



Go everywhere in the world and tell the Good News to everyone. . .

Mark 16:15

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Guatemala Mission Team Member. The Walk A Mile Project has a heart for missions – locally & globally – and we invite you to join one of our **Guatemala Mission Trips to Panajachel, Guatemala**. It is our prayer that God will richly bless you as a direct result of your being a part of this mission effort.

Although The Walk A Mile Project was founded in 2016, our family has been blessed to have literally hundreds of folks to join us for many mission trips since 1992. We realize that some of you have never been with us and others have never traveled outside the country. Therefore, the following questions and answers are designed to hopefully be of some help to you as you make preparations for this trip.

What official documents do I need to make this trip? Your passport. Please make one copy to keep on you at all times. If you do not already have a passport, please make this your top priority. Please visit the link below for more information. Keep in mind, routine passport processing can take up to 4-6 weeks (can be expedited for additional fees) therefore, you need to apply immediately.

<http://www.us-passport-service-guide.com/south-carolina-passport-offices.html>

Are any shots mandatory for this mission trip? No. However, we do suggest a person be up to date on his/her tetanus shot. We will be in the central highlands of Guatemala at elevations of six thousand feet or higher, therefore you do not have to worry about the Zika Virus.

How we will be transported while in Guatemala? Rented passenger vans and trucks

What is the name of the town where the mission hotel is located? Panajachel, Guatemala.

How many people will share a bedroom in the mission hotel? There will be a maximum of two people per room with two single beds. Each bedroom has its own bathroom.

Will we be able to take hot showers? Yes. The mission hotel is equipped with a gas water heater that provides ample hot water for all bathroom showers to operate simultaneously. Remember you may have to let it run a few minutes before the water gets warm.

Will we need to take towels, bed linens, pillows, etc.? No. If you want a wash cloth please take it with you. If you ask for one at the hotel you will probably get a hand towel.

What type of meals will we be served? This varies from team to team but basically it will be just like eating at home. Breakfast will consist of pancakes, eggs, bacon, coffee and juice. Lunch is PB&J sandwiches. Dinner is at a local restaurant each night. The cost of the evening meal is your responsibility. The meals cost approximately \$10 depending on what you order and are enough for 2 people unless you are a large eater. You will be asked to bring a jar of peanut butter and a jar of jelly with you. Please put these in your **CHECK IN** baggage.

Do I need to take any snack foods? This is a personal preference but most folks take along various snack cakes, chips, candy, et cetera just in case. Should you not eat all snack foods taken, there are plenty of Guatemalans more than willing to relieve you of them!

Will we be able to eat food from the nationals? No. We will advise you as to where you can eat. A person should **never** eat anything from a street vendor. Cooking food **does not** necessarily cancel the negative physical effect it can have on a person.

Are there other “food” items we should take? It is optional but some people take candy to give away to the nationals whenever we are visiting villages. Many people choose to buy the large bags of individually wrapped candy (i.e, dum dum suckers, bubble gum, etc.) . Again, this is optional.

Will we be able to drink the water? Their water is **not** considered safe to drink. The hotel will have bottle water and you can purchase bottled water in Panajachel.

Will there be a phone at the mission hotel? Yes, the number at the mission hotel is **(011) (502) 7762-0303. (Hotel Utz Rajil) Owner: Marcos Lux (011) (502) 4242-9428.** Remember, during Daylight Savings Time, Guatemala is one hour behind central time and two hours behind eastern time.

Will my cell phone work in Guatemala? Some do but at a very high rate! Please contact your cell provider for more information about cost. Often times, folks take their cell phones in order to place calls from the various airports – going & coming. Again, we assume no liability for any damage or loss of these items. **Hotel does have WI-FI.** Facetime for iPhone users and Skype are available with wi-fi and make video calls back home free and convenient. Please consider downloading these apps prior to departure.

Will we do any sightseeing or shopping? Yes. On Sunday, after church, we will spend the better part of the day in Panajachel eating lunch, shopping and sightseeing. You can take a boat ride on the lake that is very reasonable, about \$5.

Have many people gotten sick on previous mission trips? The Lord has blessed and we have had very little and relatively minor sickness on our previous trips. Frequent washing of the hands and keeping those hands out of your mouth and away from your eyes goes a long way in preventing sickness. **Please Bring Hand Sanitizer!** Also we request you get a prescription of Cipro or Ciprofloxacin and start taking it prior to leaving the US. This assists in preventing the GI upset some people get.

In the event of a major sickness, are doctors available? Yes. There is a wonderful doctor in Panajachel.

What will a typical day be like? We will begin each morning at **6:00AM** with Breakfast & Worship time. We will then go do whatever the Lord has provided for us that day. The evenings in which we do not go into a village will be spent in fellowship and relaxation.

What kind of clothes do I need to bring? You will need to bring light clothing to work in. Remember, it is hot (High 70's) during the day so cotton clothes are nice but certainly not absolutely necessary. Bring a light jacket for cooler nights.

Is it permissible to wear shorts? We ask that you wear modest shorts **only** while around the mission hotel. We have been told by sources we trust that shorts that expose one's thighs offend Guatemalans who live in the villages where we work. We ask folks **not** to wear shorts while traveling to and from Guatemala, you must wear long pants. Again, “modest” (thigh length or longer) is the operative word for shorts worn around the mission hotel. You can not wear short shorts or daisy dukes so please do not bring them.

Will we be able to wash clothes? Yes. The mission hotel can have your clothes washed for you for a minimal fee.

Can I take my camera, video camera, laptop, or other electronic devices? Yes, but please know that we assume no liability for these items. Disposable cameras can be purchased in Guatemala but at a fairly higher cost. Electric converters are not needed in Guatemala. If you choose to bring these items, please avoid bringing a large camera or laptop bag which make it obvious what you are carrying.

How much money do I need to take with me? The money you will need will be for your evening meals and incidentals i.e. soft drinks, bottled water, et cetera. Most souvenirs are relatively inexpensive. Evening meal cost around \$10. It is our suggestion that you prepare to bring \$250-300. Bills need to be NEW \$50 or \$100 bills to exchange! You can change your money at the airport or in town.

How much money do I need to exchange? Often times, folks exchange too much and lose money on changing it back to American dollars. We will have the opportunity to exchange money on more than one occasion, but remember to bring NEW \$50 or \$100 bills!

Trip cost is \$1750. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due upon registration. A payment schedule will be sent to you via email after registration and deposit are received.

What if I am unable to go at the last minute due to illness, injury, etc? Trip Cancellation Insurance is included in the trip cost. Should you be unable to go, contact The Walk A Mile Project immediately for further instructions.

What does the trip fee cover? This covers your airfare, baggage fees, ground transportation while in Guatemala, lodging at the mission hotel, interpreter costs, breakfast & lunch, t-shirt, travel insurance, trip cancellation insurance, and administration fee.

Where/How do I send payments? We have many payment options available to you. Upon trip registration, you will receive an email with the trip payment schedule. You may make your payments by check (make payable to and mail to: The Walk A Mile Project PO Box 400 Pendleton, SC 29670).

How do I raise trip funds? There are many fundraising options available to church groups or individuals (i.e. - car wash, hot dog supper, bake sale, raffles, and auctions, etc.) Once registration is received and upon request, we can provide you with a customizable support letter to send to family and friends. Requesting support on social media accounts is also a great way to raise funds. You can create a Facebook events page where you can share The Walk A Mile Project video from our YouTube channel and information/photos from The Walk A Mile Project's social media accounts. The website listed below can be provided on your support letters, shared to social media, and given to family and friends so that they can make secure, online donations towards your trips. Just make sure to inform them to include your name in the "Sponsored Mission Team Member" box so that the funds will be designated to your account. For questions about fundraising or how to set up a support page via social media, please contact thewamproject@outlook.com www.thewamproject.org <From the home page, click on "Donate", then scroll down to find the "Sponsor a Mission Team Member" link.>

Where do the funds for the ministry portion i.e. building houses, feeding villages, et cetera come from? First, we recognize God as our source and He will provide. Thankfully, He uses people to help meet these ministry needs. If you, your family, your business, your church, Sunday School class, et cetera would like to help that would be a blessing. Here are the following areas of need and the amount of funds needed to complete:

Building a Home : \$500 per home

Feeding a Village : \$700 per village (provides 100 families with a month's supply of food)

Clean Water Filter System : \$50 per family

Medical Clinic: \$500 to provide 50 patients with a bag with soap, a washcloth, eye drops, eye glasses or sunglasses if needed, toothpaste, toothbrush, anti-fungal cream, triple antibiotic cream, hydrocortisone cream, prescription medications if prescribed by physician, over the counter medications if needed, and a gospel booklet in their native language.

Flip flops, shoes, clothing, bookbags, hats, and sunglasses are always needed and collected year round. To schedule a pick up, please contact thewamproject@outlook.com

Is there any insurance provided for this trip? Yes. Each participant is covered through Faith Ventures. Basically, this assures you getting home on a medical jet if you are deemed physically unable to fly on a commercial airline.

Is this trip safe? Obviously, there are inherent dangers involved in any mission trip. We have never had a problem and we take every precaution to prevent problems. However, we cannot guarantee anyone's absolute safety. We cover these trips in prayer and trust the Lord.

What do I need to take on this trip? A great attitude, tons of flexibility, a **Bible**, a pen, a small flashlight (used in the villages), a light jacket, waterless hand cleaner, personal toiletries. Optional – snack foods, mosquito spray (we have seen very few mosquitoes), a hat (sun is hot during midday), sunscreen, candy to be given away.

What do I not need to take on this trip? Excessive or expensive jewelry, more than one (if any) credit cards, your driver's license (unless you will be one of our drivers), any secular music. Please note that our trips are **smoke free** and **alcohol free** whether that is on the planes, in the airport, or at any location while in Guatemala. We very much appreciate your understanding of our position on this matter and your cooperation.

What additional forms do I need to complete? After registration, please complete the Medical Information Form and the Medical/Liability Release Form which are both located under the Mission Trip tab on our website www.thewamproject.org

So, many questions later we hope you have a better idea as to what this mission trip entails. However, we are totally accessible 24/7 as you can reach The Walk A Mile Project at thewamproject@outlook.com or contact Emilee at 864-221-9963. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance or answer any other question for you. Please join us in covering this trip with prayer. Again, thanks for partnering with us in missions!

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