

TRAVEL GUIDE FOR TWIN PARISH VISITS TO HAITI

Parish Twinning Program

In planning your visit, it is best to contact David Siler to arrange dates that will be convenient for him and for your twin parish pastor. David can communicate with the pastor if he does not speak English. After determining the dates of the trip, check with David on the next steps to take. He will assist you in deciding whether it is best to rent a vehicle or to take an in-country flight. If a vehicle is needed, he will contact the pastor to meet you at the designated time. If you would like to bring any items for the parish, you or David can write to the pastor and inquire about his needs. As soon as the dates for your trip have been determined, please contact Matthew 25, PTPA's Hospitality House, if your sister parish is accessible from Port-au-Prince. The email address for Matthew 25 is matthew25house@yahoo.fr. They will send you an application to give your dates/nights you would like to spend at Matthew 25. If David will be accompanying your group, mention that on the form and include him in the number of airline tickets if you need an in-country flight. When you arrive in Haiti, you will be picked up by Matthew 25 House and returned to the airport for your departure.

ITINERARY

For new groups, a trip of six days is generally sufficient for a first-time visit to Haiti. Again, David prefers to accompany groups on their first trip. A typical trip to a sister parish involves flying into Port-au-Prince on a Thursday, staying overnight, and traveling to the sister parish on Friday. Usually, the group returns to Port-au-Prince on Monday and flies back to the U.S. on Tuesday.

You will get an overview of your sister parish by visiting any schools, clinics, and one or more of the chapels (this may be hard for the pastor to do, depending on the terrain and vehicles). You can also celebrate the liturgy with your sister parish on Sunday. Their liturgy is generally celebrated in their Kreyol language, and their services run much longer than ours. Frequently, parish visits will also include a meeting with youth or adult groups in the church. After getting a little oriented to the parish, Saturday or Sunday evenings are often good times to meet with the pastor to discuss and learn about the specific needs of the parish.

You can choose to spend a day of your trip visiting the capital city of Port-au-Prince. This day is better held for the last day of your trip, in case you have any difficulty getting back to Port-au-Prince from your twin parish. If you do this day tour, you may want to extend your trip an extra day. Members of a group can also spend a couple hours working at the Mother Teresa's Home for Malnourished Babies and Hospice for the Dying. Generally, you do not have to call ahead of time. David or someone from Matthew 25 House will provide the transportation. The volunteer hours are either from 9:00 am to 11:00 am or from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on weekdays (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday--not on Thursday or Sunday). *You cannot take pictures at Mother Teresa's Home.* Time can also be spent purchasing crafts for personal or parish use. Some U.S. parishes organize a craft sale at their own weekend masses or parish event in order to send the profit from their sales to their sister parish in Haiti.

ARRANGEMENTS PRIOR TO TRAVEL

* **VALID PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL TO HAITI.** Bring your driver's license also. Update both if needed, particularly if the address needs changing. The addresses should match. "Travel visas" are not required.

Leave a copy of your passport and your driver's license at home in the U.S. in case either gets lost while traveling. Leave phone numbers with a family member in the U.S. for any guest house or hotel where you will be staying in Port-au-Prince (if you stay there at all) and any phone/cell phone/fax numbers or e-mail addresses for your destination twin parish or area. Make a note that calling Haiti means dialing the international calling code 011 first; then, the country code 509 second; then, the number 3 for cell phone numbers); and finally, the actual seven-digit number. Give the address of your guest house or hotel to everyone in your group before going to Haiti so they can fill out the tourist card (more later). See our "Travel Checklist" handout for a summary of our suggested tasks before traveling.

You must make your own airline reservations. American has flights into Haiti from Miami, New York and from Ft. Lauderdale. (See info on airlines to Haiti). Fares average \$500 to \$800 (U.S.), including your connecting flight. If you need a translator for your group and David is accompanying you, please consult with him first. He can also (on any future trips) send you a list of Translators and their cell phones and email addresses, so that you can communicate with them directly. Translators generally get \$50 a day, but if they also drive, they get \$70 a day. See the "Additional Travel Information" section at the end of this Travel Guide for more details on flights and rentals.

[Travel advisories: Be forewarned--if you choose to read the travel advisories from the U.S. State Department regarding Haiti, expect the worst. They always present a bleak picture. They have had frightening travel warnings about Haiti for many, many years. Remember that they have to paint the bleakest picture in order to protect themselves.](#)

SUGGESTED THINGS TO BRING

Don't forget your plane tickets, passport, driver's license with updated addresses, cash averaging about \$150-\$250, a credit card if desired for a restaurant in PAP if there is time, and for SUV rental if necessary. Matthew 25 has a craft shop/boutique where you can purchase Haitian items to take home, as gifts or for the parish to sell. In that case, you need to think about bringing extra cash. [Matthew 25 has a policy of not accepting checks under \\$1,000. It takes one month in Haiti before we can withdraw funds at the banks after depositing a check. We also cannot accept credit cards since we are not registered with the government as a business or "guest house per se."](#)

Other suggested items are anti-malaria pills, medications, a bag/purse/hip pack, flashlight with extra batteries, lightweight summer clothing, summer sandals, tennis shoes, and if you prefer, glasses/sunglasses, and a battery-powered travel alarm clock or your cell phone. You probably don't need your whole wallet or pocketbook, so don't bring it all—bring only what you need. You may also want a few paper cups for pills, etc., wet towelettes, Kleenex, travel-size shampoo, soap, a washcloth (*almost* always the priests provides you with a towel while in the countryside, but not a wash cloth), mosquito repellent, snacks for traveling, a handheld mirror, Ziploc bags, and trash bags (rarely do rectories have mirrors or wastebaskets). A little Imodium could be helpful just in case of diarrhea. A portable fan that requires 4 D-size batteries can be a godsend. In the spring and summer, you may be able to purchase battery-operated fans at Target, Walmart, or other stores. [Most priests will provide bottled water in their parishes](#)—however,

you may want to bring your own small or medium sized bottle with you. At Matthew 25 bottled water is provided for all meals, general drinking, and mixed with instant tea or drink mixes. You can ask the priest or your interpreter or driver to purchase larger bottles of water at a local grocery store in PAP enroute to your sister parish. If you won't need your keys because a family member will pick you back up in the U.S., then don't bring them. See our "Travel Checklist."

IMMUNIZATIONS & MEDICINES

No specific immunizations are required to enter Haiti. It is *recommended* that you have these shots up to date: **DPT** (to prevent Diphtheria, Typhoid, and Pertussis/whooping cough) and **Tetanus**. You should also take **anti-malaria pills**--Aralen (chloroquen), Larium, etc. A prescription for the pills will need to be obtained from your physician. Usually, you take one pill one week before the day you go to Haiti. Then, you continue taking one pill once a week on that same day of the week for a duration of approximately four to six weeks. The length of time depends on your prescription. You may also want to consider gamma globulin to increase your immunity. Many people get the Hepatitis A vaccine to prevent against food-borne Hepatitis. Health-care workers often get the Hepatitis B vaccine to prevent against blood-borne Hepatitis.

Obtain refills of any prescription medicine which you are taking. Talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions from chloroquen, immunizations, etc. You cannot bring any expired medicines--whether they are for you or for your twin parish--so check all expiration dates, particularly when medicines have been gathered by your own parish or group. Make sure the expiration date won't arrive by the day you depart or arrive in Haiti. If you are with a medical team and are bringing in large quantities of medicine, please call Bertony Domond, PTPA's Haiti Coordinator, approximately one to two weeks before your departure, to let him know that you will be arriving with a lot of medicine. Bertony Domond can be reached at 011/509/3726-4472.

BAGGAGE

Before departing, always check with the airlines on baggage restrictions. Presently, you are allowed one carry-on bag up to 40 pounds, and two check-through pieces up to 50 pounds each. If you have a third bag, you will have to pay anywhere from \$50 to \$100 extra, depending upon the weight. Check-through bags must not measure more than 62 inches when the height, width, and depth figures are added together. Due to heavy travel, boxes are not allowed certain months of the year--generally from November through February. Check with the airlines before departing, and if there is an embargo on boxes, you will need to use duffel or canvas bags. If you are taking medications or supplies to your sister parish, bring a few large plastic bags in case it will be helpful to you to transfer some of your items into such bags so they can form-fit into the vehicle. Also, when packing medicines, put other items, such as clothes, sheets, etc. on top of the box or bag. **EXPIRED MEDICINES WILL NOT CLEAR CUSTOMS.** It is best to take anything you would need for one day (one day's clothing & toiletries) in your carry-on bag just in case your checked luggage does not arrive on time. You may also leave your larger suitcase at Matthew 25's hospitality house and use your carry-on bag for travel to your sister parish. Lock such luggage and carry the key/combo with you.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Often parish groups or medical teams will stay at Matthew 25 on the day of arrival and on the night before departure. Starting in September 2005, PTPA opened a hospitality house in PAP. The cost is \$50 per room per night with breakfast and dinner included. If you are there at lunchtime, peanut butter & jelly is provided or you may have a tuna or chicken salad sandwich for an extra charge of \$3.00 per person. When we go to the countryside, we always stay in the

rectory of the parish. There is no charge, however, David recommends each person consider giving a daily amount (\$15 to \$25) to the priest to help him pay for the food.

At Matthew 25, you can exchange US money into Haitian money if you wish. Generally, there is not a lot of need for Haitian money in the parish, however, you may want to exchange \$50 to \$100 before departing for the countryside. The priests can always accept your U.S. or Haitian money and you can use both currencies at any restaurant in Port-au-Prince.

When you fill out the Customs Form and a green Immigration Form on the plane upon entering Haiti, they will ask you for an address where you will be staying. Just put the address below:

Address:

Matthew 25 Hospitality House

#6, Rue A. Martial

Delmas 33 (Delmas 33 is the area)

Port-au-Prince, Haiti W.I.

It is not necessary to give a phone number.

Main Contact in Haiti: Bertony Domond

Our coordinator in Haiti, Bertony Domond (pronounced Dō-mō), should be contacted for any emergencies in the U.S. while you are in Haiti. His number is (011) (509) (3726-4472). You can also leave a message at Matthew 25. That number is (011) (509) (4272-9166).

When traveling to the countryside, it is sometimes best to leave your passport at Matthew 25 in Port-au-Prince and carry a copy of it with you to your sister parish. If you take day trips from a guest house in Port-au-Prince, remember to take all valuables with you or to lock your room.

Remember that conservation of water is a major concern in Haiti. Please take short showers and flush the toilets only when necessary. In some rectories, you will have a large bucket of water kept near the toilet, and you will have to pour some water in the toilet to get it to flush out.

Calls to the States can be made from the Matthew 25 House phone. We also have internet service available. If your U.S. cell phone has international service, you can use it in Haiti. You can go online with your cell phone carrier and pay a fee to make international calls.

There are other guest houses in the area if Matthew 25 fills up. Call or write with your travel dates and we will check on their availability for you.

LANGUAGE & TRANSLATORS

The two official languages of Haiti are French and Haitian Creole (Kreyòl). Many in Haiti don't know French, but everyone knows Haitian Creole. The language is derived from French (about 65%) and a mixture of other languages, including West African (about 35%). It has differences from the French/Louisiana Creole language which Cajuns speak in the U.S.

If your twin parish pastor does not speak English well, you will need to hire a translator and pay your translators at a preset rate per day. Again, this rate is \$50 (U.S. dollars) per day. If the translator drives also, they usually get \$70/day. While these fees may seem high, most of the translators must leave their families in Port-au-Prince and they may have only a few jobs per year to support them. You may pay them individually just before you leave from the countryside or immediately after you arrive in Port-au-Prince at Matthew 25. You may see the

interpreters again before departing to the U.S. If your translator has been arranged by your pastor in your sister parish, you should also consider paying that interpreter fee of \$50 per day.

EXPENSES

Average expenses for a one-person five-day stay in Haiti are about \$400 (U.S. dollars).

This includes the following individual expenses, assuming you are traveling as part of a group of several people (excluding your airfare):

- \$45 for one night or \$90 for 2 nights at Matthew 25 (first & last days of visit) including dinner and breakfast (guest houses average \$50 per person per night and up), plus the option of giving a gift to the pastor (or others) for several nights/meals at the rectory at your sister parish (again, visitors typically give \$15 to \$25 per person per day for food at the sister parish).

- \$250-\$275 per day for Jeep rental usually includes tax, insurance and gas (to be shared by your group). On the first visit, David tries to arrange for the pastor to come to Port-au-Prince so that a group will not have to pay the car rental fee. However, a typical vehicle will only hold two or three in the front and three in the back. In that case, with Theresa and an interpreter only 2 other people can go in the pastor's vehicle (or 3 if there is an extra seat in the front). If there are more than two people (or 3), you will most likely need to rent an additional vehicle. Generally, we rent from Avis because they give PTPA a discount. If you will be renting a car from Avis, you can use a Visa or MasterCard. You may also go online before departing for Haiti to reserve a vehicle, although there is a slight risk in that there may not be a reservation once you go to the rental counter at Avis. If you need to rent a vehicle right after you arrive at the PAP airport, you will need to tell the Matthew 25 driver.

- Again, it is \$50 per day for an interpreter & \$70 per day for an interpreter/driver expense (to be shared by your group)

Also, crafts and paintings may be purchased at Matthew 25 House or in the small gift booths at the airport when departing. The airport gift shop takes Haitian or U.S. money and has crafts, maps, vanilla, rum, etc. You may want to bring extra money for purchasing craft items. If you want to buy large quantities of crafts to sell at your parish, you may need an extra day. [In that case, you will need to pay a driver arranged by Matthew 25 for his time \(\\$50 per day\) and for the use of the house vehicle \(\\$100 for van/or Pathfinder\) & \\$50 for a half-day for both vehicles.](#)

CLIMATE & CLOTHING

Temperatures will range up to the 80's in the day during the winter months and up to the 90's in the summer. Night-time temperatures will vary from 60 to 75 degrees depending on the season and whether you are in the city or the mountains. The rainy seasons are usually late fall and spring, but there can be some pretty heavy evening showers in January. With its tropical climate, Haiti is very vulnerable to hurricanes generally from August through October.

Bring comfortable, lightweight summer clothes and sandals or comfortable walking shoes for year-round wear. Inexpensive flip-flop sandals come in handy for countryside showers, but are not always necessary. A sweater or light jacket is advisable for cool evenings if the parish is in a mountainous area. Ocean lovers may want to bring a bathing suit if your parish or travel takes you near the water. Although few Haitian women wear shorts, it is perfectly acceptable for visiting women to wear pants just above or below the knee or full-length. It is also acceptable for women to wear Bermuda type shorts in the evenings at the rectory. For mass services, women should wear skirts or dresses, and men should wear long pants.

*** ONCE YOU ARRIVE ***

We look forward to sharing with you the experience of getting to know the beauty and charm of the Haitian people. Our prayer is that you will be touched as we have by the strength, resilience, and faith of a people who have endured unbelievable suffering. May God bless your stay and may you encounter Jesus in all whom you meet.

David Siler, Executive Director, PTPA



*Our first task in approaching another people, another culture, another religion,
is to take off our shoes,
for the place we are approaching is holy.
Else we may find ourselves treading on people's dreams.
More serious still, we may forget that God was here before our arrival.*

Max Warren, Protestant Missioner

First, remember what your priorities are. You will be in Haiti to help the poorest of the poor. You will be traveling there in an atmosphere of Christian stewardship. Carry patience and resolve. If conditions change, be flexible. Remember that we are guests in their country and should not impose our opinions and ideas on them. There is nothing wrong with “suggestions” on how to do something, but we go to learn from them, to listen to their problems and needs, and to only guide or help them in meeting those needs.

When you arrive at the airport, you can follow the crowd to a window in the Customs area to pay a \$10 US fee. You will then get in a line to approach Customs and you will give them the green Immigration card you filled out on the plane and your passport. They will tear off the bottom part of the Immigration card and give it back to you. Make sure that you keep this card with your passport and airline ticket as you will need it when you depart. From the Customs window, you will proceed to the baggage area downstairs.

Sometimes baggage handlers will take the luggage off the conveyor belt and place it on the floor, so you may have to search for your bags around the carousels or in the corners. Occasionally, you will be met by someone at the carousel working with Matthew 25/PTPA, otherwise you will need to meet your party as you exit the building. If you did not have any check-through bags, you can proceed to the customs agent and you will hand him the Customs Form that you filled out on the plane before landing. In the baggage and customs area, you can secure a luggage cart for \$2.00 (U.S.) if needed. The desk and carts are generally on your far left when you enter the baggage area. After collecting all your baggage, take your baggage (or cart) to the customs agent and hand the agent your customs card. *Do not take your luggage off of your cart unless the customs agent asks you to do so. If asked, place your luggage on their metal table. Should you be questioned, tell them you are with the PARISH TWINNING PROGRAM (we usually use our English-language title--not a translation).* Most of the time, they will wave you on through without scrutinizing your luggage. However, if they choose to search your bag the important thing is to remain calm. If they point to a particular bag and ask you what is in it, just tell them gifts for the school, sheets, etc., or mention other items you might have in your bag that are not electronic (such as a printer, computer, etc.) Often times they will try to charge you a fee for something electronic. Rarely, do they ever check your smaller carry-on bag, so if you have a laptop, put it

in that bag with any DVD's. That also is for protection because they are careless about throwing big bags around.

If you need assistance at that point with carrying your baggage, choose one or two persons to help you. As soon as you leave the building, a man named Johnson or Parnel may come up to you and say they are with Matthew 25. Just turn your carts over to them and they will help you across the street to your waiting vehicle. It is generally customary to give Parnel or Johnson about \$2.00 a bag. You may want to designate one person to take care of paying them for the total number of bags that you have. After you have reached the vehicle and Johnson & Parnel have loaded your baggage into the vehicle, you can pay them.

If for any reason you ever had to catch a cab, choose a marked cab, tell the cabbie your destination, and negotiate the total fare up front before you get in the cab (they don't have meters).

It's always smart to lock all car doors and windows (especially hatch doors) when traveling in Haiti--particularly near the airport. If you really want to play it safe, you can keep windows rolled up.

SIGHTS & SOUNDS

The streets of Haiti are congested with people, dogs, and cars. Privately-owned and colorfully-painted shuttle buses called "tap-taps" carry Haitians everywhere. Pick-up trucks predominate. There is no organized trash pickup in many areas, so trash stands in large piles. Homes are concrete-block walls with corrugated tin roofs (or flat concrete roofs) in the larger cities and ramshackle huts with palm-tree-branch roofs in the countryside. You will see many unfinished concrete-block houses or buildings in Haiti. The mentality is that if you have a little money you begin. You may see kids or men playing "foutbal" (soccer), dominoes, or playing cards. You will hear a lot of roosters and dogs. You may see goats, pigs, and donkeys in people's yards. At night, you may hear music from radios or bands, and you will definitely hear the roosters crow all night long. Mosquitoes and other insects are plentiful, so it is best to use your mosquito repellent.

Many people will be begging for money in Haiti. It is impossible to give to everyone. It's not advisable to give to just one person if there are others around. Give only a small gift if it can be done discreetly or in private.

DRIVING IN HAITI

Most roads and highways are dirt, with only a few asphalt roads in larger towns. There are a number of traffic lights in Port-au-Prince, but many intersections are first-come, first-served. Driving is aggressive. Most roads do not have highway numbers or signs. They are simply called something like "the road from Port-au-Prince to Saint-Marc." Haiti is hilly in general and becomes highly mountainous in many areas. You may have to drive through creeks and ruts. If traveling to islands like La Gonâve or Tortue, you must buy a pass and travel there by ferry boat. It costs extra to bring a vehicle on the ferry. Most twinning parishes charter a boat or plane to those islands.

FOOD & DRINK

DO NOT DRINK TAP WATER IN PORT-AU-PRINCE OR AT YOUR SISTER PARISH (not even for rinsing your mouth or brushing your teeth). In Port-au-Prince, at Matthew 25 or in restaurants, there is no problem with the water or eating lettuce or vegetables as they are put

into water with a very small amount of Clorox before preparing. In the countryside, you would need to ask the priest before eating lettuce, tomatoes or other food items that don't have a skin. You can bring foods or snacks with you when you fly to Haiti, especially if you are vegetarian or vegan.

CURRENCY

Like the U.S., Haiti has their own dollars, but the official unit of Haitian currency is the gourde, which equals \$0.20 Haitian (one-fifth of a Haitian dollar); thus, five gourdes equal one Haitian dollar (a fixed value). There is a varying exchange rate on American money, which is presently fluctuating around 46.6 gourdes. (We have an "Exchange Rates" handout which you can request for more details.)

ELECTRICITY

Some urban areas have electricity, but it comes on intermittently--like it does in Port-au-Prince. Many rural areas have no electricity. Some parishes or rectories have generators which they turn on for a period of time. Voltage is 120 just like the U.S. Blow dryers, curling irons, and other devices can be used--when the electricity is on. A flashlight is a must for in the countryside.

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

Remember to take your charger for your camera or cell phone and an extra memory stick for your camera, if you think it will be necessary. Generally, most people do not have a problem with your taking their photo; especially in the parish. However, if they say no, their request should be respected. If you have any doubt, just request permission by asking "Photo?" If they nod "Yes," then go ahead--but know that sometimes they may request a little money from you afterwards. Most often women on burros or in the market do not like to have their picture taken. Children don't mind, and love to have their picture taken, especially when they can view the photos.

TIME OF DAY

Haiti does not do daylight savings time. Thus, Haiti's correct time agrees with eastern standard time all year-round.

HAITI GEOGRAPHY

The Republic of Haiti occupies the western third of the island of "Hispaniola." The Dominican Republic occupies the eastern two-thirds. Haiti is in the central West Indies, but it is also often described as being in the northern Caribbean. It is southeast of Florida and Cuba. The part of the Atlantic Ocean which separates Haiti from Cuba is called the Windward Passage. Haiti is often spelled "Ayiti" in Creole. Port-au-Prince is Haiti's capital and largest city. Haiti has nine governmental "départements" (or sections) of the country:

- Département du Nord ("north"/northern Haiti along northern coast) including Cap-Haïtien, Haiti's second-largest city;
- Département du Nord Ouest ("northwest"/northwest Haiti on upper side of coast) including Port-de-Paix;
- Département du Nord-Est ("northeast"/along northern coast/bordering Dominican Republic) including Fort-Liberté;
- Département de l'Artibonite (western central Haiti along western coast) including Gonaïves & Saint-Marc;

- Département du Centre ("center"/central Haiti along border with Dominican Republic) including Hinche;
- Département du Sud-Est ("southeast"/southeast Haiti along southern coast) including Jacmel;
- Département de la Grande Anse (southwestern tip of Haiti--upper side) including Jérémie;
- Département du Sud ("south"/southern Haiti along southern coast) including Les Cayes;
- Département de l'Ouest ("west"/southwestern Haiti along coast) including Port-au-Prince, Haiti's largest city.

There are also ten Catholic dioceses in Haiti with an "Eveche" (a Bishop's office) or "Archeveche" (an Archbishop's office): Port-au-Prince & Cap-Haitien are Archdiocese. The other Dioceses are Anse-à-Veau/Miragoâne; Fort-Liberté; Gonaïves; Hinche; Jacmel; Jérémie; Les Cayes; and Port-de-Paix.

HAITI LIFE

A large percentage of people live in poverty. The illiteracy rate is high. The majority of people survive by farming, and they sell their crops (like coffee, sugarcane, beans, rice) at colorful marketplaces. Others work various jobs outside the formal economy. Health care is poor, and Haitians at all ages endure reduced life expectancies. Haitians struggle with malnutrition, Malaria, HIV, intestinal parasites, Dengue, and other afflictions. There is limited access to safe drinking water. Due to very limited access to electricity, poor Haitians tend to use charcoal to create energy at home. Sometimes phone service is limited and unpredictable, particularly with landlines, although there is a proliferation of cell phones. Those who have phone lines or wireless service sometimes have e-mail through companies like Yahoo or Hotmail or Yahoo.fr. A minority of elites enjoys a much higher standard of living than the average Haitian. The majority of Haitians are Catholic, though many people combine voodoo practices into their belief system. Haiti has experienced much-publicized political instability over time. Haiti also suffers from deforestation and soil erosion.

WHEN YOU LEAVE HAITI

Remember to take any Swiss/pocket knives off your key chain or from your purse and put them in check-through luggage. If you wish to leave your luggage or clothes in the parish, that is always an option.

ADDITIONAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

AIRLINES TO HAITI

You can fly any airline to Miami, New York or Atlanta. The airlines that go from Miami to Haiti are American, Air France and United. Spirit and Jet Blue fly out of Ft. Lauderdale and Delta flies out of New York as well as out of Atlanta.

FLIGHTS INSIDE HAITI (FROM ONE HAITIAN CITY TO ANOTHER)

In-country flights are currently scarce. Tortug Air has some flights to Jérémie and Jacmel, especially, if you have a large group and you charter a flight. You can go on Tortug Air's website and make reservations, however, they have been sporadic about their flights – sometimes canceling for two or three days in a row. Their Website is www.flytortugair.com.

The other in-country airline is Mission Aviation Flights (MAF). You can go their website for reservations at www.mafhaiti.org. They will fly to 15 different airstrips in Haiti.

We would list more details with the airlines, but their schedules change too frequently. It is best if you can check for airline schedules depending upon the city you are flying out of.

Airlines (for travel to Miami & from New York or Boston or to Cap-Haitien)

American *Phone: 1-800-433-7300*

Continental *Phone: 1-800-523-3273*

Delta *Phone: 1-800-221-1212*

Northwest *Phone: 1-800-225-2525*

Southwest *Phone: 1-800-435-9792*

TWA *Phone: 1-800-221-2000*

United *Phone: 1-800-241-6522*

USAir *Phone: 1-800-428-4322*

Air Canada *Phone: 1-888-247-2262 Web site: www.aircanada.com*

RENTAL CAR AGENCIES

SUVs average \$200 to \$250 (U.S. dollars) per day. That may not always include tax, insurance or gas. You will generally need to put diesel fuel into your rented vehicle after leaving the airport and before departing for the countryside. Most rental companies ask you to bring the vehicle back with a full tank of gas.

Avis (for airport) - Port-au-Prince *Phone: (011) (509) (2) 246-4161* front counter

Avis agent Jude Cadet speaks English (011) (509) (2) 557-7757

Address (no street number): Rue Mais Gaté Près de l'Aéroport

- Mention PTPA! Avis gives Parish Twinning Program a discount--for example, a typical Mitsubishi Montero is about \$220/day instead of \$200/day

- The maximum number of people allowed to ride in either Jeeps or cars rented from Avis is FIVE. This includes the driver.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS IN HAITI

Our coordinator in Haiti: Bertony Domond (pronounced Dō-mō)

Phone - Domond's digital cell phone: (011) (509) 3726-4472

EMBASSY & CONSULATE

U.S. Embassy in Haiti (Port-au-Prince)

Phone: (011) (509) (2222-0200 or 222-0354)

Fax: (011) (509) (2223-1641)

Web site: <http://usembassy.state.gov/haiti>

U.S. Consulate / "Consular Section" in Haiti (Port-au-Prince)

Phone: (011) (509) (2223-7011 or 2222-6421)

Fax: (011) (509) (2223-9665)

Under normal conditions, it is not necessary to report to the U.S. Embassy after you arrive in Haiti.

- If you are interested in an extended period of time volunteering at Mother Theresa's Home, you need to call them at (011) (509) (2246-2321). If you will be volunteering for a short period, you don't need to call.

Disclaimer: PTPA does not take any responsibility for your travel to Haiti or any other country. We assume no liability. Travel always involves risk. This guide lists suggestions only. We are not formally recommending any course of action or service listed in this guide.