

LONDON MISSION TRIP

Letter from Trip Director

Thank you for your interest in a mission trip to London. We are excited that you desire to come and be a part of what God is doing here. In the pages that follow, you will find important information about the trip that should answer most of your questions. If you have other questions that are not addressed in the material already provided, please contact us. - Travis Snode (tsnode@gmail.com), Chris Waye (chriswaye@me.com)

Information About London

- Population of 8.2 million in the city and 15 million in the metro area.
 - The city sprawls for 600 square miles with 13,500 people per square mile.
 - One of the world's leading financial centers, alongside New York City.
 - Attracts 14 million visitors annually.
 - A multicultural city with more than 300 languages being spoken and 37% of the people who live in the city being born outside of the UK.
 - Over 400,000 students in 43 universities.
 - 1.7 million non-religious people, 1 million Muslims, 400,000 Hindus, 150,000 Jews, 125,000 Sikhs, 83,000 Buddhists, and millions of others may claim to be "Christian" but are not truly saved!
 - Only 1 in 5 go regularly to any church.
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The Work in London

London is a city with a very rich history of Bible-preaching churches. There are some churches that still preach the gospel and believe the Bible, but those churches are becoming fewer and fewer. The need in the city is not to just start new churches but to strengthen the things which remain.

After identifying a gospel need in Downham, SE London, the Wayes and Snodes worked together to plant Downham Baptist Church (www.downhambaptist.org) in Southeast London in 2013. The church was officially constituted in 2017. Our vision is to continue making disciples, planting churches, and training men across London and the UK as the Lord gives us opportunity.

Purpose of Your Trip

- Develop your vision for the world.
- Gain experience in cross-cultural evangelism and ministry.
- Cultivate a heart for people from other cultures and backgrounds.
- Help reach out to lost people and encourage believers in the city.
- Gain understanding about church-planting around the world.
- Leave forever changed by the Holy Spirit of God.

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Trip Dates

The dates for your particular trip will be arranged on an individual basis. The recommended amount of time is 7-10 days. For more details or to schedule a trip, contact us.

Schedule

While you are in the UK, the main purpose of your trip will be to learn more about evangelism, church-planting and how to serve God better; to develop more of a burden for world evangelism; and to be a blessing to other Christians and the missionaries on the field.

This is not a sightseeing tour or a vacation, however, during your trip you will be able to see some beautiful countryside, travel to some very historic places, and participate in some fun activities.

Here are some possible things that you will do on your trip:

- Participate in world evangelism classes
 - Gain experience in personal evangelism
 - Shop for souvenirs
 - Visit historic churches and buildings
 - Learn about culture and customs
 - Pass out tracts and literature
 - Minister in church services
 - Help with special meetings
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Cost

The cost of your trip will vary greatly depending on several factors: the price of airfare, how long you arrange to stay, what time of year you come, what you plan to do, where you stay, and the size of your group. The prices below are a rough estimate to help you as you consider coming on the trip:

Plane tickets	\$1000 - \$1700
Transportation	\$300
Tours	\$150
Food	\$40/day
Lodging	\$60/night

The above costs do not include personal spending money. We recommend that you bring an approximate \$200 extra for souvenirs and additional attractions and snacks. Also, if you want to bring extra money to give during the offering times in the churches you will be visiting that would be a blessing to the churches.

Plane Tickets

The price of tickets varies with the time of the year. The most expensive time to fly is during the summer. When purchasing your tickets, the best airports to fly into are London Heathrow (LHR), London Gatwick (LGW), or London Stansted (STN).

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Deadlines for Your Trip

In order to have the most effective trip, we require all groups to meet the following deadlines:

6 months before departure - *Confirm dates & purpose of trip with us.*

- Your trip might be able to coincide with a special outreach or special meeting for children, teens, etc.
- This would allow you the opportunity to be more involved in the ministry here.

2 months before departure - *Purchase plane tickets.*

- You will be responsible to purchase your own plane tickets, though we would be happy to offer our advice on airlines that we would recommend.
- Be sure to confirm all flight details will work with us before final booking.

1 month before departure - *Send money for travel, food, lodging, and tours.*

- This will allow us to make deposits on your lodging and travel arrangements and get the money for the food and tours transferred over.
 - Please send your money to Vision Baptist Missions, PO Box 442, Alpharetta, GA, 30009 and mark your check "London Mission Trip"
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Lodging

Depending on group size, availability, and your budget, we will arrange some accommodation for you. This may be in the home of a church-planter or church member, a hostel, or a local hotel/guesthouse.

Transport

Depending on your circumstances, we will arrange a minibus or other vehicle to transport your group around. No doubt, we will also need to use public transport on some days when visiting central London. The airports vary in distances from 30 minutes to over an hour away, so transport will also need to be arranged to and from the airports. We will either make these arrangements for you or advise you on the recommended method of travel.

Tours

We will arrange various tours for you depending on how much you want to spend and what you would like to see. Possible places include Tower of London, Metropolitan Tabernacle (Spurgeon's), Wesley's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, London Eye, and Harrods.

Food

Meals will be a mixture of meals at restaurants, meals in someone's home, and meals you prepare.

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Luggage

You will be asked to bring only one large suitcase and a carry-on. Your suitcase must not weigh over 50 pounds and the carry-on must be small enough to fit under the seat in front of you or in the overhead bin. Check the airlines website for specific information.

You may be asked to carry an additional suitcase or bring some items in your luggage for one of the church-planters working in the country.

Dress and Weather

The temperature in London ranges between 52-73° F in the summer and 36-46° F in the winter. It can be quite windy and rainy at any time of the year and may even snow in the winter.

If you are coming in the winter, be sure to bring a warm jacket, preferably waterproof with a hood. You should bring mostly long-sleeve clothing for the winter months. A lightweight waterproof jacket and short-sleeve clothing will be fine for the summer.

You will want some relatively comfortable shoes for all the walking we will be doing.

Please be modest in everything you wear so you will set a good example for the people on the field.

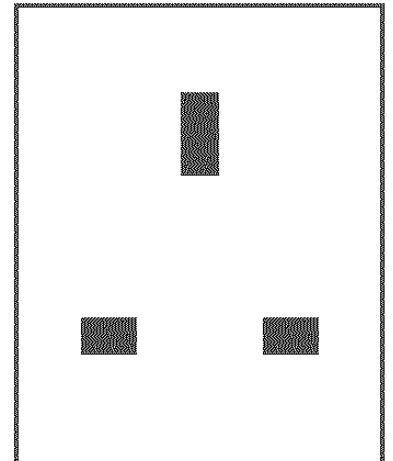
Medication

You may bring any over-the-counter drug. Any prescription drug may be brought as long as you have the prescription with you.

Caution

Always be careful to watch your things while travelling. Airports and crowded shopping areas may have thieves, pickpockets etc. Do not wear excessive amounts of jewelry or something that might call attention to yourself. Do not flash your money around.

Do not plug in any electrical devices without checking with the trip leader first to see if it is the right voltage. All electrical outlets in the UK are 220-240 volts and 50 Hz cycle. The picture to the right gives you an idea of what the outlets look like.



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Preaching, Teaching, or Testimony

We want every God-called preacher to have a chance to preach. You must understand that preference will be given to those who are pastors and preachers in full-time ministry. If possible we will have everyone who desires to give at least a word of testimony. Please abide by the time restraints that you are given.

How to give your testimony in the services:

- Write out your testimony. It will help you to stay within your time limits.
 - Keep it brief, about 3-5 minutes.
 - Tell who you are and a little bit about yourself, what you do, your family, etc.
 - Add a couple of positive statements about the country, the church, and the people!
 - Do not talk about the differences in language, the currency as funny money, how sorry you feel for them, etc.
 - Tell what Christ has done for you, how you got saved, how you realized your need of a Savior, how your life has changed, how Christ has helped you lately.
 - Give a verse and then give the application.
 - Do not give graphic details about your sin or your past life.
 - Thank the folks again and ask them to pray for you. Be excited about the country and the opportunity to be there.
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Keeping a Journal

Ideas for your journal:

- Keep a diary of your daily thoughts and events
- Keep a record of your prayer requests
- Keep a record of how you felt on the trip
- Preserve your joy for future memories
- Keep a list of what you are learning and how God is working in your life
- Write down quotes and sayings that you hear that are a blessing for you
- Review your day with God
- Be able to share with your family, friends and church all that God did in your life on the trip

Tips on how to keep a journal:

- Start before you leave home.
- Set aside a quiet time each day for writing.
- Talk to your journal as though it were your best friend.
- Keep your journal confidential.
- Answer some questions in your journal entries like the following:
 - What did I learn today that will benefit my spiritual life?
 - What areas of my life does God seem to be talking to me about right now?
 - What did I learn about serving Him?
 - What did we do today?
 - Who did we meet today?
 - What decision did you make today for your spiritual life and growth?

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Cultural Dos and Don'ts

- Do not treat the British churches any differently than you would your church.
 - Do treat the British pastors with respect just as you would treat your pastor.
 - Do not eat or drink in front of the British folks without offering them something as well.
 - Do not constantly criticize Britain or talk about your country and all that you miss there or how it is better, etc.
 - Develop a taste for local foods. Eat with them. Do not turn your nose up at the food.
 - Do get involved in the services.
 - Do try to look at things like they do. You are the foreigner.
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Packing Checklist

- Passport
- Copies of Birth Certificate and Passport in a separate place than your original passport
- Bible
- Journal
- Notebook
- Ink Pen
- Camera/ Video Camera
- Change of clothes in your carry on in case of lost luggage
- Toiletries
- U S currencies no marked up bills, tears, stains, etc. Need to look like new.
- Luggage keys
- Only necessary credit cards
- Student ID of any kind
- Clothes and Shoes for church
- Battery operated alarm clock

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Application

Please complete and email to tsnode@gmail.com or chriswaye@me.com. Thank you very much for your time. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

General Information

Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____
Email Address: _____
Daytime Telephone: _____
Evening Telephone: _____
Church Membership: _____
Pastor: _____
Occupation: _____
Marital Status: _____

Medical Information

Please describe any medical condition that a doctor might need to know about you on this trip:

What prescription medications do you take (generic name, strength, and frequency of dosage)?

Please describe your general health condition: _____

Please list any known allergies: _____

Doctor's name _____

Doctor's phone _____

In the event of an emergency, whom should we notify? _____

Relationship _____

Telephone _____

Ministry Information

Do you sing? (If so, please list what songs.) _____

Do you play an instrument? (If so, please list what instruments.) _____

Will you trust God to provide your funds to be able to pay for this trip? YES/NO

What other countries have you visited? _____

Have you read and signed the Trip Covenant? YES/NO

Do you have any problem with the covenant and the promises you have to make in this covenant?

YES/NO

If so, what are your problems or disagreements? _____

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Covenant

I recognise and accept the following conditions which will further the usefulness and safety of my internship. I understand that though the United Kingdom may not be referred to as a third-world country, it may not have the same conveniences that I am used to at home. I realise how important it is to be flexible and willing to adjust to the expectations of my host. If accepted as a member of this Mission Group:

- I will go as a servant-disciple of Jesus Christ and will adopt that attitude when dealing with my fellow team members and the people I meet during this internship.
- I realise and agree that this is a mission internship and not a vacation. I want to go on this internship to learn more about missions, learn how I can serve God better, and be a blessing to other Christians and the missionaries on the field.
- I will accept and submit to the leadership role and authority of the team leader and promise to abide by his or her decisions as they concern this mission internship.
- I agree that in the event my conduct is considered so unsatisfactory that it jeopardises the success of the internship, and that mediation during the internship has failed to correct my behaviour, that my services in connection with this mission internship will end and I will return home immediately at my own expense.
- If a loved one or dear friend is traveling with me, we agree to interact with all members of the team, not just one another. I promise not to initiate or seek new romantic relationships with team members or local people during the internship.
- I will always pay my own way! I will be careful not to allow the missionaries or local people to pay my expenses or my team's expenses.
- I will be a blessing to the missionaries we are visiting. If a missionary accompanies me on an outing or excursion, I will pay for the missionary's entry fees and meals. The missionary is only going as a guide and has probably been there several times already.
- I will not expect the missionaries to be my maids. They aren't offering room service.
- I will help out with serving, cleaning, cooking in the missionary home. I will be a blessing that the missionaries will remember and be glad and thankful that I came on the internship.
- I will not complain about the food, lodging accommodations, etc.
- I will be a gracious guest. If your lodging is in a missionary (or national) home, I will remember I am a houseguest. This home has been generously opened to me. It is not a motel to be treated carelessly as if I had paid for the room.
- I will be respectful of the missionary's home. In whatever home I stay, I will treat the possessions of the owner with care. I will always leave a home and the furnishings in as good a condition as I found them. I will respect the missionaries' right to privacy.
- I will conscientiously set aside the time to have my personal devotions and take care of the daily responsibilities both spiritually and physically. I will understand that each group member will be asked to help with different house duties.
- I will attend all services, activities, outings, etc. and carry my share of the load in the work we are trying to accomplish.
- I will maintain and exhibit a good attitude that will honour and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.
- I will remember we are the new Christians from another part of the world and will be watched very closely. I will not take lightly this important responsibility of setting an example.
- I will submit to the instructions concerning attire, eating, drinking and other such traditions which will help me to assimilate into the local community.
- I promise not to be overly demanding, to do my best not to offend or cause embarrassment for our missionary hosts, and to do my best to help them attain their long term goals.
- As a Christian I realise that it is my responsibility to die to myself and seek to serve others. I will not seek my own but that of others. This means not putting myself first and leaving the others out. I will be a blessing to all on my team and especially those that I have come to minister to.
- I realise that others on my team, during the journey, and while onsite will look at me for an example of how a Christian acts, and will not treat that responsibility lightly. I understand that travel may be difficult, and I promise to adopt a flexible attitude and be supportive as plans may need to be changed. I understand that I must travel with the rest of the team.
- Before I give a gift to someone I will consult with the team leader and missionary and allow him to make the final decision on this matter.
- I release and discharge the organisations and individuals which helped me make these arrangements, including Vision Baptist Missions, the Our Generation Training Center, my home church, their agents, employees, officers and volunteers, from all claims, demands, actions, judgments, or executions that I have ever had, or now have, or may have, or which my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns may have or claim to have against these organisations, their agents, employees, officers, and volunteers, and their successors or assigns for all personal injuries, known or unknown and injuries to property, real or personal, caused by, or arising out of this journey. I intend to be legally bound by this statement.
- In signing below, I represent that I am 18 years of age or older, or my parent/guardian will sign also, accepting the above conditions on my behalf.

Participant's Signature: _____

If participant is under 18 years of age, parent or legal guardian's signature: _____

Participant's Name: _____ (please print)

Address: _____ (please print)

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

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Pastor Recommendation

Please complete and email to tsnode@gmail.com or chriswaye@me.com. Thank you very much for your time. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Name: _____

Church: _____

Phone Number: _____

How long have you known _____ (Name of Applicant): _____

Do you recommend that this person participate in the British Isles Mission Trip: YES/NO

If not, please explain why: _____

Other Comments: _____

Signature _____

Date _____