Camionetas are public buses in Guatemala (a country in Central America) that are usually old schools buses from the United States that have been remodeled with luggage racks and longer seats. They are usually painted bright colors, too. Buses go almost everywhere in Guatemala. It is not unusual for a local family of five to squeeze into seats that were originally designed for two children.

Many English-speaking travelers know these vehicles as “chicken buses” because passengers bring their chickens, along with other items for the market, on the bus with them. Guatemalan buses are frequent, crowded, and inexpensive. Most camionetas will stop anywhere, for anyone. To get in a camioneta, simply stand beside the road with your arm out parallel (level) to the ground.