

fish FOR change

Connection - Education - Conservation - Exploration



Campeche, Mexico



CONNECTION Connection is the heart of our student programs. Students from around the world connect with one another in new environments. Relationships are the foundation of our service projects and fishing.



EDUCATION Fish for Change students are immersed in all elements of education, as both students and teachers. Students learn from guides, instructors, local officials, scientists, and conservationists. Students also teach English in the local schools, and pass on fly-fishing knowledge to local students. Students are constantly engaged and growing in the hierarchy of education, in other words, becoming leaders.



CONSERVATION Fish for Change students engage in local conservation projects that produce real change in real time. Students work with local people on issues including waste management, recycling-based community art projects, reforestation, scientific research, and the protection of local fisheries.



EXPLORATION Fly fishing is our lens for exploration. We study and practice all aspects of the infinite world of fly-fishing, especially as it relates to the local area. In addition to fly-fishing, students engage in other forms of local adventure tourism including snorkeling, diving, paddle boarding, indigenous culture exploration, and more.



Fish for Change is a nonprofit organization that offers international fly fishing programs. Our mission is to use fly-fishing as a platform to make the world a better place by uniting a diverse group of students in wild fisheries where they engage in a variety of initiatives that promote **Connection, Education, Conservation, and Exploration**

Throughout the course of the program, students integrate with local communities and work together on local and global initiatives, including community development projects, mangrove restoration, education based projects with local children, community art projects, trash clean ups and more.

Program Dates

August 1 - 8, 2020

Tuition: \$3,625

(all inclusive except for flight, gear, trip insurance and tips)

Average group size: 6 students/ 2 staff

Itinerary

Saturday

Travel Day and Lodge Introductions

Sunday

Introduction to Saltwater Fly Fishing, fishing with guides and applying new skills, fly tying clinic with Enrico Puglisi, group reflection and writing

Monday

Guided fly fishing, Mayan community outreach, Campeche City Tour, fly tying clinic with Enrico Puglisi, group reflection and writing

Tuesday

Guided fly fishing, boardwalk clean up and conservation circle alongside local Boy Scouts and Lions Club, group reflection and writing

Wednesday

Guided fly fishing, recycled art mural in town, interviewing locals, group reflection and writing

Thursday

Guided fly fishing, chill day, evening turtle sanctuary, group reflection and writing

Friday

Octopus hunting with commercial fisherman, market scavenger hunt, cook and prepare a traditional meal, farewell fiesta with guides and their families, group reflection and writing

Saturday

Departure

Service Projects/ Activities

Throughout the course of summer programs students work on service programs and community development projects

Coastal Clean Up - Students will educate the community on proper disposal of resources and clean up the beaches alongside local kids in Campeche's Boy Scout and Lion's Club Chapters.

Recycled Art Mural - Fish for Change creates recycled art murals in town to add a little sunshine to communities. Program Students, alongside kids from the local community, work together to create uplifting artwork paralleling with Fish for Changes mission.

Local Interviews - Connection is our key pillar with Fish for Change. Students will spend an afternoon conducting interviews with locals and digging deep into their lives and whys.

Enrico Puglisi fly tying course - World renowned fly tier, Enrico Puglisi, will lead students in fly tying courses in the evenings. Flies that students will land tarpon on throughout the course of the week.



Language Immersion - Spanish and English will be heavily taught and practiced throughout the course of the week for both the students and guides.

Mayan Tour - Students will have a chance to dive deep into the Indigenous Mayan culture from their ruins and history to sustaining current projects in their ongoing communities.

Turtle Sanctuary - Through our turtle protection group, nests are relocated and protected from poachers and other predators. Students from around the Yucatan are educated through their efforts and given a sense of ownership, connection, and understanding of these precious species.

Octopus Fishing - Octopus season opens on August 1st. A huge tradition in Campeche, students will have a chance to rig the tools necessary to later on fish for Octopus alongside local fisherman and prepare traditional dishes.



Location

Campeche, a Mexican state on the Yucatán Peninsula, spans limestone hills, rainforests and Gulf of Mexico beaches. Its namesake capital is a colonial-era harbor city with baroque Spanish architecture, cobblestone streets and a walled historic district. Its preserved fortifications include Fuerte de San Miguel, housing Campeche Archaeological Museum displaying finds from Mayan sites including Edzná and Isla de Jaina.



Enrico Puglisi's Casa Clorinda

Casa Clorinda is a colorful, colonial home in the quaint colonial district of Campeche. It comfortably sleeps 8 guests within its inclosing and holds a pool, bbq area, and fly tying operation.



The Fishery and how to prepare

“Constant shots at baby tarpon all day ranging from 5-40lbs. We sight fish the edge of the mangrove forest and sometimes sneak back deep into the mangroves in little pockets and skinny channels. Numerous fish jumped each day and hopefully landed. It’s just a constant acrobatic show that gets your adrenaline pumping. Not to mention, the guides want you to catch the fish more than you want to catch the fish. You can feel the heart they put into it.”

Target Species: Tarpon, Snook, Jack

Flies: Check out gear list below

Boat: Skiffs that comfortably fish 2 anglers

Terrain: Mangrove Forest

Weather: Tropical Climate. Sunny and humid

Cast: An accurate and efficient 40 foot cast is recommended.

Preparing for your trip:

Saltwater fly fishing is a challenging, but rewarding sport. Throughout the course of the week we will cover gear, knots, flies, casting, etc. The best way to prepare for your trip is cast, cast, cast. Find an instructor in your area, get out on the water as often as you can, or set up targets in your backyard. Being confident in your cast will add a lot of value to your days pursuing saltwater slam species.



Travel Information

Airport: Campeche or Merida Airport

Saturday Arrival:

Campeche Airport - You may fly in at any point throughout the day.

Merida Airport - Merida Airport is two hours north of Campeche and accessible by a safe and well paved highway.

Campeche Tarpon's Van service will transport students to the accommodations. Fly into Merida Airport anytime before 2 pm.

Parent/ Guardian will be notified when students arrive at lodge safely between 4pm and 6pm

Campeche Tarpon Driver and Fish for Change staff will greet you at the airport holding a "Campeche Tarpon" sign.

Saturday Departure:

Campeche Airport - You may fly out at any point

Merida Airport - If flying out of this airport, please book a flight after 12pm.

Trip Leaders will help students to check into their flights and secure travel needs.



Packing List:

Fishing Gear

Rods: 9ft - 8 & 9 weight rods

Reels: Saltwater reel holding 200 yards of 20-pound backing

Lines: Saltwater floating line

Leaders:
20,40,60lb flour

Flies: Check our Guide Flies website to buy a custom fly box or Flies or : #1 - #2/0 - Gurgler, EP Mullet, Baby Tarpon Mini Diver

Other: Flats boots or closed toe sandals for wading flats, pliers, clippers, sun gloves, dry bag.

If you are missing items of gear, please notify our team.

Personal Gear

4 long sleeve flats shirts (quick dry, sun protection with a hood is recommended)

4 quick dry flats pants

2 shirts

2 shorts

Pajamas

1 lightweight rain jacket

Lightweight Fleece

1 bathing suit

Bufs (sun protectors for your face)

Toiletries

Bug Spray Sunscreen

Camera

Headlamp

Sunglasses

Hat

Sandals, hiking shoes

Journal and pen (writing every day)

Passport, plane ticket, itinerary, cash

General Considerations

Currency:

There are ATMs in Campeche that can be used to take out Mexican currency, pesos. Guides do accept USD if you would like to bring cash.

Gratuities:

\$300 total is recommended. Guides average tip is \$25 USD per day / per angler and is given to the guide at the end of each day.

Time Zone:

Central Standard Time Zone

Laundry:

Laundry is available at no extra cost

Communication:

Communication: Student Programs are a phone free zone. Students will have access to their phone for photos throughout the course of the week, but no access to WiFi. Reach out to info@fishforchange.org or 1(800) 970 - 8407. Family and friends can also follow along on the daily instagram stories @fishforchange and blog <https://www.fishforchange.org/> blog to keep up on students adventures.

Water Bottle:

Bring a water bottle as we are a plastic free lodge. Purified water is available throughout the lodge. The water is spring fed, filtered and OK to shower and brush your teeth, we recommend staying with bottled water for drinking.

Emergency Contact Info

info@fishforchange.org or 1(800) 970 - 8407

Fish for Change strongly recommends that you enroll with Global Rescue prior to embarking on your trip.

Campeche Student Testimonials

"In our life in America we are surrounded by forever and lasting opportunity. We have the freedom to become whatever we want, the reassurance of our life without worrying about food not being provided to us one day, or being privileged enough to be provided education. The endless opportunity we have is so amazing people would die for it, but yet many Americans never realize it. Many people in other country's have no opportunity, other than becoming an octopus hunter. For 6 months in the year making 4 dollars a day if they are lucky. Not once in my week long trip to Mexico did hear an ounce of complaining of how tough their life is. Many of them live in house holds of three too many, without air conditioning or power. The guides of Campeche who make \$500 less than the average American guide, are the most energetic and passionate guides I have ever been on a boat with. They seem to care about the happiness in their clients eyes rather than the limited amount of money they earn a day. Kids in the streets of Campeche smile so wide not knowing how tough the life they live actually is, they are just happy to live another day. As I walked on the board walk I would hand out bracelets, the kids seemed to glow with excitement about receiving such a simple gift. To them it meant everything, to us it would not mean much. This really makes you reflect while us Americans sit at home with perfect air conditioning watching TV and complain about almost everything we can. Why waste so much opportunity while we can make the world a better place. I guarantee that if you give the opportunity that many of us don't capitalize on to one of the kids in Campeche they would use it and do amazing things in life. The power that we hold is so strong that we can do amazing things with it. Going to Campeche, cleaning up trash with the local Boy Scouts, and being a part of the culture really made me see things in a different perspective. Thanks to Fish for Change I have seen the potential I have for making the world a better place and I would like to use the opportunity that many would die for to do so." - Hugh Himan, 18 years old, Asheville, North Carolina

"The locals of Campeche are some of the most fulfilled human beings this world has ever produced and it has opened up a door of questions and curiosity for other parts of the world. This is my first international trip and definitely not my last. Fish for Change has introduced me to a world of possibilities and an interest to continue exploring." - Thomas Hamilton, 15 years old, San Marcus, Texas