



## Educational Tours



### MEANINGFUL. SUSTAINABLE. UNFORGETTABLE.

Journey to the Dominican Republic to discover the wonders of marine life—and what you can do to help preserve it. Here, you'll learn about the effects of overfishing, tourism and climate change on coral reef in the Caribbean before joining the movement to support its restoration. Working together with community members, you'll collect fragments of naturally broken coral and transplant them back into the reef, and do your part to preserve this important ecosystem. As you foster meaningful relationships within the community, you'll celebrate customs and help continue conservation efforts for generation to come.

20

Estimated  
service hours

#### YOUR SERVICE PROJECT THEMES

We work with local non-profits to better understand the needs of each community and then focus projects on those issues. Themes include:

- Environmental Sustainability
- Responsible Tourism
- Cultural Immersion and Diversity

# MARINE CONSERVATION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

8 days, estimated 20 service hours

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## *What to expect on this Service Learning Tour*

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### **MEANINGFUL SERVICE**

Working side-by-side with locals, you'll gain insight into the challenges they face and build lasting solutions to help empower the community.

#### **Projects include:**

- Learning about marine biology and restoration practices
- Working on different coral reef restoration activities
- Cleaning the shoreline by collecting trash and debris

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### **CULTURAL IMMERSION**

Live just outside the communities you serve—celebrating customs and forming lasting connections with locals.

#### **Activities include:**

- Meeting with a community association to learn about the evolution of fishing and ecotourism
- Discussing the importance of environmental and marine conservation

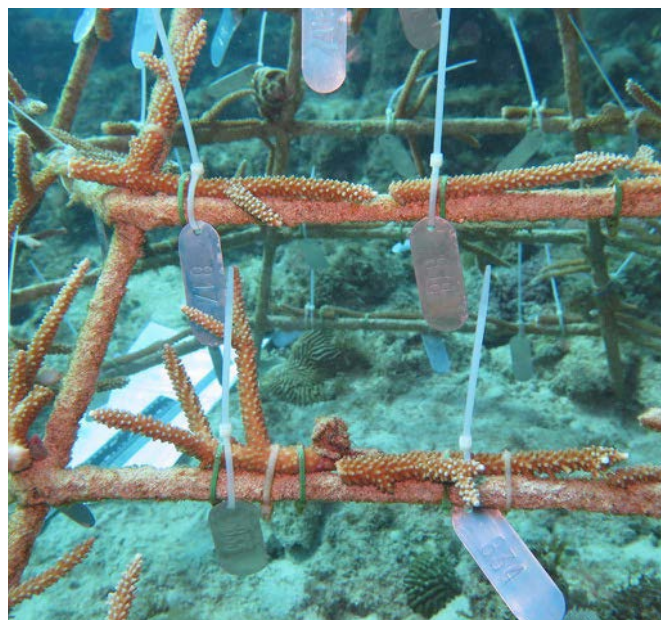
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### **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Your Field Director takes your global service experience even further, developing and strengthening leadership skills through activities and workshops.

#### **Exercises include:**

- Investigating global issues, exploring social justice and building leadership skills
- Contextualizing the day's events through thoughtful discussion and group dialogue
- Reflective journaling to deepen the service experience





## 8-DAY ITINERARY

### Day 1: Arrive in Santo Domingo

Meet your Field Director at the airport. After you arrive at your accommodations, settle in and meet your group for an orientation and safety overview.

### Day 2: Service Project—Marine and Ecosystem Conservation

As communities evolve, so do their needs. That's why we work closely with non-profits to better understand the local challenges. Since projects are determined closer to your actual tour date, here's a glimpse at what a typical day might look like:

- Meet EF's partner organization and learn how it is working to improve the state of coral reef in the Dominican Republic.
- Discuss coral reef biology and restoration practices.
- Study the relationship between mangrove forest, coral reef, and fresh water.
- Practice snorkeling techniques as you learn how to identify local species of fish and gather scientific data within marine ecosystems.

### Day 3: Southeast Coast

- Process scientific data gathered during a coral reef restoration campaign.
- Explore a mangrove ecosystem.

### Day 4: Southeast Coast

- Meet a community association to learn about their transition from a fishing to ecotourism as you explore the social dynamics of marine conservation.
- Participate in a mangrove reforestation project.

### Day 5: South Coast Region

- Continue your coral reef restoration project by studying a unique coral species.
- Participate in a meet and greet with marine biologists.
- Discover what a career in marine conservation could mean for you.

### Day 6: Central Mountain Region

- Explore the importance of environmental conservation in the country's mountain region.
- Participate in a white water rafting excursion or learn about regional mountain ecosystems on a nature trail hike.

### Day 7: Island Excursion

- Enjoy a relaxing day snorkeling and observing local coral reef, a beautiful example of successful conservation efforts within the Dominican Republic.

### Day 8: Depart for home

Return to the airport and board your flight home.



## LOCAL INSIGHT AND SUPPORT

Your Field Director deepens your connection to the land, people and indigenous culture. With local perspective on community challenges and skilled training in service leadership, they'll provide insight and global context, as they:

- Lead skill-building workshops and meaningful group reflections
- Connect you with local non-profits and nearby villages
- Facilitate group orientation and safety training
- Handle all on-tour details, from meals to transportation



**Everything you get:** 7 overnight stays; Round-trip flights on major carriers; Daily breakfast, lunch and dinner in the Dominican Republic; Local ground transportation; Full-time Field Director; Sustainable service project; Service hours that count towards academic credit; Sightseeing tours led by expert guides; Entrance fees and excursions per the itinerary



*Your partner in global education*

**EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS**

For over 50 years, EF has worked with educators across the world to help millions of students become citizens of the world through one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. With more than 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, our staff can respond in person wherever you are, 24 hours a day. We're also an accredited educational institution, offering students the option to earn high school and college credit.

**ABOUT SERVICE LEARNING TOURS**

On a Service Learning Tour, you and your students work side by side with locals on community-driven projects in Africa, Asia or the Americas. EF partners with established non-profits and NGOs—such as the Mariposa Foundation and Free The Children—to make sure your contributions are both meaningful and sustainable. Through hands-on work and deep exposure to the local culture, students learn vital collaboration and problem-solving skills. They return inspired to make a difference at home, too.

**START PLANNING**

To enroll on this tour, ask your teacher for the tour number and visit [eftours.com/enroll](http://eftours.com/enroll) or call 800-665-5364