

Venezuela

February 19 - March 1, 2011



Participate in this opportunity to visit a people and country where cooperatives abound, education is a priority and health care is available to those in need. Visit with government representatives and church leaders. See the processing of cacao. Contrast the frenzy of Caracas with the calm of the countryside. Meet with ordinary people who have opted for a different economic model, reap the fruits of their labors, and find hope in unexpected places.

The program includes several presentations that orient the participant to the reality of life in Venezuela. For example:

- Learn about grass-roots literacy programs for adults.
- Visit one cacao growing area and witness the chocolate-making process.
- Listen to a vibrant Afro-Caribe youth music and dance group.
- Dialogue with government officials.
- Enjoy a boat ride while bird watching.
- Learn of the Afro-Venezuelan perspective.
- Visit the barrios (housing for the poor) surrounding Caracas and learn of their hope.
- See community run radio and TV stations.
- Experience organic agriculture initiatives.

GLOBAL AWARENESS THROUGH EXPERIENCE

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Welcome to Venezuela

Global Awareness Through Experience (**GATE**) offers the opportunity to learn from the poor, as well as social analysts, teachers, theologians and economists. Since 1981, GATE has offered cultural immersion trips to Latin America as well as Eastern Europe. GATE's experienced staff believes that global solidarity is built on people-to-people experiences and connects participants with the marginalized who, through struggling, find hope and inspiration in their reality.



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"GATE has given me the chance to see realities I would not have known otherwise. Its emphasis on enabling people to help themselves has shown me a model that seems to achieve results that are so beneficial, that I wish all people could be touched by it."

~ Claire M., Wisconsin

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