Team Member Guide
Haiti
Dress Code, Packing List, and Travel Information
**Dress Code:**  
The following dress code is at the request of nationals in leadership with Mission Possible. Dress according to the climate and culture of Hispaniola—it could be very hot and humid. You may be most comfortable in loose fitting cotton clothing. Clothing must be neat and modest.

All body piercing jewelry must be removed except for earrings on females. No ankle bracelets or toe rings should be worn. Males must remove any hair extensions.

Please do not take flashy or expensive jewelry with you. This prevents theft as well as the possibility of offending others in a much poorer country.

**Clothing to Bring (Haiti):**
**Men:** We recommend jeans, khaki’s or slacks for all times off the Mission Center, as well as short-sleeve sport shirts.

**Women:** Jeans, khakis, capris, or slacks are appropriate at a construction work site, although many women find a skirt (below the knees) or dress to be more comfortable. Tops should have cap sleeves or longer that cover the shoulders.

**Shoes:** Comfortable walking shoes. Sneakers are fine. You should wear shoes at all times for your protection, even during swimming and evenings. Closed-toed shoes must be worn when off of the Mission Center.

**School Visits:** The above recommendations for men will work for school visits. Women must wear skirt or dress that goes below the knee when sitting for school visits.

**Church:** Haitians dress their best for church. We encourage people to wear dress clothes to church, but do not look extravagant. Men, please wear khaki’s or dress slacks and a nice shirt with a collar. Jackets and ties are optional. Women, please wear a dress or skirt covering your knees even when sitting and ensure your shoulders are covered. Any pastor who may be given opportunity to preach or share should wear a dress shirt and tie.

**Construction Work Teams:** Most people (men and women) prefer to wear jeans or work pants for their durability and comfort. Be aware that pants will best protect you from injuries as well as disease through mosquitoes. Don’t forget sturdy work shoes, safety goggles, and gloves.

**At The Mission Center:** Modest shorts are acceptable. Swimsuits should only be worn when swimming. At night, modesty is the key. You will also want some sandals or inexpensive flip-flops at night.

**Swimsuits:** Ladies should wear a 1-piece suit (or modest shorts and shirt) along with a cover-up or wrap worn when out of the water. Men, please wear modest swim trunks or shorts. Everyone should bring water shoes for the ocean.

**Modesty is most important at all times.** If you question wearing a certain piece of clothing, ask if it is appropriate or choose a different piece.

Please remember to bring a hat and sunglasses.
**What Not to Bring:**
- No sleeveless shirts, tops or dresses are allowed, unless something sleeved is worn over or under it.
- Tank tops for either guys or girls.
- Short tops that can't be tucked in.
- Dresses or blouses with a low-cut front or back.
- Bikinis, tankinis, two-piece swimsuits for girls, suits with French-cut legs, or revealing one-piece swimsuits
- Skimpy swim trunks for guys.
- Clothing or other items which may be offensive to our Christian testimony (shirts with beer or cigarette ads, rock groups, suggestive phrases, or anything which would be a poor testimony).
- Yoga pants/capris or leggings, both while in Haiti as well as traveling to & from.
- **Do not** take or wear flashy or expensive jewelry. Loss or theft is possible. Please leave it at home.
- Hair dryers, hair straighteners, or curling irons.

**Passport:**
Everyone, including children, must have a valid passport.

**When traveling to another country, your passport must be valid for at least six more months** beyond your entry date into that country.

See the following for full information on passport application.
USA: [http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_830.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_830.html)

All important documents and valuables will be locked securely at the Mission Center. The team leader will let you know the process when in country.
Cell Phones and Computers:

Time on your phone or a computer can be disruptive to your team’s cohesion and to the spiritual impact the mission trip may have in your life. We strongly suggest no communication with North America during your trip. With your best interest and the safety of the team in mind, however, we have the following policies in place for cell phone and computer use.

Our general policy for cell phone use on mission is this:

1. When on North American soil, cell phone use is open unless the team leader communicates a prohibition.

2. Once in Haiti or the Dominican Republic, it is the responsibility of Mission Possible to communicate team activities with family members and home churches. This will be done via our secure, team blog. For the safety of the team and our Haitian friends, no team member will post information or pictures to any social media site or service while the team is in Haiti or the Dominican Republic. No team member will send pictures via any communication method.

3. **Cell phone use (voice, text or data) is discouraged during the team’s time in Haiti or the Dominican Republic.** We also understand there will be special communication circumstances and Mission Possible leadership will decide on a case by case basis how to handle these circumstances. These special circumstances should be communicated with your team leader and the decision on communication during the trip will be made prior to you leaving.

4. At the discretion of the team leader and at the team member’s own expense, opportunity may be granted for the team to communicate briefly with family members. Please use these opportunities for brief communication via voice, text, or email. Remember, no communication via any social media site or service.

5. If the team leader determines your technology use is disruptive to your or the team’s mission experience, they have the authority to ask you to put it away or confiscate your device.

Our general policy for computer use on mission is this: we prohibit personal computers on mission teams. If computer functionality is needed for the team to complete its purpose, Mission Possible will provide or the team leader will coordinate the needed computer resources.

Mission Possible is not responsible for any broken, lost or stolen devices. Bring personal technology and devices at your own risk.

As always, emergency situations can be communicated through the Mission Possible staff and office 24/7 at:

1. Trace Roth – 419-306-8903
2. Mission Possible Office – 419-422-3364 (8:00 am to 5:00 pm)
3. David Rath – 419-957-3269
Medical and Health:
Malaria, which is carried by mosquitoes, is present in Hispaniola (the island that holds Haiti and the DR) and preventative measures are suggested. Contact your physician for advice regarding this and any other medical needs.

Check with the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention for current health standards and immunization requirements.

CDC Traveler’s Health: [https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel)


Health Safety Precautions in-Country:
When out in the community DO NOT eat any food or drink any water or soft drinks unless okayed by the mission team host. You will want to bring a portable bottle for water as you travel in the country. An adequate supply of drinking water will be provided.

There are many and different bacteria in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Since you will be in regular contact with adults and school children who may transmit bacteria, we suggest washing your hands frequently. When water and soap are not immediately available, use hand sanitizer (take a 3 oz. bottle in your carry-on bag and a large bottle in your suitcase) or handi-wipes. Also the currency can be very dirty and may carry bacteria.

Ciprofloxacin (Cipro) has been effective for team members in combating stomach issues. As with all medication, check with your doctor to see if Cipro could be an option for you to have available. You can read more about Cipro at [http://www.drugs.com/ciprofloxacin.html](http://www.drugs.com/ciprofloxacin.html).

Personal Medicines
Prescription medicines need to be taken on an individual basis. We recommend packing these in your backpack as opposed to suitcase.
**Water:**
Dehydration is a concern. Be sure to drink twice as much water as you would at home. Watch for signs of dehydration in yourself and others on the trip. Dehydration leads to weakness, headaches, dizziness, or dark and strong smelling urine. If you are traveling with children, be sure to monitor their liquid intake.

Adequate, safe drinking water will be supplied. It is your responsibility to carry and drink an adequate supply. Do not drink any water from an un-processed container. Even when showering, do not take water into your mouth. Use provided water to brush your teeth; water from the faucet is not safe and brushing your teeth with it could cause stomach illness.

**Luggage:**
You will need to carry all of your personal items with you in your backpack and carry-on size suitcase: clothing, shoes, snacks, hygiene items, etc. Large suitcases will be packed with Mission Possible supplies by your team leader and will be checked at the airport. In your backpack, it is good to carry with you clothing and personal hygiene items you would need over a 24-hour period. It is also recommended that you carry your personal medicine in your backpack, as well, as opposed to your carry-on suitcase. Remember that liquid items being carried-on need to be 3 oz. or less in size and enclosed in a quart-sized, clear, zip-lock bag.

**Cash:**
U.S. currency is needed for travel food and entry into Haiti and the Dominican Republic. You will discuss how much you will need during your team training.

**Prayer:**
Be sure to have your family, friends and church family pray for you before, during and after the trip. You are doing work for the Lord so it is very important that you are covered by prayer.

**Papers Needed to Get There:**
You will need a valid passport.

For Haiti you will be given a tourist card to fill in during your flight. Fill in that you will be staying at Montrouis/Lanzac and the purpose of the trip is **pleasure**.

For the Dominican Republic, you will need to purchase a tourist card at the Santo Domingo airport. Write “**recreo**” as the purpose of your trip. Write “**Barahona**” as the destination.
**Document Copies:**
Your team leader will have current information of document copies needed in the case original documents are lost. Please be proactive in giving needed documentation to your team leader.

**Travel Insurance:**
Mission Possible will purchase a policy for each team member.

**Travel Bulletins:**
Mission Possible takes your safety very seriously. Even with every precaution, we cannot guarantee a perfectly safe environment while traveling in Haiti or the Dominican Republic. Use the following web sites to inform yourselves on travel safety.

Check with the U.S. Department of State web sites for current travel information.

Travel Tips: [http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/checklist.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/checklist.html)

Travel Warnings and Alerts: [http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html)

Country Specific Information: [http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country.html)

Check with Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada.

[https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/haiti](https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/haiti)

**Communicating Travel Plans and Dates:**
Again, Mission Possible takes your safety very seriously. For your safety and the safety of the team, we do not publish specific travel plans or dates online or through social media sites. We would suggest that you too keep travel plans and dates confidential and communicated only with family and close friends. Not only does this protect your interests here at home, but it also protects your safety as you travel.

**Early Departure:**
There may be a variety of reasons you would return home earlier than planned from your trip. Examples include health or emotional issues, injury, actions contrary to Mission Possible standards, natural disaster or civil unrest, unexpected death in the family, etc. In any case, early return from a Mission Possible trip is at your expense.
Packing List

☐ Minimal Toiletry Kit:
  o Qtips
  o razor
  o toothbrush and paste*
  o brush or comb
  o deodorant*
  o feminine products*
  o hand sanitizer* and sanitizing wipes
  o 1-2 rolls of toilet paper (single thickness is best for Haiti septic systems)
  o Put all carry-on liquids and gels inside a 1-quart, clear Ziploc bag (airport security rule)

☐ Skin protection:
  o lip balm
  o sunburn lotion

☐ Personal Medications (a 2 week supply) and Medical Equipment*

☐ Documents
  o Passport
  o Others as directed by the team leader

☐ Alarm clock (battery or wind-up)
☐ Beach towel
☐ Small Pillow (Optional)
☐ Hangers (Optional - if you want to hang up your clothes)
☐ Squeeze bottle/ Water bottle (empty)*
☐ Laundry soap for washing out your clothes in the sink (Optional)
☐ Camera/ Batteries (these are very expensive in-country)*
☐ Games or cards (Optional)
☐ Bible for private devotions and for ministry*
☐ Teaching materials (if you are providing training)
☐ Daypack or fanny pack to use when visiting the village/mountain schools (size to hold travel toilet paper, small hand sanitizer, snacks, and water bottle)
☐ Notebook or trip journal and pens to record your experiences
☐ Spare glasses and/or sunglasses*
☐ Flashlight and batteries
☐ Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothes
☐ Work and project tools and materials (if applicable for your trip)
☐ Spending money ($5 to $25 per souvenir – low bills preferable. Food and beverage money during flights/airport time to and from Haiti.

* Consider these items for your carry on bag. If carried on, they must be in 3 oz. or smaller containers. All jells, liquids, and sprays that are carried on must be in a one quart, clear, zip-lock bag.
Packing List - continued

☐ Clothing (All clothing must meet Mission Possible acceptability standards)
  o Sturdy, closed-toed shoes for working and walking
  o Water Shoes at beach (the beaches are rocky)
  o Comfortable shoes/sandals/flip-flops for evenings at the Mission Center
  o Under garments*
  o Pajamas
  o Shirts*
  o Women - Dresses or skirts to the knee when sitting and loose fitting
    Capri’s or long pants to work in (longer shorts or capris for evening use at the Mission Center)
  o Men - Casual Pants, Jeans and Shorts (shorts only for evening use at the Mission Center)
  o Bathing Suit
  o Belt
  o Work gloves and goggles (if applicable for your trip)
  o Hat or sunhat (optional)
  o Handkerchiefs or personal size tissues

* Consider these items for your carry on bag. If carried on, they must be in 3 oz. or smaller containers. All jells, liquids, and sprays that are carried on must be in a one quart, clear, zip-lock bag.
Haiti Immigration Cheat Sheet

You will be given two forms to fill out on the airplane as you travel to Port-au-Prince. The format of the forms may change, but here is the pertinent information you will need to fill in these forms.

For the Immigration Form:

- Your Last Name
- Your First Name
- Your Birthday – note the date format difference of DD/MM/YYYY
- Country of Birth (USA, Canada, etc.)
- Nationality (USA, Canada, etc.) – most likely this is the same as Country of Birth
- Passport Number: ___________________________
- Flight number to Port-au-Prince: ___________________________
- Travel Purpose: Recreation
- Address #1: National Road 1, Montrouis/Lanzac
  (Alternate city: Montrouis – pronounced Mō-ēē)
- Haiti Phone Number: 5093-762-0403

Below the perforation:

- Your Last Name
- Your First Name
- Your Birthday – note format difference of DD/MM/YYYY
- Country of Birth (USA, Canada, etc.)
- Nationality (USA, Canada, etc.) – most likely this is the same as Country of Birth
- Passport Number:

 **Keep all parts of this form together.** This bottom section will be given back to you when you pass through immigration. You must have this bottom section with your passport when you leave Haiti. Be sure to keep track of this bottom section when it is returned to you.

For the Customs Declaration Form:

- Much of the same information will be needed for the customs declaration form.

The next pages show you a copy of the immigration and customs forms, as of January 2011, and give you an idea of what the forms will be like.
Dates are: DD/MM/YYYY

**Flight number**

**USA Do not use**

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WELCOME TO HAITI
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE
CUSTOMS GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

CUSTOMS DECLARATION

Each passenger arriving in Haiti must fill this form according to the disposition of article 98 of the customs Code. (One declaration per Family)

Last Name: [Name]
Other Name(s): [Name(s)]
Address in Haiti (city and number): [Address]
Town: [Town]
Address in country of residence (street and number): [Address]
City: [City]
State or Province: [Province]
Postal Code: [Postal Code]

day Month Year
Date of Birth

Passport Number
Nationality
Country of Residence

Company
Flight Number

Arriving by: [Sea] [Ground] [Air]

Do you have any merchandise to declare? [ ] Yes [ ] No

(See warning)

Are you carrying cash or monetary instruments equivalent or superior to G400,000.00? [ ] Yes [ ] No

($1,000 USDollars)

Are you in possession of meat, plants, agricultural products, live animals, pharmaceutical products, cigarettes, cigars, alcoholic beverages?

[ ] Yes [ ] No

If you answered yes to one or more questions, please fill out the table below

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I certify that my declaration is correct.

Signature of traveler: [Signature]

Date of travel: [Date]

WARNING

I. Following article 98 of the customs code, all travelers handle a G400,000.00. Merchandise which are obviously not usual luggage, whose importation is over the substituted tolerance or those of which the importation is contrary to commercial intent is seizure will be imposed.

Following the special dispositions of the law on customs tariff (FDS): this privilege can only be given once during the same year.

II. All travelers of friends, benched or assets abroad or coming from abroad for an amount of more than four hundred thousands gourdes (HTG 400,000.00) or the equivalent in American currency of ten thousands dollars (USD 10,000.00) must be made by or via a credit agency or an authorized financial institution, in application of articles 2.1.2.2.1.3 February 21st, 2001 law dealing with assets laundering coming illicit drug traffic and other serious offenses.

This space reserved for administration

AGENT

CHIEF DE POSTE