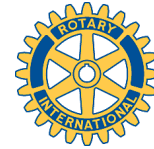


Nicaragua 2012 travel fact sheet:



What is the project: In Chinandega, we will extend the school we started next to the dump. We are planning to have our physician team members hand out parasite medications and vitamins. We will entertain and feed poor children. We built clinics in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 through a partnership with the local Chinandega and US and Canada based rotary clubs.

Dates: The week of spring break 2012 (Friday Mar 16-sat Mar 24).

What will we do: We will mainly assist with construction. This includes hauling concrete blocks, mixing cement, digging dirt, but also cleaning up, entertaining the local children and providing moral support. No skills required to speak of. The foundation will be poured as we arrive and the roof will be up as we leave. Finishing will be done the weeks after. This year we will also provide medical assistance and put an entertainment program together for the children.

Why: The school is badly needed in a community of 700 people, living literally of the local city dump. Also, medical supplies are urgently needed to provide basic healthcare. The Mercado project will provide a place for young kids and teenagers to learn a skill and have a safe place to stay as their parent work on the market.

How much will it cost to travel: You should budget \$1000-\$1350 depending on the airfare. You are responsible for making your own travel reservations. Airfare could be up to \$800, however if you shop around, it can be as low as \$700. Several of our travelers use frequent flyer miles; you will fly into Managua which is served by American, Delta and Continental. Hotel cost is \$50/night double occupancy, \$40 for singles, except for the last night (and any additional nights stay in Managua), for which it is \$90/night. Food cost depends on how much you like to spend, ranging from \$15-25/day. Transportation cost is \$200 for the week.

Who will take care of us: We are the guests of the Chinandega Rotary club. They typically participate in the construction, host a party, and make sure we are taken care of. Leading the group is Herman Oosterwijk with other members of the Rotary Clubs that have traveled to Nicaragua in the past.

What if anything happens (e.g. emergency): Several Chinandega rotary members are physicians who make it a number one priority to take care of us. We have had excellent experience, having had some minor events happen to us the past trips.

How will we get around: The local Rotarians will always accompany us from the moment we arrive at the airport till we depart. Transportation is provided from and to the hotels, clinic, etc.

What about our safety: Nicaragua is run by Daniel Ortega, head of the Sandinista party. The political situation could be of concern, however demonstrations and unrest is typically limited to the capital Managua prior to any new elections. Note that literally thousands of US volunteer/citizens visit this country, which is the poorest country in Latin America.

What about the food: Like any Latin American country, you have to be careful with what you eat and drink. We use bottled water and eat at "clean" establishments.

Anything else you should be concerned about: We are traveling to a 3rd world country in the tropics. Even although we stay at a clean hotel and are very careful with the food, you should check the Health Information from the CDC State department for any travel precautions, including recommended vaccinations.

