



Doce Iglesias

TWELVE CHURCHES

**Mission Teams
León, Nicaragua
Information Packet**

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Chris Smith, Executive Servant of Twelve Churches----- 850-251-8939
chris@twelvechurches.org

Scarlet Smith, Team Host for Twelve Churches----- 850-528-2479
scarletsmith@comcast.net

The team leader for the trip you are interested in will give you their contact information.

Be sure to visit the Twelve Churches website--- <http://www.twelvechurches.org>

WHAT TO DO FIRST

1. Talk with the team leader and obtain information.
2. Read through this packet for specific information on your team and what will be expected.
3. **Pray.** God has called us all to love Him and love His people. What will be your role in this? Be prepared to hear God speak. Act on what He says!
4. Fill out the Mission Trip Application and turn it in ASAP to the Team Leader for the trip you have chosen. The sooner you turn in the application the sooner you can get started preparing!
5. You also need to make sure to start the vaccinations and passport process as soon as possible.
6. **You must make every effort to attend all team trainings/meetings and fundraisers as it is vital to your preparation and for the unity of the team.**

TEAM MEMBER SAMPLE BUDGET

Team leader may adjust prices according to fluctuations in airline tickets. Expenses for your team's ministry supplies are not included.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Airfare to and from Nicaragua | _____ |
| Travel Insurance | _____ |
| Baggage Fees | \$ 35.00 |
| *Twelve Churches fee | \$750.00 |
| Entrance fee at Managua airport | \$ 10.00 |
| Friday lunch | \$ 10.00 |
| Friday dinner | \$ 15.00 |
| Cultural Activity | \$ 20.00 |
| Hotel on Friday Night-Managua | \$ 50.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 50.00 |

* In Leon, your Twelve Churches fee covers lodging (sheets and towels provided), air conditioning, three meals a day, (plus one dinner at a local café on the Pacific Ocean), translators, transportation, and purified water.

Supplies and funding for the week's ministry are the responsibility of the team.
Examples: food for prayer walk bags, VBS supplies, construction materials

Additional Costs

**The costs listed below are the responsibility of individual team members.
Cost vary according to the situation and age so check the website listed under passport information. In general:**

Passport- adults: \$135 Processing fee \$35

Vaccines- Varies depending on individual needs and their doctors.

FUNDRAISING

-\$300 deposit due with application.

- This is your own personal, financial contribution to the mission and is non-refundable
- Writing letters to family, friends, and church members —this will be your main source of personal fundraising.
- The team will be having fundraising events coordinated for the Team Project supplies and materials. Everyone is expected to participate.
- Team Leaders may have additional fundraising events to help with Team expenses.
- The individual team member is responsible for the finances for their trip.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE MONEY

1. Make copies of the Mission Trip Contributions Form (included in this packet).
2. Write letters to family and friends and begin fundraising efforts.
3. Contributors should make checks payable to your church or group, put “Nicaragua Mission” in the memo line and mail or give them to you. They **SHOULD NOT** put your name anywhere on the check (if they do this, they will not be able to count it towards their tax exemption). We suggest they attach a post-it note or note with the check saying who the contribution is for.
4. As you collect money, please record it on the Mission Trip Contribution Form. **Do not turn money in to the church office. It must first go through your Team Leader** so that they can keep an accurate record. They will turn the money into the church office for you.
5. Remember to write thank you notes to your contributors using the addresses collected on your Mission Trip Contribution Form.
6. The Team Leader will keep track of the money you turn in.
7. Your team leader will distribute a schedule for turning in the additional money.

VACCINATIONS

Vaccine recommendations are based on the best available risk information. Please note that the level of risk for vaccine-preventable diseases can change at any time. Ask your doctor or go to a travel clinic to receive your vaccines.

| Vaccination or Disease | Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases |
|--|---|
| <u>Routine</u> | Recommended if you are not up-to-date with routine shots such as, measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) vaccine, poliovirus vaccine, etc. Please be especially cautious that your tetanus is current. |
| <u>Hepatitis A</u> or immune globulin (IG) | Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in countries with an intermediate or high level of hepatitis A virus infection (see map) where exposure might occur through food or water. Cases of travel-related hepatitis A can also occur in travelers to developing countries with "standard" tourist itineraries, accommodations, and food consumption behaviors. |
| <u>Hepatitis B</u> | Recommended for all unvaccinated persons traveling to or working in countries with intermediate to high levels of endemic HBV transmission (see map), especially those who might be exposed to blood or body fluids, have sexual contact with the local population, or be exposed through medical treatment (e.g., for an accident). |
| <u>Typhoid</u> | Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in Mexico and Central America, especially if visiting smaller cities, villages, or rural areas and staying with friends or relatives where exposure might occur through food or water. ----Note: the typhoid vaccine is four pills that need refrigeration. |

COVID Vaccines - Recommended

MALARIA - a preventative medication not a vaccine.

Areas of Nicaragua with Malaria: Present in rural areas.

If you will be visiting an area of Nicaragua with malaria, you will need to discuss with your doctor the best ways for you to avoid getting sick with malaria. Ways to prevent malaria include the following:

- Taking a prescription antimalarial drug
- Using insect repellent and wearing long pants and sleeves to prevent mosquito bites
- Sleeping in air-conditioned or well-screened rooms or using bednets

Primaquine is the preferred antimalarial drug (only after G6PD testing) in Nicaragua. Atovaquone/proguanil, chloroquine, doxycycline, and mefloquine are alternative choices. For information that can help you and your doctor decide which of these drugs would be best for you, please see [Drugs to Prevent Malaria](#) on the CDC website.

To find out more information on malaria throughout the world, you can use the [interactive CDC malaria map](#) on the CDC website. You can search or browse countries, cities, and place names for more specific malaria risk information and the recommended prevention medicines for that area.

ZIKA VIRUS

Local mosquito transmission of [Zika](#) virus infection (Zika) has been reported in Nicaragua. Local mosquito transmission means that mosquitoes in the area are infected with Zika virus and are spreading it to people. Most people infected with Zika virus do not get sick. Among those who develop symptoms, sickness is usually mild, with symptoms that last for several days to a week. Pregnant women are advised not to travel to areas with Zika.

Ways to prevent contracting Zika include the following:

- Using insect repellent and wearing long pants/sleeves to prevent mosquito bites
- Sleeping in air-conditioned or well-screened rooms or using bed nets

DENGUE FEVER & CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS

These are viruses transmitted to people by mosquitoes. The most common symptoms are fever and joint pain. The only way to prevent the contraction of these viruses is to protect from mosquito bites.

Ways to prevent contracting Dengue or Chikungunya include the following:

- Using insect repellent and wearing long pants/sleeves to prevent mosquito bites
- Sleeping in air-conditioned or well-screened rooms or using bed nets

PASSPORTS

www.travel.state.gov

The Passport Services Office provides information and services to American citizens about how to obtain, replace or change a passport.

A passport is an internationally recognized travel document that verifies the identity and nationality of the bearer. A valid U.S. passport is required to enter and leave most foreign countries. Only the U.S. Department of State has the authority to grant, issue or verify United States passports.

New Application for a U.S. Passport

To obtain a passport for the first time, you need to go in person to one of 7,000 passport acceptance facilities located throughout the United States with two photographs of yourself, proof of U.S. citizenship, and a valid form of photo identification such as a driver's license. **You can download the application from the website.**

Acceptance facilities include many Federal, state and probate courts, post offices, some public libraries and a number of county and municipal offices. There are also 13 regional passport agencies, and 1 Gateway City Agency, which serve customers who are traveling within 2 weeks (14 days), or who need foreign visas for travel. Appointments are required in such cases.

You'll need to apply in person if you are applying for a U.S. passport for the first time: if your expired U.S. passport is not in your possession; if your previous U.S. passport has expired and was issued more than 15 years ago; if your previous U.S. passport was issued when you were under age 16; or if your currently valid U.S. passport has been lost or stolen.

The cost for a new passport is \$130.00. An additional nonrefundable processing fee of \$35.00 is required.

Renewal of a U.S. Passport

You can renew by mail if: Your most recent passport is available to submit and it is not damaged; you received the passport within the past 15 years; you were over age 16 when it was issued; you still have the same name, or can legally document your name change.

You can get a passport renewal application form by downloading it from this site. If your passport has been, altered or damaged, you cannot apply by mail. You must apply in person.

The cost for renewing your passport is \$130.00.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Hotel Camino Real Managua, Nicaragua

www.caminoreal.com.ni

Center for Disease Control and Prevention:

<http://www.cdc.gov> Go to the travel page information for Nicaragua.

Passports:

<http://travel.state.gov>

Safety in Nicaragua:

<http://travel.state.gov> look under international travel for Nicaragua

U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua:

located at Km 5 ½ C. Sur Managua, Nicaragua, at 011-505-2252-7100, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The American Citizen Services unit is also available by email during regular business hours, 7:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:15 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Friday, at ACS.Managua@state.gov.

A TYPICAL WEEK IN NICARAGUA

Teams are usually scheduled from Saturday to Saturday.

Saturday- Flights from the US into Augusto C. Sandino International Airport in Managua arrive from lunch through early evening. After you claim your luggage and clear customs you will be met by a trusted driver and translator with transportation to Leon (2 hour drive). You will be staying at Hotel Phoenicia while in Leon.

Sunday- attending/serving at a local church and preparing for the week's ministry.

Monday through Thursday- team ministry is determined by the team considering their gifts, yet strategically coordinated to build on the ministry of previous teams and the needs of the partner churches.

Friday- after breakfast, teams depart for their cultural awareness day. Potential tour sites include Masaya Volcano National Park, Cerro Negro Volcano, Juan Venado Island, or Leon tours. Shopping for local crafts at Masaya Market or Leon is often included in the day's events.

Friday night is in Managua- You will be staying at a hotel, Camino Real, which is three minutes from the airport and offers a continental breakfast and transportation to the airport as part of their package for a double room. The team banquet will be held in a private room

Saturday- depart for USA.



Attention Team Members,

Carefully read the following list of principles and expectations and discuss them with the team leader and other team members for full understanding. If you are willing to make a commitment to this mission trip or project, sign the covenant as a pledge of your commitment and turn in to your team leader.

While participating in this mission trip or project, I will seek to demonstrate my love for Christ and others by agreeing to.

1. **Represent Christ in a way that will build others up.** I will refrain from activities that may be considered inappropriate in some cultures (e.g., tobacco products, alcohol, gambling, profanity).
2. **Maintain a safe environment for my fellow team members.** I will not do anything that would potentially jeopardize the safety of the team or any member.
3. **Work to the best of my ability.** I am excited about demonstrating my love for Christ by ministering and working hard for the duration of this mission trip or project.
4. **Follow the mission trip or project schedule.** I understand that I must remain flexible because schedules often change. I also understand that any schedule changes must be made by or approved by the team leader or our hosts.
5. **Stay in the designated mission trip area.** I agree to always stay with the team. I understand that I cannot leave the ministry site or lodging areas without permission from the team leader.
6. **Respect the privacy of others.** I understand that the possessions of others must not be tampered with or taken. I will respect the lights out time each night. I will also respect others quiet time with the Lord.
7. **Maintain a clean environment.** I will do my best to keep all areas of the church, work location, and lodging areas clean and free of litter. I will respect the property and grounds serving as my home away from home. I understand that any property damage caused by me will be my responsibility.
8. **Demonstrate a Christ-like spirit.** My attitude will be like that of Jesus (Phil. 2:5). I will love those with whom I work and those around me throughout the mission trip or project. As Christ did, I will strengthen myself daily with prayer and quiet time.
9. **Be aware of my witness 24 hours a day.** I understand my attitude at restaurants, at my lodging site, or during free time is just as important as when I am “doing my mission assignment.” I will serve with this maxim in mind: “Do no harm.”
10. **Share my faith.** I will come prepared to share my personal testimony and faith with others as the opportunity arises.

I have read and understood these principles and expectations for the mission trip or project and agree to follow them.

Signed: _____ Date

