

GREECE - SYRIAN

Jan 14 - 23, 2016



Thank you for your interest in IMR's Greece - Syrian Refugee Crisis medical mission trip! This is a very unique opportunity to work with populations left out of the healthcare system and make a huge impact on the lives of many.

ABOUT Greece - Syrian Refugee Crisis

Join International Medical Relief in responding to the Syrian Refuge Crisis by delivering supplies and assistance to the Greek island of Lesbos. Each day roughly 1,500 Syrian refugees arrive in Lesbos on overloaded boats. More than half of all the Syrian refugees pass through Lesbos on their way to Europe. They arrive tired, hungry, and in desperate need of medical attention. Please join us in our struggle to meet the urgent needs of these refugees.

CLINIC

Syria has been ravaged by civil war for almost five years with roughly 4.18 million Syrians seeking refuge in other countries. The Syrian health system has been devastated by the conflict with fewer than 22 health workers per 10,000 people and one hospital per 400,000. The fact that many Syrian flee in poor health is only compounded by the 8km passage they must make across the icy Aegean. Acute and chronic illness is common and combat related wounds are also occasionally encountered.

LODGING

The team will be staying in a safe and comfortable compound right on the beautiful beaches of the island.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

The island of Lesbos is known for its award-winning beaches, traditional villages, pine forests, medieval castles, scenic harbors with cafes and inexpensive seafood restaurants, and some of the warmest, friendliest people in all of Greece. Having mostly escaped mass tourism due to its location, Lesbos maintains traditional Greek charm.

EXTEND YOUR STAY

Endless miles of aquamarine coastline, sun-bleached ancient ruins, amazing cuisine and history make Greece a fantastic country to explore. The Greek people are passionate about politics, coffee, art and gossiping. Greeks pride themselves on their cuisine and will go out of their way to ensure you are well fed. Taste-test your way through the unique cuisine of each region. Step into the ring where Olympic athletes competed. Gaze at Meteora's monasteries, perched atop towering rock pinnacles. Contemplate the Oracle's insights from the splendor of Delphi or take in a starlit drama at an ancient outdoor theatre. Greeks are truly social beings. Their families are extended and they are quick to welcome in newcomers, whether for a coffee, a shot of ouzo, a chorus on the bouzouki or a heated debate.

FOOD AND WATER

All food is provided during your stay. We may hire local people to cook for the team during our visit, or we may eat at restaurants or hotels. Lunch in clinic may include sandwiches made by the team or a feast prepared in your honor by community leaders. We recommend bringing snacks to eat during the day or evening or to supplement your lunch. High protein/high fat/high energy snacks are best. IMR also provides all of the drinking water for the team. Hydration and nutrition are extremely important for the health of the team. You are the best judge of your own health so please pack appropriate snacks and stay well hydrated on the trip.

TRIP DONATION AND TR	RAVEL OPTIONS
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FLYING ON YOUR OWN / INDEPENDENTLY FLYING ON IMR SUBSIDIZED FLIGHT Payment by 01/13/2016 **50%** Payment by 12/25/2015 to qualify **PRICE** \$2,500.00 \$3,200.00 (plus your ticket fee from your home city to (plus your ticket fee from your home city to your international destination) the team's departure point in the U.S.) \$2,300.00 EARLY \$3.000.00 **BIRD** SAVE \$200 if your donation of \$1,250.00 SAVE \$200 if your donation of \$1,600.00 SPECIAL (50% Minimum Donation Amount) is (50% Minimum Donation Amount) is received before 12/25/2015. received before 12/25/2015. **DONATION** Full Minimum Donation Amount due **Payment of \$1,600.00** (50%) is required by 12/25/2015, to be included on the IMR DUE 01/13/2016. **DATES** Subsidized Flight. Full Minimum Donation Amount due 01/13/2016. **BAGGAGE** Check your bags through from your home All personal items will be in your carry-on, and you will check two IMR team supply city without having to claim them along the bags at no additional cost to you. You will way. be responsible for the cost of any personal checked bags. **FLIGHT** You are responsible for meeting the team at You will fly with other IMR team members the airport or designated location in Greece SCHEDULE to our final destination. The official ground - Syrian Refugee Crisis prior to the team's itinerary will exactly match your flight official arrival. Should you have travel schedule. delays, it will be your financial responsibility to meet up with the rest of the team at our final destination in Greece - Syrian Refugee **EXTENDED** Extend your stay to see some of the The team flight will match the promoted **STAY** amazing sites that this country has to offer. travel dates with +/- 1 day of travel on Flexibility in your return date may also help either end.

you reduce your ticket cost.

Your Donation to IMR Includes:

All group costs from the time you arrive at the team meeting point in country until you separate
from the team, including transportation, lodging, food, tips for services provided to the IMR team,
costs associated with clinic, and all logistics, including translation services and security as needed.

Costs that you are responsible for in addition to your donation to IMR:

- If flying on subsidized team flight: your domestic round-trip airfare to the central point of departure and any costs associated with this portion of your travel.
- If flying independently: your international round-trip flight to the destination city and any costs associated with this portion of your travel.
- Passport fees, visa fees, and transit fees, including baggage or overnight accommodations/meals while in transit.
- Vaccinations and medications common for travel.
- Spending money for souvenirs and personal purchases.
- Donated trip supplies, personal equipment or small gifts for the special people you meet.
- Any lodging, meals or transportation costs outside of the scheduled team trip, payable at the time of service to the local vendor.

FUNDRAISING

IMR provides a fundraising packet and personal fundraising page to all registered trip applicants that is full of ideas on how you can raise support for your trip or for supplies to be utilized on this specific mission. When soliciting donations for any of our trips, success is completed through telling your personal story. Why do you want to go? Who will you help? Why their donation can help you achieve the ultimate goal. Tell your story to anyone and everyone. Refer your potential or active donors to our website or Facebook page and to your IMR personal fundraising page. You may share your IMR personal fundraising URL on Facebook and other social media sites.

SECURITY

We take security very seriously at IMR. It is our job to ensure that security precautions are in place, but please keep in mind that we cannot guarantee your safety on the trip.

- We continuously review all current activities occurring on the ground, and we work with the State Department and the U.S. Embassy to know the ground situation to the best of our ability.
- We have a security training conference call with our volunteers where we detail our security procedures that are in place for the trip.
- We take many security precautions such as radios, a buddy system, and security planning.
- We provide you with an email address that you can give to the people you meet to protect your privacy until you determine that you want to remain in contact with them.
- We rely on our volunteers and teams to be cognizant of their own safety and to be aware of their surroundings.
- We have several policies in place that we require the team to adhere to for their safety and that
 of the team as a whole.

TRIP PREPARATION

A service that we are very proud of at IMR is the preparation that each team and team member receives prior to the trip. This is one of the most important reasons that you should join an IMR team.

All team members receive a detailed briefing packet outlining the important elements that make a successful trip, packing lists, and a checklist to keep you on track. You will receive detailed information on how clinic operates, the roles on an IMR team, community health education topics, fundraising, and access to a personal IMR fundraising page. Best practices for providing care in short term medical clinics, public health information specific to the country you are traveling too, and a guide to the infectious diseases of that country will be shared with the team. You will also receive a comprehensive country briefing packet that provides background information, cultural etiquette, common phrases, and links to additional information from a variety of sources. Finally, a departure packet that outlines how and where to meet your team will be sent just prior to departure.

IMR applicants and team members will also have access to a series of phone conferences where you will learn about specific aspects of IMR trips and 2 Q and A calls where you can ask questions specific to your trip. There will also be a Q and A call just prior to departure to help ensure that you have the most important information and are ready to go!

Most importantly, we are always here to answer your questions or help you complete your application. It is our goal that we exceed your expectations for preparation, patient care, and your overall trip. Let us know how we can help and how we did!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Find us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/InternationalMedicalRelief. You can see photos from past teams and read our daily clinic updates here. These will give you a great idea of what an IMR trip is all about.

Please also friend us and IMR's President and Founder, Shauna Vollmer King, at http://www.facebook.com/shaunavking. We encourage you to post daily updates about your trip as we provide much needed medical care, dental care, and health education to our patients.

Check out the photos from our past Greece - Syrian Refugee Crisis trips by visiting our Facebook page at the link above.

Thank you! We look forward to having you as part of the IMR team!