



# KEY WEST TRIP GUIDE

Hope



[missionofhope.com](http://missionofhope.com)



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# PART 1: INTRODUCTION

## ABOUT MISSION OF HOPE

As an organization following Jesus Christ, Mission of Hope exists to bring life transformation to every man, woman, and child.

With over 20 years of experience coordinating mission trips for churches, families, and individuals, Mission of Hope believes that sustainable transformation is possible by partnering with the local churches and indigenous leaders so that ongoing ministry continues on. We know the impact and importance of living life on mission, and how oftentimes God uses the intentionality of mission trips to show people how to do just that, both stateside and internationally.

Thank you for serving with us as we partner with the local churches and leaders to reach their communities for Christ. We are thrilled to have you be a part of our Mission of Hope family.

## ABOUT YOUR MISSION TRIP

Short-term mission trips are an incredible opportunity to grow spiritually, to cultivate an awareness of the world and needs around you, and to respond to God's call to share the gospel through personal, servant-minded ministry.

Trips will be planned by Mission of Hope to involve team members in all the different facets of outreach ministry. Your team will have an opportunity to impact communities in Key West, just as much as the trip itself will have a long-term impact on you and your team members' lives. Team members will be a part of building intentional relationships in communities through work projects and ministry activities.

When your team works alongside these local churches and ministry partners who know the needs of their communities, you are helping these ministries serve more efficiently and effectively as we share the love of Christ together.

## CHURCH ADVANCEMENT PROJECTS

At Mission of Hope, we work to serve local communities through the local church. Teams will have the option to participate in various Church Advancement projects. This might include home and church renovation, community improvement projects, evangelistic outreach, and community-wide events. Church Advancement projects are used as a ministry tool to share the gospel through meeting the everyday needs of the people.

Showing people the love of Christ through Church Advancement projects demonstrates that the local churches care about the individual needs of the people in their communities, and it creates an openness to the gospel.

## MAKE A RESERVATION

Available trip dates are posted on our website under <https://missionofhope.com/opportunities>. When deciding how many spots you would like to reserve, be as strategic as possible so that we are able to accurately project the number of volunteers each week. There is a required \$25 per person, non-refundable reservation fee due upon placing your reservation. **The minimum age for our Key West trips is 10 and we ask for a minimum group size of 10.**

You will receive a confirmation email that confirms your trip and provides you with a Trip Dashboard, where you can make trip payments, provide us with your flight information (if applicable), complete medical release forms, and more!

## TRIP COST

**\$645+ \$25 reservation fee**

### Price Includes

- Lodging on True North
- Meals
- Church Advancement Projects

### Additional Optional Costs

- Personal souvenir money, suggested \$50-\$100
- Lunch money for your free day if you want something other than the lunch Mission of Hope will provide
- Money for any dinner out and/or optional activities on your free day

## TENTATIVE DAILY SCHEDULE

**Saturday** Arrive in Key West and settle in, Orientation

**Sunday** Church

**Monday-Thursday** Church Advancement Projects or Strategic Ministry Time in the community

**Friday** Beach Day (Teams will also have some fun optional activities that they can choose to pay for. Please contact your Trip Coordinator for more information).

**Saturday** Depart

## PART 2: COMMITMENT

We are so glad you are planning a trip to serve alongside Mission of Hope as we bring life transformation to every man, woman, and child through Jesus Christ. To help be fully prepared, we encourage you to go through this guide with all of your team members.

Once you arrive, we take care of all logistics and have a community that is ready for your team to meaningfully engage with in various work projects and outreach programs. The last day of your trip will be spent at the beach or as a fun day around the Island where your team will have the opportunity to debrief on what God has done in and through you on your trip.

## TRAVEL TO KEY WEST

Many teams will be driving in for this trip. Your Trip Coordinator will be providing you with the arrival address and contact information. Please let your Trip Coordinator know your estimated time of arrival. If your team is flying in, teams and individuals are responsible for their own airfare, as it is not included in the cost of the trip. Your team is best suited to fly into Key West (EYW) or Miami (MIA). If your team is flying in instead of driving, you will need to rent a van for transportation to and around Key West for the week. The team's flight itineraries should be submitted through the flight form found in the Trip Leader Dashboard.

## HOW TO PAY FOR YOUR TRIP

In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, we have initiated a required reservation fee and payment system for all mission trips. Please see the below guidelines regarding trip payments.

- \$25 non-refundable reservation fee per spot reserved
- 50% of total team payment due 90 days out from trip departure date
- 100% of total team payment due 30 days out from trip departure date

### Trip Payment

Trip payments are non-refundable and should be made online on your Trip Leader Dashboard. If you are a trip participant, your trip leader will provide you with a team link where you can make payments toward your trip.

Payments can also be made via check by sending it to:

**Mission of Hope**  
**P.O. Box 171500**  
**Austin, TX 78717**

Please include your trip number on the memo line. \*Please let your Trip Coordinator know if you plan to pay by check.

## ALLERGY DISCLAIMER

If you have food allergies (nut, gluten, dairy, etc.), **you will need to bring supplemental food**, as we are not able to avoid cross contamination. Mission of Hope uses peanut butter on the food buffets several times each week. Due to kitchen limitations and lack of storage space, this food needs to remain with you and needs to be non-perishable (rice cakes, peanut butter packets, tuna packets, Chex cereal, protein bars, trail mix, etc). Thank you for your understanding.

For severe food or substance allergies, plan to carry two EpiPens.

## PHYSICAL CONDITION AND MEDICATIONS

If you are over the age of 50 or have any health conditions (heart disease, diabetes, asthma, lung problems, severe allergies, mental illness, etc.), please have a thorough medical evaluation before traveling, and communicate those conditions and needs to Mission of Hope before arriving. If you have a newly diagnosed condition or become ill before the trip, you should delay or reschedule your trip. Medical identification (tags, bracelets, card, etc.) must be carried by anyone with chronic illness such as diabetes or heart conditions.

Be sure to carry all prescriptions and required medications in your carry-on luggage if you are flying. If you have a history of asthma or sinus and allergy problems, bring your medication, even if you haven't used it in a long time or don't need it at home.

## BUNKING

Team members will stay on our 110 ft vessel True North in air-conditioned bunk style rooms, separated by gender. You may want to bring earplugs if you are a light sleeper! Mission of Hope will provide a pillow, sheets, and blanket. Please bring a towel and washcloths. The ship has modern bathrooms with running water, flushing toilets, and showers. Purified water will be provided for you on the ship. We encourage you to drink as much purified water as possible. Make sure you are drinking continuously, even when you do not feel thirsty. **You will need to bring a reusable water bottle for the week.**

## LOSSES

Mission of Hope and/or its employees, agents, or volunteers are not responsible for any team member's lost money, stolen money, damaged luggage, lost luggage, or loss of any other personal property. We do everything possible to prevent these unfortunate incidents; however, they sometimes occur despite our efforts.

## OTHER POLICIES

**Mission of Hope is a smoke free environment.** However, if you must smoke, inform the stateside HopeGo Trip Coordinator prior to leaving for your trip. All alcohol, drugs, and firearms are prohibited for all Mission of Hope guests.

# PART 3: BEFORE YOU GO AND DEPARTURE

Your trip is right around the corner, and we have a bit more information to share with you before you are serving with us in Key West.

## SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

- Personal sized water bottle (one-quart that can be used all week is recommended)
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Bible, journal, pen, and MOH devotional
- Camera
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo)
- Towels (bath/beach) and washcloths
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Personal snacks (e.g. Clif bars)
- Work gloves (if applicable to projects)
- Swimsuit
- Closed toe shoes/work boots (depending on projects for the week)
- At least one fleece, sweatshirt, or jacket for cooler locations/evenings

## DRESS CODE

In order to respect the churches and communities we are serving and be most effective in ministry, we abide by the following dress code. Our staff reserves the right to ask you to change if you do not comply. Thank you for your understanding.

### WOMEN'S DRESS CODE

#### Clothes

- Bring 4-6 pairs of mid-length shorts, loose-fitting pants, or loose-fitting capris
- Bring 4-6 simple, solid, light weight, breathable shirts
- Chest and back must be covered
- Wider strap tank tops allowed, but no spaghetti strap shirts
- Clothes for church on Sunday

#### Swimsuits

- One-piece or tankini

#### Shoes

- Durable sandals (e.g. Chacos/Texas)
- Closed toe shoes/work boots (if applicable)
- Tennis shoes
- Shower flip-flops

### MEN'S DRESS CODE

#### Clothes

- Bring 4-6 pairs of shorts
- Athletic shorts can be worn for CA projects
- Khaki, Cargo, or Hiking Shorts (non-athletic)
- Bring 4-6 simple, solid, light weight, and breathable shirts
- Clothes for church on Sunday

#### Swimsuits

- Trunks – No Speedos!

#### Shoes

- Durable sandals (e.g. Chacos/Texas)
- Closed toe shoes/work boots (if applicable)
- Tennis shoes
- Shower flip-flops

## CONTACTS AND EMERGENCY NUMBERS

For changes or delays on the day of your travel, please send a **text message with updated details**: team name, flight number (if applicable), and new arrival time to the Mission of Hope Travel Day cell phone: (512) 599-2144. You will receive a confirmation reply from our team and they will notify our MOH staff in Key West.

For all other inquiries, please call the US office at +1 (512) 256-0835 during normal business hours M-F 8:30am-4:30pm CST.

## CONCLUSION

We are committed to ensuring you and your team have an excellent mission trip experience in Key West. If you have any questions, please reach out to our HopeGo Trip Coordinator. We believe God is going to do amazing things in and through you as you serve on your mission trip. We look forward to seeing you and serving with you in Key West!

## TEAM LEADER CHECKLIST

- Make reservation and pay \$25 non-refundable, non-transferable reservation fee per individual
- Direct trip participants to their HopeGo Trip Guide (located in the Trip Resources tab in their Dashboard)
- Each participant must complete their Medical Release Form (due 60 days prior to trip). Their form is found on their Trip Participant Dashboard.
- Each participant must complete a Robbie's Marina form provided to the Trip Leader by your Trip Coordinator (due 30 days prior to trip).
- Mark two non-refundable trip payment deadlines on calendar:
  - Initial 50% due 90 days prior to trip start date
  - Final 50% due 30 days prior to trip start date
- Book team flights (if applicable) and submit itineraries on your Trip Leader Dashboard
- Pass out the Mission of Hope 21 Day Devotional Books (if you receive hard copies). It's also available digitally for you and your team.

## DISCUSS WITH TEAM

- Dress Code
- Suggested Packing List