



UK MISSION TRIP

www.visionmissions.co.uk

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Thank you for your interest in coming to the UK on a mission trip. We are excited to offer you this opportunity to use your gifts and abilities to carry out the Great Commission in the United Kingdom. In the pages that follow, you will find important information about our team and your trip. If you have other questions that are not addressed in the material already provided, please contact us.

About Vision Baptist Mission

Vision Baptist Mission is a UK Charity that is proud to partner with Vision Baptist Missions in Alpharetta, Georgia, USA visionmissions.org. Our vision is to spread the gospel, teach the Bible, train Christian workers, plant churches, and send missionaries around the world. Vision Baptist Mission is led by the following trustees:

Travis & Teri Snode



Travis and his wife Teri have been involved in church planting in the UK since 2004. They are church-planters with Vision Baptist Missions and serve at Downham Baptist in London. He helps oversee and carry out the work of VBM. You can find out more about them at travissnode.com.

James Wilson



James has served as pastor of Derry Baptist Fellowship in Derry, Northern Ireland since 2013 and has a real vision to reach the UK and Ireland with the gospel. He helps oversee and carry out the work of VBM. He also serves as our treasurer. You can find out more about his ministry at derryfellowship.com.

Sam & Beth Quinn



Sam and his wife Beth were missionaries before they got married (Sam – N. Ireland; Beth – Tunisia). They are now church-planters to the UK with Vision Baptist Missions. He helps oversee and carry out the work of VBM. You can find out more about them at samquinn.net.

Information About the United Kingdom

- It's the 5th largest country in Europe
- It's made up of 4 countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- The population is 66.5 million: England (56m), Scotland (5.5m), Wales (3m), Northern Ireland (2m)
- It's a very densely populated country at 710 people per square mile (32nd in the world)
- 90% of people in the UK live in cities

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- Religion: 53% No Religion, 15% Anglican, 9% Catholic, 4% Islam, 19% Other
 - Only 1 in 5 go regularly to any church.
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Purpose of Your Trip

- Develop your vision for the world.
- Gain experience in cross-cultural evangelism and ministry.
- Cultivate a heart for people from other cultures and backgrounds.
- Reach out to lost people and encourage believers.
- Gain understanding about church-planting around the world.
- Leave forever changed by the Holy Spirit of God.

Trip Dates

The dates for your particular trip will be arranged on an individual basis. The recommended amount of time for a mission trip is 7-10 days. For more details or to schedule a trip, contact us.

Schedule

While you are in the UK, the main purpose of your mission trip will be to learn more about evangelism, church-planting and how to serve God better; to develop more of a burden for world evangelism; and to be a blessing to other Christians and the missionaries on the field.

This is not a sightseeing tour or a vacation, however, during your trip you will be able to see some beautiful countryside, travel to some very historic places, and participate in some fun activities.

Here are some possible things that you will do on your trip:

- Participate in world evangelism classes
 - Gain experience in personal evangelism
 - Shop for souvenirs
 - Visit historic churches and buildings
 - Learn about culture and customs
 - Pass out tracts and literature
 - Minister in church services
 - Help with special meetings
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Cost

The cost of your trip will vary greatly depending on several factors: the price of airfare, how long you arrange to stay, what time of year you come, what you plan to do, where you stay, and the size of your group. The prices below are a rough estimate to help you as you consider coming on the trip:

Plane tickets	\$1000 - \$1700
Transportation	\$300
Tours	\$150
Food	\$40/day
Lodging	\$60/night

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The above costs do not include personal spending money. We recommend that you bring an approximate \$200 extra for souvenirs and additional attractions and snacks. Also, if you want to bring extra money to give during the offering times in the churches you will be visiting that would be a blessing to the churches.

Plane Tickets

You will be responsible to purchase your own plane tickets two months prior to your departure. The price of tickets varies considerably with the time of the year. The most expensive time to fly is during the summer. When purchasing your tickets, the best airports to fly into are London Heathrow (LHR), London Gatwick (LGW), or London Stansted (STN). Prior to booking your flight, please be sure to confirm the flight details with us.

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Deadlines for Your Trip

In order to have the most effective trip, we require all groups to meet the following deadlines:

6 months before departure - *Confirm dates & purpose of trip with us.*

- Your trip might be able to coincide with a special outreach or special meeting for children, teens, etc.
- This would allow you the opportunity to be more involved in the ministry here.

2 months before departure - *Purchase plane tickets.*

- You will be responsible to purchase your own plane tickets, though we would be happy to offer our advice on airlines that we would recommend.
- Be sure to confirm all flight details will work with us before final booking.

1 month before departure - *Send money for travel, food, lodging, and tours.*

- This will allow us to make deposits on your lodging and travel arrangements and get the money for the food and tours transferred over.
 - Please send your money to Vision Baptist Missions, PO Box 442, Alpharetta, GA, 30009 and mark your check "UK Mission Trip"
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Lodging

Depending on group size, availability, and your budget, we will arrange some accommodation for you. This may be in the home of a church-planter or church member, a hostel, or a local hotel/guesthouse.

Transport

Depending on your circumstances, we will arrange a minibus or other vehicle to transport your group around. No doubt, we will also need to use public transport on some days when visiting central London. The airports vary in distances from 30 minutes to over an hour away, so transport will also need to be arranged to and from the airports. We will either make these arrangements for you or advise you on the recommended method of travel.

Tours

We will arrange various tours for you depending on how much money you want to spend and what you would like to see.

Food

Meals will be at several different types of venues: restaurants, people's homes, and pack lunches you prepare.

Luggage

With most airlines, you are allowed to bring only one large 50-lb suitcase plus a carry-on that fits in the overhead bins. Check the airlines website for specific information. You may be asked to carry an additional suitcase or bring some items in your luggage for one of the church-planters working in the country.

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Getting Your Money

There are various ways you can get your money while you are in the UK.

- You can pull it out in British Pounds Sterling from an ATM (recommended). If you choose to do this, you must first check with your bank to find out what fees are associated with this.
 - You can use some kind of online transfer service. Be sure to check to see what kind of fees and commission are included as well as the rate of exchange.
 - You can exchange dollars at an exchange bureau.
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Dress and Weather

The temperature in London ranges between 52-73° F in the summer and 36-46° F in the winter. It can be quite windy and rainy at any time of the year and may even snow in the winter. If you will be here during the winter, be sure to bring a warm jacket, preferably waterproof with a hood. You should bring mostly long-sleeve clothing for the winter months. A lightweight waterproof jacket and short-sleeve clothing will be fine for the summer. You will want some relatively comfortable shoes for all the walking we do here. Please be modest in everything you wear so you will set a good example for the people on the field.

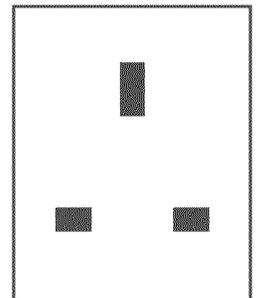
Medication

You may bring any over-the-counter drug. Any prescription drug may be brought as long as you have the prescription with you.

Caution

Always be careful to watch your things while travelling. Airports and crowded shopping areas may have thieves and pickpockets. Do not wear excessive amounts of jewelry or something that might call attention to yourself. Do not flash your money around.

Do not plug in any electrical devices without checking with the trip leader first to see if it is the right voltage. All electrical outlets in the UK are 220-240 volts and 50 Hz cycle. The picture to the right gives you an idea of what the outlets look like.



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Public Speaking

If possible, we will give everyone the opportunity to preach or share their testimony. Please abide by the time restraints that you are given.

How to give your testimony in the services:

- Write out your testimony. This will help you stay within your time limits.
 - Keep it brief, about 3-5 minutes.
 - Tell who you are and a little bit about yourself, what you do, your family, etc.
 - Add a couple of positive statements about the country, the church, and the people.
 - Do not talk about the differences in language, the currency as funny money, how sorry you feel for them, or anything else negative
 - Describe what Christ has done for you, how you got saved, how you realised your need of a Saviour, how your life has changed, and how Christ has helped you lately.
 - Share a Bible verse and then give the application.
 - Do not give graphic details about your sin or your past life.
 - Thank the church and ask them to pray for you. Be excited about the country and the opportunity to be here.
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Keeping a Journal

A journal preserves your memories and joys for a long time after the mission trip. It also makes you more able to share your trip with your family, friends and church all that God did in your life on the trip.

- Keep a diary of your daily thoughts and events
- Keep a record of your prayer requests
- Keep a record of how you felt on the trip
- Keep a list of what you are learning and how God is working in your life
- Write down quotes and sayings that you hear that are a blessing to you
- Review your day with God

How to keep a journal:

- Start before you leave home.
- Set aside a quiet time each day for writing.
- Talk to your journal as though it is your best friend.
- Keep your journal confidential.
- Answer some questions in your journal entries:
 - What did I learn today that will benefit my spiritual life?
 - What areas of my life does God seem to be talking to me about right now?
 - What did I learn about serving Him?
 - What did we do today?
 - Who did we meet today?
 - What decision did you make today for your spiritual life and growth?

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Cultural Dos and Don'ts

- Do not treat the British churches any differently than you would your own church.
 - Do not eat or drink in front of people without offering them something as well.
 - Do not constantly criticize the UK or talk about your country and all that you miss there or how it is better.
 - Do treat the people with respect just as you would treat an American.
 - Do develop a taste for local foods. Eat with them. Do not turn your nose up at the food.
 - Do get involved in the services.
 - Do try to look at things like they do. You are the foreigner.
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Packing Checklist

- Passport
 - Copies of Birth Certificate and Passport in a separate place than your original passport
 - Bible
 - Journal
 - Notebook
 - Ink Pen
 - Camera/ Video Camera
 - Change of clothes in your carry-on in case of lost luggage
 - Toiletries
 - US currencies: no marked-up bills, tears, stains. The cash you bring needs to look like new.
 - Luggage keys
 - Only necessary credit cards
 - Student ID of any kind
 - Clothes and Shoes for church
 - Battery operated alarm clock
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Application

To apply for the UK Mission Trip, you must:

1. Complete an application form.
2. Sign the trip covenant.
3. Have a completed recommendation from your pastor.

For access to all these forms, please go to www.visionmissions.co.uk/opportunities.

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UK Mission Trip Covenant

I recognise and accept the following conditions which will further the usefulness and safety of this mission trip. I understand that though the United Kingdom may not be referred to as a third-world country, it may not have the same conveniences that I am used to at home. I realise how important it is to be flexible and willing to adjust to the expectations of my host. If accepted as a member of this UK Mission Trip:

- I will go as a servant-disciple of Jesus Christ and will adopt that attitude when dealing with my fellow team members and the people I meet during this mission trip.
- I realise and agree that this is a mission trip and not a vacation. I want to go on this mission trip to learn more about missions, learn how I can serve God better, and be a blessing to other Christians and the missionaries on the field.
- I will accept and submit to the leadership role and authority of the team leader and promise to abide by his or her decisions as they concern this mission trip.
- I agree that in the event my conduct is considered so unsatisfactory that it jeopardises the success of the mission trip, and that mediation during the mission trip has failed to correct my behaviour, that my services in connection with this mission trip will end and I will return home immediately at my own expense.
- If a loved one or dear friend is traveling with me, we agree to interact with all members of the team, not just one another. I promise not to initiate or seek new romantic relationships with team members or local people during the mission trip.
- I will always pay my own way. I will be careful not to expect the missionaries or local people to pay my or my team's expenses.
- I will be a blessing to the missionaries we are visiting. If a missionary accompanies me on an outing or excursion, I will pay for the missionary's entry fees and meals. The missionary is only going as a guide and has probably been there several times already.
- I will not expect the missionaries to be my maids. They are not my room service.
- I will help out with serving, cleaning, and cooking in the missionary home. I will be a blessing that the missionaries will remember and be glad and thankful that I came on the mission trip.
- I will not complain about the food, lodging, accommodations, etc.
- I will be a gracious guest. If my lodging is in a missionary's or national's home, I will remember I am a houseguest. This home has been generously opened to me. It is not a motel to be treated carelessly as if I had paid for the room.
- I will be respectful of the missionary's home. In whatever home I stay, I will treat the possessions of the owner with care. I will always leave a home and the furnishings in as good a condition as I found them. I will respect the missionaries' right to privacy.
- I will conscientiously set aside time to have my personal devotions and take care of my daily responsibilities both spiritually and physically. I will understand that each group member will be asked to help with different house duties.
- I will attend all services, activities, outings, etc. and carry my share of the load in the work we are trying to accomplish.
- I will maintain and exhibit a good attitude that will honour and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.
- I will remember we are the new Christians from another part of the world and will be watched very closely. I will not take lightly this important responsibility of setting an example.
- I will submit to the instructions concerning attire, eating, drinking and other such traditions which will help me to assimilate into the local community.
- I promise not to be overly demanding, to do my best not to offend or cause embarrassment for our missionary hosts, and to do my best to help them attain their long-term goals.
- As a Christian I realise that it is my responsibility to die to myself and seek to serve others. I will not seek my own but that of others. This means not putting myself first and leaving others out. I will be a blessing to all of my team and especially those that I have come to minister to.
- I realise that others on my team will look at me for an example of how a Christian acts and will not treat that responsibility lightly. I understand that travel may be difficult, and I promise to adopt a flexible attitude and be supportive as plans may need to be changed. I understand that I must travel with the rest of the team.
- Before I give a gift to someone I will consult with the team leader and missionary and allow him to make the final decision on this matter.
- I release and discharge the organisations and individuals which helped me make these arrangements, including Vision Baptist Mission, my home church, their agents, employees, officers and volunteers, from all claims, demands, actions, judgments, or executions that I have ever had, or now have, or may have, or which my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns may have or claim to have against these organisations, their agents, employees, officers, and volunteers, and their successors or assigns for all personal injuries, known or unknown and injuries to property, real or personal, caused by, or arising out of this journey. I intend to be legally bound by this statement.