

PROPOSED ITINERARY



7 Days In-country Arizona and Mexico

Day One: **Depart from Toronto for your Adventure in Arizona!**
Meet the Me to We staff at the airport in Tucson and get ready to take off on your journey in Arizona and Mexico! The group will drive to Patagonia, to the Windsong Ranch which will be their home for the next week.

Evening Orientation

Get set for some team-building games! The group will spend the evening getting to know their facilitators, and going through the trip agenda, learning new leadership terms and reviewing the Me to We Trip Rules.

Unpack and settle into life at the Ranch

The group will have a chance to take a tour and explore the Ranch and its various sites and sounds. That evening they will enjoy a delicious home-made dinner on site.

Local organic dinner

Day Two: **Wake up early to prepare for hike at Patagonia Lake State Park**
Along with your facilitators, the group will depart for the Lake and take a hike through beautiful lush scenery and incredible biodiversity – one of the most bio-diverse in North America!

Lunch back at the ranch

Learn about the Creation of the Native Food Forest

Work with Windsong staff and local permaculture experts from Southern Arizona. This is a chance to learn where our food comes from and how growing food can be a solution to poverty.

Learn how to implement a permaculture project and get your hands dirty in the forest!

Afternoon Discussion Session

Listen to talk by Dan Mills, Sierra Club Borderlands Coalition and No More Deaths worker on immigration and the environment.

Prepare and have dinner at ranch

Evening leadership activities

Your facilitators will lead an evening discussion about your activities that day and how to make the most of your trip!

Day Three: Time in Agua Prieta, Sonora Mexico!

Early morning departure from Wind Song Ranch

The group will pack into the vans and drive roughly 2 hours East to Douglas Arizona, where they will have an introduction and tour to this unique border town. From there they will cross over to Agua Prieta, where they will be introduced to life on the other side of the border.

Morning Volunteering with Agua Para la Vida (Water for Life)

Spend time working with local members of this group to put fresh water in the desert for migrants who are crossing the border. The group will also visit with No Mas Muertes (No More Deaths) to work at resource stations providing aid in the desert. Walk in the footsteps of migrants who have traveled this path before.

Lunch at a Community Member's Home

An amazing opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the trials of Mexican life on the border.

Afternoon Building and working the permaculture project at Dougla-Prieta Works

Participants will volunteer at the vocational training center for repatriated migrants and youth from the community. Here they will get a chance to see a community working together to create sustainable programs such as community gardens and local structures. Participants are given the chance to interact with the local people, and to see how they are able to use permaculture in action.

Evening Volunteering at the Migrant Resource Center

Work alongside the Spanish speaking staff who run this center for newly deported and repatriated migrants. This is the first building that many individuals are taken to once they are deported, and the group will help provide meals and resources for these individuals. This is an amazing center that hosts individuals from across Mexico and South America, as they help orient them to the new city.

Stay Overnight at the New Hope Community Center

The sleeping accommodations are divided by gender, with separate boys and girls dormitory, where the students camp out on inflatable mattresses. The community center is secure and locked in the evenings, solely accessible to our groups.

Day Four: Breakfast at the New Hope Community Center

Visit the Café Justo (Just Coffee) Cooperative

Here the group can learn about the operations and how to support fair trade initiatives.

Making meals for migrants at the CAME Men's Migrant Shelter

Enjoy another opportunity to sit down for a meal with local migrants who have been displaced.

Lunch at a Community Member's Home

Afternoon Games with Local Youth

Playing games and practice your new Spanish skills while interacting with local Mexican youth. Football anyone?

Return to Windsong Ranch

Evening Leadership Activities

Together the group will sit down for an educational session about the border and its surrounding social and political conflicts. This will give a chance to discuss the volunteer opportunities over the last two days in Mexico.

Day Five:

Day Trip into Nogales, AZ

Visit the Nogales Wall, where the group will be able to see the US border patrol. Participants will meet local border activists, as well as view the unique artwork and large murals that cover the Wall. The group will have a chance to reflect upon their experiences while at the wall.

Lunch at local Mexican restaurant

Meeting with Alex, local humanitarian and community organizer

Alex will lead an interesting discussion with the group about Nogales, giving a unique context and history of the area.

Souvenir shopping at local Mexican market

Return to the Ranch for Dinner and Evening Activities

Day Six:

Morning Leadership Skills & Social Issues Training

The group will have the opportunity to focus on self-identified skill-building and social issue needs and capitalize on the skills and knowledge of the Me to We facilitators to build an understanding of what they have experience on the trip, as well as helping to build connections to issues and needs they recognize in their own communities.

Lunch at Ranch

Afternoon Action Planning, Dear Me Letters, and Evaluations

The end of the trip is merely the beginning of a new journey back home. Participants are given the opportunity to create detailed group and individual action plans, obtain resources for continued education, and reflect upon their experiences in Southern Arizona.

Special farewell dinner with entire Windsong staff

Closing Ceremony

With a bonfire, musical instruments, stories to share, and a talent show, the final evening will surely be one to remember!

Day Seven:

Departure Day

Enjoy an early morning breakfast at the Ranch before packing the vans, and a snack for the road! The group will depart from Windsong to drive back to Tucson, where they will fly home to Toronto.

*Note: This itinerary is subject to change. *