



**Hábitat**  
para la Humanidad®  
El Salvador

**VOLUNTEER!**

## BLITZ BUILDS

In addition to hosting GV teams all year round, Habitat El Salvador organizes three blitz builds a year, in which hundreds of international and national volunteers come together to build multiple homes in one community.

### EVENTS

- |                     |      |                        |
|---------------------|------|------------------------|
| Rise Up and Build   | ———— | Easter Week            |
| Building on Faith   | ———— | First Week of August   |
| Christmas in Action | ———— | First Week of December |

### DATES



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## COUNTRY BACKGROUND

El Salvador is the smallest country in Central America. You can drive across it in only six hours, yet its landscape varies from beaches to volcanoes, from sugar cane farms to coffee plantations, and from modern, commercial centers to rural, agricultural towns. For most visitors, there are many beautiful, breathtaking sights and adventures, but the best part of visiting El Salvador is meeting and interacting with its people. Salvadorans have a reputation for being friendly, welcoming hosts, as well as hard workers.

## BUILDING IN EL SALVADOR

Due to a large income inequality gap, the population growth rate and the frequent occurrence of natural disasters (such as earthquakes and tropical storms), **El Salvador has a housing deficit that amounts to roughly 8 out of 10 households.** These families are currently living in substandard housing, due to issues such as poor construction methods or lack of basic services. With limited credit access and constantly rising prices of building materials, inadequate housing is a top priority for El Salvador.

Since 1992, Habitat for Humanity El Salvador has facilitated over 32,000 housing solutions, thereby giving a hand up to more than 160,000 Salvadorans as they secure themselves an adequate and affordable home. We serve more than 3,000 families each year through house construction and improvements, disaster risk management training, and holistic community development. Our work is made possible in great part thanks to the support of more than 3,000 local and 1,000 international volunteers, who join us every year to help Salvadoran families make their dreams come true.



# GV TRIP FACTS

By coming to El Salvador, you'll be giving a hand up to a Salvadoran family and making new, lifelong friends. But you'll also have the chance to visit Civil War landmarks and learn about the history of El Salvador, buy arts and crafts, eat lunch on the top of a volcano, learn how to make pupusas, and lounge at the beach. All in one week.

Over the past 10 years, Habitat El Salvador has hosted more than 1000 GV teams with over 10,000 volunteers from countries including USA, Canada, Ireland, the Netherlands and Northern Ireland.



Together they have raised more than USD \$7.3 million, thereby sponsoring the construction of over 1,000 homes and improving the quality of life of over 5,000 Salvadorans.

We welcome teams representing Habitat affiliates, churches, corporations, schools and universities. At least 70% of our teams have returned to build again with us, sometimes visiting several times a year.

Watch out for **Habititis!**

## STEPS

### STEP 1:

Join or (even better, organize) a GV team for El Salvador.

### STEP 2:

Raise at least \$650 to help sponsor a home construction.

### STEP 3:

Reduce the housing deficit by helping build a house in El Salvador.

### STEP 4:

Become an ambassador for Habitat El Salvador at your return.

### STEP 5:

Repeat steps 1- 4.

## SAMPLE ITINERARY

Saturday	Arrival.
Sunday	Orientation and intercultural activity with the regional office hosting the team.
Monday-Friday	Construction with the masons and the family members.
Saturday	Leisure: beach, tour of Mayan ruins, colonials towns or city of San Salvador.
Sunday	Departure.

## TRIP COSTS

- Flight = US \$750 (approximate cost from the US or Canada)
- Minimum donation= US \$800
- Daily fee = US \$65/day (\$455/week)
- R&R costs = US \$120 approximately

Approximate cost:  
**US \$2,125**

## THE DAILY FEE INCLUDES

- Accommodations in a modest hotel.
- Three meals and two snacks a day (mostly Salvadoran dishes)
- Private transportation in a van for your team.
- Purified water on site.
- Cultural activities.