



27 February 2020

Dear Group Leader,

There has been a lot of talk in the media regarding the Coronavirus COVID19. Essentially the question on Group Leaders minds seems to be whether tours are operating and the answer is yes unless the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) issues an 'All but Essential Travel' directive to the specific area your tour is going to, then your tour will be going ahead.

We deal with school tours, private group tours & escorted tours; we're conscious that Group Leaders of school tours are in a unique position so we always strive to stay ahead of market movements and operate our tours with Group Leaders' needs foremost in our dealings. A number of years ago, we chose to upgrade the insurance we provide from Premier to Premier Plus ⁽²⁾ where Travel Disruption is covered as standard.

Our clients insured with Blue Insurance's Premier Plus cover will be able to claim for cancellation if the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) states that they advise against 'All but Essential Travel' to the specific place or area that your tour is travelling to within 14 days of your Travel Date.

Where someone chooses to cancel because they feel uncomfortable about travelling and the DFA has not issued an 'All but Essential Travel' directive, then the usual booking terms & conditions apply:

More than 10 weeks to travel	loss of all deposits & any paid extras (ie event tickets)
10 - 8 weeks to travel	50% of holiday value
8 - 6 weeks to travel	75% of holiday value
Within 6 weeks of travel	100% of holiday value

The tour deposit is €250pp and the balance is due ten weeks before travel. Travel Insurance will only be in force for those who have paid their final balance by the ten week mark. We are committed to contracts with the airlines and suppliers.

If the Department of Foreign Affairs declares a 'no go' area or issues a an 'All but Essential Travel' instruction, we will be in contact with you, otherwise your School Tour will proceed as planned from our end.

1 <https://www.dfa.ie/travel/travel-advice/a-z-list-of-countries/>

2 https://www.blueinsurance.ie/common/1088_Blue_TravelPolicy_IRL_Direct_a4_2020.pdf