



## Nicaragua Travel Tips - 2018

1. Pack light. It is going to be hot and humid so pack light clothing. There is an inexpensive local laundromat near the Hilton Hotel in Managua. We have the laundry done on Wednesday. The Colegio Bautista group is staying at the Hacienda Pedro and they can arrange for your laundry.
2. Remember that you only have one checked bag with a 50-lb. limit on Avianca Airlines and one carry-on for your personal items.
3. ATMs are readily available. There are internet cafes and ATMs in Managua and San Marcos. You can get cash at the Hilton Hotel front desk or ATM. Internet is available without charge at the Hilton and Hacienda Pedro
4. Avoid taking contact lenses, if possible.
5. Pack liquids like lotions or shampoo in resealable ziplock bags. Anything over 3 oz. should be packed in your suitcase, not the carry-on. Carry-on must not be oversized!
6. IMPORTANT: Pack your carry-on bag so that you can survive for several days if your luggage is delayed/lost. This is particularly important for prescription meds.
7. Tell the group leader if you have medication that requires refrigeration.
8. Bring insect repellent. A 20% DEET content is adequate.
9. Use luggage with wheels if possible. Baggage handlers are not careful with your suitcases.
10. Pack the heaviest items on the bottom. Stuff socks in shoes and roll clothing to economize space.
11. Tie a bright colored ribbon/yarn on the handle of your suitcase for easy to identification.
12. A neck or waist wallet is a good way to carry your passport. Keep a copy of your passport picture page in a separate place, such as your carryon bag.
13. Mark each luggage bag with your first name, address, and telephone number.
14. Dress modestly out of respect for the host country's culture. No tube tops, short tops, short shorts, sleeveless blouses or shirts, no t-shirts with crude slogans, etc. Simplify your hair dressing and make-up routine. Use travel hair blow-dryers with low wattage. The Hilton is a modern hotel with hair dryers in each room.
15. Nicaragua has 110v electric outlets that are similar to ours in the U.S.
16. It will be the rainy season so bring a small umbrella and/or rain slicker.
17. Leave expensive jewelry at home.
18. Leave radios, TVs, game boys, etc. at home. MP3 and CD players are okay.
19. Your mobile phones may not work in Nicaragua so check with your provider. If you bring a mobile phone, keep it in "Airplane Mode" to avoid expensive roaming charges. Some major phone providers now allow texting while travelling internationally at little or no charge.
20. The team will bring a basic first-aid kit.
21. When traveling in any foreign country it is a good idea to have personal identification with you at all times, and this is certainly true in Nicaragua. Therefore, you should carry your passport with you. You can also get a passport card (looks like a driver's license) that is more convenient to carry locally for identification purposes. Remember, you still need the regular passport book to enter and exit foreign countries.
22. On the airplane, you will have to fill out a short document for Nicaraguan customs. Check that you are coming for "Tourism" purposes not "business." Nicaragua charges a \$10 US entry fee in the airport.