



Discover Corps
Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose



**GRASSROOTS
EXPEDITION**



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: HEART & SOUL OF THE CARIBBEAN



MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- **Help to build houses and medical clinics out of reusable plastic bottles**
- **Participate in a bee-keeping project with a local bee-keeper**
- **Cool off in the freshwater lagoons of an ecological park**
- **Snorkel over crystal blue Caribbean waters**
- **Stay at a quaint beachfront hotel in the coastal enclave of Cabarete**

Volunteer with Community Projects and Experience the Beauty of the Dominican Republic



TRIP AT A GLANCE

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Moderate

GROUP SIZE

Average 6, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

VOLUNTEER TIME

12 Hours (2 Days)



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: HEART & SOUL OF THE CARIBBEAN

OUR PURPOSE

We'll spend our time in one of several rural communities that we have partnerships in to build schools, medical clinics and houses out of reusable plastic bottles. Besides cleaning the community of waste, these bottle structures teach environmental awareness, open the community to new building techniques and provide a sense of ownership as we come together as one to instill the communities with vital infrastructure.

Become part of a rural community on the north coast of the Dominican Republic. While only 45 minutes from the tourist resorts, you'll feel like you are worlds away, experiencing the island as the locals do. You'll live surrounded by idyllic Caribbean beaches, tropical mountain landscapes and the vibrant culture of the Dominican people. We'll visit innovative community projects and have time to relax on world-class beaches.

In addition to the postcard-perfect beaches, the north coast is known for its welcoming people. Step into any of the quaint seaside towns that dot the coast and you will be immediately welcomed in like family. This is truly the Dominican Republic that tourists don't see, far removed from the large resorts on the eastern side of the island. Utilizing unique connections in the community, we will experience firsthand the rhythms of life in these small island towns.

PLAYA LAS CANAS

DAY 1 - Arrive and settle into your beachfront hotel

DAY 2 - Begin a bottle project, repurposing plastic to build homes and other structures

DAY 3 - Enjoy the beautiful lagoon of Dudu Ecological Park & visit a local beekeeper

DAY 4 - Continue volunteering at the project, putting the finishing touches on our bottle structure

DAY 5 - Enjoy a snorkeling trip out of Sosúa on the Caribbean Sea

DAY 6 - Return home





HIGHLIGHTS



BUILD HOMES OUT OF PLASTIC BOTTLES

There's an increasing awareness across the world of the damage that plastic waste does to the oceans and the wider environment. At this bottle project in Caño Dulce, we'll help address the problem of plastic waste while simultaneously helping local communities, by building houses out of plastic bottles. This ingenious project is improving the lives of local people and benefiting the environment at the same time, and you'll have the chance to be a part of it.



VISIT AN INNOVATIVE BEEKEEPING PROJECT

The community of Cano Dulce is a quaint town along the Dominican Republic's Northern Coast. It is also home to an innovative project spearheaded by a local resident to preserve a critical element of the ecosystem, bees. We will visit the local beekeeper and founder of this project to learn about his traditional techniques and sustainability challenges. Visit the local bee farm and, if time permits, help construct new bee boxes for the season (and of course try some of the tasty honey!).



DOMINICAN'S NORTH COAST

Many visitors to the Dominican Republic don't experience the real thing, and simply step off a cruise ship into the luxury resorts on the eastern side of the island. Our beachfront hotel, in Cabarete on the northern coast, allows us to experience the true Dominican Republic – unspoiled beaches, welcoming local communities, lush mountain landscapes and the true rhythms of island life. Our unique connections in this part of the island allow us to truly immerse ourselves in this quaint coastal town.



DUDU ECOLOGICAL PARK

As well as immersing ourselves in Dominican culture and helping to improve the lives of those we meet, we'll get the chance to experience the region's beautiful natural landscapes. The Dudu Ecological Park is built around a large freshwater lagoon, which serves as a natural swimming hole perfect for cooling off from the hot Caribbean sun. Dudu offers zip-lining for the adventurer, volleyball courts and caves to explore, and plenty of beautiful spots to relax.



ITINERARY

Please note that the exact projects for each group differ based on community needs.

DAY 1: Arrive in the Dominican Republic and Settle into our Beachfront Hotel

Upon arrival at the airport in either Puerto Plata or Santiago, you'll be met by a member of our staff and taken to our hotel just steps from the beach in Cabarete. After sampling Dominican cuisine at our welcome dinner, we will discuss the schedule for the week and our staff will give you an overview of the volunteer project as well as ethics of working in the local communities that we share over a decade's worth of partnerships with. (D)

DAY 2: Take Part in a Bottle Project in Cano Dulce

This morning we'll travel to our first project, a bottle structure in the nearby community of Cano Dulce. We'll collaborate with the local community to create these structures, which range from houses to community centers, which help rid the area of waste and teach environmental awareness. Most importantly, they provide a much-needed resource, with many of these rural areas lacking basic infrastructure.

To achieve our purpose, we'll engage in one aspect of the project which could include laying cement foundations, stacking bottles and securing the walls, or constructing a roof – you'll pick up where the last group left off, so your tasks differ depending on the time of travel. After dinner, we'll discuss the seven elements of human security in the Dominican Republic. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Relax in Beautiful Dudu Ecological Park & Visit a Local Beekeeper

Today we'll enjoy a day of relaxation at the Dudu Ecological Park, a beautiful nature reserve based around a large freshwater lagoon. Explore the park's nature trails and laze in the Caribbean sun, then cool off with a dip in the lagoon. Afterward, we'll stop by Playa Grande, a beautiful Caribbean beach with white sand and crystal blue waters.

In the afternoon, we'll meet with a local beekeeper and learn about his innovative bee boxes and sustainability challenges on the island. Explore the local bee farm and, if time permits, help construct new bee boxes for the season (and of course try some of the tasty honey). (B,L,D)

DAY 4: Continue our Bottle Project in Cano Dulce

After breakfast, we'll return to the bottle project. Each project will be at a different stage of completion and we will lend a hand in one piece of the overall construction. Our goal is to contribute to this innovative project that helps the environment while providing much-needed resources for the communities. To date, dozens of bottle structures have been built by





our groups. Spend the day putting the final touches on our work and ensuring it is in a good place for the community to continue the work after our departure.

Later in the afternoon, we'll have some free time before dinner together. Over dinner, enjoy a talk about Haitian-Dominican relations on the island. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 5: Take a Snorkel Trip and Enjoy a Farewell Dinner

Today we'll relax on the beach and browse the boutiques in Cabarete, before visiting the coastal town of Sosúa, where we'll enjoy a snorkeling excursion. Enjoy the spectacular views over the ocean and coastline before we stop at a calm bay to swim and snorkel over beautiful coral reefs. Later in the afternoon, we'll venture to the coastal town of Cabarete where you will have some free time to explore the shops in town. Tonight we'll enjoy a farewell dinner together and reflect on our experiences over the last week. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 6: Return Home

Today sadly sees the end of our adventure. After breakfast and final goodbyes, we'll travel to Puerto Plata or Santiago to board our flights home. *(B)*

STANDARD LODGING

Base yourself at a charming beachfront family-owned hotel in the seaside town of Cabarete. The Velero Beach Resort is a 3-star property that overlooks one of the most scenic points on the North Coast of the Dominican Republic but keeps us close to our primary projects. Each room features a patio with views of the sea, air conditioning and WiFi. In your free time, enjoy the secluded beach just steps away or swim in the oceanfront pool. Fall asleep to the sounds of the swaying palms for an unforgettable stay.





DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: HEART & SOUL OF THE CARIBBEAN

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS

DATE	ADULT	CHILD
March 23-30, 2024	\$1,995	\$1,895
July 1-8, 2023	\$1,995	\$1,895
September 14-21, 2024	\$1,995	\$1,895
October 19-26, 2024	\$1,995	\$1,895
November 23-30, 2024	\$1,995	\$1,895
December 21-28, 2024	\$1,995	\$1,895
Dec 28, 2024-Jan 4, 2025	\$1,995	\$1,895
January 18-25, 2025	\$1,995	\$1,895
February 8-15, 2025	\$1,995	\$1,895
Feb 22-March 1, 2025	\$1,995	\$1,895

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 5 nights double occupancy in standard level beachfront lodging
- All meals throughout the trip
- An English-speaking guide that is there to support, guide, and inform you throughout the trip
- Admissions and entrance fees to national parks, historic sites and other scheduled events throughout the trip
- All transportation during the trip
- \$50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance
- Trip literature
- Turnkey customer support from preparing for your trip to arrival back home

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare
- Alcoholic beverages
- Laundry and phone services

The above prices reflect the price of double occupancy. Single Room Supplements are \$495 per person.

STS = Solo Traveler Savings. If you would like your own room, you will not have to pay the \$495 supplement fee on the marked STS dates

RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY

Trips are limited to 12 travelers and do fill. Reserving a trip with Discover Corps is easy. Simply visit our website and fill out the online registration form and pay a \$365 deposit and \$30 non-refundable booking fee per person. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Travel Specialist, call/text us at (619) 758-3030 or e-mail us at info@discovercorps.com

RETURNING ALUMNI?

We like to reward those who travel with us again and again. Enjoy a \$250 discount on our trip if you are a returning Discover Corps traveler.

CUSTOM GROUPS?

Have a group of 6 or more? We can operate a trip for your group. Whether it's a family reunion, corporate group, alumni association or a professional or student organization, we'll make it easy and turnkey for your group to have an incredible experience.

MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Discover Corps offers monthly payment plan options for all of our trips. Contact us anytime, before or after booking, to sign up for a monthly payment plan or with any questions:

Call/Text: 619-758-3030 Email: info@discovercorps.com

THE FINE PRINT

Child prices apply to those 16 years younger sharing a room with an adult.

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations subject to change with a 60 day notice from Discover Corps.

(B, L, D): Breakfast, Lunch Dinner

Dates don't work? Contact us about adding a new date for the trip.

Our Mission

The mission of Discover Corps is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable travel experiences for families and friends.

OUR DESTINATIONS

ALASKA	JAPAN
AUSTRALIA	KENYA
BELIZE	MEXICO
BHUTAN	PERU
COSTA RICA	SOUTH AFRICA
CUBA	TANZANIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	THAILAND
EGYPT	UGANDA
GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS	



FAMILY FRIENDLY • SMALL GROUPS • POSITIVE LOCAL IMPACT • DISTINCTIVE LODGING • HANDPICKED GUIDES



Discover Corps
Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose

Visit discovercorps.com/register to place a \$395 deposit down to hold your space, or reach out to us at the contact information below with questions.

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