



## Dominican Republic

*Building Global Connections:*

*Examining Power, Privilege, Gender & Race in a Global Context*

**Duration**      **Six days, Tuesday - Sunday**

**Cost**            **\$1,875**

This comprehensive fee includes: shared accommodations, all meals, beverages (excluding alcoholic), excursions, activity fees, gratuities, and professional development training. Your only additional costs are airfare, emergency medical and evacuation insurance (approximately \$40), passport / visa fees, and any spending money you want to bring to purchase snacks or gifts while traveling.

### **Overview**

Cabarete is a small, Caribbean beach village located on the northern shore of the Dominican Republic. This recently developed beach town provides opportunity for both relaxation and cultural immersion. Situated on the rural, hilly north coast of the Dominican Republic, Cabarete is home to two distinct and interdependent cultures. Cabaret's breathtaking beaches and coastal sports, as well mountain biking, and hiking attract a plethora of international visitors year-round. And yet Cabarete is also home to a community of over 8,000 Dominican and Haitian men, women, and children who live in extreme poverty. These families struggle daily with hunger, lack of adequate health care, and inadequate education. The education system historically has been poorly funded and continues to fail the community's children. One organization that seeks to help fill in the educational gap is the Mariposa Center for Girls, which offers a supplemental education program to local Dominican and Haitian girls. By choosing to participate in this Nobis World program, you are ensuring a unique and life-changing experience. You will have access to a side of the community not seen by the traditional tourist. You will see, hear, touch, smell, and feel things that you have never known before. You will leave having established relationships with Cabarete community members and organizations that will continue to deepen and grow once you return to your classroom. Receive a professional development certificate for training in creating a culturally responsive classroom, and using the Nobis Global Action Method to guide students to complete culturally responsive service-learning projects.

### **Trip Highlights**

- Visit the Mariposa Girls Summer Leadership Program and interact with young Dominican and Haitian women.
- Immerse yourself in Dominican culture and improve your Spanish language skills.
- Savor a true Dominican meal with a Dominican family at their own kitchen table.
- Work directly with the education staff and learn about their struggles and successes.
- Experience a variety of cultural excursions including: Cabarete community visits and tour chocolate farm and countryside community.

### **Accommodations**

Clean, comfortable accommodations of shared rooms with air conditioning in small beach front hotel.

### **Dining**

Eating is a big part of traveling as we experience the culture. While traveling with Nobis World, you will experience an array of fresh food that is available in the Dominican Republic. Our group eats meals together to enable participants to taste a variety of dishes while also enjoying each other's company. At these group-meals, food is made from the freshest local ingredients, and prepared with both your taste buds and your health in mind. The Dominican Republic is also known for rich, smooth coffee, often served with simple sugar and cream. Lunches and dinners are a time to unwind and discuss the day's events and will often be Dominican style rice and beans and chicken. Wine and alcoholic beverages available for extra purchase.

### **Airport Information**

Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the program location. Complimentary shuttle service to and from Puerto Plata (POP) airport on the first day and last day of the program is provided. Participants are welcome to arrive in the destination earlier or continue traveling after the program completes, but Nobis Project will not cover any costs associated with an extension of your travel (including airport pick up or drop off at times other than those given by Nobis Project). **Participants should not make travel arrangements until receiving written confirmation from Nobis Project.** Nobis Project is not responsible for travel arrangements made by participants before receiving written confirmation.

<b>DAY ONE - TUESDAY</b>
Pick up from Airport
Check-in, Unpack, & Settle-in
Welcome, Introductions, Orientation
Discussion of Readings
Dinner
<b>DAY TWO - WEDNESDAY</b>
Breakfast
Morning Meeting with girls at Mariposa Center for Girls
Tour of Mariposa Center for Girls
<b>Cabarete Community Visit</b> We will wander through the local community, visiting the homes of the Dominican children who attend the Mariposa Center. Through talking with locals you will see the importance of family and community in Dominican culture and learn how Dominicans construct their homes and the significance of the fruit trees and coconut palms that grow around them.
Lunch at Mariposa Center
Introduction of Service-Learning Project with Teachers
Beach / Free time
Big Ideas Activity
Journal Reflection
Dinner
<b>DAY THREE - THURSDAY</b>
Breakfast
Morning Meeting with girls at Mariposa Center for Girls
Big Ideas Activity
Lunch at Mariposa Center
Service-Learning Project
Beach / Free time
Journal Reflection
Dinner
<b>DAY FOUR - FRIDAY</b>
Breakfast
Morning Meeting with girls at Mariposa Center for Girls - Goodbyes
Action Planning: How do I translate this experience back into my classroom?
Final Preparation of Service-Learning Project
Lunch at Mariposa Center
Final Presentation of Service-Learning Work & Farewell to Mariposa Staff
Beach / Free time
Journal Reflection
Dinner
<b>DAY FIVE - SATURDAY</b>
Breakfast
<b>Chocolate and Countryside Community Tour &amp; Home-Cooked Dominican Lunch</b> Tour an organic coffee and cacao farm where beans are grown under the shade of banyon and calabash trees. Explore the Suriel organic coffee and cacao farm where beans are shade-grown under the banyan and calabash trees. An unforgettable experience! Make your own chocolate and taste the results in a cup of fresh hot cocoa! Enjoy a healthy, clean, organic Dominican style lunch of rice, beans, and chicken with fresh mango, pineapple, and avocado. Finish with a special Dominican dessert.
Beach / Free time
Closing Group Reflection
Farewell Dinner
<b>DAY SIX - SUNDAY</b>
Breakfast / Check-out of Hotel
Final Goodbyes
Transportation by Bus to Puerto Plata International Airport

### **Service-Learning Project - Mariposa Alternative Education Program**

The goal of the Mariposa Alternative Education Program is to create an experiential, bi-lingual program to educate and empower girls ages 8-17, by providing them with intensive educational support through best practices, experiential learning, and exposure to Montessori learning strategies. Alternative education facilitators work with the Mariposas (ages 8-15) who have been identified as “at risk” and in need of intense academic support. Mariposa alternative education facilitators have a range of training, education and teaching experience. For those who do come with experience, the lack of available resources in the DR limits their ability to use pre-existing lessons. This summer, a component of our service-learning project will be to work together in our areas of our own expertise to assemble teaching resources to support the needs identified by the alternative education facilitators at the Mariposa Center.

### **Learn More About the Dominican Republic**

Mariposa DR Foundation - <http://www.mariposadrfoundation.org/>

Countries and Their Cultures: Dominican Republic - <http://www.everyculture.com/Cr-Ga/Dominican-Republic.html>

Map of Dominican Republic, from Lonely Planet - <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/maps/caribbean/dominican-republic/>

### **Suggested Reading**

Why Cocks Fight, Michele Wucker

The Farming of the Bones, Edwidge Danticat

In the Time of the Butterflies, Julia Alvarez

The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz