

Educational Travel Experience Designed Especially for Maryland International School



Service-Learning in Santiago - 295905-2

April 2 - April 9, 2020

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

- DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM YOUR AIRPORT - ARRIVE SANTIAGO (7 NIGHTS) - WELCOME DINNER
- DAY 2 SANTIAGO - ORIENTATION - SERVICE PROJECT
- DAY 3 SANTIAGO - SERVICE PROJECT - DANCE LESSON
- DAY 4 SANTIAGO - SERVICE PROJECT - HAITI/D.R. RELATIONS - DAJABON
- DAY 5 SANTIAGO - SERVICE PROJECT - COOKING LESSON
- DAY 6 SANTIAGO - SERVICE PROJECT - CENTRO LEON - FAREWELL DINNER
- DAY 7 EXCURSION TO PUERTO PLATA
- DAY 8 DEPARTURE SANTIAGO

ITINERARY

The Dominican Republic is one of the Caribbean's most geographically diverse countries, with stunning mountain scenery, desert scrublands, colonial architecture and beaches galore. The country's past is writ large in the physical design of its towns and cities, with cobblestone streets where conquistadors once roamed contrast with the scars from decades of misrule. Dominicans appreciate their down time; the social glue of the DR is the all-night merengue that blasts from modest corner stores which are great windows into the culture, so take the chance to join the fun!

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|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Educational Tour/Visit | Cultural Experience | Festival/Performance/Workshop | Tour Services |
| Recreational Activity | LEAP Enrichment | Match/Training Session | |



DAY 1 Thursday, 02 April 2020

- Relax and enjoy your scheduled flight North America (by own arrangements).
- Our International Studies Abroad (ISA) Resident Director will meet us at the airport to escort us to our hotel and will be available to the group throughout the tour.
- Our International Studies Abroad Program Director will meet us at the airport, and our private coach will be waiting to transfer us to Santiago.
- One of the oldest settlements in Spain's New World empire, Santiago de los Caballeros is the country's second-largest city, spilling over its original border, the Río Yaque del Norte. The city feeds off the large-scale tobacco and sugarcane plantations that make up much of the topography of the surrounding valley floor. Santiago is a good place to familiarize yourself with the ordinary Dominican's way of life; the barrios maze of haphazardly constructed homes contrasts with the mansions in the neighborhood of Cerros de Gurabo. But all strata of society cheer for the hometown baseball team; Águilas Cibaeñas.
- This evening, we will enjoy a welcome dinner in a local restaurant.
- Our base for the next seven nights will be Santiago (area). While here, we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
*The Hotel Platino has been requested.
- Daily Reflection and Group Discussion
"We do not learn from experience, we learn from reflecting on experience" - John Dewey
On every evening of the program, we will set time aside to update our Reflection Journal and share thoughts and impressions that have come to the fore in the course of the day.

DAY 2 Friday, 03 April 2020

- Ahead of our service-learning project, we will participate in an orientation session, which will include a program overview and safety briefing.
- We will have use of a private coach and driver for our transfer to our service location.
- This morning, take part in our group service-learning project with Acción Callejera. Acción Callejera - Fundación Educativa, Inc. is a non-profit institution that, since 1989, promotes actions that guarantee the fundamental rights of children and adolescents in social risk in Santiago, Dominican Republic, through the comprehensive offer of support programs that lead to the understanding of their difficulties and improve their living conditions.
- Join your International Studies Abroad resident director on a bus tour of Santiago City.
- Our tour will include the The Monumento a los Héroes de la Restauración; Fort San Luis; Duarte Park and the The Cathedral of St. James the Apostle, which was briefly used as a fortress in the so-called "war of restoration".
- Lunch is included on service days at Square One.



DAY 3 Saturday, 04 April 2020

- This morning, take part in our group service-learning project.
- Enjoy a Dance lesson! Dance and music are an integral part of everyday life in the Dominican Republic. Merengue, which was adapted from European dances, with Afro-Caribbean flavors and lively rhythms, is the most popular form of Dominican dance.
- Spend the afternoon at an exchange activity with local students, and we will also have snacks.

DAY 4 Sunday, 05 April 2020

- This morning, take part in our group service-learning project.
- We will have a private coach and driver for our excursion to Dajabon today.
- Dajabón is located on the border with Haiti. It is a market town with a population of about 40,000, north of the Cordillera Central mountain range. The city was initially founded around 1771 but was soon after abandoned during the War of Independence. It was settled again shortly after the Restoration War in 1865. The bridge across the river connects Dajabón to its larger Haitian sister city of Ouanaminthe. On Mondays and Fridays, Haitians are permitted to temporarily cross the bridge to sell their goods.
- Take part in a discussion about Haiti-Dominican Republic Relations. The two countries coexist on the island of Hispaniola although tension began during colonial times and have developed into nearly constant conflict between the two governments. The political division of the island is due largely to the European struggle for control of the New World during the 17th century, when France and Spain began fighting for control of the island and resolved their dispute in 1697 by splitting the island. Shortly following Independence in the 19th century, a group of Dominican military officers favored uniting with Haiti under the presidency of Haitian Jean-Pierre Boyer. However, Boyer had agreed to pay compensation to France for the loss of territory, and effectively forced the Dominicans to foot the bill. This measure ultimately led to the Dominican War of Independence in 1843.



DAY 5 Monday, 06 April 2020

- This morning, take part in our group service-learning project.
- This evening we will take part in a cooking lesson, and learn to create some traditional food from the Dominican Republic.



DAY 6 Tuesday, 07 April 2020

- This morning, take part in our group service-learning project.
- We will visit Centro León. The Eduardo León Jimenes Cultural Centre, better known as Centro León (León Centre), is an indispensable visit if you want to know in depth the culture and the arts of the region of El Cibao and, in general, of the Dominican Republic.
- Our International Studies Abroad Program Director will meet us at the airport, and our private coach will be waiting to transfer us to Santiago.
- Tonight, we will enjoy a special farewell dinner at Camp David as a group to bring closure to your experience.



DAY 7 Wednesday, 08 April 2020

- We will have use of a private coach and driver for our day trip to Puerto Plata today.
- Squeezed between a towering mountain and the ocean is this working port town, Puerto Plata is the oldest city on the north coast. A cable car will take us to the top of the enormous flat-topped Pico Isabel de Torres which offers spectacular views of the city and coastline, and also features botanical gardens and a large statue of Christ the Redeemer. Spend time in Central Park, a traditional social gathering place surrounded by the City Hall, the Palace of Justice and other government office buildings. We will also visit the Fortaleza San Felipe, which serves as a museum showcasing the important role it has played in the history of the Republic.

DAY 7 Wednesday, 08 April 2020



Final Reflection and Discussion Session

This evening we make the final entries in our Reflection Journal and share some of the most significant observations and perspectives that have taken shape in the course of our travel experience and how these may be most relevant for us all as we return home.

DAY 8 Thursday, 09 April 2020



Our rewarding and enjoyable tour comes to an end as our Program Director accompanies us to the airport on our final day.



Recognize Perspectives and Communicate Ideas:

3 College Preparatory Credits Through the University of California at San Diego Extension
As a result of participating on this program, all high school students are eligible to take an online Global Perspectives course through a learning management system, where all the grading and assessment will be undertaken by the WorldStrides Curriculum and Academics team, led by Wendy Amato, PhD.

The course offers 3 college preparatory credits through the University of California at San Diego Extension, where credit will be awarded upon successful completion of the online coursework with all costs associated with the course covered by WorldStrides.

