

EcoViva Community Empowerment Tours: Grassroots Social & Environmental Movements in El Salvador November 10-19, 2016



Join EcoViva and Task Force on the Americas for a trip that will take you across El Salvador! Meet with and learn from actors working to protect the environment and improve quality of life in their communities. You'll visit areas impacted by major mining projects in the north before heading to the Bay of Jiquilisco on the coast, where residents have been organizing for over twenty years to implement their vision for sustainable, locally-led development that allows both people and ecosystems to thrive. Throughout the trip you'll also learn about the country's history of civil conflict and resilience that has fundamentally shaped Salvadoran society.

DATES: November 10-19, 2016.

PRICE: \$1,525. This 10-day trip includes bilingual guide, transportation, lodging (double occupancy), meals, and activities. It does not include airfare or travel insurance.

SIGN UP: To sign up, contact us at info@ecoviva.org or (510) 835-1334.

ITINERARY:

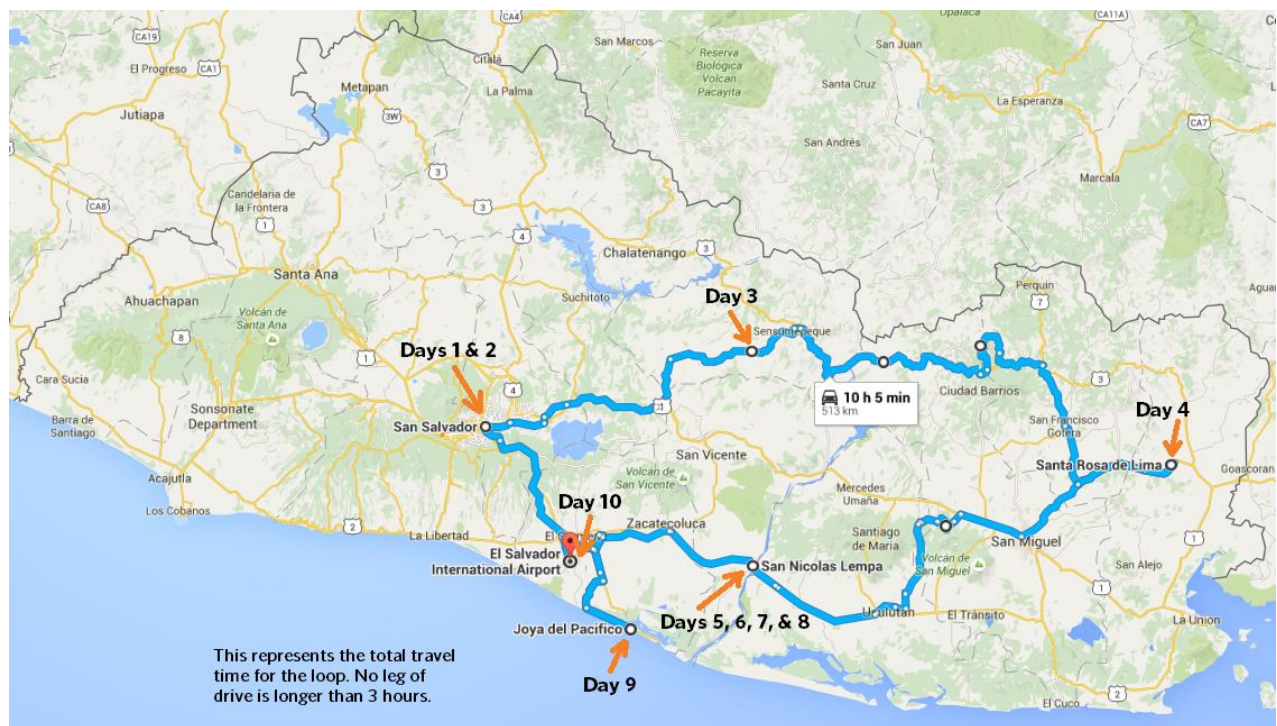
**Thursday
November 10** *Arrival.* Arrive in San Salvador. Meet your fellow travelers and guide and driver from the Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad (CIS) and receive a trip orientation. Stay in San Salvador.

**Friday
November 11** *El Salvador's History.* In San Salvador, visit the Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen and/or take guided tour of the Crypt of Monseñor Oscar Romero to learn about El Salvador's fraught history. Meet with officials at the Salvadoran Ministry of Environment for a briefing. Stay in San Salvador.

**Saturday
November 12** *Mining: El Dorado.* Visit communities impacted by the El Dorado mine, a project of the Canadian company Pacific Rim, and meet with activists with Asociación de Desarrollo Económico Social (ADES), Radio Victoria, and La Maraña. Stay in San Isidro.

**Sunday
November 13** *Mining: San Sebastián.* Visit the abandoned San Sebastián mine and learn about the toxic legacy of mining in El Salvador. Stay in La Unión.

- Monday November 14** *Welcome to the Bajo Lempa.* Travel to Ciudad Romero. Lunch at Conacaste. Receive a local orientation and an overview of the Mangrove Association's programs from leadership. Eat dinner at a women-led community eatery. Stay in Ciudad Romero.
- Tuesday November 15** *Organized Communities & Empowered Youth.* In the morning, take a tour of Ciudad Romero with one of the community leaders. Meet with youth leaders and visit the community radio station, Radio Mangle, located in the community center. Stay in Ciudad Romero.
- Wednesday November 16** *Locally-Managed Infrastructure.* See the water system in Tierra Blanca that serves several thousand residents and meet with the Junta de Agua (Water Board) composed of community members that runs it. Stay in Ciudad Romero.
- Thursday November 17** *Environmental Conservation.* Learn about innovative local conservation initiatives while boating through the mangroves and visiting a community-run sea turtle hatchery on Isla Montecristo. Travel to the beach. Stay at Joya del Pacifico.
- Friday November 18** *RRR.* Rest, relax, and reflect at the beach and the Joya del Pacifico resort on the beautiful Costa del Sol. Stay at Joya del Pacifico.
- Saturday November 19** *Departure.* Leave El Salvador with great experiences and inspiration to share with friends!



ABOUT US: EcoViva works in partnership and solidarity with communities in Central America organized to achieve environmental sustainability, economic self-sufficiency, social justice, and peace. Our primary focus area is the area surrounding Jiquilisco Bay, El Salvador, where we support a network of over 100 communities implementing their own initiatives for a more sustainable future. www.ecoviva.org

Task Force on the Americas is a grassroots human rights organization dedicated to supporting the social justice movements in Latin America and the Caribbean, along with educating North Americans about the realities of the Americas and the role the US plays there. Founded in 1985, they are also known as the Marin Interfaith Task Force on the Americas (MITF). www.taskforceamericas.org

