

Short Term Missions Trip Guidelines for Managua, Nicaragua

(Updated April 2011)


1. Please prepare and send a list of all team members grouped (single, double, triple, or quadruple) 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, sports, working with youth or children. Please also include any special needs anyone may have, handicaps, medical concerns or any kind of difficulties. **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 and get guaranteed prices for your accommodations.

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 Managua, Nicaragua airport (Aeropuerto Internacional Augusto C. Sandino) "MGA". North Americans enter Nicaragua on a tourist visa; the cost for this is \$10.00 per person which you have to have on hand exactly when you go through immigration. You must go through immigration individually rather than as a group.

We need: your complete itinerary

3. Regarding the hotel: You will be staying at the "Hotel Estrella" located in the heart of Managua 200 meters from the Rubenia neighborhood where Vida Nueva Managua meets. Their phone number is 011-505-2289-7010, or 011-505-8886-5352. Their fax number is 011-505-2289-7104. Their web site is: <http://www.hotelestrella.com.ni>) click on "English" to enter the site. **The hotel charges the following prices for their rooms: Single: \$53.82, Double: \$64.64, Triple: \$77.62, and Quadruple: \$98.32.** These hotel prices include all taxes, an adequate typical buffet breakfast (eggs, beans & rice, plantains, sausage, & toast, sometimes they have fruit in season) every morning and a discount we are given as a church group. The rooms are adequate with hot water shower, A/C, cable TV, and wireless internet. The hotel also has a very nice swimming pool. The hotel can provide airport transportation between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM, if your arrival is outside of that time frame we will arrange your pick up through our pastor/missionary in Managua, Felix Canizález. For large groups we usually rent a bus or large vehicle and provide your transportation regardless of your arrival time.

 Everyone will additionally need money for their lunches and dinners and any extra costs they might run into like bottled water, souvenirs, or phone calls. Lunch will usually be purchased at a local food court where you will find many US fast food options as well as Nicaraguan. Dinner will usually be at the hotel. Food runs about the same cost in Managua as it does in the states. A fast food meal is about \$6, a restaurant meal can be anywhere

between \$8-\$15 per meal. You will need to pay a \$10.00 tourist entry fee when you arrive. You may need an additional \$30 to pay exiting taxes from the country when you depart for the United States.

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 Managua in cash US Dollars and will be collected during the initial orientation meeting. Please place \$250.00 per person in cash into an envelope or individual envelopes and write the name of the team member and the team name (usually a church) on the outside of the envelope. This will help cover all costs related to the team'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 Nicaragua. 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 please 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 related 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 Nicaragua is very hot and humid. 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. The hotel has a pool 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, Cipro</i>
<i>Hand Sanitizer</i>	<i>Flashlight</i>	<i>Hat</i>
<i>Poncho or Umbrella (May to October)</i>	<i>Money for meals, souvenirs, and phone calls etc.</i>	

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 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 El Salvador – 011-503-2246-4757

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

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

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

E-mail: gniaes@telesal.net

Hotel Estrella in Managua, Nicaragua 011-505-2289-7010 or 011-505-8886-5352

Félix Canizález in Managua, Nicaragua 011-505-2278-0491,

Félix Canizález e-mail: vidanuevamanagua@yahoo.com

Iglesia Bautista Vida Nueva Managua Address: De los semáforos de Rubenia una cuadra al lago, dos y media cuadradas arriba mano derecha casa F-19 Colonia Rubenia. Managua, Nicaragua, Tel. 011-505-22895021 or 22890283

**We are looking forward to seeing you on a future trip to Managua Nicaragua.
May God Bless you!**