

Mike Keyes Ministries
International

**2024 Philippines
Mission Tours**

**Information
Packet**

3 Tours in 2024:

TOUR #1: JUNE MISSIONS TOUR. June 18-28, 2024.

- Tour Group leaves Los Angeles Tuesday, June 18.
- Tour Group returns to Los Angeles Friday, June 28.

TOUR #2: JULY MISSIONS TOUR. July 16-26, 2024.

- Tour Group leaves Los Angeles Tuesday, July 16.
- Tour Group returns to Los Angeles Friday, July 26.

TOUR #3: AUGUST MISSIONS TOUR. August 13-23, 2024.

- Tour Group leaves Los Angeles Tuesday, August 13.
- Tour Group returns to Los Angeles Saturday, August 23.

GENERAL AIRLINE TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR EACH TOUR.

- Exact departure and arrival times for each Tour will not be set until several months prior to departure. Call our Tucson office for updated information when necessary. Our phone number is listed later on in this packet.
- Once the air itinerary to/from Los Angeles has been confirmed, you will be notified immediately if there are any changes to that itinerary.

COST OF THE MISSIONS TOUR (same for all 3 tours)

- **Missions Tour costs:**
 - **\$3,695** (inclusive of all expenses to/from LAX airport, Los Angeles, CA.) This amount will cover all your expenses from flight departure in Los Angeles going to Ozamiz City, Philippines, to flight departure from Ozamiz City going back to the Los Angeles, USA. This amount includes your trans-pacific international airfare, and all hotel, food, lodging, two t-shirts, transportation and/or miscellaneous expenses while in the Philippines during your Tour.
 - *Plus*, the cost of your flights to/from Los Angeles, if applicable, and any hotel expenses incurred in Los Angeles, if applicable.

- **Tour deposit required (if total cost isn't paid initially):**
 - If you cannot pay the full amount initially, a deposit will be required, which is deducted from the total tour cost. **The deposit is \$695.**
 - Deposits are non-refundable, and are required to secure your seat on the airplane for ANY OF THE THREE 2024 Mission Tours. We recommend you send this deposit to us as soon as you're able if you're serious about participating in any of the three tours.
 - Your place on the Tour is not secured until this deposit has been received. The balance of **\$3,000** must be submitted to us no later than: **May 17, 2024, if you are going on the June Tour.** If you're going on either the July or August Tours, we can work with you to extend this deadline if necessary.

WHERE SHOULD FULL PAYMENTS OR DEPOSITS BE SENT?

- All payments using the U.S. Mail should be sent to: Mike Keyes Ministries International, PO Box 91916, Tucson, AZ. 85752-1916
- If using private shipping companies like FEDEX or UPS overnight, the address is: Mike Keyes Ministries International, 4900 N. Desert Tortoise Place, Tucson, AZ 85745-9188. Tel: 520-331-9976. Attn: Ethel Keyes

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:

- Each Tour Group participant must have a valid USA passport for international travel to the Philippines. They take some time to acquire, so if you don't have one you need to make application for yours NOW!
- Passport applications can be facilitated at select U.S. Post Offices. (Note: not every Post Office does this, so please check locally to find the ones in your area that do).
- Also, be sure you bring your USA Driver's License on the Tour as an additional picture I.D. besides your USA passport.
- **IMPORTANT!** Compare the expiration date of your USA passport to the RETURN DATE back to the USA after the Tour of your choice. **Even with a paid ticket, airlines will NOT allow you to board any international flight if your USA passport EXPIRES WITHIN 6 MONTHS FROM DATE OF USA RETURN - even by one day!** (This has actually happened to Tour group members in the past – they were denied boarding and were left behind in Los Angeles because of this security rule). If your passport expires within

any day of this six-month window prior to your return from the Philippines, you must renew your passport BEFORE you leave home. If you are in doubt about the expiration date on your passport, PLEASE CONTACT US, OR OUR MINISTRY TRAVEL AGENT IMMEDIATELY.

- Because of COVID, a new travel policy has been implemented with regards to foreigners entering the country. Each Tour Group member MUST go online to register with the Philippines government. You must have a cellphone to do this, and you cannot enter the country without registering. This program is called eTravel – Philippine One-Stop Electronic Travel Declaration System. Here is the link to follow: <http://etravel.gov.ph/>
- **Philippines eTravel System.** When you go to this website, go to the FAQ tab at the top, so you can refer to FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS for additional information. Some key questions/answers:
 - You need an internet connection to register with eTravel.
 - You must have a cellphone that you can download the required information after registration.
 - You can register in eTravel WITHIN 72 HOURS (3 days) before your arrival into the country.
 - When you register, you must download their eTravel QR CODE to your phone, or print the QR code before closing and exiting the eTravel website, because that is what they will scan prior to boarding your flight from LAX to Manila. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND PRINTING THE QR CODE as a back-up just in case there are problems with your phone.

MONEY MANAGEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES:

- **Credit Cards**
 - Bring one or two major cards only. Leave the others at home. Visa and MasterCard are the most widely accepted in the Philippines.
- **Cash Advances**
 - If you are bringing Visa or MasterCard credit cards, check with your local bank BEFORE leaving home, to be sure you are set up and approved to get cash advances in the Philippines if needed. And, be sure you know your credit card's cash advance daily limit, which is usually considerably less than your general credit line. In the Philippines, some bank ATM's offer cash advances, others do not. If you can't use the ATM for a cash advance, you'll need your USA passport to apply for one with local bank personnel inside the bank.

- **Traveler's Checks**
 - Do NOT use traveler's checks. The way banks work in the Philippines, the amount of hassle experienced in getting traveler checks cashed isn't worth it. Therefore, do NOT bring traveler's checks!
- **Personal Checks**
 - Personal checks are basically useless in the Philippines – nobody will cash them or honor them for payment, so don't bother to bring your checkbook.
- **How much money should you bring?**
 - For souvenir shopping, or for taking care of the unexpected, we suggest bringing at least **\$900 extra**. You can always take it home with you, but it's good to have it handy if you need it.
- **Currency exchange**
 - The currency in the Philippines is the peso. U.S. Dollars are not accepted for payment of goods or services in most places, so an exchange of currency will be required upon arrival. After clearing customs in the Manila airport, go to any of the open bank windows (they are only a few feet away from the customs area), and exchange your money. We suggest exchanging at least **\$500** at this time, which you can use or have available once you reach Ozamiz City. Additional currency exchanges can be made at our bank in Ozamiz after arrival there. We do not recommend exchanging your U.S. Dollars anywhere else with anyone else.
- **What condition should my U.S. dollars be in?**
 - If you plan on exchanging some of your U.S. dollars in either Manila upon international arrival, or in Ozamiz after local arrival where you will join up with us for tour activity, be advised the banks there will not exchange any bill that is old, torn, wrinkled, stained, defaced or otherwise damaged in any way. In other words, the bills must be clean and crisp, in order for the banks there to accept them for exchange to Philippine pesos. So, when you are getting your cash ready to bring on the trip, be sure you request new bills from your bank, or at the very least, bills that are still in good condition. Old, used, dirty, damaged bills will not be accepted there for exchange.

TRAVEL PLANS TO AND FROM LOS ANGELES:

- **Each Tour Group member must book his or her own flights to LA.**
 - Every Tour participant traveling from another airport or location is responsible for securing his or her own flights to and from the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). We strongly recommend that this be done as soon as possible to avoid any problems meeting up with the group in Los Angeles. Our ministry's travel agent can assist you in making these reservations if needed.
 - If you plan to arrive in Los Angeles from another city on the same day as the international flight departs - you must have a flight arrival time to the LAX airport that is at least 3 hours before the Tour Group departs from LAX to the Philippines. If you can't get that kind of connection time from your home city, you will need to fly into Los Angeles the day or evening before, to be sure you're at the airport in plenty of time to check-in with the group for the international flights leaving LAX for the Philippines.
 - Also, if the international flight leaves Los Angeles for the Philippines in the morning or afternoon (which has been the case in the past), you will need to fly into Los Angeles the day before, and overnight at one of the many hotels next to the airport, so you can meet up with the group at the LAX airport several hours before departure for final briefing and group check-in. Our ministry's travel agent can assist you with this if necessary.
- **Hotel bookings in Los Angeles**
 - Depending upon airline connections, Tour group participants may need to spend the night in Los Angeles prior to their departure to the Philippines, or upon their return home at the tour's end.
 - These are the following major hotels within a five-minute shuttle drive from curbside at the LAX airport: Embassy Suites (North), Embassy Suites (South), Marriott, Westin, Crowne Plaza and Sheraton. Our ministry's travel agent can assist you in making these reservations at preferred rates if needed.

- **Assembly point in the LAX airport**
 - All Tour Group participants will assemble in the International Terminal at a specific time and location to be announced as the departure date draws closer. MKMI designated staff will meet all Tour Group participants there, and coordinate the check-in and security clearances with you before aircraft boarding for the trans-pacific flight to the Philippines. Prior to your departure from home to the LAX airport, MKMI Ministry identification tags will be sent to all those who have paid for the Tour, and we ask you to wear that tag around your neck when you enter the International terminal so our staff can locate you quickly and easily.

- **Notify Tucson of your travel itinerary if arriving from out-of-town**
 - If traveling to the LAX airport from another airport or location, once you have secured your travel itinerary to/from Los Angeles, we request you e-mail or fax the itinerary to our Tucson office. Our contact information is provided later in this packet.
 - If this applies to you, you must send us your travel itinerary to/from the LAX airport no later than May 17, 2024 if you're going on the June Missions Tour. If you're going on either the July or August Tours, we can work with you to extend this deadline if necessary.

- **Our Travel Agent is available to help**
 - If you need or would like our assistance in booking your travel itinerary to and from Los Angeles, our ministry's travel agent is available to help. Her name and contact information is:
 - **Margie Carson**
 - Owner: Carson Travel Services
 - Hours: 24-hour assistance
 - Tel: 800-685-2035 (office)
 - Tel: 909-795-0735 (office)
 - Tel: 951-538-0229 (cell)
 - Email: carsontravelservice@hotmail.com
 - Web: www.carsontravelservice.com/

WHAT ABOUT YOUR LUGGAGE?

- Avoid bringing too many pieces of luggage. Pack efficiently and bring only what you need. For packing tips, a good rule of thumb I've used for over 43 years of international travel is this: *Bring half of what you think you need, and twice as much money.* There are also good websites which can help, such as this one: <http://www.travellerspoint.com/packing-tips.cfm>
- We suggest a total of no more than 3 pieces of baggage per person. This would be 1 hand-carry item, and 2 pieces of checked baggage. Check with your air carrier of choice to Los Angeles for their policies concerning fees for checked baggage. On most international flights, no more than 3 bags are allowed – 1 hand carry item and 2 checked bags. If you wish to bring additional baggage, you will no doubt be charged for it, so make your decisions wisely in this regard.
- We suggest you also leave room in your luggage for any souvenirs or local items you may purchase while in the Philippines.
- Leave all your important valuables at home. Precious jewelry, family heirlooms, etc. should not accompany you to the Philippines. Bring only what you wouldn't miss if it was lost, damaged or stolen.
- There are weight limits to your checked and carry-on baggage on Philippine Airlines, and any other international carrier we may use as well. They are very strict about this and will add an overweight fee for each piece of baggage that is over the limit, even if it's just a little. The overweight fees vary from airline to airline per bag, but can definitely add up quickly, so please keep your luggage within the weight limits to avoid these extra fees.
 - At the present time on Philippine Airlines, the weight limits for domestic air travel in the Philippines are as follows: checked baggage should weigh no more than 30 lbs. each and carry-on bag no more than 15 lbs. each. Even if weight restrictions are higher on USA airlines (to/from LAX), or with Philippine Airlines international flights, the domestic portion of your flight itinerary from Manila to Ozamiz is where they will get you! Typically, they allow more baggage weight per piece on their international flights, but reduce it (purposely in our opinion) for in-country domestic flights. This is how they rake in extra income from unsuspecting travelers, so beware! Policies can change without notice, so please confirm all of these things with your chosen travel agent or air carrier of choice, before you leave home to avoid surprises enroute for excess baggage fees!

PROTECTING YOUR LUGGAGE AND VALUABLES

- All checked baggage should be secure, but due to heightened security these days, all checked baggage must be either electronically screened or physically opened for inspection at the time of check-in. Each airport has their own procedures for this, so you should check to see what you will need to do at your home airport. Some airports will allow you to lock your baggage after inspection, while others won't. Some will offer to tape and seal your baggage after inspection, while others won't. Check to see what you can and can't do in regard to locking your baggage upon check-in.
- Your locks should be TSA-approved in case they choose to open your checked baggage for inspection. If they aren't, they'll cut them off and after inspection, your checked luggage will be unlocked for the duration of the trip, so be sure your locks have the TSA-approved logo on them.
- Once you begin your travels, never carry your cash, wallet or other valuables in your back pockets. Always carry them in your front pockets, or in a secure travel bag or carrying case of some kind, which is positioned on the front side of the body, not the back or sides. For the ladies, if you bring a purse, bring one with a zippered opening which can provide additional security against pickpockets. A good rule of thumb to remember for airport and international travel: if it's easy and convenient for you to get to your valuables, it's easy and convenient for a thief to do the same.
- When walking through congested areas during the Tour (such as a public terminal or food market), keep your hands on your purse or clutch bag at all times. Once again, if possible, put your valuables in the front pockets, never in the back. And unless you absolutely need to, we suggest you leave all your valuables and money with us inside our Compound for security before leaving each day to go out for ministry work. (More on this will be covered in the General Orientation meeting the first day after your arrival).

CAMERAS AND VIDEO CAMCORDERS

- We recommend bringing a good camera or camcorder to record and document your ministry outreach activity while on the Tour. In addition, the Tour will take you to some beautiful and scenic areas where you would enjoy taking pictures for your photo albums back home.
- If using a digital camera or recording device, be sure you bring plenty of capacity on your device's memory card or cards, since those are not readily assessable in our part of the country. We recommend at least a 16GB memory card.

- Also, be sure to bring devices that have plenty of battery power, and a charger which you can use each day to re-charge your batteries.
- These days, most cell phones can take pictures and record video that's as good, or almost as good as digital cameras and camcorders. If your cell phone is able to record your activity (and post it online to the internet via Facebook or other social media outlets), then be sure you bring your phone charger to keep it charged each day before you leave the compound.

POWER CONVERTERS NEEDED

- All electrical power supplied in the Philippines is 220 volts, not 110 volts, as it is in the USA. It is also very unstable, with big power spikes or surges being commonplace. Therefore, if you plan on bringing anything that needs to be plugged into a wall socket for power, such as personal appliances or devices (electric shaver, curling iron, blow dryer, battery charger, laptop computer, phone, etc.), be sure the unit is either dual voltage capable, or you have and use a step-down power converter kit.
- Converter kits can be purchased at any reputable electronics store.

WHAT ELSE TO BRING FOR TOUR OUTREACH ACTIVITY?

- Be sure to bring your Bible (a small one if possible), and if you're planning on speaking publicly in our crusades, we suggest you prepare several simple messages on the subjects of salvation and healing. These messages should consist of no more than 1 or 2 verse references, and be limited to one notepad size piece of paper. Also, be thinking about your personal testimony, which can be shared with the people who attend our crusades. (I will go over these things with you after your arrival in Ozamiz, but just be thinking along these lines prior to home departure).
- Even though each of these three tours is designed to be a working "hands-on" event for you, we never pressure anyone to speak or do anything they're not comfortable with, so we want you to feel relaxed while with us. You can participate as much or as little as you want, so don't be concerned about that.

HEALTH ISSUES, LODGING & PERSONAL HYGIENE

- There are no health shots required for travel to the Philippines, and praise God, proof of COVID vaccination and the wearing of masks is no longer required for entry.
- Keep in mind the Philippines is located in the tropical climate zone, and therefore is hot and humid all of the time. We will provide all Tour Group members with an air-conditioned room to stay/sleep in during the Missions Tour, but 100% of our daily outreach activity will be outdoors in public places, where it's hot and muggy. We will provide bottled water for all, but be prepared for this kind of climate.
- Bring a bottle of potent sunscreen, and plan on using it every day. The tropical sun is very strong and sun-sensitive people burn easily.
- Bring a bottle of insect and mosquito repellent as well. Our lodging quarters are sprayed consistently for mosquitoes and other pests, but when we go out for ministry work, repellent will be needed.
- We also suggest bringing some type of motion sickness medicine or treatment to use if you need it on the trans-pacific flights, as well as for any boat or extended land travel we may take during the course of the Missions Tour.
- If you are using any prescription medicine, secure as much as you will need for the duration of the tour before you leave. Over the counter medicines can be purchased anywhere in the Philippines, but anything special for you should be secured before leaving home.
- Personal care products like razor blades, shave cream, deodorant, feminine napkins, etc., can all be purchased anywhere in the Philippines.
- Due to the number of people participating in these Tours, we don't have enough air-conditioned rooms to offer to each individual, or to each married couple. Therefore, be prepared to room with other same-sex members of your Tour group.

WHAT KIND OF CLOTHING TO BRING?

- Remember the climate is tropical, so bring light summer-weight clothing, which is wrinkle resistant, easy to wear and easy to pack.
- Short-sleeve shirts and shorts are the preferred clothing most of the time, but also bring a couple of lightweight slacks as well. This applies to both men and women.

- All clothing will be hand washed and line dried in the open air, so clothes will take at least 1 full day to be washed, dried, ironed and returned to you. Therefore, plan accordingly to help us manage the task of keeping everyone's clothing clean and wearable throughout the Tour.
- Before leaving home, use a black permanent magic marker and put your name (or initials) on your clothing, so what belongs to you can be easily identified. The back of the collar, or the hemline at the bottom are good places to do this.
- Dry cleaning is available if needed, but turn-around time is 3 or 4 days minimum.
- Bring your bathing suit, as there will be time spent in beach areas for outreach, and we usually have a group beach or pool excursion at the end of your Tour before departure for the USA.
- Bring a hat (wide-brimmed if you're sun sensitive), a good pair of sunglasses, as well as a good pair of walking shoes, sneakers, beach sandals or flip-flops. There will be a considerable amount of outdoor walking involved with the Tour outreaches.

TOUR T-SHIRTS PROVIDED.

- We will need your correct t-shirt size as soon as possible after giving us your \$695 deposit, or no later than **March 29, 2024**. MKMI will furnish you with two t-shirts that we will all be using daily as our official "uniform" when going out on our crusades. They will be mailed directly to your home address, or to the group leader's address if you're part of a larger group coming from a particular church.
- **Be sure to pack these t-shirts when packing up for the Tour!** Don't forget!

ARE THERE ANY SECURITY CONCERNS?

- There is no need to be worried about your personal safety while in the Philippines, and in particular, while with us in Ozamiz city. Well before your actual arrival, we scout out and canvass every location where your tour group is scheduled to go, and make sure the peace & order situation there is stable and secure in every way. We have extensive contacts and friendly, working relationships with the Army and local police, so we are in constant touch with them on this issue of personal safety. They are always briefing us if there is anything going on that would be considered “dangerous”, and if so, we always adjust our travel plans accordingly to ensure the safety of all those in our care during these Mission Tours.
- Please do yourself a favor and ignore all the media “noise” about terrorism/terrorists in the Philippines. They know scary headlines with inaccurate, incomplete and exaggerated commentary attract viewership or readership – which makes them money. 95% of the country is safe and peaceful – in fact in our opinion – safer than many places in the USA! As for the other 5% of the country, you’re going to be a long way away from those places, and we would never place you in harm’s way no matter where we go for the Lord’s work. Your safety is our top concern when praying and securing locations for our daily Tour Group outreaches.

RECENT TOUR GROUP RESULTS

- **2016**, three Mission Tours conducted. The “official & confirmed” results:
 - Total number of salvations: 6,271
 - Total number of confirmed healings: 2,213
- **2017**, three Mission Tours conducted. The “official & confirmed” results:
 - Total number of salvations: 4,800
 - Total number of confirmed healings: 1,578
- **2018**, three Mission Tours conducted. The “official & confirmed” results:
 - Total number of salvations: 6,208
 - Total number of confirmed healings: 2,070
- **2019**, the last set of three Mission Tours conducted before COVID. The “official & confirmed” results:
 - Total number of people reached: 6,182
 - Total number of salvations: 5,235
 - Total number of confirmed healings: 1,986
- These figures are actual – we have the names of each of these people. Plus, we know from experience there are always many others who attend these meetings and get saved and/or healed, but never give us their

names before leaving. In short, only God knows how many more received Jesus as Lord and/or Healer in these meetings!

- You can be a part of what God does through us in 2024! Plan now to attend and partner with Him and with us to win thousands to Jesus. *The Philippines is waiting for you!*

GIVE US A PHOTO COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT

- When you send your deposit or the total amount for your Tour of choice, please provide a photo copy of your current USA passport as well. This is important for several reasons, in planning and preparing for your participation & travel.

35 SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR EACH TOUR

- Space for each tour is limited. We can only accommodate up to 35 participants for each Tour. If you plan on going, we recommend sending in your funds as soon as possible.

TUCSON OFFICE ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

- If you have any questions this info packet does not address, please feel free to call or contact our Group coordinator for answers. She is:
 - **Rev. Ethel C. Keyes**
 - MKMI Missions Tour Group Coordinator
 - PO Box 91916. Tucson, AZ 85752-1916
 - Tel: (520) 743-8336 (office)
 - Tel: (520) 331-9976 (cell)
 - Fax: (520) 743-3132
 - Email: ekeyes@mkmi.org
 - Web: www.mkmi.org, www.mkmi.info