

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR THE DECEMBER 2022 ELEGATIONS

1)WHAT ARE THE DATES OF THE DELEGATION?

Delegation to El Salvador: November 29th to December 5th, 2022. Delegates will have the option to travel by land on December 5th to join the Honduras delegation.

Delegation to Honduras: December 5th to 12th, 2022. Delegates can travel by land from El Salvador or fly directly to San Pedro Sula (NOT TEGUCIGALPA)

Delegation to El Salvador and Honduras: November 29th to December 12th.

2)WHAT IS THE COST OF THIS DELEGATION?

El Salvador, only, delegation: \$950. This includes all housing, food, translation, partner honoraria, and in-country transportation. It does NOT include round-trip airfare, or tips.

Honduras, only, delegation: \$850. This includes all housing, food, translation, partner honoraria, and in-country transportation. It does NOT include round-trip airfare, or tips.

El Salvador and Honduras: \$1,450. This includes all housing, food, translation, partner honoraria, and in-country transportation for Honduras and El Salvador. It does NOT include round-trip airfare, cost of traveling by land from El Salvador to Honduras (approximately \$100), or tips.

1st payment of \$100 is due October 31st, this is a nonrefundable fee.

2nd payment is due November 15th.

To pay, make out your check to the SHARE Foundation, memo “December Delegation” and send it to SHARE, 2425 College Ave., Berkeley 94704. (Checks are preferred - no fees); or online with a 3% fee at the SHARE website: www.share-elsalvador.org.

There is limited financial aid available on a need basis. We have many suggestions of how you can fundraise for this trip. No one should be left behind for lack of funds.

3)WHICH AIRPORT DO I BOOK MY TICKET TO?

El Salvador delegation: you travel to the San Romero “SAL” airport, arriving on November 29th and departing on December 5th

Honduras delegation: you travel to San Pedro Sula “SAP” airport, NOT TEGUCIGALPA, arriving on December 5th and departing on December 12th

El Salvador and Honduras: you arrive on November 29th to San Romero “SAL” airport and depart from San Pedro Sula “SAP” airport on December 12th.

4)WHAT IS THE COVID 19 PROTOCOL TO TRAVEL?

We will follow strict US and Honduras Covid 19 travel protocol; delegates must have a Negative Covid test and have been vaccinated. In the countries, we will follow strict safety guidelines such as using masks, washing hands, keeping distance among delegates and with our hosts, etc. We will stay up to date with regulations before the trip. Delegates with compromised health will be advised to not travel and be a support person for the delegation before and during the delegation. We traveled this past July and December 2021, and January 2022 to El Salvador and Honduras with delegates and practiced successfully and returned with no incidents.

5)ARE THERE CONCERNS ABOUT SAFETY?

El Salvador and Honduras are some of the most violent countries in the region. Our itinerary is developed in close collaboration with local partners, who are aware of risks and mindful to reduce them in every possible way. We will be lodged in secure locations; being part of a group provides some safety. We will not participate in demonstrations or knowingly enter situations that would put us at risk.

Nevertheless, it is important to know that there are high levels of crime, gang activity, and state-sanctioned repression. This is part of the daily reality lived by El Salvador and Honduras and contributes heavily to the continuous flow of people who can no longer live safely at home and who seek asylum elsewhere, including in the United States. This delegation is one of accompaniment, and we encourage participants to consider both the risks and the rewards of this form of activism. SHARE has 42 years of experience organizing delegations to El Salvador and Honduras and has sent over 10,080 delegates. If people are still very concerned about safety, they should not go and join the virtual delegation.

Please check and follow the US Travel Advisories travel.state.gov.

6)WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF DELEGATION?

To remember and celebrate the lives of Ita, Maura, Dorothy, Jean, Berta Caceres and all the martyrs.

To be in solidarity with the organized people of El Salvador and Honduras.

To participate in the Human Rights forums in El Salvador and Honduras.

To return to the U.S. and continue planting the seeds of solidarity.

Each delegate will become a promoter of solidarity, including organizing presentations to share their story, educate their elected officials in Congress, and raising funds to support SHARE's partners in El Salvador and Honduras.

7) WHERE WILL WE STAY?

In El Salvador, we will stay in humble guest houses or hotels. We will have simple, comfortable rooms with two to four beds per room. Meals are simple and healthy and we will have access to purified water at all times.

In Honduras, our program begins and ends in the northern town of El Progreso, about an hour from San Pedro Sula, where we will be hosted at the Sisters of Notre Dame Retreat House in simple, comfortable clean rooms. Meals are simple and healthy, and we will have access to purified water at all times.

8) DO I NEED A PASSPORT OR A VISA TO TRAVEL TO HONDURAS?

A valid passport with an expiration date no less than 6 months from the date you are returning is necessary for travel. U.S. citizens do not need a visa.

9) DO I NEED TO SPEAK SPANISH?

Spanish is not necessary for participation. Interpretation will always be provided.

10) ARE THERE ANY CULTURAL ISSUES OR GROUP NORMS THAT I NEED TO BE AWARE OF? YES:

- a. Wearing modest clothing is most appropriate. Women in Honduras do not usually wear shorts. Skirts, capris and long pants work best. Men often wear longer shorts. Bring a semi-formal outfit for the commemorative events of December 2nd.
- b. Alcoholic drinks are not allowed in the retreat houses where we stay, and it is not appropriate to be drinking in the context of so much suffering in the communities we visit.
- c. It is possible that particular people may approach you personally for financial help of some kind. Please know that we offer support to every community we visit, organization to organization, which is the best way to be in solidarity. We ask you not to give any person-to-person financial assistance if approached.

11)WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS FOR PREPARATION AND FOLLOW-UP FOR THIS TRIP?

Some weeks before the program begins, you'll be asked to engage with study materials that will help you understand the people and places we will visit, as well as the long history of US intervention. On your return home, we hope you will find many ways to share your experience and what you've learned with your community and engage with your local members of Congress. We will support you with ideas and resources for action and advocacy. Those with skills will be asked to organize presentations, blog, write and contact the media. Delegates in certain areas of the US will be invited to host a community leader visiting from El Salvador or Honduras in the future.

12)WILL THERE BE PREPARATORY CALLS FOR DELEGATES?

We will have monthly Zoom meetings to prepare for the delegation, to get to know each other and to answer any questions.

WHAT IS THE PRELIMINARY ITINERARY?

EL SALVADOR

Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022:

Arrive to El Salvador

Wednesday, Nov. 30:

Overview of national context and visits to the sacred places, sites of martyrdom.

Thursday, Dec. 01:

Visit Chalatenango, the cemetery where Ita, Maura, and Karla are buried; visit with the Bishop of Chalatenango, and meet with the communities and their leadership (CCR and CRIPDES) addressing root causes of migration.

Friday, Dec. 02:

Participate in commemorative Mass in Santiago Nonualco where the four churchwomen were murdered.

Gather with **ProVida** and its campaign to educate and prevent cancer in women from underserved rural communities.

Saturday, Dec. 03:

Morning: Participate in the International Forum on Human Rights, hosted by Tutela Legal, Maria Julia Hernandez. Analyze past and current human rights crises in El Salvador and the prospects for truth, justice, and reparations for the victims.

Sunday, Dec. 04:

Attend mass at the crypt of Saint Oscar Romero, and free afternoon to enjoy the beaches of El Salvador. Reflection and Closing dinner

Monday, Dec. 05:

Return to the United States or travel to Honduras

HONDURAS

Monday, Dec. 05:

Arrive in Honduras and orientation by Jesuit Ministries ERIC and Radio Progreso.

Tuesday, Dec. 06:

GROUP A: Travel to Bajo Aguan (5-hour drive and stay overnight.)

Accompany communities struggling to protect their water and Mother Earth from extractive industries; meet with environmentalists persecuted for organizing to save the rivers and defend their “right to NOT migrate”.

GROUP B: Stay in San Pedro Sula to learn about the programs of the Sisters of Mercy.

Wednesday, Dec. 07:

GROUP A: Continue in Bajo Aguan; stay overnight.

GROUP B: Continue with Sisters of Mercy.

Thursday, Dec. 08:

GROUP A: Return to Progreso. (5-hour drive)

GROUP B: Continue with Sisters of Mercy.

Evening: on women in politics from Honduras to Colombia.

Friday, Dec. 09:

Celebrate **Vamos a la Milpa** with Radio Progreso, ERIC, the Notre Dame Sisters and the Women’s Collective of “Arena Blanca”

Saturday, Dec. 10:

Human Rights Forum and **Vamos a la Milpa Agricultural Fair**, hosted by Father Ismael “Melo” Moreno and Radio Progreso.

A Call to Action & Thanksgiving

Sunday Dec. 11:

Convivio with women working on the Milpa and a trip to the beach in Tela.

Monday, Dec. 12:

Return to the United States.