



VIETNAM

House Construction

Dates: Flexible

Individual Budget: Approx. \$570. This includes food, lodging, in-country transportation, translators, and travel/health insurance. This is an estimated cost and does not include international flights, and is based on a team of 10 people for 10 days in country.

Project Costs: \$6,070. This includes all materials, required tools and labor costs for construction workers. This is a shared cost between all team members.



Construction Project

The project consists of building four houses for the poor in Long ho district, Vinh Long province, South Vietnam. Some pre-construction will already be finished upon your arrival. The houses will have the frame work with concrete columns, the front wall of the houses will be finished with brick and the roof will be covered with metallic boards. Your team will work with the local residents to complete the houses by building the left, right and back wall of the house with water coconut leaf. You will also paint the windows and lay floor for the house using bricks.

Project Location

Construction will take place in Vinh Long province of South Vietnam. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a communist country in Southeast Asia, is situated in eastern Indochina—bordering China, Laos, Cambodia, and the South China Sea. It is the most populous country among the mainland Southeast Asian countries. Only about eight percent of Vietnam's population claims Christianity, but a growing, witnessing Christian church is emerging from years of persecution. Since reunification in 1975, a turning to God is taking place in both registered and unregistered churches, especially among the mountain tribal peoples of central and southern Vietnam.

This project will not only provide housing for poor residents, but also provides an opportunity to increase the ministry of LHM—Vietnam in rural areas, strengthen the partnership of the local congregation and improve the relationship with the local authorities.

Sample Itinerary

- Day 1. Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City and rest
- Day 2. Worship. Visit ministry area. Orientation.
- Day 3. Workday
- Day 4. Workday
- Day 5. Workday
- Day 6. Workday
- Day 7. Workday
- Day 8. Workday
- Day 9. Worship and sightseeing
- Day 10. Workday, Wrap up project
- Day 11. Depart for home

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

Entry Documentation

- U.S. Passport must be valid 6 months beyond arrival date
- Visa is required for entry into Vietnam.

Travel Documentation

- U.S. Passport must be valid 6 months beyond arrival date
- Visa is required-team is responsible for obtaining their visas. Fees for visa will be approximately \$46.
- Visa Application Forms, fully completed and signed
- Passport-type photographs required
- Documentation for return or onward travel

Visit the Embassy of Vietnam's web site at www.vietnamembassy-usa.org for the most current visa information and fees.

Embassy of Vietnam

1233 20th St NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20036

Tel. 202.861.0737

Fax 202.861.0917

info@vietnamembassy.us

consular@vietnamembassy.us

Sightseeing

The team will be offered sightseeing at the fruitful farm and the floating market. There are additional costs for sightseeing not included in the individual budget of approximately \$20/person which includes transportation and lunch.

Travel Insurance

Medical Evacuation insurance 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 on it and a contact number in cases of extreme emergency – i.e. something that requires evacuation. The person you talk with will advise you on what to do in those circumstances. For all other claims please pay any bills that you incur and make a claim directly to the insurance company when you return.



Lodging and Meals

Based on availability, accommodations will be made at Mekong hotel in Vinh Long. Breakfast is included at this hotel. Lunch will be at the worksite with dinner at local restaurants near the hotel.

Budget

Sample budget based on 10 people for 10 days in country:

Individual Costs		
Travel Insurance	\$3.30 per person per day, including travel days	\$39.60
Lodging	\$20/person/night x 9 nights, double occupancy \$30/person/night x 9 nights, single occupancy	\$180.00 \$270.00
Food- lunch & dinner	\$12/day average x 10 days	\$120.00
Transportation (include airport)	\$8/day x 10 days	\$80.00
Bottled Water	\$5/day x10 days	\$50.00
Total-Double occupancy		\$469.60
Single occupancy		\$559.60

You must also budget for your international flights, visa, vaccinations, miscellaneous cost with sightseeing and souvenirs. An airport tax should be included with your flight costs. Be sure to check this when booking your flights. 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; 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

Project costs are \$6,070.00 which covers all the materials, required tools, and labor costs for the local construction workers for the construction of the houses. These costs are a shared cost from all team members.

The timeline for payment of both Project Costs and Individual Costs will be provided once specific travel dates are determined. Project Costs must be paid 6 weeks prior to departure and Individual Costs must be paid 2 to 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.

Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Vaccine recommendations are based on the best available risk information. Please note that the level of risk for vaccine-preventable diseases can change at any time.

Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
Routine	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.
Hepatitis A 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.

Hepatitis B	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).
Typhoid	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in Southeast Asia, especially if staying with friends or relatives or visiting smaller cities, villages, or rural areas where exposure might occur through food or water.
Japanese encephalitis	Recommended if you plan to visit rural farming areas and under special circumstances, such as a known outbreak of Japanese encephalitis, see country-specific information .
Rabies	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.

Malaria

Areas of Vietnam with Malaria: Rural only, except none in the Red River Delta and the coast north of Nha Trang. Rare cases in the Mekong Delta. None in Da Nang, Haiphong, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Nha Trang, and Qui Nhon. ([more information](#))

If you will be visiting an area of Vietnam with malaria, you will need to discuss with your doctor the best ways for you to avoid getting sick with malaria. Ways to prevent malaria include the following:

- Taking a prescription antimalarial drug
- Using insect repellent and wearing long pants and sleeves to prevent mosquito bites
- Sleeping in air-conditioned or well-screened rooms or using bednets

It is particularly important when traveling to Vietnam that you have detailed information of where you are going within this country because malaria prevention recommendations vary depending on where you go within the country.

Some areas of Vietnam have resistance to certain antimalarial drugs. There are also some areas where the risk of malaria is low, and taking an antimalarial drug is not recommended. See the [malaria information listed by country](#) to find out the best way for you to prevent malaria for the area you plan to visit in Vietnam. For detailed information about each of these drugs, see [Table 3-11: Drugs used in the prophylaxis of malaria](#). For information that can help you and your doctor decide which of these drugs would be best for you, please see [Choosing a Drug to Prevent Malaria](#).

To find out more information on malaria throughout the world, you can use the [interactive CDC malaria map](#). You can search or browse countries, cities, and place names for more specific malaria risk information and the recommended prevention medicines for that area.

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

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel>

Forms

Please return all required forms to LHM St. Louis if you have not already done so.

LHM Ministry Center

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)—Vietnam works with existing government-recognized congregations and organizations to assist in outreach in this country, where atheism is the "semiofficial" religion. Government regulations prohibit any religious activities outside the church; therefore, LHM—Vietnam cooperates with local congregations to spread the Gospel through programs such as **Bible Correspondence Courses (BCC)**, puppet shows, videos, and musical performances.

Since all television and radio stations belong to the Vietnamese government, LHM—Vietnam cannot broadcast Christian messages through the media. The ministry center meets this challenge by showing LHM produced animated cartoons to young audiences inside local churches. Residents in remote areas, especially children, do not have access to televisions, making LHM—Vietnam's video projection a popular event. Children and adults take delight in watching the LHM-Vietnam puppet shows. The team performs plays such as "The Lost Son" to teach about the love, forgiveness, and salvation of Jesus Christ. Many audiences are so inspired after watching the puppet shows that they vow to trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior.

With such strict government regulations inviting youth to the church to listen to the Gospel is not easy. Therefore, LHM—Vietnam creatively attracts youngsters with its evangelistic music show performed by a Christian musical team. LHM—Vietnam's **Equipping The Saints (ETS)** program trains lay persons to nurture the spiritual life of individuals referred to LHM. Most of the local congregations lack the materials as well as the means to train their congregational workers, so **ETS** is highly appreciated in the community.

Contact Information

Mr. Dinh Hai Au
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Director: Mr. Dinh Hai Au

Email: goinghome.hai.au@gmail.com

