

Central Mexico

Aventura de los Aztecas

Language Immersion, Cultural Exchange & Service Program



CENTRAL MEXICO IS THE PLACE IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION IN A PREMIER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

combined with meaningful service opportunities, cultural exchange, and adventure. Explore the fabulous Zócalo of Mexico City, study Spanish while living with families in Cuernavaca, engage in community service projects, and learn how to surf off the Pacific coast. We also take time to explore world famous archeological sites like Teotihuacán where ancient cultures like the Aztec come to life. Central Mexico has it all!



GET REAL WITH GLOBAL WORKS

It was really cool to be able to totally immerse yourself and become a part of it all. The best thing was that I gained confidence in my Spanish and I felt comfortable approaching native speakers. The homestay was an amazing experience. I learned that I like challenges and I like to get muddy and worn out. I can do so much more than I thought I could and I'm eager to try new things. My Global Works trip was one of the best experiences of my life.

Hannah G. '06

Mexico City and Huehuecoyotl

(5 days) – As a group we begin our journey in and around this country's amazing capital, Mexico City. We will spend some quality time during orientation reviewing the culture and language that surrounds us. Our lodging is in Casa de los Amigos, a historic hostel that was originally the home and studio of Jose Luis Orozco, one of Mexico's most celebrated muralists. After a morning of informal language lessons, we enjoy a typical Mexican lunch of tamales, mole negro, and enchiladas verdes at the Café de Tacuba, a popular restaurant in the Historic District. From D.F., we take a two hour trip into the mountain community of Huehuecoyotl. "Huehue" is an international community in a beautiful setting. Founded on ecological values, Huehue serves as a retreat center for Peace and Conflict Resolution workshops. This spectacular mountain locale is also a launching pad for excursions to nearby waterfalls and service projects in the area. We join in the daily lives of nearby communities, collaborating on

small construction projects (like building a bus stop), or working at the nearby orphanage. We also have time to enjoy soccer games, traditional drumming lessons, and dancing.

Cuernavaca and

Language School (10 days) – On Sunday, we travel down the road to Cuernavaca, a popular retreat near the capitol. This city of 400,000 is known for its colonial architecture and language learning opportunities. We will spend the week living with homestay families and attending Spanish classes at the Cemenahuac Language School. Upon arrival, students are assessed and placed into the appropriate level class. We will meet each day from 9am to 1pm for intensive language study. From 1pm to 2pm we will have the opportunity to further conversation skills through intercambios with local high school students. In pairs, students will converse for thirty minutes in

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English and thirty minutes in Spanish. At 2pm, we return home to our families for lunch, then reconvene for an afternoon activity. Activities may include cooking or dance lessons, a local trip to the main plaza or Palacio de Cortés, or an excursion to nearby Taxco or the Xochimalco pyramid.

Acapulco Beach Excursion (4 days) – From Friday to Sunday afternoon during the Cuernavaca Homestay stretch, the entire group reunites to relax and play at the beautiful Pacific Ocean beaches near Acapulco. Here, we try out water activities such as surfing lessons, snorkeling, and boogie boarding.

Morelos Rafting, Teotihuacan Pyramids, and Travel Home (2 days) – After a sad goodbye to our homestay families we depart for a thrilling excursion to Morelos for a white water rafting adventure on the Amacuzac River. The next day, the group explores the mystical pyramids of Teotihuacan before returning to Mexico City. In the evening we stroll around the zócalo and share memories with our fellow travelers at a traditional Mexican celebratory dinner. The final evening is spent at a hotel near the airport prior to the group's departure the following day. It is the end of a trip, but a beginning to a new awareness about yourself, new friends, and an increased understanding of Mexican language and culture.



TRIP OVERVIEW

Session One: June 21st thru July 10th (21 days)

Session Two: August 1st thru August 21st (21 days)

Size of group: 16-18 students

Ages: 15 to 17

Tuition: \$3,895 (plus RT airfare from Houston)

Service Projects*

- Present English language lessons to local community members
- Help construct community facilities in Huehucoyotl
- Assist with community outreach programs in Cuernavaca
- Volunteer at an orphanage

Language Immersion*

- Attend a week-long Spanish course at the Cemenahuac Language School
- Experience homestays in Cuernavaca
- Practice Spanish with local Mexican teenagers

Adventure and Cultural Activities*

- Tour Mexico City, the zocalo, and el Bosque de Chapultepec
- Take surfing lessons in beautiful Acapulco
- Hike to the Tepozteco Pyramid
- Rafting in Morelos
- Explore the Pyramids of Teotihuacan

*Please note that some of the projects and activities will change from year to year, however, they will be similar to those listed. A final itinerary will be printed prior to each trip.