

How to Pack for a Mission Trip

Space is normally at a premium on mission trips, both in terms of packing the vans and in terms of where we will be setting up shop for the week. Pack smart. Use one big duffel bag/suitcase for the majority of your stuff. If you can even fit your sleeping bag inside it, go for it! Place essentials into a small duffel or backpack that can travel with you on the van and from day to day. You may want to leave your pillow out for the van ride as well...but don't forget it! Many times mission trip participants will be required to pack and drop their bag off at the church the day BEFORE leaving in order to ensure everyone has what they need (and nothing they don't) so be sure you are paying attention for important instructions!

In the "big bag:"

- T shirts, lots of T shirts (crop tops or immodest clothing is not appropriate)
- Shorts (no short shorts)
- Sweater, jacket or fleece and pants for cool evenings.
- At least one pair of long pants or a long, ankle length skirt (suitable for a conservative church service)
- Socks, underwear (enough for entire week)
- Modest swimsuit
- Swim towel
- Regular towel
- At least 1 pair of tennis shoes or boots (work-sites)
- Shoes and/or sandals (non-worksites)
- a pair of work gloves
- Raingear: poncho or jacket
- Flashlight or headlamp with 2 sets of batteries
- Bug spray
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Sleeping bag & pillow, ground pad or air mattress
- Large plastic bags for dirty laundry
- Toiletries
- Tools, if required and any other special equipment needed

In a small backpack:

- Bible, notebook, and pen (in a Ziploc bag is a good idea)
- \$40-60 spending cash for meals on the road
- Water bottle
- Snack food
- Any necessary medications in original containers labeled with dosage instructions
- Camera if you want to take pictures

Do NOT bring:

- ❖ Drugs, alcohol, tobacco or other illegal/age restricted substances
- ❖ Fireworks, even if it is the 4th of July
- ❖ Weapons
- ❖ Valuables, cell phones, TVs, stereos, CD players, video games, etc.
- ❖ Your favorite clothing