



Traveling to Haiti

What should I bring for up to a week in Haiti?

Clothing: Best to bring cotton and/or other breathable fabrics designed for hot temperatures. It is possible to have laundry done, by hand and hung out to dry. Apart from traveling attire, we suggest you pack:

- Comfortable walking shoes--sneakers, sandals, crocs, etc. and one pair of shoes suitable for nice occasions (Basically, bring one extra pair of shoes apart from your travel attire.)
- Flip flops or “shower shoes”
- Bathing suit
- Bandanna or handkerchief
- Sweat shirt or long-sleeved shirt for chilly evenings in the mountains
- Light rain jacket (optional May – October, not necessary November - April)
- Light weight sleeping attire

Men:

- A shirt for every day you're in Haiti, at least one long-sleeved button down.
- 2 or 3 pairs of shorts (three days in Haiti = two pairs of shorts).
- 1 or 2 pairs of lightweight long pants, one pair that's suitable for nice occasion.

Women:

- Two pairs of pants and shorts and 1 or 2 skirts or dresses (everything of modest length). At least one skirt or dress should be appropriate for a nice occasion.

Toiletries:

- Shampoo and deodorant
- Toothpaste and toothbrush
- Any other hygiene products you need for personal care

Medical Supplies: We have a first-aid kit on hand.

- Prescription medications in original containers
- Anti-Malaria medication *if you decide to* – Please consult your physician and/or read [Center For Disease Control info on Haiti](#). Notice the “most” and “some” categories. *It's also important to note that Malaria is not common where you'll be staying and that many visitors who come to Haiti with us don't get immunizations. We've never had a problem to-date.*
- Additional things you may wish to consider bringing on any international trip: A couple Band-Aids, Dramamine (if you are prone to motion sickness--plane, bus or boat), Pepto-Bismol tablets, anti-diarrhea medicine.

Travel documentation:

- Email flight information to john@haitipartners.org so that we can greet you outside of airport.
- Passport
- Address for John & Merline Engle. You will need this to fill out documents on the plane.

#32 Rue Borno Prolonge, Petion-Ville, Haiti

Contact: Merline Engle: merline@haitipartners.org (509) 4627-2757,

Alex Myril: alex@haitipartners.org, (509) 4773-4633,

John Engle: john@haitipartners.org and (Whatsapp too): 202-236-6532

Port au Prince airport tips:

- Have \$10 ready for entrance fee, \$2 for luggage cart, and several dollars for tips if you choose to accept help from skycaps. They're aggressive, but don't feel obligated to use them.
- If you use a skycap, communicate that he will take your luggage **to the car**. Don't pay him until you get to your car. \$5-\$10 tip per passenger is appropriate depending on the number of bags.
- A Haiti Partners rep will meet you outside the exit of the airport and will have a sign with your name on it. John, Alex or Benaja will be at the airport to pick up large groups.

Good Ideas / Optional:

- Record of vaccinations
- Day pack and water bottle (stay hydrated!)
- Sunblock, hat and sunglasses (depending on your sensitivity)
- Insect repellent
- Laptop (Wi-Fi available at guesthouse and at Children's Academy)
- Smartphone/camera and/or video camera, journaling materials
- Wet wipes, hand sanitizer, tissues and snacks
- Earplugs (for night noises you may not be used to, such as roosters crowing and dogs barking)
- Haitian-Creole resources: [Haiti Hub: Practicing Most Common Phrases](#)
- Pictures of your family, a sample of what you do (to share with Haitian people)
- Small gifts are sometimes appropriate (flashlights, USB flash drives, soccer ball (with pin for inflation) and jump ropes, baseball caps, tee-shirts, other nice clothes.

Money

Your meals, lodging and in-country transportation are covered with the money you've paid to Haiti Partners for your trip. For payment to Haiti Partners: <https://haitipartners.secure.force.com/donate/> or mail check made out to "Haiti Partners" to Haiti Partners, PO Box 2865, Vero Beach, FL 32961

- **Cash:** We suggest that you have a minimum of \$150 in cash (including small bills: 5's, 10's, 1's)
- **Optional:** Money to buy gifts. Beautiful Haitian crafts will be available, and can range greatly in price from a few dollars to hundreds of dollars for wooden carvings, paintings, etc.
- Consider what you may buy to take home and how much, if any, you intend to give away*.
- Credit Cards: Hotels, restaurants and grocery stores accept major credit cards. Best to notify your credit card company dates of your Haiti travel.
- **If needed:** To obtain extra cash (in Haitian gourdes), you can also bring your checkbook. We have a local business owner that cashes checks assuming John or Merline vouches for them.

***Please don't give any money away without first getting input from someone like John, Merline, or Alex who can help guide you in culturally sensitive and appropriate ways.**