

Overview

This September a group of men will embark on a short-term mission trip to help complete a small construction project supporting <u>6:8 Ministries</u>. The team will spend the week of September 22-28th in Horquetas, Costa Rica. While the main goal of the team is to provide help with a larger project at their ministry base or in the village they serve, the team will also take part in different activities that will allow us to help 6:8 Ministries carry on their day-to-day ministry to the people they serve in Costa Rica. Some of these things include their feeding and prayer ministry along with visiting El Pozo, their children's outreach in the village.

Cost Breakdown

Airline tickets: about \$1000.00 per person

6:8 Ministries: \$700.00 per person

Miscellaneous: \$100.00 (extra bags, unexpected contingencies)

Total: approx \$1800*

Fundraising: A sample letter/email/text will be provided to help let your friends and family know what you're up to and give them the opportunity to help support you financially to make the trip happen.

Weather

- Temperatures in the 70s and 80s. HUMID (dry fit clothing encouraged).
- Daily rain is normal and heavy downpours are common. September is one of the rainiest months in the mountains.

^{*} Each person should also plan on bringing \$100-200 extra, for food en route and other items like souvenirs.

Culture and Language

- <u>Costa Rican culture</u> is a vibrant blend of indigenous heritage and Spanish colonial influence, with a dash of Jamaican, Chinese, and other immigrant cultures lending character and customs. The result is a nation of laid-back, friendly, and happy people.
- The official language is Spanish, but English is very common as well.
- Catholicism is the official religion of Costa Rica and is a required subject in schools. Costa Rica is the only state on the American continent which has established Catholicism as its state religion.

What 6:8 Does

These are the types of projects and activities that typical teams have worked on while down in Costa Rica.

- 1. Painting
- 2. General Ranch property maintenance
- 3. VBS
- 4. Prayer walks
- 5. El Pozo Children's Ministry
- 6. Serve in the feeding center
- 7. Assist at language school classes

A Typical Day

We will engage in a project more focused on property maintenance and construction, but the team at 6:8 will also plan a small variety of some of the other activities mentioned above so that we get a good flavor of the ministry they are doing. We may do a project on the 6:8 property, but we may also help with a project in the village that would help them further their own community engagement. The project will be determined based on the number of men we have coming and the level of experience for different types of work represented in the group.

Evening Program

In the evenings after dinner we will take part in a short program run by the team at 6:8. We will also spend time around the campfire as a group studying Colossians 3:1-17, "Putting On the New Self." In this letter the Apostle Paul encourages the new Christians in Colossae by describing what being in Christ looks like in practice. Specifically we'll spend time considering what this means for us as men. We'll encourage each other to discern what this looks like as men in our families, workplaces, our church, and our communities.