

HANDBOOK

Visiting an event as participant

(developed by the Youth Committee of the European Choral Association –Europa Cantat in 2008)

A. Before the event

- Inform yourself about the city/country you will go to
- What do you have to visit, to see, to eat, etc
- What is your atelier? What do you have to prepare?
- What do you expect from the event?
- What could you bring to the event from your own country?
(food, drinks, nice music, pictures,...)
- Take some music with you for exchanging
- Bring ‘visiting cards’ to be able to exchange contact details with your new friends
- Bring your camera if you have one
or create space on your mobile phone for new pictures and videos
- Bring dictionaries or install them on your phone – to translate from your native language to English, so you can talk to others, and from your native language to the language of the host country so that you can go shopping, order a beer etc. / or look up the most important words you may need in advance
- Consider bringing an instrument (guitar, recorder, harmonica, etc.) to make music together with others, and maybe to practice your parts
- Bring your most funny, best act: there will be possibilities to share this with new audiences and you definitely will regret it if you forget to bring it

B. During the event

- Check out the city
- Check out where the events are taking place
- Check the programme and make a plan: what do you want to hear in the event?
- If you are attending a festival / singing with ateliers – make sure to visit all rehearsals of your atelier so that you will be well prepared for the final concert
- Go to the open singing and discover the special feeling of singing together with many other – just for fun, and discovering new repertoire
- Talk to other participants from other countries and choirs, ask them how they work, how things are done in their country, try to learn some words in a new language from them – and tell them how things work in your country and your choir, and teach them the most important words in your language
- Watch out for special events

- Make sure to check the message boards or social media of the event so that you won't miss important information / changes / announcements etc.
- Watch out for nice places to spend the evening together with others

C. After the event

- give feedback about the event to the organisers
- stay in contact with new friends
- talk with other musicians about the event
- share what you have learned with your friends
- ask your conductor to inform you whenever there is new information about future similar activities or sign up for the electronic newsletter of your association directly
- share your experience: you have become one of the important messengers for choral music!
- Don't forget to register for the online communities related to the event, to stay informed about new pictures, movies, other events etc.