



Deaf Guide Training Course, Matagalpa, Nicaragua – July 2008.

AccessibleNicaragua in conjunction with Seek Geo and Green Tours are proud to present the “**First American Sign Language (ASL) – Idioma de Señas de Nicaragua (ISN, Nicaraguan Sign Language) Deaf Guide Training Course.**”

The objective of the course is to fill a gap in the current inclusive tourism for people with disabilities market through offering ASL tours to deaf individuals and small groups in Nicaragua which will be provided deaf people.

The course will be held over a 6 day period from 7th – 12th July 2008 at Sueño de la Campana, San Ramón,, Nicaragua.

Program:

Day 1: Monday 7th July 2008:

09.00hrs: **Welcome and Introduction.** Why we are here, what makes a good Tour Guide and the future plan.

10.00hrs: The differences between ASL and ISN.

11.00hrs: Break.

11.15hrs: **ASL Alphabet and Numbers.**

12.30hrs: Lunch.

14.00hrs: **Learning to use Spanish - English Dictionary**, this is vitally important for finger spelling so that the Nicaraguans do not fingerspell in the wrong language. Many deaf people have little experience of using dictionaries and there is also a high illiteracy rate.

15.00hrs: Break

15.15hrs: **Pictures, Dictionaries and Signs**, games using pictures and dictionaries to practise finger spelling. The introduction of complete signs will also be used during these games. For example, a picture of a hotel

maybe shown and the participants will fingerspell the word H-O-U-S-E. They will also be shown the ASL sign for house at this point.

16.30hrs: Reactions and Feedback

16.45 hrs: End of day

Day 2: Tuesday 8th July 2008:

09.00hrs: Welcome and finger spelling and numbers revision.

10.00hrs: **ASL Grammar and Vocabulary – Present Tense**, especially relating to tourism and vacation vocabulary.

11.00hrs: Break

11.15hrs: ASL Grammar and Vocabulary - Present Tense Continued.

12.30hrs: Lunch

14.00hrs: ASL Grammar and Vocabulary - Present Tense Continued.

15.00hrs: Break

15.15hrs: **Present Tense Grammar Games**

16.30hrs: Reactions and Feedback

16.45hrs: End of day

Day 3: Wednesday 9th July 2008:

09.00hrs: Welcome and introduction to the morning's activity. **ASL Tour Game** – participants go out into Matagalpa with the ASL tutors and answer an ASL questionnaire about the city. Groups return and compare answers.

12.30hrs: Lunch

14.00hrs: **ASL Grammar and Vocabulary - Past Tense and Future Tenses.**

15.00hrs: Break

15.15hrs: **Past and Future Grammar Games.**

16.30hrs: Reactions and Feedback

16.45hrs: End of day

Day 4: Thursday 10th July 2008:

09.00hrs: **Welcome and Past, Present and Future Games.**

11.00hrs: Break

11.15hrs: **Learning Routes:** Group to be broken into 3 groups to learn 1 route each. Resources such as the written explanation of the route (in both Spanish and English) maps, photos and dictionaries will be used as learning aids. The organisers of the course will also be at hand to help and encourage the participants.

12.30hrs: Lunch

14.00hrs: Learning Routes Continued.

15.00hrs: **Free Afternoon**

Day 5: Friday 11th July 2008:

09.00hrs: Welcome and Explanation of Today's Fieldtrips.

09.30hrs: **Work Experience:** First pair of tour guides to take group out on an ASL Guided Tour of Familias Especiales.

12.30hrs: Lunch

14.00hrs: **Work Experience:** Second pair of tour guides to take group out on an ASL Guided Tour of Matagalpa.

16.30hrs: Reactions and Feedback

16.45hrs: End of day

Day 6: Saturday 12th July 2008:

10.00hrs: Welcome and **Work Experience**; the final pair of tour guides to take group out on an ASL Guided Tour of Cerro Apante.

13.30hrs: Lunch

15.00hrs: **Recap of the course** and what we have learnt. This time is also so that the organisers can learn about the **participant's experiences** during the course, to gain **feedback and learn how the course can be improved**. This is important if the course is to be replicated at another time. This is also a chance to relax, chat and exchange experiences and learn about each others cultures in ASL.

17.00hrs: End of Course

19.30hrs: End of Course Meal and Celebration.

The Organisers:

AccessibleNicaragua

www.accessiblenicaragua.com

www.craiggrimes.com

Seek Geo;

www.seekgeo.com

Green Tours, Matagalpa