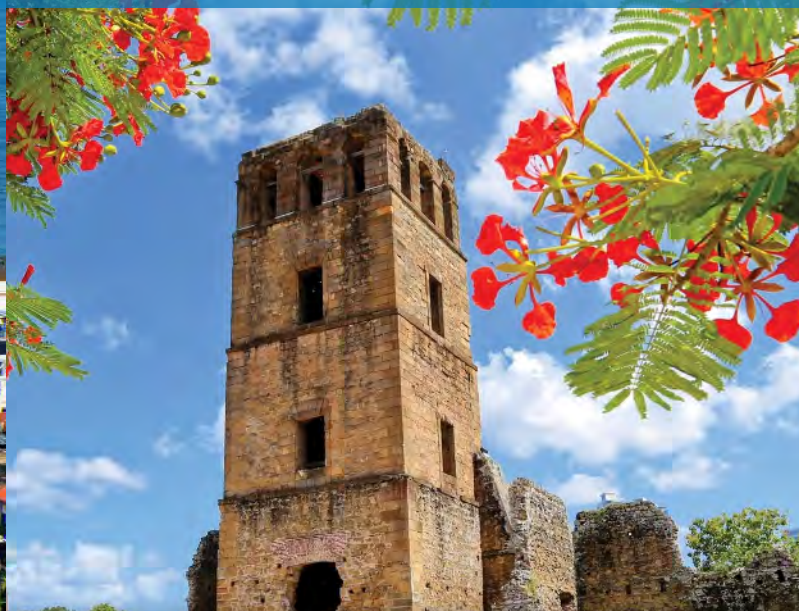




SAN DIEGO
DIPLOMACY
COUNCIL

CULTURAL DIPLOMACY TOUR: PANAMA APRIL 1-5, 2024

By Invitation of the San Diego Diplomacy Council
Open to Members and guest(s)



Space is limited! Register now to secure your spot

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INCLUDED

Accommodations as selected

Daily ground transportation and walking tours

Select elevated group meals and authentic dining (including tips)

Fully guided tour with local guides and specialists

Private Lecture series with local experts and influencers (engaging to both attorneys and non-attorney guests)

Admission to all venues / attractions in program

Travel Tips and Guidance

NOT INCLUDED

Round trip airfare to/from Panama and associated fees

Airline baggage fees

Gratuities for guide and driver

Additional meals not listed in itinerary

Incidentals / Individual hotel expenses

Trip cancellation insurance



JOURNEY TO PANAMA

The San Diego Diplomacy Council invites you and your guest(s) to join our exclusive delegation to Panama.

Our specially designed program will explore Panama's rich cultural heritage and go beyond tourist corridors by engaging with local scholars, officials, industry experts, activists and artists offering in-depth commentary on the Panamanian political system, international relations, economics, history, environmental justice, and religion.

\$150 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
REGISTER BY SEPT. 30 AND SAVE!

FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER ONLINE PLEASE VISIT
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AT A GLANCE: PANAMA

DAY 1 ARRIVAL
Monday April 1 (D)
Panama City, Casco Viejo



DAY 2
Tuesday April 2 (B, L)
Panama City, Panama Viejo



DAY 3
Wednesday April 3 (B, L,)
Panama Canal, City of Knowledge



DAY 4
Thursday April 4 (B,L,D)
Gamboa Town & Rainforest



DAY 5 DEPARTURE
Friday April 5th (B)



OPTIONAL
EXCURSIONS
AVAILABLE UPON
REQUEST

Biajo Beach
Bocas del Toro
Playa Blanca
Portobelo Beach
Toboga Island & Agua Clara



JOURNEY TO PANAMA

SAN DIEGO DIPLOMACY COUNCIL

Itinerary subject to change and final confirmations.

Program schedule will be adapted to enrolled participants and special requests are encouraged.

Day 1 Monday April 1

Morning

Delegates arrive at **Tocumen International Airport (PTY)**. Airport Transfer to our hotel included.

Panama City has a diverse and cosmopolitan culture, with influences from Spanish, African, Native American, and European heritage. It has a modern skyline, a historic center, and many world class attractions including museums, parks, markets, and nightlife.

Afternoon

Check-in to the your Hotel (**Standard and Premium options available**)

Casco Viejo, Panama

Our hotel is located in the charming **Casco Viejo**, also known as **Casco Antiguo** or the **Old Quarter**. In your free time enjoy the cobblestone streets, beautiful colonial mansions, churches, plazas, and Spanish landmarks. It is also a lively area with many restaurants, bars, shops, and cultural events.

For the early arrivals: Optional visit to **Parque Natural Metropolitano (Metropolitan Natural Park)**. A unique urban wildlife refuge with lush landscape and stellar viewpoints.

4:00pm

Guided walking tour of the Casco Viejo historic center, named an **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1997. **Casco Viejo**, also known as **Casco Antiguo** or the **Old Quarter**, is the historic district of Panama City, Panama.

This walking tour will cover important plazas, impressive churches, and the unique history and urban renewal of Panama. Casco Viejo was founded in 1673 after the original Panama City, located nearby, was destroyed by the Welsh pirate **Henry Morgan**. The Spanish colonial authorities decided to establish a new settlement on a small peninsula jutting into the Pacific Ocean, which provided a natural defense against pirate attacks.

Evening

Welcome dinner and reception with live entertainment and Guest Speaker(s).

Day 2 Tuesday April 2

Morning

Breakfast is served daily inside our hotel.

US-PANAMA RELATIONS: Panamanian and Regional LatAm Perspectives

This morning we meet with representatives of Panama's *Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores* (**Ministry of Foreign Relations**) and/or representatives of leading International NGOs based in Panama City.

Panama Past & Present: Panoramic City Tour

After our morning lecture, we travel through time and depart for a panoramic tour of the new and old Panama City.

Panama Viejo are ruins of the original Panama City, now a historical site and archaeological park offering a glimpse of the past. We enjoy a guided tour of the ancient city's remains and fortifications, as well as stellar views of modern Panama City.

From Panama Viejo, we travel to modern Panama City's financial and business center for lunch and professional meetings. Panama City today is well known for its impressive skyline and skyscrapers, especially in the financial district of **Punta Paitilla** and **Punta Pacifica**, representing a mix of contemporary architecture and historical buildings.

Afternoon

Group lunch in the financial sector with views of Panama Bay.

After lunch, guided visit to the *Parque Natural Metropolitano* (**Metropolitan Natural Park**) or optional **sailing or watersport activities** off Panama Bay.

Alternatively, some may wish to remain in the financial district for a presentation on **Offshore Banking, Financial Services, and Panama's Global Finance Influence**.

Remainder of the evening free. Dinner on your own.

Day 3 Wednesday April 3

Morning

US-PANAMA RELATIONS PART 2: U.S. Legal and Diplomatic Perspectives

This morning we meet with personnel at the US Embassy for a briefing on US-Panama relations and an open and off-the-record dialogue. Topics may include **anti-corruption efforts, environmental justice, tax evasion, money laundering and transparency, cryptocurrency and blockchain regulation, data privacy and cybersecurity, and intellectual property protection**.

From the US Embassy, we travel to the *Ciudad del Saber* (**City of Knowledge**). The City of Knowledge is a regional hub for major international organizations, such as the **Red Cross** and the **United Nations**, as well as logistics and other multinational companies. The location is a former US Army base, remodeled with LEED sustainable construction certification. **City of Knowledge Foundation** is a nonprofit organization that manages *Ciudad del Saber* with the mission to drive social change through humanism, science and business.

Navigating the Crossroads: International Trade and Panama's Role as a Global Gateway

Group Lunch with invited guest speaker. Topics may include an **overview of trade and international commerce**, the significance of the panama canal in facilitating global trade, free trade agreements including the **U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement**, an examination of Panama's **customs regulations and procedures**, discussion of **tariff structures and duty exemptions**, an exploration of mechanisms used to attract foreign investment, **intellectual property protection** in the context of trade agreements, **dispute resolution** mechanisms, and **future trends in global trade**.

Afternoon

Panama is world-famous for its 48-mile canal that connects the Pacific Ocean with the Atlantic Ocean.

This afternoon we visit the Panama Canal and the **Miraflores Locks Visitors Center**. Together with our guide we observe the locks and operations as enormous ships move through the canal.

Each year, over a million people visit the canal and are able to witness this engineering marvel at work. Panama is very proud to have this magnificent creation operating 365 days a year, enabling the world's cargo to be shipped efficiently and safely to new destinations.

Return to hotel/free evening.



Day 4

Thursday April 4

Morning

After breakfast we depart towards **Gamboa** and **Gatun Lake**, located 45 minutes from Panama city. It not only hides a great natural wealth, but also a cultural heritage. Besides being an important tributary that feeds one of the most important lakes for the functioning of the Canal, in its village at least four communities live in the **Embera** ethnic group.

This morning we visit a local indigenous community where we can appreciate their traditional lifestyle, unique dances, learn about their struggles to maintain and preserve their heritage. We will also have the opportunity to support the community and purchase handmade crafts and souvenirs.

We enjoy a traditional lunch at the community or continue for lunch in Gamboa.

We continue by boat across the Panama Canal waters, visiting islands and canals with a majestic wildlife and flora, white-headed and howler monkeys, different kind of birds, sloths, turtles, caimans and crocodiles.

Afternoon

Group visit or Lunch at Gamboa Rainforest Hotel with a view to the rainforest and Gatun Lake Panama Canal.

Land, Life, and Legacy: Indigenous Rights and Environmental Challenges in Panama

At lunch we welcome environmentalists and indigenous rights advocates to receive education focused on environmental justice and indigenous rights in Panama. Topics may include **land disputes**, resource conservation, deforestation and habitat loss, **environmental regulation and enforcement**, **cultural heritage**, **human rights**, and **international cooperation**, and community empowerment.

After lunch we explore Gamboa, a small town in the Colón Province close to the Panama Canal and the Chagres River. It was built to house employees of the Panama Canal and their dependents, and it is still the headquarters of the Dredging Division of the Panama Canal Authority.

Before returning to Panama City, we visit the **Gamboa Sloth Sanctuary** or meet with a sustainable tropical design expert to learn about the architecture and advanced design of the town of Gamboa. The Gamboa Sloth Sanctuary is a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center for sloths and other animals, operated by the **Pan American Conservation Association**. The sanctuary offers an opportunity to see and learn about sloths and their conservation, as well as other attractions such as a frog terrarium, a butterfly enclosure, and a botanical garden.

Evening

Panama City Farewell dinner and live entertainment.

Day 5

Friday April 5

Morning

Departure Day, or extend your stay in Panama.

Airport Transfers on this day are included in the cost of the program.



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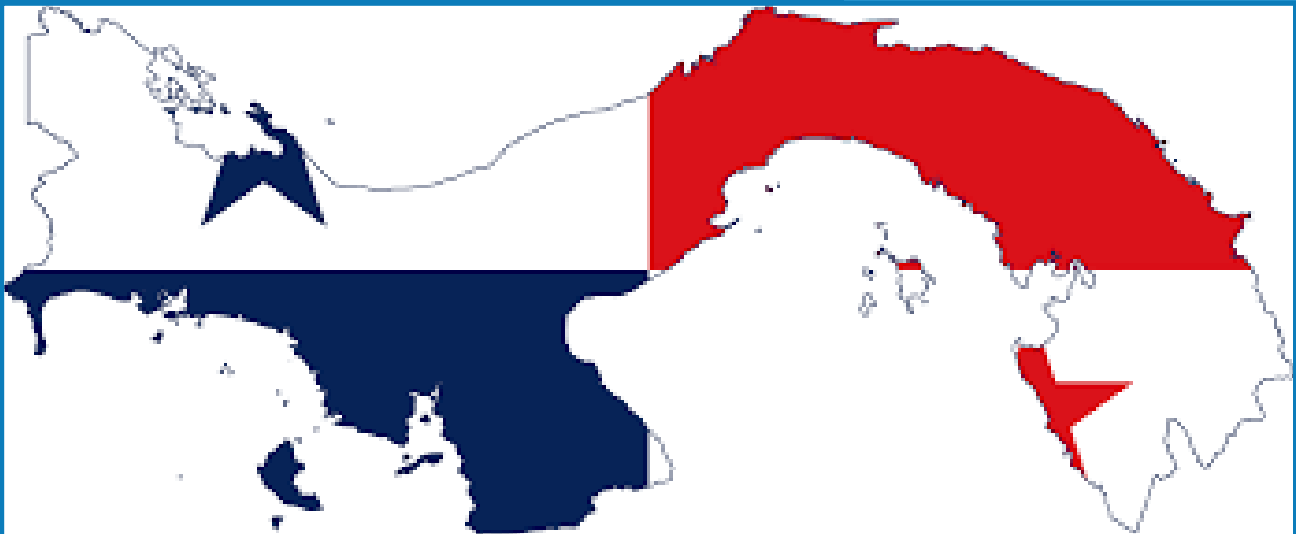
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