

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Casas por Cristo is committed to protecting our trip participants, employees, and partners from the spread of COVID-19 by taking the following precautions.

- Prior to each trip, Casas por Cristo will screen all trip participants for COVID-19 using our digital release form system. Anyone with an active infection is encouraged to stay home.
- For our trips for individuals, Casas will screen all trip participants for COVID-19 two weeks after the trip. For group trips, we ask that team leaders screen all trip participants for COVID-19 after the trip.
- A negative PCR COVID-19 test within 5 days of arrival is **NO LONGER NEEDED** for travel to the Dominican Republic. However, passengers will be randomly selected for a COVID-19 rapid test upon arrival. If your test comes back positive, you will still be allowed to enter the country, but you will be required to quarantine at the Casas facility for the duration of your stay. Then you will be allowed to travel home with your team at the end of the week.
- Casas will perform a thorough cleaning of common areas in lodging facilities daily. Casas will provide cleaning supplies for teams to sanitize sleeping rooms daily if they so choose.
- Casas cooks are trained on general food prep safety standards and are required to wear a mask and gloves while preparing and serving meals.
- Casas recommends trip participants follow the local regulations regarding wearing a mask, social distancing, and curfew. The Dominican Republic requires wearing a mask and social distancing in public at all times. There is a curfew in effect Mon – Fri from 9:00 PM – 6:00 AM and Sat – Sun from 7:00 PM – 6:00 AM.
- Casas will perform daily temperature checks of all trip participants. If anyone presents with a fever, he/she will be quarantined at the Casas facility and sent home as soon as possible.
- Casas encourages trip participants to regularly wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water. Hand sanitizer will also be provided.
- If teams want to implement any additional safety precautions (social distance while sleeping, wear a mask in vehicles, etc), Casas is happy to go along with any reasonable requests.

TRAVEL INSURANCE CONSIDERATIONS

The CDC has issued travel warnings to most destinations around the world. The required travel insurance to participate in a Casas por Cristo trip contains the following disclaimer.

- If the CDC has issued a level 3 or higher travel warning to the destination country, the International Assurance policy will not cover any medical, medical evacuation, or repatriation expenses related to COVID-19. The policy still covers local medical expenses for covered illnesses and accidents not related to a disease outbreak and COVID-19. Emergency medical evacuation and repatriation are covered for covered illnesses and accidents not related to COVID-19; however, it may have to be coordinated and (possibly) authorized by local government authorities.

For Dominican trips, if someone exhibits COVID-19 symptoms and needs medical care, this travel insurance will not cover treatment, so the trip participant will need to cover the cost of medical care on their own. Casas por Cristo is not responsible for covering any medical care expenses incurred while on a Casas trip. Medical care expenses are the responsibility of the trip participant.

If you are uncomfortable taking the risk of COVID-19 medical care in the Dominican Republic not being covered by the required travel insurance, we encourage you to purchase an additional travel insurance policy, the Safe Travels Outbound plan through Insurance Services of America, which will cover COVID-19 related medical care. Please contact Adam Bates, Vice President of Insurance Services of America, at adam@missionaryhealth.net or (480) 821-9052 to get a quote and purchase this additional policy.