

Personal Covenant & Liability Release Form

The guidelines listed below are required for those participating on all trips in which Footsteps Missions has a part. You go as a guest of other countries. Many countries will not have the same conveniences you are used to at home. It is very important to be flexible and willing to adjust to the expectations of your host. **After reviewing the following guidelines please print this form, sign it, and return it to [Footsteps Missions](#).**

I recognize and accept the following conditions which will further the usefulness and safety of our short-term mission or educational trip. If accepted as a member of this team, I agree to the following:

1. Release and discharge the organizations and individuals that helped make these arrangements, including Footsteps Missions, any sponsoring church, their agents, employees, officers, and volunteers, from all claims, demands, actions, judgments, or executions that I have ever had, or now have, or may have, or which my heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns may have or claim to have, against these organizations, their agents, employees, officers, and volunteers, and their successors or assigns, for all personal injuries, known or unknown, and injuries to property, real or personal, caused by or arising out of this journey. I intend to be legally bound by this statement.
2. Adopt an attitude that I am on this team to try to understand the host culture, not to convince them of my own viewpoint or style. I go knowing that there are many different ways to accomplish the same objective, and know that my way is not necessarily the best.
3. Respect the people and cultures we visit and abstain from making derogatory comments or arguments regarding people, politics, sports, religion, race, varying styles of worship, or traditions.
4. Go as a servant-disciple of Jesus Christ and will adopt that attitude when dealing with my fellow team members and the people I meet during the trip.
5. Accept and submit to the leadership role and authority of the team leader and promise to abide by his or her decisions as they concern this mission trip.
6. Acknowledge that by engaging in this journey, I am subjecting myself to certain risks voluntarily, including and in addition to those risks that I normally face in my personal and business life, including but not limited to such things as health hazards due to poor food and water, diseases, pests, and poor sanitation; potential danger from lack of control over local population; potential injury while working; and inadequate medical facilities.
7. Expediently follow up on all requirements for passports, visas, financial obligations, vaccinations, travel insurance, and all other things necessary for this mission/travel experience.

8. Refrain from meddling, complaining, and obscene or insensitive humor. I understand that travel, especially to remote locations can be difficult, and I promise to adopt a flexible attitude and be supportive as plans may need to be changed. I understand that I must travel with the rest of the team, unless other prior arrangements are made.

9. Attend all team meetings, both prior to departure and during the mission trip unless other arrangements are made.

10. Abstain from any illegal drugs, substances, or prohibited activities on any trip.

11. Avoid any actions that might be perceived as amorous attentions toward indigenous people I meet.

12. I agree that in the event my conduct is considered so unsatisfactory that it jeopardizes the success of the trip, and that mediation during the trip has failed to correct my behavior, that my participation shall end and I shall return home immediately at my own expense.

13. Refrain from using tobacco or alcoholic beverages unless prior arrangements have been made.

14. Act as a servant-disciple of the local pastor or mission organization. I will respect and follow the advice I am given concerning attire, eating and drinking, and other such traditions that will help me to assimilate into the local community.

15. Refrain from giving gifts, such as money, clothes, jewelry, tape players, and other similar items. Although the intent of the giver is good, the result after we leave will cause problems for our host, particularly jealousy and bitterness amongst those locals who received no such largesse. If I feel compelled to give a gift to someone I have met, I will consult first with the team leader before I promise or give the gift, and I promise to let him or her make the final decision on this matter. This covenant does not apply to the small fellowship tokens we discuss and approve before leaving home.

16. Understand that every member of this group is expected to share freely from his or her particular blessings and talents, whether that is a skill such as music, art, carpentry, or basic hard work. I agree to participate in these ways as fully as possible.

17. Understand that the ministry services we do are not predictable. I understand the group will need to be flexible, and we may have to alter our program when it's clear that the local ministry needs something different from what we've planned. While the group leaders will try to predict what is needed, sometimes they can't know until they are right there. I understand that on arrival, the group leader will meet with the local ministry to make final decisions on how the group can best serve. I know I may end up not doing the service I planned. This might mean doing something I'm not completely prepared for or that seems a small contribution for how far I have traveled. I will bear in mind that God sometimes plans rewards in unlikely tasks.

Cancellation Fees:

If you have to cancel your trip for any reason, you may be able to receive a refund for some of your Footsteps fee and for as much of the travel arrangements as the booking arrangement allows (travel and accommodation cancellation refunds are subject to the rules of the booking agency or the travel providers*).

The Footsteps refund amount depends on when you cancel. If you cancel after the day of registration or up to 90 days before departure, you will receive your Footsteps fee less \$50. Thereafter, the following amounts apply:

- 89-60 days before departure, Footsteps fee less \$155
- 59-31 days before departure, Footsteps fee less \$ 200
- 30-15 days before departure, Footsteps fee less \$ 250
- 14-1 day(s) before departure, Footsteps fee less \$ 400**

On or after the day of departure, no refund applies.

Important details if you have to cancel: You must submit all cancellations in writing, one cancellation request per person, and the cancellation must be made by the person registered for the trip or, if a minor, that person's guardian. The date of cancellation is either the cancellation request's postmark or the day that Daryl Smithgall is given the cancellation request in person and he initials or marks the date received on the document. Footsteps is not responsible for lost or misdirected mail. **TRIP LEADERS CANNOT DO GROUP CANCELLATIONS!** Footsteps will make refund checks payable to the person registered for the trip, regardless who paid the fees originally.

* As a courtesy service, Footsteps will help you apply for the travel and accommodation refunds, if appropriate even making the cancellation notice and receiving and reissuing funds from a travel provider. But Footsteps does not assume responsibility for making the cancellation notice or refund request, for meeting all the requirements for the refund (such as meeting a notification deadline), or whether the refund is received.

** This cancellation fee only applies to trips in which Footsteps Leaders are used. Self-led trips only have the \$ 250 cancellation penalty.

In signing below, I represent that I am 18 years of age or older and agree to the above conditions. If the trip participant is under the age of 18, a parent's/guardian's signature is required.

Participant's Signature: _____

If participant is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must read and sign the following:

As a parent or Guardian of the above participant, I agree to accept all of the above conditions and requirements concerning _____ (Please print minor's name). In case of any emergencies, I hereby empower the trip

leader/s to administer any course of action they deem necessary. Furthermore, I relinquish any rights to hold Footsteps Missions, its employees, officers, volunteers, agents and successors or assigns liable for any personal injuries, known or unknown, and injuries to property, real or personal, caused by or arising out of this journey. I intend to be legally bound by this statement.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Participant's Name: (Please Print) _____

Address: (Please Print) _____

Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Evening Phone: (____) _____