



# Semilla Nueva Guatemala Work Trips



**Be Involved. Be Inspired. Be Changed.**

During a work trip you will participate in important agricultural projects that have a direct impact on farmers' lives. See the results of your support in the fields and homes of the families you will work along side. Take your support to a new level and have an experience you will never forget. Will you join us?

## Community Experience Trips

You will visit and work in communities during the day and stay each night in the mid-sized city Retalhuleu. There you will stay in the well reviewed and beautiful Hotel Astor, with private room, heated shower, air conditioning, pool and restaurant (pictured on other page). You may spend up to 2.5 hours riding on rough roads for daily transport to and from communities.

**June 2-6:** Plant chaya with farmers and families, participate in food security women's groups, and assist with small business development classes for women's groups.

**August 25-29:** Plant pigeonpea with farmers and families in *kuchubales*, or communal planting days, participate in food security women's groups, and assist with harvesting corn.

## Community Immersion Trips

You will work and stay with families in rural communities during the week. You can expect minimal accommodations, bucket showers, traditional food, and heat. This is an inside glimpse of the daily lives of family farmers!

**June 9-13:** Plant chaya with farmers and families, participate in food security women's groups, and assist with small business development classes for women's groups.

**August 18-22:** Plant pigeonpea with farmers and families in *kuchubales*, or communal planting days, participate in food security women's groups, and assist with harvesting corn.

## What to Expect

Either trip you choose, travel within Guatemala, meals, and accommodations will be arranged by Semilla Nueva. Spanish language is not necessary, as Semilla Nueva staff will translate. Work days consist of helping farmers in their fields planting in the mornings, and afternoons are spent with women's groups, relaxing at a farmer's home, or a quick trip to the beach. Evenings are yours to relax and explore the town or village. Guatemalans love to chat and are open and light-hearted. They will eagerly share their story, show their fields and home, happily answer your questions, as well as have questions for you!

**"It was hot, hard, and extremely rewarding. We could see what a difference our small contribution makes in the lives of these simple and wonderful people. We're very glad we went" - Mike and Annie Jones**



## See Semilla Nueva, See Guatemala

Guatemala is a diverse and enchanting country. Vibrant traditional culture, friendly people, and a myriad of interesting and accessible cultural, natural, and historic sites entice many participants to extend their trip outside of the week with Semilla Nueva. Though Semilla Nueva does not arrange extra travel plans, we will gladly offer suggestions and advice, connect you to experienced tour agencies that can take you throughout the country, and make sure you get on your way safely once in Guatemala.

Here is a basic itinerary for the week with Semilla Nueva:

Sunday: Airport pick up by Semilla Nueva. Spend the night in Antigua - Guatemala's best colonial town.

Monday: Travel to and spend the afternoon visiting a Semilla Nueva community.

Tuesday: Work day in a community.

Wednesday: Work day in a community.

Thursday: Work day in a community.

Friday: Breakfast with the Semilla Nueva team, debriefing, and assistance with continued travel plans.

## Budget

You will arrange and pay for airfare to and from Guatemala though Semilla Nueva can assist with planning flights. A fee of \$630 for Community Experience trips and \$420 for Community Immersion trips should be paid to Semilla Nueva one month prior to trip date. All travel inside Guatemala, accommodations, and meals are arranged by Semilla Nueva and covered by the fee. You should bring money for snacks, souvenirs, and any additional travel in Guatemala.

## Safety and Health

Guatemala welcomes tourists and most locals are willing to help tourists. While most travelers rarely face any problems, you must take appropriate precautions. Lonely Planet and other guidebooks provide an overview of the issues around travel in Guatemala. Travel insurance is not required, but can cover you in the case of medical need or theft during your trip. For questions or concerns regarding safety and health, please contact Katie Miller. Travel is at your own risk.

## Nos Vamos! Let's Go!

If you are ready for an adventure with impact and to build a stronger connection to the work of Semilla Nueva, please contact the trip administrator, Katie Miller. We will help with planning, recommendations, and any special accommodations to create an unforgettable experience. Space is limited to 10 people per trip, so talk to your friends and make your reservation soon!

**Katie Miller: Phone: (208) 957- 1219 or Email: [katiemiller@semillanueva.org](mailto:katiemiller@semillanueva.org)**

*"What I appreciated most was being fully immersed in the work of Semilla Nueva in the fields. We worked hand in hand with farmers harvesting corn and comparing results. Some of us even walked barefoot in the mud!" - Mike Sieler*