



Build Home

Mexico 2023

About Your Trip

Amor Europe

Build Home Mexico 2023

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Trip Information

We are so pleased that you have made the decision to become part of this year's **Build Home Mexico** team. Your Mexico experience starts today. Fundraising is all part of this life-stretching experience. We encourage you to see this year as an opportunity to grow in your faith as you lay foundations for the future. Our prayer for you is that this experience will profoundly impact you and transform your relationship with God and the way you see the world around you.

This document seeks to provide you with all the information you will need to prepare for your trip.

Mexico Programme

15 – 25 July 2023

- Sat 15 July — Travel to Mexico
- Sun 16 July — Training day at the campsite
- Mon 17 July — House building day 1
- Tue 18 July — House Building day 2
- Wed 19 July — House Building day 3
- Thu 20 July — House Building day 4
- Fri 21 July — House Building day 5
- Sat 22 July — Key handover + travel to USA
- Sun 23 July — Day off in San Diego
- Mon 24 July — Travel to UK
- Tue 25 July — Arrive back home

Travel & On Location

Accommodation

We will be staying on an Amor campsite. The campsite will have basic toilets and shower facilities. We will be using individual solar showers, which we will fill up in the morning and leave in the sun to warm-up in the heat of the day. We will have a shower each day when we return from the building site.

Food & Drink

All meals and drinking water are included in the trip. We will be eating Mexican food, prepared by Mexican cooks. We will do our best to take into account your dietary requirements, recognising that some of the dietary requirements may be challenging in a less resourced country.

Travel & Medical Insurance

Amor Europe will provide group insurance which is included in the cost of your trip. If you

would like a copy of the insurance policy, please ask your Group Leader.

Emergency Phone Numbers

At a later date, we will provide you with a phone number that your parents will be able to use should they need to contact you while you are in Mexico.

Personal Cash

We recommend you bring a small amount of money for snacks and souvenirs. The amount is completely at your discretion, although we suggest you should not bring more than £50 worth of American Dollars.

Health Advice

Amor Europe are not qualified to advise you on vaccinations. You should seek professional advice from your own doctor or travel clinic. Please ensure you do this early, as some vaccinations need to be taken well in advance of your trip.

Kit List

Each person is expected to bring the following items. It is important that these items do not take up more space than the airline will allow. Please follow the kit list carefully, as cultural sensitivities mean that people without long trousers and tops with sleeves will NOT be allowed on the worksites.

| Your kit checklist... | | |
|--|------------|-----------------|
| Item to bring | I have it! | I've packed it! |
| For night and sleeping... | | |
| • sleeping bag | | |
| • camping mat style mattress | | |
| • small pillow | | |
| • torch with spare batteries | | |
| For wash and hygiene... | | |
| • toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shower gel, shampoo) | | |
| • towel and flannel | | |
| • solar shower (20 litre) | | |
| • swimming costume (no bikinis allowed) — to be used in the showers | | |
| • flip flops — for use in the showers | | |
| • toilet bag — containing baby wipes, antibacterial hand gel (toilet paper is provided) | | |
| • Face mask | | |
| For worksite... | | |
| • work clothes TWO SETS (nothing sleeveless, no shorts allowed, full length trousers only) | | |
| • work shoes (sturdy, no open-toe shoes allowed) | | |
| • work gloves | | |
| • sun hat — ensure it covers neck and ears | | |
| • sunblock, sun screen (high SPF, 30 or preferably 50) | | |
| • insect repellent | | |
| • drinking bottle (large 1.5 litre minimum) labelled clearly with your name | | |
| For personal comfort... | | |
| • camp clothes — shorts and dresses are ok, bring one warm top for evenings | | |
| • non-work shoes (these must be comfortable) | | |
| • sunglasses | | |
| • lip balm | | |
| More essentials... | | |
| • rain wear, kagoule | | |
| • money pouch | | |
| • Bible, notebook, pen | | |

DO NOT BRING: alcoholic beverages, non-prescription drugs, electric or electronic gadgets (hair straighteners, hair dryers, gaming devices, tablets, etc.). We also suggest that you do not bring your mobile phone. You may have no access to electrical power source on the campsite, it will be very limited.

Just Life

To get the most out of your trip, we recommend that you commit to attending the three JUST LIFE weekends where you will have an opportunity to meet people from other groups attending your trip. The weekends will enable you to explore issues of world justice and personal faith. They will also help you to process your overseas experience.

Money Matters

Questions about Trip Fees

What does the £2,075 cover?

Your fees covers all the following...

- **Travel Costs**
Flights to and from the USA, plus onward travel to Mexico.
Travel between campsite and worksite.
It does NOT cover your travel costs to get your group to and from the airport in the UK.
- **Travel & Medical Insurance**
If you would like a copy of the insurance policy please ask you group leader.
- **Food & Accommodation** — while on location.
- **Materials & Tools** — required for building the house.

Where do I send the money raised?

Please ensure that all money goes straight to your Group Leader. Your Group Leader will send funds to Amor Europe on a monthly basis.

By when should my money be paid?

We have set the following deadline for sending in your money:

- end of October 2022 — £150
- end of December 2022 — £600
- end of February 2023 — £1,050
- end of April 2023 — £1,500
- end of June 2023 — £2,075

Please do not save it all up and send it at the last moment! We have to pay the flights, insurance and various other costs in advance, so we need to have the funds sent into us as soon as they are raised.

Gift Aid

If a UK taxpayer is able to donate, then please ask them to tick the Gift Aid box on the **Sponsor Form** or **Donation Slip**. The Gift Aid that Amor Europe receives on these donations will be used to manage the risks on exchange rate fluctuations. For this reason, Gift Aid cannot be added to the fundraising target.

Please note that donations can be Gift Aided only if they are given by tax paying persons not connected to you. Donations by your parents or immediate family, your church funds, another charity or from any other organisation cannot qualify for Gift Aid.

Please note that it is illegal for the money to be raised in small amounts and then ask a taxpayer (a non-relative) to send in a cheque for that amount using Gift Aid.

What happens if I raise more than my target amount?

Many participants will raise funds over their target. Any surplus funds will be used as follows:

Firstly, to cover any other participants who did not reach the target funds; then

Secondly, money will go towards any of the following:

- a discretionary gift may be given to our partner agency in Mexico;
- funding for future Mexico trips;
- buying equipment (tents, tables, chairs, etc.) to be stored in Mexico for future teams.

What happens if I am unable to take part after all?

You will be asked to cover any expenses incurred on your behalf, up to the target amount, unless the withdrawal is for reasons covered by the Travel Insurance.

Fundraising — Getting Started

It may seem ages until the trip but we encourage you to get started as soon as you can. Remember you can't just ask people for money without doing something in return. Keep people close to you updated on how you are doing, and don't feel that you are doing this alone. Get some help from friends, family, and supporters, and put on events and activities to raise the money.

Your Group Leader will provide **Donation Slips**, **Sponsor Forms**, and **Info Flyers** which can be used to help you raise funds. If you wish to use these in large quantities, please **ask your Group Leader for more copies**, or download them from our website: www.amoreurope.org/build

About Donation Slips

Before giving these slips out, ensure to fill in your own name, and information about to whom to pay cheques (if you are unsure, ask your Group Leader). You can use these slips to place on seats before you talk about your forthcoming trip in a church service, or for people to take home and to return to you with a donation at a later date. Ask all donors to seal their gift in the envelope along with the slip, ensuring that their name, address, and donation amount is recorded if they intend to Gift Aid the money (and if so, please ensure they have ticked the Gift Aid box).

About Sponsor Forms

The **Sponsor Form** can also be used to record donations, and will save you using lots of slips and envelopes. They could be used for events such as a sponsored swim, or cycle ride.

About Info Flyers

The **Info Flyers** can be used to tell people about your trip, and what the money they give will go towards.

Some fundraising hints

Ensure you know about the trip in sufficient detail to answer general questions.

Remember that the fundraising challenge is as much a part of the experience trip as the trip itself. Start it sooner rather than later to ensure you have reached your fundraising target at least two weeks before the trip starts. Remember:

- always be polite and thank people as soon as they have donated any money;
- keep track of all slips and sponsor forms;
- ensure you get any adults who pay tax in the UK to Gift Aid the money they give;
- show people the flyers and tell people they can also go to the website « amoreurope.org » for more information;
- read the Questions under “Money Matters” for more information.

Download the “Fundraising Ideas” booklet from the Amor Europe website: www.amoreurope.org/build to get your creativity started.
