

Discover Costa Rica!

Global Education Squad



SQUADS ABROAD
A CROSS-CULTURAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM



MCCARTHY HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEER & CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIP MARCH 10-18, 2017

DAY 1: GROUP ARRIVAL AND CARTAGO ORIENTATION

Your group arrives into Juan Santamaria International Airport where CCS staff will greet and transport the group to the quaint colonial city of Cartago 45 minutes away. The Home-Base is located on a safe and quiet residential street within walking distance from the historic city center. Take an engaging tour of Cartago before returning to the Home-base for a delicious dinner and orientation about the upcoming week.

DAYS 2-6: MORNING GLOBAL EDUCATION PROJECTS

Over the course of the next week, your group will be matched with a school to improve educational outcomes through classroom support and small construction projects. In addition to providing valuable tutoring and lessons, the group will experience the tangible accomplishment of a project such as building book shelves, furniture, and painting educational murals.

AFTERNOON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Trek up to the highest volcano in Costa Rica, Volcan Irazú. Visit a local artisan market, learn how to make gallo pinto, join a salsa dance class, and challenge yourself with level-appropriate Spanish lessons. Enjoy an engaging tour of Cartago, the Orosi Valley including a trek to a waterfall in the Tapanti National Park.



22+ YEARS OF THE SAFEST AND HIGHEST QUALITY STUDENT GROUP VOLUNTEER TRIPS

HOME-BASE ACCOMMODATIONS

At the Home-Base, you'll enjoy authentic local cuisine, connect with CCS staff, and enjoy your downtime. Volunteers stay in same-sex rooms with private bathrooms. One room accommodates 4-6 people. Private rooms for teachers /chaperones are typical, but this is based on request and availability.

STAFFING

Our incredible team will be on call to support you every step of the way—including Country Director Jose Hernandez, as well as expertly-trained CCS cooks, security guards, house managers, and drivers. A CCS leader will be assigned to the group at all times.

COMMUNICATION

Our staff can be reached 24/7 in the event of an emergency. Students will have the opportunity to access the internet and landlines for set periods of time on most evenings. Trip updates may be posted on our blog for friends and family to follow along.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Individual Program Contribution includes all in- country expenses, including meals, lodging, transport, scheduled activities, staffing, travel medical insurance, and volunteer project support. CCS requires a minimum of one teacher/chaperone for every nine students enrolled. One free chaperone is provided with 5 or more, 2 free with 6-16, 3 free for 17 or more students. Group airfare is not included in the program contributions but a group quote may be offered for 10 or more pax starting 10 months out and included in the price upon request.

DAYS 7 -8: UVITA PACIFIC COAST BEACHES:

Embark on an overnight excursion to the South Pacific Coast Beaches of Playa Ballena (Coast of the Whale), and the town of Uvita! Visit the beaches of Costa where your group will learn about marine conservation efforts while enjoying surf lessons, a snorkeling excursion, and a dolphin watching boat tour. Enjoy additional beach time, gift shopping in local markets, and gorgeous Pacific sunsets. Return to the home-base Saturday night for a flight home the following day.

DAY 9: PROGRAM CLOSURE & RETURN HOME

Embark on a return flight home. Friends and family will love to hear of the many exciting stories, friendships, and discoveries you made in Costa Rica!



PROGRAM CONTRIBUTIONS, DUE DATES, AND HOW TO ENROLL

Individual Program Contribution: \$1340 per student

Group Project Contribution: \$1500 as a group towards the host enrichment project.

Due Dates: Application & \$350 deposit due TBD, balance due 60 days prior departure

How to Enroll: Online @ <https://www.empowered.org/Squads-Abroad>

www.squads.ngo

Communicate with our Director of School Group Programs, Erik Werner @
ewerner@ccs.ngo or 914_632_0022