

CTMS CENTRE FOR
TRANSNATIONAL
MENNONITE STUDIES

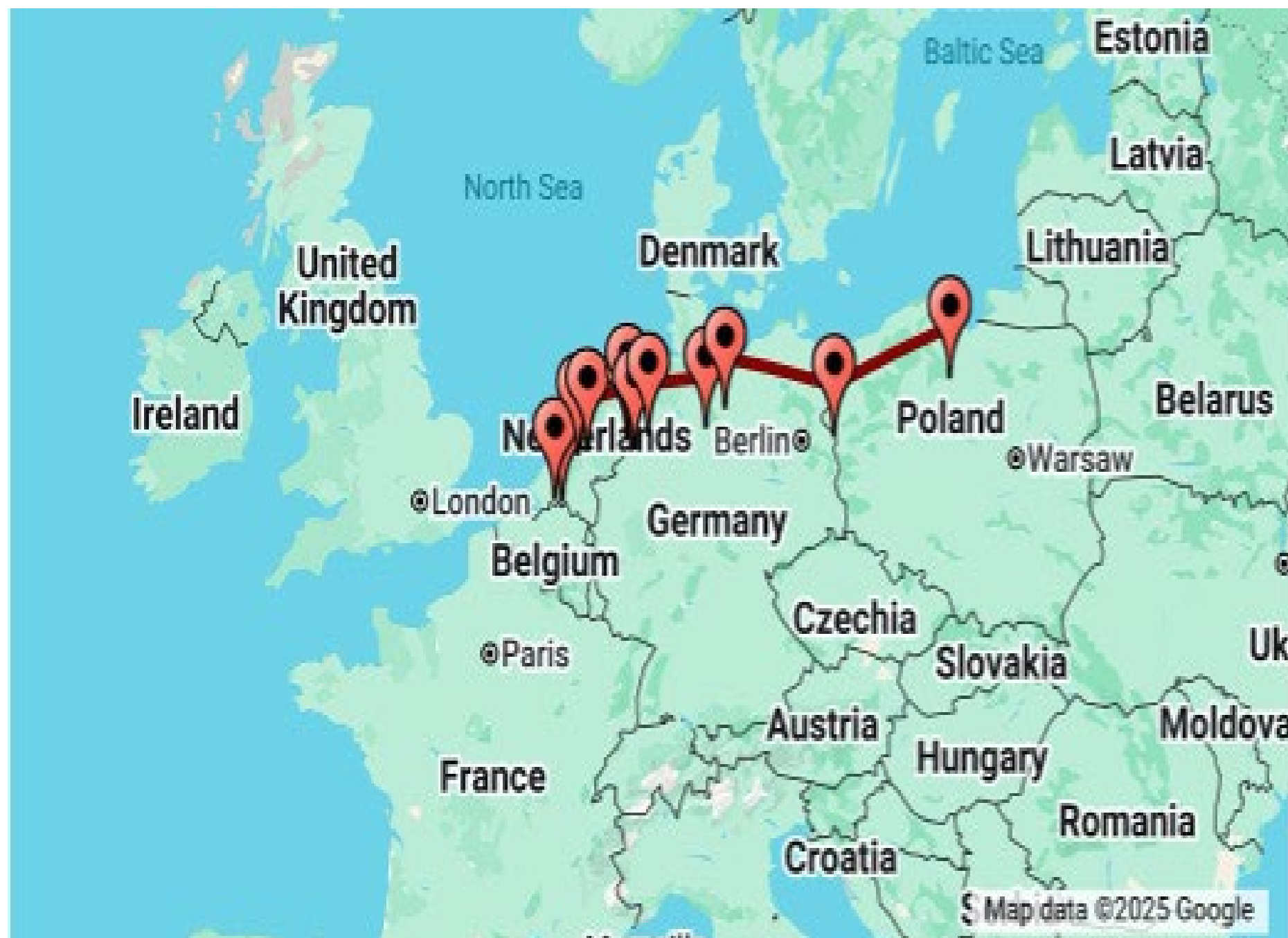
Mennonites and Conflict
Experiential History Course and Tour
With Dr. Aileen Friesen
Centre for Transnational
Mennonite Studies
May 8 – 24, 2026

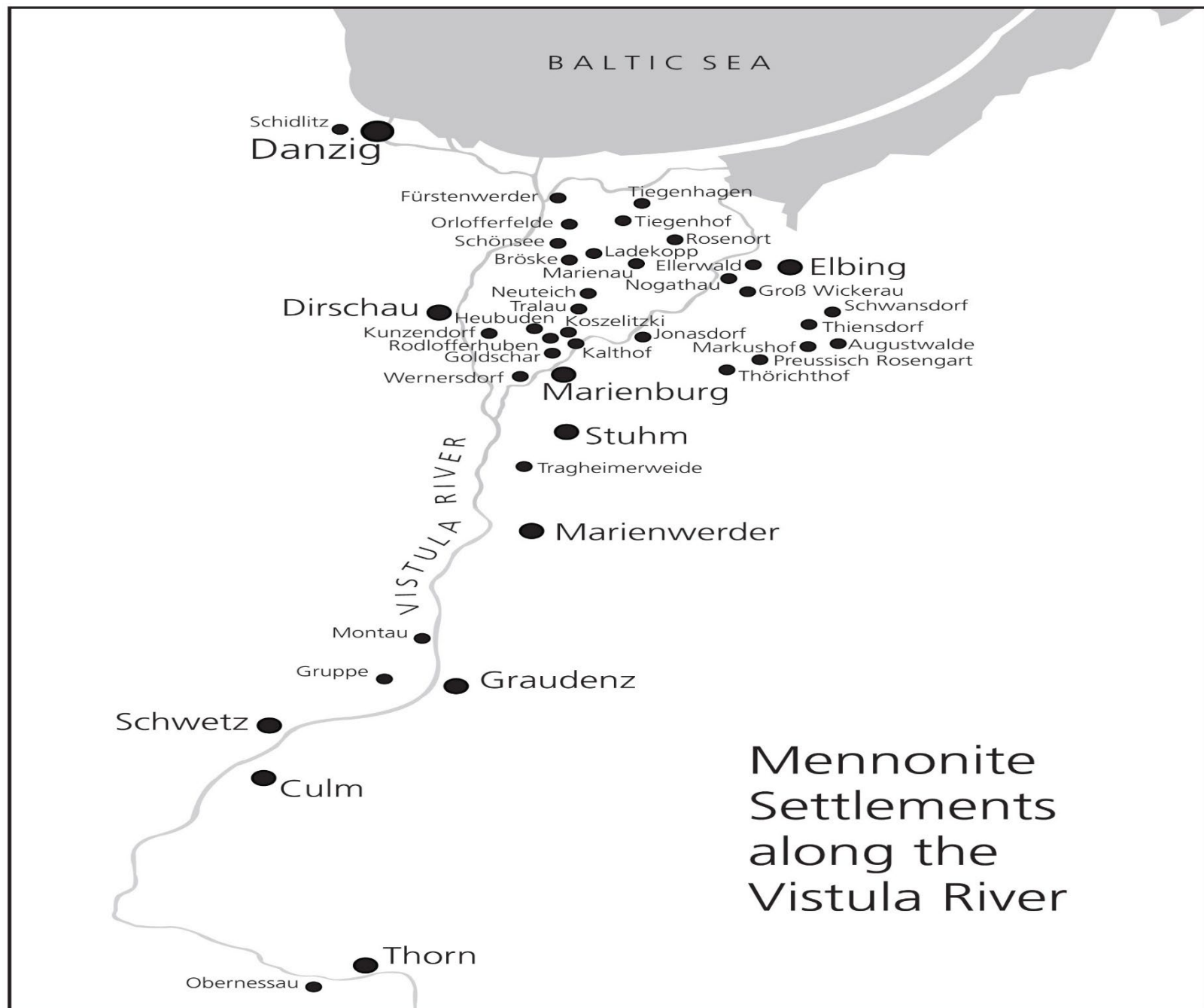
This experiential learning course explores Anabaptist and Mennonite understandings of and experiences with conflict along an historical route from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, through northern Germany, to Gdansk, Poland. Students and passengers will investigate how Mennonites navigated conflicts with the state, theological and social discord within their communities, and business relations within the Hanseatic League. Those who wish to audit the course can contact Aileen Friesen at ai.friesen@uwinnipeg.ca.

Hosted by Riesen Travel Ltd.
With Guide Lothar Möhlmann

906 Fleet Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3M 1L6
Phone 204 471 6453

Price: \$6850.00 CAD per person (flight included)
Single supplement: \$1248.00





Day	Destination / Route	Day Program	Accommodation
Departure Day Fri May 08		AC 266 08 May Winnipeg/Toronto Departure 2:50 P.m. Arrival 6:17 p.m. AC808 08 May Toronto/Amsterdam Departure 12:35 p.m. Arrival 11:00 a.m.	Air Canada
Day 1 Sat May 09	Amsterdam	11:00 am Arrival on flight AC 808 from YYZ, to be met by tour bus and driver of Uffen Reisen, Emden. Transfer to Amsterdam hotel, unload and early check in. Meet your guide, Nina Schroeder-van 't Schip, after (individual) lunch for a walking tour of Amsterdam's hidden Mennonite churches and heritage sites (2.5 hours). Take a canal tour of the city leaving from the Anne Frank House dock.  Dinner at your hotel.	Hotel Ibis City West Transformatorweg 36 1014 AK AMSTERDAM, NL 2 nights
Day 2 Sun May 10	Amsterdam	10:30 church service at the Singelkerk, followed by the special monthly English-language service (https://www.doopsgezindamsterdam.nl/doopsgezind-amsterdam/internationalservice/) and potluck with congregants at the church. Afternoon Rijksmuseum: tour of Dutch baroque painters and patrons of Mennonite extraction, led by Nina Schroeder-van 't Schip. Rijkstafel dinner at Indra Pura restaurant. Overnight at Ibis Amsterdam City West.	Hotel Ibis City West
Day 3 Mon May 11	Amsterdam and Haarlem	Morning visit to the Doopsgezinde Bibliotheek (Mennonite Historical Library) at Allard Pierson with Curator of the Church History Collections, Gwendolyn Verbraak. Transfer to Haarlem. Lunch at Haarlem Mennonite Church Café, Jansje. Afternoon in Haarlem for hidden church visit with Doopsgezind Haarlem archivist and librarian Mechteld Gravendeel, then free time in Haarlem with a self-guided tour of some significant heritage sites in the city and the opportunity to visit the iconic Bavo Church. 	Doopersduin Oorsprongweg 3 1871 HA Schoorl 1 night, self-arranged

		Late afternoon / early evening transfer to Schoorl, check in at Doppersduin and light supper served by Mennonite volunteers. Evening free to explore the dunes. 	
Day 4 Tue May 12	Amsterdam to Leeuwarden	After breakfast, depart Schoorl for the new Menno Simons House (a welcome centre opening in spring 2026) at the Mennonite church in Witmarsum, which is the birthplace of Menno Simons. From there, visit the tiny Mennonite hidden church in Pingjum and the former-Catholic church a stone's throw away where Menno first preached. Flora Visser, the minister of the church in Witmarsum, will guide you at these sites. Enjoy lunch in Bolsward, possibly at Café Blend, before seeing the Mennonite church there and then journeying just out of town to the site of a former monastery that was taken over by Anabaptists in the 1530s.  The day will end in Leeuwarden at the Mennonite hidden church, where we enjoy a tour of the church and dinner with members of the congregation. Overnight in Leeuwarden.	Leeuwarden Leonardo Hotel Oranje Stationsweg 4, 8911 AG Leeuwarden, Niederlande 1 night
Day 5 Wed May 13	Leeuwarden to Emden	Free morning in Leeuwarden. Travel to Emden, East Frisia for afternoon visit of Johannes a Lasco Library. Meet Dr. Voss for archival tour. Visit of the Emden Mennonite church, the oldest Mennonite church in Germany, dating from 1530. Late afternoon check in at hotel; dinner (arranged).	Emden B&B Hotel Neutor Arkaden Neutorstraße 37, 26721 Emden 2 nights

Day 6 Thu May 14	Emden – Norden – Leer - Emden	Morning visit of Norden and its Mennonite church and sites with Pastor Martin Kaminski. Lunch in Norden. Afternoon visit of Leer and its Mennonite church. Dinner in the old port of Leer. Return to Emden for the night. 	Emden B&B Hotel
Day 7 Fri May 15	Emden – Neustadt - Hamburg	Visit of Neustadt-Gödens, a city settled almost entirely by Mennonite refugees from the Low Countries. Historian Stephan Horschitz will guide us through the Landrichterhaus, its Mennonite Museum. Lunch in Neustadt-Gödens, possibly at the café in the former Mennonite church. Travel to Hamburg for overnight. 	Hamburg NH Altona Stresemannstraße 363-369, 22761 Hamburg 2 nights
Day 8 Sat May 16	Hamburg	 AM City tour (2 hours), followed by a 1 hour harbour cruise. Free time, or possible excursion to the Auswanderermuseum in the afternoon. Dinner (arranged, e.g. Elbspeicher) and overnight in Hamburg.	Hamburg NH Altona
Day 9 Sun May 17	Hamburg - Lübeck	 Morning church service at the Altona Mennonite Church, church schedule permitting. Lunch (on own) in Hamburg. Afternoon departure for Menno Kate in Bad Oldesloe and visit of Menno Simon's grave. Dinner (arranged) and overnight in Lübeck.	Lübeck Intercity Hotel Konrad-Adenauer-Str. 1a, 23558 Lübeck 2 nights

Day 10 Mon May 18	Lübeck	 Morning guided walking tour of Luebeck, the city at the centre of the Hanseatic league, renowned for its architecture. While Menno Simons had a discussion here with other church leaders in 1546 and Mennonites had a presence here until 1700, there were never more than 7 Mennonite families here. The current congregation dates from 1950 and consists of postwar refugees from Danzig. *** service of German bus ends tonight with arrival back at the hotel	Lübeck Intercity Hotel
Day 11 Tue May 19	Lübeck to Szczecin	Pick up by Polish bus after breakfast.  Day of travel to Szczecin, Poland, stops and breaks en route to be decided. On arrival in Szczecin, meet your Polish guide (possibly Ewa Hainrych). Dinner (arranged) in the old town.	Szczecin Hotel Ibis Panienska 10, 70 535 Szczecin 1 night
Day 12 Wed May 20	Szczecin to Gdansk	Early departure for Gdansk. On arrival, enjoy a city tour and visit the former Mennonite church, the old town and the Maritime Museum. Dinner on own, overnight in Gdansk 	Gdansk Hotel Number One Jaglana 4, 80-749 Gdańsk, PL 3 nights
Day 13 Thu May 21	Gdansk / Vistula Delta	Vistula Delta: Tour Żuławy Wiślane Mennonite settlements and cemeteries (Fürstenwerder, Vogtei, Tiegenhof, (pre-arranged lunch), Tiege, Mierau, Schönsee, Schönhorst, Palschau or others as family backgrounds of participants dictate) 	Gdansk Hotel Number One

Day 14 Fri May 22	Gdansk / Malbork	 Visit of the massive castle of the Teutonic Knights at Marienburg. Within sight of the castle is a cluster of Mennonite villages, and we will visit a number of them, including their church sites and cemeteries, at Bärwalde, Ladekopp, Tiegenhagen, Orloff, and Neu-Muensterberg. Return to Danzig for a farewell dinner (arranged).	Gdansk Hotel Number One
Day 15 Sat May 23	Gdansk / Elbing Flight to Amsterdam	 After breakfast, board bus (<i>*** please remember to load your luggage onto the coach and take all your belongings with you, as you will not return to the hotel later in the day</i>). Morning visit of old Mennonite church building in Elbing, dating back to 1590, and the later Mennonite church, now Polish Catholic. Visit villages in the vicinity, especially those in the Klein Werder: Thiensdorf, Marcushof and Preussisch Rosengart Mennonite Churches. Transfer to Gdansk Airport to arrive at 4:00 p.m. for 6:15 pm departure for Amsterdam KL1308Y Transfer to hotel near Schiphol airport by local bus	Amsterdam IBIS Schiphol Amsterdam Airport Schipholweg 181 1171 PK Badhoevedorp 1 night
Day 16 Sun May 24	AMS - Winnipeg	Breakfast at hotel, transfer to Schiphol airport by chartered bus. Departure from Amsterdam airport at 12:35 pm on flight AC 901 for YUL	
Return Day Sun May 24		AC 901 24 May Amsterdam/Montréal Departure 12:35 p.m. Arrival 2:00 p.m. AC375 24 May Montreal/Winnipeg Departure 6:15 p.m. Arrival 8:19 p.m.	Air Canada

TIPS FOR TOURISTS

1. Passports: Be sure that your passport is valid for at least six months past the date of our return home. Take a picture of the first page of your passport, the data page, with you in case of loss or theft. Be sure the name on your ticket is exactly the same as the one on your passport.
2. Currency: Euro in the Netherlands and Germany (exchange rate: 1 EUR = \$1.63 CAD)
Zloty in Poland (exchange rate: 1 Zloty = 0.38 CAD)
3. Average May temperature in the Netherlands: 12-18° C
Average May temperature in Northern Germany: 9-18° C
Average May temperature in Gdansk, Poland: 9-16° C
4. Voltage 220-240 volts
5. Tipping: People don't tip in general, but round a bill up in the Netherlands and Germany. In Poland, you should tip about 10% in a restaurant, or you can leave a 10 or 20 PLN banknote in cash.
6. Bottled water is not necessary in the Netherlands and Germany. In Poland, the water is safe, but not always tasty.
7. Languages spoken: Dutch, German and Polish. Most people speak a passable English.
8. Beware of pickpockets, especially in big cities.
9. Personal exemption returning home: \$800 of goods per person