Host Country

Quick Facts:

- Capital
- Head of State
- Currency and Exchange Rate
- Time Zone(s)
- Seasons/Climate
- Travel Warnings to Note? YES/NO
- Their 9-1-1

The People

**General Attitudes and Values.** What’s the best way for people to relate to another? How do they view time? What’s the best way for society to work with the world at large? Questions to ask or research include: Are they independent or dependent? Do they like hierarchy or are they more egalitarian? Are they rule oriented or relationship oriented? Do they like risk or avoid risk? Do they focus more on the past or the future? Or they process oriented or results oriented? Are they formal or informal? How do they regard male/female relationships?

**Religions.** Is there a dominant religion or many? Is there religious freedom or is there a state mandated religion? How does the religion influence the people? What major holidays do you need to be aware? What customs should you observe on these days?

**Language.** What languages are spoken in the country? In your region? At home? At work? Are the written languages different from the spoken languages? How do people communicate with friends? How do they communicate with people they don’t know very well?

**Population and ethnic make-up.** Is this a homogenous society or are there many races and ethnic groups? How does influence the way they view outsiders?

Customs and Courtesies

**Greetings.** How do they greet one another? Close friends? Acquaintances? Teachers? Do they greet with words or gestures? Do they hug/kiss/shake hands?

**Dress.** What is appropriate for everyday? Special occasions? School? Are there special colors to avoid?

**Eating.** How is food served? Who pays when you go out to eat? What utensils are used? Are there any food taboos?

**Gestures.** How do express pleasure? Displeasure? What are possible offensive gestures?

**Visiting.** What is the protocol for inviting someone to your home? What is the protocol for inviting someone on an outing? Do you bring gifts? Send thank-you cards?
Lifestyle

**Family.** How do the people regard their families? What does a typical family look like?

**Dating, courtship, and marriage.** How does this differ from the US? Who pays for dates? Is dating permitted?


**Recreation.** What do people do for fun? Where do they vacation? Why is this fun for them?

Communication Style

- Acceptable/ Not acceptable topics of conversation
- Tone, volume, and speed
- Use of silence
- Use of physical gestures and facial expressions
- Waving and counting
- Physicality and physical space
- Eye contact
- Emotions

Protocol

- How do people walk/ stand in line?
- Which side of the road do people drive on? How do you cross the streets?
- Tipping
- Punctuality
- Drinking and toasting
- Being a guest in someone’s home
- Being a host

Regional notes

- Capital
- Significance of city/location
- Points of pride

Insert Photos of Country Flag

Include Flag of the State or Province