501
COLLECTIVE

Getting ready for your trip

What to sort out before you fly, what to pack and how to be a good guest in Ukraine and Eswatini.

Before you go

For two weeks you will stand beside people who are already doing remarkable work in their own communities. They lead, and we come to listen, help where we are asked and learn. A little preparation lets you spend those days fully present.

Ukraine

July 15 – 30, 2027

Homes, meals and time with families who have carried on through the war.

Language: Ukrainian. Currency: hryvnia (UAH).

Eswatini

August 1 – 15, 2027

Homesteads, caregivers and children at an orphanage we are learning to support.

Languages: siSwati and English. Currency: lilangeni (SZL) or rand.

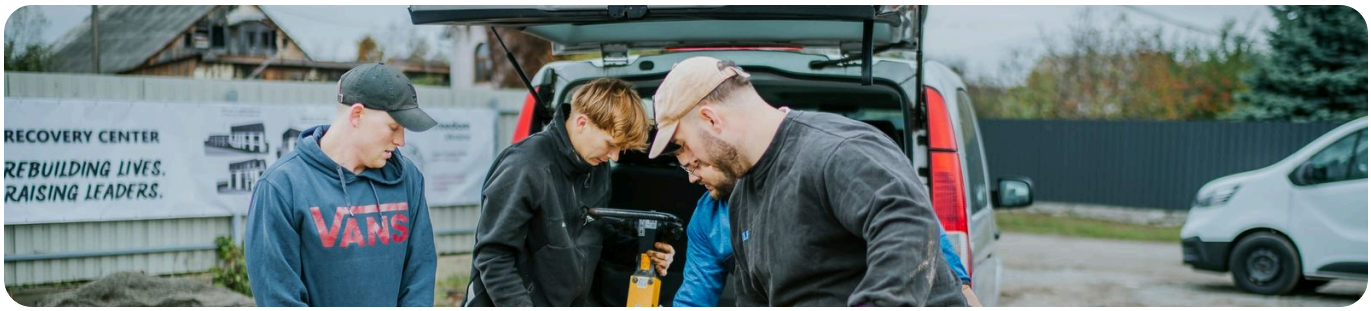
Paperwork

- A passport valid at least six months past your return date, with blank pages for stamps.
- The entry rules for your destination, checked at travel.state.gov for US passports.
- A photo of your passport's main page, sent with your application or as soon as you have it.
- An interview and a background check, which every traveler completes before any trip.
- Travel insurance with medical cover. Ask us what your trip already includes.

Health

See a travel health professional six to eight weeks before you leave. Each destination has its own recommendations, and they can guide you with current information.

Pack your medicines in their original containers with a copy of each prescription, and tell us about medical needs or allergies on your application.



What to pack

For the work

- Clothes you don't mind getting dirty
- Closed toe work shoes or boots
- Work gloves
- A refillable water bottle
- Sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent

For visits and every day

- Modest, comfortable clothes which cover shoulders and knees
- A warm layer and a light rain jacket
- Comfortable walking shoes
- A small daypack

For travel

- Your passport, with a printed and a digital copy
- Phone, charger and a plug adapter for your destination
- A card which works abroad, plus a little cash
- Earplugs, a sleep mask and a headlamp

Pack light enough to carry everything yourself, leave valuables at home, and tell your bank where you are going before you fly.

Being a good guest

- **Listen first.** Our partners know their communities best, so follow their lead and your trip leader's.
- **Hold plans loosely.** Days change shape, and patience and kindness go a long way.
- **Ask before every photo,** and read our Story and photo guidelines before you go.
- **Give through the team.** Talk with your trip leader before giving gifts or money to anyone, so help goes where partners know it is needed.
- **In Ukraine, follow your trip leaders' safety guidance at all times,** including during air raid alerts.

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Coming home

The story keeps going after you land. Share what you saw with care, and keep standing with our partners through The Village at 501collective.org/the-village.

Trip questions	trips@501collective.org
Everything else	hello@501collective.org
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