

Service Learning Journey in Nicaragua

Customized adventures in Nicaragua designed for individuals, small groups and families, and open to all seeking cross-cultural community experiences.

Highlights:

- » Explore and reside on a 250 acre organic coffee farm and forest reserve nestled on a pristine lake in the northern highlands.
- » Take an active role in Comunidad Connect's grassroots efforts to promote public health by building homes, clean-cookstoves and permanent floors with local families.
- » Traverse the "Land of Lakes and Volcanoes" from the highlands of coffee country to the colonial city of Granada and the coastal town of San Juan del Sur.



Local Family in Los Robles



Tropical Beach in San Juan



Scene from Coffee Farm Lodging



Family Fun Building an Oven



Caribbean Sea



Sample Schedule

Day 1

AM Visit with local leaders and community residents in their homes to learn about life, work and culture in Los Robles.

PM Explore Finca El Peten, a 250 acre organic coffee farm and forest reserve. Guided walks include coffee production, birding, and reforestation. Kayaking on the lake at sunset, optional.

Day 2 - 4

AM - **PM** Build a new home for a local family, make and deliver food to seniors living alone, and participate in cultural exchange activities with our bilingual staff and community partners. Every day concludes with conversation, games, and rest back at home base on Finca El Peten.

Day 5

AM Scenic tour of the highlands of Matagalpa and Jinotega en route to colonial Granada, the oldest city in the America's, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Lunch at farm to table cafe blocks from the central plaza.

PM Arrive to Pacific Coast town of San Juan del Sur for a walk on the beach before fresh seafood dinner.

Day 6

AM Breakfast in the lively town market and an optional hike to the Jesus statue overlooking San Juan del Sur. Late morning journey on the coastal road south to the beautiful Playa Hermosa.

PM Enjoy swimming, surfing, and hammock racing while the friendly staff brings tasty treats from the renowned kitchen and bar. Return to San Juan del Sur for dinner and live music, or relax by the ocean view pool at the hotel.

Our Cultural Connections program works to alleviate poverty by supporting community development efforts and increasing the capacity of our local partners while generating critical funds to continue social programs year-round.

- » **Los Robles** - A rural community of 450 families relying on coffee and small scale farming for sustenance. Nestled on the shores of Lake Apanas, Nicaragua's third largest lake.
- » **San Juan del Sur** - A fishing town on the Pacific Coast and popular destination for Nicaraguan and international tourists and surfers. Comunidad Connect was founded here in 2007 and still has ongoing youth sports programs.



"We have long been fans and supporters of Comunidad Connect, but our recent trip to Nicaragua, and Los Robles and San Juan del Sur in particular, reinforced the importance of their work."

Matt Knoop, 2017



Jinotega



Granada



San Juan del Sur