



Quick Reference Guide

Won By One To Jamaica is a 501(c)3 missions organization that has been doing ministry in Harmons since 1991. Won By One To Jamaica facilitates groups of high school students, college students, and adults throughout the year.

- Location:** *Harmons, Jamaica*, a small mountain village of 3,000 people in the south central Parish of Manchester, Jamaica.
3 hours from Montego Bay; 45 minutes from Mandeville.
- Harmons:** Harmons is an under-resourced community with nearly 2 of every 3 people under-employed. Because of expense and its remote location, consistent education past the 6th grade is often difficult. Money for basic needs (food, clothes, toiletries, medical treatment and home improvements) is limited. Our mission is this: To show the love of Jesus Christ by providing opportunities through education, empowerment, discipleship and economic development for Jamaican and American lives to be transformed.
- Won By One To Jamaica Staff Leadership:**
Bryan Fellers and Loyd Jackson
- Price:** \$1,695 per person, including airfare up to \$700 per person
- Deadlines:** \$100 per team member non-refundable deposit due immediately
\$800 plus any airfare overage per team member due 72 days before the trip departure
\$795 per team member due 23 days before the trip departure
- Documents:** A valid U.S. Passport or valid Foreign Passport and Jamaican Visa (if necessary)
Signed & Notarized Won By One To Jamaica Participation Form
Short-term mission insurance documentation

- Transportation:** *To Jamaica* – Various airlines to Montego Bay
In Jamaica – Two 27-passenger coaster buses and 15-passenger van and trailer will be used to help move the team, luggage and building materials throughout the island.
- Accommodations:** *In Harmons* - Harmony House, constructed in 2001 with large meeting room, kitchen, two team dorm rooms, staff rooms, covered courtyard, deck, gardens, running filtered water, toilets, showers, and electricity.
- Price includes:** Roundtrip airfare between home airport and Montego Bay, Jamaica up to \$700 per person; all transportation on the island; lodging in the Harmony House; all meals at the Harmony House; all building materials in Harmons; all wages paid to Jamaican laborers.
- Price excludes:** Passport fees, luggage fees, short-term mission insurance (required), lunch, shopping and/or excursion (in places such as Montego Bay, YS Falls, Dunn’s River Falls, Blue Hole, etc.), meals during travel days, departure Covid-19 rapid antigen test prior to return home.
- Communication:** An emergency phone number will be given to the team leader if an extreme emergency arises. Participants and their families should be adequately prepared that personal phone calls will not be possible during the trip for any reason other than a true emergency. Nor will internet access be available. Team photos will be posted daily to Won By One to Jamaica’s Facebook page.
- Luggage:** Each team member is asked to bring one 50-pound bag as checked luggage and two carry-on bags with their personal items. We ask that teams only gather suitcases which can be left in Harmons. Most airlines have fees for checked luggage which will need to be covered by the individual or the group and paid for at the airport.
- Immunizations:** Up-to-date Tetanus and Hepatitis A is recommended.
- Safety:** Safety is of the utmost importance. Participants will work and travel in groups and be in communication with leaders. Rules of appropriate behavior are communicated with both Americans and Jamaicans.

Serving Opportunities:

Each day the team will split into work groups ranging from two to twenty people. Some of the projects you will work on are as follows:

Construct houses: During the week, one to three 12' by 15' houses will be constructed. Jobs include carrying marl, framing the foundation, mixing and pouring concrete, assembling the wall panels, applying concrete to the walls, installing windows and doors, attaching the zinc roof, and dedicating it to the new family.

Construct bathrooms and kitchens: Using similar construction methods to building houses, bathrooms and kitchens will be added to homes that desperately need them.

Carry marl: Marl, or crushed limestone rock, is the basic ingredient for making concrete and needs to be carried in bags to future home work sites ... usually uphill.

Repair homes: Most houses are in desperate need of repair. Walls need reinforcement; rusted zinc roof panels need replacement.

Assist schools: During the school year (September-June), some team members will have the opportunity to go into Primary (Grades 1-6) or Basic (3-5 years old) schools in the community. They will help provide support to students in areas such as art, music, and/or PE with guided lesson plans and a gospel connection.

Reading Pals: Some team members will participate in our Reading Pals program which is a one-on-one program with Primary School students to help increase literacy skills. Games and books are provided for these sessions.

Faith Walks: Guided by a local Jamaican, small groups will walk in the community and have the opportunity to meet people, offer to pray for them, share with them, and also learn from them.

Spiritual Background:

Jamaica has a strong religious history, boasting more churches per square mile than any other country in the world, as well as being home to hundreds of different denominations. Religious classes are

mandatory in all public schools from elementary to college. However, many Jamaican churches tend to be legalistic. One typically is not welcomed within the Church body without first “cleaning up” their life. Salvation can often be seen as conditional and is connected to whether one is successful in sin management.

Evangelism: With the above in mind, our ministry strives to build relationships with the people in the Harmons Valley. Through discussions on work sites to time in the courtyard, we spend time getting to know Jamaicans and then using those relationships to share the free gift of Christ's salvation with them. Because of our long-term commitment to the Harmons area, this style of evangelism is possible. We greatly encourage participants to think about and prepare a way for each of them to share their story or short testimony about how God has moved in their lives, in order to be ready to share with Jamaicans.

Recreation Day: At the end of the week, the team will have the opportunity to participate in a day of recreation outside of Harmons. This may either be a day spent at one of the famous excursion destinations in Jamaica (YS Falls, Dunn’s River Falls, Blue Hole, etc.) or an afternoon in Montego Bay, open for time at the beach, lunch, shopping, etc. The Recreation Day for each team will vary and is based on availability and travel guidelines.

Money: *There is no need to exchange money.* We recommend team members bring \$150-\$250 cash, depending on how much money they plan to spend on souvenirs, drinks, etc. You will want to bring some small bills (1’s, 5’s, 10’s) for sodas sold at the Harmony House. An opportunity will be given to each team to help with a local Jamaican family in need. We recommend bringing a check that can be used at Craft Night and for the optional donation. Credit cards will be accepted but will incur a 5% surcharge. Recreation Day excursion cost will be approximately \$20/person. *Pandemic Addition: Until further notice, departure Covid-19 tests will be \$55/person.

Conditions: This trip may require more walking and lifting than most Americans are normally used to and will be physically exhausting. We encourage team members to do whatever they can to improve their cardiovascular condition.

Health Issues: If anyone on your team has a significant health issue, please e-mail our Trip Coordinator, Christa Benito, at christa@wonbyonetojamaica.com at least a month before your trip so appropriate precautions can be taken on the ground in Jamaica.

Please Note: This is an alcohol-free and drug-free trip. Due to cultural sensitivities and the impression this makes on the community, we ask that all participants refrain from taking part in these things.

Items to pack: These fall into three categories: team items, personal items, and give-away items.

1. Personal items:

These are items that each person should bring for their own use. Many of these items can be left in Harmons after the team leaves. In the “Important Information” packet is a list of what to pack and how to pack so each team member knows what to bring and what not to bring. These items should only be packed in carry-on luggage (a small, roll-on suitcase and a backpack).

2. Team items:

Some food/kitchen items are difficult to find in Jamaica and are very expensive. Because of this, we ask each team member to pack a couple of items from the States. This standard list will be given to each group a month before departure. In addition, every team member should bring one box of their favorite breakfast cereal (or other item for your breakfast), one can of green beans, one can of corn, and two rolls of toilet paper.

3. Donated items:

Please note, we are collecting donated items differently than we have in the past. Instead of the general donation list, each team will be asked to bring specific items needed in Harmons to be donated to Won By One To Jamaica. Our Trip Coordinator will provide this list to each group in advance so all items may be collected in time for the trip.

