



Dominican Republic

Age Group: Senior high school, intergenerational, family, or college age students.

Application Deadline: 3 months prior to trip date

Cost (US\$): \$795 per participant (plus airfare)



Ministry Details



Project Overview:

The Dominicans are a vibrant and colorful people. Always willing to give a helping hand, work alongside others, and share their lives with you. The island region of the Dominican Republic borders Haiti and is considered a poor island nation. There are many towns and villages on the island of Hispaniola with the majority of the work done by Experience the World Ministries will be in the Capitol, Santo Domingo and the small community El Cacique located in the providence of Monte Plata.

Ministry Description:

We'll work with a local ministry called Casa Rosada. This Catholic run orphanage works with local kids ages infant to 15 years old who are living with HIV/AIDS. This incredible opportunity to encourage and love the church in a unique way will change your life forever.

We'll work with the local communities to provide support, encouragement, and work alongside people in the communities. There are many different types of opportunities to serve in many different capacities. The primary focus of our ministry is to build relationships and give life changing experiences to all.

Food and lodging details

Your team will stay in hostels, camps, or hotels, depending on location. Most likely, you will stay in a local hostel in Santo Domingo and a local hotel in Monte Plata. Electricity is intermittent, and power varies. Air mattresses, bedding, and towels may be needed depending on the trip you choose. Food will be prepared by a local cook, or eaten at safe and confirmed restaurants. Safe drinking water will be provided.

General Information

Dress Code:

Even though it is a hot and humid climate, the Dominicans usually try to look their best, especially in the Capitol. While you are traveling with Lutherwood, we would like you to dress modestly while working in the DR. The Dominicans are a vibrant and colorful people and we would like to make our mission be the main focus, so loose fitting and non revealing clothing is required.

Airport & Transportation:

Plan to fly into Santo Domingo. The mission team director will meet you at the airport and bring you to your mission destination. During the project, we will use public transportation, rented vehicles or walk. Cost of all ground transportation is included in the price of the trip.

Visa & Passport:

You must have a passport

No visa is required, but there is a tourist card that you will need to purchase in the Santo Domingo airport for \$10.

Shots & Vaccinations:

An updated Tetanus shot is Strongly Recommended for ALL projects.

Hepatitis A is recommended.

Malaria is found in the DR, but is not common in the places we will be serving.

Suggested Travel Insurance:

We highly recommend all participants have health insurance coverage for international trips. It is important to know that most regular health insurance plans do not cover you overseas. We also recommend your group purchase travel insurance through your airfare carrier case of natural disaster.

Location Description:

The Spanish speaking Dominican Republic is located in the Caribbean and is part of the West Indies island chain. It shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti occupying one-third of it. This beautiful island is vibrant, colorful, and filled with Spanish, French, Haitian, and African influences woven together to create a unique one all its own. Christopher Columbus discovered this island in 1492, naming it "Hispanola", which means, Little Spain. The country is made up of 31 provinces with Santo Domingo as the capital, as well as the largest city.

Weather:

The Dominican Republic has a primarily tropical climate. The DR is a hot and humid country where the temperature doesn't vary much, but in general, August is the hottest month of the year.

Area Attractions:

Some of the old European traditions still remain in the DR. Some of the old colonial buildings are still standing and can be seen in and around Santo Domingo. There is local shopping in the Conde area of Santo Domingo where you can bargain for a good deal on a beautiful painting, mask, or other unique items. There are incredible beaches, sun, sand, and surf. You can see some of the natural beauty of the DR in some of the local national parks. Experience the natural wonders of the 27 waterfalls. Hike up to the top of the waterfalls and enjoy the beauty as you jump, slide and swim back to the bottom. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to do something unique.

- **National Language:**
Spanish
- **Population:**
9,507,133 (July 2008)
- **Per capita income:**
US\$ 9,200
- **Number of baseball Dominican baseball players played in MLB:** 410
- **Dominicans call the typical Dominican meal "la bandera" (the flag). It consists of white rice, red beans, and chicken.**
- **Dominican Republic has the only flag with a Bible on it.**