

## **Unearth Nicaragua: Professionals Engage with the Local Community**

### [GENERAL OVERVIEW:](#)

Spend eight days immersed in Nicaraguan history, culture, cuisine and service through meaningful experiential learning with Unearth the World's nonprofit partner. Travelers engage in cross-cultural exchange, service, day trips, Spanish lessons and guided reflection with the goal of breaking down barriers, educating, and promoting global leaders. The below itinerary is an example of how a group of professionals might spend a week in Nicaragua. Unearth the World also crafts custom programs for companies looking to utilize their unique skills on a custom volunteer project.

### [PROJECT OVERVIEW:](#)

Unearth the World's partner in Nicaragua is a Sustainable Eco-hotel and Spanish school. This partner stimulates the local economy, brings responsible tourism, jobs, and sustained income into the community. The profits from the Spanish school are used to fund various local initiatives like school libraries, an organic farm, reforestation project, after school programming and a school working with children with disabilities.

This organization has created sustainable employment by hiring more than 60 local people as staff at the eco-hotel. Over the past 7 years, they have pumped approximately \$500,000 into the community which has improved quality of life and been used to fund many local community projects. These projects have provided 26 families with clean water and vegetable gardens, allowed 15 disabled children to go to school, improved infrastructure at several primary schools serving close to 1,000 students, and rescued close to a hundred animals (cats, dogs, horses, birds and monkeys).

### [ACCOMMODATIONS:](#)

Volunteers stay at the eco-hotel, with 1 – 2 people per room. The eco-hotel has simple but comfortable rooms. Each room has a private bathroom and solar heated shower. All eco-hotel rooms have solar powered lighting, fans, a garden view and access to the terraces and gardens. Wi-Fi is available in common spaces and three freshly cooked Nicaraguan meals (mostly vegetarian) are provided daily.

### [EXAMPLE ITINERARY: Environmental Focus](#)

#### **Day 1: Arrival**

Private and secure pick up at Managua airport and transfer to eco-hotel. Hotel orientation and opportunity to explore the hotel and town with your colleagues. Opportunity to learn more about Nicaragua from a local historian.

#### **Day 2**

Fresh breakfast at the eco-hotel. Morning service at one of the community projects (detailed list of available projects below). Lunch. 2 hours of Spanish lessons from local teacher. Afternoon discussion on environmental issues facing Nicaragua, and deforestation in the area. Dinner at the eco-hotel as a group. Time to relax, reflect and get to know your fellow travelers.

#### **Day 3**

Breakfast. Morning service at local project. Lunch. 2 hours of Spanish lessons. Afternoon trip and hike to Cana Onda - land that is being sustainably reforested by the eco-hotel. Dinner and global leadership activity.

#### **Day 4**

Breakfast. Morning service. Lunch. 2 hours of Spanish lessons. Evening trip to tour the majestic Masaya Volcano. Dinner is included!

**Day 5**

Breakfast. Morning service. Afternoon cooking class – enjoy the delicious lunch that you created! 2 hours of Spanish lessons. Dinner and time for reflection and relaxation.

**Day 6**

Breakfast. Morning service. Lunch. 2 hours of Spanish lessons. Afternoon closing session. Dinner. Salsa dancing lessons.

**Day 7**

Breakfast at eco-hotel. Private transport to Granada. Private guide will lead tour/activities around Granada in the morning. Lunch in Granada. Free afternoon to explore the city. Private transfer back to eco-hotel. Dinner and closing reflection activity.

**Day 8**

Depart for US. Private transport to MGA airport.

**SERVICE OPTIONS:**

- Los Pipitos: Work alongside paid teachers to assist in games and activities for children with disabilities.
- Wildlife and Animal Rescue: Volunteers help caretakers with a range of tasks to care for rescued animals.
- Ruben Dario Primary School: Volunteers assist the librarian in the library or a teacher in a mainstream classroom to read with children or assist with homework
- Cultural Center de Karen: Work along side Karen to run her home-based daycare doing arts and crafts and playing games.
- La Reserva (Nature Reserve): Volunteers can work in the vegetable, medicinal plant and butterfly gardens. Tasks include gardening and basic construction.
- El Piscacho Community Center: Work with a local teacher to help children learn English, improve reading and comprehension, draw, paint, and play games.
- Los Martinez Reading Corner: Volunteers help younger students with tactile activities, or read and act out stories with the older students.

**INCLUSIONS:**

Pre-trip training (Unearth the World's 5-part Global service-learning curriculum)

Pre-trip logistical support

All accommodations (Eco-hotel double rooms)

All in-country transportation (Airport pick-up/drop off)

All meals (excluding day trip to Granada)

Volunteer projects and intentional cultural exchange

Post-trip support/coaching (led by Unearth the World)

Evening excursion to Masaya Volcano

Environmental Lecture and Trip to Canada Onda

Salsa Lessons

Cooking Class

Day trip to Granada and guide

History Lesson with local Historian

**Costs Not Included**

Airfare to Managua

Lunch in Granada

International Health Insurance