

Get to know the Dominican Republic, a playground of tropical ecosystems and rich cultural history. Here, nature blends into metropolitan life as you glimpse beautifully restored monasteries and experience ziplining, snorkeling, and whitewater rafting. You'll also visit an environmental school to learn about the country's reforestation efforts and tour their mangroves.

# YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES:



**Full-time Tour Director** 



Sightseeing: Comprehensive sightseeing of natural attractions



Activity level: Active; moderate walking (about 2 hours daily), and may include high-altitude hiking, rafting, swimming, or more strenuous activities in high heat and humidity.



Entrances: Alcázar de Colón; Tres Ojos Cave; El Instituto del Ambiente; whitewater rafting; pottery-making workshop; Jiu Jitzu class; street art tour; Cayo Arena mangrove and snorkeling tour







All of the details are covered: Round-trip flights on major carriers; comfortable motorcoach; 8 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; 3 meals daily (Days 2-8); dinner on arrival day; breakfast on departure day







# **DAY 1: FLY TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport in Santo Domingo, the capital and largest city in the Dominican Republic. Santo Domingo is the oldest continuously inhabited European settlement in the Americas and the first seat of the Spanish colonial empire in the New World. The city's rich historic and cultural heritage greets you in an eclectic mix of Victorian houses, palm tree-lined boulevards, ultra-modern shopping centers, and traditional eateries.

# DAY 2: SANTO DOMINGO I JARABACOA

- Dive into island life with an expertly guided sightseeing tour of the city.
- Visit Alcázar de Colón, a palace built by Christopher Columbus's son in the early 1500s.
- Visit the Tres Ojos caves, a series of caves dotted with freshwater lagoons located in the eastern tip of Parque Mirador del Este.
- Travel to Jarabacoa.
- Connect with yourself through a mindfulness session.

#### **DAY 3: JARABACOA**

- Visit El Instituto del Ambiente, Jarabacoa's Environmental School, where you'll channel your inner chef and learn how to transform local ingredients into authentic Dominican dishes.
- Experience a waterfall hike.
- Enjoy a whitewater rafting excursion.

# **DAY 4: JARABACOA I SANTIAGO**

- Travel to Santiago, the second-largest city in the Dominican Republic and a tropical hotspot for Caribbean textile industries.
- Participate in a pottery workshop.
- Art and urban exploration combine as you participate in a street art walking tour and meet with a local nonprofit focused on supporting art within the community.

# **DAY 5: SANTIAGO I NORTHERN COASTAL REGION**

- Start your service project at the Mariposa Center for Girls with a community tour and orientation.
- Practice self-defense moves in a Jiu Jitzu class.
- Experience your own mini-Carnival with an expert costume artist.
- Unwind with yoga on the Northern Coast.

# **DAY 6: NORTHERN COASTAL REGION**

- Continue your service project at the Mariposa Center for Girls.
- Enjoy a traditional Dominican dance lesson.

# **DAY 7: NORTHERN COASTAL REGION**

• Enjoy surfing lessons in Cabarete.

- Recharge with a wellness session led by your Tour Director.
- Take a guided walk in a national park.
- Experience the thrill of a ziplining adventure.

# DAY 8: NORTHERN COASTAL REGION I SANTIAGO

- Go snorkeling.
- Explore the Cayo Arena mangroves and learn about EF's reforestation efforts.
- Travel to Santiago.

# **DAY 9: DEPART FOR HOME**

Itinerary subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

# TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY OR EXPLORE









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My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.

-CHARLOTTE, PARENT OF TRAVELER



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