



Middle East/North Africa (MENA)

Across the Middle East and North Africa, our partners are driven by a singular vision: to see the Gospel reach the "unreached." We focus our efforts on the **10/40 Window**—a region where millions of Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists live and die without ever meeting a follower of Jesus.

To change this reality, we serve alongside local leaders in two vital ways:

- **Direct Outreach:** On our short-term trips, teams will evangelize, engaging in direct conversations to share the hope of Christ with those who have never heard it. Our hope is to connect spiritual seekers and long term missionaries to build gospel relationships.
- **Partner Support:** We go to care for and encourage our long-term missionary partners.

Through these trips and our ongoing support of local church planting and discipleship, we are working to ensure that the light of the Gospel breaks through in the world's least-reached places.

Onboarding Process

1. Apply through the Restoration Short Term Missions Application found on the Restoration Website. Applications due December 1st.
2. Meet with Restoration's Missions Minister for a Follow Up Meeting.
3. Receive trip or waitlist placements by December 31st.

Requirements

- Must have a passport with at least six months of validity remaining, starting from the day of departure, to be accepted to the trip.
- Must attend Pre-Trip Trainings.
- Must follow the prescribed support raising deadlines for trip.

Pre-Trip Trainings

Preparation is vital to ministry impact. Our time in country is short, and we want to be as helpful and effective as we can. Pre Trip Trainings are designed to equip every team member with the practical skills and spiritual preparation necessary for their specific ministry context. In the Pre-Trip Trainings, we will cover the following:

- Meeting #1
 - Support Raising Training
 - Gospel for all people
 - Team Building
 - Prayer
- Meeting #2
 - How to Share my Testimony
 - Culture Crash Course
 - Team Building
- Meeting #3
 - Fellowship
 - Team Building
 - Prayer
- Meeting #4
 - Pre Departure Meeting
 - Safety
 - Expectations

Details & Logistics

Trip Cost

Total: \$3000

Includes airfare, visa, supplies, transportation, lodging meals, and fees/administrative costs. We recommend you bring some money for souvenirs.

All trip goers are expected to complete the payment deadlines found in the application and discussed at the first Pre-Trip Training.

A \$200 deposit is due 48 hours upon acceptance to the trip (nonrefundable).

We will use Managed Mission for payment collection and support raising. You will have your own personalized link to use. Any checks written to the trip must be made out to "Restoration Church Bryan" and have "MENA Mission Trip: FirstInitial LastName" written in the memo.

Luggage

Everyone will get two bags to bring on the plane:

- 1 carry-on
- 1 personal item (i.e. backpack. Must fit under the seat below)

Carry on + personal item must be less than 25lbs . My recommendation is to at least pack one pair of extra clothing in your carry-on as it is possible for luggage to get delayed/lost in transit to Middle East/North Africa.

Packing List

During PreTrip Training 3, we will talk more specifically about dress code. Do not bring anything you are worried about getting dirty, dusty, broken, or lost.

- Bible & notebook with pen
- Passport
- Money for souvenirs (most people find \$50-100 sufficient)
- Water bottle
- Camera (again, don't bring anything you're worried about losing)
- Electrical Converter (specifically for Middle East/North Africa)

- Sunglasses
- Backpack
- Light jacket
- Comfortable shoes for walking long distances
- Toiletries
- Hotels will provide you with towels, washcloths, and all necessary bedding
- Clothes

General Trip Itinerary

Day 1

- Team meets at Restoration offices
- Car pool to Airport
- Arrive 3-3.5 hrs early

Day 2

- Arrive in Middle East/North Africa
- Drive to Hotel
- Eat dinner
- Sleep

Day 3-7

- Wake up and eat breakfast
- Prayer walk around city
- Lunch with team
- Rest period
- Dinner with team
- Evangelize in pairs around the city
- Debrief
- Sleep

Day 8

- Wake up and eat breakfast
- Drive back to main city
- Eat dinner
- Debrief
- Sleep

Day 9

- Wake up and eat breakfast

- Tourism day
- Eat dinner
- Pack
- Debrief
- Sleep

Day 10-11

- Wake up and eat breakfast
- Drive to the airport
- Fly back to America
- Drive back Restoration offices

Cultural Norms & Expectations

The Middle East/North Africa is a primarily honor/shame culture. If this phrase does not make any sense to you, don't worry—we'll cover this paradigm in our first pre-trip training.

What you need to know is this:

People in the Middle East/North Africa love to honor their guests, expect a high level of hospitality (coffee, tea, etc). When sharing the Gospel on the streets, expect to have some shop owners offer a drink of some kind, it is best practice to accept the drink offered. If you sit down in a shop that serves drinks, the best way to honor the owners is to buy a drink, from there Gospel conversations can start.

Some helpful books and resources are:

- 3D Gospel by Jayson Georges
- Missions by Andy Johnson
- Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus by Nabeel Qureshi

Language

The official language of the Middle East/North Africa is Arabic. Where we go to do ministry, most of the people there will speak English, but there will be some who only speak Arabic.

FAQ

Travel

- What airline will be used?
 - We typically fly United, but it is subject to the best cost. We use Highpoint Travel to help us book.
- What transportation is used once in country (bus, train, other)?
 - We depart from College Station as a team, carpooling to the airport.
 - Typically takes 2 flights to get to Cairo. Once in Cairo, we take a pre-ordered driving service from the airport to our accommodations.

Accommodations/Food

- What are the accommodations during all phases of the trip? (Hotels, hostels, other?)
 - We are staying at the Holiday Inn in Cairo
- Will there be separate sleeping areas?
 - Yes, unless married, men and women will always have separate hotel rooms.

Emergency Protocols

- What are the crisis response plans for medical emergencies, political/civil unrest, terrorism, or natural disasters? Emergency evacuation plans? Is there a designated contact person at home to relay info to families?
 - Please refer to our document on [Safety and Security on Short-Term Missions Trips](#)
 - Trip Leaders, Hannah Davin (Missions Mobilization Minister), and Matt Ullrich (Executive Pastor) are the designated people of contact in the event of crises on a Short Term Trip with Restoration.
 - Hannah Davin, (hdavin@restorationbryan.com)
 - Matt Ullrich, (matt@restorationbryan.com)

Insurance

- What insurance coverage is there?
 - We use Faith Ventures Basic Plan. Learn more [here](#).

Documentation

- Will there be a "master folder" containing photocopies of all required documentation?
 - Yes, there is a digital master folder that will be kept by the trip leader. However, trip participants are responsible to keep up with their own documentation (i.e. passport, trip visas, proof of trip insurance, etc.)
- Are medical release forms required?
 - No.

- Will you check the team in with the U.S. Embassy before traveling?
 - Yes! This is our protocol for every trip we take, regardless of where!

Communication

- Will there be reliable Wi-Fi or cellular access to allow contact in case of emergency? Will those in the US be able to contact in case of family emergency?
 - Yes, there is Wifi available at the hotel.
 - Trip goers are responsible for their own data plan / cell service