Robert Morris College's Program in Mexico

(ITESM: Instituto Technologíco y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey)

NOTE: This is a supplement to the RMC Study Abroad Handbook.

Please keep them together.

Compiled by
Jennifer Bury and Bonnie Clancy
working with
Dr. Pam Wilson, Coordinator of Study Abroad Programs

December 1998

Outline of the Mexican Study Abroad Manual

[I WILL NEED TO CHANGE PAGE NUMBERS FOR WEB SITE]

I. Introduction 3
   II. Pre-departure 4
   III. Packing 5
A. Clothing 5
B. Other Articles 6
C. Exceptions 6&7
D. Allowable Items 7
E. Prohibited Items 7
F. Customs 7&8

IV. Los Estados Unidos de Mexico 9
A. Political Divisions 9
B. Historical Overview 9&10

V. Mexico: Just the Facts 11&12
This section includes information on business hours, holidays, weather, money, tipping, taxes.

VI. "Habla espanol, por favor!" (Spanish Phrases) 13&14

VII. La Cultura Mexicana 15-17
This section includes salutations and introductions, time, body language, gift giving, family, male/female roles, pride, and Comparitive Cultural Summary Table.

VIII. Ten Cuidado! 18
A. Safety 18
B. Phone Numbers 18
C. "Turista" 18&19

IX. ITESM: Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superviores 20&21
    De Monterrey – Campus Morelos

X. Housing Options 22

XI. Returning Home 23

XII. Top Ten Things to Remember while in Mexico 24

INTRODUCTION
So, you decided that you want to spend some time studying in another country. What better place to study and visit than Mexico? With its rich history, beautiful sights, and incredible culture, it is hard not to be interested in this fascinating country. This manual will give you a guide as to preparing for your trip, things to do while you are there, and some general tips for an awesome trip. So without any further ado, Vamos! (Let’s go!)

Wait! Before you leave . . .

Pre-Departure Information

1. Get a passport.
   - Make several copies of the first page of your passport that contains the picture. If you should lose your original passport, it is extremely difficult to obtain a new one while in Cuernavaca.

2. Pay all fees due to Campus Morelos. Most of these fees include the $100 U.S. Housing fee, a $100 Housing Deposit, and a $100 Registration fee.
   - Make all checks payable to ITESM Campus Morelos
   - Both the Housing and Registration Fees are nonrefundable, however, the Housing Deposit will be refunded about 2-3 months after your departure from Mexico.

3. Send all flight information to Campus Morelos so that you will be picked up at the airport.
   * Caution: in Mexico, the dates are written DD/MM/YY. Be specific as to the date. For example, write Monday, July 25, 19XX, or lunes, el 25 de julio, 19XX

4. Send all Insurance information to Campus Morelos. This does not have to be the original policy. It can be a letter from your insurance agency, or a copy of the policy.
5. Obtain and send emergency contact information.

** It is recommended that the check for the above mentioned fees, insurance information, and emergency contact information be sent to Campus Morelos together.

---

**What to Bring**

So. You have prepared all of the necessary legal pre-departure tasks. What’s left? Packing, of course! Well, Mexico will probably be quite warm so you think that packing light clothing, shorts, and tank tops will be appropriate. If you should think this to be appropriate luggage, think again. Many of the students at Campus Morelos will not wear shorts, even in the middle of the summer. There are two reasons why this is true. First, many cannot afford shorts. Second, they are accustomed to the climate and do not need shorts to cool off. Facts such as these are the reason we have provided this list of clothing and articles to pack so that you can enjoy your stay and not feel out of place among your peers at school.

**Clothing**

1. **Shorts.** Why, after we just stated that many Mexicans will not be wearing them? Those of us from the United States are not accustomed to the Mexican climate, and therefore will need time to adjust to it by wearing cool clothing. However, you may want to reserve wearing shorts for time of informality and opt to wear dressier clothing and light dress slacks for more formal events.

2. **Pants.** Men, dress pants are required at almost every bar and discotheque, so be prepared. Ladies, as stated before, most Mexicans will be wearing pants and many will be dressed up almost everyday--so use discretion.

3. **Shirts.** Bring a number of short-sleeved shirts. Sorry, ladies, but it may be wise to leave tank tops and short shirts at home. Should you wear these clothes on the streets of Mexico, you may be viewed as "easy" to the men.

4. **Sweaters, sweatshirts, and long-sleeved shirts.** It is a good idea to pack at least a few of these types of shirts because the nights of Mexico still can be chilly. It is best to be prepared for any type of weather.

5. **Light jacket with a hood.** This is for rainy or cool weather.

6. **Sandals.** Most Mexicans will be wearing sandals. It may be a sign of disrespect to walk around the home of your host family in bare feet. Sandals are good for serving the purpose of comfortable yet respectful.

7. **Tennis shoes or hiking shoes.** These are great for taking walks through the city or on hikes that require more support for the feet than what one gets from sandals.

**Other Articles**

1. **2 washcloths.** These are for the hands, face, and other small uses.

2. **Pesos (Mexican currency).** It is not wise to carry a large amount of money with you, but it is smart to
3. *Sun block.* The sun in Mexico is very hot, as Mexico lies much closer to the equator than does the United States, so be prepared to protect your skin.

4. *Compact Umbrella.* Great for nighttime activities when the sky usually lets loose around 10 p.m. with rain.

5. 2 *almost empty rolls of toilet paper—or purse-size tissue packs.* WHAT? Yes, this is necessary, as many public restrooms in Mexico do not provide toilet paper!

6. *Battery operated alarm clock.* Very short power outages are common in Cuernavaca, so it’s important to bring a clock that will continue running.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** buy extra batteries in the States, as they are quite expensive in Mexico.

7. *Medications.* Bring your own aspirin, Pepto Bismol, and other medications, as they may be quite different in Mexico. Some may even be unavailable.

8. *Travel Guide.* Unless you plan to go to class and lock yourself in your room all night, this is a good way to experience Cuernavaca and Mexico’s finest places.

9. *Personal Hygiene items.* This includes all personal things, contact solution, and vitamins. They may not be available in Mexico.

10. It is also recommended that you bring a few *personal artifacts* with you, as many people will be interested in learning where you come from and what your interests are.

In nearly all instances, casual dress attire will be appropriate.

The exceptions:
- bathing suits are not to be worn away from the swimming pool or beach area
- in smaller resort areas or inland cities, flashy or suggestive clothing is not appropriate
- never wear shorts when entering a church
- evening attire is a bit dressier in the bigger cities

---

**Entering Mexico**

Visitors entering Mexico need three things:

1. A Photo I.D. (such as Driver’s License)
2. A Tourist Card* or Student Visa
3. A Valid Proof of Citizenship (Passport most recommended document)

**Customs:**
Mexico has a "European-style" customs inspection system. First, visitors must complete a customs declaration form. Visitors must choose to either declare or not to declare that they are importing items beyond allowance. Those declaring items, will have their baggage searched and a duty is collected accordingly. Those not declaring items will have to push a button on what looks like a street light that is mounted on a post located inside the customs area. If a green light shows, you are allowed to pass without inspection. If the light is red, you will have to wait for inspection. If items are found that were not declared, you will be charged heavy fines and penalties will apply.

**Allowable Items:**

- personal items, e.g. clothing, footwear, toiletries, all in reasonable quantities according to trip duration
- books and magazines
- medicine for personal use, with medical prescriptions in case of psychotropic substances
- used or second-hand sporting equipment
- one portable t.v. set, and one portable typewriter
- up to 20 records (cds) or cassettes
- a musical instrument
- fishing equipment, a pair of skis, and two tennis rackets
- 3 liters of alcohol or wine, if over 18 years old
- 400 cigarettes or 50 cigars, if over 18 years old
- one movie camera and one regular camera, and up to 12 rolls of film

**Prohibited Items**

- uncanned food
- pork or pork products
- plants

- fruits and vegetables

---

**Los Estados Unidos de México**

Did you know that Mexico has STATES similar to those of the United States? NO?! Well, you are in luck. We have prepared this section especially for you students who just happened to forget to do some
factual research about the area in which you will spend a few months. Luckily for you, some of us put together this section to give you a brief summary of some important facts that you may want to know before arriving in Mexico.

**Political Division**

Mexico is representative, democratic, and federal republic governed by three branches of power: the executive, the legislative, and the judiciary. The country is made up of 32 political-administrative entities, with 31 sovereign states, and a Federal District (Mexico City), the seat of the Executive, which is also the location of the nation’s capital. The President of Mexico until the year 2000 is Dr. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León.

![Political Division Map](image)

**Brief Historical Overview**

Although, human artifacts have been found in Mexico dating back to 9000 BC, the first known inhabitants of the area are the Olmecs (around 2000 BC). Throughout North and Central America, the Mayans built great cities, but their empire crumbled in the 12th century. The Aztecs had the last great empire before Hernán Cortés arrived and conquered the area in 1519.

For three centuries, Spain ruled Mexico, exploited it for its minerals and other resources, and introduced Christianity. The Spanish destroyed Aztec culture and built churches where temples once stood.

In 1810, Miguel Hidalgo, a Mexican priest, began a movement towards independence from Spain. Hidalgo was executed, but the struggle continued until independence was achieved in 1821. In 1824, a constitution was written and a republic was established.

During the regime of Antonio López de Santa Ana, Texas seceded from Mexican rule and joined the United States in 1836. War broke out with the United States in 1846. Through the peace treaty, signed in
1848, Mexico relinquished an extensive amount of territory. Santa Ana was then forced to resign (1855), and Benito Pablo Juárez became president. In 1858, civil war erupted and continued for two years.

The Mexican government found that it could not afford to pay its debts owed to the United Kingdom, France, and Spain. These countries sent troops to Mexico. Under Napoleon III, French forces captured Mexico City in 1863 and named Maximillien (Austrian archduke) the emperor of Mexico. In 1867, under Juárez, the Mexican forces overthrew Maximillien and then executed him. In 1876, another dictator, Porfirio Díaz, came to power, but was overthrown in 1911. More than a decade of struggle between rival leaders such as Francisco Madero, Emiliano Zapata, and Francisco (Pancho) Villa ensued. This is known as the Mexican Revolution. Plutarco Elías Calles took office in 1924 and order was restored.

During the latter half of the 1930s, a more significant union occurred under General Lázaro Cárdenas. Mexico has enjoyed relative stability under the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). Some have charged that there is fraud in the elections, especially in the close victory of Carlos Salinas de Gortari in 1988. During his campaign, Salinas promised radical economic reform and political reforms that were less so.

A Zapatista rebellion erupted in Chiapas (bordering Guatemala) in January of 1994. The rebels protested poverty and the centralization of power and demanded democratic change and the resignation of government. Fighting between the rebels and government still continues despite negotiation attempts. The violent events, however, have raised issues concerning realities of the conditions of certain areas.

In August of 1994, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León was elected president, after the PRI’s initial candidate was assassinated. The PRI also won the congressional elections. The opposition parties alleged unfairness and irregularities in the election.

---

**Mexico: Just the Facts**

These facts will be of great help once you are settled in your new home.

**Time Zone**

Mexico extends over three time zones. Mexico City (Distrito Federal) lies in the central time zone. This puts them on the same time as Chicago, or 1 hour behind Pittsburgh. Two of these time zones observe
daylight saving time during the summer, which means clocks are move forward 1 hour.

**Business Hours**

**Banks**

9 AM - 1:30 PM Monday - Friday

*some may be opened 4 - 6 PM on weekdays and some on Saturday*

**Stores**

9 AM - 8 PM

*some are closed for a few hours in the middle of the day*

**Holidays**

Banks and many businesses are closed on:

- New Years Day (Jan 1), Constitution Day (Feb 5), Birthday of Benito Juaréz (Mar 21), Good Friday through Easter Monday (four days in Mar or Apr; date varies), Labor Day (May 1), Anniversary of Battle of Puebla (May 5), Independence Day (Sep 16), Columbus Day (Oct 12), All Saints’ Day (Nov 1), All Souls’ Day (Nov 2), Anniversary of the Mexican Revolution of 1910 (Nov 20), and Christmas Day (Dec 25).

**Weather**

Most of the country has temperate weather conditions and spring-like year round. The dry season is generally November through April, while the wet season is May through October. Temperatures varies with the altitude. The northern part of the country will occasionally get frost or even a snow. Sea-level cities will have tropical conditions year-round. Mexico City and other cities above 1,200 meters (4,000 feet) experience cooler temperatures, particularly at night.

**Money**

Mexico’s currency is the *peso* (P), which is divided into 100 *centavos*. Notes are in denominations of P10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500. Coins are in 1, 2, 5, and 10 pesos. Centavos come in 5, 10, 20 and 50 denominations. The dollar sign is often used to represent the peso.

**Tipping**

In Mexico, tipping is common. In restaurants, 15% is the average tip. Taxi drivers don’t usually get tips.

**Taxes**

A sales tax (called IVA in Mexico) of 15% is included in the price of most goods and services.
"Habla espanol, por favor!"  
("Speak Spanish, please!")

These are some helpful phrases that you will need to know in order to get people to do things and in order to ask people for things. It may be wise to make some sort of cheat sheet if you are unfamiliar with these phrases or if you have a hard time remembering the exact pronunciation.

**En Inglés En Español**

Please Por favor

Thank you Gracias

You’re welcome De nada

Excuse me Perdóname/Discúlpame

My name is... Me llamo...

I would like... Me gustaria...

I need... Necesito...

Do you have...? Tiene Ud. ...?

Could you please help me? Podrias ayudarme, por favor?

Do you speak English? Habla Ud. inglés?

I speak a little Spanish. Hablo español un poco.

I don’t understand. No comprendo.

Please repeat. Repita, por favor.

What did you say? Que dijo Ud?

I’m lost. Estoy perdido(a).

I’m looking for... Busco...

It is a very good idea to learn some Spanish before trying to communicate with the Mexican people. Although many will understand and speak English, they will appreciate your attempt at their language. Remember, you are in *their* country and learning *their* culture. Any attempt will show that you care about their culture. They will be more willing to help you and try harder to understand you. BONUS: You can learn the language, return home, and say things to your family and friends that, when said in English, are rude. (Not intended to condone cursing or crass remarks!)
La Cultura Mexicana

Doing Business in Mexico:

Salutations & Introductions

When meeting someone for the first time, a handshake and personal greeting is appropriate. Inquiring about one’s family is common courtesy. After a brief relationship with this person, you might be welcomed (male/male) with a hug, a full embrace with two pats on the back. Women will greet each other with a feigned kiss on the side of the cheek. Men greet women in this manner also.

If the person has a degree, using his or her appropriate title would be a nice touch. Some of the common titles are: Licenciado/a - holds a Bachelors degree (except for engineers), Ingeniero/a - holds a degree in engineering.

Time

Our concept of time differs greatly from that of Mexico. In the United State, we have no tolerance for lateness. Lateness is quite ordinary in Mexico. It is not because Mexicans are lazy, but because they value "now" as the moment. They live in the present and give each moment its due. Whatever
is planned for later, will be taken care of later. In social situations, it might be best to arrive a half hour later than the stated time. Formal situations, such as classes, church service, or a business lunch, will begin on time.

Visitors might also get lost in the verbal translation of time. A Spanish dictionary translates "manaña" directly as "tomorrow". For Mexicans, "manaña" most closely means "soon" or "in due time". If someone were to tell you that an order will be delivered "manaña", he means that it will be there soon, in a matter of days. The terminology that is used for exact clock time in Mexico is "Puntualidad Inglesa" - "English Time".

The same mix up might be applied to "ahora". According to the dictionary, it means "now". In Mexico, it might be used to mean "today". "Ahorita" and "Ahoritita" should be used to say "right away" and "immediately", respectively.

Body Language

Contrary to the U.S. and Canada, it is customary in Mexico to communicate closer than one arm’s length. An acceptable gesture of friendliness may be a tap on the arm or a pat on the back.

*NOTE* This does not mean punching, pinching, or other inappropriate gestures.

Gift Giving

If you are invited to someone’s house, bring a gift. You should also send a thank you note afterwards to your host.

Family

Families are highly valued in Mexican culture. For most Mexicans, family is the center of social life. Children are also highly revered by parents and friends, as well as by older siblings. Parties often include mingling among friends and family members of all ages. The godparent system is another way of reinforcing family ties with those people who would otherwise be considered friends.

Gender Roles

The father serves as the head of the Mexican family. Men are usually very protective of their women. Women follow a subservient role. Except for marriage, women have very few opportunities for social mobility between the lower and middle classes. Only a small percentage of Mexican women hold important positions or own their own business. However, younger women are now attending universities and studying for careers in banking, medicine, and government. Many foreign women are allowed social mobility in their respective professional environment. However, acting on this freedom as you might at home could convey the wrong signals. You might be considered an easy sexual conquest.
Cultural Pride

One of the first cultural aspects you will notice in Mexicans is the pride they have for their homeland. To them, Mexico is not the government, but the land, the food, the music, the history, and the sights and smells. Regional attachments are strong also, as well as rivalries. People’s nicknames, often times, are characterized by their roots, such as Jalisco or Azteca.

Culture

The following is a Comparative Cultural Summary Table provided by Mexico Connect:
[NEED TO INSERT]

Ten Cuidado!

Safety in Mexico

Do not think that because you speak English, have blonde hair, or don't have permanent residence in Mexico that you are exempt from the rules. Learn what is acceptable behavior, the laws, and morals of the Mexican society before you leave so that your trip will be as enjoyable as possible. Mom and Dad do NOT want to bail you out of the slammer, especially one that is a couple thousand miles away. We recommend learning the rules first to avoid this type of situation. Should you chose not to learn the rules, may we suggest watching a few episodes of McGyver since he can figure his way out of any situation!

Safety:

If you are arrested in Mexico, your citizenship will not keep you immune from punishment. In Mexico, you are considered **GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT**.

U.S. Embassy-Mexico City

Paseo de la Reforma 305

Colonia Cuauhtemoc

Phone Numbers
Here are some other safety warnings:

"Turista"

Whether in Mexico, where it is referred to as "turista," or in the U.S., where we it is known as "Montezuma’s Revenge", it is the greatest health concern to travelers. It is diarrhea (sometimes accompanied by a fever), which requires bed rest. Contrary to what most believe, it is not caused by contaminated water or food, but by exposure to bacteria different than those at home.

To help reduce the effects of turista, eat and drink in moderation during the first few days of your trip. Secondly, only eat foods that have been thoroughly cooked and are served either stove-hot or refrigerator-cold.

If you are stricken with a serious attack, you should try to stay in bed, eat a bland diet, drink plenty of water, and take whatever your doctor recommends. Lomotil and Vibramicin are available in Mexico without a prescription. Maintain a bland diet until you feel completely well.

Note to Traveler: Remember that Mexicans eat a lot of food containing beans and other gas producing ingredients. Taking along some Beano (used to reduce the effects of gas and found at most grocery stores) may be advisable to avoid the after-effects of such foods!

ITESM: Instituto Technologíco y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey - Campus Morelos
Since you will be going to school in a place totally different from your hometown in the United States, it is worthwhile to learn some facts about the school that you are attending. Here is a brief summary of the history of Cuernavaca, activities on campus, and activities in the city.

The city of Cuernavaca was founded in the 12th century, which provides the modern city with a history rich with culture. Cuernavaca is famous for two historical figures, Moctezuma and Hernan Cortes, both of which you may have read or learned about. The nickname of Cuernavaca is "the City of Eternal Spring." This name comes from the fact that its climate is near-perfect all year around. The Cuernavaca Campus was founded in 1983 in a residential area of Cuernavaca, Mexico. It is a fifteen minute bus ride to the center of town where students can enjoy the culture of Cuernavaca. Nearby are famous cities such as Taxaco, Puebla, Acapulco, and Teotihuacan. Within 45 minutes, students can also visit the capital of Mexico, Mexico City.

Campus Morelos has a semester enrollment of about 2000 students made up mostly of Mexican students but also many international students as well. Students attending Campus Morelos have full, free use of the computers provided and also use of free e-mail accounts. Also available to students are things such as language labs, a library, scanners, printers, and the Internet. There is no shortage of activities going on at the campus. Students can participate in aerobics, swimming pools, basketball, volleyball, ping-pong, soccer, and tennis. There are also trips to archaeological and colonial attractions.

For dining purposes, the cafeteria is open Monday through Friday from 8a.m. to 4p.m. Students may opt for fast food from the Cafeteria Borreguito, although from the opinion of students, the service really isn’t that fast. While enjoying your stay in Mexico, it is important to get off of the campus and into the city for some real cultural dining experiences. Although Mexico offers the universal fast food places such as Burger King and Dominos Pizza, we encourage you to try some ethnic foods. After all, you did come to learn how about the Mexican way of life and they don’t eat at McDonalds everyday, so neither should you! Some places to try are Don Pollo, Los Ocampo, Taco Row, and Sanborn’s. There are also many restaurants that do not specialize explicitly in Mexican food. For Italian, try Marco Polo and Hiau. To get great Chinese, go to Ho-Lee-Chow and Log Yin. After living there a few weeks, you will find your own favorite restaurants and eateries.

Another style of eating is cooking. Yes, many of you dread it now, but after the nostalgia of living in a new country dies down, you may be ready for some good old home cookin’. But how is mom going to send you her fresh baked lasagna or dad’s specialty blueberry pancakes? Consider bringing along some of your favorite recipes so that you can still have that down-home food during your stay in Cuernavaca.

There is no shortage of bars and discotheques in Cuernavaca and Mexico City. Students may enjoy the convenience of these nightly entertainment locations but there are a few things to remember. Women should dress respectfully and will have no trouble getting as long as they are with a group of girls. Men must wear nice pants. This means no jeans with holes in them. Men should not even attempt to get into a club without some girls. This is one cultural difference that men may find hard to accept. Sorry fellas. The girls have the upper hand in the world of disco fever!
It is also a good idea to bring I.D. with you throughout your travels. Many places will require it for entrance into their facilities. One other extremely important tip – DON’T DRINK THE WATER! Not even mixed drinks are a good idea. Should you choose to not heed this warning and experiment with the water, you may get what the Mexicans call "Montezuma’s Revenge" or turista. This involves diarrhea and vomiting, caused by the effects of new bacteria in your body.

What are my housing options?

Do you know that there are other ways to live in Cuernavaca and go to school at campus Morelos aside from dormitories? Read this section for some choices in living arrangements.

One option for living arrangements is a host family. This is a really good idea for those students wishing to increase their Spanish speaking skills and learn the culture to the fullest extent. Living with a host family is a real experience and opens cultural horizons. Not only do you get to see what Mexican life is like on a day-to-day basis, you will get first hand experience learning the importance of family to the Mexicans.

Another bonus to living with a host family is the bonds that you will make and the love you will feel between all other members. It is unlikely that the family would only treat you as "an American Student." Chances are that they will welcome you into their home and adopt you as a part of their family. After living with them for a period of time, neither the family, nor you, will be able to simply say good-bye and part for good. There will probably be letters, phone calls, and visits to both Mexico and the United States for both you and your host family. Friendships will have been created that will last a lifetime.

A second option for living in Cuernavaca is finding your own apartment to rent. This may be a good choice if you feel uncomfortable living in someone else's home. However, it will be difficult to locate an apartment if you have never been to this area before. Many places that are close to campus are expensive and booked very early in advance, as they tend to become full rather quickly. One bonus to living on your own is having peace and quiet whenever you feel the need to be alone. However, this may be a problem, as it may get lonely the first few weeks in Mexico since you will not have made many friends yet.

Honey, I’m home!
Returning Home:

You will be allowed to enter back into the U.S. free of duty if the combined value of your purchases is equal to or less than $400. In the U.S., one liter of alcohol is allowed duty free. U.S. duty is 10% for the first $1000 above the $400 allowance. Be cautious of endangered species products that you may unknowingly bring back to the U.S. The most common items include turtle products and alligator bags.

Top Ten Things to Remember while in Mexico

1. Despite its proximity to the U.S. and the prevalence of cultural influences, Mexico is a foreign country.
2. Behave like a guest, and you will be treated like one. Be gracious and tolerant… Mexicans are.
3. Mexico is not perfect, nor is it for everyone.
4. Whenever possible, SPEAK SPANISH. Your hosts will love you for trying. If you don't know a word, ask before using it in your own conversations. It may not be an appropriate word.
5. Mexicans are friendly, gregarious people -- get out and make some friends. Shake hands whenever possible -- it is a great gesture of friendship and respect.

6. Learn more about Mexico and its fascinating history before you go, and be sensitive to Mexico’s 3,000-year-old culture.

7. Do not expect everything to be like it is back home -- that is what makes visiting Mexico such a memorable experience.

8. Get off campus every once in a while and explore this beautiful country.

9. See more than just the beach resorts.

10. When the going gets tough or something goes wrong, see number 2 above.

Buenos Suerte, amigos!!