Borrowing from Italy ...

Logistics and Couriers: *To know is to manage*

Antonio Addari
Most of the Italian Museums are located in Historic Buildings, City Centers or Medieval Towns

As a result of this LOGISTIC is a big issue!

Traffic restrictions, architectural barriers, events will affect your budget, schedule, insurance.
Roma
Galleria Corsini
Milano
Pinacoteca di Brera
Venezia
Gallerie dell'Accademia
How logistic problems are affecting the schedule?

• Most of the operations can only be done at night or early morning

• Often you need to use the closing day of the museum

• You have also to consider religious events, weekly markets, political meetings, demonstrations etc
ITALIA: A User's Manual for Lending and Borrowing Art Works
ARCS Inaugural Conference - Chicago, IL - Oct. 31st Nov. 3rd 2013
Lipari, Sicily
Museo Archeologico
How logistic problems are affecting the budget?

- Most of the operations can only be done at night or early morning or special days
- It is often required the use of cranes and extra labour
- It is often required the use of smaller van or other mean of transport to deliver to big trucks parked nearer
Roma, Galleria Borghese

Tarquinia
Museo Etrusco
How logistic problems are affecting the insurance/indemnity?

- Sometimes you have to use "unconventional" means of transport, maybe only for a short ride.
- You cannot always use the required packing specifications.
- You cannot always schedule the transport to avoid night storage or overnight stay.
The task of the courier is to supervise the packing and transport of the artworks to be shipped on behalf of the lending institution ...

The real need to watch over the artworks at all times whilst in transit it is often debated. Some institutions insist that the courier is always with the loans on the truck or follow car and on the same flight ... for other institutions it is enough instead that the courier supervise packing, unpacking and installation ...

*The final choice about the procedure to be followed is obviously at the discretion of the Director of the lending museum.*

... *where is the truck?*
Even if this can give some issues with insurance and indemnity, it has though some positive side effects:

- More flexible shipping schedules
- Easier to combine transports and shipments
- Less follow cars
- Possible cheaper air-tickets
“As the transit of an artwork can be subject to sudden and unexpected changes, the courier should never be in a position to look after any other person than himself and the artwork”

... but it is not always so!
Per-diem...

There are no precise rules about the per-diem and each institution can make a different request. Normally it is a bit higher than the international standards varying from 100 to 150 euros per day. Some institutions refer to a ministerial decree for public officers traveling abroad for service and this can be even higher than this.

*Check the loan agreement before signing it ... at that stage you can still discuss this!*
To know is to manage ...

It is important to know all these issues in advance in order to work on them with the lender and agent ... To know is to manage.

Try to get as much information as possible from the lenders and agents about the logistic problems of the museum site and how they are planning to overcome these problems. The worst situation comes when these problems are not fully considered.

Check the loan agreement before signing it and discuss in advance with the lender any issue that can make the transit easier and smoother.
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