

Short Term Missions Trip Guidelines for Guatemala City, Guatemala

(Revised December 2010)


1. Please prepare and send a list of all team members grouped (single, double or triple) as they desire to stay in the hotel. Please specify who is the team leader, this will be the person we will stay in communication with prior to the trip. Their names must be complete and as they appear on their passports. Please expand on the list of all team members by adding their e-mail address, sex, age, relationship with their roommate, include their mission experience, and any special talents that may be used on the mission field like speaking Spanish, preaching, music, paint board presentations, working with youth or children. Please also include any special needs anyone may have, handicaps, or any kind of difficulties. You may prepare this in table form or written out. **Please be sure we have this information at least 6 weeks prior to the trip.** This gives us the necessary time to make all the proper arrangements for the best possible experience for your trip.

We need: Rooming specifications, Full Names, e-mail address, sex, age, relationship with roommate, mission experience, special talents, and special needs.

2. Every team arranges for their own transportation itinerary and cost. We need the detailed flight information both for arrival and departure for all team members as soon as that is available. You will be flying into the Guatemala Capital City airport: GUA. As of present time there is no charge for a North Americans entering Guatemala on a tourist visa, however this can change without notice.

We need: your complete itinerary

3. You will be staying at the Hotel Biltmore Express. It is located at 15 Calle 0-31 Zona 10, 01010 Guatemala, Guatemala CA. Their phone number is 011-502-2410-5000, they also have a fax line at 011-502-2410-5005. **The hotel prices run as follows: a single: \$69.00 per night, a double: \$75.00 per night, and a triple: \$98.00 per night.** This price includes the 22% tax and a very nice buffet breakfast. The hotel also provides airport transportation every 30 minutes for both your arrival and departure. You will look for a white van with the name of the Hotel Westin El Camino Real/Biltmore Express painted on the side.

 Every team member will additionally need money for their lunch and dinner meals and any extra costs they might run into like souvenirs or phone calls. Food runs about the same cost in Guatemala as it does in the states. A fast food meal is about \$6, a restaurant meal can be anywhere from \$8-\$15 per meal. You may need an additional \$10.00 for an entry visa and will definitely need \$30.00 to pay exiting taxes from the country when you return to the United States. The hotel also has internet, swimming pool and gym facilities, these unfortunately are not free, each run about \$10 per day if any guest desires to utilize these facilities.

4. Every team member helps to cover the cost of the logistics for the week. This is **\$250.00 per person.** This money needs to be carried to Guatemala in cash US Dollars and will be collected during the initial orientation meeting. Please place \$250.00 cash into an envelope and write the name of the team member and the team name (usually a church) on the outside of the envelope. This will cover each team member's gospel tracts, Bible literature, evangelistic stickers, vehicles, gas, transportation, drivers, translators, permissions, fees and other infrastructure materials and logistics that will be needed and used during the mission trip week or are related to the work in Guatemala. For clarification, if your team is of 10 people, you will bring a total of \$2,500.00 to cover the cost for your team.

5. Every team member also needs to come supplied with hand sanitizer, a flash light, a hat, sun block, insect repellent, pain reliever, anti-itch cream, Imodium in case of diarrhea, an intestinal infection antibiotic (Cipro is the best), anti allergy medication if they have allergies, and a poncho or umbrella (during the rainy season: May through October trips).

We would also ask that each team member bring one 5 (five) pound bag of their very favorite yummy individually wrapped US candy (Sam's, Costco, Wal-Mart, Target), any variety will be fine, and give that to Steve Kern during orientation with the \$250.00 per person. This will be used in conjunction with all ministries to children and youth. It is also *recommended* when traveling to Central America that every team member also be current on their Tetanus vaccine and have received both the Hepatitis A and B series of vaccines.

6. Regarding dress and clothing we recommend light weight, comfortable, modest, cotton clothing and comfortable closed shoes. The weather in Guatemala is warm and comfortable all year around. It is referred to by Guatemalans as "Eternal Spring". It does get quite cool at night so please bring a light jacket, sweater, or sweat shirt. No suits, jackets or ties are necessary for the men for any reason. Ladies may wear pants, capris, skirts or dresses. No shorts are allowed for any ministry activity for men or women but may be used during any down time. At a cost, the hotel has a pool and work out room so you may want to come prepared to use those facilities if you wish.

You need to bring all of the following:

<i>\$250 per person</i>	<i>light weight comfortable clothes</i>	<i>a jacket</i>	
<i>A 5 (five) pound bag of candy</i>	<i>Sun block</i>		<i>insect repellent</i>
<i>Pain reliever</i>	<i>Insect bite cream</i>	<i>Imodium</i>	
<i>Hand Sanitizer</i>	<i>Flashlight</i>		<i>Hat</i>

Poncho or Umbrella (May to October) Money for meals, souvenirs, and phone calls etc.

7. Please hold periodic meetings with your team members with the goal of spending time in prayer for the trip and to also do training and practicing in personal evangelism. Please be sure each team member can confidently and effectively share the gospel using Bible verses, something like the Roman Road is good, be able to lead a person to Christ in prayer, counsel them with basic Christian growth follow up for a new believer and address common reasons for not receiving Christ as Savior. Please also be sure each team member is able to effectively share their salvation testimony, their experience in coming to know Christ personally. It is helpful for them to think this through and possibly even have it written prior to the mission trip (Include History/Heritage, Heroes, High points, Hard times, and the Hand of God in their life.)

8. Contact numbers:

Steve Kern's home phone in El Salvador – 011-503-2246-4757

Steve's Cell phone in El Salvador – 011-503-7899-2923

Iglesia Bautista Vida Nueva in El Salvador – 011-503-2274-8575

Steve Kern Home Broad Band Internet phone with USA area code 1- 205-683-4033

Steve Kern E-mail: gnaies@telesal.net or steven_kern@hotmail.com

Hotel Biltmore Express in Guatemala 011-502-2410-5000

Hotel Biltmore Express FAX in Guatemala 011-502-2410-5005

KAREN DE POLANCO GERENTE DE CUENTA CORPORATIVO or Lleimy de Callejas, Group Coordinator.

HOTEL BILTMORE EXPRESS GUATEMALA

15 CALLE 0-34 ZONA 10, GUATEMALA

TEL (502) 2410.5041 EXT. 5772 FAX (502) 2368.3687 CELULAR 5510.8330 , (502) 5513-8286

Nelson Rivas in Guatemala 011-502-4069-7302 or nelson_rivas@hotmail.com

Nelson Rivas BlackBerry PIN: 231DB3E8

We are looking forward to seeing you on a future trip to Guatemala.

May God Bless you!