SIGHT

An Overview
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Topics

What Is SIGHT?

How is it organized?

How can I use it?

How can I help?
What is SIGHT?

• SIGHT stands for Service of Information, Guidance and Hospitality to Travelers.
• It is available for any member of Mensa (in good standing) anywhere in the world.
• It can be used for things like: travel tips, finding accommodations, attending local Mensa events when traveling, or even finding a good neighborhood/school district when moving.
How is SIGHT Organized?

• Every country in which Mensa exists should have at least a national SIGHT coordinator, usually with an email of sight@(country).mensa.org

• Larger countries (including the US) will have chapter/regional SIGHT contacts
  – In the US, about 60% of our chapters have a SIGHT contact
What Does A Coordinator Do?

• The SIGHT coordinator is a facilitator, helping to bring Mensans together.

• Once contacts are made, the people participating make agreements as to what they will do.
How Do I Make A Request?

• You can contact “SIGHT” in several ways:
  – Fill out a request form on the American Mensa website (goes to the US SIGHT coordinator)
  – Send an email directly to a SIGHT contact (but we must validate your membership)
  – Start a chat thread on the Mensa International SIGHT page, if you belong (again, Mensa membership is required for inclusion)
How Far In Advance?

- The earlier the better, of course.

- By its own nature, requests in the Facebook group often get faster turnaround, and by people beyond official SIGHT coordinators.

- Provide as much information as possible.
Be Aware: SIGHT is NOT

- A hotel/B&B
- A restaurant
- A taxi service
- A child care service
- A laundry service
- A money lending institution
- A travel agency
- An opportunity to take advantage of your hosts
I’m Willing To Be A Host

• On the SIGHT page of the American Mensa Website, click on “Host Registration Form.”
• Provide as much detail as to what you can or cannot offer
• If a request comes in which fits, we’ll contact you
• On the Mensa International Website, in your profile, click on SIGHT Host
SIGHT Coordinators

– The amount of contact you receive depends on how frequently your area is visited.
– You are welcome to, but not obligated to, host, offer meals, etc.
– You will be listed as a contact for your chapter on the Mensa webpage for your chapter, with your email address if you specify it in your profile (or sight@(chapter).us.mensa.org)
To Become A SIGHT Contact

- Have it approved by your local board
- Your LocSec must submit an officer change report.
- This goes to Becky at the National Office, who forwards it to me for approval
- Once approved, you’re in
- A chapter can have multiple SIGHT contacts
What If It Goes Badly?

• For US SIGHT, fill out the appropriate evaluation form on the website
• For international issues, contact me and I’ll put you in touch with the right people
• A guest who abuses SIGHT privileges can be marked as “Do not offer SIGHT again.” (The number of times this has happened can be counted on 1 hand)
SIGHT Map on Google

- Created and maintained by SIGHT contacts in Europe
- Different map Pins for Coordinators, hosts, destinations, FYI’s
- Click on a pin to get the information
What You See
Clicking on a pin...
Where Can I Find Out More?

• American Mensa SIGHT page
  – CONNECT -> SIGHT

• Mensa International Web Page
• (note, it has recently been redesigned)
  – Link to SIGHT on the top page -> FAQ
  – Several parts of the website are still under construction, so please be patient.