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HAITI TRAVEL GUIDE

TRAVEL:

VALID PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL TO HAITI. Visas are not required. You will be given an immigration tourist card on the plane to present at the customs counter with your passport just after deplaning. **KEEP IT WITH YOUR PASSPORT.** You **MUST** present it when you leave the country. In the place requesting the name and address of the guest house, put Route de l'Aviation de Numero Deux, Entree de l'Eglise Notre Dame, Jeremie, Haiti HT7110, We are travelling for pleasure. After presenting your tourist card and passport, you will proceed to the baggage and customs area. Baggage handlers will be taking the luggage off the conveyor and placing it on the floor so you may have to search for it. **All baggage handling and tipping will be handled by the team leader.** You will be instructed when you need to do anything regarding your baggage. Regarding tipping and giving to the poor, your heart may be torn by the poverty and misery, which is very real, but you cannot right the wrongs and injustices done to these people single-handedly, and your generosity would spark an avalanche of people crying out to you and to others nearby. Your mission work to help with development in order that these people will be fully able to respond to the Good News of the Gospel and the message of Jesus Christ will be understood and appreciated.

BAGGAGE REQUIREMENTS:

You are allowed one carry-on up to 40 lbs. and 45 combined inches. You can also bring a duffel bag with supplies to check in (See [duffel bag](#) program) . You are also allowed a back pack and a fanny pack. The mission director and team leader can help you with any detailed questions you may have.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

We will be staying at a guest house in Numero Deux. Sometimes internet is available at Numero Deux but most Smart Phones work well at the compound. You should not have any problem notifying your family once you arrive. If you do, the team leader can help you.

IMMUNIZATIONS:

No specific immunizations are required. It is recommended that you have your DPT and tetanus shots up-to-date. You are recommended to take two Pepto-Bismol tablets after each meal, (six per day) to prevent any stomach distress. Before leaving, you will be given an anti-parasite medication to kill any parasites you may have picked up while there. You may wish to consult your Doctor about additional health recommendations. All of our trips have been relatively illness-free. We attribute this to these simple recommendations. The team leader will have anti-diarrheal medication on hand in case you do contract simple diarrhea. Heat exhaustion is the most common problem. Wearing hats, drinking plenty fluids, staying out of the sun between 11 AM and 2 PM and taking ThermoTab[™] if working and sweating will help prevent this from occurring.

EXPENSES:

The price that you have been given for travel out of New Orleans covers all travel, eating, room and board and tipping once you get to Port au Prince. There will be one day when crafters will come to display their wares during the week that you can buy things from some of the local

crafters. When we return to Port-au-Prince, we usually have several hours in the airport. If you wish to purchase craft items, Haitian coffee or rum, you can use American currency or credit cards.

CLIMATE & CLOTHING:

Temperatures are in the high 80's during the day. Bring comfortable, lightweight summer clothes and a pair of comfortable shoes. A sweater or a light jacket is advisable for cool evenings. Don't forget to bring a bathing suit. Few Haitian women wear shorts or pants, although it is acceptable to wear pants, skirt-like shorts or above-the-knee shorts; no short-shorts.

CURRENCY:

The unit of Haitian currency is the gourde. Go online and check the Haitian gourde to USD conversion for current rates of exchange.

SUGGESTED THINGS TO BRING:

You will want to bring a Disposable **FLASHLIGHT**(the rechargeable type with the crank is very practical and can be left with a family who will not need to be troubled with batteries) , sunblock, a few snacks for traveling and a digital camera if you want your own pictures. **DO NOT DRINK TAP WATER in Jeremie BUT in Numero Deux, the water source is from an Artesian source in the mountains so it is excellent. There is filtered (Culligan) water for you there at all times.** (supplemental information attached)

ADDITIONAL TIPS:

Conservation of water is a major concern. No hot water is available.. Please take short showers and flush the toilets only when necessary. There is electricity in Numero Deux at the guest house.

Generally, the Haitian people do not have a problem with your taking their picture, however, if they say "no, their request should be respected. If you have any doubt, just say "photo?"

We look forward to sharing with you the experience of getting to know the beauty and charm of the Haitian people. Our prayer is that you will be touched as so many have by the strength, resilience and the faith of a people who have endured unbelievable suffering.

“Our first task in approaching another people, another culture, another religion, is to take off our shoes, for the place we are approaching is holy. Else we may find ourselves treading on people's dreams. More serious still, we may forget that GOD was here before our arrival.”

SPECIAL NOTES

You will be asked from time to time during the trip for financial help from local people. You will experience people asking for money, your watch and maybe some other personal belongings. It is impossible to give to everyone and especially risky if there are others around. The team leader and group coordinator will direct the systematic help planned for the school children, their families and other needy families in the area.

Although it is always your personal decision to respond to the obvious economic difficulty of anyone, we discourage your kind offers to help a personal individual since that encourages others or even the same people to strongly "hint" for financial support from everyone who comes down on mission trips. Unless you want to receive very expensive collect phone calls never give out your phone number. As you will see from people who come for help, the need is very great. If you would like to help, consider a special contribution to Pere Jomanas or the Haiti Mission, Inc. in order that more can receive food or the opportunity to go to school. Pere Jomanas and the people who have been involved in this mission have a much better picture of the totality of the situation and know where the need is the greatest.

BON VOYAGE
Don't Forget Your Passport