



Joshua Tree Adoptions, Inc. | International Adoption Agency
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HAGUE ACCREDITED

Preparing for your Child

Children are placed for adoption because of significant life events. These life events have made it impossible for the birth parents to be able to parent their child. Many of these children have started life in abject poverty, and have missed out on good nutrition, warm clothing, a safe place to sleep and security of strong parental leadership. A prospective adoptive parent must be willing and able to parent these children from difficult places. Many children will adapt to a new family with no problem but many will also need to be “loved through” some rough spots.

Joshua Tree Adoptions believes each parent needs to be ready to handle situations. We strongly recommend that our parents read a book entitled, *The Connected Child* by Karyn Purvis, PhD. This book gives real techniques to use with children who are displaying unusual behaviors. It is a true “hands-on” tool that is grounded in research and practicum.

The inception of the Hague Convention in 2008 brought about the regulation that all prospective parents adopting from a Hague Country must complete 10 hours of Hague approved training. Please see the link below for the training that we recommend. Please note that many countries add additional hours to their requirements.

Before You Travel

- Please attempt to learn key phrases in your child’s country’s native language.
- Laminate a “cheat sheet” to bring with you or use Google translate on your phone.
- Plan to bring new clothes, underwear, pajamas, jacket, socks, shoes, and hair accessories for your new child.
- Plan to bring a new toy for the day you meet.
- If you will be caring for your child immediately, then bring toothbrush, vitamins, child acetaminophen or ibuprofen, toys/puzzles/books for entertainment.
- Plan to bring your laptop with G-rated movies or a Netflix subscription for those lonely nights in your hotel or apartment.
- Bring your sense of humor, flexibility and sense of adventure. Just because the foreign country does things differently does not make them wrong—just different. Please research your child’s birth country, culture, economy, history.
- Plan to take photos of everything. There are no “stupid” photos. These photos will be very important to your child as they piece together their beginnings.



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