

Each team member should bring their own durable water bottle to refill.
Clean water will be provided in large containers to each work site.

Will I need a passport?

Yes, you will need a current passport with at least 6 months left before the expiration date. If you do not have one, or yours needs to be renewed, you need to apply right away. Processing time can take up to two or three months.

You can find instructions and get a passport application at the local post office or online:

http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_830.html

Will I need any immunizations/medications?

The following are recommended for travel to Haiti. An excellent source of up-to-date medical information for travelers is the Center for Disease Control (CDC) web site at www.cdc.gov/travel. Talk to your doctor or the Health Department if you have any questions:

Hepatitis A (only if working at the hospital) This is an injection that is given in either a single dose or a two-dose series.

Hepatitis B (only if working at the hospital) This is an injection that is given in a three-dose series.

Typhoid This is an injection that is given in one dose.

Tetanus Tetanus immunization should be up to date.

Dengue There is no vaccine against dengue fever. Wear long sleeves and long pants, and use insect repellents to prevent mosquito bites.

Malaria There are several prescribed forms of this medication. Most require premedicating up to two weeks prior to your departure. Check with your doctor right away.

Travelers' Diarrhea Travelers' diarrhea drugs to slow the diarrhea (e.g. loperamide: immodium, Diammode, and many generics). Use according to directions and seek medical attention if there are no improvement within 24-36 hours. Do not use these products if you have high fever or blood in the stool. Do not give to children.

Many travelers choose to carry antibiotics with them, since these drugs are relatively safe to use and usually shorten the illness.

Travelers have a small risk of developing diarrhea in any country; it may be advisable to drink bottled water only unless advised otherwise by the staff. In each station, you will find purified water. Always wash your hands before eating.



Every Wesleyan serving in the fulfillment of the Great Commission

www.globalpartnersonline.org | 800.707.7715 | globalpartners@wesleyan.org

Will I need medical/travel insurance?

Yes, Global Partners requires team members to have medical insurance coverage during their travel/service. This insurance is relatively inexpensive. Information on the GP recommended provider and plan can be found here:

https://secure.wesleyan.org/gp/assets/downloads/Short-Term_Insurance.pdf

How safe is the food and water?

Food served in large, well-known restaurants should be safe, but always choose food that has been thoroughly cooked while fresh and is served hot. Avoid street vendors; the standard of hygiene may be low and food may not be fresh. Do not buy pre-peeled fruit or salad; fruit that you wash and peel yourself should be safe. Avoid shellfish. Ensure that milk and other dairy products have been pasteurized. Only purified or bottled water should be consumed or used for brushing teeth, etc.

You may want to bring some non-perishable food/snack items with you. For most teams, a large breakfast and supper will be provided. Since many teams will stay onsite all day, lunch may be minimal due to inadequate refrigeration and food preparation capabilities.

What is the climate like?

Haiti is a very mountainous country with a Caribbean climate. Average annual temperatures in the mountains hover around 19°C (66°F). In the lowland regions, temperatures tend to be higher, and averages are usually around 27°C (81°F). The temperature will likely be in the 30s C (90s F) over the summer for most of our construction sites.

In general, Haiti has rainy weather during the spring and autumn months. The dry season occurs during the winter and summer months (December to February and June to August). From the beginning of the summer to the middle of autumn, Haiti has a hurricane season.

Where can I find general information on Haiti?

For up-to-date information about Haiti, the population, culture, etc., check out the following web sites:

<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ha.html>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haiti>

What is the currency used in Haiti?

Gourde. Most establishments price items in the unofficial currency, the Haitian Dollard (1 Haitian Dollard = 5G) US dollars are accepted and exchanged everywhere. Other foreign currencies are accepted for exchange only by some banks.



Will my credit/debit cards work in Haiti?

Credit cards are widely accepted in the capital city of Port-au-Prince.

We encourage our teams to bring US cash to avoid wasting time in banks.

What is a typical day's schedule?

Teams will work long, hard days. Most teams will begin around 7 a.m. with breakfast. Some teams traveling further may need to start the day earlier.

What are Sundays like in Haiti?

Usually, we have an early Sunday morning service. It is expected that a service last about 3 hours. Most pastors will want you to introduce your team. One of the missionaries will interpret for you. Sunday is not a work day. You can use it to have a team meeting, some rest, etc.

Will we have electricity 24/7?

On La Gonave, electricity depends on the profit of the ice plant. If the ice plant is working well, they generally provide electricity 24 hours. Otherwise, they provide electricity from 4 a.m. to 9 p.m. Electrical outlets are identical to those in North America.

In Port-au-Prince, they use a generator during the day and an inverter system during the night. People are encouraged to shut the lights off after 10 p.m. and use as little electricity as possible to ensure that there will be enough electricity for fans.

In Petit Goave the generator will provide electricity for a few hours each evening.

Is there a dress code?

Yes, much of the church in Haiti is conservative. Therefore, please follow the dress code to show respect to the Haitian culture and church:

Men: Khakis are cooler than jeans; shorts to the knee may be worn for working; shirts with sleeves; button up dress shirt for church. (Pastors will want a tie since most are asked to greet the congregation through an interpreter and may be asked to sit on the platform.) Teams in Petit Goave and La Gonave should bring modest swimsuits.

Women: Skirts and dresses (even for work teams - shorts can be worn underneath); shirts with sleeves; split skirts to the knees may be worn; a dress outfit for church. Women may wear shorts in the guesthouse after work hours. Modest swimsuit if swimming at the beach, and women should wear a tank top and shorts over their suits.

Remember, 100% cotton is cooler than polyester.



Will we have access to Internet?

There is limited Internet access in Port-au-Prince and La Gonave. In addition, some iPhone/Blackberry type devices may work in various locations.

Can we share our e-mails and phone numbers with locals?

You can share your contact information, but if you do, you have to be ready and willing to have them ask you for certain things. The Haitian culture has a patron-client relationship where friends are “allowed/encouraged” to ask for help... and they will.

How many stations do we have in Haiti?

- » Port Margot (Medical & Agriculture), Missionaries Corey & Kris Thede
- » Island of La Gonave (Medical & Orphanage), Missionaries Butch & Tricia Alexander, Justine Iskat, Robin & Lowell Adams, Diane Busch and Matthew Tegen
- » Port-au-Prince (Seminars & helping existing churches), Missionaries Carl & Maya Gilles and Dan & Joy Irvine
- » Petit Goave, no missionaries in place
- » Baintet, no missionaries in place

What tools will be provided and what should we bring?

All the major/large tools will be provided at each construction site (power saws, compressor, ladders, scaffolding, etc.). Directions will be provided for the construction of an onsite hoist for roof trusses. We encourage team members to bring smaller work tools (tool belts/pouches, hammers, tinsnips, speed squares, drill bits, small power tools, etc.). Any tools which can be left behind with each project would be appreciated. Skilled laborers are welcome to bring their personal tools as they prefer.

Comments:

Teams are encouraged to have a daily group devotional as well as a daily debriefing. It’s always a good opportunity to draw closer to the Lord as we want to serve Him and His people and for Him to be glorified through us.

Make sure to stick together as a team and to follow any instructions given by your missionaries/hosts.

