



Q & A

Tijuana, Mexico

GOU 1 – March 20-26, 2010

&

GOU 6 – July 11-16, 2010

Dear Youth Leader:

The Global Outreaches Unlimited (GOU) mission trip is rapidly approaching, and we are excited that you are interested or have decided to participate. Following are frequently asked questions and answers that should help with your planning. It is possible information could change; we will do our best to keep you informed.

GENERAL INFORMATION

➤ **Who will be leading the trip in Mexico?**

If you're traveling with a group, you should have a group leader. However, there will be a primary GOU appointed trip leader who will work with the Puente staff while you are at the Puente base.

➤ **Where do we meet and when does the trip officially start?**

Groups should meet at the Von's store between 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. on:

GOU 1: Saturday, March 20

GOU 6: Sunday, July 11

The street address is:

620 Denney Road

San Diego, CA 92154

Get onto 805 south, ASAP take Exit 2, Palm Avenue. At the end of the off ramp turn left and cross over the freeway. Get into the right lane to take the right turn into the shopping center. Park at the east end of the Von's parking lot. There is Chevron gas station, a Taco Bell and a Carl's Jr. all within 1 minute walking distance.

➤ **When does the trip officially end?**

GOU 1: Friday, March 26 after breakfast

GOU 6: Friday, July 16 after breakfast

➤ **When do the trip meals start and end?**

You should plan on eating lunch in the United States on the day your trip begins. The first meal included in your trip price will be the evening meal the day you arrive. Your last meal will be breakfast on the day you leave.

➤ **Is the food safe and can I drink the water?**

Meals will be provided for you at the mission base (Puente De Amistad). The menu for the week will be comparable to a summer camp. Clean drinking water will be provided for you. Please do not drink the water out of the tap or the showers. Doing this will not kill you, but

you might get an upset system. **NOTE:** If you have any **medical dietary** requirements please contact the GOU office.

➤ **What about the famous tacos and Cokes that I always hear about in Mexico?**

Groups love to eat tacos when they are in Mexico. If this is something you desire for a snack we will take you to a safe taco stand where you can also purchase bottled Coke. Groups may do this for a lunch, dinner or a couple hours after the evening meal has been served. You may want to plan some extra money for this.

➤ **What about sleeping arrangements?**

Each person will be assigned a bunk bed with a foam mattress, pillow and blanket. The base provides linens for each bed. Girls and guys will be in separate rooms.

➤ **What kind of bathroom facilities should I expect?**

The base has flushing toilets and great showers with warm water.

➤ **Can I bring items to donate to the needy?**

Yes, however we ask that you pack them in an old suit case or along with your other things. Do not bring huge cardboard boxes full of stuff. Here are a few ideas.

*Clothing of any kind
*Toiletries
*Toys
*Spanish Bibles
*Bubbles
*Crayons

*Small sports equipment
*Soccer balls
*Spanish Tracts
*Balloons
*Face paint

➤ **Will I have access to laundry facilities?**

Yes, the base has a coin operated laundry unit. However, we ask that this be used only when absolutely necessary. (\$1.00 per load to wash, \$1.00 per load to dry)

➤ **Will I have access to a phone and e-mail?**

Group leaders will be given access to a phone and may check their e-mail. Calls to the United States run about \$1.00 per minute. Those leaders making calls must pay on the spot. Short blocks of time will be available daily for leaders only to check & send e-mail.

➤ **How much spending money should I bring?**

\$30-\$50 in small bills is the best (\$1's and \$5's).

➤ **Will we have a chance to go shopping in Mexico?**

Yes. A time for shopping is generally worked into the schedule. We will take you to the market in Tijuana where your group can purchase souvenirs if they would like.

➤ **What if I have a parent who needs to contact the base?**

Base Phone: 011.526.64.625.3114

Brandt cell phone: 619.781.6147

Email: info@puentedeamistad.org

➤ **Do I need to speak Spanish?**

No, but there is value in being able to speak and read a few words of Spanish. You may feel more comfortable knowing you have some understanding of the language and Mexicans will be very pleased when Spanish is attempted. A list of phrases is included on page 7 of this document.

➤ **Do things happen on time in Mexico?**

No. Be flexible.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Who should I communicate with regarding my travel plans?**
Please communicate your travel/transportation plans to both the GOU office (linda@openbible.org) and the Puente (info@puentedeamistad.org) office via email. The Puente office will respond and communicate as necessary with you.

- **What if my group is going to be late to San Diego/Tijuana (whether driving or flying)?**
Try to be on time, but if something unexpected happens, it's no big deal. Call 619.781.6147 (Brandt cell phone) if you are going to be late.

- **Do I need my own transportation while in Mexico?**
Yes. Many of the ministry locations are located some distance from the base. Plan to have a full tank of gas before crossing into Mexico.

- **How do I make arrangements for our ground transportation?**
Your group is responsible for making their own ground transportation arrangements. If you are flying into San Diego, you may choose to rent vehicles from a rental company (see options below). The Puente de Amistad base also has vans they rent to groups on a first-come, first-served basis. They rent for \$120.00 a day which includes gas, insurance, and, in most cases, a driver. Each van will accommodate 11 passengers and a small amount of equipment/luggage. The Puente base charges \$30 to deliver or pick up a group/individual to or from the San Diego airport. Contact our office and the Puente base to coordinate your travel arrangements. You can drive your own vehicle while in Tijuana. However, if you are driving a vehicle that does not belong to you, you will need to complete the Vehicle Insurance form at the end of this Q & A. This form must be completed, notarized and kept in the vehicle at all times. Make sure that whatever vehicle you are driving the insurance is up-to-date.

- **Do I need any special paperwork if I am borrowing a church van or a van registered in someone else's name?**
You need to fill out the vehicle permission form for each vehicle that would fall in this category. (Please see accompanying form.)

- **Who can I rent a van from in San Diego?**
Vans are a hot commodity in San Diego; therefore it is recommended that your group make reservations as quickly as possible. It is your responsibility to make all ground travel arrangements. Listed below are four places that rent vans as well as some other details.

Enterprise San Diego Airport

Airport code for enterprise.com is (SAN)
Location: 1691 Hancock Street
San Diego, CA 92101-1117
Phone: 619.294.3313

Fuller Rentals

Note: Off airport
Location: 560 Auto Park Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91911
Phone: 619.656.3370
Note: Call about shuttle/van drop at airport

Drew Ford Rental

Note: Off airport
Location: 8970 La Mesa Blvd.
La Mesa, CA 91941
Phone: 619.668.7733
Note: Call about shuttle/van drop at airport

➤ **Do I need Mexican driving insurance on my vehicle?**

Mexican insurance is required for all cars entering Mexico by Mexican law! If you are renting a vehicle in San Diego the rental company will require you to purchase insurance through them. If you are bringing your own vehicle or a church vehicle you will either need to purchase insurance at the border or online. Purchasing online is much more efficient and is less hassle. Listed below are two companies that offer insurance over the web.

Baja-Mex Insurance Services, Inc.
619.661.5420
www.bajabound.com

Adventure Mexican Insurance Services, Inc.
800.485.4075 or 831.477.0599
www.mexadventure.com

➤ **Will my vehicle be safe at night?**

Your vehicle will be parked inside a courtyard with a locked gate.

HEALTH INSURANCE

➤ **Will my health insurance from the United States work in Mexico?**

You will have to check with your health insurance provider.

➤ **Is there short-term mission trip insurance available?**

Yes. Groups who desire this coverage may contact:

Insurance Services of America – www.missionaryhealth.net

STM Services International – www.STMServices.com

Global Travel Insurance – www.globaltravelinsurance.com

Go Mission Trip – www.gomissiontrip.com

PERSONAL

➤ **What type of ID will I need?**

It is now required that all persons crossing into Mexico from the United States have a valid US passport.

➤ **Will my cell phone work in Mexico?**

Maybe, maybe not. You will have to check with your cell phone provider. Many cell phone providers are expanding their coverage to include Mexico and other international destinations. Leaders please leave your phone on while in the United States so that we may contact you if we need to.

➤ **What kind of luggage should I use?**

If possible, luggage with wheels is a good idea. On your return to the US you may walk across the border (the Puente staff will give you advice on whether to walk or drive across the border). If you walk, having luggage on wheels is much easier.

➤ **Is there a dress code?**

Yes!

For Girls & Guys

- Knee length shorts are fine at all times, except church.
- Flip flops can only be worn at the base.
- Sandals with a back strap on them may be worn on outreach, however athletic shoes are advisable. For work sites you should wear athletic or work shoes for safety.

- No tank tops for either gender.
- No tight fitting clothes for either gender.
- No t-shirts with inappropriate slogans.

For Girls

- For church services – required to wear dress type clothes. Example, knee length or longer skirts or dresses. Shirts and dresses should have sleeves.
- Piercings – **only** in the ears

For Guys

- For church services – required to wear slacks (docked type) or nice jeans (no holes) and shirts with button down collar.
- Piercings – **NO PIERCINGS OF ANY KIND ARE ACCEPTABLE**

➤ **What should I pack?**

Pack light. You will be in Mexico for 5 nights. Wear things more than once. Don't be afraid of getting things dirty. Try to limit your suitcase to about 30-35 pounds.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One nice outfit to wear to church services is sufficient. (We may go to more than one service. If we do, I recommend wearing the same outfit twice.) These people are poor so please don't overdress. | <input type="checkbox"/> Hygiene products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A couple pairs of long pants | <input type="checkbox"/> Shower soap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 or 4 t-shirts | <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A couple of pairs of knee length shorts | <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modest sleeping attire | <input type="checkbox"/> Brush/comb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweatshirt or light jacket for the evenings | <input type="checkbox"/> One towel & washcloth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoes – dress, work, shower (flip-flops) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Passport |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Prescriptions in original container |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> ID with picture |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Canteen/Water bottle |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Glasses, sunglasses, contacts (and cleaning solutions) |

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen (at least SPF #15) | <input type="checkbox"/> Work gloves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bug repellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Kleenex package – (may need to use in public restrooms which rarely have toilet paper or paper towels) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liquid hand sanitizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camera & film | <input type="checkbox"/> Alarm clock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick | <input type="checkbox"/> Spending money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat | |

RECOMMENDED FOR GROUP LEADER TO BRING

First Aid kit containing at least the following:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adhesive bandages | <input type="checkbox"/> Ace bandage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible fabric bandages | <input type="checkbox"/> Instant cold packs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2" x 3" sterile pads | <input type="checkbox"/> Tylenol, Aspirin, Anti-Diarrhea medicine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gauze wrapping | <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid tape | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors, tweezers, needle, safety pins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antiseptic wipes and cream | |

MINISTRY

➤ **What type of ministry will we be doing?**

There are a wide variety of ministry opportunities. Your ministry schedule will partially depend upon whether or not your group builds a house. Ministry opportunities may include any of the following: local church services, children's ministry, orphanage ministry, street ministry, women's shelter, men's rehab facility, public park and plazas, feeding kitchen, public and private schools, hospice, etc.

➤ **Will the staff show us what to do?**

Training and preparation will be the responsibility of the group team leader as it relates to the scheduled outreach opportunities. The trip leader and/or the Puente staff may have an orientation and debriefing while you are on the base.

Most days will include a time of personal devotions and corporate worship debriefing and fellowship.

➤ **If I have a special song (preferably in Spanish), ministry (interpretive dance, puppets) or gifting will I be able to use it for outreach?**

The Puente base has puppets, a puppet stage and a portable sound system available for use. Coordinate their usage with the Puente staff. We would love to incorporate your gift into the outreach. Let us know what it is, and we will do our best.

Hopefully this Q and A answered many of your questions. If you need clarification on anything or need help with trip coordination don't hesitate to call. We are looking forward to God's best.

Vayo Con Dios (Go with God),



Paul Leavenworth, Interim Director

SPANISH PHRASES

Spanish	English
Hola.	Hello.
Hola, me llamo _____.	Hello, my name is _____.
Soy, cristiano. (male)	I am a Christian.
Soy cristiana. (female)	I am a Christian.
Vivo en los Estados Unidos.	I live in the United States.
Tengo frio.	I am cold.
Tengo calor.	I am hot.
Me gusta Tijuana	I like Tijuana.
Quiero aprender aspañol.	I want to learn Spanish.
Puede ayudarte?	Can I help you?
Cómo te llamas?	What is your name?
Cuánto cuesta esto?	How much does this cost?
Dios es amor.	God is love
Cristo murió por ti y por me.	Christ dies for you and me.
Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco	One, two, three, four, five
Seis, siete, ocho, nueve, diez	Six, seven, eight nine, ten
Diez, veinte, treinta, cuarenta	Ten, twenty, thirty, forty
Cincuenta, sesenta, setenta	Fifty, sixty, seventy
Ochenta, noventa, cien	Eighty, ninety, one hundred
Cien, doscientos, trescientos	100, 200, 300
Cuatrocientos, quinientos	400, 500
Seiscientos, setecientos	600, 700
Ochocientos, novecientos	800, 900
Mil	1,000
Mil, cinco, mil, dieze mil, veinte mil	1,000, 5,000, 10,000, 20,000
Cincuent mil, cien mil	50,000, 10,000



VEHICLE PERMISSION

Some groups may use a vehicle that is borrowed (other than rental). Please make sure that the vehicle has the proper registration papers inside. Also, you will need to have the registered owner complete this sheet. This document should be in your vehicle at all times.

I, _____, the registered owner of vehicle VIN No. _____, do hereby authorize _____ to take this vehicle into Mexico for the purpose of ministering to the people there, from _____ to _____, _____. Vehicle is registered in the state of _____. License number is _____.

Signed _____
(MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE A NOTARY)

Yo, _____, el dueño registrado del Vehículo VIN (Número de Identificación del Vehículo) _____, autorizo y doy mi permiso a _____ para llevar este vehículo a la República de México para ministrar a la gente, desde _____ a _____, _____. El vehículo está registrado en el estado de _____. El número de licencia es _____.

Firma _____
(DEBE SER FIRMADO ANTE UN NOTARIO PÚBLICO)

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

On this _____ day of _____ A.D. 20____, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County, in said State, personally appeared _____ to me known to be the identical person(s) named in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that **he/she/they** executed the same as **his/her/their** voluntary act and deed.

Notary Public