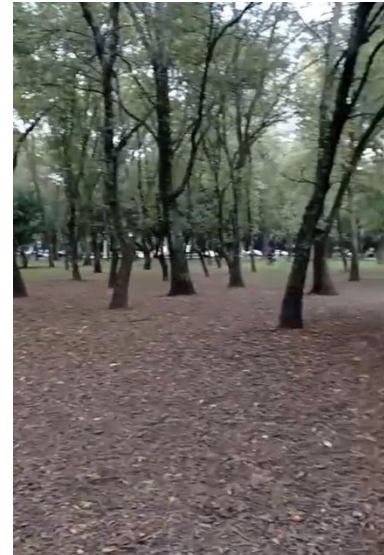


Project Green Challenge 2023 – Day 8 Greenest Category

Los Aprendices – Conrado Manuel Guzmán Flores, Fabiola López Bautista & Uriel Jamir Martínez Hernández, Conrado, (ASU Masters in Sustainability Leadership Program), Mexico City.

We set out to Gandhi Park in Mexico City! My favorite park 25 min away biking from where I live. Whenever I need walking in the trees that's not far away this is where I go. Talking about hyperlocal!

Snap three pictures of your surroundings. If you're adventuring virtually, take screenshots.



What are you seeing?

Parque Gandhi houses important museums in Mexico City and it's a smaller section of the larger Bosque de Chapultepec (Think Central Park NY, or Golden Gate Park SF). Every weekend the park is filled with families, tourists, and friends like us doing many activities.

What animals, plants, and other species do you notice?

The park is home to squirrels and many bird species, I once spotted a ringtail (cacomixtle in Spanish). Ash trees, Jacarandas, Ailes, Pines, Cedars, and centennial Montezuma Cypresses (Taxodiums) are part of the vegetation.

How would you describe the environment?

A few meters into the park from the street it suddenly becomes so quiet, and you start hearing people and birds singing. The greenery is so calming and just walking here turns my thoughts. Sitting in the grass watching people, children, and dogs walk by highlights how accessible this place is. During the week people come to this park to work out, I've ran here a couple times.

Share the intention you expressed pre-adventure. How did it inform your journey?

With such short notice we decided for a centric place that would fit the challenge. I arrived biking and my friends my public transportation (there's a subway station just outside the park). I brought our lunch that included: tea and water in reusable containers, the leftover lentils from our cooking on Saturday, two

loaves of bread, apples, and home-made peanut butter in a glass jar all on top of a picnic tablecloth, no single use plastics, only napkins. We didn't plant to stay too long, but Uriel brought an umbrella just in case. This is a familiar place open to everyone so no need to pay a fee.

Were you able to stick to the plan? If not, how did you adapt?

We set to meet in the main entrance, but it was closed because there were some sports events this morning, so we texted each other to meet at another entrance closer to Gandhi Park section.

How did the experience make you feel? Has it strengthened your relationship to the Earth and our individual and collective responsibility towards the environment?

A few months ago, we went to a Biosphere Reserve and there's this river that is insanely beautiful. The first time I was there in 2010 I didn't even pay a fee, this time the fee was pricy, and I was upset. However, the local guide explained after the pandemic ecotourism exploded in the area and people were damaging the environment so new regulations had to be set in place. Everyone has a right to the outdoors and the better informed, educated, and prepared we are, the less our impact will be. This is the importance behind Leave No Trace, I'm a proud follower of the organization. Visiting Gandhi Park in Mexico City reminds me of this experience and the importance of Leave No Trace wherever we go in life. We do share a collective responsibility and it was great to remember that with our group.

Video: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CyKSbtot801/>



The image shows a screenshot of an Instagram post. On the left is a video thumbnail of a man with glasses and a goatee, wearing a white t-shirt with a graphic that says "TO FIND GOOD PLACES" around a globe. The right side of the screenshot shows the post's interface: the user "gfconrad" has posted an audio original. A comment from "gfconrad" with the hashtag #PGC2023 discusses the importance of following Leave No Trace principles. A reply from "stephgordillo_" says "Mi influencer top". The post has 1 like and is 2 hours old. At the bottom, there are icons for heart, comment, share, and bookmark, along with a text input field for comments and a "Publicar" button.

Video: <https://www.instagram.com/stories/gfconrad/3209298037166092938/>



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