



GENERAL INFORMATION

The information in this packet is to be used for general guideline purposes only. It should not be considered all-inclusive. The information should be used only as a guideline to assist you in planning your trip to Haiti. Local churches/organizations may want to add and/or customize the information in order to meet their own specific requirements.

We are excited that you are interested in sharing God's love to the people of Haiti. We pray that the experience will be a blessing to you.

OVERVIEW

Tom Osbeck is the Executive Director of Jesus in Haiti Ministries (JIHM). In 1996, while working as Inner City Director for Fort Wayne Youth for Christ, Tom went on his first mission trip to Haiti. He felt immediately called by God to Haiti. He made several trips after his initial visit and moved permanently in 1998. After arriving on a Friday, he had his first youth group with 14 kids on a Saturday. Within a couple months, the group grew to 100, and within two years, over 500 were coming weekly. Tom was the Youth Director.

After four years with Hope Mission, Tom decided to begin a new mission, serving more closely the people in the villages. What he learned at Hope was invaluable as he began the work God was calling him to do. With that, Tom started Jesus in Haiti Ministries. JIHM has distinct ministries which are now referred to as "Points of Light."

POINTS OF LIGHT

The Bible says we are to let our light shine for Jesus, (Matthew 5:16, 2 Corinthians 4:6). JIHM has areas of ministry referred to as "Points of Light." At each of the points, the goal is to share the wonderful, life changing message of Jesus Christ, teach the Word of God and make and train disciples. JIHM is letting the light shine at these points of light.

These Points of Light include:

Victory Bible Church

Providing praise and worship opportunities to the people of Haiti is a priority. Victory Bible Church averages 500+ people at weekly worship. Currently, JIHM meets under a tent on the property we have purchased. Construction for a new church is underway on the property. Once built, Grace Emmanuel School will be housed in the same building as the church.



Mission Home

Since 1999, Tom has taken in 25 boys to live with him. As he puts it, “God sent each of these boys to me.” Some have come and gone - now living on their own or adopted. Their stories vary. All were orphaned, either living on the streets or given to Tom by mothers who couldn’t provide for them. Regardless of the reasons for coming to Tom, these boys are now brothers and Tom is their “poppy.”

Grace Emmanuel School

There are 140 children in grades pre K - 8. Without Grace Emmanuel, these children would not be attending school. It is also certain that they would not receive regular meals. The children are funded by sponsors (through JiHM) that provide uniforms, supplies and food. The children go to school 5 days a week and receive one snack and one meal per day. The purpose of Grace Emmanuel School is to disciple and train these young men and women to change Haiti for Christ.

The Lighthouse Children’s Home

In 2010, a house was rented near Tom’s home and thus the birth of the Lighthouse Children’s Home. The home was started with five children that lost their parents in the earthquake. The children are cared for by Anderson and his wife Mona who live fulltime at the home. In addition three caring female staff members assist on a daily basis. Anderson and Mona provide a loving and stable environment for the children.

Orphan Care/Outreach

We have come along side Haitian orphanages to provide for basic living needs including food and water.



GENERAL TRIP INFORMATION

Jesus in Haiti Ministries is supported solely by the contributions of generous people like yourselves whose hearts are touched by the needs of the good people in Haiti. On your mission trip, you are going to serve the people in Haiti in one or more of the JiHM Points of Light. The specific objectives of your trip will be determined by the current needs of the ministry.

The goal of the trip is not just to change the people you will be working with, but to see a change in you. If you go with an attitude of letting God speak through you, and be flexible in laying down your own agendas, it will be an incredible time. Be open to being challenged spiritually and physically, be flexible, and ready to learn something new. The biggest result will be a change in you.

We ask that all teams going have at least one team member who has experience traveling on mission trips. If you are interested in leading a trip, please contact Linda Neal (jihm.trips@jesusinhaiti.org), Linda is a board member and the contact person for the scheduling of all mission trips. The team leader will be responsible for the majority of the communication between the mission team and JiHM.

Who can go? Most trips are geared towards adults and teens. Children may join a mission trip while accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

What will we do? Primarily, you will be visiting the points of light with the purpose of teaching, sharing and providing hope to the people of Haiti. Depending on the needs of the ministry during your visit and the expertise of your team, a mission trip can be customized for you. Past mission trips have included: medical trips, leadership training, school projects, construction, sports outreach, teacher training, conducting kid's clubs and vacation Bible schools in the villages.

Is it safe? Haiti is a very unstable country politically. The U.S. State Department does list Haiti as a dangerous country to travel. The UN currently has troops stationed in Haiti and has been successful in restoring order to the country. The people are very friendly and it is safe to walk around town in groups. However, being a foreigner in Haiti, you will stick out and should be careful when you are out and about. You will always be accompanied by at least two Haitian nationals when traveling in Haiti.

What will we be eating? You will be eating mostly American food with a couple of Haitian meals such as chicken and rice. Plenty of bottled water will be available wherever you go.



DETAILED TRIP INFORMATION

COST

The cost is \$499 a person per week (Saturday to Friday). Payment is due in full 6 weeks before arrival and should be mailed to: JiHM, Inc., Suite #155, 10214 Chestnut Plaza Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46814

- There is a \$100 fee for each additional airport trip for anyone traveling independently from the group.

WHERE TO STAY

Teams stay at the ministry house. Space is limited to 20 people. You will sleep on bunk beds, cots or mattresses on the floor. You will have access to a shower but there is no hot water.

PASSPORT & VISA

You will need a valid passport to travel to Haiti. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after you return from Haiti or you will not be allowed to travel. The costs of these documents are not covered in the trip cost. See the U.S. Department of State website at <http://travel.state.gov/passport> for more information about getting or renewing your passport.

IMPORTANT: Passports can take several weeks to get back once you have applied. You may pay a \$65 rush fee, which is highly recommended if the timing is tight. The visa from Haiti will be issued to you while you are on the plane. The visa (green card) will be placed in your passport at customs and collected at customs when departing Haiti.

Haiti Address to use for customs document. **#25 MBC Rd., Bon Repo, Haiti**

AIRPORT

Flights from your city to Port-Au-Prince, Haiti are not included. As with any trip, there can always be unexpected expenses. For example, if flights are delayed, you could miss the connecting flight to Haiti and have to stay in a hotel.

You will be picked up at the airport in Haiti by a JiHM team member. The locals will be eager to help you with your bags. Unless you really need the help, we recommend a firm "no" when asked for help.



MEALS

All meals are provided - breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. You will not go hungry. You may pack your favorite snacks if you wish.

TRAVEL IN HAITI

Travel will be in the cab or bed of pick-up trucks.

You are expected to travel with your team at all times. Team members cannot arrive late or depart early from the trip, and team members are not permitted to take trips apart from the team while in Haiti.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

The emergency phone number for your host missionary is:

Tom Osbeck – 011.509.3.801.5499

Emergency email messages can be sent to: tominhaiti@yahoo.com

You may want one person from your group to have an international calling plan for their cell phone. This is optional.

VACCINATIONS

The Center for Disease Control makes recommendations for immunizations, vaccinations, and other health precautions for every country. However, most are simply suggestions from the CDC and it is ultimately up to you and your doctor to determine which vaccinations or immunizations you will receive. Vaccinations and immunizations are not covered in the trip cost.

Consult your doctor for recommended vaccinations and immunizations. It is your responsibility to discuss and decide your course of action. Immunizations and medications may include the following:

- Tetanus and measles boosters
- Malaria pills
- Hepatitis A and B
- Typhoid



PERSONAL PACKING LIST

Most airlines allow two pieces of checked luggage for each international traveler. Preferably, you will pack all of your personal belongings in one suitcase, enabling the project to make use of your other bag for supplies, donated items and/or extra food (if desired). Please make sure each checked bag is as close to 50 pounds as possible as needed supplies are difficult to get in Haiti.

Things to Bring:

- * Bible
- * Bug spray (with deet)
- * Flashlight
- * Personal snack food
- * Pillow and sheets (twin)
- * Notebook for journaling
- * 2-3 towels
- * All necessary medication
- * Bandanas, hat or cap for sun protection
- * Earplugs for light sleepers
- * Spending money – there will be a safe to store extra cash and passports
- * Benadryl topical cream and tablets are recommended for mosquito/bug bites
- * Passport
- * Sunscreen
- * Wet wipes and hand sanitizer
- * Camera
- * Personal toiletries
- * Sleeping wear (remember, it's hot)
- * Tennis shoes & work shoes
- * Flip flops

Clothes:

Girls: modest shorts and tops for hanging out at the mission compound. Jeans, khakis or long skirts should be worn when traveling to the remote villages as modesty is important. Long skirts or dress (covering most of leg) should be worn to church.

Guys: T-shirts and jeans for village work, 1 pair of nice pants (such as khakis) and a shirt with collar for church. Shorts and T-shirts are fine for down time at the ministry house.



Bring clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Clothes should be comfortable to work in and as light weight as possible due to the heat.

What NOT to bring:

- * Nice jewelry or valuables
- * Weapons of any kind
- * Curling/Straightening iron
- * Purse (fanny packs are best)

DONATED ITEMS

It is always good to have small snacks, such as fruit snacks, to give to Haitian children. Just make sure you have enough for all the children (140+ at Grace Emmanuel School, 60+ children at three orphanages and 300+ for Church and Youth Group). Toys such as blow-up balls, soccer balls, jump ropes and Frisbees are well received by the kids.

In addition, you may be assigned specific items to bring. These may include construction supplies, diapers, sundries, toys, etc.



FACTS ABOUT HAITI

Official Name: Republic of Haiti

Population: 8,490,200

Capital City: Port-au-Prince (1.4 million)

Languages: French (official), French Creole (official)

The native Arawak Amerindians - who inhabited the island of Hispaniola when Columbus discovered it in 1492 were virtually annihilated by Spanish settlers within 25 years. In the early 17th century, the French established a presence on Hispaniola, and in 1697, Spain ceded to the French the western third of the island - Haiti. The French colony, based on forestry and sugar-related industries, became one of the wealthiest in the Caribbean, but only through the heavy importation of African slaves and considerable environmental degradation. In the late 18th century, Haiti's nearly half million slaves revolted under Toussaint L'OUVERTURE and after a prolonged struggle, became the first black republic to declare its independence in 1804. Haiti has been plagued by political violence for most of its history since then, and it is now one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. It's once majestic mahogany forests have been stripped by lumber merchants who did not care that the top soil washed away leaving a barren land, creating soil erosion and inadequate supplies of potable water.

- Haiti is the poorest country in the western Hemisphere.
 - * One out of five children die from preventable illnesses before reaching the age of five.
 - * Diarrhea is the leading cause of death for children under five
 - * Only about 20% of the population have access to running water
 - * 300,000 child laborers
 - * 2,500 street children in Port au Prince alone.
 - * GNI per capita for Haiti is \$450 (in 2005)
 - * Under-five mortality rate for Haiti is 120 (in 2005) 120 out of 1000 die before they are 5 years old.
 - * Infant mortality rate for Haiti is 84 (in 2005) 84 out of 1000 die before the age of one.
 - * Life expectancy is 51
 - * Approximately 75% of the population lives on less than \$2 a day.
- Voodoo is widely practiced in Haiti. Roughly 80% of the population practice some form of Voodoo.

(Taken from UNICEF and World Bank)



CREOLE

The national languages of Haiti are French and Creole. French is the official government language but Creole is the common language spoken everywhere. The two are very similar. We encourage you to learn some simple Creole phrases as most of the kids don't speak any English.

Pronouns:

M Me
Ou You
Li He, She, It
Nou We, you plural
You They

Bonjou, Myse	Good morning, sir
Bonjou, Madam	Good morning, mam (older or married woman)
Nonjou, Madmwazel	Good morning miss
Bonswa	Good evening (or afternoon starting at noon)
Bon nui	Good night
Koman Ou Ye?	How are you?
M'pa pi mal	I'm not too bad.
M'tre byen	I'm very well
Orevwa, tout moun	Goodbye, everybody
Kote li?	Where is it?
Li la-a	It's right there
Manje	To eat
Vini	To come
Non	No
Mesi	Thanks
Anmwe!	Help!
Non, mesi	No, thanks
Souple	Please
Merite	You're welcome
Pa gen pwoblem	No problem
Oke	Okay
Eskize mwen	Excuse me
Mwen regret sa	I'm sorry
Kila jou?	How old are you?
Aske ou pale angle/franse?	Do you speak English/French?