



Chiapas, Mexico
Trip Information Packet
for
Participants

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST

For nearly 40 years, ministry has been taking place across Mexico through partner organizations. In the past 25 years, there has been a major impact on the people of Chiapas, Mexico, and, most recently, the state of Oaxaca. Hundreds of churches have been built, and pastors have been trained to go into their villages and share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those who are lost and in need of a savior. Often, these pastors begin their ministry meeting under a tree or small lean-to structure built out of tin and cardboard. Because of the generosity of many individuals and churches across the United States, concrete and steel structures have been built so these pastors can gather their congregation for worship and teaching. These structures have helped them become a beacon in their villages. Thousands of people are hearing the gospel preached in their communities because of the strong partnerships throughout the years.

In 2015, I took my first trip to Chiapas with Pogue Family Missions and quickly fell in love with the people and the ministry taking place there. In 2019, Ministry Builders was formed to continue the advancement of sharing the gospel with the people of Mexico. We continue to build churches and work with the local pastors while also implementing additional ministry opportunities such as pastors' conferences, men's conferences, and leadership support to the non-profit organization in Mexico. Our hope is that as you partner with us, you will see the continual growth and expansion of the gospel throughout Mexico.

Thank you for your interest and support.

God Bless

Matt Payne
President & Founder
Ministry Builders

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Website - <http://www.ministrybuilders.org/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/buildministry/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/buildministry/>

STANDARD SCHEDULE (construction trip)

- Day 1 – Fly to Chiapas, Overnight in Tuxtla
- Day 2 – Travel to work site, Work Day, Overnight in Chenalho
- Day 3 – Travel to work site, Work Day, Overnight in Chenalho
- Day 4 – Travel to work site, Jesus Film Outreach, Overnight in Chenalho
- Day 5 – Visit San Cristobal & Orphanage, Overnight in Tuxtla
- Day 6 – Fly Home

LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS

- Most rooms at both the headquarters have 2 twin beds. There are a couple that have 1 queen or king bed. They all have private bathrooms with a shower. Teams are requested to sleep 2 people per room to help minimize cleaning needs.
- All the bedding is provided.
- Soap is provided, but you will need your own shampoo and other toiletries.
- Bath towels and washcloths are provided.
- There are common areas at both headquarters to relax and hang out with others.
- Cold drinks of bottled water and soda are always available. Participants are encouraged to refill and reuse water bottles with the water cooler located at headquarters.
- Lodging expenses are included in the trip fee, but we suggest leaving a tip for the housekeepers.
- A washer and dryer are available in Tuxtla if needed.
- The electrical system is on the same 110v system as the US, so no special adapters are needed.
- DO NOT DRINK THE TAP WATER; use bottled water to brush your teeth.

WHAT TO WEAR

- Casual dress is appropriate; work clothes are recommended for work days.
- It is a good idea to pack a nicer outfit in case we should eat an evening meal out or attend a church service.
- A jacket is recommended for the mornings and evenings.

SHOTS OR MEDICATIONS

- No shots are required; however, it is recommended to have a current tetanus shot.
- It is recommended to take a good probiotic before and during travel.
- It is recommended to take a digestive enzyme while traveling.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

There are several places within the airport in Mexico City and it has proven to be the most convenient place to convert your currency. You will only need money for any snacks or souvenirs that you plan to purchase or offerings that you would like to give. All of your meals will be taken care of while you are in Chiapas.

SCHEDULE FLEXIBILITY

Missions work is very fluid and requires participants to be very flexible. As the trip goes on, participants may become tired and less flexible. We recommend staying extra hydrated and getting as much rest each night as possible.

PHOTOS & VIDEO

Feel free to take as many photos and as much video as you like, but please be sensitive to people in the area and the ministry that might be taking place.

COMMUNICATIONS

Tuxtla

- Cellular - Service is good in this area and should be capable of making and receiving calls & texts.
- WiFi Data - We do have WiFi internet access at the headquarters in Tuxtla, but it can be spotty and isn't as fast as you are used to in the states.

Chenalho

- Cellular - Service is ok when at the headquarters but when visiting the churches in the mountains, often times there is no service available.
- WiFi Data - We DO NOT have WiFi at this location.

Emergency Communications

- In the chance there is an emergency need to reach a member of your team while they are in Mexico, phone calls to either of these numbers should be able to help in relaying messages
 - +52 (961) 654 2708 – Barbara Tovilla
 - +52 (961) 215 2088 – Carlos Tovilla

CHIAPAS, MEXICO OVERVIEW

Capital City	Tuxtla Gutierrez
Official Language	Spanish
Size & Location	28.306 sq. miles. Chiapas borders the Pacific Ocean, Oaxaca State, Tabasco State and Guatemala.
Population	5,543,828
Peoples	The state has one of the largest and most diverse indigenous populations in Mexico, with approximately 959,000 native language speakers over the age of five, which represents one quarter of the state's population.
Economy	<p>The primary industries in Chiapas include crude oil production, manufacturing, agriculture and coffee export. Chiapas opened its first assembly plant in 2002, a fact that highlights the historical lack of industry in this area. Tourism, another important industry, brings countless visitors to the state each year to visit Tuxtla Gutiérrez, San Cristóbal and other landmarks.</p> <p>Chiapas ranks second among the Mexican states in the production of cacao, the product used to make chocolate, and is responsible for 60 percent of Mexico's total coffee output. Other significant crops are sugar cane, bananas and other fruits. Annual milk production in Chiapas totals about 180 million liters (47.5 million gallons).</p>
<p>Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiapas & https://www.history.com/topics/mexico/chiapas</p>	

CHIAPAS WEATHER

Tuxtla-Gutierrez Average Temperatures												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HIGH	84	87	91	95	93	89	87	87	87	86	86	84
LOW	59	59	62	66	68	68	68	66	66	66	62	59

Tuxtla-Gutierrez Average Rainfall (inches)												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
RAIN	1	.55	.75	.75	4.5	7.9	7.3	9.37	7	5.25	2.6	2.36

Chenalho Average Temperatures												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HIGH	68	69	73	73	73	71	71	69	69	69	69	66
LOW	41	42	42	46	50	53	51	51	51	50	46	42

Chenalho Average Rainfall (inches)												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
RAIN	0	.25	.35	1.18	1.5	4.37	2.71	3.42	5	1.5	.35	.25