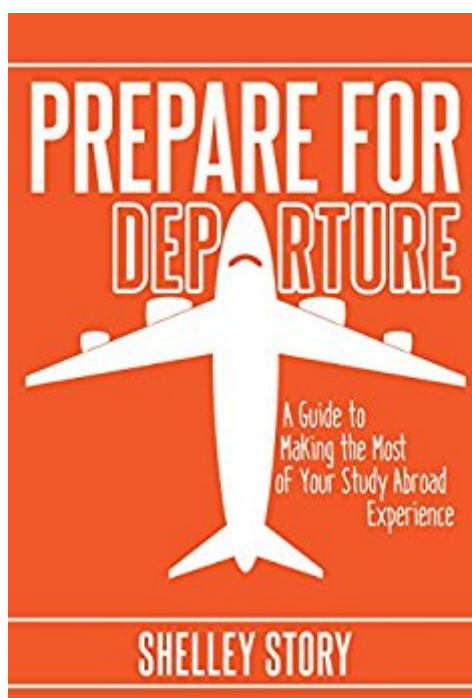


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Prepare For Departure: A Guide To Making The Most Of Your Study Abroad Experience



Synopsis

Studying abroad -- an endeavor often described with words like "eye-opening," "amazing," and even "life-changing" -- offers you the opportunity to see more of the world, learn another language and culture, and experience things you might not under any other circumstances. But moving to another country, especially temporarily, can also come with pitfalls and roadblocks that trip you up and slow you down. Without your usual support network, the learning curve can be steep, and basic tasks (from figuring out how to do your laundry to keeping your appointment at the immigration office) can be frustrating and discouraging. This book will help you shorten that learning curve so that you can spend more of your time and energy abroad on meaningful activities unique to your destination -- the kinds of things you imagine when you think about why you're going in the first place. The book's assertion is that being prepared to go abroad isn't achieved by packing the right suitcase; it requires planning, process, and practice. You'll walk through all three, and end up with high-quality preparation that sets you up for your best possible study abroad experience. The author managed the student life division of a study abroad program in Italy, and she draws on lessons from nine years (and thousands of students) to help those who are headed abroad have a smoother ride.

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Customer Reviews

Prepare for Departure is a great resource for anyone planning to study abroad, but also for anyone who may be new to international travel in general. Even as an experienced traveler and a former study abroad student, I still found myself highlighting passages and having new "aha!" moments as the author posed a new question or prompted me to think about things in a new way. That's where the value of the book lies. It asks its reader to THINK. Not only about how to prepare for travel, but about what you want to get out of your experience. It presents a plan for making the most out of your travel while encouraging a spirit of openness and courage that it takes to truly surround yourself with the best parts of a foreign culture. With this book, you'll be traveling with purpose. I recommend this book to anyone who is or will be traveling internationally.

After studying abroad I caught the travel bug. Since then, I've been on the constant look out for ways to make my next trip easier. While I can't complain about my experience living in Europe for four months, there are definitely some things I wish I had better prepared for. The Pre-Departure chapter was what really made me wish I had this book before I left. I had such a hard time packing! The author gives a detailed list what to bring and what to leave behind. This book is a must have for any student traveling abroad

Having studied abroad in Europe myself, I know Shelley Story truly has thought of everything when it comes to having a full, prepared time studying abroad. I especially appreciated chapter 4, "On Health and Wellness," as I definitely suffered from fatigue and all that comes with that during my time abroad. You are so busy, it is easy to forget how important self-care is. Thank you, Shelley Story, for sharing your knowledge!

As a student who studied abroad, I wish I had this resource. It's a great reference written by someone who seems to really know her stuff. Highly recommend this read to anyone considering or studying abroad!

As a former dean of students, I wish this book had been available when I was working with students who were traveling abroad. It is packed with specific recommendations that I have not seen elsewhere. Also, I appreciate that the author speaks to the "mindset" needed for students to capitalize on their study abroad experience.

A must for anyone looking to explore new cultures. The author has vast knowledge on studying and

living abroad and will guide you on how to make the most of your experience. Essential to students but also to anyone interested in traveling beyond mere superficial tourism. A truly enriching book.

Not a student traveling abroad, but I did find it an interesting read (it was free). The author does a good job of posing questions designed to get people thinking about things before they travel, and I thought the safety tips were well-done without being a scare tactic.

A great resource for students going to travel and study abroad but also for the parents of those students. A must read for both from an accomplished expert with extensive experience leading students abroad.

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