

***The Pearl Foundation Nicaragua
Darrell and Linda Hinson
Granada, Nicaragua***

Dear Team Member

We are excited that you have made the decision to visit and work alongside us in Granada, Nicaragua. We are looking forward to serving with you. God is working mightily here, and we are excited to share that with you. We hope that you are preparing mentally and spiritually for the plans that God has for you here and we are praying that your time in Nicaragua would be a blessing.

The 'ground cost' to us for your trip is \$650. This covers your hotel, transportation, translators and meals for the week.

As you prepare for your Mission Trip we encourage you to find a prayer partner who will begin to pray with you, for you and for your trip.

We will prepare a weekly schedule for your trip that you will receive upon your arrival, BUT that could change at any given time. However, we have found that when plans change and you are patient and obedient, God will show us a better idea for how to spend an afternoon or a day. Just be flexible and willing to role with the punches.

There will be opportunities to 'share' a testimony with a Discipleship Class, tell Bible Stories, do a skit and crafts with the children at Back Yard Bible clubs and the Feeding Program, help in serving food to the children at the Pantanal Feeding Program and much more.

Please review the information below which includes suggested items to pack and airport/arrival information.

Necessary Items to bring:

Passport

Personal toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, wash cloth, etc.)

Prescription medicines

Sunscreen

Bug Spray

Hand sanitizer

Camera

Sunglasses

Hat, cap or visor

Small flashlight

Light weight shirts

Shorts, capris, pants

Pants for church on Sunday for ladies and men if we visit a barrio church.

Swimsuit

Sandals, sneakers and comfortable (closed-toed) shoes and socks.

Fanny pack and/or back pack and/or tote bag to carry your camera, money etc. when we are out and about.

Spending money, small bills. (bills cannot be torn or have anything written on them.)

Water Bottle or you can buy a small bottle of water and refill.

Items not to bring:

Ladies, we suggest that you do not bring and/or wear your nice jewelry, this is best left at home in safe keeping.

The Climate

Nicaragua has a predominantly tropical climate which has two seasons, the rainy season (summer) and the dry season (winter). The rainy season lasts from May to October, and the dry season lasts from November to April. The warmest months are March, April, and May. Temperatures generally range between 72° F at night to mid to high 90's° F during the day although temperatures in May can reach 100° F. The humidity makes it feel much warmer, light weight clothing is a must, heavy/thick t-shirts are very hot.

Airport & Arrival Tips

As you fly into the Managua airport you will receive an immigration form to fill out on the plane. The form requires your Nicaraguan address. Please use **Hotel Almirante, Granada, Nicaragua**.

You should find the procedures at the airport to be very easy. Once you deplane, immigration is just a short walk away and simple to find. The airport is very nice, air conditioned, and relatively small with only 6 gates, so it does not feel like you are entering a third world. There are about 6 or 8 lanes for immigration. The immigration officer will need 3 things from you: your **passport**, the **immigration form** mentioned above, and a **\$10** entry fee to obtain your 90-day visa. American dollars are accepted in Nicaragua, but make sure they are in good shape. Immigration, as well as stores, money changers, and merchants in Nicaragua will not accept bills with tears or marks of any kind. So please make sure your dollars are relatively new.

There are easy methods to exchange your American dollars for Nicaraguan cordobas once you arrive in Granada if you wish to get a better exchange rate and use cordobas while in Nicaragua. Twenty dollar bills are generally the best denomination to exchange.

Once you are finished with immigration, you will turn right and walk to baggage claim which has 2 carousels. If you need carts you should be able to find them on the left as you enter the baggage claim area. There is also a big glass window here so you will be able to see us. The carousels are not marked with the flight numbers, but it should not be too difficult to find your luggage..

Once you have collected your luggage, you will walk to the other side of baggage claim to Customs where airport workers will collect your baggage claim receipts. (You obtained these in your departure city so please make sure to take care of them.) You will also be asked for your Customs form during this time, so please keep that handy. After you have your bags checked with the receipts you will be directed up a small ramp to two conveyors where you will have your bags scanned. When you are finished with the scanning process, exit to your left towards a set of sliding glass doors. We will be waiting for you there.

Again, we look forward to having you serve alongside us in Nicaragua. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at LindaJHinson@gmail.com or DarrellRHinson@gmail.com.

Darrell and Linda Hinson

Addys Gonzalez, Jesse Romero, Julissa Ortega and Fatima Sanchez

The Pearl Foundation