

Amor Trips and Travel Restrictions – Updated 4/21/21

Amor continues to navigate the uncertainty of the moment as it pertains to having participants and groups back on our Amor Trips. We want to make sure that we are acting in the best interests of our families, participants, and staff while respecting the travel restrictions and government regulations. Below are the restrictions and regulations that Amor is continuing to monitor.

On April 20, 2021, the US State Department released a <u>Level 4 Travel Advisory</u>: <u>Do Not Travel</u> for Mexico. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a <u>Level 4 Travel Health</u> <u>Notice for Mexico due to COVID-19</u>. <u>On January 26th, the CDC will require all air</u> passengers to present a negative COVID-19 prior to re-entry into the United States. This does not apply to land crossing which is how our groups cross the border.

The <u>United States and Mexico entered a joint initiative</u> on March 21, 2020 restricting non-essential travel along the U.S.-Mexico land border to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Non-essential travel includes travel that is considered recreational. Amor Trips are considered recreational and non-essential. Every month this joint initiative is re-evaluated and extended one month at a time. As of today, this restriction is in place until at least May 21.

Similarly to the United States, Mexico has restrictions in each state on activities, gatherings and the way in which organizations operate. Mexico and each of its states operate on a color-system in their COVID-19 risk and response. As of right now, the states that Amor operates in are in the yellow phase <u>according to the federal government</u>. Baja California and Sonora are operating in the yellow phase.

Although Sonora is in the yellow phase, our team is not currently operating there. Due to the size of our team and current logistics, our small Mexico team is working solely in the Baja area for the time being. Our plan is to operate in Puerto Peñasco once we can fully have groups return and can logistically support two camps at once.

In October 2020, Amor was given permission by the Mexican government to operate (build on worksites) again with strict protocols. Once we are fully open to groups returning, we will continue to follow the protocols that the government has required of Amor.

As for the factors that Amor was monitoring to have groups return, those have changed. Mexico is in their yellow phase and the government has given us permission to have non-Amor employees working on worksites. The last thing we are waiting for is the border restriction to be removed for non-essential travel.

Amor will do our best to keep groups updated on when the above indicators change, and we are able to host groups once again. If you would like to pencil in a trip for 2021 and beyond, please contact Emily, Amor Trip Manager at earnold@amor.org or 619-662-1200 x 125.



Please continue to pray for our pastors and community leaders across the world who are needed as much as ever to minister to the needs of their communities.