

STUDENT ORIENTATION PROGRAM – AUGUST 2023



About Orientation

Academic Year in America understands the importance of making sure that you are prepared for your unique experience in America. AYA has been providing a comprehensive group orientation for over 40 years, carefully organized by our experienced and professional training team. Students have the opportunity to meet other students from all over the world and be introduced to the unique experience of being in a new country while exploring America's most exciting city! Students will have the special opportunity to spend time in New York City for two days and will experience the thrill of seeing sights such as the Statue of Liberty, Times Square and breathtaking views from the top of Rockefeller Center! Your orientation will get you acquainted with your surroundings and help you prepare for the life changing experience ahead while providing an unforgettable experience in New York City.

Location

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel is conveniently located just 5 minutes from Newark airport.

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel at Newark Airport
128 Frontage Rd, Newark, NJ 07114
Telephone: 1-973-690-5500

- Healthy deluxe breakfast buffet
- Indoor pool and fitness center
- Three students assigned per room

Workshops

Great Expectations - What to Expect on Your International Adventure!

This session includes an in-depth discussion of issues that are important to international exchange students. Topics include realistic expectations, culture shock, responsibilities, American values, communication and student safety. Students will receive the tools they need to make the most of their cross-cultural adventure and participate in group discussion about stereotypes, expectations and communication to help prepare them for the experiences ahead.

Navigating Your Adventure - Common Problems and Scenarios

Students will learn more about how to have a safe and successful experience through discussion, videos, and various activities. They will have the opportunity to inquire about the daily life of an American teenager and ask questions about the program. Students will also gain from hearing directly from AYA Local Coordinators and staff about what life is like for AYA students in their communities and living with host families. This session helps to build students' confidence and lessen apprehensions about their host families, high schools, and local communities.

Orientation

Your four-day Orientation includes:

- Meet and greet service and transfers from the airport to the hotel
- Three nights lodging including all taxes and gratuities, three students assigned per suite
- All meals, snacks and beverages
- Welcome meeting
- All workshops
- Program materials
- Cultural games
- Guided tour of New York City includes a tour of Broadway, Central Park, Rockefeller Center, the High Line, dinner in Times Square and finally a visit to the "Top of the Rock", N.Y. Harbor cruise ticket, narrated sightseeing cruise featuring such sights as NY Skyline, close-up view of Lady Liberty, Battery Park, and Brooklyn Bridge.

"I had a great first week in the USA! The orientation days have been three really good days to prepare for our arrival on Friday! I've met a lot of people, talked English AND saw New York City!!! I loved the trips to the city and having free time to wander around the Times Square with some friends! It was actually one of the best trips I have ever done and strongly recommend it to anyone who has the choice!" – Betsy, Germany