

TRAVEL WITH AGUA PURA TO CHIAPAS!

Hi, so you're interested in traveling with Agua Pura Para El Pueblo to Chiapas, Mexico and helping us with our service project. That's great!

We've specifically scheduled the trip to include sightseeing and cultural events as well as visiting local indigenous communities and participating in Agua Pura's water and sanitation programs. **Here's some info for you to help you decide if this trip is for you:**

1. Anyone 18 year of age or older, in reasonably good health can participate. The climate varies from cool and perhaps a little rainy in San Cristobal de las Casas to hot and humid in Palenque. We'll be out of doors a lot, so be prepared to dress for different climates. Informal street clothing is adequate, with some sturdy shoes.
2. We'll be mostly staying in hotels, but possibly spend a few nights at a demonstration farm outside of Palenque. They have simple but adequate facilities. While in San Cristobal our plan is to stay at the Na-Bolom museum and cultural center. It was the home of two famous anthropologists Franz Blom and Gertrude DUBY and many of their collections of Mayan history and culture are still there on display. We'll be eating in restaurants but may have a few meals prepared for us in the communities we visit. **We are careful about everyone's health, including ours and yours!**
3. There are jobs for everyone, no matter your Spanish language skills. We will have a training session prior to leaving for Mexico so that everyone is familiar with our programs. You may be asked to help with water testing for bacterial contamination, and various water purification techniques. Sometimes we work with the mothers in the communities and/or the school children on basic sanitation and hygiene. Other projects may come up as well. It's all interesting and useful. Usually there are English-Spanish interpreters with us, and sometimes interpreters of other languages for local natives who don't speak Spanish.
4. It's really safe! We always travel at the invitation of local non-profits and others who plan for us and arrange our schedules. They are aware of situations and make sure we stay safe. The people in the communities are looking forward to our visits.



www.aguapuraparaelpueblo.org

Agua Pura doesn't charge "project fees", but expects each person to pay their own expenses and share in group costs. Because Agua Pura is a certified 501(c)(3) non profit, most all of your expenses, including food, lodging and travel are considered charitable donations and deductible if you itemize your taxes. Souvenirs and some other personal items of course are not.

A very rough estimate of expenses is \$1400 to \$1800 dollars, including air fare, hotel lodgings and meals. As we make our reservations, individual costs will become more clear.



Our current expected schedule is below:

- May 9** Travel from the States to San Cristobal de las Casas on Friday, and stay at the Na-Bolom cultural center.
- May 10 - 11** Sightseeing and visiting in San Cristobal.
- May 12 - 14** Working with local nonprofits in area.
- May 15** Travel by bus to Palenque.
- May 16 - 20** Work with local nonprofits, Visit Mayan ruins of Palenque!
- May 21** Bus to Villa Hermosa, Mexico, fly to Mexico City and home.

If you are interested in joining us on our trip please contact me right away! We are beginning to make reservations now.

I hope you can make it!

Tom Carter

Executive Director

AGUA PURA PARA EL PUEBLO

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