



Discover Corps

VACATIONS WITH PURPOSE



Nature & Wildlife Adventures

Cultural Explorations

2019 CATALOG



DEAR FELLOW TRAVELERS,

I am profoundly excited to share with you our 2019 trip catalog. While this catalog is new for 2019, the Discover Corps mission is the culmination of a lifetime of events for me.

In 1996 I joined the Peace Corps, where I lived and worked in Central America for two years. During this time, I worked alongside local community groups to improve water quality for a rural village. But besides the volunteer project, I learned to see country through the eyes of a local. I shared in their challenges and triumphs, and even today, remain an advocate for my host community. Since then I have longed to give travelers a taste of my Peace Corps experience; to take them behind the scenes of the innovative community-based work that is happening all over the world. This was the genesis of Discover Corps.

On February 17, 2006, the day my first daughter was born, it became clear that our travels would take on a whole new dimension. Journeys with our daughter would become infused with a deeper purpose: passing down values such as global citizenship and cross-cultural understanding. When our second daughter was born, the depth of purpose became even more significant.

As we built Discover Corps, my daughters reminded me that volunteering and traveling also needs to be fun and comfortable. If we were going to succeed in our mission of providing purposeful travel for families and friends, we had to focus on five key components:

- **Vacations must be fun, comfortable, and safe**
- **We must provide access to people, places, and events that most travelers rarely get to see**
- **Experiences must go beneath the surface; we must offer deep local immersion through local relations and activities like volunteer projects, workshops and excursions**
- **Local expert guides must provide the context and story that brings experiences to life**
- **Travel must be sustainable and responsible in practice with a bias towards local partnerships**

Over the years, our network of community partners and Discover Corps travelers have created a type of travel that helps make the world a better place. We hope to welcome you soon to join us as an advocate for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities.



Andrew Motiwalla
Founder & Director of Discover Corps

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Our Mission

The mission of Discover Corps is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable vacations for families and friends.



Defined Purpose

We collaborate with local community-based organizations to create hands-on projects and activities that impact the local people and wildlife in an authentic and inspiring way. Each trip differs in the amount of volunteering and workshops offered, so be sure to look at the “Volunteer Time” tab on each trip page to get a full picture of what your purposeful project looks like.

Cultural Immersion

Gain access to people and places that most travelers never get to see. Whether it's dinner with a local family in a small fishing village in the Galápagos Islands or working with conservationists collecting data in the Kenyan savannah, participate in cultural exchange with those who call these small communities home.

Comfort & Safety

Savor authentic and immersive experiences without the rough conditions. While experiencing life outside your comfort zone is part of what makes a volunteer vacation so powerful, we believe in making this happen with safety top of mind. Rest peacefully in our portfolio of unique lodges that welcome families, enjoy pure drinking water throughout the trip, and get to know caring guides and experienced drivers who are there to support you and make you feel at home along the way.



Fun for Everyone

Our trips combine volunteering with cultural exchange opportunities, but all vacations are designed to be fun for families and friends. Enjoy the flexibility to explore on your own, experience the must-see sites of a country, and find yourself on adventurous excursions that will give everyone something to talk about.





OUR APPROACH

- **SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL PRACTICES.** We believe that responsible travel has the potential to positively impact the planet and its people. By working with community groups and conservationists, we create financial incentives to preserve the cultural heritage and natural wonders that make our world special.
- **PURPOSEFUL ITINERARIES.** Every Discover Corps itinerary is designed around a unique purpose that connects travelers to local communities in a meaningful way, and gives a deeper understanding of a unique and extraordinary part of the world.
- **LOCAL EXPERT GUIDES.** Our expert guides are more than just a resource to answer questions and support you in your travels. They are passionate about their communities and eager to share with you every step of the way.
- **STRONG LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS.** Because we partner with community-based organizations, you will experience authentic encounters with diverse cultures. Local people will share their stories of life as a teacher, conservationist, mother, student, or child in a different corner of our world.
- **TURNKEY SERVICE.** Our experienced team makes planning your vacation simple and stress-free, and our all-encompassing pricing ensures you get an outstanding experience with no hidden charges. Our expert team hand picks each hotel, restaurant, and activity in order to provide a safe and unforgettable journey.



WHO TRAVELS?

FAMILIES

In addition to children's pricing and departures during school vacations, families value the opportunities for their children (including teens) to connect with young people from other countries. Some trips offer collaboration with local students, while other trips provide intimate encounters with native wildlife, but all promise to enlighten and inspire all ages by offering once-in-a-lifetime experiences. The best part? Your family creates memories that will last forever.



WOMEN-ONLY TRIPS

Look for the "W" in the calendar inserted in the back of this catalog for our trip dates designated for women-only. Connect with other mothers and daughters or solo women travelers looking for a unique experience with other like-minded women. There are dates available for all regions!



FRIENDS

Reconnect with friends in a way you won't soon forget. Bond over shared experiences, enjoy the time away from the stresses of everyday life, and create lasting traditions. Whether it's a far-away destination scouting for lions or a community project closer to home, there is no better way to gather than putting the right foot forward while traveling abroad.



CUSTOM & PRIVATE GROUPS

Traveling in a group of six or more? We can design a custom travel experience and departure date just for you. Corporate retreats, alumni associations, family reunions - you name it, we'll make it happen, all while preserving the authentic, inspiring moments that define a Discover Corps trip. Plus, those traveling with just six or more can enjoy up to \$250 off per traveler!



SOLO TRAVELERS

While all itineraries are family-friendly, solo travelers also feel right at home on our trips. When possible, we pair you with another solo traveler of the same gender to keep lodging costs down. Alternatively, single rooms are available for an additional fee.



ALUMNI

Our alumni are some of our most loyal travelers. Not only do alumni enjoy a \$250 discount per person when traveling with us again and again, but they can now earn a \$250 travel credit when they refer someone who books with Discover Corps (plus, those who are referred get a travel credit as well!). Just our way of saying thank you to those spreading our mission. More details included in the Trip Calendar.





TYPES OF TRIPS



Extend your trip with a *Post-Trip Extension*

NATURE & WILDLIFE ADVENTURES

Join conservationists and researchers working to protect some of earth's most beautiful and endangered species. Go behind the scenes and learn firsthand about their efforts. Whether releasing baby sea turtles into the ocean in Costa Rica or bathing elephants in their natural habitat in Thailand, you'll experience intimate encounters with animals that you will never forget.

During these journeys, stay at beautiful eco-friendly properties nestled in areas with rich biodiversity.

NATURE & WILDLIFE ADVENTURES INCLUDE:

Australia: Beachside Wildlife Adventure	p.32
Belize: Wildlife Safari	(See Website)
Belize: Wildlife Volunteer Adventure	p.46
China: Panda Conservation Adventure	p.22
Costa Rica: The Sea Turtle Initiative	p.48
Costa Rica: Family Volunteer Adventure	p.50
Costa Rica: Wildlife Safari	p.52
Croatia: Dolphins & Islands Expedition	p.58
Cuba: Preserving Nature's Wonders	p.40
Galápagos: Wildlife Odyssey	(See Website)
Galápagos: Family Volunteer Vacation	p.60
India: Tiger Volunteer Adventure	(See Website)
Kenya: Safari & Conservation	p.16
South Africa: Wildlife Conservation Experience	p.18
Thailand: Elephants & Islands Expedition	p.24
Thailand: Wildlife Safari	p.30
Thailand: The Baby Elephant Experience	p.28

CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS

More than a vacation, these creatively-curated journeys embrace the customs and culture of vibrant communities located in some of the world's most compelling regions. We partner with local nonprofits and families for purposeful projects, including volunteering at a local arts center for children in Cuba, a dyeing workshop with the women of Oaxaca, and more around the world.

Immerse yourself in the unique cultural heritage of a region by spending time with the ones who call it home.

CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS INCLUDE:

Cuba: Building Bridges	p.36
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Cuba: Havana Weekend Getaway	p.44
Cuba: Family Island Exploration	p.38
Dominican Republic: Heart & Soul of the Caribbean	p.54
Guatemala: In & Beyond the Classroom	(See Website)
Japan: Cultural Odyssey	p.34
Oaxaca: Women & Girls' Empowerment	p.56
Peru: Children of the Andes	p.62
Tanzania: Safari & Service	p.20
Thailand: Cultural Kaleidoscope	p.26

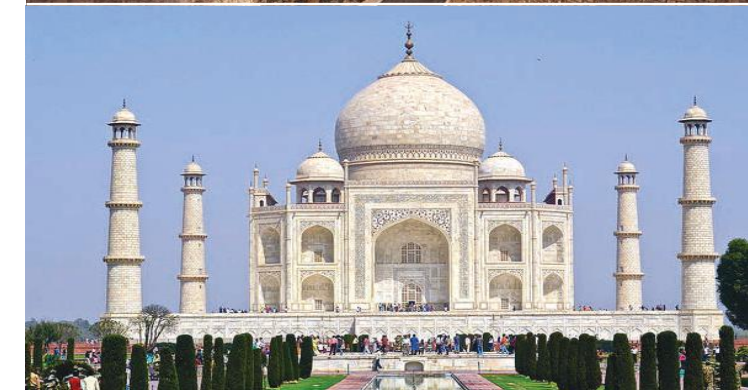
Interested in linking two of our trips together? We offer a 10% discount off both trips when combining two departures (not applicable to extensions). More information on our Trip Calendar in the back of this catalog.

Most itineraries feature optional post-trip extensions that are designed to show you another part of the country and extend your vacation in a worry-free, turnkey manner. These extensions can be added to the end of any program for an extra fee. On most extensions, there is no minimum number of participants for our post-trip extensions. They are all guaranteed to run regardless of the group size.

Below is a list of the optional post-trip extensions offered, which are described on the corresponding trip page in this catalog. All extensions are designed to follow a core itinerary, but do have the possibility of being added to the front of an itinerary with enough notice.

POST-TRIP EXTENSIONS INCLUDE:

Cape Town	p.18
Zanzibar Island	p.16 & 20
The Great Wall of China	p.22
Agra & Taj Mahal	(See Website)
Hiroshima & Miyajima Island	p.34
Tikal Archaeological Ruins	p.46
Amazon Basin	p.60
Koh Phi Phi & Phuket	p.24 & 26
Bangkok	p. 24-30
Chiang Mai	p.24 & 30
Dubrovnik	p.58



DISTINCTIVE ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations are more than just places to sleep - they are an intrinsic part of the experience. Each property has a unique “wow” factor based on the purpose of the trip.

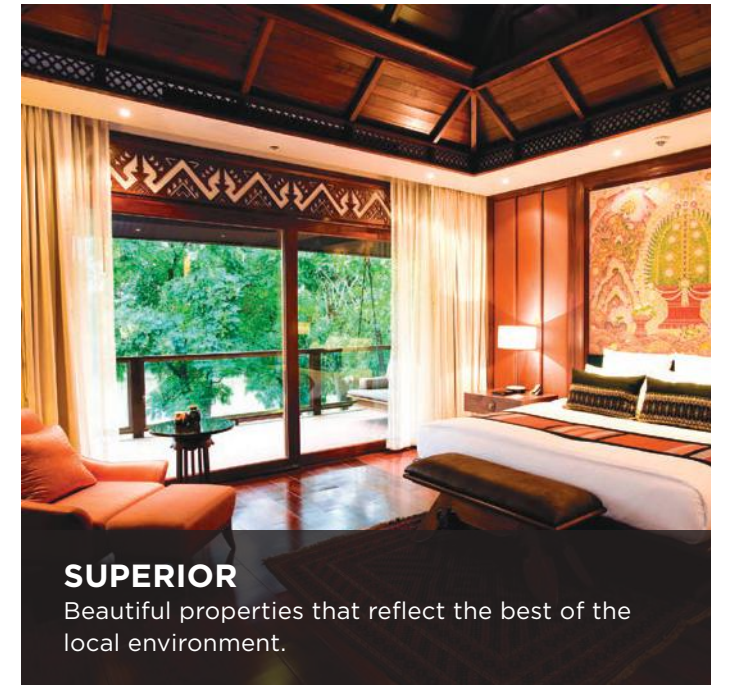
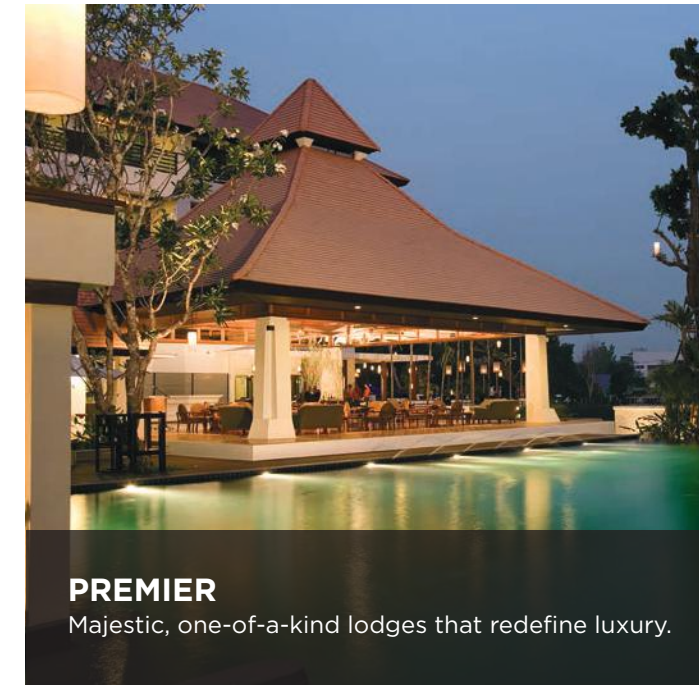


LEVELS OF ACCOMODATION

Our Nature & Wildlife Adventures include accommodations in elegant eco-lodges near wildlife viewing opportunities, while our Cultural Explorations house you in comfortable properties that connect you with the soul of the local community.

Whether it's a luxury tented camp on the African savannah, a rustic ranger's station in the jungle, or a modern apartment overlooking the sea, each property is clean, comfortable, and safe, and reflects the unique charm and character of the destination.

To help you select the trip that's right for you, our accommodation options have been assigned one of four categories:



KENYA: Safari & Conservation

Few trips to Kenya will bring you so thrillingly close to its spectacular wildlife. Over the course of 10 days, roam some of the country's most enchanting landscapes and meet its most famous animals. In turn, you'll be assisting local conservation efforts in monitoring and protecting these invaluable, exquisite creatures. By night, relax in your gorgeous luxury tent situated amongst the beautiful Kenyan plains.



- Get closer than ever to rhinos, lions, and cheetah
- Lend a hand with innovative, local conservation efforts
- Befriend indigenous Masai tribes on a visit to a traditional village
- Learn wildlife tracking skills such as identifying paw prints
- Unwind at the end of the day in luxury camps with panoramic views

DURATION

10 days / 9 nights
(+Optional 3-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Walking, minimal hiking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

9 hours (3 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 6, Maximum 14

LODGING

Premier & Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Head straight from Nairobi International Airport to your luxury accommodation on the plains of Mt. Kenya in Ol Pejeta Conservancy. We kick off with an evening game drive, followed by a day dedicated to tracking the local lion population.

DAY 3

Join the wildlife protection unit to gain insight into the intrigues of monitoring endangered species. Lunch by the water hole is followed by a trip to Ol Pejeta Chimpanzee Sanctuary and an evening game drive with a local expert.

DAYS 4-5

We'll squeeze in a morning game drive before heading south to gorgeous Brackenhurst. These sprawling botanic gardens will be your home for the next two days. Join *Plants for Life International* in caring for the diverse ecosystem, or opt for a 1.5 hour drive to the bustling city of Nairobi where you'll visit an elephant orphanage, giraffe center, and enjoy some souvenir shopping.

DAY 6

Mara Naboisho Conservancy sits on the edge of Masai Mara National Reserve. Here you'll work with a combination of tourism partners, conservationists, and Masai landowners in protecting the wildlife. Prepare to be dazzled by the diversity of wildlife on game drives through this protected, private region. End your day staying in your ultra-luxury tent, falling asleep to the soothing sounds of the bush.

DAYS 7-8

Get hands-on with the conservation projects in Mara Naboisho Conservancy. Collect data on animals during drives around the conservancy, visit a Naboisho landowner village, and monitor lions and cheetah while learning tracking skills. You'll also get the chance to dine with a Masai herder and experience the tribe's fascinating traditions.

DAYS 9-10

We'll maximize our time here, packing in three more game drives. This helps the local team of conservationists as you gather more information on the animals as you go. There's also a chance to help out around the conservancy before flying back of Nairobi the next day, or continuing on to the Zanzibar Island Extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: ZANZIBAR ISLAND

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

Over the course of 3 days, we'll complement our time on the Serengeti with an Indian Ocean island adventure. Explore the winding streets of Stone Town venturing through the former Slave Market, the Sultan's Palace and the Old Arab Fort on a guided tour. Along the way, experience modern-day island life in the coastal spice and fish markets. Venture offshore to idyllic Prison Island and scout for the island's famous giant tortoises at a sanctuary, relax on powder white beaches and swim in crystal blue waters.

LODGING

PREMIER NIGHTS 1-3, 6-9 / STANDARD NIGHTS 4-5

We stay in three different luxurious destinations, each in the heart of Kenya's stunning natural scenery. Our camp near Ol Pejeta faces a wildlife water hole so you can wake up and watch giraffes roaming the landscape. The hotel in Brackenhurst lets you unwind in peace, while the ultra-luxury tents in Mara Naboisho are geared for maximum comfort and wildlife viewing between your conservation expeditions.

Our Purpose

Kenya's wildlife is world-famous, but it's also under threat from poaching, climate change and development. Team up with local organizations in observing and safeguarding these magnificent creatures on a trip where you'll get close to lions, cheetah, elephants, and more. To achieve our purpose, you'll collect data on drives around game reserves, meet Masai herders who are heading up conservation efforts, and join anti-poaching teams as they work in the savannah.



SOUTH AFRICA: Wildlife Conservation Experience

Plunge into the heart of the African bush and get up close and personal with lions, zebra, giraffes, and rhinos. Go beyond the safari and become part of the efforts to preserve this habitat by working alongside conservationists in South Africa's Greater Kruger National Park.



- Track the “Big Five” on a game drive to Kruger National Park
- Feed orphaned baby rhinos at a wildlife sanctuary
- Practice English and play educational games with orphans at a local township
- Play a hands-on role in animal conservation as you learn to track leopards
- Wander through subtropical vegetation at the largest “green canyon” on Earth

DURATION

10 days / 9 nights
(+Optional 5-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Light walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

8 hours (4 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Premier

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Gaze at the lush subtropical foliage of the Blyde River Canyon, the world's largest green canyon, as well as the Pinnacle, as we drive along the Panorama Route from Johannesburg. Experience striking lookouts such as the aptly-named God's Window and Wonder View. Settle in to your luxury-tented camp before a welcome dinner.

DAY 2

Wake up to the sound of singing birds in the heart of the African bush. Learn how to track leopards and wild cats by identifying paw marks, and if needed, set up camera traps to gather data about animal movements. Experience a game drive and learn about *ingwe*, a leopard conservation organization.

DAYS 3-4

Marvel at the beauty of the park on a morning game drive. Enjoy a free afternoon to swim, explore, or relax. After dinner, experience a nocturnal wildlife drive. On day 4, wander through mist-covered forests teeming with birdlife and majestic formations. Prepare for your upcoming visit to the community by creating educational activities for the children you'll visit.

DAYS 5-6

Embark upon an epic full-day game drive through the heart of Greater Kruger and encounter many of the 147 species of large mammals that roam here. Meet with staff along the way to hear about the conservation techniques they employ. Visit Jessica the hippo in afternoon. In the evenings, experience an African sundowner, or a glass of wine and scenic views, while connecting to nature.

DAY 7

Engage in educational games with children and orphans from the townships while visiting with the Seeds of Light project. Read with the children and engage in arts and crafts while learning about life in South Africa. In the afternoon, visit Moholoholo, a rehabilitation haven for abandoned and injured animals, including the serval, a beautifully spotted wild cat.

DAYS 8-10

Visit a primate sanctuary and learn about the primates' role in the African bush before a free afternoon. Track the “Big Five” on a final game drive through Kruger National Park and meet with conservationists along the way. Have the chance to feed baby rhinos and witness first-hand the conservation work being done to protect these endangered creatures at an inspiring local sanctuary. Fly back to Johannesburg before flying home, or continue to the Cape Town Extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: CAPE TOWN 5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS

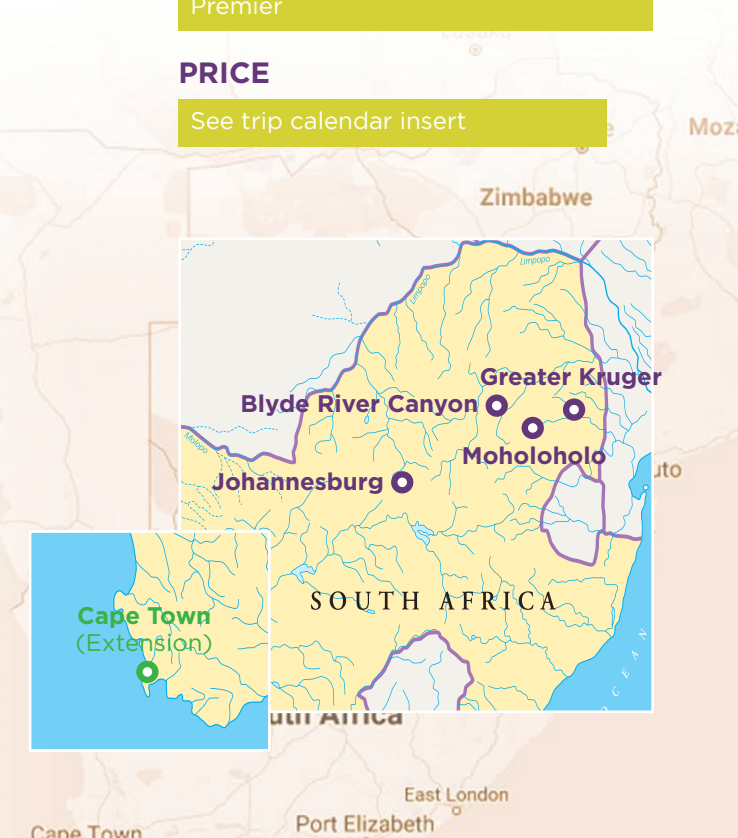
After a relaxing evening in the city, hit the ground running with a Cape Town city tour of Robben Island, Greenmarket Square, Company Gardens, and Table Mountain. Enjoy a bicycle excursion and lunch with the local community before heading to Boulders penguin colony, Cape Point, and Chapman's Peak. Choose between a whale watching tour or Winelands tour before your journey home the next day.

PREMIER LODGING

Your home-away-from-home is a luxury tented camp on the banks of the Blyde River, situated on the edge of Greater Kruger National Park - the epicenter of wildlife in South Africa. The lodge features a communal center with a dining area and panoramic private deck, from which you can enjoy the sights and sounds of the bush. Rooms include crisp white linens, a plush bed, and a full private bathroom with hot and cold water, lockbox, and fan. You'll also be able to enjoy an infinity pool, wi-fi, and hiking trails. Truly an experience all of its own.

Our Purpose

South Africa's largest animal reserve faces threats from rhino poachers, leopard-shooting farmers, and outbreaks of immune system viruses among its lion population. Fortunately, there are also many innovative conservation projects happening in the park, with the goal of protecting endangered species. To achieve our purpose, we'll meet the inspiring leaders spearheading this work, visit wildlife rehabilitation centers, help feed rhinos (if weather permits), and participate in unforgettable game drives.



TANZANIA: Safari & Service

Encounter lions, elephants, and giraffes in the African bush, under the watchful gaze of the towering Mount Kilimanjaro. Live amongst the people who call this stunning landscape home as you volunteer at a school, immerse yourself in nomadic culture, and even learn a little Swahili.



- Teach crucial life skills to schoolchildren by volunteering in the classroom
- Come face-to-face with lions, zebras, and rhinos on an African safari
- Hike to a glistening waterfall that tumbles down Mount Kilimanjaro
- Explore the world-famous Ngorongoro Crater
- Immerse yourself in village life and even pick up a few words of Swahili

DURATION

10 days / 9 nights
(+Optional 3-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Light walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

12 hours (3 mornings)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Adjust to life in the village of Rau, on the outskirts of Moshi, and learn about the culture of the Chagga people. We'll take a crash course in Swahili and get our tongues around a few basic phrases.

DAYS 3-5

It's time to go back to school as our volunteering begins in the classroom over the next three days. It's here that you will be teaching basic English and math through educational games as well as helping fix up the school by planting gardens or building classrooms.

One afternoon, visit a coffee farm to see firsthand how the beans are grown, processed, and sold in the local markets. Throughout your three days of volunteering, you'll also have the opportunity to immerse yourself in local culture as you visit an artist and a nearby orphanage run by a woman in the community.

DAY 6

Embark on a nature hike around the base of Africa's most famous sky-skimming peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, stop at a waterfall, and experience the "Roof of Africa." Visit caves where the Chagga people hid from Masai raiders years ago.

DAY 7

Head out on the first leg of our 3-day safari excursion. Begin with a full-day safari drive in Tarangire National Park. Along the drive, encounter diverse wildlife including elephants, giraffes, buffalo, wildebeests, and other fascinating species.

DAY 8

Explore the world-famous Ngorongoro Crater, a remnant of Earth's tallest volcano that has since collapsed on itself. The crater floor is the most densely packed game area in the world, and is home to over 30,000 animals, including the black rhino and cheetah.

DAY 9

Rise early and head out on safari near Lake Manyara, one of Africa's most renowned wildlife-spotting sights. Search for elephants, giraffes, buffalo, and monkeys, and search for the famous tree-climbing lions.

DAY 10

Enjoy a relaxing morning before returning to the village to say our goodbyes. Have a final meal together before catching a flight home, or continuing on to the Zanzibar Island Extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: ZANZIBAR ISLAND

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

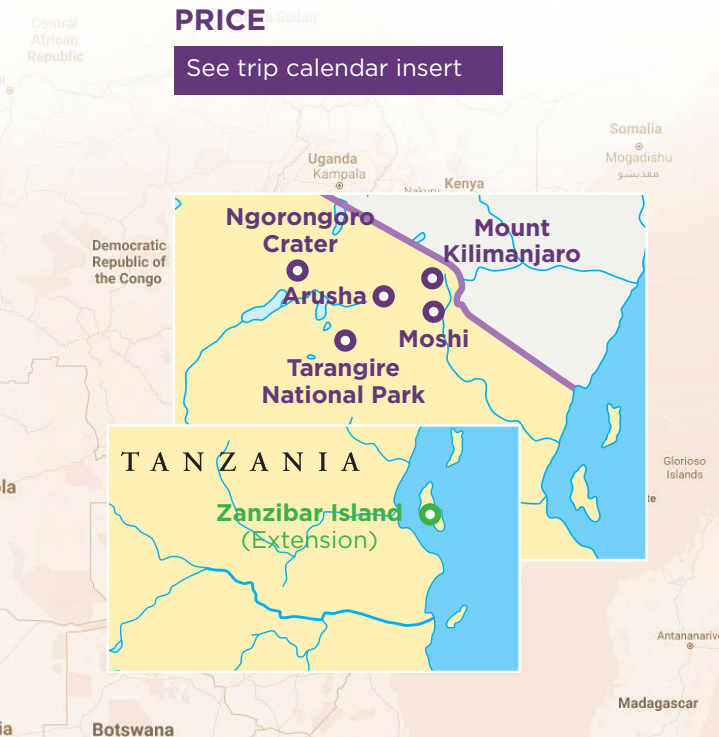
Over the course of 3 days, we'll complement our time in Kilimanjaro's vast plains with an Indian Ocean island adventure. Explore the winding streets of Stone Town venturing through the former Slave Market, the Sultan's Palace and the Old Arab Fort on a guided tour. Along the way, experience modern-day island life in the coastal spice and fish markets. Venture offshore to idyllic Prison Island and scout for the island's famous giant tortoises at a sanctuary, relax on powder white beaches and swim in crystal blue waters.

STANDARD LODGING

Tucked away into the narrow dirt roads that wind through the quaint Tanzanian village of Rau is your new home-away-from-home. Just outside Moshi, the large walled lodge boasts stunning views of Kilimanjaro in the distance, peaceful gardens, and a lively common area that serves as the perfect backdrop for your East African experience. All rooms include private attached bathrooms.

Our Purpose

In village schools in rural Tanzania, student-teacher ratios regularly reach 50-to-one, with overcrowded classrooms negatively affecting the quality of education. To achieve our purpose in aiding these teachers and students, volunteer a few mornings during the trip at a local primary school and tutor children in English and math, work alongside teachers to help create instructional aids, and help craft a curriculum that can be used for future success.



CHINA: Panda Conservation Adventure

Get to know one of the world's most iconic species at the Dujiangyan Panda Research Center. Care for pandas and learn about their conservation, and immerse yourself in Chinese culture as you sample local dishes and visit tea fields. An optional extension takes in the Great Wall of China.



- Experience the rare privilege of working with giant pandas in their enclosures
- Try your hand cooking with a local family
- Watch a traditional Sichuan face-changing performance
- Marvel at the world's largest Buddha statue on a scenic Yangtze River cruise
- Practice picking tea in lush green tea fields – and sample the fresh produce

DURATION

6 Days / 5 Nights
(+Optional 4-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

10 Hours (2 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Your flight will arrive in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, where you'll be collected from the airport and have time to settle into your hotel room. The evening will be spent getting to know your Discover Corps guide and the rest of your group over a deliciously spicy Sichuan hotpot.

DAY 2

We're off to the Dujiangyan Panda Research Center first thing today. Make friends with the pandas as you feed them, clean their enclosures and learn about their conservation. After lunch, explore the neighborhood on a walking tour, and sit down to a hearty dinner consisting of local specialties.

Note: If you have children 11 years old and younger, your family will have a slightly different itinerary as young children are not permitted to feed the pandas. This will involve a trip to visit sick pandas in recovery, a visit to a panda breeding center and fun panda-related activities.

DAY 3

This morning, we'll return to the research center for another day spent with the pandas. These friendly animals will be familiar faces by now, as you learn how to make special cakes for them and continue to provide the special care they need. In the evening, more regional delights await at another delicious traditional Sichuan dinner.

Note: If you choose, you may have a one-on-one panda encounter and take photos with the pandas for an extra charge. All funds collected from the one-on-one panda encounter go back to support panda conservation. Please request a detailed itinerary on our website for more details.

DAY 4

Spend today joining a local family in the nearby markets gathering ingredients before a cooking class in their home. Learn how to make a number of Sichuan favorites before

enjoying your lunch together. In the evening, take in even more culture at a Sichuan face-changing performance with beautiful masks and costumes.

DAY 5

After a free morning to explore Chengdu's streets, we'll set off for Leshan. En route, we'll stop for a hands-on tour of a gorgeous tea field. Then it's onward for an atmospheric cruise along the Yangtze, taking in the 230-foot (70-meter) Leshan Giant Buddha carved into the cliffs.

DAY 6

It's time for those on the six-day trip to say their goodbyes before being transferred to Chengdu International Airport for their flight home. If you're staying with us for The Great Wall of China extension, hop on a flight to Beijing for your next adventure.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Visit famous sites including the Summer Palace, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, and of course, The Great Wall of China. In between sights, you'll enjoy a thrilling rickshaw ride through some of the city's oldest streets, a Peking duck feast, a traditional tea ceremony, and much more!

STANDARD LODGING

Soak in the Chinese culture at a three-star hotel in the center of Chengdu, walking distance to Cultural Park, Baihuatan Park, and Qingyang Palace. The spacious rooms include free wifi and other amenities to keep you comfortable. In Dujiangyan, stay in a hotel near the panda research center. The property boasts a fitness center, wifi, 24-hour front desk, air-conditioning, and after a long day volunteering with the pandas, relax in their sauna or hot tub!

Our Purpose

While intensive conservation efforts over recent years have meant the giant panda is no longer officially an endangered species, their future remains dependent on human protection. At the Panda Research Center, you'll lend a hand with some of the conservation superheroes who are turning pandas' prospects around. To achieve our purpose, feed and care for the animals, shovel panda dung, clean enclosures, and prepare food. There will also be lots of time to engage with Chinese culture and explore the stunning Chengdu landscape.



THAILAND: Elephants & Islands Expedition

Bathe in turquoise waters and bask under swaying palms on the white sands of tropical Southern Thailand. Help an elephant sanctuary care for threatened animals, explore centuries-old fishing villages, and rest up on the famous Koh Phi Phi Island.

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Explore the stunning southern Thai island of Phuket and learn more about local traditions and culture. Visit a fishing village, discover ancient temples, and visit the traditional Moken sea gypsy communities of Sirey Island.

DAY 3

Board a boat bound for the offshore Yao Islands. We'll get a tour of the community from the locals and experience first-hand their laid-back way of life. Chat with fishermen, learn about batik painting, and sample traditional Thai cuisine, including fresh coconut juice and a home-cooked lunch at one of the islander's own homes.

DAYS 4-6

Visit an elephant sanctuary where you will be in the company of these gentle giants. Find out more about the work being done to protect these remarkable creatures as we spend the day with the sanctuary's conservation team. Gather food, feed, and bathe the elephants throughout your time at the sanctuary. Watch the elephants reveling in their natural habitat as they socialize, forage, and roam free.

DAY 7

Ride the turquoise waters as we take a boat through the tropical Phi Phi Islands and arrive in paradise. Lay out on chalk-white sands and take in these stunning surroundings at our luxury oceanfront lodging.

DAY 8

Snorkel above offshore reefs, gaze across the peninsula or simply bask on the beach as we enjoy a free, unguided day on the famous island of Koh Phi Phi. Sit down for one final farewell dinner together before heading off to the airport the following morning.

DAY 9

After a refreshing breakfast, hop on a speedboat back to Phuket and head to Phuket International Airport for your flight back home, or continue on to the Chiang Mai or Bangkok extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: BANGKOK 3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

Few places on the planet can compete with Bangkok for exuberance and energy. We dig deep into the local culture, getting to know the people and history. Enjoy an evening cruise up the Chao Phraya River and dine whilst gazing upon the Wat Arun temple. Whizz through the city on an iconic tuk-tuk, visit family-run workshops, and take to the water to experience the hubbub of the Damnoen Sadauk Floating Market. A boutique four-star hotel in the city center is the perfect oasis of tranquility in the midst of the hustle and bustle.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: CHIANG MAI 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Chiang Mai is full of beauty, from the people to the temples to the rolling hills in the distance. Experience a city tour to learn about the history of the city, including local temples at sunset where you can join the locals in lighting incense and candles, offerings of good luck and health. Enjoy a dinner on the river before a week of visiting colorful markets, a trip to Wat Chiang Man, a tour of the majestic Wat Chedi Luang, and a Thai cooking class. Travel high into the hills for a day away from the city for sweeping views and a trip to a coffee research project as you explore the White Hmong hilltribe village. After your busy days, relax your body with a traditional Thai massage.



SUPERIOR LODGING

The journey will start in a stunning hotel walking distance to the beach in tropical Phuket. Relax poolside or venture into the bustling markets outside. Continue onto the elephant sanctuary where we stay in a beautiful hotel just outside the sanctuary. End the trip with two nights on Koh Phi Phi Island in a four and a half-star beachfront resort.

Our Purpose

The elephant population of Thailand faces an uncertain future due to factors such as deforestation and illegal poaching. Lend a hand to the team at a renowned elephant conservation sanctuary, which cares for animals that have been rescued. To achieve our purpose, feed and bathe these gentle giants, clean their living areas, learn basic elephant commands, and watch them thrive in their natural habitat.



DURATION

9 Days / 8 Nights
(+Optional 3 or 4-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate
(Light hiking, swimming, cleaning enclosures)

VOLUNTEER TIME

24 hours (3 full days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 10, Maximum 20

LODGING

Superior

PRICE

See trip calendar insert



THAILAND: Cultural Kaleidoscope

This specially crafted itinerary will take you deep into Northern Thailand's culture and natural beauty. You'll explore serene golden temples, cruise along lazy rivers and spend time with local hill tribes, as well as volunteering at an elephant sanctuary. Rewarding, uplifting and utterly fascinating, this cultural kaleidoscope will open your eyes to a side of Thailand few have experienced.



- Meet majestic elephants at a sanctuary and get hands-on as you help care for them
- Join a local family and learn how to cook traditional northern Thai dishes
- Discover the beauty of towering Doi Ang Khan Mountain with its botanical gardens and traditional hillside villages
- Pick tea leaves with a remote hill tribe as you learn their customs and traditions
- Get to know the locals as you explore behind-the-scenes in Chiang Mai

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: As your plane descends through lush mountains and valleys into Chiang Mai Airport, you'll know you've arrived in one of Thailand's most beautiful regions. You'll be met by your Discover Corps guide and whisked off to your five star hotel on the banks of the Mae Ping River where you'll enjoy a sumptuous dinner and get to know the rest of your group. On Day 2, browse the famous Warorot Market, rickshaw up the mountaintop to Wat Phra That Doi Suthep temple, stop at the Chang Khien Coffee Plantation, and visit the White Hmong Tribe.

DAYS 7-8: Green mountains rise around Chiang Mai, and today we'll head deep into the rural landscape to Mae Kampong. You'll get the opportunity to meet some of the village residents, hike through tea and coffee plantations and end with a home-cooked lunch and a blissful Thai massage. If you're craving some adrenaline, sign up for the optional zip-lining adventure and soar above the treetops. Rise early for a transfer back to the airport for your flight home. For those embarking on a new adventures it's off to Koh Phi Phi or Bangkok.

DAY 3: Today you'll be welcomed into a local family to discover the tantalizing delights of northern Thai cuisine. Gather fresh ingredients in the family's garden, learn the centuries-old recipes and sit down together to enjoy a laughter-filled lunch. You'll also get the chance to witness the intricate art of traditional basket weaving. This evening we are treated to a magical dinner cruise on the Mae Ping River.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: PHUKET & KOH PHI PHI 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Join us on a tropical adventure, taking in turquoise seas and cultural treasures. The beachside city of Phuket will tickle all the senses, with markets, mouth-watering local cuisine and a fascinating historic quarter. Embark on a memorable boat trip to the island paradise of Koh Phi Phi. Lounge by the pool in your 4.5-star hotel, take in a local performance, dig your toes into the sand or dive beneath the seas on a snorkeling or scuba diving adventure.

DAYS 4-5: Doi Ang Khang, Thailand's second highest mountain, is our destination for Day 4, a day spent soaking up the staggering panoramas across Northern Thailand and Myanmar, the bucolic villages and famous botanical gardens. On Day 5, take a cooling dip in a waterfall before embarking on a four-hour mountain trek. We'll pass jaw-dropping scenery, bamboo gardens, and hill tribe villages before reaching our destination, the tea village of Doi Phumen. Those unable to hike can enjoy more time at the waterfall and meet the group there. Pick some of Thailand's finest tea leaves with the Black Lahu hill tribe and enjoy a friendly lunch together.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: BANGKOK 3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

Few places on the planet can compete with Bangkok for exuberance and energy. We dig deep into the local culture, getting to know the people and history. Enjoy an evening cruise up the Chao Phraya River and dine whilst gazing over the Wat Arun temple. Whizz through the city on an iconic tuk-tuk, visit family-run workshops, and take to the water to experience the hubbub of the Damnoen Sadauk Floating Market. A boutique four-star hotel in the city center is the perfect oasis of tranquility in the midst of the hustle and bustle.

DAY 6: No trip to Thailand would be complete without an unforgettable elephant encounter. Spend a day at the Elephant Nature Park caring for these amazing mammals and learning about the conservation efforts being carried out to protect them.

LODGING

PREMIER NIGHTS 1-3, 6-7 / STANDARD NIGHTS 4-5

Your home in Chiang Mai is a sumptuous and award-winning five-star hotel on the banks of the Ping River. Lounge in your enormous room, which comes complete with its own in-room waterfall, relax by the pool, or unwind in the spa. When you're out in the mountains, stay in a lodge owned by the hill tribe villages.

Our Purpose

Dig just under the surface to discover a welcoming, friendly people whose cultures and traditions go back generations. You'll get to meet local families and learn to cook centuries-old Thai dishes, experiencing the culture and aiding in the community businesses. To achieve our purpose, pick tea leaves with these hill tribes (with a stunning countryside backdrop!). Wildlife lovers will delight in a day spent at a local elephant sanctuary, where you'll learn to care for these amazing animals and support their conservation.

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights
(+Optional 3 or 4-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate
(Light hiking, cleaning enclosures)

VOLUNTEER TIME

6 Hours (1 half-day)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Premier & Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert



THAILAND: The Baby Elephant Experience

Northern Thailand's mountains and jungles are one of the last refuges of wild elephants. Embark on an unforgettable expedition as you walk in the footsteps of mahouts, learning to care for these magnificent creatures at an elephant nursery. Appreciate the beauty of Chiang Mai's temples, raft along jungle rivers, and fall in love with Northern Thai cuisine on this rewarding adventure.

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: Your Thai adventure begins as you touch down at the airport and meet your Discover Corps guide. Enjoy a local dinner together with the group and get excited about the days ahead. We'll start our first full day with a walking tour of the exuberant city of Chiang Mai, where you'll visit local temples and sample Thai delicacies at a vibrant outdoor market. You'll get your first glimpse of elephants at the Elephant Parade House, where beautifully painted statues are creating a global awareness about elephant conservation.

DAYS 3-5: Fall in love with the elephants being cared for at the Lampang Government Elephant Conservation Center. You'll interact with these amazing, intelligent creatures, learning about their care and visiting the center's elephant hospital. On Day 4, we immerse ourselves in the region's rich culture. Heading out through the rolling green hills, visit the beautifully ornate Buddhist temple of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep. Explore the lush botanical gardens of Doi Pui, and experience a bustling, colorful local market selling traditional crafts of the Hmong, an ethnic hill tribe community. On Day 5, take your pick of adventures. Choose to zip-line through lush rainforest or opt for a more relaxing experience perusing the traditional items and crafts at a local market.

DAYS 6-8: Walk in the footsteps of a mahout, or elephant caretaker, as you spend the next three days learning every aspect of their lives as they care for their beloved elephants. Set off through the verdant mountain landscape to the Thai Elephant Nursery, nestled in its own valley. You'll rise before dawn to walk, bathe and feed these young elephants, enjoying a magical and unforgettable play time with the mischievous babies. You will also spend time learning about harvesting food, sustainable agriculture, and composting elephant waste! The mahouts will teach you to make herbal medicines to feed the elephants.

DAYS 9-10: Take to the water to explore this incredible ecosystem as you choose from a heart-pounding white water rafting adventure or a more leisurely bamboo raft along the Mae Taeng River. If you prefer to stay on terra firma, opt for a Karen hill tribe hike. As the sun sets, embark on a candlelit river cruise as the perfect ending to our incredible trip. In the morning, we'll transfer you to the airport for your flight home, or if you're joining us for new adventures on our optional extension, we'll set off to Koh Phi Phi or Bangkok.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: PHUKET & KOH PHI PHI 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Join us on a tropical adventure, taking in turquoise seas and cultural treasures. The beachside city of Phuket will tickle all the senses, with markets, mouth-watering local cuisine and a fascinating historic quarter. Embark on a memorable boat trip to the island paradise of Koh Phi Phi. Lounge by the pool in your 4.5-star hotel, take in a local performance, dig your toes into the sand or delve beneath the seas on a snorkeling or scuba diving adventure.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: BANGKOK 3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

Few places on the planet can compete with Bangkok for exuberance and energy. We dig deep into the local culture, getting to know the people and history. Enjoy an evening cruise up the Chao Phraya River and dine whilst gazing over the Wat Arun temple. Whizz through the city on an iconic tuk-tuk, visit family-run workshops, and take to the water to experience the hubbub of the Damnoen Sadauk Floating Market. A boutique four-star hotel in the city center is the perfect oasis of tranquility in the midst of the hustle and bustle.



LODGING

STANDARD NIGHTS 1-4, 8-9 / RUSTIC NIGHTS 5-7

You will have two bases on this elephant conservation expedition. Whilst in Chiang Mai, a centrally located resort complete with refreshing pool is your home, with top sights right at your doorstep. Up in the mountains at the Elephant Nursery, traditional thatched roof cabins nestled in the jungle offer rustic accommodation with communal bathrooms.

Our Purpose

Elephants are one of the most iconic symbols of Thai wildlife and play an important role in their culture and folklore. However, the population is facing threats from poaching, habitat loss, and the unethical use of elephants in trade and tourism. Support the elephants of Northern Thailand through volunteering at an elephant nursery for rescued elephants. To achieve our purpose, learn from expert mahouts, or caretakers, as you walk, feed, and bathe the elephants, as well as collect grass for their meals and shovel dung to help clean enclosures.

- Volunteer with rescued elephants at the Thai Elephant Nursery
- Live the life of a mahout as you walk, bath, and feed the elephants
- Whitewater raft or glide along the Mae Taeng River on a bamboo raft
- Explore Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a magnificent Buddhist temple and monastery
- Explore the rich culture of the Northern Thai city of Chiang Mai

DURATION

10 Days / 9 Nights
(+Optional 3 or 4-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate
(Light hiking, zip-lining/rafting, cleaning enclosures)

VOLUNTEER TIME

24 hours (3 full days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 10, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard & Rustic

PRICE

See trip calendar insert



THAILAND: Wildlife Safari

Experience the jungle and the coast of Southern Thailand, and witness up-close the spectacular wildlife which the region is known for. Bathe elephants in their natural habitat, assist conservationists with a sea turtle project, and learn from a center dedicated to introducing gibbons back into nature. When you're not spending time with wildlife, island hop across the crystal blue waters that make Thailand unforgettable.



- Get up close to elephants, sea turtles, monkeys and other wildlife
- Visit The Gibbon Rehabilitation Center and learn about their efforts to introduce gibbons back into nature
- Hike up to the Bang Pae waterfall, swim in the clear waters of Kata Beach, and watch the sunset over the Andaman Sea
- Visit Koh Yao Yai and learn about the lifestyle of the village from locals
- Snorkel in the crystal blue waters of James Bond Island

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Land in picturesque Phuket for a relaxing night before embarking on the week's adventures. Experience lush rainforest at The Gibbon Rehabilitation Center and learn about their efforts to introduce Gibbons back to nature. Hike up to the Bang Pae waterfall, swim in the crystal blue waters of Kata Beach, and watch the sunset over the Andaman Sea. By night, immerse yourself in the spiritual heart of Phuket in the largest temple in Phuket, the Chalong Temple, and meander through the streets on a Phuket Old Town Discovery Walk.

DAYS 9-10

Depart on a speedboat to Hong Island before doing some island hopping. Enjoy paddling, sightseeing, and trekking at the scenic James Bond Island, discover the secret nature of the Mangrove Cave and Diamond Cave at Panak Island, experience the Mangrove Forest, and enjoy swimming, snorkeling and relaxing at Lawa Island. On Day 10, enjoy a fresh breakfast before your flight home, or continue on to the Bangkok or Chiang Mai Extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: CHIANG MAI

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Chiang Mai is full of beauty, from the people to the temples to the rolling hills in the distance. Experience a city tour to learn about the history of the city, including local temples at sunset where you can join the locals in lighting incense and candles, offerings of good luck and health. Enjoy a dinner on the river before a week of visiting colorful markets, a trip to Wat Chedi Luang, and a Thai cooking class. Travel high into the hills for a day away from the city for sweeping views and a trip to a coffee research project as you explore the White Hmong hilltribe village. After your busy days, relax your body with a traditional Thai massage.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: BANGKOK

Few places on the planet can compete with Bangkok for exuberance and energy. We dig deep into the local culture, getting to know the people and history. Enjoy an evening cruise up the Chao Phraya River and dine whilst gazing over the Wat Arun temple. Whizz through the city on an iconic tuk-tuk, visit family-run workshops, and take to the water to experience the hubbub of the Damnoen Sadauk Floating Market. A boutique four-star hotel in the city center is the perfect oasis of tranquility in the midst of the hustle and bustle.

DAYS 3-4

Venture off to the Sea Turtle Conservation Center (STCC) and learn about the important work being done to protect sea turtles before an afternoon of free leisure time. On Day 4, continue your work at the STCC changing water in the ponds, nursing injured turtles, and preparing meals for the turtles. Lend a hand at another conservation center, the Phang Nga Coastal Research and Development Center, for continued experiences with the sea turtles and coral.

DAYS 5-6

Drive south to Kiang Koo Creek for a gentle bamboo rafting tour before freshening up in a waterfall for a free night. On Day 6, let your excitement run wild and explore Thailand with a completely free day. Our guides will be there to give excursion, shopping, and restaurant recommendations.

DAYS 7-8

Wind through the hills of Thailand to meet the elephants at a nearby sanctuary. Learn more about these magnificent creatures and spend quality time with them in their natural surroundings as you help bathe them with their caretakers. On day 8, zip along the blue waters on a speedboat to Koh Yao Yai. Learn about the ecosystem and lifestyle of the village, enjoy local cuisine, and try your hand at making soap and oil treatments with the help of the locals.

SUPERIOR LODGING

You'll first live steps away from the beach at your colorful 4-star hotel complete with an outdoor pool, spa, wifi, and 24-hour security before moving on to experience the island life of Phuket at your next 4-star hotel. When you're not working with wildlife or jetting off to new islands, relax with a poolside massage, or explore the vibrant island and delicious Thai cuisine.

Our Purpose

From elephants to gibbons to sea turtles, learn directly from local experts about the threats and efforts in place to conserve the wildlife and nature of the region. To achieve our purpose, clean turtle enclosures and prepare meals, clean the moss off of the turtle shells and apply medicine to injured turtles, bathe, feed, and clean elephant enclosures at an elephant sanctuary, and finally learn from conservationists about the protection in place for Thailand's gibbons at a local rescue center.

DURATION

10 Days / 9 Nights

(+Optional 3 or 4-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate

(Hiking, walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

12 hours (2 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 10, Maximum 16

LODGING

Superior

PRICE

See trip calendar insert





AUSTRALIA: Beachside Wildlife Adventure

Australia's Gold Coast is the perfect setting for this spectacular wildlife adventure. Volunteer with conservation projects protecting indigenous wildlife as you get to know kangaroos, koalas and wallabies. The Gold Coast's abounding nature and culture await. Join an Aboriginal ceremony on North Stradbroke Island, foray deep into the rainforest, and go in search of sea life by kayak.



- Get hands-on with conservation projects protecting Australia's indigenous wildlife
- Head deep into the lush rainforests in search of cascading waterfalls and hidden pools
- Get swept up in the atmosphere of a traditional Aboriginal ceremony
- Learn to care for orphaned, injured and sick koalas at a koala sanctuary
- Go in search of sea life on a kayaking adventure on North Stradbroke Island

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: Meet your Discover Corps guide at the Gold Coast Airport and set off to our beautiful coastal lodge nestled on the tropical eastern coast of Queensland for a welcome dinner as a group. In the morning, we'll start the day with a trip to the Koala Sanctuary, a conservation center caring for sick, injured and orphaned koalas. Chat to conservation experts and learn about the threats wild koalas face. Later, we'll embark on a relaxing cruise along the Gold Coast's maze of waterways.

DAY 3: Today we get acquainted with the staff and residents of the Wildlife Conservation Park, where we'll be volunteering with the rangers over the coming days. You'll get your first glimpse of kangaroos and wallabies, and hear about the projects you'll be working on. In the afternoon, delve deep into the lush rainforest at the Currumbin Valley and Springbrook National Park where we'll go in search of thundering waterfalls and some of Australia's oldest trees.

DAYS 4-5: This morning, we'll get our hands dirty helping the park rangers care for their residents, gathering their food and feeding them. In the afternoon, we'll visit the Koala Sanctuary again to find out more about the excellent work being done here. Our evening will be one to remember as we enjoy dinner whilst taking in a traditional Aboriginal performance at a local theater. Enjoy a morning volunteering before a free afternoon soaking up the Gold Coast sunshine or an optional bike ride on Day 5.

DAY 6: On your final day at the Wildlife Conservation Park, you'll work on a legacy project where you'll get involved with seasonal planting and get quality time with the animals. We'll then head into the rainforest and up into the canopy looking out for treetop wildlife as we wander along the skywalk. Our busy day ends with a stroll through the galleries and wineries of Mt. Tamborine.

DAYS 7-8: Take a day to enjoy the sunny Gold Coast at your leisure. Visit the legendary 'Surfers Paradise' before an evening BBQ with the group. On Day 8, we're off to North Stradbroke Island, the world's second largest sand island. Enjoy a warm welcome from the indigenous Quandamooka people, and as part of a traditional ceremony, you'll paint a boomerang and try the didgeridoo. We'll seek out the freshwater Myora Springs and embark on a bush walk to a remote beach, looking out for kangaroos along the way.

DAYS 9-10: Enjoy an exhilarating visit to a blowhole, keeping an eye out for kangaroos, dolphins and whales before lunch at Cylinder Beach, renowned as one of the best in Queensland. Hop in a kayak and glide across the turquoise waters of Amity Point, a haven for sea life. In the evening, enjoy a fun-filled game of Australian barefoot lawn bowling. In the morning, we'll say our goodbyes and transfer you to Brisbane International Airport for your flight home. Those ready for new adventures will continue on to Sydney on our trip extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: SYDNEY

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

On arrival in Sydney, head off to explore the city on foot. We'll walk along the quaint harbor of Circular Quay, before crossing the world famous Sydney Harbour Bridge to get up close to the iconic Sydney Opera House. The next morning we'll hop on a ferry across the bay to the Northern Beaches where, between June and February, we might see Australia's only penguin colony. Another ferry trip and we'll be in picturesque Watson's Bay in time for a fish and chips lunch. We'll then set off to the legendary Bondi Beach, whose spectacular vistas of the Sydney coastline will be a wonderful last experience of your trip.



SUPERIOR LODGING

Your Gold Coast home away from home will be a spacious beachside apartment surrounded by nature. These self-catering apartments, which have double or single occupancy rooms, have fully equipped kitchens, air conditioning, laundry facilities, private balconies, and a refreshing outdoor pool. Over on North Stradbroke Island, you'll spend two nights in quaint seaside bungalows, complete with resident koalas just outside the door.

Our Purpose

We'll be learning from local rangers and conservation experts about the threats facing Australia's magnificent indigenous wildlife, and the measures being taken to protect it. To achieve our purpose, spend time volunteering in the region's leading wildlife conservation park, taking part in hands-on projects with iconic animals such as the koala and the kangaroo including gathering food and feeding the animals, as well as helping plant foliage as part of a legacy project.

DURATION

10 days / 9 nights
(+Optional 3-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Light walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

8 hours (2 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 10, Maximum 15

LODGING

Superior

PRICE

See trip calendar insert



JAPAN: Cultural Odyssey

Discover an electrifying clash of modernity and history on an interactive trip to Japan that will take in some of its most famous sights. You'll pick up new skills, explore vibrant cities and find time to pause in peaceful temples.

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: Fly into Tokyo and throw yourself into the unique experiences of this energetic city. Feast on traditional dishes such as gyudon (a beef-and-rice staple) with an incredible view atop the Tokyo Metropolitan, visit the Sumo District, and experience a fascinating history lesson at the Edo Tokyo Museum. In the afternoon on Day 2, enjoy a sushi-making class and education session led by a master sushi chef. For those with a love of sports, you'll have the option to call in at the batting cages.

DAY 3: A fish-filled morning encompasses a trip to Tsukiji Fish Market before visiting the Buddhist Sensoji Temple in Asakusa and explore the district's charming streets. You'll have the option to take a rest at one of the city's quirky cat cafés before experiencing the atmospheric Harajuku. Here, wander through the forest until you reach the Meiji Shrine dedicated to the Emperor Meiji and his wife before moving onto Harajuku's eclectic shopping district. We'll also take time for some iconic Tokyo experiences, such as visiting Shibuya Crossing.

DAY 4: Mount Fuji is calling. Grab your Hakone Free Pass in Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park and experience a series of mountain railway journeys, cable cars, and breathtaking views as you make your way up the volcano. Descend down for a cruise on scenic Ashi Lake. If you choose, feel every muscle unwind in a volcanic onsen, or hot spring, before heading to bed in a traditional ryokan inn on tatami mat floors.

DAY 5: Board a Japanese bullet train to Kyoto and cover 270 miles in just over two hours. Join a Zen Buddhist monk in guided meditation and take part in a traditional tea ceremony. Afterward, we'll visit one of Kyoto's finest temples, Kinkaku-Ji, famed for The Golden Pavilion. Marvel at the shimmering golden reflection of the pavilion on the water before cycling to the gorgeous Imperial Palace gardens.

DAY 6: Spend your morning volunteering at the Kansai Animal Refuge, a nonprofit that provides shelter to abandoned dogs and cats from across the region. Tour the facilities and learn more about the organization's mission before assisting with dog walking, playing with dogs and cats, and helping clean the grounds. In the evening, experience Japanese culture firsthand with a calligraphy lesson led by a Japanese master of calligraphy in her personal workshop.

DAYS 7-8: Dive deeper into Japanese culture in the district of Arashiyama, on the outskirts of Kyoto. Meet the mischievous inhabitants of Arashiyama Monkey Park, visit the Manga Museum, and take a rickshaw ride through the lush bamboo forests to Tenryu-Ji Temple (one of Kyoto's five great Zen temples). In the evening, enjoy an optional Geisha performance over dinner. We will transport you back to Osaka Airport or Kansai Airport to fly home the next day, or continue on the Hiroshima and Miyajima extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: HIROSHIMA and MIYAJIMA

3 days / 2 nights

Spend more time in Kyoto at the Fushimi Inari Shrine before arriving in historic Hiroshima. Visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park & Museum and learn from locals and experts about how Hiroshima recovered from the atomic bomb. In the afternoon, explore Miyajima, an island where tame deer accompany you as you explore the stunning shrines, beaches, waterfalls, and watch the sun set over the holy Torii Gate.



STANDARD LODGING

Our hand-picked accommodation will immerse you in Japanese culture old and new. Enjoy a stylish hotel in central Tokyo, a traditional ryokan inn in Hakone on night four, and luxurious rooms with a spa in Kyoto.

Our Purpose

The world becomes a richer place when you better understand its diverse cultures, traditions, and values. To achieve our purpose, learn new skills, visit iconic destinations, and foster a shared love of pets at an animal rescue where you will participate in dog walking, playing, and cleaning as you volunteer at a local nonprofit shelter for abandoned dogs and cats. Meet the friendly locals on a behind-the-scenes trip into this endlessly-fascinating country.

- Experience iconic Tokyo sights such as Shibuya Crossing and Tsukiji Fish Market
- Gaze in awe at Mount Fuji on a relaxing boat ride
- Learn traditional Japanese arts such as sushi making and calligraphy
- Take a moment to reflect in Kyoto's spectacular Buddhist temples
- Volunteer at a local animal rescue center that provides shelter to dogs and cats

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

(+Optional 3-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

4 Hours (1 morning)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert



CUBA: Building Bridges

Enter a land largely untouched by the Western world, as we delve into the fascinating history, culture, and beauty of Cuba at a time of improving diplomatic relations. While in the capital Havana, we'll engage with local children in a pioneering community project.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Hit the ground running in Havana by exploring colonial plazas, the Malecon seaside boardwalk, and the maze of backstreets. We'll head to the neighborhood of Lawton on the outskirts of Old Havana to settle into our bed and breakfast accommodations, and then begin our work with the Muraleando community art program.

DAY 2

Jump right into our projects with Muraleando, which aim to improve the aesthetics of Lawton and provide a creative outlet for youth and adults in the community. Participate in a range of art and dance activities with the community, including painting and creating colorful ceramic tiles. We'll learn more about the history of Havana with a lesson in Cuban salsa dancing before a dinner together with the staff of Muraleando.

DAY 3

To understand the background behind U.S.-Cuba relations, we'll visit the historic site of the Bay of Pigs invasion. Spend the night in the colonial town of Cienfuegos and enjoy a guided tour around its expansive boulevards. In the evening, a Cuban guitar ensemble will treat us to a private performance.

DAY 4

Tour the colorful alleys of the UNESCO-listed historical core of Trinidad with a local guide as we uncover the secrets of this Spanish-style town. After lunch on the patio of a paladar, we'll head back to Cienfuegos.

DAY 5

Make the return drive back to Havana in the morning for lunch in the city. Explore the markets of Havana and enjoy free time to relax before returning to Muraleando later in the afternoon for a special musical performance.

DAY 6

Tour the home of one of Cuba's most famous residents, Ernest Hemingway, and explore the surroundings which inspired his novels. We'll continue our work with Muraleando, connecting with the local community and helping to build bridges between the United States and Cuba.

DAYS 7-8

Continue our projects at Muraleando and say goodbye to the children. Enjoy a tour of Old Havana as you wind through the cobblestone streets and plazas, stopping at cafés and shops along the way. Enjoy a farewell dinner before waking up for breakfast and your return flight home.



- Inspire children to revitalize their neighborhood through art and music projects
- Explore Havana's labyrinth of streets and stunning oceanfront promenades
- Learn to salsa with a Cuban dance instructor
- Discover the attractive colonial towns of Trinidad and Cienfuegos
- Engage in citizen diplomacy at a time of evolving relations

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

12 hours (4 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

STANDARD LODGING

You will have the unique opportunity to stay in casas particulares, or private homes, while in Cuba. Casas are similar to family-run bed & breakfasts (think AirBnB with breakfast in the morning) and all include private bathrooms, air conditioning, and security. On the Building Bridges trip, you'll stay in a neighborhood on the outskirts of Havana called Lawton near the community center before heading to Cienfuegos where you'll feel the old French Colonial influence.

Our Purpose

The deprived community of Lawton on the edge of Havana was struck by economic hardships during the 1990s, with many children dropping out of school. In response, the Muraleando art project is helping youngsters revive their neighborhood. To achieve our purpose, work with this pioneering community by creating colorful ceramic tiles for the community and participating in dance workshops and sports games with the children of Muraleando, helping to both inspire children and continue the regeneration of their town.



CUBA: Family Island Exploration

Cuba's rich history, vibrant music and arts scene, and picturesque countryside make it one of the world's most unique family travel destinations. In Havana, you'll ride in classic cars and visit a special needs center, before soaking up the slow pace of life in the island's lush countryside and tropical beach towns.



- Get creative with local artists and kids at ceramics workshops
- Zip-line through the gorgeous Viñales Valley
- Snorkel the vibrant coral reefs of Cuba's Caribbean coast
- Ride through the streets of Havana in a classic convertible
- Meet with the kids at a local special needs center

DURATION

6 Days / 5 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

3 Hours (1 morning)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard / Superior

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Touching down in Havana, you'll settle in to your casa particular before we hit the ground running with a tour of Havana's city center and lovely seaside promenade, the malecón. Next you'll hop into a classic convertible and savor a traditional dinner, before enjoying a cannon ceremony at a colonial fortress.

DAY 2

After breakfast, we'll venture into the colonial heart of Havana, following our guide through the narrow alleyways and European-style plazas of the Cuban capital. Then, we'll visit a local special needs center, enjoying a heartwarming performance by the children, before paying a visit to the funky art installation of Fusterlandia.

DAY 3

Today we'll head into the lush Cuban countryside to take a zip-line over the photogenic Viñales Valley, before enjoying lunch at a local organic farm. Afterwards, learn about rural life in Cuba with a local fruit farmer, before ending the day with a boat ride through the Indian Cave.

DAY 4

This morning we'll visit a local community arts project and learn to make colorful ceramics with local artist Lolo and his students. After lunch we'll continue on to Varadero, a vibrant Caribbean resort town, before an optional visit to one of Cuba's oldest book publishers.

DAY 5

A guided tour will take us around Varadero, taking in a nearby ecological reserve and a local art studio. After lunch we'll head to the beach for a snorkeling lesson in the pristine Caribbean waters, before learning about marine conservation. Tonight, we'll enjoy a farewell dinner and reflect on the past week.

DAY 6

Today our journey comes to an end, and we'll say our goodbyes before transferring you back to Havana for your flight home.

STANDARD LODGING

STANDARD NIGHTS 1-3 / SUPERIOR NIGHTS 4-5

Your home away from home in Havana is a traditional casa particular, or family-run bed and breakfast. Each casa particular features double or single occupancy rooms, air conditioning, private or "Jack-and-Jill" style bathrooms, and hot and cold water. In Varadero, you'll stay in a gorgeous oceanfront resort just steps from the Caribbean beach. Enjoy fine dining, luxurious amenities, and everything else you need to relax on the Cuban coast.

Our Purpose

From Havana's picturesque colonial squares to the turquoise waters that calmly lap the island's sandy beaches, your family will experience the must-see sights along the north coast of Cuba over six days.

Along the way, you'll meet with artists, farmers and musicians, as well as the people working to make Cuba a better place for its children. To achieve our purpose, go behind the scenes at a center for those with special needs. This family-focused vacation opens your eyes to one of the most fascinating islands on the planet, connecting you with the local communities that make Cuba so captivating.



CUBA: Preserving Nature's Wonders

Swim in turquoise waters, trek through lush valleys, and explore the countryside on a Caribbean island that remains mostly untouched by the impact of modern tourist development. Discover conservation and agricultural projects that have safeguarded Cuba's natural environments both on land and sea.



- See countryside unaffected by modern development and industry
- Trek through the jungle and discover glistening waterfalls and ancient caves
- Relax in the turquoise waters of a private Cuban island
- Meet with the farmers and conservation workers protecting this pristine landscape
- Explore historic neighborhoods and the atmospheric cobbled alleyways of Havana

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Venture into the heart of this untouched wilderness as we soak in waterfalls and natural swimming pools hidden amid the undeveloped Cuban countryside of Las Terrazas, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Visit one of Cuba's first coffee plantations, chat with artisans from the Las Terrazas eco-village, and sample coffee and vegetables sourced from the valley, dotted with communities and bordered by gorgeous *mogotes*, or towering limestone and marble hills that surround you. One morning, visit the famous San Juan River.

DAY 3

Wander through the lush Viñales Valley, bordered by dramatic rocky cliffs and dotted with communities. Visit one of the largest orchid gardens in Cuba and see first-hand the traditional methods employed at a local farm. A delicious lunch will be served overlooking the valley, before we stop at a nearby town and view a cliffside mural depicting the area's ancient past.

DAY 4

Relax for an entire day on the paradise island of Cayo Levisa. After a 45-minute boat ride from the mainland, we'll be surrounded by its stunning white sand, sapphire waters and swaying palms. Rent a snorkel to witness life beneath the waves or simply unwind on the beach, before we return to Viñales for dinner and a night out Cuban-style.

DAY 5

Trek through the Viñales Valley, where a blossoming landscape of coffee, tobacco, sugar-cane, and banana plantations support a population of around 25,000. Meet with farmers along the way and see the meandering river that flows into the ancient Cueva del Indio cave. A private botanical garden tour follows before we cap off our time in the west of Cuba with a dinner together.

DAYS 6-7

Take the chance to absorb Havana's infectious energy, listening to the sounds of salsa that echo through its alleyways. We'll waste no time getting started as we explore Havana's cobblestone streets, visiting the city's main sites, including Revolution Square, the Malecon seaside boardwalk and a tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Learn to make mojitos with the bartenders at a famous restaurant. After a last-minute shopping session at a craft market, enjoy a dinner before bidding our farewells.

DAY 8

Today marks the end of our Cuban journey. Say goodbye to your group before our drivers transfer you to José Martí International Airport for your flight home.



STANDARD LODGING

You will have the unique opportunity to stay in *casas particulares*, or private homes, while in Cuba. *Casas* are similar to family-run bed & breakfasts (think Airbnb with breakfast in the morning) and all include private bathrooms, air conditioning, and security. On the Preserving Nature's Wonders trip, spend your time on the west side of the island amongst beautiful limestone cliffs, or *mogotes*, within the town of Viñales. Think tobacco fields and nature all around.

Our Purpose

The west coast of Cuba boasts some of the best preserved countryside in the Caribbean, thanks to a series of strict government environmental policies introduced after the 1959 Revolution. Traditional agricultural practices remain in place and the outlawing of pesticides has created a unique ecosystem. To achieve our purpose and support the west coast communities of Cuba, we'll explore the farms, beaches, and landscapes of this region and meet the people who work to preserve it.

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

None

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert





CUBA: Celebration of Arts & Culture

Sway to the salsa beat on this voyage into the heart of Cuba's distinctive art and music scene. We'll meet musicians, artists, and dancers inspired by the rhythm that bounces off the cobble streets of Havana and flows across the whole island.



- Delve into the vibrant art and music scene of Cuba
- Discover private art galleries, and witness dance and choral performances
- Step back in time on the cobblestone alleyways of Havana
- Soak in the beauty of UNESCO-listed Trinidad and Cienfuegos
- Savor Cuban cuisine at a range of family-run paladar restaurants

DURATION
8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND
Easy
(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME
None

GROUP SIZE
Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING
Standard

PRICE
See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1
Jazz and salsa beats will immediately invade your ears upon arriving in Havana. There will be no time to waste as we set about exploring the maze of back-streets, plazas, and seaside promenades that form this historic city. Enjoy a welcome dinner together before soaking up some Cuban culture at a jazz café.

DAY 2
After breakfast, we'll visit a world-renowned Cuban dance troupe and wander through a neighborhood transformed by Cuban artist José Fuster. There will also be a chance to visit the Fine Arts Museum of Havana before dinner at a privately-owned restaurant, or *paladar*.

DAY 3
Tour the University of Havana Campus before visiting the community-based arts organization Muraleando for live music and lunch, where you can also purchase unique art. In the afternoon, sample one of Cuba's most famous exports at the Havana Rum Museum. An energetic evening follows with a visit to the Fabrica de Arte, an old factory transformed into a thriving culture and nightlife center.

DAY 4
Head out of Havana and visit two UNESCO World Heritage Sites on the island: the colorful towns of Trinidad and Cienfuegos. Stop at the historic location of the Bay of Pigs invasion on the way to Cienfuegos, where a guide will reveal the secrets behind the town and a local artist will show us his work, before moving on to Trinidad.

DAY 5
A town historian will guide us through the Spanish-style cobble alleyways and plazas of Trinidad. Learn to salsa like a local as a Cuban instructor provides a step-by-step private lesson. Spend the evening in Plaza Mayor, which bursts to life with live music.

DAY 6
On the journey back to Havana, we'll stop to see an inspirational private performance with a Cuban guitar ensemble. After a seaside lunch, we'll hit the road again, arriving in Havana just in time for dinner at one of the most famous paladares near the Malecón.

DAYS 7-8
Visit the home of Ernest Hemingway and find out why he became such an icon in Cuba, as well as the United States. There will be a chance for some last-minute exploring and shopping before we recall the highlights of the trip at a farewell dinner.

STANDARD LODGING

You will have the unique opportunity to stay in *casas particulares*, or private homes, while in Cuba. Casas are similar to family-run bed & breakfasts (think Airbnb with breakfast in the morning) and all include private bathrooms, air conditioning, and security. On the Celebration of Arts & Culture trip, stay in the business center of Havana before heading out to Trinidad where you'll stay in a quaint home surrounded by beautiful cobblestone streets, colorful buildings, and old colonial architecture.

Our Purpose

A love for music and art is ingrained in Cuban society and has been a common theme throughout the island's fascinating history. To achieve our purpose in supporting the Cuban people, we'll connect with Cubans and learn about the island's evolving culture, both in the alleyways of Havana and further afield in the stunning colonial towns of Trinidad and Cienfuegos. We'll also delve into Cuba's culinary scene, visiting family-run paladar restaurants.



CUBA: Havana Weekend Getaway

Choose to cruise in a vintage car from the 1950s, browse a shopfront sandwiched by colonial mansions, and dance to the salsa beats that reverberate around every street corner. Havana has it all. Discover a unique, vibrant, historic city on this long weekend getaway.



- Watch vintage cars parade along Havana's seaside boardwalk
- Hone your salsa skills during a lesson from an Afro-Cuban dance company
- Visit the home of Ernest Hemingway, one of Cuba's most famous residents
- Delve into Cuba's rich artistic heritage at the Museum of Fine Arts
- Tour the cobbled streets of Old Havana

DURATION

4 Days / 3 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Walking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

None

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive in Havana and take a tour of the city's main sights, including the Malecon coastal boardwalk, Revolution Square and the vibrant Vedado neighborhood. After dinner at a beautiful restaurant overlooking the city, we'll explore a once-derelict factory that has been transformed into a center for Cuban arts and music.

DAY 2

Venture out to Cojimar, the seaside town that was home to one of Cuba's most famous residents, Ernest Hemingway. Tour Hemingway's home and contemplate the surroundings where he wrote some of his most famous novels. Find out more about Havana's thriving music and arts scenes with a presentation from a local Afro-Cuban dance troupe. We'll wind our way through the narrow streets, squares and grand cathedrals of Old Havana, as a guide accompanies us around this UNESCO World Heritage site where history oozes out of every corner. Sample mouthwatering Cuban cuisine at a family-owned paladar restaurant and spend the following hours at one of the city's jazz cafes.

DAY 3

Our tour of Havana's plazas and galleries continues. We will make our way to the legendary Sloppy Joe's Bar. Recently reopened after 48 years, Sloppy Joe's served Americans during the prohibition era. The bartenders will give us a crash course in how to make their famous cocktails, including the mojito. The afternoon will focus on Cuba's art scene, with a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts and a private gallery in central Havana, where there will also be opportunity for souvenir shopping. Following a farewell dinner, we'll enjoy live music at Havana's famous Hotel Nacional.

DAY 4

After enjoying breakfast together, we'll say our goodbyes and head back to the airport for our return flights home.

STANDARD LODGING

You will have the unique opportunity to stay in casas particulares, or private homes, while in Cuba. Casas are similar to family-run bed & breakfasts (think AirBnB with breakfast in the morning) and all include private bathrooms, air conditioning, and security. On the Havana Weekend Getaway trip, stay in central Havana in the neighborhood of Vedado, just a 10 minute walk to the Malecon and 10 minute drive to the hustle and bustle of Old Havana.

Our Purpose

Times are fast changing in Cuba, and Havana lies at the cusp of this new era. This could be a final chance to view a city largely preserved in time, before the onset of increased tourism. To achieve our purpose in supporting the Cuban people and locally-owned businesses, we'll spend four days getting a taste of life in Havana and the art, music, and history that makes the city burst with such intense energy.



BELIZE: Wildlife Volunteer Adventure

Encounter coral-fringed islands, picture-perfect beaches, dense rainforest, and wildlife-packed wilderness during this expedition through the natural wonders of Belize. Amid this stunning setting, volunteer with a marine conservation group that works to protect and preserve Belize's manatee population.



- Monitor manatee populations alongside conservation groups
- Explore ancient Mayan ruins nestled deep inside the jungle
- Snorkel over rainbow-colored reefs in the Caribbean waters
- Come face-to-face with Belize's vast array of wildlife, including howler monkeys
- Step into the rainforest and discover untouched silver-sand beaches

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate

(Walking, boat transfers, light hiking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

12 hours (3 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 12

LODGING

Standard & Rustic

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

After arriving, you'll have the chance to meet Belizean primates as we stop at a baboon sanctuary en route to the golden sandy beaches of Hopkins. The next day we'll visit the Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins before visiting a local women's group for a traditional homemade lunch. Here, learn to make corn tortillas, cacao chocolate, and learn traditional dances from the women of the community. Watch the sun set over the seaside town of Punta Gorda.

DAY 3

Hop aboard a boat to Payne's Creek National Park alongside the conservationists we'll be volunteering with over the next three days. Settle in to our rustic ranger's station accommodation and learn more about the threats facing the manatees of Belize and why your presence and the data collected is so important to their protection. Complete your first manatee survey of the week before a traditional dinner prepared by private cooks.

DAY 4

Rise and shine for a day monitoring the manatee population in a nearby lagoon. Learn to gather data using GPS tracking devices, measure water depth and salinity, and record manatee sightings and characteristics. In the afternoon, visit the unforgettable coastal village of Punta Negra for a coconut oil making class, lunch, and gorgeous views of the sea before returning to our lodging to input the day's data. After dinner, experience a unique night tour of the lagoon.

DAY 5

Spend the morning collecting data on manatees along the beautiful Frenchman Cayes, then head out to the coral-

edged island of West Snake Caye. Snorkel in the crystal-clear waters before returning to Punta Gorda by boat for a relaxing evening.

DAY 6

For the early risers, enjoy an optional early morning kayak through the mangroves out to the ocean. Spend the day exploring this lazy fishing town at your own pace, or opt for a zip-lining and river tubing adventure supplement. Feel the rhythms of the Caribbean with a traditional Creole drum lesson by night.

DAYS 7-8

Venture into hidden caves camouflaged by jungle growth, explore beautiful waterfalls, and relax by natural pools as we visit Rio Blanco National Park. Spend a final evening at Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary before embarking on a night tour of the Belize Zoo. Rise early to head back to Belize City for flights home, or continue to the optional Tikal Archaeological Ruins Extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: TIKAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RUINS 3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS

Arrive in Flores, Guatemala. Hit the ground running with a visit to Yaxha, one of the largest Maya sites in Guatemala. Be one of the few to experience the ruins of Tikal National park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, before venturing into the ruins of sacred temples and palaces deep in the heart of the jungle. End the journey exploring Ixpanpajul Nature Park.

LODGING

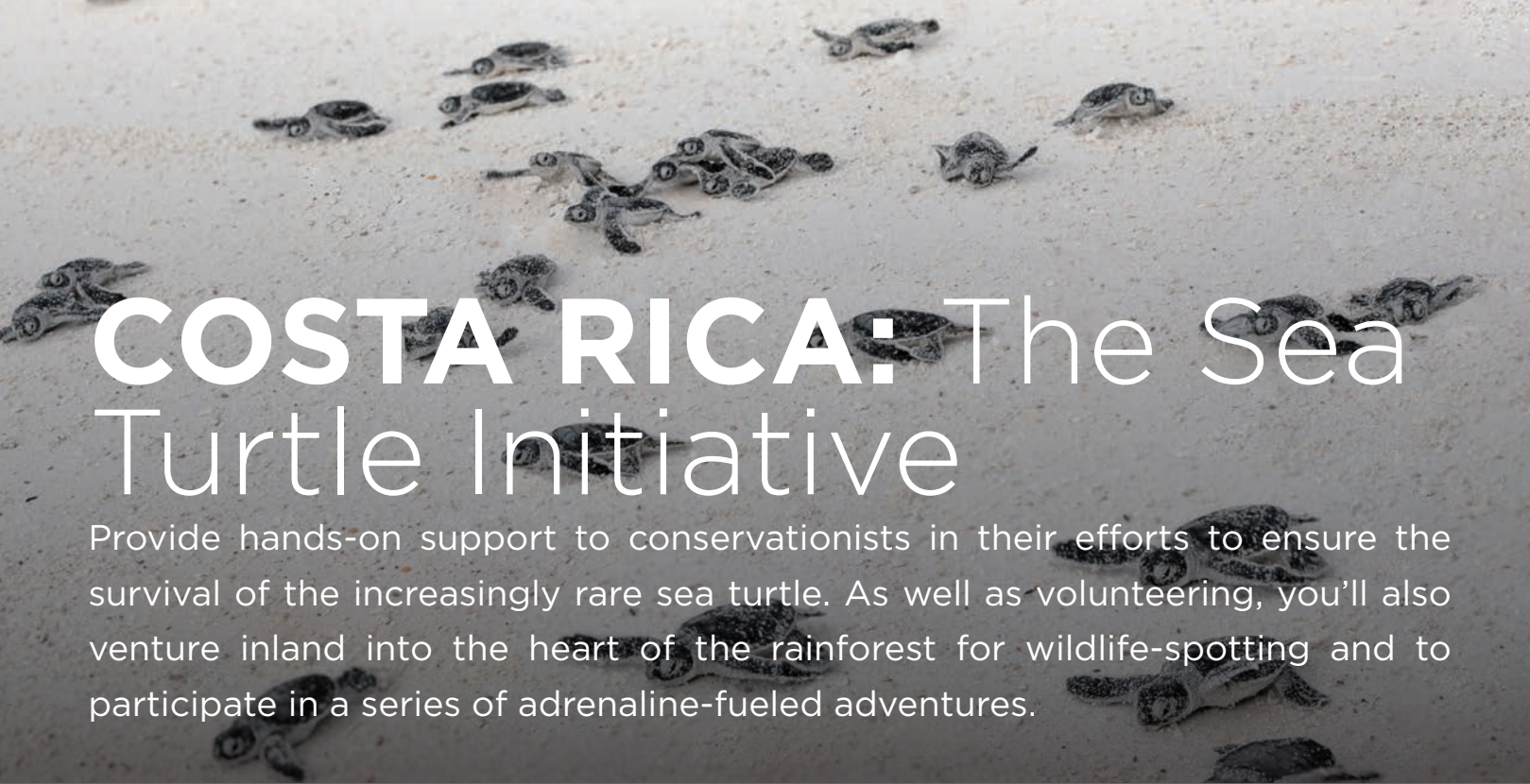
STANDARD NIGHTS 1-2, 5-7 / RUSTIC NIGHTS 3-4

In the picturesque seaside town of Hopkins, start your journey with one night in a coastal hotel before splitting your time between two of Belize's unique ecosystems. Stay first at a rustic guesthouse tucked into the Payne's Creek Nature Reserve with a wonderland of natural beauty at your doorstep. Move on to an oceanfront hotel in the laid back coastal town of Punta Gorda.

Our Purpose

The West Indian manatee population is under threat due to habitat loss, boat strikes, and human impact in the waters of Belize. Volunteer with a manatee conservation group working to gather statistics and data to continue to keep boats away from the reserves in Belize to protect these vulnerable creates. To achieve our purpose, head out by boat with a marine biologist to collect data on currents, size and populations of manatees, location, and overall health of the reserve, which will be used to better protect these aquatic mammals.





COSTA RICA: The Sea Turtle Initiative

Provide hands-on support to conservationists in their efforts to ensure the survival of the increasingly rare sea turtle. As well as volunteering, you'll also venture inland into the heart of the rainforest for wildlife-spotting and to participate in a series of adrenaline-fueled adventures.



- Help with the survival of fragile sea turtles along the Costa Rican coastline
- Fly through the treetops on a zipline adventure
- Tube or raft along a jungle river bordered by lush vegetation
- Relax on pristine Costa Rican beaches

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate
(night walks through sand, 3-4 mile hikes, uneven surfaces)

VOLUNTEER TIME

12 hrs (4 night patrols, light daily activities)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 20

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

After a welcome dinner and a good night's sleep, we'll rise early and journey through scenic mountainous terrain toward the coast. We'll find our bearings at the beachside accommodation, learn about the conservation work, and embark on a night patrol to scope the nesting area.

DAY 3

Protect turtles from discarded trash by participating in a beach clean-up. Return to the hatchery in late afternoon and learn how to dig a turtle nest so you're ready for the night patrol! During peak hatchling season, you may have the chance to release hatchlings into the ocean, and while in the nesting season, search for turtles nesting along the coast.

DAY 4

Meet the infamous Jungle Mike to learn about bees, insects, and butterflies. Enjoy a short hike through the rainforest to learn how this important ecosystem works. Participate in another turtle patrol by night.

DAY 5

Head out to a traditional fishing village and learn the difference between artisanal and commercial fishing. Enjoy a freshly caught fish lunch prepared by the local ladies. Rest up in the afternoon for the final night of patrol.

DAY 6

Return to the Liberia region and visit an animal rescue center rehabilitating endangered wildlife including pumas, ocelots, and jaguars. Continue on to a mountainside hacienda where we'll visit natural hot springs, a butterfly farm, and serpentarium.

DAYS 7-8

Careen over the treetops on a zipline and ride an inner tube down the Rio Negro during an action-packed day. You may choose to jump into the Canon de la Vieja, man-made pools with access to the Colorado River, to cool off. Enjoy a final afternoon relaxing or exploring before reflecting on the trip at a farewell dinner.

Sea Turtle Calendar

JULY - AUGUST:
Beginning of nesting season

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER:
Prime nesting and hatchling season

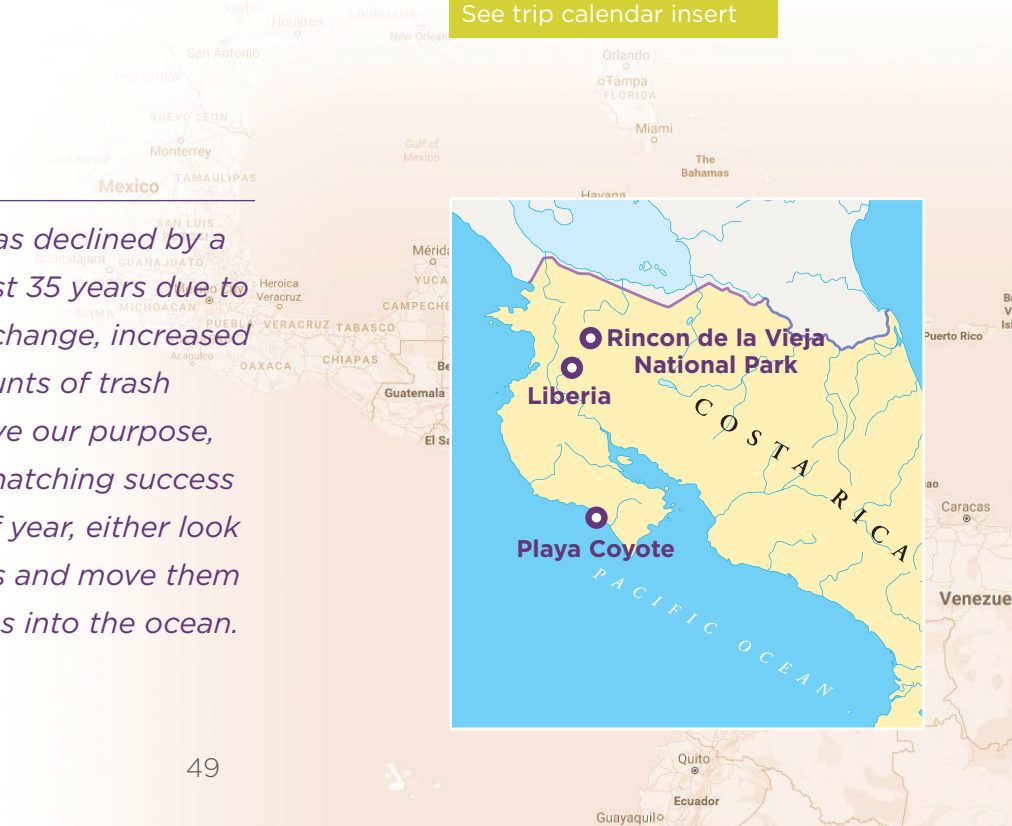
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER:
End of nesting and hatchling season

STANDARD LODGING

Spend your first evening at a lodge outside the northern city of Liberia before heading down to the tropical coastline for the next four nights. Relax in quaint bungalows by night, all boasting ocean-view and fan-cooled rooms. Venture to the mountains for your final two nights and stay in a mountainside retreat that puts you at the doorstep of Rincon de La Vieja National Park.

Our Purpose

Costa Rica's sea turtle population has declined by a devastating 90 percent over the past 35 years due to a host of factors, including climate change, increased boat traffic, and growth in the amounts of trash clogging up their habitats. To achieve our purpose, dig up hatched nests to determine hatching success rates, and depending on the time of year, either look for nesting females and collect eggs and move them to the hatchery, or release hatchlings into the ocean.



COSTA RICA: Family Volunteer Adventure

Witness a mind-boggling array of tropical wildlife in their breathtaking natural habitat during this exhilarating and immersive family-friendly expedition. Discover lush rainforests, deserted beaches and bubbling hot springs - while also caring for injured animals at a wildlife rescue center.



- Foster your whole family's love of wildlife in the heart of the rainforest
- Hike along hanging bridges suspended across the cloud forest canopy
- Bathe in natural hot springs at the base of a volcano
- Help vulnerable animals at a wildlife rescue center
- Find out firsthand how artisanal chocolate is made

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy
(Light hiking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

6 Hours (3 mornings)

GROUP SIZE

Average 10, Maximum 20

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Experience a traditional way of life within a rural community in the town of La Fortuna. Local school children will entertain us with a dance presentation, and we will also learn about the farming techniques of the region. Assist on a reforestation project and return to town to cook up one of Costa Rica's most famous dishes.

DAY 3

Spend the morning learning about the cacao beans' pivotal role in Costa Rican history, as well as finding out how it is harvested and produced. Then, it's time for a soothing soak in the natural hot springs at the base of Arenal Volcano.

DAY 4

Hike along the hanging bridges that skirt the stunning cloud canopy in one of the most biodiverse regions of Costa Rica. Spend the afternoon exploring the forest-encircled mountain town of Monteverde and fly through the trees on an optional ziplining adventure. After sunset, venture into the forest again for up-close encounters with nocturnal creatures.

DAY 5

We'll hit the road for a long day of driving through the beautiful mountains of Costa Rica and head to the fun surfing town of Quepos. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon in town or enjoy one of the area's beautiful beaches.

DAY 6

Volunteer at a wildlife center dedicated to helping rescued animals as you lend a hand preparing food. Learn about the issues these vulnerable species face before an afternoon to explore the beaches of Manuel Antonio.

DAYS 7-8

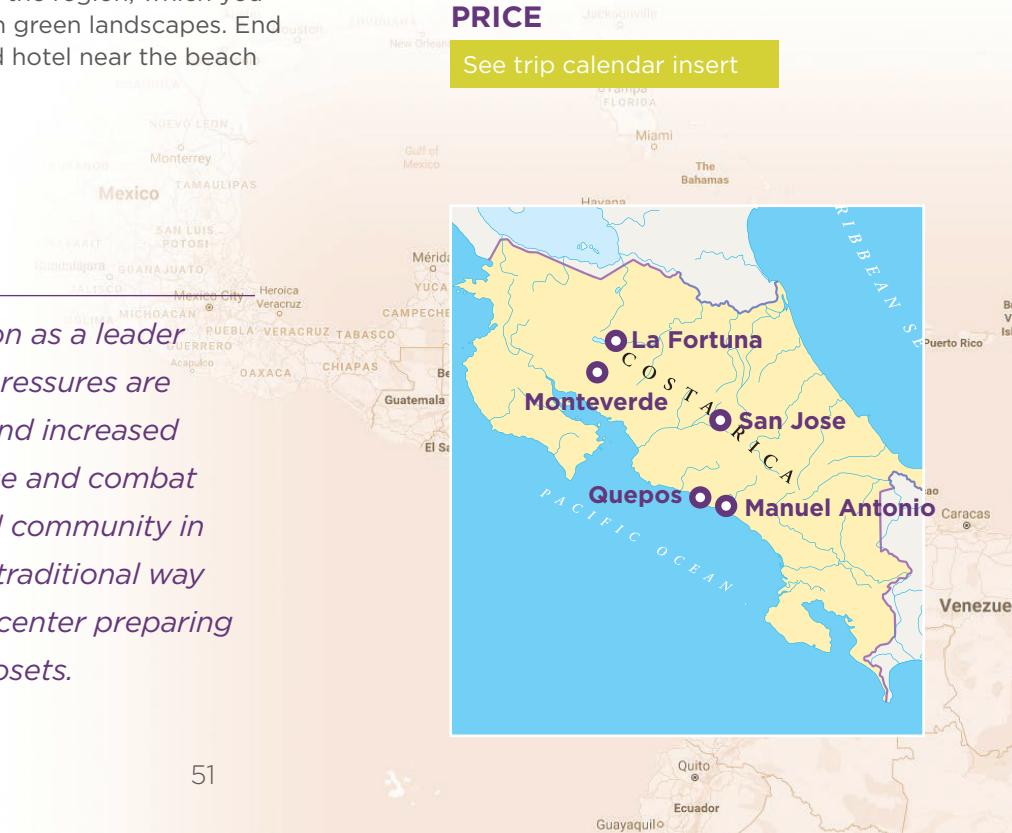
Spend the morning hiking through Manuel Antonio looking for monkeys, sloths and all manner of birds. For those seeking a more intense adrenaline hit, there is the opportunity to add on an exhilarating rafting excursion along Class I and Class II rapids, suitable for first-timers. Head back to San Jose the next morning to catch our flights home.

STANDARD LODGING

Located in a town at the base of the towering Arenal Volcano, unwind in a charming, centrally-located hotel that boasts a pool overlooking an adjacent forest that is home to iguanas, butterflies, and the occasional sloth. Move on to a cozy eco-lodge set high in the cloud forest, home to the world's first ever zip-line. This lodge takes pride in creating a positive experience without interfering with the natural habitat of the fauna and flora of the region, which you will experience as you live amongst the lush green landscapes. End the trip with three nights at a locally owned hotel near the beach surrounded by rainforest.

Our Purpose

Costa Rica has an excellent reputation as a leader in sustainability, but environmental pressures are rising due to a growing population and increased deforestation. To achieve our purpose and combat these threats, plant trees with a rural community in the highlands, and learn about their traditional way of life. Volunteer at a wildlife rescue center preparing food for sloths, monkeys, and marmosets.



COSTA RICA: Wildlife Safari

Venture to the lush Caribbean coast and experience the array of wildlife that inhabits one of the most biodiverse countries in the world. This extraordinary trip will take you right to the front line of conservation and get you up close to sloths, jaguars, turtles, and other amazing animals.



- Come face-to-face with howler monkeys and sleepy sloths in local sanctuaries
- Watch wildlife from the Sarapiquí River on a rafting expedition
- Join jungle researchers at the exclusive La Selva Biological Station
- Snorkel amongst Costa Rica's multicolored, wildlife-rich underwater world
- Join conservationists that care for jaguars, toucans, monkeys, and sloths

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Leave the airport in San Jose for a scenic two-and-a-half-hour drive across a mountainous continental divide. Kick off the adventure at La Selva Biological Station, an internationally-recognized research station that's normally closed to the public. After a long morning, walk with a naturalist spotting sloths and monkeys. You can then opt for either the adventure supplement whitewater rafting on the Saraquí River, or take it easy with an organic pineapple plantation tour (with the added benefit of fresh piña coladas!).

DAY 3

Head to the laid-back Caribbean coast and visit the Jaguar Rescue Center. Join conservationists on a tour of the sanctuary that cares for jaguars, toucans, monkeys, and baby sloths. Spend the evening enjoying the colorful and musical local culture.

DAY 4

Continue to Cahuita National Park for a free day on Day 4. Choose to hike along the beach, snorkel in the clear blue waters, or just relax and enjoy the laid-back Costa Rican way of life. If the weather and time of year permit, we will go on a night patrol searching for nesting turtles at a nearby beach.

DAY 5

In the morning, head out on a four-hour drive to Tortuguero, known as "Place of the Turtles" by locals. Enjoy a homemade lunch with a local family to better understand the culture of Costa Rica's Caribbean side.

DAY 6

Explore Tortuguero on an unforgettable early-morning canoeing expedition, watching the water for otters, kingfishers, and parrots. Prepare a feast in the afternoon in a fun cooking class before hopping on a boat to Caño Palma Biological Station for a beach cleanup.

DAYS 7-8

Experience more of Costa Rica's stunning scenery on a breathtaking drive to a toucan rescue center. Prepare food for these endangered animals such as jaguars and get expert insight on the conservation efforts in the area. After a farewell barbeque together, it's time to fly home.

LODGING

STANDARD NIGHTS 1-3, 5-7 / RUSTIC NIGHT 4

Stay in eco-friendly lodges enhanced by the surrounding scenery. All lodges are family-owned, sustainable, and proud to contribute to the environment instead of damaging it, leaving you with more than just a place to sleep. We will bounce around to three different lodges while on this trip, one located at the base of a volcano, one close to the sea, and one surrounded by lush green coffee plantations. Fall asleep each night as you listen to the symphony of the forest.

Our Purpose

The wonderful wildlife of Costa Rica faces threats from every angle as developers, global warming, and poachers attempt to diminish the nation's rich biodiversity. To achieve our purpose, meet the people working to protect some of the nation's most vulnerable species and join in their conservation efforts through education and wildlife sanctuary visits and a beach cleanup.

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate

(Hiking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

2 Hours

GROUP SIZE

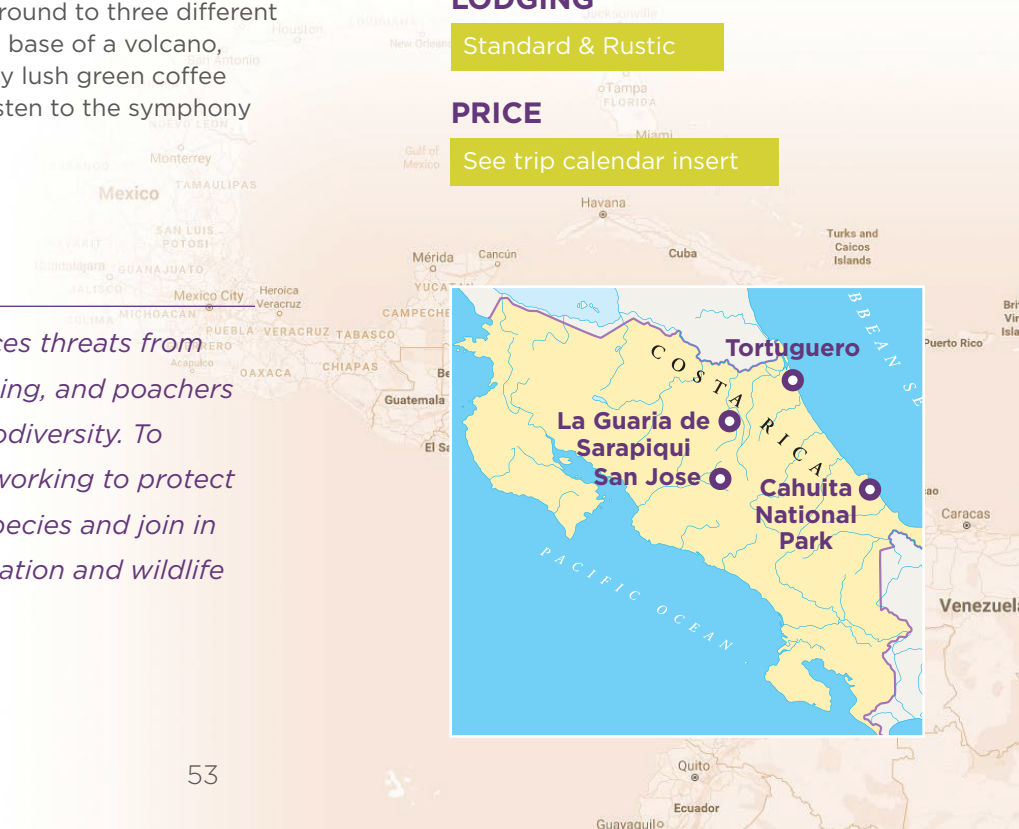
Average 12, Maximum 20

LODGING

Standard & Rustic

PRICE

See trip calendar insert





DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Heart & Soul of the Caribbean

Escape the tourist resorts of the Dominican Republic and experience the island's idyllic beaches and tropical mountain landscapes as only the locals do. Help welcoming communities maintain this paradise by volunteering with sustainable development projects that maximize the use of recyclable materials.

- Build schools, medical clinics, and houses out of reusable plastic bottles
- Snorkel in turquoise Caribbean waters inhabited by exotic marine life
- Explore mountainous landscapes untouched by development
- Volunteer in bateyes, underprivileged villages of Haitian sugar cane workers
- Hike along dense jungle trails to reach secluded villages

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate
(Occasional lifting, building)

VOLUNTEER TIME

16 hours (4 afternoons)

GROUP SIZE

Average 12, Maximum 20

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Explore our base in the small town of Playa Las Canas and learn about the social, political, and cultural issues affecting the Dominican Republic. Sample the local cuisine, wander around the markets, and take a short stroll down to the beach to listen to the waves gently crashing against the shoreline.

DAY 3

Roll your sleeves up and begin volunteering on a variety of community projects, which will make a huge difference to the surrounding towns. Our projects will revolve around boosting the use of recyclable materials by constructing schools and health clinics out of discarded plastic bottles.

DAY 4

Explore the untouched side of the Dominican landscape after the volunteer work concludes for the day. Spend the afternoon lounging on the island's undeveloped beaches of Playa Grande, and explore the beautiful nature reserve Duda Ecological Park. Find yourself climbing through the mountainous interior and uncovering cool swimming holes and trails leading through dense jungle - like something you would see in a movie.

DAY 5

More hands-on learning experiences about the lives of local people today as we visit a *batey*, a community of displaced Haitians who have come to the Dominican seeking better economic opportunities.

DAY 6

After a morning volunteering alongside the community on our projects, you will have further chances to visit lesser-explored island locales. Climb to a rural mountain village to experience a traditional way of life or simply relax on the pristine white-sand beaches, which are a hallmark of the Dominican Republic's north coast.

DAYS 7-8

Hop aboard a small boat anchored at Sosua Beach and cruise toward hidden coves. Don snorkeling gear and plunge into the warm waters to view the colorful and wonderful marine creatures that populate this underwater paradise. There will be a last opportunity to lounge on the beach, before a farewell dinner.



STANDARD LODGING

Live in a friendly, family-owned hotel overlooking the beautiful Caribbean sea. Each room has a patio or balcony, making this the perfect place to relax and enjoy the calmness of such a remote location while still feeling safe. Complete with a poolside bar, restaurant, safe in the room, modern amenities, and a path the the beach, you'll feel welcomed and comfortable during your stay.

Our Purpose

Schools, medical clinics, and houses are being constructed in the Dominican Republic out of reusable plastic bottles. We'll work with local people, including Haitian migrant communities, to create more of these structures, which help rid the area of waste and teach environmental awareness. Most importantly, they provide a much-needed resource, with many of these rural communities lacking basic infrastructure. To achieve our purpose, lay cement foundations, stack bottles and secure around the walls, or construct a roof - you pick up where the last group left off, so your tasks differ depending on time of travel.



CROATIA: Dolphins & Islands Expedition

Help to protect vulnerable Adriatic dolphins in the Croatian islands, embarking on boat rides to track and monitor dolphins with a conservation institute. Back on dry land, visit quaint European seaside towns, and take traditional cooking classes on the spectacular island of Hvar. An optional extension takes in the storied city of Dubrovnik.



- Go dolphin-spotting in the Adriatic Sea with a leading conservation organization
- Hike through Hvar's UNESCO-listed Stari Grad Plain
- Bask in the majestic light of the Blue Cave
- Get creative with a three-course Croatian cooking class
- Kayak the clearest waters in the entire world, found off the coast of Hvar

DURATION

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

(Hiking, kayaking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

10 Hours (2 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 12

LODGING

Standard & Superior

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Touching down in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, you'll get to know your Discover Corps guide and fellow travelers before embarking on a five-hour trip over land and sea to the island of Lošinj – taking in gorgeous views along the way. We'll then unwind over a delicious welcome dinner.

DAY 2

On our first morning of volunteering, we'll meet the expert team and learn about the fundamentals of dolphin biology and conservation. Then we'll take a dolphin-tracking, data-collecting boat trip on the Adriatic Sea, before getting more insight into dolphin conservation with a photo-identification workshop after lunch.

DAY 3

This morning, we'll return to the Blue World Institute for another interactive conservation learning session, this time focused on sea turtles. In the afternoon, hop on a boat to explore the incredible Blue Cave, famous for its atmospheric blue glow.

DAY 4

You'll spend your last morning at the institute putting your newly gained marine biology knowledge to good use on one final dolphin-tracking boat trip. Afterwards, you'll have free time to explore the postcard-perfect village of Veli Lošinj and its lovely cafés and restaurants at your own pace.

DAY 5

Today will be spent passing through some of Croatia's most striking landscapes, as we make our way to the island of Hvar. Keep your camera on hand to capture the rugged coastline and beautiful countryside along the way, as we travel by ferry, van and boat.

DAYS 6

After breakfast in the historic village of Stari Grad, our base for the next two days, we'll head to neighboring Vrisnik for a traditional Croatian cooking lesson on a hilltop overlooking the village. An optional hike back to the hotel leads us through the ancient farming landscapes of the Stari Grad Plain.

DAYS 7

This morning we'll venture out on a kayaking excursion around the Pakleni Islands, considered to have the clearest waters in the world. This afternoon you have a choice: either tour two local wineries for an additional fee, or take a free afternoon to lounge by the hotel pool or explore the village.

DAYS 8

If you're on the eight-day trip, you'll say your goodbyes before returning to Split International Airport for your flight home. If you're continuing on to the Dubrovnik extension, you'll board the boat to the island of Mljet.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: DUBROVNIK

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Explore the island of Mljet with a gentle hike or optional boat trip for stunning hilltop views. The next two days will see you exploring the beautiful walled city of Dubrovnik, taking in the famous red-roofed buildings and winding alleyways of the UNESCO-listed Old Town. There's also a lovely beach to enjoy, while *Game of Thrones* fans can take a tour of the locations featured in the hit TV series.

LODGING

STANDARD NIGHTS 1-4 / SUPERIOR NIGHTS 5-7

You'll stay in a cozy, comfortable hotel in the heart of the small island of Lošinj. Complete with all of your basic amenities as well as a pool, it is the sweeping views of the sea all around that make this hotel one to remember. In Hvar, experience traditional Croatian charm in a hotel with old stone walls, restaurants overlooking the water, and a central location which makes it easy to explore. Each room is different than the next, but all will make you feel right at home.

Our Purpose

Croatia's Adriatic coastline is home to a vast array of vulnerable marine animals, including sea turtles, giant devil rays, and the Adriatic dolphin. In order to ensure their protection, it's important to continue to monitor and gather data on their status. To achieve our purpose, you'll go behind the scenes at the Blue World Institute on the island of Lošinj, aiding researchers in dolphin monitoring expeditions – collecting data on dolphin behavior, environmental conditions, and numbers, locations and sightings of dolphins, and taking photographs for analysis. You'll also get a taste of life as a marine biologist, learning how to read this information and why it is important for the wellbeing of the dolphins.



Oaxaca: Women & Girls' Empowerment

Experience women's empowerment in action as you visit local non-profit organizations in Mexico's stunning Oaxaca Valley. Discover the secrets of Zapotec cuisine at a cooking class, enjoy the products of centuries of chocolate-making tradition, and wander through ancient pre-Columbian ruins and the beautiful colonial streets of Oaxaca City.



- Immerse yourself in traditional Zapotec culture in the Oaxaca Valley
- Help empower women with a local non-profit organization
- Marvel at the pre-Columbian ruins of Monte Albán
- Wander the 16th-century colonial core of Oaxaca City
- Swim among the unique rock formations of Hierve el Agua

DURATION

6 Days / 5 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

(2 miles walking at one time)

VOLUNTEER TIME

6 Hours (2 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

Average 6, Maximum 12

LODGING

Standard & Rustic

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAY 1

After touching down in Oaxaca, you'll be taken to your hotel where you'll meet your Discover Corps guide and fellow travelers. Explore the gorgeous old city on a guided walking tour, taking in 16th-century churches, plazas and monasteries, before a traditional Tehuana-style dinner.

DAY 2

This morning we'll visit the village of Teotitlán del Valle, home to a large indigenous Zapotec population. You'll be introduced to the Fundación En Vía team, the nonprofit we'll learn from, and enjoy lunch with the local women whom they empower through a variety of initiatives.

DAY 3

Today we'll immerse ourselves fully in Oaxacan culture, as we join a weaving and dyeing workshop led by local women. After trying your hand at these traditional skills, shop for ingredients at a local market before cooking a traditional lunch with the help of Zapotec chef Reyna Mendoza.

DAY 4

This morning begins with a trip to Hierve al Agua, a stunning set of rock formations resembling frozen waterfalls, where you'll have the chance to swim in mineral-rich pools. After lunch we'll head to San Marcos Tlapazola, a remote community dominated by women whose husbands have left to work abroad. Here you'll learn chocolate-making methods passed down from ancient Mesoamerican cultures.

DAY 5

After breakfast, we'll head to Monte Albán, the most significant archeological site in the Oaxaca Valley, with ruins dating back thousands of years. In San Martín Tilcajete we'll take a workshop in making surreal alebrije folk sculptures, before an optional tour of Oaxaca's bustling markets and a farewell dinner at the famous Casa Oaxaca.

DAY 6

Today marks the end of our trip, and we'll enjoy breakfast together before we say our goodbyes and you head to Oaxaca International Airport for your flight home.

LODGING

STANDARD NIGHTS 1, 5 / RUSTIC NIGHTS 2-4

Our home in Oaxaca City is Hotel con Corazón, a modern but quaint hotel where profits go into educational projects that support the local community. Each room has private bathrooms, wifi, fans, and garden views. In Teotitlán del Valle, we'll stay at a local bed and breakfast, which is decorated in the beautiful, bright traditional style and has all the home comforts you'll need for a comfortable stay.

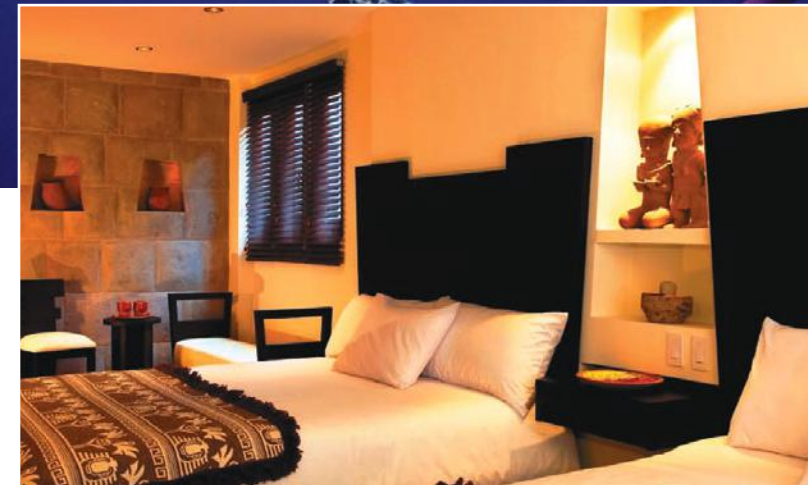
Our Purpose

Gain insight into the culture of Mexico's indigenous Zapotec people as you help non-profit organizations to empower and uplift historically disadvantaged women in the Oaxaca Valley. To achieve our purpose, you'll be invited into the homes and workplaces of local women, learning traditional cooking and craft techniques passed down through the generations. You'll also have the chance to get lost amid the winding colonial streets of Oaxaca City, visit the ancient ruins of Monte Albán and discover the bizarre rock formations of Hierve el Agua.



GALÁPAGOS: Family Volunteer Adventure

Swim with friendly sea lions, snorkel with sea turtles, observe sunbathing iguanas, and meet giant tortoises while helping out at a tortoise reserve. This exciting small-group family trip to the fabled Galápagos Islands promises activities including kayaking, hiking, and volunteering – as well as a healthy dose of relaxation.



- Get close to giant tortoises while volunteering at a conservation sanctuary
- Snorkel with penguins, reef sharks, and sea lions in crystal-clear waters
- See first-hand the unique biodiversity that has inspired scientists for generations
- View creatures in their natural surroundings on uninhabited islands
- Kayak the seas in search of the famed blue-footed booby bird

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: Tour the cobblestone streets of Quito's UNESCO-listed colonial center, then see the city's more modern side. Ride a cable car to a mountain summit and enjoy a bird's-eye view of the city and surrounding volcanic peaks before dining at a chic restaurant.

DAYS 3-4: Catch an early flight to Baltra Island in the Galápagos and hop aboard a boat to Isabela Island. Spend the evening exploring the idyllic coastal town of Puerto Villamil, the third largest town in the archipelago. In the morning, snorkel at the spectacular site of Los Tuneles, off the coast of Isabela. Dive beneath the turquoise sea and explore gnarled formations of hardened lava, which have created underwater tunnels. Swim alongside sea turtles, rays, and white-tipped sharks.

DAY 5: Kayak around the Las Tintoreras islets in search of blue-footed boobies and snorkel in quiet coves known to house turtles, friendly reef sharks, and beautiful tropical fish. Wander through a pristine mangrove forest at low tide to discover an otherwise invisible ecosystem.

DAYS 6-7: After a pre-dawn boat ride to Santa Cruz Island, we'll head up into the highlands. Hike through underground tunnels formed by lava and see giant tortoises slowly plodding along. Volunteer at a sanctuary, planting native crops and removing invasive species to help restore these creatures' habitat. Visit the Charles Darwin Research Station to learn about the conservation projects across the archipelago and continue our work at the tortoise sanctuary on Day 7.

DAY 8: Venture to the uninhabited island of North Seymour, home to one of the largest populations of blue-footed boobies and frigate birds, identifiable by their large, red balloon-like throat sacks. Learn about the symbiotic relationship between these two species before we stop at a magnificent beach where you can snorkel with sea lions.

DAYS 9-10: Plunge into the protected waters around the island of Pinzon, one of the best snorkeling spots in the archipelago, and swim with sea turtles and sea lions. Cruise around the island of Daphne, which is only accessible to scientists. The following day, fly back to Quito, before the journey home or continuing on to the Amazon Basin Extension

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: AMAZON BASIN

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Venture to "El Coca" and stay in a 5-star jungle eco-resort. Learn how the basin operates from naturalist guides as you stand amongst 400 year old mahogany trees, and climb 120 ft above the forest for an unforgettable aerial view of the rainforest, spotting colorful birds and primates in the distance. Explore the beautiful lagoon of Mandi Cocha alive with giant otters, monkeys, and birds. Witness an Amazonian sunset from the water in the canoe before a night of stargazing. Ride to the clay lakes and learn about the Kichwa culture from a community member. Travel to Garzacochoa Lagoon and Ceiba Trail before a nocturnal walk through the jungle.

STANDARD LODGING

As you hop from island to island in the Galápagos, you'll move around to different accommodations throughout your journey. Experience the charming town of Puerto Ayora, the cosmopolitan Ecuadorian capital of Quito, and take time to relax by the pool and gardens along the way as you take in the slow pace of life on the islands.

Our Purpose

By the time the Galápagos National Park was established in 1959, the islands' giant tortoise population had been decimated, with only 11 of the 14 original populations remaining. We aim to reverse this terrible trend. To achieve our purpose, volunteer at a tortoise sanctuary helping remove invasive plant species and sowing native bushes and grasses that the tortoises eat. Learn first-hand about protecting the natural habitat of the Galápagos' most emblematic native species.

DURATION

10 Days / 9 Nights

(+Optional 4-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate

(Hiking, snorkeling, long days)

VOLUNTEER TIME

8 Hours (2 half-days)

GROUP SIZE

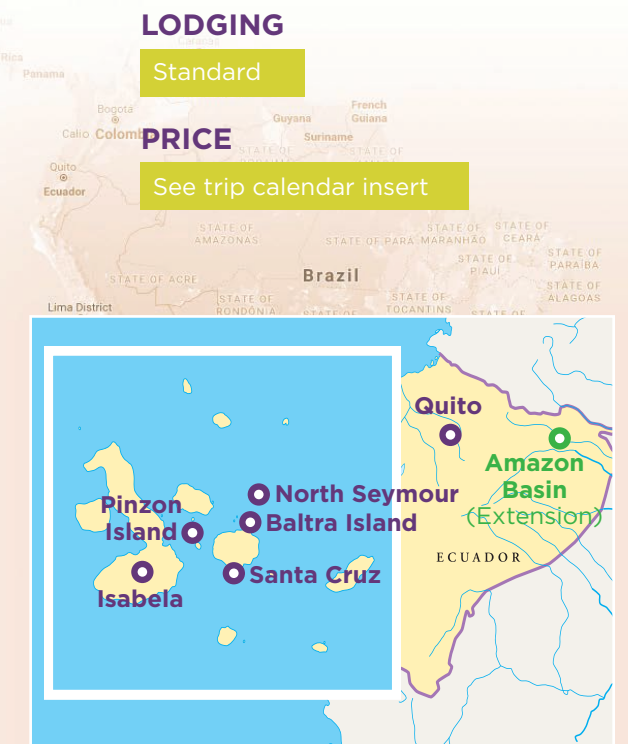
Average 10, Maximum 15

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert



PERU: Children of the Andes

Venture to the summit and explore the ruins of one of the world's most iconic sights; the fabled Inca citadel of Machu Picchu. Delve into the local culture as you journey through the Andes and help children achieve their potential by assisting in after-school programs in a rural Andean community.



- Hike to the ancient Inca citadel of Machu Picchu
- Help Peruvian school children develop their English language skills
- Live surrounded by the soaring Andes Mountain range
- Attend a traditional ceremony conducted by a Peruvian shaman
- Shop for colorful keepsakes at indigenous craft markets

DURATION

10 Days / 9 Nights
(+Optional 3-day extension)

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate
(Hiking)

VOLUNTEER TIME

20 Hours (5 afternoons)

GROUP SIZE

Average 12, Maximum 20

LODGING

Standard

PRICE

See trip calendar insert

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2

Settle into a Cusco guesthouse for the night before rising to enjoy an authentic Peruvian breakfast the following day. Enjoy a tour of the Inca ruins around Cusco, some of the oldest in Peru; these include Sacsayhuaman, Pucapucara, Qengo, and Tambomachay. After exploring the ruins and surrounding countryside, we'll head to our home for the week in the quaint village of Andahuaylillas.

DAYS 3-5

Head to a small Andean village tucked in the mountains outside Cusco and meet a mystic shaman who will explain ancient Incan spiritual rituals. We'll sew handmade dolls using colorful locally-woven fabrics and tour a nearby orphanage. Teach basic English through language lessons and engaging educational games at the community's after-school program.

DAYS 6-7

Experience the innovative ways that a local artist and his wife are economically empowering women in the community through projects such as selling handmade Peruvian dolls internationally. Visit the women's houses for a cooking class before continuing our education program with the children.

DAY 8

Head back to Cusco for a tour of its most important sites: the Cathedral, San Blas Church, and Koricancha, the Inca Temple of the Sun. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional lunch then take some free time in the town to explore.

DAYS 9-10

Rattle through the Andes on a train to reach the famous mountaintop ruins of Machu Picchu, where we will spend the afternoon reflecting on the astonishing archaeological masterpiece. Return to Cusco later in the afternoon before departing the next day or continuing to the optional Rainbow Mountain Extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: RAINBOW MOUNTAIN

3 Days / 2 Nights

DAY 10

Visit the Pacha Conservancy camp, an environmental organization where orchids and tea plants grow amid Inca-style stone walls.

DAY 11

Embark on the adventurous six-mile journey by horseback to the unforgettable Rainbow Mountain. Prepare for a somewhat strenuous but beautiful journey full of alpaca herds, snow-capped mountains in the distance, and untouched desert landscapes.

DAY 12

Absorb the unique street atmosphere of Cusco by drinking coffee, listening to the church bells, and picking up some final souvenirs before flights home.

STANDARD LODGING

Set amongst the soaring Andes Mountains, stay in a hacienda complete with vegetable gardens (which we use for meals). Our in-house chef will prepare authentic Peruvian cuisine. While in Cusco, spend the evenings in a locally-owned 3-star bed & breakfast in the historic heart of Cusco.

Our Purpose

Education is key to unlocking economic doors in the small Andean villages on the outskirts of the Peruvian city of Cusco. To achieve our purpose of educating and uplifting youth in the small village of Andahuaylillas, assist with an after-school program that helps local children improve their English language skills. Devise lessons and educational games, which will create lasting memories both for you and the children involved.



More Trips

ON OUR WEBSITE

Galápagos: Wildlife Odyssey
(Nature & Wildlife Adventure)

Belize: Wildlife Safari
(Nature & Wildlife Adventure)

Guatemala: In & Beyond the Classroom
(Cultural Exploration)

India: Tiger Volunteer Adventure
(Nature & Wildlife Adventure)



TRIP CALENDAR ENCLOSED

Find up-to-date prices and departure dates for all of our trips.

To download more detailed day-to-day itineraries, visit: discovercorps.com/itineraries

OUR COMMITMENTS

To The Planet

We partner with ethical, responsible organizations that work tirelessly to protect the environment and preserve the natural wonders that make our world so inspiring.

To The People

We work with small-scale entrepreneurs in order to channel resources to their local communities and offer a financial incentive to preserve their cultural heritage.

To You

We design trips built on sustainable travel principles so that your journey can both improve the lives of the people you visit and allow you an authentic, meaningful, and inspiring experience.

2019-2020 TRIP CALENDAR



Discover Corps

VACATIONS WITH PURPOSE

TRIP CALENDAR

Dates & Fees

As seen in:

**Los Angeles
Times**



**USA
TODAY
TRAVEL**

Inc.

yoga
Digest

**International
Business
Times**



2019-2020 TRIP CALENDAR

Nature & Wildlife Adventures | Cultural Explorations

Trip Details		Apr '19	May '19	Jun '19	Jul '19	Aug '19	Sep '19	Oct '19	Nov '19	Dec '19	Jan '20	Feb '20	Mar '20	Apr '20	May '20	Jun '20	Jul '20		
Africa		Price		Extension		Type													
Kenya Safari & Conservation Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$750 Lodging: Premier/Standard	\$4595 Adult	3-Day to Zanzibar Island			5/19 to 5/28	6/9 to 6/18	7/21 to 7/30	8/4 to 8/13		10/13 to 10/22	11/24 to 12/3	12/22 to 12/31	2/2 to 2/11	3/29 to 4/7	5/31 to 6/9	6/14 to 6/23	7/5 to 7/14		
	\$3795 Child	\$795 Adult \$745 Child (\$350 flight)			6/30 to 7/9		8/25 to 9/3								6/28 to 7/7	7/26 to 8/4			
South Africa Wildlife Conservation Experience Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$795 Lodging: Premier Flight Supplement: \$200	\$3495 Adult	5-Day to Cape Town***		4/14 to 4/23	5/12 to 5/21		7/1 to 7/10	8/11 to 8/20			11/24 to 12/3	12/22 to 12/31 - full	1/26 to 2/4	2/9 to 2/18	3/29 to 4/7	5/24 to 6/2	6/14 to 6/23	7/5 to 7/14	
	\$2965 Child	\$1345 Adult \$1245 Child (\$150 flight)			5/26 to 6/4		7/14 to 7/23	8/25 to 9/3								7/26 to 8/4			
Tanzania Safari & Service Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$250 Lodging: Standard	\$3295 Adult	3-Day to Zanzibar Island			5/19 to 5/28 STS	6/1 to 6/10	7/7 to 7/16	8/25 to 9/3 STS		10/13 to 10/22 W, STS		12/22 to 12/31	1/5 to 1/14 W, STS	2/9 to 2/18 STS	3/22 to 3/31	5/24 to 6/2 STS	6/14 to 6/23	7/12 to 7/21	
	\$2795 Child	\$795 Adult \$745 Child (\$250 flight)																	
Asia & Australia		Price		Extension		Type													
Australia Beachside Wildlife Adventure Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$700* Lodging: Superior	\$3495 Adult	3-Day to Sydney Adult			5/5 to 5/14	6/9 to 6/18	7/14 to 7/23	8/4 to 8/13			11/17 to 11/26	12/26 to 1/4	2/2 to 2/11	3/22 to 3/31	5/3 to 5/12	6/7 to 6/16	7/12 to 7/21		
	\$2995 Child	\$895 Adult \$795 Child (\$150 flight)																	
China Panda Conservation Adventure Duration: 6 days Optional SRS: \$295 Lodging: Standard	\$2995 Adult	4-Day to The Great Wall			5/26 to 5/31	6/2 to 6/7	7/7 to 7/12	8/11 to 8/16	9/8 to 9/13	10/20 to 10/25	11/24 to 11/29	12/22 to 12/27	2/2 to 2/7	3/22 to 3/27	5/31 to 6/5	6/14 to 6/19	7/5 to 7/10		
	\$2595 Child	\$1195 Adult \$1095 Child (\$200 flight)				6/16 to 6/21	7/28 to 8/2								7/26 to 7/31				
India Tiger Volunteer Adventure Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$750* Lodging: Superior	\$2995 Adult	4-Day to Agra (Taj Mahal)			5/19 to 5/28	6/9 to 6/18				10/20 to 10/29		12/22 to 12/31	1/12 to 1/21	3/22 to 3/31	5/31 to 6/9				
	\$2695 Child	\$845 Adult \$795 Child																	
Japan Cultural Odyssey Duration: 8 days Optional SRS: \$799 Lodging: Standard	\$4695 Adult	3-Day to Hiroshima & Miyajima			5/19 to 5/26	6/16 to 6/23	7/7 to 7/14	8/4 to 8/11	9/8 to 9/15	10/20 to 10/27		12/22 to 12/29							
	\$3995 Child	\$895 Adult \$845 Child				7/21 to 7/28	8/25 to 9/1												
Thailand Elephants & Islands Expedition Duration: 9 days Optional SRS: \$775 Lodging: Superior	\$3495 Adult	4-Day to Chiang Mai Adult \$795 Child \$695 (Bangkok also available)†		4/14 to 4/22	5/19 to 5/27	6/9 to 6/17	7/21 to 7/29	8/4 to 8/12	9/8 to 9/16	10/27 to 11/4 W	11/24 to 12/2	12/22 to 12/30	1/12 to 1/20	2/2 to 2/10 W	3/15 to 3/23	5/24 to 6/1	6/7 to 6/15	7/5 to 7/13	
	\$2795 Child				6/30 to 7/8		8/18 to 8/26						2/16 to 2/24	3/29 to 4/6		6/21 to 6/29	7/19 to 7/27		
Thailand Cultural Kaleidoscope Duration: 8 days Optional SRS: \$495 Lodging: Premier/Standard	\$2995 Adult	4-Day to Phuket & Koh Phi Phi Adult \$995 Child \$845 (Bangkok also available)†			5/12 to 5/19	6/2 to 6/9	7/21 to 7/28	8/11 to 8/18	9/15 to 9/22 W	10/20 to 10/27	11/17 to 11/24	1/19 to 1/26 W	2/9 to 2/16		4/12 to 4/19	6/7 to 6/14	7/5 to 7/12		
	\$2595 Child				6/30 to 7/7														
Thailand Wildlife Safari Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$695 Lodging: Superior	\$3795 Adult	4-Day to Chiang Mai Adult \$795 Child \$695 (Bangkok also available)†			5/26 to 6/4	6/23 to 7/2	7/14 to 7/23	8/4 to 8/13	9/1 to 9/10	10/6 to 10/15	11/17 to 11/26	1/26 to 2/4	3/15 to 3/24		6/14 to 6/23	7/12 to 7/21			
	\$3495 Child																		
Thailand The Baby Elephant Experience Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$595 Lodging: Standard/Rustic	\$2795 Adult	4-Day to Phuket & Koh Phi Phi Adult \$995 Child \$845 (Bangkok also available)†		4/14 to 4/23	5/5 to 5/14	6/16 to 6/25	7/7 to 7/16	8/25 to 9/3		10/6 to 10/15		12/26 to 1/4	1/5 to 1/14	2/2 to 2/11	3/22 to 3/31	4/12 to 4/21	5/3 to 5/12	6/14 to 6/23	7/12 to 7/21
	\$2395 Child				6/23 to 7/2	7/28 to 8/6											6/28 to 7/7	7/26 to 8/4	
Cuba		Price		Extension		Type													
Cuba Building Bridges Duration: 8 days Optional SRS: \$400 Lodging: Standard	\$2595 Adult	3-Day Natural Cuba Adult \$995 Child \$895		4/21 to 4/28	5/19 to 5/26	6/9 to 6/16	7/7 to 7/14	8/4 to 8/11	9/1 to 9/8	10/6 to 10/13	11/24 to 12/1	12/22 to 12/29	1/12 to 1/19	2/2 to 2/9	3/15 to 3/22	4/19 to 4/26	5/17 to 5/24	6/7 to 6/14	7/5 to 7/12
	\$1995 Child				6/23 to 6/30	7/21 to 7/28	8/18 to 8/25						2/16 to 2/23	3/29 to 4/5			6/21 to 6/28	7/19 to 7/26	

2019-2020 TRIP CALENDAR

Nature & Wildlife Adventures | Cultural Explorations



Trip Details		Apr '19	May '19	Jun '19	Jul '19	Aug '19	Sep '19	Oct '19	Nov '19	Dec '19	Jan '20	Feb '20	Mar '20	Apr '20	May '20	Jun '20	Jul '20		
Oaxaca Women's Empowerment Experience Duration: 6 days Optional SRS: \$250 Lodging: Standard/Rustic	\$2395 Adult \$1995 Child			6/18 to 6/23	7/2 to 7/7	8/13 to 8/18	9/10 to 9/15	10/15 to 10/20			1/14 to 1/19 W		3/24 to 3/29			6/9 to 6/14			
South America																			
Galápagos Islands Family Volunteer Vacation Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$400 Lodging: Standard Required Supplement†: \$600	\$4195 Adult \$3595 Child	4-Day to Amazon Basin \$1595 Adult \$1495 Child (\$300 flight)	4/13 to 4/22		6/15 to 6/24	7/27 to 8/5	8/10 to 8/19			10/5 to 10/14	11/23 to 12/2	12/26 to 1/4 - full	1/25 to 2/3	2/15 to 2/24	3/21 to 3/30	4/4 to 4/13	6/13 to 6/22 6/27 to 7/6	7/11 to 7/20 7/25 to 8/3	
Galápagos Islands Wildlife Odyssey Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$895* Lodging: Superior Required Supplement†: \$600	\$4895 Adult \$4395 Child		5/25 to 6/3	6/1 to 6/10	7/13 to 7/22	8/3 to 8/12	9/7 to 9/16					12/14 to 12/23 - full	1/11 to 1/20		3/28 to 4/6	5/23 to 6/1	6/20 to 6/29	7/4 to 7/13	
Peru Children of the Andes Duration: 10 days Optional SRS: \$250 Lodging: Standard	\$2995 Adult \$2495 Child	3-Day to Rainbow Mountain \$495 Adult \$445 Child	4/14 to 4/23	5/19 to 5/28 STS	6/9 to 6/18 6/23 to 7/2	7/7 to 7/16 7/18 to 7/27	8/4 to 8/13	9/22 to 10/1			11/17 to 11/26 STS	12/22 to 12/31 STS	1/25 to 2/3 STS	2/15 to 2/24 STS	3/21 to 3/30	4/4 to 4/13	5/24 to 6/2	6/7 to 6/16 6/21 to 6/30	7/5 to 7/14 7/19 to 7/28

All trips are designed to be family friendly. Dates don't work? Contact us for custom and private departures.

W = Women-only travel dates
 STS = Solo Traveler Savings. There is no additional cost for a single room supplement (SRS)
 Child Price = Applies to those 16 years and younger at the time of travel
 Optional SRS = Single Room Supplement. If you do not choose this option, we will place you in a room with someone of the same gender)

Trips marked with this symbol are festival dates, which fall over popular festivals in the country

*You are required to pay the SRS if we are unable to find a suitable roommate. Please note: All trip extensions have a mandatory single room supplement (SRS) for those requesting if we cannot find a suitable roommate
 **Due to limited hotel availability and increased demand during this time, prices rise to \$3495 Adult/ \$2995 Child
 ***Enjoy 10% off the trip over this date!
 † There is a \$200 domestic flight supplement fee for the Koh Phi Phi Island Extension, Bangkok Extension, and Chiang Mai Extension. All other flight supplements are reflected in parenthesis in the calendar above. Bangkok prices: Adult \$995 / Child \$895
 ††Cuba: Celebration of Arts & Culture is recommended for families with children 15 years and older
 ‡ Galápagos Vacations: The required supplement fee covers a round trip flight from Quito to Galápagos and the Galápagos tax and entrance fee. This cost varies based on local regulations and will be added to your invoice. The current cost is \$600

Register in 3 Easy Steps

1). Fill out our online form

- Visit our website discovercorps.com and click the "Book a Trip" button at the top of the page
- Fill out the online registration form indicating trip choice, dates, and number of travelers
- Provide basic information on each traveler joining
- Press SUBMIT

2). Submit a \$395 deposit

- For each traveler, there is a \$30 registration fee and a \$365 deposit
- This is processed through our secure, online credit card portal after registering

3). You're all set!

- Our team of Travel Specialists will be there to help you until the day you depart
- Our partners at STA Travel can help you book flights if needed. Just call on our dedicated line at 1-800-465-4129

Special Offers & Fine Print

Returning Alumni? Enjoy a \$250 discount off your trip if you're a returning Discover Corps traveler. You also have the opportunity to earn \$250 per person in travel credit when you participate in our Corps Referral Program. Contact us or visit our website for more information.

Early Booking Discount: Book your trip at least 9 months prior to departure and save \$200 per person (\$100/person for 4, 5, or 6 day trips). Not valid for trip transfers.

Linked Trips: Register for two or more trips at the same time and receive a 10% discount (extensions not included). Cannot be combined with other discounts.

Have a group of 6 or more? We can create a custom trip for your group and offer you a discount of up to \$250 per person! Whether it's a family reunion, corporate group, alumni association, or a professional or student organization, we'll make it easy for your entire group to have an incredible experience. Just call us at 619.758.3030 for more information.

Terms & Conditions

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations are subject to change with a 60-day notice from Discover Corps.

Ask us about our monthly payment plans!

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