

# Leader Surf

## Logistics and Packing Information

We are very excited to have you join us for our LeaderSurf program. LeaderSurf will provide you with a development opportunity like no other. Your week at the program will expose you to new thinking, learning new skills, interacting with a new set of people, helping a less fortunate community and the opportunity to relax and learn in a unique environment.

The LeaderSurf program runs from Sunday, February 5, 2017 through Friday, February 10, 2017 and will be held at the Buena Onda Beach Resort in Playa Santana, Nicaragua. The program starts at 4pm on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. It is important to make travel plans to arrive prior to the start time. The program will wrap up by 10am on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. We will provide ground transportation to and from the airport in Managua (MGA). If you choose to arrive a day or so early or stay longer, we can offer discounted rates for the hotel room and help with ground transportation. If your flights don't coincide with the provided ground transportation, private taxi can be arranged for \$120. Travel time from MGA to Buena Onda is two hours.

### **Flights:**

We recommend that you fly to Managua (MGA). There are other options but we will plan to meet travelers at MGA. Most flights from the USA are routed through Miami (MIA).

For arrival: Plan a flight that arrives no later than 1pm on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>

For Departure: Plan a flight that departs no earlier than 12pm on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>

The program kick off day, Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> is Super Bowl Sunday. We will plan to watch the game as a group as part of our orientation.

Once you have booked your flights please email your itinerary to [brian@leadersurf.com](mailto:brian@leadersurf.com) so that we can coordinate the ground transportation. Currently flight prices range from \$400-\$1,000 roundtrip from major US airports. Don't wait to book as the flights do fill up.

### **Travel Documents and Info:**

A valid passport is required to travel to Nicaragua. Make certain that your passport does not expire within 6 months of the trip. A Visa is not necessary from the USA and from most other western countries. There is a \$10 USD entry fee at Immigration that must be paid in cash, so please bring US dollars to cover that charge. There is no exit fee when leaving Nicaragua.

### **Currency and Payments:**

While Nicaragua's currency is the Cordoba, most business is conducted in US Dollars. The LeaderSurf program covers all food, hotel, drinks and program costs. The only items for which you would be responsible are ground transportation that does not align with the program shuttle to and from the airport, upcharge for wine and top shelf liquor at the hotel, meals and snacks you choose to eat offsite, souvenirs and other items you choose to purchase. Credit cards are accepted at most establishments. The Buena Onda resort charges a 5% credit card fee for any credit card purchases made.

### **Safety and Security:**

While the Buena Onda Resort has 24/7 security and the area is mostly safe, we do discourage participants from bringing expensive jewelry and other items. Each room includes a private safe for storage of valuables. You are highly encouraged to use the safe. Do not bring large sums of money on the trip, but do bring at least \$100 USD for incidentals. You should bring a credit card as well.

Your safety is a priority for the program. The surfing lessons will all include a safety lesson regarding surfing safety. The ocean can be dangerous and there are steps that we will take to ensure your safety. Accidents do happen. There is the [Roberto Clemente Health Clinic](#) one mile from the Buena Onda Resort. The clinic provides excellent medical care should an accident occur.

### **Packing List- What to Bring:**

- An open mind
- Valid Passport
- Shorts
- T-shirts
- Flip flops, sandals, sneakers, good footwear for walking and for walking on the beach which has some rocks and the sand gets hot
- Sweatshirt for evenings
- Sunglasses
- Windbreaker or rain jacket
- Sunscreen and hat
- Bathing suits at least two
- Shorty wetsuit or surf top (Water temperature will be between 70-80 degrees)
- Waterproof watch (Helpful for timing the waves)

- Chargers for phone, camera and computer- Power is 110v like in USA
- Kids t-shirts, school supplies and other items that can be donated to the local community

**What Not to Bring:**

- Work
- Valuables including expensive jewelry
- Too much money
- Dressy clothing

**Amenities:**

Each room includes:

- a private bathroom with soap and shampoo and hot water shower
- Coffee Maker
- Satellite TV
- High Speed Internet is available free of charge throughout the resort
- Towels
- Safe
- Outdoor seating with hammock
- Bottled Water

**Communications/Cell Service:**

The Buena Onda resort has excellent wifi coverage. If your phone has international roaming you will get cell service at the resort, but it is expensive. Check with your carrier. Skype, Whatsapp and other VOIP services work very well while at the resort. It is our hope that the experience will encourage you to spend less screen time during the week, but if you do need to get work done or stay in touch with family there is good internet access for that. You can also purchase a local SIM card and data plan at the airport for the week.