

Mexico Mission Trip

TEAM LEADER PACKING LIST

- ___ CD player
- ___ Ice chest
- ___ VBS curriculum
- ___ VBS supplies

- ___ Craft Supplies
- ___ Prizes
- ___ Sports Equipment
- ___ Money for water

- ___ Money for fuel and tolls
- ___ Consent/Release forms
- ___ Passport photocopies

TEAM MEMBER PACKING LIST

- ___ Towel
- ___ Washcloth
- ___ Shampoo
- ___ Conditioner
- ___ Toothbrush
- ___ Toothpaste

- ___ Soap
- ___ Hairbrush
- ___ Deodorant
- ___ Razor
- ___ Lotion
- ___ Insect Repellant

- ___ Sunscreen
- ___ Lip Balm
- ___ Eyeglasses*
- ___ Bible
- ___ Hairdryer
- ___ Journal

- ___ Camera
- ___ Flip-flops (for shower)
- ___ Spending Cash**

PACK ONLY WHAT YOU CAN CARRY BY YOURSELF.

*Contact lenses are not reliable, and eyeglasses are recommended for backup.

**Spending cash should be limited to small bills because change will be given in pesos.

Men's Clothing

- Men's clothing should reflect respect.
- Jacket Sweatshirt
- Pajamas Underwear

- Socks Shoes*
- T-shirts
- General Dress:
- Shirts Sleeved shirts (No tank-tops)
- Pants Jeans, Khakis
- Church Service Dress:
- Shirts Button-up shirt with collar
- Pants Slacks, Khakis or Jeans (dark wash/black)

Women's Clothing

- Women's clothing should reflect modesty.
- Jacket Sweatshirt
- Pajamas Underwear
- Socks Shoes*
- T-shirts
- General Dress:
- Shirts Not tight-fitting*
- Pants Jeans, Khakis, or Capris (no leggings)
- *No midriffs or halter tops. Shorts must be knee-length or longer.
- Church Service Dress:
- Shirts Same as above, but dressier.
- Pants Jeans (dark wash/black), Khakis (no leggings)
- Skirts*

*Skirts must be knee length or longer. Slits that extend above the knee violate this rule. Leggings underneath dress/skirts ok.

DO NOT BRING any expensive clothing or personal electronics. IMSD Missions will not be responsible for loss or theft of such items. Also, please **DO NOT BRING** alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, weapons, or fireworks.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Schedule times may be subject to change.

FRIDAY

- 7:00 AM San Quintín caravan check-in at Cornerstone Church
- 10:30 AM Lunch at Costco Ensenada
- 3:00 PM Hotel check-in
- 4:00 PM Snack
- 6:30 PM Evening service at host church
- 9:30 PM Dinner: @ Restaurant Misión Santa Isabel after the service-
- 11:00 PM Lights out

SATURDAY

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM Worship service
- 10:30 AM Drive to church for 1st VBS
- 12:30 PM Lunch at hotel
- 1:30 AM Drive to church for 2nd VBS
- 4:30 PM Snack
- 6:30 PM Youth Rally
- 10:00 PM Dinner: Carne Asada Tacos (at the end of Youth Rally)
- 11:00 PM Lights out

SUNDAY

- 8:00 AM Breakfast Pack up & Load up vans
- 10:00 AM Church/VBS
- 12:00 PM Drive home to San Diego*
- 2:00 PM Lunch/Sight seeing
- 11:00 PM Arrive in San Diego (This time may vary depending on border wait time)

* Teams are to drive back to San Diego on Sunday once the IMSD Missions trip is complete. When returning to the United States please remember that IMSD Missions is not responsible for lost or stolen items, including vehicles—rented or owned—and the contents therein. Please be aware that unattended vehicles with U.S. license plates filled with tourists' goods are likely to be targeted or vandalized.

IMPORTANT INFO ABOUT BAJA CALIFORNIA

Crossing the Border

We will review details and answer questions about crossing the border at caravan check-in time. Please be prompt. When crossing the border, everyone must have their passports with them. Team leaders with multiple vehicles should not collect team members' passports. Instead, assign one person from each vehicle to do a passport check before the caravan procession begins. Drivers will also be required to show their vehicle's registration and proof of Mexican insurance (to be purchased in San Diego). All passengers must remain silent and continue wearing their seat belts at this time. You may be asked to pull to the side of the road so that a border patrol officer may look through your belongings. This is simply a security precaution to help prevent the flow of drugs and weapons into Mexico and is not a cause for alarm. After crossing the border, drive straight to your hotel. Our staff will be waiting for your arrival. Hotel check-in closes 3:00 PM.

Driving in Mexico

You must obey all traffic laws in Mexico. Be courteous of other drivers and aware of road conditions. Speed limits are posted in kilometers per hour (K/H), not miles per hour (MPH), so be attentive to the appropriate set of numbers on your speedometer. The paved highway between Tijuana and Ensenada has three tolls, each patrolled by military personnel. The tolls are generally about \$2.50 US Dollars depending on the day's exchange rate. Tolls can be paid in either currency, but not both. There are also military checkpoints where you may be asked a few questions. This is common practice and should not cause alarm.

Money

US Dollars (USD) are gladly accepted in both Ensenada and San Quintín. So there is no need to exchange currency before crossing the border. However, change from purchases will be given in Mexican Pesos (MXN), so it is best to carry smaller bills.

Food

IMSD will provide 5 meals: Friday- dinner, Saturday- breakfast, lunch and dinner, Sunday- breakfast. Thursday, Breakfast may consist of cold or hot cereal, milk, juice, fruit, granola bars or Pop Tarts and Mexican pastries.

Lunch will usually consist of bread, meat, cheese, peanut butter, jelly, mayo, mustard, chips, fruit, dessert, and a drink mix. Dinners will be at tacos stands and restaurant. All other meals and snacks, including water, are the team's responsibility.

Don't drink the tap water in Mexico! Bottled water is available for purchase at stores around the area.

Manners

Complaining about food, verbally or through facial expressions, is not allowed. Do not mistakenly think you can complain in English because nobody around you will understand. You could do serious damage to your presentation of the gospel.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Group Conduct

Please be aware of the impression your group will make. Show God's love in the way you treat each other. Teammates must never leave the team/site location without the consent of the team leader.

Behavior

Holding hands, kissing, or other public displays of affection are not acceptable on a mission trip, and couples may not be alone. Please avoid a flirtatious attitude with teammates and people in your place of ministry.

Broken Promises

Do NOT make promises you can't keep. This includes promising to return next year or promising to write or call someone. It is possible to obtain someone's contact information without promising to keep in touch.

Respect & Leadership

The Mexican culture highly values respect toward people who are leaders or elders. Show respect to your host pastor, team leader, and any IMSD staff. They are the leaders that God has placed in your life for this mission trip.

Time

Understand that you are on this mission trip to serve, and that means being flexible to your host church and its schedule. You should always be on time for VBS and evening services, knowing that they may or may not start (or end) on time. You must also be on time for breakfast and morning devotions.

Dress Code

The packing list is included in this manual. You are required to observe any restrictions as a show of respect to God, the Mexican people, and to each other.

Showers

Limit time in the showers, and divide the team into morning and evening bathers because water is in short supply and hot water runs out quickly.

Forbidden Activities

Smoking, drinking alcohol, foul language, fireworks, weapons, and swimming in ocean water are not allowed on this trip at any time!