



Tentative Schedule
for
Program #1950
Train Ride to the Sky: Northern Mexico's Copper Canyon

Note: We strive to provide our participants with the most up-to-date information possible. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, we occasionally need to make adjustments in the schedule or accommodations. Please know that if we do need to make changes, we do so in the best interest of our participants.

Day One		Arrive Fort Davis, TX
Afternoon	Check in to Davis Mountains Education Center (DMEC) at 3:00 PM for rooming assignments and refreshments.	
	At 4:30, meet in the Gathering Place onsite for getting acquainted, orientation, and Mexico guidelines session.	
Dinner	Dinner in the DMEC dining room.	
Evening	Evening astronomy program.	
Accommodations	Davis Mountains Education Center.	
Day Two		Fort Davis to Chihuahua City, MX
Breakfast	Breakfast in the DMEC dining room.	
Morning	Depart for the Presidio/Ojinaga, MX, border crossing. Customs and immigration. Time changes one hour back to Mountain time.	
Lunch	Arrive in Chihuahua City for lunch at a restaurant with local flavor.	
Afternoon	Study Northern Mexico's political history in murals at the Government Palace. Stroll the Pedestrian Mall and examine the architecture of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Chihuahua. Here you will have an opportunity to exchange dollars for pesos.	
Evening	Presentation on the geology and/or anthropology of Northern Mexico in hotel lobby.	
Dinner	Home hosted meal prepared by a Chihuahua City family.	
Accommodations	Holiday Inn Suites.	
Day Three		Chihuahua City to Creel
Breakfast	4:30 wake-up call for transfer to train station. Hotel will provide a light snack, and a full breakfast will be served onboard "El Chepe".	
Morning	Train departs 6:00 AM for the scenic train ride to Creel, also known as "the Gateway to the Copper Canyon".	
Lunch	Transfer to the hotel for lunch.	
Afternoon	Learn about the education of Tarahumara children at a local boarding school. If classes are in session, meet students and speak to teachers about their profession.	

Dinner Dinner at the hotel.

Accommodations Best Western Lodge.

Day Four**Creel to Divisadero**

Breakfast Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning Depart by train for the short scenic ride to Divisadero, the famous northern overlook region of the Copper Canyon.

Lunch Transfer to the hotel for a late lunch followed by a hike to the Tarahumara cave dwellings and surrounding area.

Afternoon Presentation on the geology, language, and culture of the local people.

Dinner Dinner in the dining hall of "El Castillo".

Accommodations Hotel Mansion Tarahumara.

Day Five**Divisadero**

Breakfast Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning Morning activities in the canyon area with bus transfers to different locations. Enjoy fantastic views overlooking various parts of Copper Canyon.

Lunch Picnic lunch, weather permitting.

Afternoon Leisure time to relax, or join the group leader for an optional hike along the rim (distance, difficulty, and timing will be advised).

Dinner Dinner and live music at hotel.

Accommodations Hotel Mansion Tarahumara.

Day Six**Divisadero to Chihuahua City**

Breakfast Breakfast at hotel.

Morning Motor coach back to Chihuahua City, with a stop in Mennonite Country: Mennonite Museum, presentation on the history, culture, and lifestyle of these Mennonites in Mexico.

Lunch Light lunch served.

Afternoon Return to Chihuahua City. Discover the life of Mexico's revolutionary leader at the Pancho Villa Museum and enjoy a Mata Ortiz pottery demonstration.

Dinner Farewell banquet.

Evening Gala performance by the Ballet Folklorica dancers.

Accommodations Hotel San Francisco.

Day Seven **Chihuahua City to Fort Davis, Texas**

Breakfast	Breakfast at the hotel.
Morning	Presentation on the history and production of vanilla. Return to Fort Davis via coach.
Lunch	Sack lunches provided en route. US Customs and Immigration at Presidio, Texas. Time changes back to Central.
Afternoon	Arrive mid-afternoon and explore the Fort Davis National Historic Site. Meet in the Gathering Place, where everyone has a chance to speak of the past week's activities, sharing memories and stories.
Dinner	Gather for West-Texas-style dinner at the DMEC.
Evening	After supper, it's time for some real West Texas entertainment.
Accommodations	Davis Mountains Education Center

Day Eight **Fort Davis, Texas**

Breakfast	Breakfast at DMEC runs from 7:00 to 8:00.
Morning	DMEC shuttle departs from Fort Davis by 8:00 AM to arrive at El Paso Airport by 11:00 AM. For those departing independently, checkout is at 10:00 AM.

Note: Remember that El Paso is in Mountain time.