Mountain Air & Village Service
Dominican Republic

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Day 1 – December 28, 2016

Arrive at Las Americas International Airport (SDQ) in Santo Domingo where your Rustic Pathways staff will be awaiting you outside the arrivals hall after customs. After stopping for lunch, head into the mountains of the Dominican Republic, about a 3-hour drive. Arrive in Jarabacoa; a mountain town nestled in the Cordillera Central. After dinner and a bit of time to settle down you will receive an introduction into the projects your group will embark on in the area and a general program orientation.

Flight Details: Rustic Pathways can organize your group flight. Accommodations on your first night in the Dominican Republic may shift based on your flight schedule, but will either be in a hotel near the airport, or at the ranch in Jarabacoa.

Overnight: Ranch Dormitory, Jarabacoa
Days 2 & 3 – December 29 & 30, 2016

Spend your first morning in Jarabacoa exploring your surroundings. Get a feel for the mountain culture, and explore the ranch as you learn about the environmental initiatives they’ve put in place and the harmonious relationship they’ve pursued with the economic and ecological communities around them.

After lunch, head further up the mountain to commence your service work – building aqueducts to communities without running water. Through this partnership with local communities we have been able to provide for one of the most basic needs of these communities: running water. The aqueducts built in this area now serve over 1,000 people, and with your group’s contribution, this number will continue to grow.

Return to the ranch each evening for dinner, reflection and discussion periods, and time in the swimming pool, on the ping-pong tables, or soccer fields. After dinner this evening, discuss your experiences thus far, with particular emphasis on responsible tourism and water access.

**Overnight:**  Ranch Dormitory, Jarabacoa

Day 4 – December 31, 2016

Continue work on your infrastructure project this morning after breakfast. You’ll really see the progress your group has made after 3 days of service work. After your last full day of community service, get get ready for a New Year’s celebration Dominican style! Celebrate with fireworks and dancing.

**Overnight:**  Ranch Dormitory, Jarabacoa

Day 5 – January 1, 2017

Challenge yourself on a high ropes course this morning. Then, pack up your things before lunch and take the drive to the beach towns of Cabarete and Sosua. Upon your arrival, get settled in and have a quick swim before dinner. After dinner, you’ll dive a little deeper into Dominican culture with some history, dominoes, and dancing.

**Overnight:**  Hotel, Sosua

Day 6 – January 2, 2017

Today, you’ll head out on a canyoning adventure to the 27 Charcos de Damajagua. You’ll explore the park, and have lunch at the beautiful 27 waterfalls. Afterwards, stop in Puerto Plata to take a cable car ride and enjoy expansive views of the ocean and city. Then head back for dinner and some time to relax.
**Overnight:** Hotel, Sosua

**Day 7 – January 3, 2017**

Have breakfast, then head to the beach for a morning of surfing! You’ll get professional instruction and then hit the waves until lunch. In the afternoon, swim in the turquoise water of the Caribbean, soak up the sun, and enjoy some souvenir shopping. Spend the night in this cozy beach town, relaxing and enjoying island life.

**Overnight:** Hotel, Sosua

**Day 8 – January 4, 2017**

After breakfast, pack up and head back to Jarabacoa. Upon your arrival you’ll get settled into your old home before having lunch. After lunch, you’ll embark on a white water rafting adventure! Travel down class 3 rapids on the longest river in the Caribbean - the Rio Yaque del Norte. Take some time for a final reflection around a bonfire after dinner.

**Overnight:** Ranch Dormitory, Jarabacoa

**Day 9 – January 5, 2017**

After breakfast, hop back on the bus and drive to Santo Domingo, arriving at your hotel just before lunch. In the afternoon you will head over to the colonial zone of Santo Domingo. This is a UNESCO world heritage site that is home to the first cathedral, hospital, and university in the new world. Students will have the chance to walk through the cobble stone streets, and visit a few museums. This will also be a good time for them to go souvenir shopping in the bustling “Mercado Modelo”. After an afternoon walking around the colonial zone, you will head over to a typical Dominican restaurant for a special last dinner.

**Overnight:** Hotel, Santo Domingo

**Day 10 – January 6, 2017**

Enjoy your last Dominican breakfast before heading to the airport for your flight home. We are sure your exciting week of service and adventure in the Dominican Republic will be an experience you never forget!
Program Details

Program Cost: $1,945.00 + International Airfare. Price is based on at least 18 students and 2 chaperones with free ground costs.

Program Includes:

- 9 nights of accommodation
- All meals all days
- All transportation
- Rustic Pathways fulltime international and local guides
- All activities as detailed in your itinerary
- Single point of contact from Rustic Pathways for support leading up to the program
- Rustic Pathways 24-hour emergency support throughout program
- International SOS emergency evacuation insurance
- All airport taxes and departure fees
- All fees, community service donations, and guide tips

An Important Note about Schedule Changes:

Rustic Pathways reserves the right to change, alter, or amend the daily itinerary for this trip at any time. Changes can be made for various reasons including changes in flight or program schedules, changes in the schedules of various external operators or partner organizations, changes due to weather or safety concerns, the addition of new activities into a trip, or the substitution of a new activity for an old activity. The itinerary shown here provides our best projection of the daily schedule for this program. As with any travel program, some changes may occur.