



make a DIFFERENCE


CROSSWINDS

Why should we choose Crosswinds?

Part of the reason Crosswinds is able to have such an impact on the Dominican people comes from the fact that we are not simply serving this community, but we are in the community. Our Caribbean Mountain Academy campus in Jarabacoa not only helps struggling teenagers, but also provides jobs to the Dominican people and service to the community. It is this enduring presence that has allowed our program to be so successful.



Crosswinds' vision for our local community is simple: "love thy neighbor." It is our desire to impact our neighbors - those in the impoverished communities of Palo Blanco, Hipolito and Pinar Quemado - in a very real and meaningful way. We want to do more than simply improve the quality of living for our neighbors by providing the finances and labor to undertake projects. We want to bring them hope and compassion that can change their neighborhoods.

Our outreach also touches the lives of the teens living on our campus at Caribbean Mountain Academy as they work independently or in conjunction with visiting service teams. In the United States, youth can become entranced in a culture that is often self-serving. However, here in the Dominican Republic, their lives can be changed from the inside out as they serve others.



Why the Dominican Republic?

Much of the Dominican Republic is beautiful to the eye, but filling this landscape is a staggering number of adults and children struggling to survive. The Dominican Republic offers opportunities for volunteers to serve these loving people in a safe and welcoming environment.



Construction Projects

Make a tangible difference through projects that improve the living conditions of the community including renovation, painting, roofing, installation of indoor restrooms, and upkeep of community areas.

Educational Support

When school is in session your team can assist local schools by reading aloud, playing with the students during recess, or organizing a craft project.

Community Connections

Organize a community event, such as a cookout with games and activities to bond with local families.

Medical Outreach

If your group has specialized medical training, your skills and assistance are greatly needed as we partner with local medical offices to provide care to the Dominican people.

Youth Events

Encourage local youth as well as the teens at CMA by leading positive group activities like game nights, educational skits, or outdoor recreation.

Athletic Activities

Connect with children and youth in the community through sports like baseball, basketball, Frisbee or soccer.

How can we experience Dominican culture?

Ahh, the swaying palms, the tourmaline colored water, gentle tropical breezes and misty mountains piercing the clouds. Spend a day exploring the natural beauty of the Dominican Republic and come alongside the Dominican people as they enjoy this amazing land.



Beaches

The Dominican Republic has over 200 miles of spectacular beaches along its coastline. Whether you prefer a sweeping beach that continues for miles or a remote beach found off the beaten path, you will always encounter a place of stunning beauty - crystal clear turquoise waters, soft white sand and warm Caribbean breezes. Watersports enthusiasts can also enjoy snorkelling, scuba-diving, windsurfing, fishing and more.

Hiking

The Dominican Republic is the second largest and most ecologically diverse island in the Caribbean. Many people will describe hiking in the Dominican as a "magical" experience. As you set out through the rainforest, you are surrounded by lush giant fronds and waving palms growing side by side with bamboo and banyon trees that seem to have their root systems above ground. You will also experience the serenity of the serpentine rivers and numerous waterfalls that dot the region.

Shopping

Most people who visit the Dominican Republic want to explore the unique shopping offered in the country. The DR has excellent options for shopping where you will find plenty of souvenirs and keepsakes of your visit to the country. One favorite amongst service teams is the opportunity to peruse the open-air markets to find local produce, jewelry, dolls, and woodcarvings.

History

The Dominican Republic has a colorful history including vast migrations leading to the incredibly diverse nation it is today. Whether you choose to visit the beautifully restored monasteries and cobblestone streets where conquistadors once roamed or simply venture to a local museum, there is much to learn about the history of this great land.

Where will we stay?

Service trips offer the perfect opportunity to step back and reflect. Members of your group can expand their worldview and experience personal growth as you engage in regular times of discussion, reflection, and fellowship in the comfort of your accommodations at Caribbean Mountain Academy.



Mission House

Mission House, located in the heart of Caribbean Mountain Academy, is a bunk-style facility that is ideal for larger service teams. This unique facility has two dorm rooms, with 12 beds each, and two private apartments perfect for group leaders or accompanying guests. Mission House boasts a fully-equipped kitchen, spacious indoor and outdoor meeting space and separate male and female restroom and shower facilities.

La Casa de Larimar

La Casa de Larimar is designed for smaller service groups of twenty people or less. This inviting facility has a large front porch, commercial-sized kitchen, dorm housing for up to twelve people and additional rooms for group leaders and accompanying guests. This open and vibrant retreat offers plenty of space, both indoors and out, for group discussions, meals, and activities.

What is included in our Service Trip?

Service - Customized service opportunities and itinerary

Transportation - All in-country transportation

Excursions - Recreation or cultural experience

Accommodations - Lodging and meals at CMA

Materials - Group Leader manual, sample fundraising letter, promotional materials

Support - Unlimited pre-trip planning services and continuous on-site guidance with Crosswinds staff



What are you waiting for?

We hope that in this short time we have been able to answer some of your questions about Crosswinds' service trips to the Dominican Republic. We also realize that we probably have not answered them all. Please feel free to call us with any additional questions you have or simply to get more information about this dynamic, life-changing experience for your group.

To learn more about CMA, please call us at (855)Y - CRSWIND, or (855) 927-7963.

You can also visit us online at CrosswindsYouth.org.



(855)Y-CRSWND

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CrosswindsYouth.org