

Short Term Discovery Trips

Preparation Guide



"Speak up for all those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Proverbs 31:8-9

Future Trip Guidelines

Haiti is one of the most beautiful countries in the world. It is a country rich in culture and faith. Despite many hardships, the desire and determination of the Haitian people is an example we can all benefit from experiencing. We are thankful for the opportunity to work alongside our partners in Haiti, recognizing their amazing gifts and talents.

We are thrilled you are considering being part of a Short Term Discovery Trip to PiFò Haiti's Projects! It is our desire that you find an opportunity to grow in faith as you learn from our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ.



Short Term Discovery Trips must align with the joint objectives set between PiFò Haiti and our Ministry Partners on La Gonève.

Each team member must acknowledge and understand the Joint Ministry Agreement Primary Objectives:



1. Provide a quality education for those who do not have access to schooling on La Gonève
2. Support local community development initiatives
3. Create jobs and provide skills training for future sustainability of families

Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of PiFò Haiti to enable us to carry out joint activities. We want to wisely, and with great humility, care for the people and the community of La Gonève.

What do future trips/team visits look like going forward?

Haiti is a country that has been greatly impacted by people and organizations that mean well, but do more harm than good. In the years we have spent working in Haiti, we have learned the importance of listening to our Ministry Partners and following their lead. We humbly respect our Haitian friends, aware that they will know what works best within their culture and community. Our outside resources, including team members, are meant to build on what is already existing. It is always our desire to bless our Ministry Partners and not burden them when we visit. As you, or your team consider joining, we invite you to reflect in the following points:

- What did our Ministry Partner request from us? Before any trip is authorized, it needs to be coordinated with our Haitian co-workers.
- Will you take potential employment opportunities away from locals?
- Are you bringing a skill to the Ministry Partner that can be shared?
- Are you supporting the local economy and promoting in-country purchasing?
- Does the team have a leader that is prepared to ensure timelines and schedules are met by team members and support the overall planning of the trip?
- If you have visited the Ministry Partner before, what is the purpose of your return visit?
- Once you return home, what are your goals? Will you advocate for PiFò Haiti? Will you commit to raising funds monthly/annually/one-time? Will you make a conscious effort to assist with poverty alleviation in an effective, respectful and responsible manner whether at home or abroad?
- Does your team have a support system to assist team members with processing and “debriefing” after the trip?
- All participants must adhere to PiFò Haiti guidelines in regards to photography and online information, i.e. social media, future promises etc...
- After prayer and thoughtful discussion, determine if this trip will benefit all parties involved.

Proposed Trip Expenses

The cost for trips is approximately \$3000-\$3500 per person, depending on flight costs, exchange rates, and length of trip.

Includes:

- Airfare (to/from Port-au-Prince)
- Domestic travel within Haiti (airfare/boat/taxi)
- Hotels in US or Haiti
- Guesthouse Accommodations on La Gonâve (includes 3 meals per day and daily laundry services)
- Gratuities
- Food outside the guesthouse and at hotel
- Mandatory health insurance (will be purchased on your behalf)
- Arrival fees at Port-au-Prince airport
- Limited access to phone/internet for emergencies and to check in with friends/family
- Any day trips to mountains, market, touring on mainland
- Average cost of pre-determined amount for in-country projects for the trip

Excludes:

- Food purchased in airports to and from Haiti
- Cost to obtain REQUIRED Police Reference Check (can be done online)
- REQUIRED Travel Insurance (trip cancellation and interruption, not health)
- Souvenirs purchased in country (assume you will spend approximately \$75 US)

Things to keep in mind:

- Because you are performing volunteer work in partnership with a Canadian charity, 100% of the trip cost is tax deductible
- Prices are based on a maximum exchange rate of 1.35%. If the rate increases the price of the trip would increase as well
- Cost of the trip is also based on 'non-peak' travel dates. Peak travel includes March break, February university break and summer vacations. If tickets are purchased prior to the deadline provided, the cost should not exceed budgeted amount
- If the donations you collect exceed the cost of your trip, all extra funds will go directly to the projects in Haiti. We encourage all participants to raise as much as they can so we can continue to support our local workers

For any questions please contact Wendy Thiessen
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projects by visiting www.pifohaiti.org.