



MENTORING ACADEMY

VOLUNTEER & CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIP 10-DAY SAMPLE ITINERARY, MARCH 2018

DAYS 1-2: GROUP ARRIVAL & TECPAN ORIENTATION

Your group arrives into La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala City, where friendly CCS staff members greet you and transport the group 1.5 hours to the rural modern Maya community of Tecpán. Our CCS Guatemala Director will provide an active tour of the community, a visit to a working farm, and an orientation to the week ahead.

DAY 3-7: PANEMACOC EDUCATION PROJECTS

Over the course of the next week in the mornings, your group will be matched with Panemacoc School to improve educational outcomes through classroom support and an enrichment project. In addition to providing valuable tutoring and lessons, the group will engage in the tangible accomplishment of much needed small construction projects. Each program also includes cross cultural discussions and a language immersion experience.

AFTERNOON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES- Each afternoon the group will engage in guided cultural activities and excursions in the area. Visit rural family homes and participate in the roasting of cacao and preparation of hot chocolate, the making of traditional pottery and weaving of traditional fabrics. Take a guided tour of the impressive Maya ruins at the nearby Iximche Archeological Park and participate in a Shaman ceremony.



22+ YEARS OF THE SAFEST AND HIGHEST QUALITY STUDENT GROUP VOLUNTEER TRIPS

HOME-BASE ACCOMMODATIONS

At the Home-Base, you'll enjoy authentic local cuisine, connect with CCS staff, and enjoy your downtime. Volunteers stay in same-sex rooms with private bathrooms. One room accommodates 4-6 people.

STAFFING

Our incredible team will be on call to support you every step of the way —including Country Director Carlos Buonafina, as well as expertly-trained CCS cooks, security guards, house managers, and drivers. A CCS leader will be assigned to the group at all times.

COMMUNICATION

Our staff can be reached 24/7 in the event of an emergency. Students will have the opportunity to access the internet and landlines for set periods of time on most evenings. Trip updates may be posted on our blog for friends and family to follow.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Individual Program Contribution includes all in- country expenses, including meals, lodging, transport, scheduled activities, staffing, travel medical insurance. CCS requires a minimum of one teacher/chaperone for every nine students enrolled and we provide one free adult/ chaperone for every 5 students enrolled. Up to seven free adult/chaperones provided with 32 or more students enrolled. Group airfare (estimated \$600-800) is not included in the program fees but may be provided and offered upon request. Group airfare, including free teacher airfare, is is not included in the individual program contributions but may be provided and included in the price upon request.

DAY 8-9: LAKE ATITLAN AND ANTIGUA

Embark on all-day excursions to Lake Atitlan and Antigua. Travel to the town of Panajachel located on the northeast shore of Lake Atitlan and take a private boat tour across the lake to the small Maya village of San Juan de la Laguna. Participate in artisan workshops, refreshing swims, and zip-line on the lake. Journey to Antigua, a UNESCO World Heritage site that was once the grand capital of the Spanish Empire. Spend the final day in Antigua and enjoy a historic tour, artisan shopping, and a final dinner and closing ceremony.

DAY 10: RETURN HOME

Embark on a return flight home! Friends and family will love to hear of the many exciting stories of the friendships and discoveries you made in Guatemala!









PROGRAM CONTRIBUTIONS AND DUE DATES

Individual Program Contribution: \$1250 per student, per student

Group Project Contribution: \$1500 per group towards the host enrichment project.

Due Dates: Application & \$350 deposit due TBD, balance due 60 days prior **How to Enroll:** Online @ **https://www.empowered.org/Squads-Abroad**