## **Agrotourism Panama Private Tours**

The Republic in Panama might turn into the new hot spot for agrotourism and agricultural / aquicultural productions. Come join our 10 day program and find out about Panama's production capacity!

**Nov. 25, 2008** - <u>PRLog</u> -- Day 1: Your group will be privately pickup at the International Airport by or team of professionals and transported to the 4 star Plaza Paitilla Hotel before starting the agrotourism operation.

Day 2: After starting the day at Panama City's Plaza Paitilla and finishing the provided breakfast the group will head to Tocumen at 40 min from Panama City. In Tocumen we will meet the CEIAT.

900:CEIAT or Centro de Enseñanza e Investigacion Agriocola de Tocumen (Center of Study and Investigaction of Agricultural Science of Tocumen) is a division of the world recognized Panama National Univeristy. Its main objectives are oriented to develop technology in benefit to national producers, as well as formulate action plans and technology transfer to other Faculty sites in the region and Panama. the creation of this center is to develop alternative and answer to the necessities of the agricultural sector at regional level and increment the research on the agro field. The development of seeds resistant to plagues and other diseases are also among the main goals of this center.

1200: Lunch at El Trapiche, one of Panama's best traditional food restaurant.

1300: The group will head out to the Panama Canal Visitor's center where you will have the experience to see the Locks in operation as there is a transit every day at 1400 hours. The group will receive a full explanation and details of the construction and operations of the Panama Canal.

1530: The group will head out to the Soberania National Park to meet with the Embera Puru Indian tribe. A short bus ride will take us thru Panama's Tropical Rain Forest of the Chagres National Park to aboard a private boat. From there the boat will navigate up the Chagres River where we will meet the people of the Embera-Dura indian. We will be able to experience natural sites, strong ethnic content, Embera's tattoos and even lunch in their typical huts!

1730: Or departure will lead to the Cause Way, a famous interconnection of Islands overlooking Panama City. We will stop by My Ranchito, a regional classic restaurant with ocean views to the Panama Canal.

2000: Back to Hotel Plaza Paitilla.

Day 3: After waking up at Panama City's Plaza Paitilla Hotel and finishing the provided breakfast, the group will head out to Chorrera at 30 min from Panama City in order to learn about the pineapple plantations that Verba Ordec S.A. offers.

930:Verba Odrec S.A is family owned an agricultural business that was formed with the idea to position the name of Panama as the country with the best pineapples around the world.

1200: Provided lunch at a Local Restaurant

1300: Depart to Farallon Acuaculture Labs

1500: Arrive Farallon Aquaculture Labs tour led by Dr. Dario Lopez Lead Biologist

Farallon Aquaculture is a company with 15 year operation, leading shrimp production in the region. Has a large infrastructure and laboratories in 5 countries. It is the largest larva producing company in the world.

1700 Finish Tour, Dinner at Restaurante RANCHO RIO

1800 Depart to Santiago de Veraguas

Day 4: After starting the day at the Hotel Gran David at Santiago, we will proceed to visit the Herman Gnagi farm.

900: The Hermann Gnaegi agrotourism tour begins visiting a processing that dedicates to exporting products like melons, watermelons, squash that are constantly exported to its main markets, Europe and United States.

1200: Provided Lunch at Herman Gnaegi's.

1400: We will also visit the biggest Grass Plantation in Panama; Utilized in the best gardens developed by touristic projects and urban developments in Panama.

1530: We will make a stop in one of the oldest projects built in the 50's related to rice

Day 5: After waking up at Santiago de Veraguas and finishing the provided breakfast, the group will proceed to;

900: Meeting with Mr. Carlos Chong, a teak specialist with over 20 years of experience in the region and owner of a successful teak plantation of 240 hectares of 15 year old teak trees.

1200: Provided lunch at a local restaurant.

1330: We will head down south to the Cocle province of Panama at about 40 min from the Hotel. The topic of the day will be the organic fruit cultivation and forestry management techniques provided by Mr. Jose Ortega, owner of finca ATINA. This tour will take a full day and lunch will be provided at the farm.

1700:After the tour is finished, the group will head back to the Hotel at Santiago for some rest until the following day.

Day 5: After learning about the organic fruit production and forestry management systems at Cocle, the group will head out to Boquete at aproximately 3.5 hours of drive from Divisa and over 3000 feet above sea level. Boquete has a very fresh weather and environment. Once we arrive, the group will check in and accommodate at Hotel Fundadores.

Boquete is a relatively small town with shops, restaurants, park and considered a small Switzerland by many people. The center of Boquete offers points of interest at walking distance, we will provide a general overviewing tour of the area for the first day as we will arrive in the afternoon. The group will be free to enjoy Boquete that evening.

Day 6: After waking up at the Hotel Fundadores and finishing the provided breakfast, the group will experience the following itinerary;

0800 Start the Boquete Coffee Farm Tour.Palo Alto Coffee has produced several award winning coffee

brands including the prestigious Best Choice award in 2006. Today Panamanian coffee has set records in international markets in regards to highest quoted value price and quality

1200 Lunch at a Local Restaurant in town.

1300 Tour to a local potato and onion producer.

1430 Tour to the Hot Springs

1700 Back to Hotel Founders

Day 7 The group will start the day at the Hotel Bambito.

After breakfast, the group will start the following itinerary;

900: Lamusa Trout Farm (Largest Trout Exporter in Panama).

1000: CFR farm: they produce animals of the highest genetic quality with characteristics such as easy birth delivery, fertility and abundant milk production so that the national and international producers may obtain calves with greater weight upon weaning and high growth during their development. The group will witness a live artificial insemination at their laboratories.

1200: Back to Hotel Bambito in order to have lunch and some rest.

1400: Finca Dracula: has 2200 different species of orquids including the largest Dracula Orquid collection with 225 different species and all for export. It has won international awards in different orquid expos around the world. The backbone of this farm is lab on which they have produced over 500 genetically modified plants

1600: Back to Hotel Bambito in order to relax.

Day 8: The group will start the day at the Hotel Bambito once more.

After breakfast, the group will start the following itinerary;

900: Visit the archaeological barriles, place were you will learn about the culture of the first residents of this region.

1030: Coffee tour on horses through the coffee plantation. The group will be able to try the product that morning.

1200: Back to Hotel for lunch and rest.

1400: Tour to Cerro Punta Straberry farms and vegetable farms.

1700: Back to Hotel for Dinner and rest.

Day 9: Tour members will start the day at the Founders Hotel and will have the included breakfast. After finishing breakfast, the group will get ready to depart to Panama City at 10 am. The drive is approx 6 hours to the Panama City Hotel. There will be flexibility to make stops on the way. At 12 md we will stop to have lunch at a traditional restaurant which will be included.

Day 10: Tour members will be privately picked up the Paitilla Hotel at the specified time with the group in

order to fly out of Panama. Breakfast is included. We hope this agrotourism program fits you well and looking forward to touring with you!

http://www.panamaprivatetours.com http://www.panamacruise.com.pa

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Panama Private Tours is a consortium of multilingual experienced guides from the Republic of Panama. Their offerings includes transportation, a variety of tours, yacht rentals, fishing charters, real estate tours and activities throughout Panama.

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