



Nicaragua

Church Reconstruction

Dates: Flexible, 10-12 days

Individual Budget: approx. \$733

This includes food, lodging, in-country transportation, and travel/health insurance. This is an estimated cost and does not include international flights

Materials for Project: \$4,000

This includes materials for all projects and required tools. The whole volunteer team should provide these costs.



Project

The LHM Ministry Center in Nicaragua – Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones (CPTLN) or Christ for All Nations, shares word of comfort and hope in Christ with people who have been battered by national disasters, endured difficult economic circumstances and that currently have a high unemployment problem. Providing a message of hope with people in these times allows the spread of the Gospel in Nicaragua.

A team is needed to put windows, doors and tiles in the Church in Granada City, where Pastor Guillermo offers worship services and shares the Gospel with people in the area. Volunteer teams will also be involved in other spiritual tasks like visiting some high schools with Project JOEL, a Latin American outreach program geared toward troubled teens, as well as touring some rural districts to see directly the work that LHM-Nicaragua is doing in the city which is about 25 miles from Managua, the capital city.

Project Location

Nicaragua is located in Central America with Honduras to the north and Costa Rica to the south. Coastlines run on the east to the Caribbean Sea and to the west to the Pacific Ocean. The climate is hot and humid, with the “summer” dry season running from mid-November to mid-May and the “winter” rainy season from mid-May to mid-November. The countryside ranges from hills and volcanoes to beaches and tropical jungles.

Though Nicaragua is now governed by democracy, its people have struggled against years of corrupt dictatorship, revolution, and civil war. The country is now considered the poorest in the hemisphere. The economy is reliant on agriculture focused mainly on coffee and corn. Poverty is a growing concern with about 45 % surviving on less than one dollar a day.

Itinerary

- Day 1. Arrival and rest.
- Day 2. Orientation, visit project site and planning
- Day 3. Worship and free time
- Day 4. Workday
- Day 5. Workday
- Day 6. Workday
- Day 7. Workday
- Day 8. Workday
- Day 9. Wrap up of project
- Day 10. Worship and free time/sightseeing
- Day 11. Sightseeing
- Day 12. Departure

A detailed itinerary will be customized and provided to you by LHM according to your travel days and team size.

Entry Documentation

- A visa is not required for entry into Nicaragua for stay up to three months
- U.S. Passport must be valid 6 months beyond arrival date
- Tickets and Documents for return or onward travel



Lodging and Meals

The team will be staying at one of three hotels – Hotel Los Balcones, Posada Dona Blanca, or Hotel El Convento depending on the availability at the time. The team will eat their meals at a choice of local restaurants. To check out the hotel recommendations visit www.losbalcones.com; www.posadadonablanca.com; www.hotelesconvento.com.

Sightseeing

The team may visit many different sites such as volcanoes, a day at the beach, and tour the cities of Leon and Granada City to see the beautiful colonial architecture and meet the friendly locals of Nicaragua.

Budget

Sample budget based on 10 people for 10 days:

Individual Costs		
Travel Insurance	\$3.30 per person per day	\$33.00
Lodging	\$45 @ 10 days per person includes breakfast	\$450.00
Food- lunch & dinner	\$15 average for 10 days	\$150.00
Transportation (include airport)	\$50 per day x 10 days/10 people	\$50.00
Bottled Water	\$5 per day	\$50.00
Total		Approx. \$733.00

You must also budget for your international flights, miscellaneous cost with visas, sightseeing and souvenirs. An arrival tax of \$15 may be included with your flight costs.

The budget is an estimate and your team may choose to eat more or less expensive, which would affect your budget. We generally over-budget as much as possible so you do not run short of funds, but it never hurts to have some extra funds available. It would also be wise to carry a small amount of additional contingency funds for any medical emergencies that may occur or unexpected costs.

Project Costs are \$4,000 which covers all the materials, tools, administrative costs and the services of a professional construction worker to coordinate the project.

The timeline for payment of both Project Costs and team costs will be provided once specific travel dates are determined. Project Costs must be paid 4-6 weeks prior to departure and Individual Costs must be paid 2-3 weeks prior to departure. In some cases, if LHM needs to make hotel or transport reservations, we may ask for partial payments to be made on a different timeline.



Insurance Coverage

Medical Evacuation for all team members is mandatory and LHM provides insurance from AIG at the cost of \$3.30 a day. We will provide you with an insurance card with a policy number and a contact phone number in cases of extreme emergency – (i.e. something that requires evacuation.) For all other claims please pay any bills that you incur and make a claim directly to the insurance company when your return.

Vaccinations

CDC recommends:

Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
<u>Routine</u>	Recommended if you are not up-to-date with routine shots such as, measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) vaccine, poliovirus vaccine, etc.
<u>Hepatitis A</u> or immune globulin (IG)	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in countries with an intermediate or high level of hepatitis A virus infection (see map) where exposure might occur through food or water. Cases of travel-related hepatitis A can also occur in travelers to developing countries with "standard" tourist itineraries, accommodations, and food consumption behaviors.
<u>Hepatitis B</u>	Recommended for all unvaccinated persons traveling to or working in countries with intermediate to high levels of endemic HBV transmission (see map), especially those who might be exposed to blood or body fluids, have sexual contact with the local population, or be exposed through medical treatment (e.g., for an accident).
<u>Typhoid</u>	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in Mexico and Central America, especially if staying with friends or relatives or visiting smaller cities, villages, or rural areas where exposure might occur through food or water.
<u>Rabies</u>	Recommended for travelers spending a lot of time outdoors, especially in rural areas, involved in activities such as bicycling, camping, or hiking. Also recommended for travelers with significant occupational risks (such as veterinarians), for long-term travelers and expatriates living in areas with a significant risk of exposure, and for travelers involved in any activities that might bring them into direct contact with bats, carnivores, and other mammals. Children are considered at higher risk because they tend to play with animals, may receive more severe bites, or may not report bites.

This is based on current information from CDC and often depends on where the team travels in Nicaragua. Always consult with your doctor regarding vaccinations, as Lutheran Hour Ministries cannot be held liable for any recommendations made.

<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationNicaragua.aspx>

Forms

Please return all the required forms to LHM in St. Louis as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

LHM Ministry Center

Though young, Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) —Nicaragua has made significant progress in using outreach programs to connect with people on a personal basis. Locally known as **Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones (Christ for all Nations or CPTLN)**, this ministry center has invested itself in the **Project JOEL** ministry, and put their own spin on the **Bible Correspondence Courses (BCC)**. The majority of the Nicaraguan population is categorized as "youth," making **Project JOEL** a valuable tool in reaching the public. LHM—Nicaragua staff and volunteers visit schools, and other outreach arenas to talk to young people about life situations. **Project JOEL** provides Nicaraguan youth with guidance on how to approach choices in life through a biblical perspective.

Another top ministry of LHM—Nicaragua is the personalized program of LHM's **Bible Correspondence Courses**. Many countries use the mail system to provide people with Bible lessons that are completed independently. Instead, LHM—Nicaragua sends volunteers to give interactive lessons to participants. These volunteers are able to answer any questions people have concerning the lessons, and tailor the discussions to the specific needs of **BCC** students. LHM—Nicaragua has multiple offices within the country. The original office is located in Chinandega, while a more recent office was opened in León. Furthermore, LHM—Nicaragua has plans to open an office in Managua. Having several offices in the larger cities of Nicaragua helps LHM reach the most people possible.

Contact Information

Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones (CPTLN)
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de Casa Museo Rubén Darió
(20 Varas a bajo #503)
León
NICARAGUA

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You will learn about Nicaragua through authentic cross-cultural experiences and will have the opportunity to share the love of Jesus. If you are interested in touching lives in Nicaragua please call Audrey Walker @ 314-317-4268 or email audrey.walker@lhm.org.