

2015 level 2 first text

Tourism will be the biggest world industry before the end of the century. Each year, around 500 million trips are made which produce enormous benefits. According to the World Tourism organisation, some 118 million people live off this industry. After having experienced the good tourism conditions of the rich countries, now tourists look for more remote places where they can find something different to the every day: other countries, other natural environments, other villages. Such an experience can be found in Mexico.

The Mancomunados villages of la Sierra Norte of Oaxaca is the unión of 8 villages and an outstanding example of a community that shares resources, land and crops. They open their doors so that the tourist can live a unique experience in contact with the natural environment and culture of the Zapoteca communities situated at an altitude of between 2,000 and 3,000 metres. They cross the more than 100km of rural paths especially designed for walks, mountain biking and horse trips.

“Expeditionas Sierra Norte” is an indigenous ecotourism company that belongs to the Mancomunados villages of Oaxaca. It’s an initiative that wants to conserve the natural and cultural patrimony of the areas through the promotion of responsible tourism of a high quality together with the natural surroundings, the traditions and customs of the people. Through this initiative they create and sustain local jobs that allow the communities to face and overcome some of the more important challenges that limit the well being of the people and the vitality of the ecosystems.

A recommendation in tripadvisor shows the success of the Sierra Norte expeditions:

“Incredible!”

Opinion written 19 January 2015

We spent 5 dias crossing the mancomunados villages with the Sierra Norte expeditions. The truth is that the natural environment as well as the attention of the guides and the ecotourism project were excellent.

All the guides showed lots of willingness to show you their land, share their knowledge about the environment that surrounds them and their knowledge of the culture and history. Our guide spoke English therefore it was fascinating to learn more about the Sierra Norte expeditions as an organisation and a lot about the plants that we saw. We did lots of trips by bike and our guides prepared really delicious food. 100% recommended!