Food Systems Tour – Mexico  
Guadalajara, Jalisco  
April 29 – May 7, 2017

The Program

The 2017 co-curricular ALES Food Systems Mexico tour takes you to the city of Guadalajara and around the state of Jalisco. Over the course of seven days we will be visiting different agri-food businesses “from farm to fork” to study the complexities and challenges of managing issues in agriculture, resources and food in a rapidly changing global environment. Mexico’s strong food industry and its close trade linkages to Canada and the US offer us unique learning experiences through conversations with actual managers and their staff ranging from producers and processors, to exporters and retail businesses. The Food Systems Mexico Tour will give you ample opportunities to connect your classroom knowledge, whether it is nutrition or the environment, production agriculture, trade or social issues in Mexico, to real-world issues and the people engaged in them, adding international context and perspective to your degree.

Highlights

• Explore Guadalajara by bike and learn about its rich food culture
• Mexican heritage in the artisan village of Tlaquepaque
• Experience a Mexican livestock trade showcase and fair
• Visit to the National Center of Genetic Resources of only a few global centers for the preservation of genetic biodiversity
• Pick your own raspberries and blue berries while learning about how Mexican berry and fruit producers export to Canada
• Where do all the Avocados come from? We will visit the tree orchards, a top-notch packaging facility and learn why avocado oil is so tasty and really good for you, too
• Drive by an actual and active volcano
• Learn all about Coconuts, Key Lime, Mangos and Papayas right where they grow on a trip to the pacific coast
• How about a mango peeling and eating competition right on the grounds of Guadalajara’s huge food wholesale market?
• Visit the town of Tequila. Yes, the famous place where the blue agave plants are grown and Mexico’s signature drink is distilled. Tasting is optional ;)

Interested? Next steps...

1) Attend an information session to learn more & ask questions:
   • Monday, October 24 at 5pm in 849 GSB, or
   • Thursday, October 27 at 5pm in 849 GSB

   (deadline November 18, midnight). Apply for additional co-funding through ALES Faculty.

3) Pay deposit, attend pre-trip group sessions, register you trip with the UofA and complete online training modules.

4) Pack you bag and head to the YEG airport for a full week of learning and fun!