

El Salvador: A Sampling of Custom Program Activities



Agriculture/Sustainable Development

- Field trip to a cooperative or private farm
- Visit a coffee plantation
- Discuss eco-tourism
- Meet with Ministry of the Environment
- Visit the Salvadoran Ecological Unit (UNES: *Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña*)
- Visit the Salvadoran Center for Appropriate Technology (CESTA: *Centro Salvadoreño de Tecnología Apropriada*)
- Meet with indigenous peoples' organizations to discuss land issues

Education

- Visit to primary or secondary schools
- Meet with teachers and union members
- Visit non-governmental organization working on popular education

- Visit to National or Central American University
- Dialogue with university students
- Meet with officials from the Ministry of Education
- Learn about popular or participatory education

Globalization and Trade

- Presentation on El Salvador's economy
- Discuss the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) with government officials and grassroots opposition movements
- Visit a women's sewing cooperative
- Talk on debt, poverty reduction, and the feminization of poverty
- Meet with representatives from the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund
- Discuss debt and poverty reduction
- Meet with a member of the business sector
- Discuss emigration issues
- Meet with Salvadoran private enterprise
- Learn about the formal versus informal economy

Health

- Visit a women's clinic
- Visit a hospital
- Visit the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- Visit a nursing school
- Meet with a midwife
- Meet with non-governmental organizations working on HIV/AIDS
- Meet with a practitioner who uses medicinal plants

History/Politics

- Meet with leaders of major political parties
- Visit the Congress
- Meet with local government authorities
- Discuss historical memory and reconciliation
- Briefing at the U.S. Embassy
- Meet with representatives of the Salvadoran military
- Discuss the Civil War and the post-war period

Human Rights

- Visit with groups involved in children's rights
- Visit with groups involved in land issues
- Visit a massacre or martyr site
- Dialogue with representatives of the Roman Catholic Church about human rights issues
- Visit a marginalized urban neighborhood and talk to residents about social justice concerns
- Visit with groups involved in women's rights

Indigenous Issues/Rights

- Discuss the Peace Accords and indigenous identity
- Discuss Salvadoran culture and spirituality
- Observe traditional weaving in a women's cooperative
- Discuss indigenous identity in the Salvadoran context

Religion/Faith

- Meet with Christian Base Communities
- Visit the chapel where Archbishop Romero was assassinated
- Visit Archbishop Romero's tomb in the Metropolitan Cathedral of El Salvador
- Participate in a discussion of liberation theology
- Discuss Church-State relations and the role of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church
- Visit with faith-based organizations working on development
- Worship in a local church
- Meet with leaders of evangelical churches

Women's Issues

- Meet with representatives from the women's movement
- Visit an organization of widows
- Meet with representatives of emerging women's organizations

Other Options

- Spanish language instruction
- Experience folk music
- Visit historical sites of the Civil War
- Visit to the Pacific Coast