

VISITOR'S INFORMATION PACKET

***Please read thoroughly. Includes new information ***



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Preparation.** Preparing **spiritually** is the single most important thing that you can do before going on any E-Team/missions trip. We recommend that you fast and pray regularly before coming. Ask God to give you His vision and His heart for His little ones.
2. **Border Crossings.** Please do not leave the Ranch to cross back into the United States with any Fruits & Vegetables, Plants, Seeds & Soil, Meat or Game, Eggs, Live birds. By not complying with this it could cause us long delays at the border crossing, up to \$1000 fine for first time offense, and confiscation of the vehicle in the second offense. Please read and be familiar with the retyped version of their official document at the end of this Visitor Packet. When at the border please remove sunglasses and hats. And please do not be on the phone or have a camera out to take photos.
3. **Meals & Water.** Teams have two options: They can:
 - A) Have us provide dinner for them as many nights as they desire-which means that we will purchase, prepare and serve the dinner for a \$4.25 per person per meal fee. Or
 - B) The team is responsible for purchasing and preparing their own meals.

A fully furnished kitchen & dining area will be at your disposal. We can send a guide with you to purchase your food from a large American style grocery store in Juarez. You will also need to buy paper products such as plates, bowls, forks, spoons, toilet paper, etc. To save time, have a menu and shopping list prepared before arrival. We will supply your purified water. **Don't drink any water except the purified water.**
4. **Kitchen.** The kitchen is furnished with a propane stove, oven, microwave, pots and pans, coffeemakers, refrigerators/freezers, chest freezer, large sink, tables and chairs.
5. **Internet.** Guest now have their own WiFi. The passcode is Welcome2R3M. Please do not give this code to the children.
6. **The Visitor's Dorm.** The dorm is a "U" shape building (the original orphanage house). The women will sleep on one side and the men on the other. There are showers and sinks with hot and cold running water and toilets on both sides. In the middle there is a general meeting room that is perfect for devotions and relaxing. **We highly encourage all groups to have daily devotions while at the Ranch.** Please check with Dean for visitor capacity. For your protection, our children are not allowed in your dorm nor you in theirs unless you are on the initial tour or doing a work project inside their dorm. **This will be strictly enforced for everyone's protection.**
7. **Phones.** US Cell phones can many times pick up a US tower-especially Verizon & ATT. Just make sure that Movistar or Telcel is not shown on your phone. You may also want to turn off your DATA and ROAMING capabilities.
8. **Shots.** NO special shots are needed because we are so close to the border.
9. **Papers.** Everyone is **required** to have a US passport to cross in and out of Mexico.
 - A **minor** traveling **without either parent** will need a **notarized permission slip signed by both parents (if possible)**. See the PARENTAL AUTHORITY & TEMPORARY GUARDIANSHIP RELEASE FORM below.
 - If you are traveling with an **adopted child**, please make sure you bring all documentation.
 - Because you will not be traveling more than 25 miles into Mexico, no tourist visa is required by Mexico.

CLOTHING GUIDE

The way that you dress is very important since we desire to serve and minister in a different culture without giving any occasion for stumbling or offense. **Everyone** must adhere to the following guidelines.

If possible please cover your tattoos so as not to distract the kids or be offensive to this culture.

Tattoos mean something different here than in the US. Thank you.

Women / Girls

- Bring skirts or dresses to the knees or below, or modest pants
- Shorts **ARE** allowed as long as they come to the knee
- No low cut tops, tank tops or spaghetti-strap shirts (no sleeveless anything)
- Please don't roll up short sleeves to tan shoulders
- Bring a sweater or light jacket. (the summer nights are occasionally cool)
- Bring appropriate sleeping clothes (you will be sleeping in a dorm)
- No "far out" hair styles OR died hair in unnatural colors
- Bring closed toe shoes (because of the terrain)
- Bring flip-flops for the shower
- Bring hats for working or playing
- **Only one** set of earrings may be worn at a time and must be in the ear lobe
- Because of its association with prostitution in this area, please don't wear bright colored nail polish (red, hot pink, blue, etc.)
- Also, please don't wear any chokers (necklaces worn tight around the neck)

Men / Boys

- Bring casual/jean pants or shorts
- Shirts must have sleeves to avoid burns
- Please be conscious of any advertisements and please don't wear feminine colors
- Bring sweater or light jacket
- Bring modest and appropriate sleeping clothes
- Please no "far out" hair styles or dyed hair
- Bring closed shoes (because of the terrain)
- Bring flip-flops for shower
- Bring hats for working or playing
- Hats are not allowed in chapel or dining areas for the men
- Absolutely no earrings anywhere

Work Clothes - All

Bring clothing suitable for work like painting, cement work, building, and cleaning. Please bring enough clothes so that you won't need to do laundry. The few machines that we do have will already be in use. Work gloves are suggested.

RANCHO 3M TRIP CHECKLIST

- **Bible**
- **Notebook & pen.**
- Appropriate **ID** and **passport**. Minors need to have their signed and notarized Parental Release Form (see below).
- **Toiletries** - if you are bringing medication, keep it in a medicine bottle. White pills in a ziplock bag look pretty suspicious to the border patrol. Make sure all unused medication leaves with you.
- **Water bottle**
- **Cash** to purchase some souvenirs from our Ranch Store
- **Towel**
- **Fitted and flat sheets** for a single bed. If you come here in the cool months, you will need a blanket. When you arrive you will find flat sheets already on the beds. These are not to sleep on. We use them as dust protection. Just fold them up and put them away until you leave.
- **Pillowcase**
- **Flashlights** are a good idea since the electricity frequently goes out.
- **Mosquito repellent** and **sunscreen**. We are at almost 4000 feet, so the sun can be intense during the summer months.
- **Bring any tools, equipment, craft supplies, books, musical instruments, etc. that you plan to use at the Ranch.**

NEW THINGS

We now have **internet access** for you! The code is Welcome2R3M. Please do not give the pass code to our children. We are providing this service to help you stay connected with home and do any necessary work that needs to get done while you are here.

We also have a hot & cold fresh water dispenser in the **visitor's dorm** for you as well as a refrigerator, and coffee table complete with a French Press, two coffee makers, a grinder & condiments for our coffee enthusiasts☺ Now that the girls have moved to their new home, we plan on repurposing their old home into the visitor's dorm and bulldoze what we now use for the visitors-which by the way was the original home for the children back in 1969.

Also, we are attempting to better prepare our children for the future-especially since 99% of them do not further their education after high school. Besides training them in Agriculture & various other skills, we are also training the older ones in Retail: what it means to have a job, work ethic, responsibility, inventory control, merchandizing & pricing and sales etc. So we opened a **small store** on the Ranch property for guests to purchase such things as R3M T-shirts & mugs, Mexican blankets and souvenirs etc. As of now, we can't take credit card but perhaps in the future. So you may want to bring a little spending cash to help our older kids who are paid by the hour to run the store and the Ranch.

For those teams that fly, we are asking that you **rent a van** to do your errands instead of relying on Ranch vehicles for that. Part of our recent cost cutting measures included selling off some of our vehicles. Thank you for your cooperation.

The **new border crossing** opened recently. This entails a \$1.60 toll on the MX side and a host of new regulations on what we can actually cross into Mexico as far as food and building materials are concerned. To avoid problems, we can provide a **bilingual guide** to lead you into Juarez to purchase your supplies.

In the past, our budget allowed us to cover the added costs associated with hosting a team. But now with an expanding ministry and being in a season of transition financially as some of our long-time partners are beginning to transition into a season of life where they are not able to support the ranch at the same level they have in the past. Therefore we need **to charge teams a \$5 per person / per night fee** to absorb those costs.

Thank you,

Dean Adamek

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RANCH RULES

- Please do your work as unto the Lord. Be excellent at any and every task you perform, from children's ministry to cleaning toilets. Remember that these children are very special in His sight. Your example of service is a witness of Christ to the children.
- There are specific reasons to all of these rules and we ask that you respect them by reading and following all of them. Let's bring our love and care for the children while leaving our American influences behind. We want our focus to be the gospel and not drawing attention to things like tattoos and body piercings.
- For safety reasons NO ONE is permitted into the Baby Home. Unless you are with Dean or a core staff member. Please do not ask our summer interns to take you in.

General

- Please keep in mind that the Ranch is not a camp or retreat center. It is a home to our children and our staff and their families. Please knock before entering any of the staff houses, including Dean's house and the Ranch office attached to it.
- Your team curfew may allow you stay outside longer, but please remember that our kids and the staff kids are trying to sleep. So, please keep noise to a minimum once the little kids go inside for the night.
- During a church service, you are allowed to sit anywhere in the back of church. If you choose to sit with the children, **boys sit with boys** on the left, and **girls with girls** on the right (as you face the pulpit). Please be mindful not to block the view of the little children
- If you need anything (tools, equipment, items to complete a task, etc.) please ask your group leader first! Then if you can't find or don't have whatever you need please ask our intern who will be assigned to your team. THANK YOU!
- When in doubt about something, **please ask the leader in your group**. Otherwise it may take a lot of work, time & money to resolve the problem. For example, if you use the wrong type of screw or caulk, it could be costly to repair.
- **Please stay flexible**. The Ranch is an old facility and things break. Therefore you may be asked to stop one job to do another with a higher priority.
- Please try and get what ever you might need from Dean **before 7pm** so that he can have some time with his family each day.
- Please don't use the chairs for painting on and if you take a chair out to sit on please return it when you are done otherwise the kids will destroy them and we can't afford to replace them each year.

- Absolutely **NO** gum because the kids will find it in the trash and put it in someone's hair.
- **NO TOILET PAPER IN THE TOILET.** Please **Do not put any type of paper in the toilet.** There are waste cans in all of the stalls. You are responsible for bringing them to the burn pile when full and putting a new plastic bag in the can. Please don't throw waste paper into a can without a plastic liner.
- Please ask permission from your team leader and Dean before taking one of the Ranch vehicles anywhere.
- When using a Ranch vehicle, PLEASE drive it as carefully as you would your very own. Sadly most all of the damages we have on our vehicles come from our guests. So thank you for taking care of them.
- If you accidentally break something, please let the director know so that we don't think that our kids did it. **This includes vehicles.** Please allow Dean to speak to any driver of a Ranch vehicle before driving it in Mexico. The laws & conditions are very different here.
- When driving on the Ranch, please **stay on the marked roads** since most of the septic tanks are unmarked and would not be able to sustain the weight of a vehicle. Please keep the speed to 5 MPH while on the Ranch
- **PLEASE** turn off the lights & other electrical devices when you leave your dorms. The electricity is very expensive in Mexico.
- Please be conservative about the tap water. Please do not take a long shower for two reasons: 1) To exalt your brother more highly than yourself and 2) Fresh water is limited.
- Please do not let anyone in your group sit on the chest freezer. When people sit on them, they bend and therefore don't close properly.
- Please remember that the dorms use swamp coolers and not the refrigerated air you may be used to. A window on each side of dorm needs to be open.
- Please return the empty blue water jugs to the black shelf outside the kid's kitchen.
- Please leave the visitor's dorm cleaner than when you first arrived.
- Please be careful about not accidentally leaving with Ranch tools. We lose a lot per year accidentally so thank you for your help. Also, please return the tools from where you took them. This serves our staff and future teams tremendously. Thank you!!!
- If you smoke, please use a nicotine patch or chew nicotine gum while you are here.

Safety

- **Do not** leave dangerous items unattended. Unplug saws when not in use; put away chemical cleaning solutions, tightly close lids on paint cans, etc. I realize that it can be inconvenient at times, but safety is VERY important. This also includes keeping the "taller" (tă-yer), tool room, closed after use.
- **Please keep the "taller"** (blue shed) **door closed.** There are many dangerous things in there and if the door is left open the children could get hurt! Also please leave the taller cleaner than when you arrived. This will honor the next group.

- **Only adults** (parents) are allowed to drive the Gator. It is more dangerous and expensive than it looks. We were very blessed that a church donated it to us and we really want to make it last.
- **There should be no use of candles.** Matches or lighters need to be safeguarded by kitchen staff. Never leave matches or lighters lying around. The little kids will find them and catch something on fire. And please don't bring any lighters or matches with you.
- For the sake of hygiene & cleanliness, please place the kitchen or bathroom trash bags **INSIDE** the burn pile & burn them immediately when you empty them. Otherwise the wind and/or animals will spread the trash throughout the Ranch making an unsanitary environment for everyone.

Ranch Children

- **Do not** enter the children's dorms unless you are with a Ranch staff member or are assigned to a particular work project there. Also, the kids are not allowed in your dorm!
- **NEVER be ALONE with a child in a secluded area!** This will be strictly enforced! Secluded is considered a private place such as inside a room or building where no one else is present
- **Do not** leave the Ranch with any of our kids either by car or on foot without talking to Dean first in person.
- There should be **no** "flirting" with those in your group and **especially** not with our teenagers here at the orphanage. If you have a boyfriend or girlfriend on the trip, you must act as though you are no more than brothers and sisters in the Lord. That means no holding hands, being alone etc. If you are engaged you can look at each other!
- **Please don't lend the kids your cell phone, iPod, camera, or other electronic device.** Also, don't leave your devices unattended around the Ranch.
- **Do not** swap addresses and phone numbers with any of the children. Please talk with Dean if you'd like to write any of the kids. Youth boys will not be allowed to write the youth girls and visa versa.
- No "gospel" magic or any type of magic. Magic is very real in Mexico and we go to great lengths to protect our kids from it. Please **do not** perform any trick for them.
- **Please don't give the kids money.** It teaches them to beg and takes away the dignity of earning money. That includes giving them money to buy popsicles unless you buy one for every child all at the same time.
- Also allow me to beg you to not leave **ANY medication or matches** around in the dorms when you leave.
- Also please **do not ever give a child any medication** (including aspirin) for any reason or leave it in dorms after you leave. It happens every summer and is **VERY** dangerous for the children.
- Please don't write on the children's shoes or clothes or skin.
- **Please don't hand out candy to the children.** If you would like to bring candy please bring it to the office for us to distribute appropriately. Thank you for your cooperation.

TENTATIVE CHILDREN'S SCHEDULE

Normal School Year Schedule

(The school year begins around the middle of August and goes through the end of June)

2:05p The grammar school age children arrive home
2:15p The older kids get home
2:30p Lunch is served
3:30p The children have outdoor chores (but we are flexible if you have an activity planned)
4:30p Homework (till 5:30p) (This can also be flexible)
6:00p Dinner
8:30p Bedtime for the younger kids
9:00p Bedtime for the older kids (This can be flexible as well)

We are, however, flexible when a group is here. The kids can have free time from 2:45 to 5:30 and do their homework after dinner. Please discuss your ministry, work plans, and timeline with the Director prior to arrival. When the children are not in school, the majority of their day is free after chores.

HELPING THE RANCH

If you want to bring clothes, sports equipment, items you don't need anymore we would be happy to take them. Our plan is to take whatever we need for the kids and then sell the rest of it to help with our increasing expenses. If you bring them with you, you can drop them off in the office. Otherwise you can ship them to the Morley address below.

We could also GREATLY use your financial help as well. After you're your time here at the Ranch would you please pray and ask God how He may have you become a financial partner with this growing Gospel-centered ministry. Your monthly or once a year gift enables us to continue to care for the children that so desperately need our care.

Thank you!

HOW TO CONTACT US

Please first email

Perla, Ranch secretary:

Perla@rancho3m.com

Dean Adamek

(915) 727-3830

If you call and can not reach Dean, please **DO NOT** leave a voicemail. Instead you can text or email him at: dean@rancho3m.com

For mailing letters:

PO Box 3660
Fabens, TX 79838

For packages shipped by UPS or FedEx:

Rancho 3M
8001 Morley Dr.
El Paso, TX 79925

PARENTAL AUTHORITY & TEMPORARY GUARDIANSHIP RELEASE FORM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

Before me, the undersigned Notary, personally came and appeared:

_____ (Father)

_____ (Mother)

(herein "the parents")

Who, after being duly sworn stated as follows:

Their child, _____, a minor, (herein referred to as "the minor") has their permission, for the period _____ to cross the International Border between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, leaving the United States and entering Mexico, and then returning to the United States, with either _____ or _____ one or either of whom will be with the minor, as tourists to Mexico, under the auspices of (church/organization name, city, state) _____,

_____.

In addition, the parents hereby authorize _____ or _____ to act as the minor's temporary guardian, for the period _____, for purposes of making any necessary emergency decisions with respect to the minor, including any necessary medical treatment the minor may require, while notifying the parents of the emergency as soon as it is practical to do so.

Sworn to and subscribed

before me, Notary, this _____

_____ day of _____

in the year of Our Lord, _____

20_____.

_____, Notary

MEXICAN BORDER U.S. AGRICULTURAL QUARANTINE INFORMATION NOTICE TO TRAVELER

Declare all agricultural items you bring from Mexico. Failure to do so may result in delays and fines of up to \$1,000. Fruits, vegetables, meats, and birds taken from the United States to Mexico may not be allowed to reenter. Consult in advance with inspectors of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Agricultural items are prohibited because they can carry plant pests or animal diseases.

Fruits and Vegetables

All fruit and vegetables are prohibited.

Plants, Seeds, and Soil

Prohibited.

Meat and Game

Pork-- raw and cooked, including sausages, cold cuts, skins, and pork tacos, are prohibited. Poultry-- raw meat from both domesticated and game fowl is prohibited.

Eggs

Prohibited.

Live Birds

Wild and domesticated birds, including poultry, are prohibited. To import personally owned pet birds, contact agricultural inspectors in advance.

Straw Generally prohibited. This includes wheat straw, seeds, animal feed, and all articles made from this material.

Please first email