



ST. LUKE  
FOUNDATION  
FOR HAITI



**NPH Haiti**

## Visitor Guide

St. Helene Home

St. Damien Pediatric Hospital

Special Needs Programs

Father Wasson Angels of Light

St. Luke Foundation



St. Damien Pediatric Hospital

## We are looking forward to your visit with us!

### PAYMENT

The Villa Francesca Guest House costs **\$25 U.S. per day/per person.**

Cash is the preferred method of payment. You will be given a receipt and will be asked for your email address for follow up.

**JULNER: VISITOR  
COORDINATOR**

**+509-44-14-20-65**

info@stlukehaiti.org

### EXPECTED BEHAVIOR AT THE VILLA FRANCESCA

We are grateful that you are considering spending your time, energy, and resources with us in Haiti. We share the below guidelines for behavior in friendship and for clarity, so that we can be sure that our expectations and requirements are clear.

- We understand the common desire to have a drink in the community area after what can be very long days. We urge our visitors to be prudent and drink in moderation. For any person working in hospitals or with children, we require that you do not drink alcohol at all prior to entering these areas. If you would not do it in your country, then please do not do it in Haiti.
- No illegal drugs of any kind should be brought onto the premises.
- It is essential that noise be kept to a minimum after 10 p.m. Many of our volunteers, both short term and long, have an interest in sleeping early and rising early, and we request that this desire be respected fully.
- Once it's dark outside, please do not leave the compound on your own.
- Any constructive criticism or advice regarding the Villa, hospitals, schools or the orphanages, is

best shared directly with that respective program manager at an appropriate time. Due to the sensitive and often difficult nature of our work, we hope you will use discretion in public settings when speaking about medical cases, children, or staff.

- Please speak respectfully and with forethought about Haiti, the country we all so dearly love. The attitude of *"This is Haiti! Anything goes!"* is not one that we tolerate. We, as international staff, are grateful to be playing a role in what is a Haitian-led mission. We hope that this humility and respect can shine through for each group.
- We do not host children or underage visitors unless special permission is given. **No children, from NPH, St. Luke, St. Damien, the street, or elsewhere, should be brought inside the Villa without explicit permission from program managers.**



St. Damien Pediatric Hospital

Any questions or comments about your stay can be sent to [info@stlukehaiti.org](mailto:info@stlukehaiti.org). We will also be asking for your feedback about your stay!

## TRAVEL

When entering Haiti you will be required to turn in a visa form at immigration after debarking the airplane. Please use the address:

**NPH Haiti St. Damien Pediatric Hospital  
Tabarre 27  
15 Octobre Blvd.  
Valerio Canez corner**

## ARRIVALS

When you arrive at the Toussaint Louverture Airport in Port-au-Prince, you will stand in line for an immigration check, pay \$10 to enter the country, and then proceed to baggage claim. Lastly there will be a line for customs. There are many people who will want to help you with your bags. It is okay to let them help you carry your bags, but they will be expecting a tip, usually \$5 U.S. They do not earn an hourly wage so tipping is expected. However, be assertive and choose only one of these men to help with your luggage if necessary.

When you exit the doors of the airport building, you will see our representative with a sign that says YOUR NAME and NPH HAITI or St. Luke Haiti. If you do not see someone with the sign, please wait a little longer as we may have had trouble with traffic or the vehicle. Please call Julner, the Visitor Coordinator at +509-44-14-20-65 in case of an emergency. You may want to add a short term international calling plan to your cell service before coming to Haiti, or purchase a cheap phone at the airport. This is not strictly necessary but can be helpful.

## DEPARTURES

You will be dropped off two hours prior to your departure flight. Often the lines are long and slow at the ticket counter for check-in. Once you check your bag, you will proceed to immigration to hand in your green immigration card. You will also go through various metal detectors. If you are flying American, there are a few cafes for food and drinks once you are at the gate.

## Immigration form

The immigration officer will hand this part back to you. You will need to return it to immigration when you leave the country.

The Villa Francesca Guest House



## ACCOMMODATIONS

Visitors are welcome to stay in our guesthouse called Hotel Villa Francesca. It is located about three blocks away from the St. Damien and St. Luke Family Hospitals.



The Villa Francesca costs \$25 U.S. per day/ per person. WiFi internet is available. To gain access to the internet, please see the Visitor Coordinator or the Manager of the guesthouse.

We can accommodate up to 40 people. There are 10 individual houses each with two bedrooms, a bathroom and a living room - each room sleeps two people. If necessary, we can place additional beds in the living room.

A roll, coffee and fruit are provided in the morning and a hot lunch is served daily at 1 p.m. If you are visiting with a group, alternative arrangements for meals can be made with the kitchen by the Visitor Coordinator at an additional cost. If you are not staying at Villa Francesca and are visiting for the day, arrangements for lunch can be made with the kitchen by the Visitor Coordinator at a cost of \$3 U.S. per person.

Transportation to the supermarket is provided to allow guests to purchase any supplemental food.





Fr. Wasson Angels of Light Program



St. Helene Home

### **POWER & WATER LIMITATION**

We ask for your cooperation in conserving water and electricity. We have reserves for water which we pump daily. Please do not put paper in the toilets to prevent them from

clogging. Use the waste basket next to the toilet bowl. The generator operates for eight hours during the day to charge the inverter which allows us to have power in the houses at night. Please turn off all unused lights and devices.

### **HOSPITALITY AND TIPPING STAFF**

We have four hospitality staff who help with guests. Two men clean the rooms three times a week and two women who do laundry. Please do not give tips to people within our organization for their help unless you have checked with the Visitor Coordinator. There is a great need in Haiti and we try to pay our employees competitive wages, but refrain from giving any money without consulting with us first.

### **VACCINATIONS/MEDICATIONS**

Before traveling to Haiti, please consult your physician and visit [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel) regarding vaccinations.

### **SMOKING**

As a good influence to our children and staff, we do not permit smoking around any of our programs. Please ask the Visitor Coordinator where a designated smoking area is if you prefer to smoke. There is **NO SMOKING** inside any NPH building.

### **RESPECTING SHARED LIVING SPACE AND COMMON AREA**

The common area of the guest house is for socializing. NPH will not tolerate sexual behaviors of unmarried people behind closed doors in the volunteer and visitor quarters. Married couples can stay in the same room. We reserve the right to ask you to leave in violation



Common area at Villa

of this request. We share the living space and kitchen and we are each responsible for cleaning up after ourselves. Please do not bring plates and glasses from the kitchen into your room.

### **CURFEW**

We encourage all visitors to return to Villa Francesca before sundown (between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.). Alternative arrangements can be made if visitors would like to go out in the evening by speaking with the Visitor Coordinator. Please remember that while you are staying with us, you are a representative of our organization. Do not give NPH a bad name with behavior unbecoming of a missionary or volunteer. We reserve the right to ask you to leave in light of such behavior.



St. Philomena Chapel

### **DAILY MASS**

We encourage you to celebrate daily mass with Fr. Rick Frechette at 7:00 a.m. in the St. Philomena chapel located inside the St. Damien Hospital complex. Please be aware that many daily masses can be funeral masses. Stretchers of covered bodies are often inside

the chapel prior to and during the service.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Visitors staying at Villa Francesca will have transportation arranged to visit our other locations nearby for free. Please see the Visitor Coordinator to arrange transportation to distant and remote locations.

### **LAUNDRY**

Laundry is washed by hand, and we also have a washing machine available and two employees who wash clothes for the visitors. Please coordinate any laundry requests through the Visitor Coordinator or the onsite Manager. Please do not ask the women directly to wash your clothes.

We hope you enjoy your visit us!

FOR FURTHER questions or concerns, please see the Visitor Coordinator.



APJ school

FWAL Primary School



### CLOTHING

You may wonder what to wear while visiting us. In most cases, your common sense will be all you need, but some idea of how others commonly dress may be helpful. Haitians in general take pride in their clothing. Teachers,

secretaries, and other professionals dress carefully in slacks or skirts, pressed shirts or blouses, and shined shoes.

While staying in Haiti, neat mid-thigh shorts, capris, jeans, clean T-shirts, and sandals or casual shoes are almost always fine. If you are planning to spend time inside the school classrooms, hospital or clinics, long pants or skirts are a good idea. You will feel less conspicuous if you avoid overly casual clothing. NPH maintains a policy not allowing short shorts, short t-shirts, tank tops and low-waist pants that show the belly and bellybutton.

### MONEY

The currency in Haiti is Gourdes. Money can be changed at many of the grocery stores. The exchange rate averages 50 Gourdes per \$1.00 U.S. Many places still use the Haitian Dollar when referring to prices, 1 HD is equal to 5 Haitian Gourdes.

### WHAT TO BRING

Necessary items for a comfortable stay are: bug spray, sunscreen, flip flops, sturdy shoes and/or sandals, hat, sunglasses, snacks such as Clif bars, nuts, or other proteins, water bottle, umbrella or light raincoat during rainy season. Please remember your personal toiletries or any medication. We have a small souvenir shop onsite and at Kay St. Germaine where you can use cash (U.S. dollars or Haitian Gourdes). A credit card can be used at businesses and the supermarket.



### CAUTION, VERY IMPORTANT

It is natural to share what you have with others less fortunate. Please remember that the most precious and important thing you can share is your love and attention. We need to be fair to all children, so we ask that any gifts you consider giving can be used by an entire group (like a soccer ball or books). We also want to decrease the possibility that children start seeing visitors and guests for what they have, rather than for who they are. Finally, many of our children come from situations with very few resources. They can be curious and fascinated by your possessions. Please lock your room at all times, and do not invite kids into your room unattended or without permission of their caregivers. NPH maintains a policy that no adult can be alone with a single child in any of the guest rooms.



### PHOTO/VIDEO POLICY

We ask that you do not take photos of any children or adults outside of the NPH programs (St. Helene, FWAL and St. Anne). Please be respectful and do not take photos of children or adults of any hospital program or outreach program. They are seeking care in our facilities and can be quite ill. For

clarification, please see the NPH International Child Media Policy on the last page of this document.

If you need specific photos of any of our programs, the NPH Haiti Communication Officer who is onsite can assist you. You can contact him at [co.ht@nph.org](mailto:co.ht@nph.org).



# NPH Haiti

## Programs:

St. Damien Pediatric Hospital treating children 0-14 years of age.

Father Wasson Angels of Light Home and School including:

- St. Anne Home for children under six.
- Free primary school for St. Anne children plus children from the community.

Don Bosco: Home for children 14 years and older.

Special Needs Programs:

- Kay St. Germaine Rehabilitation Center for both children and adults and special needs school.
- Kay Gabriel Adult Rehabilitation Center.
- Kay Elaine Rehabilitation center for both children and adults and pre-school stimulation in Petionville.

St. Helene: Home for children 0-14 years in Kenscoff and free primary school for community students.



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## Programs:

Francisville Workshops: production of peanut butter, pasta, bread, cinder blocks and tools; sewing, oxygen plant, restaurant and auto mechanic.

St. Luke Family Hospital for all ages.

APJ School: Free secondary school in Tabarre.

St. Luke School System: 30 primary schools that feed into our secondary and professional schools.

Notre Dame de Guadelupe Professional School, Fos LaKay Programs in Cite Soleil, St. Mary's in Cite Soleil.

