

Introduction to Team Honduras

Team Honduras is made up of families seeking to plant independent, indigenous Baptist churches in the country of Honduras with the purpose of reaching the people of Honduras with the gospel of Jesus Christ through the ministries of the local church. The ministries of Team Honduras currently involve: church-planting, visitation, discipleship, men's and women's Bible study, youth ministry, and Bible clubs for children. Our vision is to eventually see more couples join the team in an effort to start a Christian school, a Bible institute, and an orphanage in order to make a greater impact for the cause of Christ.



Team Honduras currently consists of three families: Robbie and Christine Ellis and their daughter, Claire; Matt and Dallita Goins, along with their 3 boys; and the newest members, Nathan and Jennifer Massey and their daughter, Amaris.

Visit www.teamhonduras.com to see the latest information about Team Honduras.

Location:

We are currently working in the city of El Progreso, Yoro, with an estimated population of 180,000 people.

Contact Information:

Please feel free to contact us before your trip regarding any questions you may have. Leave this information with your family to use for emergency contact purposes while you are in Honduras.

Ellis family

Home phone: 919-647-9552 (U.S. based phone number) or 011-504-647-1444

Cell phone: 011-504-3389-9484

Email: robbie@teamhonduras.com, christine@teamhonduras.com

Goins family

Home Phone: 484-685-3239 (U.S. based phone number)

Cell phone: 011-504-3389-9509

Email: goinsfamily@teamhonduras.com

Recommended Vaccinations:

See the following site: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationHonduras.aspx>

Cost Estimates (in country)

Lodging: Hotel Plaza Victoria, El Progreso, Honduras

Front Desk: 011-504-647-2150 or 011-504-647-0222

The Hotel Plaza Victoria, located in downtown El Progreso, is a clean, safe, and reasonably priced hotel. Each room has air conditioning, television, clean bed linens, towel and washcloth, and “limited” hot water (limited to the capacity of the hot water heater versus the number of guests who have showered before you).

Pricing per room: (as of January 2008)

Price for 4 person room L. 680 = about \$36 (old room) – not available in new room

Price for 3 person room L. 580 = about \$31 (old room) L. 680 = about \$36 (new room)

Price for 2 person room L. 480 = about \$26 (old room) L. 551 = about \$30 (new room)

Price for 1 person room L. 410 = about \$22 (old room) L. 450 = about \$24 (new room)

Food:

Food preparation will depend on the size of your group. Plan on approximately \$15 per person per day during your stay in Honduras as a general estimate. Breakfast will be eaten each day at the hotel or at a local establishment. Lunch and dinner will either be eaten out at local restaurants or prepared at the homes of the missionaries.

Transportation:

We will give you an actual cost of transportation at the end of your stay, but plan on paying at least \$300 for transportation costs per week in country for the entire group.

Miscellaneous:

Team Honduras t-shirts are available at \$10 per person. The shirts will be provided upon your arrival in the country. Please contact Matt Goins regarding sizes needed that are greater than XL at least a month in advance or they may not be available.

Optional: We will be taking opportunities to use internet facilities to send emails and make calls to the U.S. Be sure to bring phone numbers and email addresses of the people you would like to contact while you are here. Plan on paying about \$.10 a minute for a call to the U.S., and about \$.80 per half hour on the computer. You will also have the opportunity to buy souvenirs.

What Should I Bring?

As a missions team to Honduras, you represent both the Lord Jesus and our ministry. You will be in a position of leadership; therefore, we ask that you abide by our team's standards of dress and conduct while you are here, though they may differ from your own personal convictions.

1. Clothing

a. Girls

- **Church dress** – casual, knee-length dresses (or nice skirt and top) and sandals for church
- **Casual dress** – casual, knee-length skirts (like denim and khaki)
- **Activity dress** – culottes or knee-length, loose-fitting walking shorts (athletic type is acceptable for Bible clubs, etc.)
- **Work dress** – clothing that can get very dirty or stained
- All clothing must be loose-fitting and modest; tops may not have straps or show the midriff or back. No pants or mini-skirts.

b. Guys

- **Church dress** - collared, button-up shirts and pants (nice-looking khakis are fine, tie is optional except for speaker) with nice shoes
- **Casual dress** - nice-looking T-shirts, jeans, and tennis shoes for everyday (no questionable slogans or pictures, holes or stains, or extremely baggy pants);
- **Activity dress** – athletic pants with nice T-shirt
- **Work dress** – clothing that can get very dirty or stained

c. All

- You will want clothing made of lightweight, cool material; it is extremely hot here.
- All clothing (excluding work clothes) must look clean and neat.

2. Bible, notebook/journal, and pen

3. Toiletries

Don't forget:

- a good pair of sandals (girls) or tennis shoes (guys)
- hand sanitizer (requiring no water)
- email addresses or phone numbers of people to contact
- pocket calculator
- pocket tissues
- flashlight
- spending money
- flip-flops
- sunscreen
- sunglasses
- insect repellent
- camera and film
- Imodium A-D
- \$32.50 departure tax

NOT recommended: (these things will make you a target)

- expensive or flashy jewelry or watches
- expensive or dressy clothing – you want to appear inconspicuous
- electronic equipment – MP3 players, computers, game systems

Six S.A.F.E.T.Y. tips to make your mission trip worthwhile

A mission trip is not a vacation, but can be just as enjoyable. You will have the unique opportunity of making an impact in the lives of people of another culture and language. Although there is a language barrier, you can be actively involved with the people with your attitude and your smile. Here are six tips to help make your mission trip worthwhile:

Be Spiritual: A mission trip is for those who have a desire to serve the Lord. We expect that each member of the group have a personal, consistent devotional time before the scheduled trip, and that this practice continue during your time here.

Be Available: Look for ways to help the missionaries. There will be many opportunities to be a help, such as: prepare and clean up after meals, distribute snacks during Bible clubs, set up for church services, etc. Make yourself available to help and be willing to do what you are asked to do.

Be Flexible: A missionary's life is all about flexibility. There are times when schedules will change, and you may encounter things that you are not accustomed to (power outages, lack of water, cold shower, etc.). Please try to understand and adjust.

Be an Example: The Hondurans, Christians and non-Christians, have a deep respect for the people from the United States. You will be observed the entire time that you are here. We expect each visiting group to be separated and above reproach in their conduct and personal appearance.

Be on Time: We are trying to set a good example to the people of Honduras in the area of time management, so we ask that you be on time to the scheduled activities. Tardiness could cause a chain reaction in the times of the events scheduled for the rest of the day.

Be Yielded: We kindly ask that each person comply with our requests while they are here in Honduras as our guests.

- We ask that each person abide by our dress standards at every moment that they are outside of their hotel *room*.
- We ask that the men not be present in the women's rooms or vice-versa, except for the instance of a group devotional where all are present.
- We ask that there be no private interaction between dating couples while they are in the country. Include everyone in your social interaction.
- We ask that there be no physical contact between men and women who are not married.

Thank you for your sacrifice of personal time and finances in order to make this trip. We trust that you will enjoy your stay and that your life will be forever impacted for the cause of Christ by what you see and do during your stay in Honduras.

Interesting Facts of Honduras

- Honduras, one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere, has a population of approximately 6.8 million people, with the predominant language being Spanish.
- Honduras is slightly larger in land area than the state of Tennessee, and is bordered by Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador in Central America.
- Central America was home to the first great civilization of the Western Hemisphere -- the Mayan Empire.
- Honduras was claimed for Spain by Christopher Columbus in 1502; he named it Honduras (meaning "depths") because of the deep water off the coast.
- Roman Catholicism is professed by 97% of the people of Honduras.
- Approximately 90% of the population is mestizo -- a mixture of European and Native American descent. There exist several indigenous Indian tribes that still live in Honduras, and also a population of approximately 90,000 Garifuna, shipwrecked slaves who settled along the north coast of Honduras.
- From the time of its independence from Spain in 1821, Honduras had a military dictatorship, until a freely elected civilian government came to power in 1982.
- Honduras' main industries are: sugar, coffee, textiles, clothing, and wood products.
- The chief exports of Honduras are: coffee, bananas, shrimp, lobster, and lumber; their primary trading partner is the United States.
- Honduras consists of mountainous terrain with temperate climate and narrow coastal plains with a subtropical climate.
- The Honduran currency is the lempira. The current exchange rate is approximately 18.80 lempiras for 1 U.S. dollar. (2009).



Our goal is to plant independent, indigenous Baptist churches so that the people of Honduras will be reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

