

Save Them One By One - Mission Trip FAQs

1. How long is a mission trip?

A mission trip typically lasts 7-8 days.

2. How much does it cost to participate on a mission trip?

The cost of a mission trip varies according to air fare rates. This cost includes your flight, and \$75 a day: This will include housing (water & electricity, meals, transportation and helpers throughout the week.) This money MUST be paid before leaving on trip. Air Fare at time of purchase and the additional \$75/day one week prior to leaving.

3. Do I need a passport to go on a mission trip?

You need a valid passport to travel to Nicaragua. You do not need a visa if you are an American citizen.

If you already have a passport, be sure it will not expire within 6 months of the trip. If you do not have a passport, apply for one 8 weeks in advance of the trip. Contact your local post office for application information. Your passport name should match the name on your airline ticket.

4. Do I need any shots or prescriptions prior to leaving?

Consult your family doctor or county health center. It is recommended if this is your first trip, you will need a Hepatitis A shot. Your tetanus shots must be current, or you will need one also. Typhoid pills are optional, depending on your doctor's advice.

5. Do you need to know my medical history?

Yes. We need to know if you have any special medical needs. You must complete an emergency medical release form before departure.

6. If I am under 18 years of age, do I need permission to go on a mission trip?

Yes. If you are under 18 years of age, a parental consent and emergency medical release form is required. We also require that you and your parents read and consent to a code of conduct, so you understand what we consider to be acceptable behavior on a mission trip.

7. What will I eat each day?

The staff at our mission house provides a breakfast, lunch and dinner. Meals vary from meal to meal. There will be lots of beans, rice and chicken. Please notify leader if you have any allergies.

8. Where will I sleep each night?

We will sleep together in a dormitory setting at our mission house in Somotillo.

9. What exactly will I be doing on a mission trip?

Save them One by One missionaries perform a variety of projects at the communities we sponsor in the Somotillo area. We spend a lot of our time packing and preparing uniforms and delivering them. We do other projects as they arise. They require no special skills, other than a desire to work. Participants can pace themselves and do only what they are physically able.

10. How can I share my special skills and talents on a mission trip?

If you possess special skills and talents, please let us know! We will try and utilize your gifts in a meaningful way. If you are a teacher or possess musical or artistic talents, you may wish to work with school children. If you have medical experience, you may wish to serve in that manner. If you speak Spanish, you will be an invaluable translator at all the work sites. You can shape your own role on the mission trip within our prescribed routine.

11. Do I have to speak Spanish to go on a mission trip?

No. The ability to speak Spanish enhances the trip, by allowing you to easily interact with the Nicaraguans. If you don't speak Spanish, don't worry. Remember that love is the universal language. The Nicaraguans can sense your care and concern, and will respond in kind.

12. What is the weather like in Nicaragua?

Hot! If you do not like heat this may not be the trip for you.

13. How do I prepare for what I will see there?

In the Chinandega area, you will see shocking signs of poverty at its worst. No one can prepare you for this sight. You will somehow find the strength to look beyond the grave conditions and see hope and the possibility of a better life for the people. It is then that the mission of Save them One by One becomes clear.

14. Will I have time during the day for myself?

The days during your mission trip will be filled with work projects in the communities we serve around the area. You will have time on your own in the evenings. Many missionaries bring journals and enjoy keeping a daily record of their trip.

15. What area in Nicaragua will be working?

We work at various rural communities in the Somotillo area of northwest Nicaragua. The work sites are usually within a 1 hour radius of our mission house.

16. What can I bring on the trip with me?

Once you sign up for a mission trip, we will provide you with a list of trip supplies. We encourage you to pack clothing that is comfortable and inexpensive.

17. I have never been on a mission trip before. What can I expect?

While the sight of pure poverty can be a shocking experience, a mission trip is not depressing. You can expect to meet and bond with other volunteers and missionaries. You will be surprised at the slow pace of life in the Third World. You will be charmed by the warmth and innocence of the Nicaraguan people.

18. How can an ordinary person make a difference by going on a mission trip?

Ordinary people do not choose to spend a week of their life in a remote area of Central America. The desire to help the needy in such a personal way is fueled by a deep love of fellow man. The desire to make such a trip and making the trip is the difference.

19. Do you ever need specialized talents, like fundraising projects, here in the United States that I can help with?

Yes! Contact us.

20. Why should I go on a mission trip, rather than send you a donation?

Without generous benefactors, Save them One by One would not have adequate funding to remain effective, but witnessing charity in action brings a sense of fulfillment that does not happen when writing a check.

21. Is it possible for me to catch any diseases in Nicaragua due to the unsanitary conditions?

It is possible to get sick on a trip to an unfamiliar place, but after getting the proper shots and medicines, you should abide by the same standard of cleanliness in Nicaragua that you use in the United States. We do not drink the water!

22. How will I get from place to place?

The cost of a mission trip includes air fare to Managua and ground transportation from Managua to our mission house in Somotillo. We will rent a vehicle at the airport after arriving in Managua and drive to Somotillo.

23. What if I change my mind?

Once you make a commitment to go, we hope that you will be able to make the mission trip. Once your trip is paid, you may always change your mind, and your room and board payment can be refunded upon request. Ticket refund policies vary based on the airline. Usually, if you cancel your ticket before scheduled departure, you can re-use the ticket within 1 year of BOOKING date with a penalty fee (\$100-\$150) and any fare difference.

24. I am retired. Am I too old to go on a mission trip?

If you are an adult in good health, able to travel and have a desire to work, you are probably ready for a mission trip no matter what your age. Please ensure that you will be able to carry your own load before making the decision to travel.

25. What is the reaction of the Nicaraguan people to the mission workers?

The Nicaraguan people genuinely love visitors to their country. The United States responded to the tragedy of Hurricane Mitch by offering emergency relief services to the people in that area. We missionaries are treated like celebrities, but soon become friends to many as we work together establishing and improving their lives