Coffee Community Connection

Three Farms in Northern Nicaragua
November 13-17, 2013

Social Enterprise @ Goizueta (Emory University), Comunidad Connect and Finca El Peten have partnered on several projects over the past several years.

We are developing an innovative coffee model, called Farmers to 40, that supports coffee-growing communities in Nicaragua by encouraging farmers to grow beans of the highest quality and then adequately compensating them for their time, skill and effort.

We are developing (with the residents of Los Robles) a project called Nicaragua Community Health Connection (NCHC) that connects local residents with supportive external networks to deliver superior health services and outcomes.

Now, we are presenting this Coffee Community Connection to help folks better understand and appreciate the people and processes behind the coffee that we drink.

The itinerary was prepared based on first-hand experiences and personal relationships cultivated throughout the mountains of Matagalpa and Jinotega.

Our home base is Finca El Peten, a 250-acre organic coffee farm situated on the shores of Lake Apanas. Here, our staff treat travelers to home-cooked Nicaraguan meals and basic accommodations in our rustic Eco Lodge*

From here, the Coffee Community Connection provides a variety of opportunities to learn more about life in coffee country. We visit three different farms and participate in a cupping session with the expert Q-raters from SOPPEXCCA.

Along the way, we spend time talking with the farmers and working with community members on a dedicated service project. Here, we experience how the work that Social Enterprise @ Goizueta and Comunidad Connect are doing is impacting local residents.

The group will travel with – and have access to the experience of – Peter Roberts (Emory professor & Academic Director of Social Enterprise @ Goizueta) and Jon Thompson (co-founder of Comunidad Connect & co-owner of Finca El Peten).

The Coffee Community Connection is designed for coffee-lovers who want to learn more about life on and around Nicaragua’s coffee farms; for those who have coffee in their lives and want to know more about the beans before they are roasted, ground and brewed.
Trip Details**

Day 1 (November 13th)
— Arrive late in Managua (preferably on Delta 369) and drive to the farm

Day 2 (November 14th)
— Walking tour of Finca el Peten (our host farm)
— Los Robles community tour & NCHC service project
— Weigh-in & wet-milling of coffee
— Dinner & drinks at the farm

Day 3 (November 15th)
— Back roads drive to Finca Los Pinos
— Visit small-scale coffee farm en route
— Farm tour & permaculture discussion with Byron Corrales
— Dinner & drinks at the farm

Day 4 (November 16th)
— Tour & cupping at SOPPEXCCA
— Visit Centro Social Tio Antonio in Granada
— Dinner & drinks at Ola Verde / Managua Hills Hotel in Managua

Day 5 (November 17th)
— Depart early from Managua (preferably on Delta 370)

Cost
— $700 (single) or $1,200 (double); travelers pay own airfares
— Includes all meals, in-country transportation & accommodation*

Space is limited to 10-12 travelers
— To make your reservation, contact Melinda (melinda.k@emory.edu)
— If you have questions, contact Peter Roberts (peter.roberts@emory.edu)

* Accommodations are tasteful but rustic; e.g., travelers should not expect hot water for showers.
** Participants should feel comfortable with modest levels of physical exertion. In addition, travelers voluntarily assume all risks of damages or injury sustained while participating in this travel experience, including travel to and from the program.