

A guide for people returning to Honduras



- To stay safe, make a friend on the bus or plane, stick together to support each other.
- Be alert and calm, blend in, and comply with the authorities.
- Avoid casual street encounters, including eye contact.
- Be prepared for bribes, have \$40-100 in cash in \$10s & \$20s in different pockets.
- Beware of criminal elements, don't use an offered cell phone to call your family.
- *Have contact information for your family in Honduras and all documents that prove your identity and deportation status on you, not in your bag.*
- To keep your family informed, use the emergency notification app Notifica (notifica.us) or WhatsApp (whatsapp.com). You need wifi to use WhatsApp.

Process in repatriation center

Minors and their families are taken on a bus from the airport to a center called Belen, run by the OIM (International Organization for Migrants) and DINAF (Directorate for Children, Youth and Family).

At Belen, they are interviewed, given food, have access to a psychologist, and can make phone calls. In rare cases, they may stay the night there, although most families leave after being processed.

Unaccompanied minors must be picked up by a parent or guardian. Until then, they stay in Belen. Adults deported by the U.S. are processed at the CAMR (Center of Attention for Returned Migrants), a center at the San Pedro Sula airport. After getting off the plane, they are bused to CAMR.

As people file in to the center, their belongings are returned to them.

Specific security precautions for San Pedro Sula

- Be very careful about whom you trust.
- Keep information close. Listen to the advice of people close to you.
- Take advice from friends or family about how best to stay safe.
- There is not open violence everywhere in San Pedro Sula (or in the rest of Honduras), but certain neighborhoods are very dangerous. Drug cartels and maras do operate here, but only in certain neighborhoods. It can change from one block to the next.
- The neighborhoods closest to the airport are controlled by MS-13 and the 18th Street gang. Take special caution in these areas.
- If you have tattoos, wear long sleeves and be prepared to explain what your tattoos mean. It won't necessarily help you, because depending on where you are, your tattoos may put you at major risk.



The process of repatriation

CAMR provides: food and coffee; access to medical and psychological care; a representative from Cancillería can help get documents people need; and phone calls.

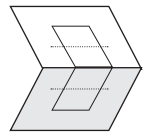
People wait in line to be interviewed by a volunteer collecting basic information. If these volunteers suspect that someone is at risk, they send them to a representative from the Norwegian Refugee Council, who takes them into a separate room for a more detailed interview to determine if they want and are eligible for other kinds of protection. After being processed at CAMR, people are free to leave.

There is a bus that takes those who want to go to San Pedro Sula's Central Bus Terminal. From there, people can take a bus to any part of the country. If people do not have money, at CAMR they can ask for a voucher, which they can exchange for bus fare to their hometowns on a specific bus line. However, if people have any cash with them, they do not receive this assistance. There are people at CAMR who change dollars to lempiras.

For more information, visit:

afsc.org/XS/honduras

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