



A L K

A B O U T

T R A V E L

English for  
Airlines, Hotels, and Tours



Second Edition



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## Chapter 1. Before Going Abroad

### *Unit 1. Documents.*

#### **Preparing Documents (CD Track 01).**

Getting your papers ready is the first thing you do before a trip. The first document you need is a passport. You can apply for one at an emigration office, or at an embassy. Most countries charge a fee for passports. If you have a passport, make sure that it's valid for six more months. Make copies of it, keep copies with you in a suitcase and with a friend or a family member.

Another thing to get ready is visa. A visa is a stamp or a sticker in your passport. Some visas are for business, others are for study or travel. Sometimes you need to get your visa before you travel. Each country is different. You can apply at the embassy for that country. In other countries you can get your visa when you land at an airport.

Your travel itinerary is a list of your plans. You need to keep it safe. Keep a copy with you all the time. Give a copy of your itinerary to a friend or family member.

When travelling to another country, your vaccinations need to be up to date. Go to your doctor. Tell the doctor where you're going. He or she will give you the vaccinations and then give you immunization record. This is a small booklet with your vaccination history in it. Take it on your trip. Think about buying travel health insurance. Most insurance companies will give you a card that has your insurance company name and number. You can use this card if you have an accident.

Now that all your documents are ready, you can start making reservations.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 02).**

- Can I help you?
- I'd like to apply for an American visa.
- What kind of visa do you need? Tourist or business?
- Business.
- OK! You need a B-1 business visa.
- What's the validity?
- It is valid for 14 days after entry.
- That's perfect. What's the fee?

- You must pay a 75 dollars fee.
- Thanks!

**Dialogue 2 (CD Track 03).**

- What can I do for you?
- I'm going on a trip. Do I need vaccinations?
- What countries will you visit?
- We're going to Kenya, Africa.
- Are you going to be near any animals?
- Yes, we're going to go on a safari.
- You need vaccinations for hepatitis A, meningitis, rabies and typhoid fever.
- OK.
- I'll give you an immunization record. Take this booklet with you when you travel.
- I'll put it in my luggage.

***Unit 2. Reservations.***

**Avoid stress. Reserve (CD Track 04).**

Making reservations can lower stress. Book hotels, restaurants and tourist attractions early. Plan flight 3 to 6 months before your departure. It'll be busy in high season. High season is June, July or August. Also think about the popularity of your destination.

When reserving a flight, choose one way or round trip ticket. Also, choose first class or economy class. First class offers bigger seats, better service and luxurious food. Economy class is the most popular and cheapest, but it's not as comfortable. Finally, if you need specific food because you're a vegetarian, tell the airline before you leave.

You need to book hotel rooms. Tell the hotel what kind of room you want: standard, de luxe, single or double. You can get a suite if you need more than one room. Tell the hotel if you want a smoking or non-smoking room.

You may need to reserve a rental car or transportation tickets. There are many types of cars: you can choose small, midsize or full-size. Trains are popular for travelers. You have to make reservations.

Good restaurants are popular. If you want to eat somewhere famous, you'll have to make a reservation.

It's a good idea to book tourist attractions early. They often sell up quickly.

Reservations for your trip can be made at a travel agency. A travel agent will book you tickets and give you a paper ticket and itinerary. The Internet is an easy way to plan. It provides

information, reservations and travel tips and advice. You can get discounts for booking online. To make reservation, fill in a reservation form and make your payment with a credit card. You'll get an E-ticket, electronic ticket.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 05).**

- Good afternoon!
- Hi! I'd like to plan my honeymoon.
- Great! When do you want to go?
- July first.
- OK! That's high season, so it will be expensive.
- Can you suggest a destination?
- How about Hawaii?
- It sounds great!
- All right, I'll send your travel itinerary to you.
- Thanks!
- Have a good trip!

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 06).**

- Let's go to Europe for a vacation!
- Awesome!
- We can book it all on the Internet. Look! This website is perfect.
- There're even photos and videos of the European countries.
- To book air tickets I only need to fill in our names and passport numbers, dates and destination.
- What about train reservations?
- If we book online, there's a free upgrade from economy to first class.
- A luxurious train ride would be fantastic!
- The Internet is great!

## **Chapter 2. Airports and Airlines.**

### ***Unit 3. Flight Check-In.***

#### **Checking-in the Modern Way (CD Track 07).**

Check-in is the service that helps you to find a seat assignment, check your suitcase and get your boarding pass. There're many ways that you can check in. The most common way is the check-in counter at the terminal. Most airlines want you to check in at least 2 hours before your flight time. You will need to show your travel papers. Have your passport, visa and

ticket or E-ticket ready. Also be sure to show your frequent-flier card. The attendant will ask you some security questions. Answer the questions honestly.

Ask for a seat that you like: aisle or window. Sitting in the bulkhead row or the emergency exit row will give you extra room. Bulkhead seats are recommended for passengers with children.

Most airlines offer online check-in services. You can print your boarding pass and choose your seat before you get to the airport. Online check-in is available 24 hours to 60 minutes before your departure.

You can also use an electronic check-in kiosk at the airport. This kiosk prints boarding passes and gives seat assignments. When using online check-in or kiosk, you must bring your suitcases to the airline counter before going through security.

With curbside check-in you don't have to go to the ticket counter at all. This seems to be the fastest, because you go directly to your gate. Some airlines charge a fee for this process.

Whatever check-in method you use, the most important thing to remember is to check in early. Many airlines will cancel your reservation if you are not checked in 15 minutes before departure time.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 08).**

- Welcome to Ocean Air.
- Hi! I'd like to check in.
- Where are you travelling?
- Cairo, Egypt.
- Are you on the 10.35 a.m. flight?
- Yes.
- May I see your passport, please?
- Sure.
- Do you want the window or aisle?
- I'd like the aisle. Is there an emergency row seat available?
- Yes. Would you like that seat?
- Please.

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 09).**

- Welcome to Asia Airlines! Do you have a reservation?
- I have an E-ticket, so I just need to check my baggage.
- May I see your boarding pass and passport, please? OK! You're assigned to Seat 1-Z in first class.
- Great!

- I have to ask you some security questions. Did you pack the bags yourself?
- Yes.
- Have they left your side?
- No.
- Good. Here's your passport and boarding pass. You may go to airport security.
- Thank you!

## ***Unit 4. Getting to the Gate.***

### **Getting to Your Gate on Time (CD Track 10).**

Take your passport, ticket, boarding pass and carry-on suitcase, when you leave the check-in counter. Go to the Security and Emigration and Customs Area of the airport. During high season there are long lines, you need to go early. You will first go through a security checkpoint. Here officers will take an X-ray of your belongings. You must put your things on the belt that goes to an X-ray machine. Some airports ask you to remove your shoes and belt as a security precaution. As your things move through the X-ray machine, you will walk through metal detector. This machine can tell if you have any metal items. If the scan finds anything suspicious, you will have to answer questions. You may be searched.

When you finish, get your belongings and go to an emigration kiosk. An official will ask to see, scan and stamp your passport. The officer will ask for your ticket and boarding pass. Scanning and stamping confirms your identity and records your departure. The officer will take your embarkation form. Fill out the form before you get there. You may have to answer questions about your itinerary, visa status and the reason of your travelling.

Get your papers and you can leave. Go to the gate on your boarding pass. You can also find your gate by looking on one of the television screens.

If you have time before your departure, go duty-free shopping. It's a great opportunity to purchase items for less money. Common items, sold at duty-free stores are luxurious high-tech items like alcohol, clothing, jewelry, tobacco and various food items.

### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 11).**

- Please, step forward!
- I'm running a little late today.
- Please, put your belongings on the belt and go through the metal detector.
- Should I remove my shoes and belt?
- No, that's OK. Please, empty your pockets, then come through again.
- Oh, sorry! I forgot about my keys.

- No problem. Can you open your bag?
- Sure.
- Everything looks OK.

### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 12).**

- Good afternoon! Boarding pass and passport, please. I also need your embarkation card.
- Oh, no! I've lost it!
- You'll have to fill out another card.
- I'll be right back.
- Hello again! Everything looks fine with your visa. Why are you in this country?
- I run a travel agency here.
- May I ask what is the purpose of your trip?
- It's a business trip.
- I see. Have a nice time!
- Thank you.

## ***Unit 5. In Flight.***

### **Get Comfortable and Stay Safe (CD Track 13).**

After getting on the aircraft, find your seat. Each seat is given a letter and number. Match your boarding pass to your seat. Put your carry-on luggage in an overhead bin. If it's heavy, put it under the seat in front of you.

Your safety and comfort are important. Once you're seated, fasten your seat belt and leave it on whenever you are seated. You may ask for extra pillows or blankets from the flight attendant. You may adjust the air coming from your overhead vent. Many airplanes have head rests and foot rests. First and business class passengers may get personal amenities to use. The flight crew will give an overview of the aircraft safety features, using a safety video or a demonstration. Pay attention. Look for the closest emergency exit. Electronic devices must be turned off when the airplane is taking off and landing. You must put away your tray table and keep your seat upright.

Once the aircraft reaches its cruising altitude, the flight attendants will begin in-flight service. You'll get a set of headphones for the entertainment, movies, TV programs, news or music. Newspapers are also available. Food and drinks are part of in-flight service. On most international flights meals and drinks are free. First and business class passengers enjoy personalized menus with gourmet food. All passengers can enjoy in-flight duty-free shopping by looking in a catalogue.



You should watch your health. It's recommended that you not drink caffeine or alcohol. Drink a lot of water. Stretch or walk five or ten minutes each hour. Airplanes are smoke free. The wash rooms have smoke detectors. If you ever need help, push the overhead call button.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 14).**

- We'll be landing soon. Please, turn off your laptop.
- All right.
- Also store your tray table, please.
- OK. What is the local time?
- It's 7.40 p.m. in London. We're due to land at 8 o'clock p.m.
- Thanks. Where do I pick up my duty-free items?
- I'll bring them to you now. What is your name?
- Jonathan James.
- Just a moment.

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 15).**

- Excuse me. We will start dinner service in about ten minutes. Would you like a drink while you're waiting?
- Red wine, please.
- Here you are. What would you like for dinner?
- What do you recommend?
- I recommend the fresh Atlantic salmon with lemon sauce and steamed asparagus.
- Wow! That's a gourmet meal! I'll try that.
- And for dessert?
- I'd like the fresh fruit plate, please.
- Your dinner will be served soon.

### ***Unit 6. Arrival at Your Destination.***

#### **Making Sense of Airport Arrival Signs (CD Track 16).**

When the plane lands, it will taxi to its gate. The attendant will let you leave. Take the Disembarkation or Arrival card and customs declaration forms you filled in. You'll need them to enter the country. You can get these on the plane.

Follow the signs that say "Arrivals". You'll go to the Baggage Claim area if your travel is complete. You will go to the Domestic or International Transfer areas to make a connection. If

your trip is complete, find the correct baggage carousel. Wait for your suitcase there. If your baggage is lost, make a claim at the Baggage Claim desk. The airline will have it delivered when it is found.

If your trip is not complete, you may connect to another flight on the same airline. You will need the boarding pass for this leg. You won't need to check in again. Simply look on the boarding pass for your new flight number. Your luggage will be moved to your new plane.

Arriving on an International flight has extra steps. You first have to clear Emigration and Customs as you did before departure. The officials will scan and stamp your passport and ask you the purpose of your visit. It is important to stay relaxed. Any suspicious behavior is taken seriously. Then get your suitcase, give your customs declaration form to the customs official and proceed to the exit or transfers area. After finishing you won't have to check in again if you're connecting to another flight on the same airline. You have to take your luggage to the transfers area. Then go through the security checkpoint and find your new gate.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 17).**

- Good evening.
- Hello! I just arrived on Flight ACO 6-3.
- What's the problem?
- My bag is missing.
- Are you at the correct carousel?
- Yes.
- What does your bag look like?
- It's red with the black stripe down the sides.
- I'll have your bag delivered.
- My name is Vivian Anderson. My local address is 569 39th Street West.

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 18).**

- Good morning. Customs Declaration form, please.
- OK.
- We have a few questions.
- I hope it won't take long. I have to get to Bangkok.
- Sir, there's a problem with your Declaration form. You've been to a farm?
- Yes, I was at my uncle's farm in England.
- Well, there're restrictions on importing farm soil, plants or meat products.
- I haven't imported anything.
- True. Your shoes are soil free and there are no band items in your bag. Thank you.

- No problem.

## Chapter 3. Hotels.

### *Unit 7. Guest Reception.*

#### **Arrival at the Hotel (CD Track 19).**

You've arrived, and you're weary from a day of travelling. Depending on a hotel you may be greeted by a bellhop. The bellhop greets you at the door, carries your luggage and escorts you to your room. If you are staying at a budget hotel, you will not have this service.

In the lobby go to the reception desk. First, give the agent your name. After confirming your reservation the agent may want to check the type of room that you want: smoking or non-smoking, and single or double. This is also the best time to ask for things you like. For example, you may want the same room as your last visit. Or a room far from the noisy hotel night club and swimming pool.

You should tell the agent if you have a corporate account. The agent will verify your corporate information. Hotels usually offer special things, like discounts, or better rooms. Hotels often have agreements with airline frequent-flier plans. Ask about this. See, if you can get more travel points when you stay at a hotel. Check for promotions, for booking online, or printable Internet coupons. It helps to look at your choices before paying too much.

To finish your check-in the agent will ask how you want to pay. Most hotels prefer credit cards. The agent will take your card and pre-authorize it for the price of the room. Since you may charge additional hotel items and services to your room, you'll get the final bill when you leave. After that you will be given your room key.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 20).**

- Hello! I'm the hotel bellhop. How may I help you?
- I can't find my room.
- I'll put your bags on my cart. Now, may I see your key?
- I'm in Room 1008.
- We'll take the elevator.
- How long have you been a bellhop?
- About eight years. It's a great job, I enjoy helping people.
- What a great service!

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 21).**

- Welcome to the Regency Grand Hotel.

- Thank you. Your hotel is beautiful! We didn't know we'd be staying in such luxury!
- Do you have a reservation?
- Yes.
- OK. What type of room would you like?
- We'd like a suite with a Jacuzzi. Also the room must be non-smoking.
- How long will you be staying?
- Three nights.
- How will you be paying?
- By credit card.
- OK. Here're your keys. Our bellhop will show you to your room.
- Thanks.

## ***Unit 8. Hotel Services.***

### **Home away from Home (CD Track 22).**

A superior hotel offers services you get at home and more. In-room services include a mini-bar, movies and an Internet connection. Be careful, because this can cost money. Most hotel rooms have slippers, towels, robes, hairdryers, safes, personal amenities and a coffee-maker. Laundry service is available for a fee.

If there is anything further you want, like extra bedding, or towels, call the front desk. Also the front desk offers services such as wake-up calls and telephone messages.

Room service is available at most upper class hotels. It is usually available 24 hours a day by phone. Mid service is common. If you don't need housekeeping, put the Do Not Disturb sign out. This service is free, but it's nice to leave a tip.

Hotel restaurants offer many kinds of cuisine. It's common for a hotel to have a store that sells snacks and souvenirs. Hotel boutiques offer high quality clothes and accessories. If you want to enjoy a cold drink, most hotels have a bar. Some even have a disco for excitement. Hotels offer entertainment such as beauty salons, gyms and swimming-pools. They often have rooms, applied with pool tables and video and board games.

Business centers are also a service. Computers, printers, fax machines and telephones can be found there. You can reserve rooms for conferences and use the technology provided by the hotel.

Most hotel services will let you charge fees to your room. This way you can pay for everything when you check out. Hotel services are there to make sure you are happy and comfortable. Be sure to use them.

### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 23).**

- Front Desk.
- I need a wake-up call for tomorrow.
- What time?
- 6.30.
- OK. Is there anything else?
- Yes. I need an extra pillow.
- Housekeeping will bring it to you.
- Thanks. I also forgot toothpaste. Where can I buy some?
- You can purchase toothpaste at a hotel shop. It's on the first floor beside Burberry boutique.
- Thanks.

### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 24).**

- Room Service.
- Could I place an order?
- Sure. Since it is past midnight, you can order from our late night menu.
- I'll have the cheeseburger and fries, a Cola and a cup of coffee. Also I'd like some cheesecake.
- OK. What's your room number?
- Room 734.
- I'll bring your order up in about 20 minutes.
- Where should I put my dishes when I'm finished?
- Just put them outside your door and the housekeeping will take care of them.
- Thank you.

## ***Unit 9. Guest Information.***

### **The Concierge (CD Track 25).**

A new city can be scary. You'll need information about tourist attractions, restaurants and transportation. You can use your telephone directory to find phone numbers; there's a fee free call. A better choice is the concierge. The concierge helps guests with planning.

Your first concern should be transportation. The choices may be endless, so get instructions about public transportation, like subway, taxis and buses. For private transportation, like a rental car, talk to the concierge. The concierge will have information about companies with the best prices. The concierge may get you a discount, if the hotel has an agreement with those companies. Another form of transportation for tourists is the shuttle bus. Some hotels will have a free shuttle service to places of interest. If you fly into a city, ask

about shuttle service from the airport. Sometimes it is free, but sometimes there is a fee. Ask the concierge about the price and schedule. The concierge will help you plan your departure based on your flight schedule.

If you want to do some sightseeing, the concierge knows a lot about the museums, amusement parks, restaurants, or even city tours. The concierge will be able to tell you hours of operation, admission charges and reservation requirements.

Finally, the concierge is a great source for recommendations on the best restaurants and entertainment. Ask the concierge for directions and transportation to these venues. The concierge is truly the best source of information for the hotel guest.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 26).**

- Can I help you?
- I just arrived and need information.
- Where have you looked?
- The phone directory, then the Internet.
- That man is the concierge. It is his job to help you during your stay.
- Really?
- Yes, it's a free service for all guests. He may be able to get you some discounted prices.
- Excellent!

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 27).**

- Hello. May I help you?
- Yes. I need some recommendations.
- What do you like?
- I enjoy sightseeing, but I hate busy amusement parks.
- How about a city tour?
- That sounds fun. What about restaurants? I love Asian food.
- There's an excellent place called Taste of Asia about two blocks north of the hotel.
- How nice! I also love museums and ballet.
- Well, the Art Museum is famous. Also, "Romeo and Juliet" is playing nightly at 7.30 p.m.
- Thanks a lot!

## **Unit 10. Guest Check-out.**

### **Quick and Easy (CD Track 28).**

Checking out should be an easy process. After packing your luggage, check your room to make sure that you haven't forgotten any belongings. If the housekeeping service was good, it's customary to offer a tip: about 1 to 2 dollars for each night.

Many hotels set their check-out time between 11 o'clock a.m. and 1 o'clock p.m. Guests are required to check out before this time. At the front desk give your key-card to the guest-services agent. The agent will consult the computer to identify any charges for hotel services you used. These can include phone calls, movies or mini-bar items. The agent will give you the outstanding bill. Check it thoroughly to make sure that you understand the room charges. Depending on the country, you may also be charged a service tax.

For guests who need a fast check-out, hotels provide a key-card drop box. This service is for guests who had their credit cards preauthorized. All expenses will be charged to your credit card and the hotel will send you a receipt via mail or email.

A late check-out is possible. You must call the front desk to request this. Many hotels will grant your request if the hotel isn't fully booked. You may have to pay a late fee. If celebrating a special occasion or attending a business conference, hotels will frequently offer complimentary late check-out.

Continental breakfasts are also common. They are sometimes free and normally served between 6 o'clock a.m. and 10 o'clock a.m. The timing helps guests get up early and check out immediately after breakfast.

### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 29).**

- Good morning. How may I help you?
- I need to check out. Here is my key-card. It's room 314.
- Did you enjoy your stay?
- Yes. Everything was great! I especially liked the hotel boutique.
- Did you use anything from the mini-bar?
- No, I didn't.
- Are there any other charges to your room?
- Yes. I made a long-distance phone call and charged a dinner to my room.
- OK. Here's your bill. How are you paying today?
- I'll use my credit card.

### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 30).**

- Front desk.

- Yes. This is Kevin Borgue in Room 510. I need to check out very early in the morning.
- You can use the drop box to check out.
- How do I do that?
- Just put your key-card into the drop box, located in the lobby.
- That sounds easy!
- Do you have any room charges?
- No. I'm only staying for one night.
- OK. After we process your outstanding bill, we'll send you a receipt by email.
- Great!

## Chapter 4. Restaurants.

### *Unit 11. Suggesting Restaurants.*

#### **The Food I Crave (CD Track 31).**

Choosing a good restaurant can be hard. If you're a tourist, you don't know the kinds of cuisine available, restaurant locations or the best places. As with other facets of planning, the hotel concierge may be helpful in choosing a restaurant. A concierge can provide restaurant information, coupons, directions and transportation. Another great option is restaurant reading websites. These usually provide a review of food, service, price and atmosphere.

You must first decide what kind of food you're in the mood for. Are you craving fast food, like hamburgers and fries, pizza or fried chicken? Are you craving street food like hot dogs or pretzels? Or are you looking for higher quality food? To avoid disappointment you need to know what you want.

Then you must decide, how much time you have. If you don't have much time between activities you may have no choice but fast food. Sometimes vacation schedules become difficult so you should be able to improvise. The worst experience is trying to hurry a nice dinner at an elegant restaurant. If you have a lot of time, you can choose any restaurant you wish. Of course, if you do plan on patronizing a fine dining establishment, make a reservation.

Finally, you need to have a budget. Everyone has a different amount to spend. So that nice to eat out at nice restaurants this may not be easy. If you like gourmet food, but are on a small budget, don't worry. There're many great restaurants with good food at reasonable budget prices.



### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 32).**

- What can I do for you?
- Hello. What's a good restaurant for dinner?
- What kind of food are you in the mood for?
- We're craving Cajun food.
- There are many great Cajun restaurants.
- Great!
- Also, what's your budget?
- Some place not too expensive.
- All right. How about The Bayou?

### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 33).**

- What are you in the mood for?
- How about steak and seafood?
- All right. I found a restaurant, reading website. They have ratings, prices and location.
- Is there anything for a tight budget?
- Ocean Grill is the cheapest, but it doesn't look nice.
- Are any of them close?
- Captain's Table is a 10 minute walk, but it's expensive.
- Well, it's your birthday. We can spend more money.
- The others have an average rating. Which do you want?
- The second place.
- Sounds good!

## ***Unit 12. Ordering.***

### **Choices, Choices... (CD Track 34)**

Restaurant menus offer a lot of choices. Ordering can be hard. When you get to a restaurant, you'll be greeted by the host or hostess. In fine dining establishments this individual is called the maitre d'. He or she will confirm your reservation and ask about your party size.

Next, you'll be asked to choose a table in a smoking or non-smoking section. Finally, you'll be taken to your table. You'll be given water first. Then you'll be introduced to your server. Your server will give you the menu, explain any specials and ask about beverages.

Depending on the level of elegance the menus can range from notes on a chalkboard to decorative beautifully designed items.

When your beverages arrive, your server will take your order. You'll be asked if you want an appetizer. These commonly arrive at your table before your meal. Secondly, you'll choose an entrée. Some restaurants offer other choices for the meal: rice, baked potatoes, salad, vegetables and dessert. If you order a meat entrée of beef, you'll be asked how you'd like it cut. Your choices are rare, medium-rare, medium, medium-well and well-done. Restaurant chefs tend to resist preparing a steak well-done, so you may be urged to choose something else. Explain problems to the server immediately. Most upscale restaurants believe the customer is always right.

When you're finished, your server will give you the bill. It's customary in many countries to leave a gratuity. This can range from 15 to 20 percent of the bill to not tipping at all. Remember: this custom varies between countries.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 35).**

- Welcome to Uptown Grove. My name is Joseph and I'll be your host. Do you have a reservation?
- Yes. For Joan Andrews.
- Would you like smoking or non-smoking?
- Non-smoking, please.
- How about a window table?
- Actually, we would rather sit in the corner.
- That is reserved. How about here?
- Great!
- Sarah, your server, will be here soon.

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 36).**

- Hello! I'll be your server. What beverages would you like?
- I'll have a beer and my wife will have orange juice.
- Great! I'll be back soon... OK, here're your drinks. Would you like any appetizers?
- Sure. We'd like to have the stuffed mushrooms and the Greek Salad.
- And your entrée?
- I'd like the Pasta primavera, and my husband will have the steak.
- How would you like the beef prepared?
- Medium-rare.
- Excellent! Your appetizers should be out shortly.

## **Unit 13. Asian Cuisine.**

### **A Taste of Asia (CD Track 37).**

Asian cuisine is from East-Asian and South-East-Asian countries. Chinese cuisine is made from a carbohydrate and vegetables, meat or fish. It is classified by its origin. An example is Cantonese cuisine from the south. It does not use a lot of sauces or frying. Sichuan and Hunan cuisine are from the west. They have spicier recipes.

In Japanese cuisine presentation, spices and quality are important. Meals have a staple, like rice or noodles, that comes with several side dishes. The food is eaten with wooden chopsticks. Some examples of Japanese cuisine are sushi, sashimi, tempura and sake.

In Korea garlic and chili peppers predominate. There's a reliance on soybeans and fermented foods like kimchi. A meal has a lot of side dishes. Stainless steel dishes, spoons and chopsticks are used. Soju is an alcoholic beverage that people usually have during a meal or snack.

South-East-Asian cuisine also provides a lot of dishes and flavors. For example, in South Vietnam you'll find sweeter tastes and a more liberal use of herbs. The North has a more familiar spicy Vietnamese food like Pho noodle dishes. Herbs, fresh products and dipping sauces are important.

In Thailand cuisine has geographical differences. In the South you'll find curries, made from coconut milk and fresh turmeric. In the North-East lime is important. Both rice and noodles are popular. Pad Thai is a favorite. Unlike other Asian cuisines, Thai food is eaten with a fork and spoon.

Whether you like the strong garlic and pepper tastes of Korea, the sweet yet hard curries of Thailand, the sashimi of Japan or the Pho noodles of Northern Vietnam, Asian cuisine has something for every palate.

### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 38).**

- George, which Asian cuisine do you like best?
- Korean. The flavors are very strong.
- I disagree. I prefer Cantonese. It's healthier.
- Mmm... yeah. And it's easy to prepare. Have you ever prepared a Japanese meal?
- Yes. It was difficult.
- What shall we prepare today? Thai or Vietnamese?
- They both sound great, but I prefer Thai curries.
- Good choice.

### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 39).**

- Hey, Oliver and Tracy! Where shall we go for dinner?
- Hi, Sandy. I'm craving Asian food.
- What type? How about Korean?
- No way! Garlic and hot peppers make me sick. How about Japanese? I'd love some sashimi and sake.
- It's too expensive. How about the Chinese Buffet on Elm Street?
- Great! You can get Cantonese, Hunan and Sichuan cuisine there.
- Cool. I'll try some Sichuan.
- I'm going to have Cantonese. It's not as spicy.
- I'm going to try everything!

## ***Unit 14. American Cuisine.***

### **What Is American Cuisine? (CD Track 40)**

American cuisine is a mix of cooking styles and foods from different places, like Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe. The hamburger is the archetype of American food. This is only one kind of American food. There are many other kinds you can enjoy. A lot of American cuisine is a fusion of ethnic styles. It has been influenced by the culinary styles from many cultures. Native American culture gave foods such as turkey, corn, beans, sunflowers, potatoes, peppers and squash. Countries in Europe offered items like apple pie, pizza and even hot dogs and hamburgers to American cuisine. Mexican foods like tortillas, burritos and tacos are used in America. Spicy Creole cooking came from the Caribbean. These foods are Americanized. Some of them are nothing like the original. They have changed to suit American tastes.

There are regional differences in American foods. Fish and seafood are very popular on the East coast and in the Pacific North-West. Maine is famous for lobster. The Pacific North-West has good salmon. Maryland is known for crab. In the Mid-West beef is eaten a lot. The region is famous for its steaks. Improvements in moving goods have made it easier to eat all kinds of food. Some people think it's still better to eat different foods in certain parts of the country.

American cuisine is a fusion of international styles. It has been exported around the world. It is easy to find Tex-Mex, Creole and barbecue restaurants outside of America. Also fast food places and pizzerias that serve Americanized food continue to be popular across the globe.

### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 41).**

- I agree with our professor: I don't think that American food is a real cuisine.
- Why?
- It's a mix from other countries.
- The dishes have completely changed.
- I still think that a true cuisine should create original dishes without borrowing from others.
- Let's take a taste challenge. We can compare different American restaurants.
- I won't change my mind!
- Let's try!

### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 42).**

- Hey, where shall we eat?
- American food is all they have around here. We can go to Burger Time with just fast food, or Cowboy Horns.
- I wanted Asian, but Tex-Mex sounds great.
- Really? We don't have much time.
- Yeah, but I hate fast food. It's full of salt and fat.
- I know, but it tastes so good!
- Cowboy Wans has vegetables.
- Maybe, they have burgers at Cowboy Horns!
- They do!
- OK, but we have to be back soon.

## ***Unit 15. Buffets and Brunches.***

### **Buffets and Brunches – the Hungry Man's Choice (CD Track 43).**

If you are hungry – go to a buffet. Buffets are served in many ways. The size, style, selection and quality of foods depends on the event or establishment. Buffet food is prepared early, arranged on platters and positioned on a table. The foods are arranged by course; for example – appetizers, salads, entrees, desserts and beverages are grouped together. The food is placed in chafing dishes that keep it warm. Dishes are covered and heated by candle or gaslight to slow or prevent the growth of pathogens. For all-you-can-eat buffets patrons pay to eat as much as they want. As such, it's acceptable that customers return to the buffet. The restaurant will refill food until the buffet is over. This style of buffet is found in hotels and casinos. There are buffet-restaurants, that specialize in one kind of food, like Chinese, or Indian.

Brunch blends breakfast and lunch. It's a meal that's eaten in late morning or early afternoon, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. The most common brunch is Sunday brunch. This is an all-you-can-eat buffet, that has breakfast foods like bacon, ham, and eggs, and lunch items like meats, salads and soups. An additional benefit is that brunch buffets may also include chefs, who make food for patrons.

Buffets have several advantages. Logistically, they can serve large groups of people at events, such as weddings, conventions and cafeterias. Second, they give patrons the chance to scrutinize and sample foods before choosing them. Perhaps most importantly, they offer an almost infinite selection of cuisine for the famished customer.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 44).**

- How about lunch?
- We should've eaten breakfast.
- I was thinking of that all-you-can-eat Chinese buffet. Friends say that was great.
- No way! People got sick there.
- Really? How about the Indian buffet?
- Great! There are so many great dishes!
- I know. This way we can try a lot of different dishes, all for one price.
- Let's go!

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 45).**

- Are you hungry? Church took a long time.
- I'm famished! We only had a banana for breakfast!
- Let's go to the Sunset Hotel's famous Sunday brunch.
- I love brunches! Especially when they have special chefs make fresh omelets and waffles. I'm really getting hungry! How much is it?
- It's fifteen seventy-five for adults and ten dollars for children under ten.
- Under ten?! Too bad I'm eleven.
- It's no problem.
- We're going to eat a lot of food!

## Chapter 5. Points of Interest.

### *Unit 16. City Tours.*

#### **City Tours - The Best Way to See the City (CD Track 46).**

Booking a city tour is a great way to save time and avoid stress. The tour will take you to and teach you about popular attractions. Additionally, it will allow you to be stress-free because someone chauffeurs you. The concierge at your hotel will give you specific information about a city tour. You should ask about the cost, the route, the starting time, the point of departure and a length. You should also ask about transportation and reservations.

Double-decker buses are commonly used for city tours. These offer passengers good views of the city. The bus driver may be your tour guide, or there may be a separate guide on the bus. The guide will explain what there is to know about each attraction. Keep in mind that you won't stop at every attraction that the guide discusses, because there isn't enough time.

Each city tour has a pre-arranged route. You will likely see cultural attractions, such as museums and art galleries, places of entertainment like parks or exhibits and other famous areas or landmarks. On the tour lunch may be included. On many tours you will be dropped off near restaurant and given some free time to eat, shop and do sightseeing on your own. Most tours will also make stops at local markets for you to buy local handicrafts and souvenirs.

Depending on the size of the city, there may be more than one company giving tours. Choose the tour that has a brochure you like. Also make sure that your guide speaks your language, or that there is a translation service. If you can't understand your guide, you will have a bad day.

#### **Dialogue 1 (CD Track 47).**

- Hey, look at these tour brochures!
- I want to see local culture like hand-made art.
- Me too! And famous landmarks.
- Tours Aras seems to focus on attractions like the zoo.
- No, thanks! Adventure Tours is a half day tour that goes to local attractions and shops at local handicrafts.
- Perfect!
- I agree.
- Let's ask the concierge more about it.

#### **Dialogue 2 (CD Track 48).**

- Hello. Does this hotel have a city tour for guests?

- Yes, it does!
- Good. When does it start and how long does it last?
- It starts at 8.30 a.m. and it's a full-day tour.
- What is the tour route?
- Here's our brochure.
- Wow! Your tour stops at all of the places that I wanted to see. How much is it?
- It's 25 dollars and 75 cents for guests and 33 dollars for the general public.
- I'd like to go.
- Great!

49.

### *Unit 17. Museums and entertainment.*

#### **Reading passage.**

“Culture or amusement – you decide”

Museums are popular tourist attractions. They collect, maintain and exhibit items for people to see. There are many kinds of museums. Some museums show scientific or historic items. Others are art galleries, zoos or flower gardens. There are different museums for music and sports. There are even virtual museums that have exhibits created with computers.

When visiting museum remember that the exhibits are designed for looking. Touching is prohibited because of the time and money that is spent on them. There are a few museums that have interactive programs. In these museums touching is encouraged. Most cities have many more choices.

If you like cultural events, visit a theater to see a live show such as a play or a concert. If you prefer recreational activities, many cities have fantastic amusement parks, zoos, water parks and sporting events. Go to a major sporting event, such as a baseball or football game. They are very exciting.

Other fun choices include getting a car for a private tour or planning an excursion.

Whatever you choose, there are companies that will plan things to suit your tastes. This may involve activities like hot-air balloon rides, sky-diving or mountain climbing.

You can book your vacation around special events. Festivals, such as Mardi Gras, Oktoberfest or Carnival, offer great time for everyone.



If you like peace and quiet, book your vacation outside the peak season to avoid the crowds.

No matter what you like, there's something for everyone.

**50.**

**Dialogue 1.**

Centerville tourist information.

Hi! I would like information about local museums.

Well, we have four museums.

OK.

We have the Museum of Natural History and the Science Center...

Do you have anything outdoors?

We have a zoo and Old Town Square - an outdoor museum about the 1920s.

I think I'll go the zoo.

Enjoy!

**51.**

**Dialogue 2.**

Look at these great brochures the concierge gave me! They describe things to do in the city.

I heard that there is an excellent art gallery and a National Sports Museum.

Cool. They also have a Major League Soccer team here.

Let's do cultural things on Monday.

Then we can go to the soccer game on Wednesday evening. What about the weekend?

We could go sky-diving on Saturday.

That's crazy!

Come on! You'll love it!

52.

### *Unit 18. Conferences.*

#### **Reading passage.**

“Modern Conferences – More Than Just Business”

Conferences are meetings where people talk and share information. Each conference has a theme or topic. People go to conferences for their jobs.

They have an agenda. Conferences are on many topics. Some topics are art, business, science and technology, computers and the Internet.

Planning and executing a good conference is a lot of work. A conference needs to execute a good schedule. Someone needs to find hotels and catering, book rooms and plan a budget. A confer-abstract is made. The conference committee asks prospective presenters to give a short summary of their work. These are reviewed and accepted or rejected. The committee books a keynote speaker. This person is important in their field. People are happy about the keynote speaker.

After the review the committee convenes and makes a program. This organizes the conference meetings; it describes the presentation schedule and topics. The presentations can be 10 to 30 minutes or even longer. It may give information about local transportation and hotels.

Once the conference starts, presenters talk about their work in short simple presentations. These are summaries of academic papers. Depending on the topic, presenters may read from a paper, sometimes visual aids are used.

Conferences can be fun. Most committees will offer social and interesting activities for attendees. They may also provide free or discounted entertainment choices in the city.

Education and professional work are important. However, conferences can be a great chance for some sight-seeing and fun.

53.

#### **Dialogue 1.**

How is your lunch, Grant?

Hi, Zack! Sorry I didn't see you. I was reading this conference brochure.

Which conference?

The International Conference on the Environment.

Where and when is it being held?

It's this July in Shanghai, China.

China? Wow! Who's the keynote speaker?

Dr. William Townsend.

I think I'll go.

**54.**

**Dialogue 2.**

Hello, Dr. Watts! I was expecting to see you here. I noticed your abstract in the conference program.

Hi, Philip! Congratulations on being chosen as the keynote speaker.

Thank you.

What's your topic?

I am speaking about nanotechnology.

When?

Tomorrow at 10 a.m. By the way, how do you like the city? Have you been to Buenos Aires before?

No, I haven't. But the committee's sent me a great conference brochure.

Would you like to do a tour together?

That sounds great!

55.

## Chapter 6. Destinations.

### *Unit 19. New York City.*

#### **Reading passage.**

“The Big Apple”

New York City is one of America’s most diverse cities. It has one of the largest populations. Some people believe that one person from every nation lives in New York City.

New York City has everything. If you’re a sports fanatic, a football lover, a shopaholic or an art-enthusiast, New York City will satisfy you.

New York’s greatest attractions are located in Manhattan. Most tourists spend a majority of time there. New York City is home to world-famous streets, such as Broadway, Fifth Avenue and Wall Street.

No vacation is complete without visiting the Statue of Liberty. The skyline has amazing architecture. Contemporary and traditional buildings give New York City its uniqueness. There are many skyscrapers. The Empire State Building is a symbol of the city.

This city also offers a plethora of activities. You can travel to the top of the Empire State Building, visit the New York Stock Exchange or ride Coney Island’s famous rollercoaster. Don’t forget to stroll through Central Park, visit any of the 200 museums and go to the Zoo.

One of the best things about New York City is the cuisine. It’s famous for pizza, pretzels, hot-dogs and cheesecake. Street vendors who sell these foods are popular. There are many ethnic restaurants. New York City is well-known for Italian and Jewish cuisine but any other craving can be fulfilled. It’s also famous for its delis. Huge sandwiches and blue plate specials are found in many places. Fine dining has a steep price. While eating out in this City you may receive stereotypically brusque New York service, it’s just part of the city’s charm - big and bold.

56.

#### **Dialogue 1.**

Excuse me. Where is the Bronx Zoo?

Take subway No. 5 and get off at East Tremont Avenue.

Is it close to the subway?

You'll walk about 2 blocks but since we're in Manhattan, take the Bronx Trolley.

Oh... What's that?

It's a trolley that picks up tourists in Manhattan and takes them to the Bronx.

How much is it?

It's free.

**57.**

**Dialogue 2.**

I am tired.

We've been shopping since 10 a.m.!

Are you getting hungry yet?

Yeah. There're so many choices!

What are you in the mood for?

Well, New York is well-known for Italian cuisine. What about pasta?

I want something spicier. Do you like Indian food?

I love it! Let's do that!

At what time?

How about 8 o'clock? Then we can go for a drink and some dancing.

Cool.

58.

### *Unit 20. London.*

#### **Reading passage.**

“Culture and Royalty”

London is the centre of culture with festivals, arts and music. The city has more than three hundred nationalities that helped shape the culture. London has fairs and carnivals throughout the year. The most famous is the Notting Hill carnival which has an Afro-Caribbean flavour. This is the world’s second largest carnival. Almost one million people go. The highlights are a competition between London steel pan bands and the three miles Street Parade. There are large parades held on St. Patrick’s Day and S. George’s Day.

Music plays a big part in London’s culture. There are 5 symphony orchestras. London is recognized for its rock roots, too. It was the starting place of bands such as Led Zeppelin, The Who and Pink Floyd.

Tourists can’t ignore British royalty. There are royal parks and monuments. Buckingham and Kensington palaces are residences of the royal family. Tourists enjoy viewing the pomp like the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. The Tower of London is 900 years old. It was a former royal residence, prison and execution site. Today it is home to the British Crown Jewels.

Don’t miss St. Paul’s Cathedral, the National Gallery and Trafalgar Square. Other landmarks include the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge and Westminster Abbey. There is also the London Eye, the world’s highest observation wheel. It gives you a view of over 55 of London’s most famous landmarks in 30 minutes. You can order champagne in your capsule.

The London Underground, or the Tube, is quickest and easiest way to get around London. Get a tube map and enjoy the culture and royalty that London has to offer.

59.

#### **Dialogue 1.**

Welcome aboard Double-decker tours.

How long is the tour?

Around six hours. Plus we'll explore Camden Market.

Great! What will we see?

We'll see Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, London Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London and Westminster Abbey.

Wow!

I'll be commenting throughout the tour, so you'll know what everything is.

Thanks.

**60.**

**Dialogue 1.**

What do you want to do in London?

We should take a tour.

OK. Let's decide on a tour and then spend a couple of days on our own.

I agree. How about taking the London Duck tour? It's a tour by road and water.

Let's do it.

Then tomorrow we can go to Madame Tussaud's.

M-m... What is that?

It's a famous wax museum with figures of famous stars including Oprah Winfrey!

Sounds like fun.

**61.**

***Unit 21. Sydney.***

**Reading passage.**

"Welcome to Aus"

Sydney, Australia, has become a popular destination. It has over 50 beaches, first-class restaurants, terrific shopping and great wildlife. One of the most famous sites is the Sydney

Opera House. People like going to a performance at this well-known landmark. The Sydney Taronga Zoo lets you get close to Australia's fascinating animals. The world-class Sydney Aquarium attracts many animal enthusiasts. The Annandale Markets is a place to relax with a cold drink, go bargain shopping and listen to live music. Sydney is new in the wine business. Hunter Valley Wine Tours gives tours of six local wineries. Wine, cheese and fudge tasting are part of the tour.

Sydney sighters love adventure. The city has fun activities for the brave. You can start on a Sydney Bridge Climb. It is a three-hour walk over catwalks and ladders to the summit of Sydney Harbour Bridge. Other brave tourists ride on an Oz jet. It is Australia's most powerful boat. Your Harbour Tour will be full of twists and turns.

Next, you can take a seat on a plane safari or a helicopter tour and enjoy a view of Sydney.

If you want to relax, a pleasant option is to take the Sydney Harbour Cruise.

If you want to spend time in nature, try the four-wheel drive Blue Mountains Explorer Track. This will take into the secluded valleys of the scenic Blue Mountains.

Of course, no trip to Sydney would be complete without some beach time. Take a day to relax on Bondi or Darling Beach.

Sydney is full of extreme adventure. Experience it by land, sea and air. It will be a vacation to remember.

**62.**

**Dialogue 1.**

Good day, mate. Which tour you're interested in today?

Well, I have a lot of time and want to see all of the Sydney Harbour.

The Harbour Harp is perfect.

Great! What kind of boat do you use?

You'll ride in an Oz Jet.

How fast does it go?

It has a 700 horse power jet.



Wow!

63.

**Dialogue 2.**

Sydney Opera House, how may I help you?

Hello. I need some information about taking a tour of the Opera House.

Certainly. We offer a choice of three guided tours to suit your needs.

Do you have a foreign language tour? My mother will be with us and she doesn't understand English.

What language would you like the tour in?

Korean, please.

Fine. How about Thursday morning at 10 a.m.?

That's perfect.

64.

***Unit 22. Beijing.***

**Reading passage.**

"An Ancient City".

Beijing is a city famous for its history. According to archaeological discoveries more than 700 000 years ago there were primitive people there. Beijing's modern history begins with the Yuan Dynasty. The majority of what is seen in Beijing today was made during the Ming Dynasty. The city was build so that people would know the power of the emperor. Beijing gets its elegance through power rather than beauty. Beijing was built within a series of walls. The outer wall went around the entire city. The highway runs beside it. At various points along the highway you can see watchtowers above the city gates. These were for defense. It's believed that Beijing was the largest city in the world from 1425 to 1650 and from 1710 to 1825. Today the city is one of the most densely populated in the world. A vacation to Beijing is a trip into ancient history. Some of the oldest landmarks are the Forbidden City, a former residence of the Chinese emperors, and the Temple of Heaven. Tourists also enjoy visiting the Summer

Palace, the Temples of the Earth, Sun and Moon, the Ming Dynasty tombs, Tiananmen Square and the National Museum of China. These attractions were often damaged during wars and revolutions but they're important for Beijing's rich history. Naturally, most tourists go to the Great Wall of China. This is the world's largest manmade structure. It's composed of brick, stone, earth and wood. Some portions have been preserved. The Great Wall of China has the honor of being one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Beijing, the host of the 2008 Olympic Games, is an ancient city from modern times.

**65.**

**Dialogue 1.**

I've always wanted to see a live giant panda.

Me too.

The zoo has both giant pandas and small red pandas.

Did you bring the camera?

Yes. I want to stay all day.

Well. They're only open till 6 p.m.

Oh, look! It's feeding time!

Can't believe that they eat so much bamboo!

**66.**

**Dialogue 2.**

Excuse me. Do you speak English?

Yes.

What's the best way to get around Beijing?

Where do you want to go?

I want to see the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, Tiananmen Square and the National Museum.

That's a lot. A-a.. Taxi is best.

OK. Do you have any tips?

Yes, smaller taxis are cheaper but the drivers in larger taxis are more careful.

Great. Do all taxis have meters?

Yes, always use one with the meter.

Thanks so much.

**67.**

### ***Unit 23. Cape Town.***

#### **Reading passage.**

“City for Nature Lovers”

Cape Town, or Mother City, is becoming one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. With an abundance of open air activities nature lovers are in for a treat.

Cape Town's landscape makes it a perfect place for enjoying nature. The city offers natural beauty which melts effortlessly with the bright lights of the city. A good place to start is Table Mountain.

Hiking or a cable car will get you to the top for a panoramic view.

After that, explore Cape Point Nature Reserve – you will be treated to towering cliffs. You'll see the convergence of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans.

Another must-see is Robben Island. This is where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned. Robben Island, a World Heritage Site, can be visited on tours. A boat ride to the island and a tour of the Museum and prison are followed by a bus ride.

Animal lovers will like Cape Town's wildlife. Visit the penguins at Boulders Beach. It is a natural sanctuary. The Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens are a place of peaceful tranquility with native trees. Two Oceans Aquarium is on the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. Scuba divers enjoy the opportunity to dive with sharks. Whales and other marine life can be seen at the south-eastern town of Hermanus.

There are also wonderful beaches. Cape Town has 22 beaches in the city. The Cape Town Beach Guide will help find the perfect one for you.

Cape Town has activities for sport enthusiasts. You can parachute, sky-dive, canoe, kayak, sail, ab-sail or hike around the city.

Regardless of your itinerary Cape Town will give you your fill of fresh air.

**68.**

**Dialogue 1.**

Welcome to Cape Town Botanical Gardens!

How long is the tour?

It's about 3 hours. Afterwards, you can enjoy a picnic in the gardens.

Great. What will we see?

We're going to see a variety of native South-African plant life.

Wonderful.

You'll also see birds, squirrels, insects and butterflies.

It sounds so relaxing.

**69.**

**Dialogue 2.**

I am so sore.

Yeah, so am I. But I'm glad that we hiked up Table Mountain instead of taking the cable car.

Me too.

What do you want to do now?

How about some night life?

Let's check out some clubs.

Any suggestions?

We could try Long Street or we could try the Planet bar for champagne and caviar.

No way. I can't stand caviar. How about Long Street for a beer, and then we can see how things go.

**70.**

### ***Unit 24. Rio de Janeiro***

#### **Reading passage.**

“The marvelous City”

Arriving in Rio de Janeiro is an exciting experience for everyone. The eye candy of this city with its mountains, rainforests and samba playing in the streets is good for the soul. Attractions are everywhere.

If you're staying at the Copacabana, you're on one of the most famous beaches. You can see both the Sugarloaf and Corcovado mountains. Atop Corcovado Mountain sits the statue of Christ the Redeemer. This statue is a symbol of Christianity and icon of Rio and Brazil. It has become one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.

While many tourist attractions exist, it's best to contact the Carioka. They are people born and raised in Rio. Their passion for Rio is contagious.

Rio is famous for soccer. Maracana stadium holds one hundred thousand fans. Attending a match is a psychedelic experience.

Rio hosts the world-renowned carnival. Carnival is an annual festival held forty days before Easter. It marks the beginning of Lent. “Blocos”, groups dressed in costumes, celebrate Carnival by parading, dancing and playing music in the streets. These troops consist of a percussion and music group accompanied by an entourage of dancers. Nowadays, Carnival has more than one hundred blocos. Social classes forgotten during Carnival, the rich dress as commoners and the poor dress as princes and princesses.

Rio is home to Copacabana Happy New Year celebration. It is rated second best in the world.

Rio is full of excitement, but it has a high crime rate. Drug trafficking, gang violence and the difference between the rich and poor are problems facing the city today.

Even so, people enjoy all that Rio de Janeiro has to offer.

**71.**

**Dialogue 1.**

Tourist information.

Hello! I'm interested in Carnival.

This year Carnival starts on Saturday, February the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

How long does it run?

It's a four-day event.

Do I need to buy tickets?

Yes. The Samba Parade and the Costume Competition are very popular.

Where can I get them?

The best way is online.

Thanks.

**72.**

**Dialogue 2.**

Did you book our flight to Rio?

Yes. We're leaving on Friday, February the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Great! I really want to go to the Samba Parade. Did you get our tickets?

Yeah. I bought them online about a month ago.

Did you make hotel reservations for the Copacobana Beach Palace?

Yes.

There's a lot of free entertainment on the streets. We can listen to street bands, go to street dances and watch the samba drama rehearsals.

Let's take lots of pictures.