

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM THE ALL HANDS**

### **Things to do:**

If you have not sent in your medical forms, please do so as soon as possible! You can find them here: [https://www.aoml.noaa.gov/ocd/gcc/A16N\\_2023/medical.html](https://www.aoml.noaa.gov/ocd/gcc/A16N_2023/medical.html)

Let your chief scientist know what shift you are planning on taking! We will need this for planning berthing.

Keep an eye out for a request for your scanned passport and please respond promptly when it comes.

Keep an eye out for a “Letter of Transit” that you can print out with you. This will be useful to give to a customs official who is confused that you don’t have a round trip flight.

Let us know if you are interested in helping out with outreach activities during the cruise!

Check the COVID-19 vaccination requirements for the countries you are going to sail to/from (Brazil, Spain, and Iceland). The US embassy at each country can provide useful information on this. You can also check the US Dept. of State recommendations e.g. for Brazil [here](#)).

Download any media content (movies, music) you might want to have access to while aboard (streaming won’t be allowed - see note on wi-fi connection in “Things to note” section).

### **Things to bring:**

Any medicine you need. Rule of thumb is to bring 50% more than you will need (so, if you are on one 30-day leg, bring enough medicine for 45 days).

Sea-sickness medication if you need it (or think that you might need it).

Bring some sunscreen.

Clothing: old and comfortable is best. Long-sleeved shirts and pants, as well as a hat with a brim, are required for weekly safety drills (and note that the ship itself is air conditioned).

Closed toed shoes are a requirement for moving about the ship. If you will be on deck, shoes that can get wet are recommended. If you will be working with the CTD rosette itself, you should already know who you are, and steel-toed boots may be required.

You may consider bringing shower sandals, as you will be sharing a shower with at least 3 other people. A small number of toiletries in the shared head are possible, but note that there is very little space and you don’t want to use it all up. Your toiletries can be stored in your room. Note that each stateroom has a small sink (outside the shared head).

Snacks are recommended! The ship will have a few things but if you have something you know you will want, please bring it. In planning what snacks to bring, bear in mind you won't have access to any cooking facilities other than a microwave, bread toaster and fridge.

Covid tests. The ship will have these for us to take before boarding, but it is recommended to take one yourself beforehand in your hotel, so that if you are positive, you find out before checking out of the hotel and getting to the ship (and being left on the dock). Although not required, if you are flying shortly before the cruise, you may consider taking a test before you fly. If you test positive then you are likely not going to be able to sail 3 days later anyway and that gives the cruise a couple of days to maybe find a replacement.

A good mask (e.g. N-95). This is strongly recommended for use in transit and before boarding the ship, since if you test positive before boarding you cannot go on the cruise. If a positive case is detected during the cruise, everyone will need a mask to wear for at least a week.

### **Things to not bring:**

Laundry detergent and dryer sheets. These will be provided.

General cleaning supplies. The ship has these.

### **Things to note:**

Please fill out your information on [this spreadsheet](#) to help us know when you are coming to the departure city and where you are staying! Feel free to use it to coordinate hotel stays and transit.

Uber is present in Brazil, but not in Spain. Taxis should be available otherwise.

Wifi will be available on the ship, but will not support streaming or uploading of videos. Speeds will be slow, but basic texting, email contact, and sending of pictures should not be a problem (pictures might be slow). Will likely only be allowed to be on the Wifi on one device at a time. The ship has three phones to make international phone calls. Usage of some social media platforms (e.g. TikTok) won't be allowed.

For your awareness, the ship will serve hot meals at 3 times each day: breakfast from 7-8am, lunch from 11-12, and dinner from 5-6pm. For the night shift, there will be crockpots with some hot food available overnight. Otherwise, some limited snacks, leftovers and cold food (e.g. sandwiches) will be available at all hours. The galley keeps a sign-up sheet where people can put their menu choices and have a plate saved with their name. E.g. if you will miss dinner, you can select items from the dinner menu and the cooks will save a plate for you with those items. You can retrieve the plate later from the fridge and eat it outside galley hours.

When you are in Spain during Easter celebrations, you may see people in religious parades wearing capirottes, pointy white hoods that may have a very different connotation to American audiences. Be forewarned.

**List of things you may want to bring:**

- Wellingtons (rubber boots) are great for wet work (e.g. water sampling) but can be clumsy for deck work, where steel toed work boots serve better. Steel toed boots will be required when working on deck.
- Close-toed shoes for interior spaces.
- Masks!
- Foul weather gear or other waterproof jacket and bibs/pants.
- Layers to keep you warm and comfortable over a range of temperatures
- Warm hat
- Ball cap or other sun hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Sufficient supply of any necessary medications - enough to last beyond the planned duration of the cruise
- Soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.

Good to Have:

- Deck knife or multitool
- Headlamp or flashlight w/extra batteries
- Exercise clothes, running shoes, yoga mats
- Laundry bag (for hauling laundry around the ship - one of those small things that makes life easier)
- Water bottle
- Travel mug
- US-EU plug adapters
- Spare eye glasses
- Camera
- Seasickness meds
- Earplugs
- Entertainment (books, music, games, movies).