



In a world where there is so much deception, seeing is believing — at least, that is often the case. We invite all our supporters to see how their financial and prayer support helps us to demonstrate Christ's love by meeting the basic needs of the poor. If you choose to visit us in Fond-des-Blancs, we guarantee that you will leave with a broader understanding of Christ's words: "Anything you did for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40) Check the calendar and send us an email with your preferred visit timeframe. We will collaborate with you to make sure your trip is one to remember.

Joleen Darragh, HCDF Board Member: email [jcdarragh@gmail.com](mailto:jcdarragh@gmail.com) or phone (239) 851-8199.

- Costs
- Transportation Details
- Arrival at the Airport
- Accommodations
- Daily Schedule
  
- Clothing
- Medical
- Destination
- Project Participation
- Historical Site Visits
  
- Expectations
- A major contribution to an ongoing ministry
  
- Personal Third World experience
- Religious Experience
- Visit Application Form

## **Costs**

- Room and Board in Fond-des-Blancs (sleeping facilities with bunk beds plus an evening meal): \$20/per person/per day.
- Ground transportation to, from, and around Fond-des-Blancs: \$150/per person (it is recommended to fly in or out of Fond-des-Blancs with Mission Aviation Flights one way in lieu of driving to see the country side from both overhead and ground level, if you are comfortable flying in small planes; more information follows below); the

current cost per plane (5 person including pilot) is \$436 (subject to change by MAF) one way and \$972 total pounds with luggage and people.

- Ministry contribution (usually for supplies for the work week): \$100/per person
- Airfare will range in price depending on your point of origin, but the average cost for flights from Miami or Ft. Lauderdale to Port au Prince is approximately \$400.

Once you have calculated the estimated cost of your stay with us, please send a check (excluding your U.S airfare) to our mailing address to finalize your reservation. Make the check payable to Haiti Christian Development Fund and send it to:

**Haiti Christian Development Fund**

**Post Office Box 152957**

**San Diego, CA 92195**

### **Transportation Details**

The trip to Fond-des-Blancs by vehicle will take around three to five hours, depending on the traffic getting out of Port-au-Prince. By plane, it is approximately a half hour. There is only one main road and at times it can be quite congested. Supplies and personal belongings are usually transported in an open bed truck (even though some of the young people prefer to travel in it also) and a couple of 4x4 jeeps depending on the number of people.

Mission Aviation Flights flies from Port au Prince to Fond-des-Blancs; the current cost per plane (5 persons plus pilot) is \$450 one way.

### **Arrival at the Airport**

When you arrive at the airport, be prepared for a congested situation. You will be perfectly safe, but it can seem a bit chaotic. Upon entering the airport, you will have to go through Haitian immigration. You will have been given customs cards to fill out on the airplane. Have these ready along with your passports. You should indicate on the customs cards that you will be staying with Jean François Thalon in Fond-des-Blancs, Aquin. You will be given a stamped immigration form. Place this in a safe place; you will need it when you leave Haiti.

Next, you will enter the baggage claim area. The bags come on a carousel but are often picked up and deposited on the floor in no particular order. You will have to be very observant and patient. Carts are available to help you get your bags to the custom agent. After finding your bags you will have to take them through customs. Chances are you will be waved through, but do not be surprised if they ask you to open your bags for inspection. It is probably best that, as people in your group find their bags, they wait until all of you have retrieved your bags so you can go through customs as a group, with one spokesman. If you are going to need help carrying your bags outside, you should choose a person wearing a red cap and/or yellow vest to help you (you will need to tip them, \$5-\$20 US is appropriate). There will be several of them offering their services. You should get one and only deal with that one. He will only take you to the curb. Another group of helpers will want to help you get to the parking. If you need help, just

choose one person. Do not give up your bags to anyone else and keep a sharp eye on your bags as they are carried to the parking lot. Stay together in a group. Look out for each other. There is no danger here, only potential aggravation. Outside of the terminal you will walk through an iron gate, then across the street and through another iron gate into the parking lot. Lémec Thomas or someone from HCDF will meet you there if you are using the HCDF ground transportation services.

## **Accommodations**

You will be staying at the HCDF guesthouse. It has a capacity of approximately 16 people. There is no air conditioning, but Fond-des-Blancs cools down nicely in the evening. Bed linens will be provided; however, if you want a pillow, you must bring one with you.

The guesthouse receives safe drinking water every day from the capped spring. A well is located behind the guesthouse and supplies water to holding tanks atop the guesthouse for showering and toilet flushing. Although there is no hot water, the water in the tanks is always as warm as the air, which is often refreshing.

The guest house uses solar panels that are connected to batteries for electric lights each night until about 10:30 p.m. A gasoline powered generator is used for backup power. Additionally, all electricity is standard US 110 volt. You have the option of spending the last night in Haiti in Port au Prince; hotel accommodations there range around \$75.00 a night plus food. However, rather than overnighing in Port au Prince, we generally recommend leaving early from Fond-des-Blancs in the morning for am flights.