District 5160 Rotary Clubs, The Wheelchair Foundation, and Howard Tours



# **Wheelchair Distribution and Community Service Adventure**

Creating Friendships, and Providing Community Service and Mobility to People in Need

October 9 — October 14, 2025

You will never be the same after you have looked into the appreciative eyes of someone whose life you have changed.

Since 2004, U.S. Rotarians have worked with Rotarians in Mexico to create something special - a lifetime of friendships, an opportunity to work side-by-side with the local Rotarians on community service projects, and the ability to personally deliver wheelchairs to those who lack mobility. This trip provides enduring memories and emotions. In addition to delivering wheelchairs we will:



- Delivering mobility to those in need.
- Visit humanitarian sites and projects.
- Spend a day working with the local Rotarians doing "hands-on" community service projects.
- Explore Oaxaca sights, sounds, history, and cultures.
- Build friendships with the Oaxacan members of Rotary.





Howard Tours& Travel Service, Inc. 526 Grand Ave. Oakland CA 94610

Tel: 510-834-2260 Fax: 510-834-1019 www.HowardTours.net info@howardtours.net CST No.: 101526-10 PAGE 2 TO ORDER CALL: 1.510.834.2260

#### A Return to Mexico and New Adventures

Over the past 21 years, Rotarians from California have traveled to Mexico to deliver wheelchairs, support community projects and create new friendships. While most of visits have been to Monterrey, Mexico, this time we travel to Oaxaca. Whether you have joined us on a previous wheelchair trip, or are interested in going for the first time, you are invited to join us to share extraordinary friendship and sense of purpose with the people of Mexico.

#### Service in Comfort

The primary purposes of these trips has been to deliver wheelchairs, perform humanitarian service, and to build strong friendships. Although we will be engaged in humanitarian service, we will travel in comfort and convenience. We will stay in a first-class hotel, and will enjoy a busy itinerary filled with humanitarian effort and Rotary fun.

#### **Howard Tours**

Howard Tours collaborated with US Rotary Clubs, the Wheelchair Foundation, and the Oaxacan Rotarians to design this tour. Founded in 1948, and owned and operated by Rotarians, Howard Tours has conducted tours worldwide to eradicate polio, support Rotary's humanitarian projects, and deliver wheelchairs for more than three decades.



Howard Tours is a tour company, and not a travel agency; we do not sell to the general public. Instead, we select and purchase the travel services directly from the airlines, hotels, sightseeing companies, etc., and then sell directly to the travelers. As a result, the traveler is ensured the greatest travel value.

#### **Airfare**

The tour price does NOT include roundtrip airfare between San Francisco and Oaxaca. The most convenient round trip flight itinerary is on United Airlines, with a stopover in Houston. You are free to purchase your round trip airfare on your own, use frequent flyer mileage, or ask Howard Tours for assistance. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included for designated United Airlines flights.

## Passport, Visa and Health Requirements



All U.S. citizens are required to have a valid passport. Citizens of other countries will need to determine their respective visa requirements. The cost of obtaining a passport, visa and inoculations are not included in the tour price. It is your responsibility to apply and pay for:

**U.S. Passport:** Must be valid at least six months after your scheduled return to the U.S.

**Vaccines:** The Center for Disease Control (http://www.cdc.gov) indicates that there are no *required* vaccinations. Consult your physician or travel doctor to determine the precautions appropriate for you.

Currently, the Mexican Government does not require proof of COVID vaccination. Additional testing on entry/quarantine may apply based on random testing upon arrival. All tour members are encouraged to take a COVID test within 24 hours of the start of their journey and to bring COVID test kits with them.

### 5 Days— \$1,079, Per Person, Double Occupancy

For Single Room, Add \$250

**Thu., Oct. 09 - San Francisco to Oaxaca:** Late afternoon arrival in Oaxaca, where we are transferred to our accommodations at the **Hotel Angel Inn**. Daily breakfasts and Wi-Fi are included. This evening, we meet the Oaxacan Rotarians in a welcome reception.

**Fri., Oct. 10 – Club Service Project Visits:** We begin our exploration of Oaxaca by visiting a couple of Rotary projects supported by the local clubs. These visits highlight the engagement of the clubs, and the needs of the community. Lunch will be provided by the local Rotarians. This evening, we join the Oaxacan Rotarians for a dinner event to foster our new friendships.

Sat., Oct. 11 – Partners in Friendship and Service: This morning, we join the local Rotarians for a hands-on community project at a local school in Oaxaca. Our team will be divided into smaller groups, each with their own task that include painting, landscaping, clean up, etc. Our efforts will enhance the beauty of and pride in the school. Lunch will be provided during a break in the work. This evening, we enjoy Home Hospitality, fashioned after the popular event held at Rotary International Conventions. Our group will be divided into smaller groups to experience dinner in the home, or local restaurants, of the Oaxacan Rotarians.





**Sun., Oct. 12 - Wheelchair Distribution:** This morning, we participate in a distribution of wheelchairs; it is an unforgettable day of humanity, human endeavor, and emotion. We will share in that special moment when a person's life is changed – by the giving and receiving of the ability to become self-reliant, mobile and filled with hope. You should expect to work, side-by-side with our Mexican friends, sharing in the joy that comes a meaningful job, well done. Following the distribution, lunch will be provided at a typically Oaxacan restaurant. This evening, we will join gather for *A Celebration Dinner* that will toast the day's accomplishments and

our continued friendship with the people of Oaxaca. This event will be at the home of one of the local Rotarians.

Mon., Oct. 13 - Exploration of Oaxaca: This morning, we explore Oaxaca on a walking tour. We start at the Santo Domingo de Guzmán temple, before strolling down the vibrant main corridor that is full of colors and sounds to view the imposing Cathedral. We stop at the bustling Benito Juarez market and end our exploration at a traditional chocolate mill. Lunch will be provided at the end of our sightseeing. The afternoon and evening are free for you to shop, rest or prepare for an early morning departure tomorrow.



**Tue., Oct. 14 – Depart for Home:** Early morning departure to the Oaxaca Airport for our flight home.

#### District 5160 Rotary Clubs, The Wheelchair Foundation, and Howard Tours

<u>PAYMENTS</u>: Send \$600 per person deposit, <u>payable by check</u>, with application and a copy of your passport.

Assign check to: <u>Howard Tours & Travel Service</u>, <u>Inc.</u> Specify **Oaxaca 2025** on the lower left corner of the check.

After making initial deposit by check, travelers may pay the account balance by Credit Card.

Bank Trustee Account and Financial Responsibilities: Payments are deposited in a Bank of America, Grand Lake Branch, Oakland, California, trustee account, used exclusively for this program. By law, Howard Tours cannot and will not use these funds for any purpose other than to defray the program costs. While the money is in the bank, Bank of America, and NOT Howard Tours, is custodian of the funds. When the travel service companies are paid, Howard Tours, will have met its financial and trustee obligation for the travel services involved. Subsequent to initial deposit, all travelers may pay the balance on account via credit card.

**Per Person Tour Prices Include:** (1) Double occupancy, hotel accommodations; (2) Meals/events specified in the itinerary; (3) Private, motorcoach with English speaking guide; (4) Entrance fees; (5) Special Rotary events as identified in the itinerary; (6) Tips to local guides, drivers and hotel porters; (7) Wheelchair distribution activities; (8) Tour materials; and (9) Other values detailed in the itinerary.

**Prices do NOT include:** (1) All Airfares; (2) Passport and visa fees, if any; (3) Airport departure taxes not included in the airline tickets; (4) All insurance; (5) All personal expenses, (e.g., phone, laundry, COVID testing, medical expenses, etc.); (6) All health, medical services and related expenses; (7) Refunds for missed or unused services; (8) Accommodations in excess of the itinerary; (9) Delivery fees for clients outside the continental U.S.; (10) Meals not specified in the tour itinerary.

**Conditions of Prices:** Prices are based on airfares, taxes and the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the Mexican Peso when the tours are priced. If the exchange rates, taxes, or other travel costs change, travelers may be assessed extra charges or refunds.

**Changes of Itinerary:** Howard Tours reserves the right to change the itinerary or services for reasons which may be out of our control, (e.g.: airline schedule changes, number of people who join a tour, etc.) If changes are necessary, the traveler may be assessed extra charges or refunds.

Cancellations and Other Charges: Cancellations must be made by letter, E-mail, or fax and NOT by telephone. Partial or total cancellation of tour services, regardless of reason, are subject to: (1) Funds that may be withheld or imposed by the airlines, hotels, cruise lines, sightseeing companies, etc.; and (2) A per person Howard Tours' cancellation service fee, prorated before departure, as follows: \$250 up to 46 days before departure. Cancellations within 45 days of departure are fully non-refundable. Travelers whose changes result in rewritten air tickets will be the airline service fee and a Howard Tours \$50 service fee. Those applying within 45 days of departure will be assessed extra expenses caused by late enrollment, with a minimum charge of \$50 per person. Because the airlines, hotels, etc. impose heavy cancellation fees, we recommend the purchase of "Cancellation Insurance," which is available through Howard Tours' website.

Prices Set and Printed July 2025 Howard Tours; 526 Grand Ave.; Oakland, CA 94610 Toll Free: 800-475-2260; Fax: (510) 834-1019 E-mail: Info@HowardTours.ne

	Oaxaca 2025 Application—Please Print	
Fraveler 1: NAME:	Date of Birth: CLY as it appears on your passport)	
Fraveler 2: NAME:	Date of Birth: TLY as it appears on your passport)	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:ZIP:	
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Please confirm if you want assista	nce with Air Flights: Yes No	
have read and accept all conditio	ns stated above.	
Signature :	Date:	