



Music Celebrations International, L.L.C.

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MCI SAFETY & SECURITY

Music Celebrations International (MCI) joins with everyone in the concert touring public in being sensitive to recent events abroad, including the recent COVID-19 (coronavirus) epidemic and civil unrest in parts of the world, including what is currently happening in Ukraine — activities that bring familiar questions (relating to past jarring and horrendous terrorist incidents or natural disasters) to the forefront: Is it safe for me to travel? Dare I send a child, relative or loved one overseas? What are my risks? What are others doing to guarantee my safety or minimize any danger or potential harm?

MCI has over thirty-five years of experience dealing with legitimate concerns relating to civil unrest, wars, terrorist incidents, natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, epidemics (SARS, Ebola, Swine Flu, Bird Flu, etc.), volcano eruptions, floods, etc. Our approach is to deal directly and professionally with each situation to assess and then to advise clients based on experience, research, connections to our U.S. State Department, foreign governments, foreign tourist offices and our own offices in Zurich, Prague, Rome, Vienna, London, Dublin, Edinburgh, Beijing, and Hong Kong.

While there is no way to absolutely predict the future, the Russian incursion into Ukraine seems to be limited to Ukraine. One of Russia's main issues with Ukraine is Ukraine's desire to become part of NATO, but this is not going to happen. Other countries surrounding Ukraine – Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, the Baltics and Hungary are all members of NATO and are “off limits” to Russia without incurring reprisals from all of the NATO-bound countries in Europe. Our offices in Prague, Vienna, and Zurich are watching this closely.

MCI charters respected, bonded, insured and experienced motorcoaches worldwide for its clients. No one, other than tour participants themselves, is ever allowed to board these exclusively-chartered buses. MCI's vetted and professional Tour Managers and local guides are trained to avoid any large public gatherings or events such as demonstrations for both safety and reasons of expediency as well as maximizing meaningful sightseeing time.

MCI has never sent (nor will we in the future) clients into harm's way. Our links and close contact to the U.S. State Department, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and others, keep us apprised on a daily and hourly basis of any potential danger, advisories, warnings, and notices. MCI's included insurance policy includes protection for cancellation due to terrorism (exact provisions are that a terrorist incident takes place in a city included in the itinerary within 30 days prior to travel; or U.S. State Department issues a travel warning) — but the availability of premium protection (at an additional cost) allows for cancellation for any reason, up to 72-hours prior to travel. This “cancel for any reason” clause protects up to 75% of non-refundable payments. This premium protection is currently the best way to protect your financial investment from an epidemic/pandemic/travel notice. This premium protection offers a higher level of peace of mind. The premium for this coverage must be paid prior to your tour being paid in full.

Foreign countries' GNP depends largely on the success of tourism in their country. This is why foreign governments, local law enforcement, and national health/medical agencies go out of their way to protect tourists and to root out forces (including health threats due to outbreaks and illness) that could potentially harm this main industry on which their economy depends. During and immediately following a terrorist incident or health crisis, a country will use all resources at hand, to extinguish any further threats. Raising “threat levels” is a standard response for governments to call upon additional resources from health and security agencies.

As scary and worrisome as terrorist incidents are, in perspective (according to statistics) odds of being killed by a terrorist overseas or in the air are 1 in 2,200,000. Odds of being struck by lightning are 1 in 600,000. Odds of being killed by gunfire in the U.S. are 1 in 18,900. Lightning, gunfire, fatal car accidents have become so common that they rarely even get our attention. A terrorist incident (depending on where it takes place) on the other hand, gets multiple hours of coverage on television networks.

Your partners at MCI will work with you directly on developing a contingency plan – whether that is to ultimately postpone or redirect to a different destination – to ensure that you have a safe and memorable concert touring experience. In almost all cases, MCI has been successful in transferring funds towards a different year or destination with very little (if any) negative financial repercussions. MCI's partners and vendors abroad are staffed by sensitive professionals, who collectively work very hard to minimize any negative impact.

MCI, as an IATAN (International Airlines Travel Agent Network) and ASTA (American Society of Travel Agents) member is fully accredited and bonded to the maximum level. The following financial and security measures are in place for the protection of all participants.

All funds paid to Music Celebrations International are held in Trust Accounts at Bell Bank, and are used for tour-related expenses first. Excess funds are available to MCI only after completion of each concert tour.

Music Celebrations International carries \$3,000,000 (Three Million) in Travel Agents Professional Liability insurance, including errors and omissions coverage. A copy of this policy, underwritten by Aon Affinity, is on file in our office, a copy of which will be sent to interested parties upon request. Your safety is in your and our best interest! **We would NEVER jeopardize the safety of any client!**

Music Celebrations works with thousands of professional, community, school, and children's performing ensembles who participate in international or domestic festivals and highly customized concert tours. These performers range in size and variety from small jazz and chamber ensembles which travel with 15 – 25 participants to the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square which travels with over 500+ participants. MCI has safely traveled over 350,000 travelers and over 4,500 high-caliber performing ensembles have worked with MCI over the 27+ years that MCI has been in business.

Music Celebrations International is an active member of the following professional organizations which require adherence to a strict code of ethics and business practices:

- Better Business Bureau (BBB)
- American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA)
- International Airlines Travel Agent Network (IATAN)
- International Festivals and Events Association (IFEA)
- Student & Youth Travel Association (SYTA)
- American Bus Association (ABA)
- Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)
- National Association for Music Education (NAFME)
- Chorus America
- American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)
- Association of Concert Bands (ACB)
- American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA)
- American String Teachers Association (ASTA)
- League of American Orchestras
- World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE)