

Team Leader Information and Trip Details

About the Trip Leader

Team leaders: Joan MacPherson & Gary Smith
Currently lives in: Amesbury, MA/Conover, NC
Best phone: 781.444.1481
Best email: joan.wildgoose@gmail.com

About the Trip

Location: Haiti
Dates: Oct. 29-Nov. 5, 2017
Cost: \$1,150/person
Expected group size: 8-10
Trip Number: 90113

Meet the Leaders:

Gary loves to travel and build. He also believes the best thing you can do is give someone a chance to grow and contribute to humankind. He has been on numerous building trips since his university days and feels each has shaped and blessed him in different ways and wants to share this opportunity with others.

Having had her life changed and enriched building houses for others, Joan seeks to help others experience that wonder. A deep love for the families and team members keeps Joan plugging along at her building specialty - an experienced pack mule - and, if houses can be built with her lack of construction finesse, you probably have something to offer to a team as well.



We have led/participated in building teams across the hemispheres (Fuller Center and Habitat for Humanity) and in Haiti extensively. Our teams have laughter, labor and learning, give a shout and talk about joining in. To find out more contact Joan at <mailto:joan.wildgoose@gmail.com> or by phoning 781.444.1481 (east coast).

Trip Details:

Pignon is a small city, about a 4 1/2 hour drive from Port Au Prince through some beautiful scenery, small towns, and after the first 3 hours the world champion of rough roads. We will be working on various parts of building a house for a family including digging, mixing concrete, assembling re-bar, sifting gravel to make sand and hauling rocks and blocks. Don't worry if you don't have any experience or aren't handy! There is work for all skill levels. Learning a new skill is part of the fun. We will be staying in a guest house that is run by the locals from Pignon. The accommodations are simple (similar to a hostel), but comfortable and safe. Meals are provided at the guest house and there is a nice yard to relax in before and after work.

We will arrive on October 29 and right away start the adventurous road trip to Pignon by an experienced local driver. Most days we will head to the build site after breakfast, return to the guest house for lunch, and then work until late afternoon. The length of the day will be adjusted according to how tired everyone is and how high the temperature is. Now and then we'll take a few hours off to visit some local sights like schools, churches and markets. We will travel back to Port Au Prince on Saturday, visit a couple of interesting spots in Port au Prince, and stay the night before everyone catches a flight out on Sunday.

Additional Travel Opportunities: Some team members may want to add a few days after the building week to explore Haiti. This could be anything from time in Croix de Bouquet or a stay at an all- inclusive resort. Let us know if you are interested.