

RANCH CAMP VISITOR GUIDE



WELCOME!

We are so excited you will be visiting Rancho la Hermosa!

Before you come, there are a few things to know...

THE COMMUNITY

- Rancho la Hermosa is located in the hills 3 miles inland from the small coastal town of Primo Tapia
- Primo Tapia is just 15 minutes south of the city of Rosarito (35 minutes from the border)
- We partner with the local church in Primo Tapia called La Hermosa and also with Casa de Luz which is a free day care
- Visit our website or click here to get directions:

[Directions to the Ranch](#)



RANCH CAMP



The Ranch Camp offers 6 rooms (for up to 72 people), kitchen/dining, large patio with seating to socialize and debrief throughout your stay and a fire pit area. Use above door colors for room assignments.

Each room has:

- ❖ Comfortable bunk beds (6 bunks to a room for total of 12 people)
- ❖ 2 hot showers and 2 toilets
- ❖ Sink, hand soap, hand towel
- ❖ Mirror
- ❖ Electrical charging station



MEALS

Fully functional kitchen for your use:

- Oven, stove, refrigerator, pots, pans, cooking utensils, plates, bowls, cups and silverware
- ***DO NOT bring plastic utensils or plastic or styrofoam cups - everything is burned***
- Bring food in ice chests or shop at the markets in town

Our staff can cook delicious Mexican lunches & dinners for your group each day. Let us know which meals you would like us to provide!

- \$7 per person per lunch or dinner
- Must provide your own breakfast

Water:

- DO NOT bring plastic water bottles - PLEASE bring hydro-flask type non-disposable bottles

- You may bring large jugs of water or buy in town for every dorm room
- The kitchen is stocked with 15 gallons of filtered water for your convenience (you can refill in town)



WHAT TO BRING

- Passport
- Single dollar bills for the toll road (about \$4 total)
- Sleeping bag & pillow (or sheets, blanket & pillow)
- Towel and toiletries
- Reusable water bottle (no plastic disposable water bottles please!)
- Clothes you can get dirty
- Closed toe shoes/work shoes
- Sunscreen/hat
- Large jugs of water (we will start you out with 15 gallons - jugs can be refilled in town)
- Optional cash for our Snack Shack and Gift Shop or in town spending



❑ Project materials

WHAT NOT TO BRING

❖ **No plastic water bottles** or anything that produces excess trash like plastic utensils and cups or styrofoam (we have plates, bowls, utensils, and cups for you to use)

There is no recycling - all trash is burned

❖ **No bags of used clothes**

❖ **No candy or gifts** for the kids unless approved ahead of time - but donations for kitchen/bathroom/laundry supplies are always appreciated!

- You can split up donations throughout your team's cars and luggage
- You are allowed to bring \$75 worth of new items per person across the border



Please do your best to reduce any unnecessary waste

WHAT TO WEAR

Mexican culture is much more conservative than the United States' culture. Mexicans often wear long pants and sleeves all year around. Please keep this in mind when packing your bag!

- ❖ Long pants or long shorts (please no yoga pants, see-through clothing, or short shorts)
- ❖ Shirts with short or long sleeves (please no spaghetti-strap tanks or crop tops)
- ❖ Men, keep your shirts on while working
- ❖ Modest swimwear

Thank you for respecting our children and staff!



WHEN WITH THE KIDS OF RANCHO LA HERMOSA

DIF Rules (Mexican Children Protective Services):

- ❖ Do not hold a child on your lap
- ❖ Do not pick up children
- ❖ No identifiable pictures of the children posted on the internet (some children are in hiding)

Our Rules:

- ❖ Do not let the kids use your phones
- ❖ Do not give children candy unless approved ahead of time and there is enough for them all (if approved, we will find the appropriate time to distribute)
- ❖ Do not give the children money (if you want to donate to a specific child, please talk to our staff)
- ❖ Do not enter any children's rooms outside of a tour
- ❖ Do not be alone or in an isolated area with a child
- ❖ Do not ask about the kids' backgrounds or why they are here (they are working with psychologists who are trained in dealing with past trauma)

RANCH CAMP RULES



WATER/SEPTIC:

- ❖ **DO NOT flush toilet paper** *PLEASE follow this rule as the septic will back up and cause significant and costly issues.
- ❖ Keep showers to **5 minutes** in length (sing shorter songs)

QUIET HOURS are between **10pm-7am**

CONSERVE OUR BATTERIES! Turn off all lights when not in use

WHEN LEAVING:

- ❖ Tidy kitchen and empty trash in kitchen/porch/bathrooms (bring bags to main trash area)
- ❖ Return benches to covered porch area



FREE TIME

Each group is different and you have the freedom to explore with any free time you may have. Visit the Puerto Nuevo market for good food or Mexican items, head to our favorite taco shop on the main street of Primo Tapia, or drive 10 minutes south to our favorite beach in La Fonda. You can also hike the renowned hills near the Ranch, Cerro el Coronel, which will take about 2 hours. Just let us know your plans and we will help get you there.



PROTECT YOUR SAFETY

Primo Tapia and Puerto Nuevo are tourist towns but it is always good to exercise caution:

- Travel in groups of at least 5 when possible
- Stay in public areas and inform leaders of your location
- Do not leave passports, wallets, or electronics in the car
- Do not drive at night if possible

CAR INSURANCE

It is illegal to drive in Mexico without Mexican car insurance. United States' plans do not work in Mexico. Find your own or click this link and follow the steps to purchase insurance in Mexico: [BajaBound.com](https://www.bajabound.com)

- Click “Get a Quote”
- Select vehicle insurance
- Enter in your car info
- Type in the dates you will be in Mexico
- Choose the coverage you want
- Create an account and purchase your insurance



THANK YOU FOR VISITING THE RANCH!

To read about our story, family life, and current needs, visit our
website:

RanchoLaHermosa.org