section of your portal.
- Click here to review available positions or check them out below:

  **Community Leader (apply through your portal by April 5th)**: Are you a leader on campus or interested in becoming one in the future? Do you feel like you're the "ringleader" of your crew & want to take your skills abroad? Our Community Leader (CL) program is an awesome way to make the most of your summer experience with leadership 101 training, resume boosts and serving as a peer leader on the program. CLs will experience an extra level of investment from our staff (and fun invites), opportunities for social media highlights and a connection with other like-minded students on the program.

  **Media Leader (apply through your portal by April 5th)**: "If its not on camera, it didn't happen" is your mantra. Are you someone who makes videos for every trip you go

on? Do you have a “fancy” camera for special events or have an interest in photography? Are you already planning out your end-of-program video or following local photographers on Instagram? Sign up to be a media leader & put your skills to use!

### Pre-Departure Forms DUE: May 7th!

- All participants must submit the following forms in their portal by
  - **Program Waiver**
  - **FERPA Form**
  - **Flight Form**
  - **Passport Form**
  - **Health Form**
  - **Roommate Form**
  - **Pre-Departure Form** ****RECENTLY ADDED - Orientation Info!****
- Log in to your portal and submit all forms under the "Preparing to Go Abroad" section.

### GO Paris Orientation Update (Required for all participants)

- **Click here for links to orientations.** **Please review details below on forms to submit in your portal with the orientations.**
- All students are required to complete two pre-departure orientation sessions. The first session is a video for all LeadAbroad students that covers information such as health and safety, program rules, pre-departure checklists and final preparations. After watching the video you will submit the **Pre-Departure Form** in your portal.
- The second orientation session covers program specifics: program staff introductions, itinerary, accommodations, tips and tricks, etc. After watching the video you will submit the **Orientation: Program-Specific Form** in your portal. (Video will be posted by the end of April!)

### Class Placement

- Your current class placement is as follows:
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  -
- To request a class change, please submit the **Class Change Form** in your portal by **May 1st**. We will try our best to accommodate your request; however, we cannot guarantee a change will be made. Some classes are full with a waiting list.
- All GO Paris syllabi can be found on the accepted student page here.

### Ready to Explore Europe on the Weekends?

- We know that weekend travel is a highlight for students on study abroad, but everyone is looking for something different. If you are the type of student who wants to see other places, but not plan it yourself, booking trips through 4.0 Tours is a great way to explore. **These excursions are exclusive to LeadAbroad students** and will be facilitated by expert leaders from 4.0 Tours who will support our groups and run logistics.
- **Click here for GO Paris weekend details!**

  July 12-14: **Bruges (included in GO Paris program fee)**
  July 18-21: **The Amalfi Coast**
  July 25-28: **Interlaken**

- If you prefer to travel on your own, our staff will be available daily for weekend travel planning. We encourage you to take advantage of our help to plan safe travel

routes and find safe accommodations.
- Frequently asked questions about weekend travel:

  **Do I need to sign up now?**
  Prices will increase May. Spots are also first come, first served. It's important to book early!

  **Do I need to book my own flight?**
  For trips that require a flight, yes, you are responsible for airfare. **IMPORTANT NOTE: do not book your flight until 4.0 Tours confirms the trip has reached the required number of participants. Specific flight recommendations will be posted online.**

  **I don't know anyone else going. Will I be with other students?**
  Yes! The trips require a minimum number of LeadAbroad participants, so you will be with other students on each excursion.

  **Does anyone ever stay in town?**
  Yes! Be sure to take advantage of everything your program city has to offer by staying in town one weekend or exploring between/after classes.

  **Can I miss class to travel?**
  No. All excursions begin after class. If you are traveling independently, you need to plan on departing once class is finished.

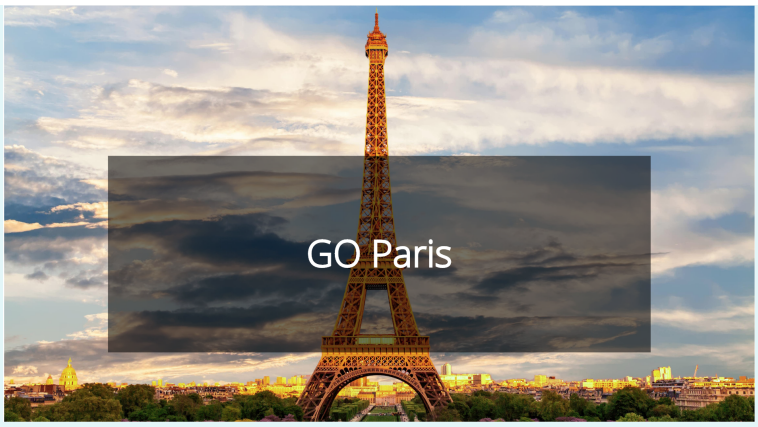
  **What else do I need to know?**
  Students are required to sign out before leaving town for the weekend. You must communicate where you are going, who you are going with and when you are expected back. This will give the program staff the information they need to support you while away.

## Quick Portal Links

- **Frequently Asked Questions**: **Should I get shots before going abroad? Do I need to bring my laptop? Will staff be on my flight? How much money should I bring?** Answers to these questions and more can in found in the FAQ's!
- **Pre-Departure Master Checklist**: Stay on track with important action items and to-dos between now and departure day!
- **Portal tutorial video**: Not sure where to find information online? Watch the linked tutorial with step-by-step instructions on navigating the student portal.

## Connect with LeadAbroad and Your Fellow Travelers!

- Join the GO Paris 2019 Facebook group (for students only). Don't be shy with friend requests!
- Like us on Facebook
- Follow @LeadAbroad on Instagram and search the hashtag #LeadAbroadLife for hundreds of photos from our programs around the world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