



HAITI FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FAQ

WHAT ARE THE ACCOMMOATIONS LIKE?

Fellows will stay at the Mon Chez Moi guesthouse in the Tabarre neighborhood. Rooms vary from singles to large rooms with bunk beds. Depending on others staying at the guesthouse, there may be a variance in what types of rooms our group gets. Rooms have attached bathrooms, air conditioning, electricity, and hot water. Linens & towels are provided. You will not have the chance to do laundry there.

WHAT WILL WE EAT?

Breakfast and dinner will be served at the guesthouse. Breakfast often consists of some type of egg (scrambled or hardboiled), with hotdog-like meat, fruit, juice, and coffee. Dinner will most likely be some combination of rice, beans, fruit, plantains, meat (chicken, goat, or beef) that will be either in a stew or on it's own. The kitchen staff will decide the menu. Creole food is delicious and is full of flavor. It can be spicy though! We will normally purchase food from street vendors or local restaurants for lunches. If you are not an adventurous eater, bread, peanut butter, and jelly are available at every meal.

WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE?

Haiti is hot during the day (80's - 90's) and will go down to the 70's at night.

WHAT ARE THE WATER PROJECTS?

On the volunteer trips we will be repairing hand pumps (put in often by other NGO's or the government with no maintenance plan) as well as assembling and distributing Sawyer water filters.

DO I NEED TO EXCHANGE MONEY?

You will not need to exchange currency. US dollars are accepted most places, and if not, there are numerous moneychangers around Port-au-Prince.

HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD I BRING?

We recommend bringing between \$100-\$200 in SMALL BILLS (\$20's are hard to break sometimes) for items you wish to purchase (such as extra beverages, alcohol, or souvenirs). Credit cards are not accepted in Haiti.

CAN I BRING A COMPUTER?

You will not have much down time to use it, but if you have to we recommend purchasing insurance in case of damage or theft.

WILL MY PHONE WORK?

Only if you set up international service with your cell carrier. We don't recommend doing this as it often doesn't work well. We will have domestic phones for you to use.

IS THERE WIFI?

There is Wi-Fi at the guest house. It does not reach to all the guest rooms though.

CAN I BRING ITEMS FOR GIFTS TO GIVE AWAY?

Solea Water works to create a culture of empowerment through our projects. We do not permit giving away items to people in Haiti. We believe handouts create a culture of dependency.

WHO DO WE WORK WITH IN HAITI?

Solea Water has partnered with H-PI, a local Haitian organization that does a variety of water projects and often works with American volunteer groups.

WHAT IS TRANSPORTATION LIKE?

Our team will most likely be transported in two pickup trucks. Some people may be asked to ride in the back occasionally depending on team size!

WHY WATER?

1 in 9 people lack access to clean, safe drinking water. This, coupled with lack of basic sanitation causes 80% of disease globally, and it's all preventable.

Ending water poverty is about far more than ensuring people have access to clean drinking water and do not die from preventable waterborne diseases: it is also about making sure children are healthy enough to go to school, women have the time to go to work as well as care for their families, and entire communities can begin devoting time and resources to other social, cultural and economic pursuits than fetching water. Ensuring that communities across the globe have ready access to clean drinking water is only becoming more critical by the day.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT SOLEA WATER

Solea Water is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to alleviating water poverty to bring hope to communities in Latin America. We are actively working in Panama, Belize, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.

Solea Water collaborates with a network of organizations to develop and implement clean water projects that vary depending on the needs of each individual community we serve. These projects include wells, water purification or filtration systems, hand pump repair, aqueducts, rain catchment systems, and health education programs. We believe in a holistic approach, always coupling clean water projects with education about clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. Solea Water focuses on empowering local communities to take ownership of their projects by having community residents participate in the planning, construction, and maintenance of their community's water system.

WHAT IS THE 100% MODEL AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Solea Water is dedicated to the 100% model, where every dollar of general donations goes directly to providing clean water where it is needed most. Funds for our operations are generated separately.

HOW DO YOU PRONOUNCE SOLEA?

so - lay - a

IS SOLEA WATER A CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATION?

Solea Water was founded on the simple premise that we be our brother's keeper in regions still struggling to secure access to one of life's most basic human needs. Striving to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly" (Micah 6:8), Solea Water works in conjunction with partner communities on the ground to provide long-term sustainable water solutions in Latin America.

Optional church services will be made available for those wanting to attend a service. Please note that services are in Haitian Creole and often last for several hours.

IS HAITI SAFE?

We will be working with local Haitians, with H-PI, who will act as our guides, translators, and drivers. They will work to ensure you are not placed in any preventable, dangerous situations. However, Haiti is a developing country and Solea Water doesn't take responsibility for your personal safety. Volunteers are asked to stay with the group and not to wander off on their own. There are no guarantees when it comes to traveling to and working in Haiti.

WHAT LANGUAGE IS SPOKEN IN HAITI?

The language of Haiti is Haitian Creole, but about half of the population speaks French as well. Some people know basic levels of English and Spanish.

WHAT DOES MY FELLOWSHIP FEE COVER?

The following is a breakdown of your fellowship fee. Solea Water will pay all costs associated with your time in Haiti, with the exception of alcoholic beverages or souvenirs.

Item	Per day	Total Cost
Flight		\$600
Health Insurance		\$55
Transportation	\$25	\$175
Lodging	\$60	\$420
Meals/Drinks	\$15	\$105
Honorariums (H-PI staff)	\$30	\$210
Recreation day		\$55
Training		\$100
Materials for Pump Repair		\$400
Site Surveys & Project Coordination		\$25
5 Sawyer Filters Systems		\$375
Administration		\$80
	Total:	\$2,600

DO I NEED VACCINES OR ANY MEDICINE TO GO TO HAITI?

Recommended vaccines include: measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus (DPT), polio vaccine, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and typhoid. Rabies is optional.

Prescription antimalarial drugs should be bought before the trip to be taken during your whole stay. Atovaquone, proguanil, chloroquine, doxycycline and mefloquine, and malarone are recommended drugs in Haiti.

Gastrointestinal discomfort is probably the top health problem for travellers; over the counter anti-diarrheal medicines are recommended (ex: Imodium).

WHAT HAPPENS IF I NEED EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE?

Haiti is a very poor country with limited health care resources. Travelers will not be able to access medical care that is on par with US health care. Emergency care will be likely the only step a Haitian hospital can manage, with the patient needing to be evacuated back to the US for proper care. Solea Water will purchase international health insurance for each fellow that covers potential Medvac situations.