

Airport Arrival Instructions for El Salvador

On the final flight into San Salvador, the flight attendants will give each traveler a blue and white customs (aduana) form. Only one form is needed per family group if someone is traveling with spouse or children. It will ask name, birth date, and passport information. Then there are a series of questions about what you are bringing in. They are asking you about things that you are importing for sale, or new goods on which no import duty has been paid. Each traveler can bring up to \$500 in new goods, so there should be no problem. No traveler needs to declare his personal clothing or belongings.

The next section asks about fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats. In that section, you check "NO" for all questions. Keep that form until the last step before you leave the building.

Sometimes they also give each traveler the Immigration form for the tourist card, and sometimes it is obtained at the desk at Immigration. Not sure why it varies, but somewhere along the line, each traveler will be handed one and instructions follow below.

When you arrive in El Salvador, you will be able to connect onto the airport Wi-Fi. You may have to provide your email address to connect, but it has been our experience that you do not get a bunch of advertising emails. Send us a text message or iMessage and let us know you have arrived.

Don Triplett +503-7683-6439
Terri Triplett +503-7899-0731

You can also send an iMessage to: triplett@kingcastle.org

Upon arrival in San Salvador, de-plane and follow the signs in Spanish and English toward Immigration. That is how the crowd will be moving. Down the stairs or escalators, you will turn to the left and proceed to the windows that say "Extranjeros" or "Foreigners."

When it is your turn, step up and show your U.S. passport, and hand the agent your immigration form if you have it. If you have not yet received the immigration form, the agent will give you a short application to be completed. Helps to have your own pen, but the agent will loan one to you if necessary. The form costs \$12 cash which is paid to the agent at the window where it is completed. However, the laws have changed and minors under 18 DO NOT pay the \$12 tourist card.

The tourist card application asks for name, sex, birth date, and passport information. At the bottom, it asks for foreseen address. It means where you plan to stay in El Salvador. On that space, you can write:

Campamento Internacional de Castillo del Rey
Calle a Los Planes, 3 ½ kilometros despues de la gasolinera Petrotec
Lago Coatepeque, Municipio de Santa Ana, El Salvador
Telefono: 7877-9689

For the tourist card, they may accept:
Castillo del Rey
Lago Coatepeque

But you need the full address for reporting lost luggage.

*****Minor children may be asked for a notarized permission from the parent who is not present. It sometimes is requested, and often is not. It is good for all minors to have a notarized statement giving legal 'permission to travel' to the team leader or some other adult who accompanies the team. Both parents must give permission for the minor child to travel. This form was to have been requested BEFORE boarding the initial leg of the journey. The airlines are supposed to request it since the law requires it.

New step to the process: Photo and fingerprints will be taken.

Collect your luggage. You can rent a luggage cart if you need one for \$3 per cart and push it yourself. There may be individuals who man this machine. You can pay them directly.

If there are delayed pieces, the traveler will need to go to the airline office along the far wall and complete a claim form. Some of the airlines will deliver the bags, so give them the address and telephone number listed above in this document.

Some airlines will give you money to purchase a few necessities. If they do not provide you with cash, ask what types of articles would be reimbursable, and keep all receipts.

Be sure to give the claim ticket to your leader so that we can begin the process to receive your luggage. We will also need your passport.

Move to the far end of the building (where the crowd is going) and you will stay left in the lines marked "Nothing to Declare." Here is where you give the customs agent the blue/white form you completed on the airplane. The agent is looking for drugs, weapons, or fresh fruit, veggies, or meat. You should be good on all counts!

All airline employees speak some English. If you get stuck, someone can help you inside the airport. All our staff have to wait outside for you.

Exit the doors with your luggage and follow the signs that will take you outside of the airport terminal to the curb. You will need to go left towards the parking lot and cross the drop off lanes, as buses are not able to wait on the drive anymore (see airport map below). You may want to rent a cart for luggage (\$3) because you have to walk a long ways. Look for the building with the red roof—across main parking lot. (See diagram below)

Your team will be waiting for you in the parking lot next to the building. They should be dressed in matching shirts and holding a sign.

If you have difficulty before you get to El Salvador, you can call Don Triplett's cell phone +503-7683-6439 or Terri Triplett's cell at +503-7899-0731 to let us know the situation. You can also send an iMessage text to those telephone numbers.

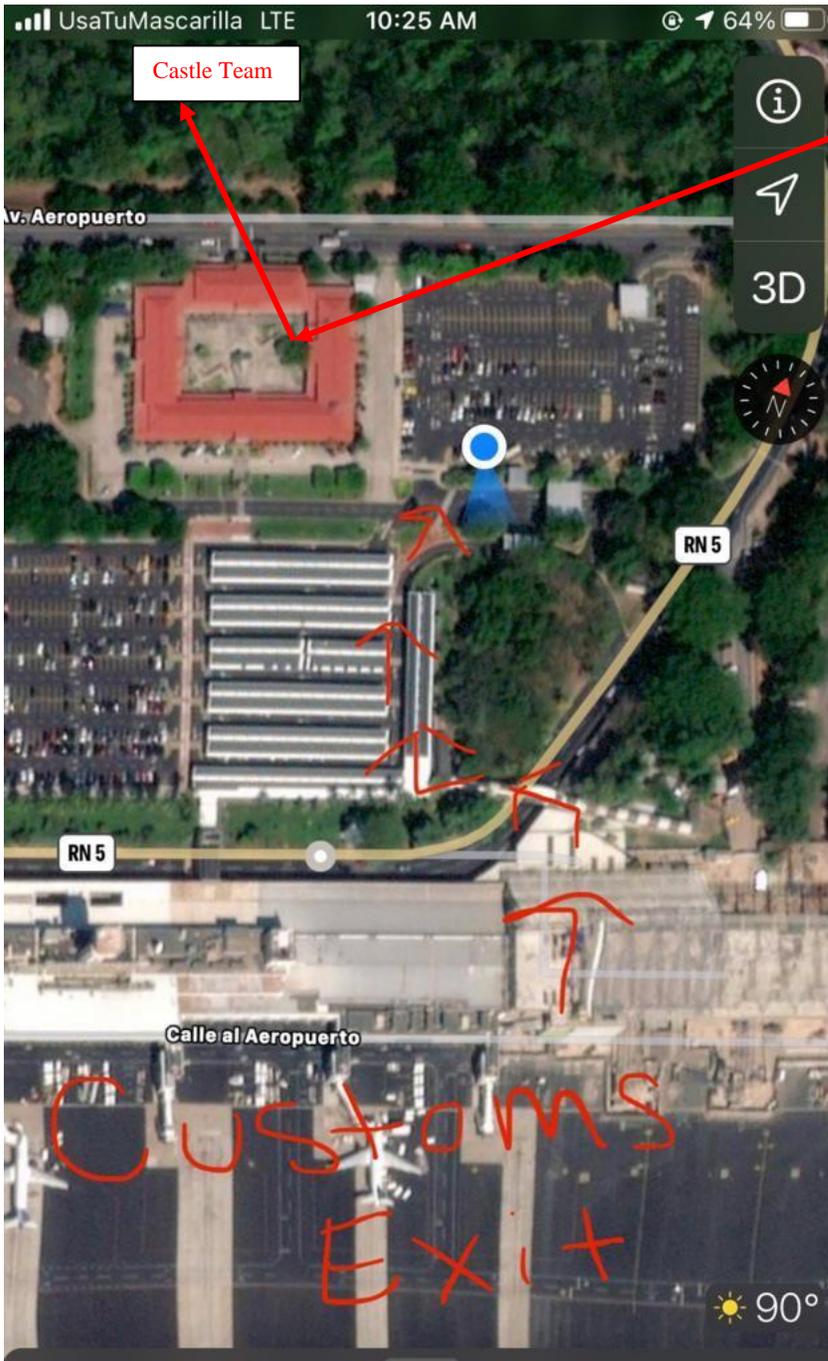
USA contact (VOIP number for Triplets): 1-417-459-4076

Triplett e-mail address: triplett@kingscastle.org (you can send an iMessage to this address)

Let us know if there are questions. Those are the emergency numbers that can be left with a contact person at your home or church. In an emergency, we can get a message to you so the traveler can call home.

Reminder:

\$12 tourist card—everyone over 18 years of age



Castle Team

Customs Exit

CUSTOMS
EXIT