



Mexico EducationUSA Advisers Workshop

Mexico City, Mexico

April 25-27, 2007

Workshop Bulletin #1

We are pleased to host you for our upcoming Mexico Advisers Workshop in Mexico City! This is the first of the pre-workshop bulletins containing important information and instructions that you will need to prepare. Please read this carefully to be sure that you do not miss instructions that will make your travel and attendance at the workshop enjoyable.

Travel: Identification and Tickets

As you know, we are purchasing electronic tickets for each of you. Our travel agent, *Otto Viajes*, will send you your travel itinerary via email. Please print it out and bring it with you to the airport, along with your valid identification, as you will need both of these in order to obtain your boarding pass.

Note: while at the ticket counter the airlines sometimes ask for the credit card with which the ticket was purchased; you may be assured that this is not the case for your ticket. We have pre-verified the credit card with the travel agents as well as confirmed your flight to avoid delay with receiving your e-ticket. This pre-verification will be noted on your electronic ticket.

Transportation from Airport to Hotel

Given the range of arrival times, each of you will be responsible for arranging your own transportation to and from the airport.

Taxi

Do not, under any circumstances, take a taxi off the street from the airport or anywhere in Mexico City. In order to take a secure taxi from the airport to the hotel, you will need to purchase a ticket from a *sitio de taxi* prior to getting into the car. Upon arriving at Benito Juarez International Airport in Mexico City and after passing through baggage claim, you should find several taxi stands inside the main domestic terminal. Be sure that you approach the official sitio de taxi called *Taxi Terrestre*. This taxi company's cars are white with a yellow stripe. If you do not see a *Taxi Terrestre* stand upon exiting baggage claim, then walk to the end of the airport terminal, where you will find another *Taxi Terrestre* stand near the taxis.

Tell the person at the *Taxi Terrestre* stand that you will be going to the Zona Rosa. They will charge you 152 MN for the taxi ride from the airport to the Hotel Geneve. After you have purchased your ticket, turn left and walk to the end of the main airport terminal, where you will find the taxis. Wait in line outside of the terminal for your taxi.

The costs of your taxi will be reimbursed upon arrival to the hotel (for additional information about reimbursement, please see **Money Matters**).

Hotel Information

Hotel Geneve
Calle Londres No. 130 (entre calles Génova y Ambéres)
Colonia Juárez (Zona Rosa)
Tel: 5080-0800
Website: www.hotelgeneve.com.mx

The conference will be held at the Hotel Geneve, centrally located in the popular tourist destination, the Zona Rosa, in the Colonia Juárez. The hotel is near many tourist attractions, the Centro Historico, and the city's two principal avenues, Paseo de la Reforma and Insurgentes. We will provide more information on cultural activities and tourist attractions upon your arrival to Mexico City. Included in all rooms at the Hotel Geneve are a television, wireless internet, air-conditioning, hair-dryer, coffee-maker, telephone, clock radio, safe, ironing board, mini-bar, and bathroom. A gym, spa, and business center are all available for guests' use, as well as a Sanborns café, restaurant, and store which are located on the lobby level.

Each adviser will have their own hotel room, which have been pre-paid. We will be sending your hotel registration and confirmation separately. You will be responsible for paying for any additional expenses you incur and charge to your room (e.g., telephone calls, room service, spa services or laundry). Please see *Meals & Incidentals* in *Money Matters* for additional information.

Time & Weather

Mexico City Standard Time is 1 hour behind Eastern Standard Time (EST).

April falls just before the rainy season, which usually lasts from May through September; however the weather and rain can sometimes be unpredictable in this city, so bring an umbrella just in case. The climate is temperate year round, but from April to October it is warmer, with an average daytime high of 26 C° during the month of April. Mexico City is 2,240 meters above sea level, making nights a bit cooler, with an average low of 11 C° in April, so it is a good idea to bring plenty of layers. Please keep in mind that the conference room may have air conditioning, leaving it a bit cooler than outside during the day.

To see a 5 day forecast closer to your departure date, please visit http://www.weatherforecastmap.com/mexico/mexico_city/

Health in Mexico City

Please be sure to bring information with you about your health insurance provider in the case of an emergency.

Mexico City has a large array of private and public health facilities and pharmacies. Below we have listed several hospitals in the area. Another option is visiting "Farmacias Similares," which offer consultations for 20 pesos as well as over the counter and prescription medicine at relatively low prices.

IMSS U.L.F. 38 Parque España No. 9 Col. Roma Chautemoc (Public) 55 53 61 33	Del. Tel:	Hospital Metropolitano Angeles No. 59 Col. Roma Del. Chautémoc (Private) 55 74 62 33	Grupo Tlacotalpan Tel:	Clinica Londres Durango 50 Col. Roma Del. Chuatemoc (Private) Tel: 52 29 84 00
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Due to the high altitude, visitors to Mexico City often complain of headaches, sleep deprivation and/or exhaustion, so please be sure to drink lots of water during your stay to counteract these effects. Also, please be aware that it is not recommended to consume water directly from the tap in Mexico City. Bottled water will be available in the hotel and during the conference.

Money Matters

Meals & Incidentals

During the workshop, lunch will be provided on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in addition to coffee services. Breakfast will not be provided during the workshop, but the hotel has a restaurant where you can join one another in the morning, or there are a number of cafes and restaurants in the hotel's surrounding area. We recommend that you do not buy food from street stands during your stay in Mexico City.

We will be hosting a reception for all workshop participants and other invited guests on Wednesday evening, April 25th. You will be free to explore and enjoy the restaurants in Mexico City on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and after the workshop ends by 2:30pm on Friday.

Upon arrival and registration at the hotel, advisers will receive funds to cover the costs of meals and incidental expenses not included in the workshop events.

Still have questions about Mexico City?

For further information about places of interest, culture and other topics, visit:

<http://www.mexicocity.gob.mx/>

Previous to traveling to Mexico City you will receive a second email including the agenda, and emergency contact information. If you have questions about anything in this bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact us. We encourage you to visit the Workshop website at

http://www.iie.org/programs/reac/2007_subregional.html

Safe Travels!

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