



## Haiti Travel FAQ

### **How much does a trip cost?**

The total cost of a trip is \$1000, plus the cost of airfare.

This will be applied toward airfare, in-country travel, in-country food and lodging, security, trip leaders, and in-country projects.

The Ncompass Missions Coordinator will organize flights and lodging for you.

In addition to the cost of travel, travelers are responsible for paying for pre-trip vaccinations, mosquito nets, or other optional (yet recommended) travel items.

### **What do payment plans look like for trips?**

- 4 months prior to departure: travel application due along with \$25 application fee (applied toward your total trip cost)
- 3.5 months prior to departure: all paperwork & a copy of your passport is turned in and a \$300 payment is due
- 3 months from departure: a \$700 payment is due
- 1.5 months from departure: remaining payment is due

### **Can I fundraise for this trip?**

YES! We encourage you to do so. We ask that you have your friends and family indicate your name, and the trip month/year in their donation so that we can allocate it correctly. You will be responsible for making sure the payment due dates are met with either your fundraising, or personal contribution.

### **What happens if I raise more than what is required to go?**

Donations that exceed the requirements for the total trip costs will be allocated toward on-the-ground projects. If you have contributed personally toward your trip, and wish to be reimbursed, we can reimburse you up to the amount that is over the

total cost of your trip, and no more than what you have personally contributed.  
*Example: total cost was of trip is \$1500, you personally donated \$500. With your donation and your friends, you raised \$2500. The overage of \$1000 will be used for on-the-ground projects during or after your trip. You can, however, be reimbursed up to \$500 you contributed if you choose.*

### **Is there recommended reading to help prepare for this trip?**

Traveling to Haiti can be quite the culture shock. In addition to attending all of your pre-trip meetings, we strongly suggest connecting with your Team Leader, or the Travel Coordinator for any questions you have regarding your trip or Haitian Culture. We also suggest reading [When Helping Hurts](#) by Steve Corbett, which will give you a good overview of the philosophy that Ncompass has for how we work in Haiti. Haitian culture is relational, and slow-paced. As hard as it can be sometimes, we design trips to focus more on relationship building than on task-lists.

### **What will we be doing while we are there?**

Every trip is structured differently. We ask that you bring a flexible and patient attitude with you! The Ncompass Travel Coordinator, Maranatha House Director and your Trip leader are working together behind the scenes to put together an agenda that is meaningful and practical for the people we work alongside in Haiti. We invite your ideas and are open to discussion about what can be done on the trip. However, please note that as we design projects, our primary goal is to serve, develop, and empower the Haitian people that is fitting to their culture. If you have questions about your particular trip, please contact our Missions Coordinator, [Kimmy.Christensen@worldncompass.org](mailto:Kimmy.Christensen@worldncompass.org).

### **Is the water safe to drink?**

There are a number of wells in Titanyen where the community obtains their drinking water. However, we require Ncompass travelers to only drink bottled water, which will be provided for you. The reason is that travelers' digestive systems may have an adverse reaction to the water since it is held to different

sanitary standards.

### **Where do we sleep?**

Most Ncompass travelers will stay at Mission of Hope in the same village as the orphanage. Mission of Hope will provide three meals a day and lodging accommodations with 24 hour security. A bed will be provided, and males and females will sleep in separate rooms. In unique situations (at the discretion of the Missions Coordinator and Executive Director), small teams may stay at the Maranatha House Orphanage or at the home of our Orphanage Director during their trip. In the cases where no bed is provided, sleeping bags and pads will need to be carried with you to Haiti.

### **What do we eat while in Haiti?**

Mission of Hope will provide 3 meals for you based on local cuisine and American food. Though the hospitality and preparation in these meals is extraordinary it is recommended that you **bring snacks** based on your caloric needs (e.g. jerky, dried fruit, trail mix, etc.). If you are staying at the Maranatha House, you will eat with the children. We encourage you to bring snacks based on your caloric need.

### **What kind of shots and medication do I need? Other health concerns?**

Depending on your history of international travel the level of medication and vaccinations you need will differ. You are strongly encouraged to contact your local physician and/or travel clinic to determine what you will need ***before you depart***. Many doctors recommend making an appointment at least 2-3 months in advance with them in case you need a series of vaccines.

It is also suggested that you bring bug repellent to counteract the mosquito presence there (mosquitos are a key transporter of malaria). Repellent containing deet has shown to be effective (please refer to the possible dangers of using deet on your body before using).

For comfortable attire lightweight activewear is recommended such as dry-fit shirts, hats, sunglasses and lightweight “rip-away” pants that can alternate between pants and shorts. Shoes suitable for moderate hiking with adequate ankle support

are also recommended.

**Do I need my passport?**

Yes! Please make a copy of your passport as a backup on your trip (travelers in the past have had paper copies). This ensures if your real passport is lost, or stolen that you have a back up (remember to keep these documents in separate locations).

**Is Ncompass a religious organization?**

Yes. Ncompass is a Christian organization. Please refer to our statement of faith on the application or our website for more details. We encourage people of any faith to attend our trips and partner with Ncompass' mission.