

# Flying Samaritans

## Mother Lode Chapter

# Clinic Travel Guide

Updated: March, 2025

You've registered for a clinic on [www.flyingsamaritans.net](http://www.flyingsamaritans.net), and you've submitted a signed hardcopy of the Release of Liability.

*Now what???*

## Countdown til clinic...

Within 3 - 7 days of the departure date, the Transportation Coordinator will assign you to a pilot/plane. Soon after, your pilot will contact you to arrange the details of the pickup time and place. Although we do our best to minimize inconvenience for you and your pilot, it is not always possible to arrange for your pilot to pick you up at the general aviation airport that is nearest to your home. Please be understanding and flexible, as there are many factors in play.

## How much will it cost?

A safe budget for your out-of-pocket costs during a clinic weekend is **\$550 USD**. You will pay these costs during the clinic weekend as you go, which break down approximately as follows:

**\$250 USD** for fuel cost sharing. You will pay this directly to your pilot. Cash in US dollars is strongly preferred.

~\$43 USD for Mexican Visa Entry Fee. Actually, the charge is 861 pesos, and it's best to pay by credit card. In the past, pesos were preferred. But lately, they seem to only accept credit card.

~\$25 USD for Friday's pre-dinner snacks, dinner and beverages. This varies depending on your taste. Most of the group heads to town for street tacos (full belly for \$5). Some choose to enjoy dinner at the hotel restaurant. Best to have pesos for street tacos. The hotel restaurant accepts USD, pesos or credit cards.

~1250 pesos (~\$65 USD) per night for your hotel room. The hotel accepts USD, pesos or credit cards.

~\$12 USD for Saturday's breakfast at the hotel restaurant. Actual cost depends on your tastes.

~\$8 USD or 150 pesos for lunch on Saturday. Fish tacos are brought back to the clinic for a quick lunch.

~\$12-40 USD for Saturday's dinner at a nice local restaurant. Actual cost depends on your tastes. Restaurant accepts USD, pesos or credit cards.

~\$15 USD for Sunday's buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant. Actual cost depends on your tastes.

~\$11 USD for Mexican Exit Visa fee. Actually, the charge is 223 pesos. Same comment as above for payment.

## What should I pack?

Besides your sense for adventure, here are a few things you will need to bring:

Please limit yourself to one 10 lb. Bag.

Duffle bags are strongly preferred over rollerboard-type carry ons.

- Your **PASSPORT!** Triple check that you have it!
- A bag lunch for the flight down. (Avoid foods that make crumbs.)
- For medical support staff: scrubs and a stethoscope.
- A light jacket. Evenings can be cool.
- Clothes/toiletries for two nights. Extra t-shirts in the hot months.
- Mosquito spray. Not typically a problem, but just in case...

## Other tidbits of information:

- We depart Friday morning and return Sunday afternoon. The final schedule and route is at your pilot's discretion.
- The Flying Samaritans will reserve your hotel room for you.
- The voltage and plug style in the hotel are the same as in USA.
- There is free WIFI at the hotel. Data speeds are not quite as fast as what we have in the USA.
- Mexican pesos are likely available through your bank. This usually takes 5 business days. Plan accordingly.
- Flight time is about 4-5 hours on an aircraft with no restroom. Think twice before finishing your venti latte.
- **IMPORTANT:** If you need to cancel after you have been assigned to a pilot, you will still be expected to make your \$250 contribution to your assigned pilot if we are unable to fill the seat that was reserved for you.

**More Questions?** Contact the Membership Coordinator by email:

[membership@flyingsamaritansmotherlode.org](mailto:membership@flyingsamaritansmotherlode.org)

