

MAESTRO Spanish Program

La Manzanilla, Mexico



Program Purpose

This program is specifically designed for educators, faculty, staff, administrators, and education students of all disciplines who work or plan to work closely with Spanish-speaking students and parents. This program will allow them to increase their Spanish skills to better facilitate communication with their students and parent. At the same time, participants will gain invaluable first hand experience and insight into Mexican culture and customs.

Program Highlights

- **SPANISH CLASSES** – 27 hours of small group Spanish classes. Max class size is 8.
- **EDUCATOR CLASSES** – Depending on Spanish level, students will learn a variety of vocabulary and techniques needed to communicate with Spanish-speaking students and parents. **Beginner levels** will work on pronunciation, vocabulary and common names, commonly used verbs, simple translation, cultural issues, greetings, basic classroom commands, and more. **Intermediate and Advanced** speakers will further expand vocabulary to include common proper speaking etiquette, proper grammar usage, and colloquial expressions. Group presentations on communication issues with ESL student and their families will be done and each participant will write a paper on how s/he will utilize what they learned in a school setting.
More detailed syllabi for both levels are available upon request.
- **WEEKEND EXCURSIONS** – Two weekend excursions are included in the program price. You will spend two full days in the colonial city of Colima and one full day snorkeling and relaxing on the beautiful beaches of Tenacatita.
- **CULTURAL VISITS & ACTIVITIES** – Excursions to cultural points of interest such as San Patricio Melanque and Barra de Navidad, as well as an interesting nature hike nearby re included. Other cultural activities available include Mexican cooking classes, Spanish movie nights, and Intercambio cultural exchanges with local Mexicans.
- **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS** – Lodging is included at the beautiful Sea Fever Villa Guest House. The hotel is conveniently located right in the village center, next to a beach access and has sweeping ocean views. Wireless Internet is available here as well.



Who May Participate?

This program is open to all teachers, administrators, academic faculty, and those studying to be an educator. This program is open to all language levels, even absolute beginners. However, absolute beginners may want to arrive a week or two early to take some extra Spanish classes to fully benefit from the Educator components of the program.

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La Manzanilla, Mexico

Sample schedule

(subject to change)

DATES	MEALS	TIMES	ITINERARY
Sunday	D	TBD	Arrive in Mexico and make your way to La Manzanilla Information on travel will be provided in your pre-departure guide Check into Accommodations 6 - 7 Program Orientation 7 - 8:30 Group Welcome Dinner
Monday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30 10:00 2 - 3:30 4 - 5 5 - 7 Dinner	Breakfast at the hotel Placement Exams Methodology & Course Introduction Lunch & Free time Spanish for Educator Class Free Time Dinner on your own in town
Tuesday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30 10 - 1 2 - 3:30 4 - 5 6 - 7 Dinner	Breakfast at the hotel Spanish Class Lunch & Free time Spanish for Educator Class Mexican Cooking Class Dinner on your own in town
Wednesday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30 10 - 1 2 - 3:30 4 - 5 5 - 7:30 7:30 - 9	Breakfast at the hotel Spanish Class Visit to a local Public School Lunch & Free time Spanish for Educator Class Free Time & Dinner on your own in town Spanish Movie Night
Thursday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30 10 - 1 2 - 3:30 4 - 5 6 - 7 Dinner	Breakfast at the hotel Spanish Class Lunch & Free time Spanish for Educator Class Mexican Cooking Class Dinner on your own in town
Friday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30 Lunch Dinner	Breakfast at the hotel Depart for Colima and Colama Excursion Tour of Downtown Colima Lunch in Colima Visit Chanal Ruins Check into hotel in Colama Dinner & free time on your own in town
Saturday	B, L, \$D	8:00 Dinner	Breakfast at the hotel Tour Colama: Visit museums and Volcano Observatory Traditional Lunch with a Mariachi Band Retrun to La Manzanilla Dinner on your own in town

MAESTRO Spanish Program

La Manzanilla, Mexico

Sunday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		10 – 1	Guided Nature Hike
			Lunch & Free afternoon
		Dinner	Dinner on your own in town
Monday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		10 – 1	Spanish Class
		2 – 3:30	Lunch & Free time
		4 - 5	Spanish for Educator Class
		5 - 8	Field Trip to San Patricio Melaque
		Dinner	Dinner on your own in town
Tuesday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		10 – 1	Spanish Class
		2 – 3:30	Lunch & Free time
		4 - 5	Spanish for Educator Class
		6 – 7	Mexican Cooking Class
		Dinner	Dinner on your own in town
Wednesday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		10 – 1	Spanish Class
			Visit to Barra de Navidad
		1 - 3	Lunch in Barra de Navidad
		4 - 5	Spanish for Educator Class
		5 – 7	Free Time & Dinner on your own in town
		7 - 9	Spanish Movie Night
Thursday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		10 – 1	Spanish Class
		2 – 3:30	Lunch & Free time
		4 - 5	Spanish for Educator Class
		6 – 7	Mexican Cooking Class
		Dinner	Dinner on your own in town
Friday	B, L, \$D	9 - 9:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		10 – 1	Spanish Class
		2 – 3:30	Lunch & Free time
		4 - 5	Spanish for Educator Class
		6 – 7	Free time
		Dinner	Dinner on your own in town
Saturday	B, L, \$D	8 - 8:30	Breakfast at the hotel
		9 - 3	Tenacatita Bay Boat Tour & Snorkeling
		Dinner	Dinner on your own in town
Sunday	B, L, \$D	8:30 – 9	Breakfast at the hotel
			Completion Certificate Presentation & Program Closure
		1:00	Hotel check-out must be completed
			Departure for the airport

Activity and Tour Descriptions

Weekend Excursions

Colima and Colama

2 day/1 night Tour - Friday, July 16th & Saturday, July 17th, 2010

Day 1 – Students will travel 3 ½ hours by bus to the small colonial and city of Colima where culture is abundant. Upon arrival, they will have some time to explore Colima on foot with their trip guide and visit its cathedrals, museums, parks, and fashionable storefronts. Students will stay the night in Comala, a neighboring town near the base of the Colima volcano, which is one of the enchanting "Pueblos Mágicos de México".

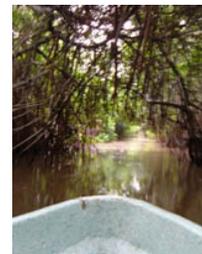


Day 2 - The group will go on a daylong tour with a bilingual guide, discovering the area around Comala and its secret treasures. The day will include a visit a museum, local coffee factory, mask maker in Suchitlan and the volcano observatory in La Yerbabuena. The group will enjoy lunch in Comala accompanied by a live Mariachi band and visit the Chanal ruins of the native Nautl people, before returning to La Manzanilla.

Tenacatita Boat Bay Tour & Snorkeling

Saturday, July 24th, 2010

Students will be picked up in a boat and will take a 30-minute cruise north to the beautiful Tenacatita Beach where they may spot dolphins and sea turtles along the way. Upon arriving to Tenacatita Beach, they will go on a jungle boat tour through a mangrove and learn about the local wildlife and ecology and snorkel at a coral reef with crystal clear waters. Afterwards, everyone will have lunch at a festive Mexican restaurant on the beach and have time to swim and boogie board, before returning in the boat back to La Manzanilla.



Local Midweek Excursions



Guided nature hike

Duration: 2 – 3 hours

The outdoor adventurer will enjoy this 3-mile round-trip guided hike along a riverbed and under the shady canopy of palms and tropical foliage to our waterholes (with running water during the rainy season – approximately June through October.) Learn about the local flora and fauna along the way.

Visit to San Patricio Melaque

Duration: 3 hours

Students will travel to a neighboring beach town of San Patricio Melaque, a beachfront town that has been a vacation retreat for generations of Mexicans and more recently by Canadians. San Patricio Melaque contains a town square, beautiful beach, and a number of retail shops. Students will get to tour the town, shop and can enjoy a drink at one of the beachfront restaurants with striking views of the bay.

Visit to Barra de Navidad

Duration: 4 to 6 hours

Students will travel by bus to the picturesque and popular beach town of Barra de Navidad, located 30 minutes south of La Manzanilla. There they will have a “moving” class with their Spanish teacher while they explore the charming town with cobblestone streets and then take a boat tour of bay. The students will have a chance to shop at a number of the traditional arts and crafts shops and use their Spanish. To complete the trip, the group and their teacher will enjoy a very special authentic Mexican lunch in Barra de Navidad.

