BELIZE: SPRING BREAK CARIBBEAN ADVENTURE

7-DAY PROGRAM

HIGHLIGHTS

- Swap standard vacation routines for 12 certified service hours making a genuine difference in children's lives
- Get an insider tour of the famous Belize Zoo to encounter rescued Jaguars, Tapirs and native rainforest wildlife
- Cruise the deep blue Caribbean waters and snorkel alongside marine life on the Belize Barrier Reef
- Immerse yourself in the laid-back, colorful ""Go Slow"" culture of Caye Caulker

ACTIVITY LEVEL

- Light

2027 PROGRAM DATES

- March 7 - March 13
- March 15 - March 21
- April 3 - April 9
- April 11 - April 17

GET IN TOUCH!

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The ultimate spring break upgrade—combine real community impact in youth literacy with an unforgettable snorkeling adventure along the Belize Barrier Reef.



OVERVIEW

Reset your idea of spring break and trade the routine getaway for an epic week of real impact and island vibe! On this high-impact 7-day escape, you'll dive headfirst into the vibrant heart of Belize—partnering side-by-side with passionate local teachers and primary students at the Helping Hands Resource Center. Spearheaded by a Belizean educator, your days will be packed with empowering kids through literacy, creative learning and fun mentorship. But the impact is only half the story. Unwind from your service work by exploring rainforest wildlife at the world-famous Belize Zoo, soaking up the "Go Slow" island energy on Caye Caulker and setting sail on an unforgettable snorkeling adventure over vibrant coral reefs in crystal-clear turquoise waters.

Certified B Corporation









ITINERARY

Actual schedule of activities will vary by program session. The information detailed here is typical for what you can expect to experience; however, service work and activities vary depending upon the needs of our local community partners, various celebrations and customs, as well as the weather and specific needs of the student group.

DAY 1: WELCOME TO BELIZE!

Touch down at Philip S. W. Goldson International Airport (BZE) in Belize City, where the GLA staff will be waiting with warm welcomes to kick off your Spring Break Caribbean Adventure! From the moment you step outside baggage claim, the tropical energy takes over as our crew boards private transport for an exciting 40-minute drive to our Home Base.

After checking in and unpacking, we'll kickstart the journey together with a hearty, authentic welcome dinner, high-energy icebreakers to bond with your fellow travelers, and an inspiring orientation before turning in to recharge for the epic days ahead.

DAY 2: BELIZE ZOO & TROPICAL EDUCATION CENTER VISIT

Wake up ready to dive into the heart of our journey with a dynamic morning orientation that sets the stage for an incredible week ahead! After fueling up over a fresh, delicious lunch at the Tropical Education Center, our spring break adventure kicks into high gear with an afternoon visit to the world-renowned Belize Zoo. Unlike traditional exhibits, this inspiring 29-acre sanctuary functions entirely as a rescue and rehabilitation haven, immersing you directly into the lush, natural habitats of Belize's most iconic native wildlife. As the sun sets, we'll gather back at Home Base for an engaging evening presentation by Mrs. Emily - a retired educator and respected national leader-, sparking our passion and getting everyone ready for tomorrow's service project!

DAYS 3-4: COMMUNITY SERVICE & COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Dedicate the next two days to meaningful, locally-led community service, genuine connection, and hands-on mentorship. Today, we partner directly with Mrs. Emily at the Helping Hands Community Center in Belmopan. Working side-by-side with Belizean teachers, our group earns valuable service hours supporting educational enrichment, creative learning, and literacy activities for students ranging from Infant 1 through Standard 6. After sharing a casual packed lunch on-site with students and teachers, we'll return to the Tropical Education Center for dinner, team-building activities, and our nightly group reflection.

The following day, we wrap up our time at the center with a final morning service session, celebrating our shared work and personal connections with the students and staff before saying our goodbyes. In the afternoon, we'll return to Home Base to pack our bags and get organized for our upcoming island travel. We'll spend one last evening together at the Tropical Education Center, enjoying dinner and relaxing before our coastal journey begins tomorrow!

DAY 5: CAYE CAULKNER COASTAL ADVENTURE

Trade the jungle for the sea this morning as we transfer to Belize City and board a scenic water taxi across turquoise Caribbean waters to Caye Caulker. After checking in to our island accommodations and grabbing a fresh local lunch, spend the afternoon easing into the island's famous "Go









DAY 5: CAYE CAULKNER COASTAL ADVENTURE - CONTINUED

Slow" rhythm where you will be strolling the sandy streets, browsing small shops and soaking in the ocean breeze during free time. As evening rolls in, we'll regroup for a relaxed dinner featuring fresh Caribbean flavors.

DAY 6: BELIZE BARRIER REEF CATAMARAN

Spend the entire day exploring the Belize Barrier Reef aboard a full-day catamaran sailing excursion! We'll snorkel alongside vibrant coral formations and diverse marine life, pausing midday to enjoy a catered lunch served right on the water. Back on land for our final evening, we'll gather for a heartfelt appreciation circle to reflect on the week's shared experiences before heading out for a celebration dinner on the caye.

DAY 7: DEPARTURE

And just like that, our Belizean adventure ends! Savor a final island breakfast and morning breeze on Caye Caulker before boarding the water taxi back to the mainland. Upon arrival in Belize City, we'll transfer directly to Philip S. W. Goldson International Airport (BZE), saying our goodbyes to the staff and fellow travelers as you check in for your flights home. Head to the airport today with memories that will last a lifetime and a deeper understanding of community development. Staff will accompany students until they have safely departed for their gates. Safe Travels!

NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES

While this program is being planned for this season, some activities or details may change between now and the program start date. Please note that references from past participants and previously published information may not accurately reflect every aspect of this program. Refer to the sample itinerary above or to the GLA website for the most up-to-date version of program activities, and please note that further updates may be made between now and the program start date.

PROGRAM SPECIFICS

- **Tuition:** $3,195
- **Service Hours:** 12
- **Ages:** 14 - 18
- **Student-to-Staff Ratio:** 6-to-1
- **Accommodations:** Enclosed Compound & Exclusive Hotel Block
- **Arrival and Departure Airport**
  - Philip S. W. Goldson International Airport (BZE)

GLA HOME BASE

Contrast the rustic eco-charm in our enclosed compound surrounded by nature for the first half of the program with a cozy, family-owned coastal hotel block right on the shores of Caye Caulker, equipped with air conditioning, en-suite bathrooms and easy beach access.

GLA HOME BASE OVERVIEW

- Pool
  - GLA Homebase 1: Central Belize - Yes
  - GLA Homebase 2: Caye Faulkner - Yes
- Airconditioning
  - GLA Homebase 1: Central Belize - No (fans)
  - GLA Homebase 2: Caye Faulkner - Yes
- Remote
  - GLA Homebase 1: Central Belize - No
  - GLA Homebase 2: Caye Faulkner - No

FOOD

Belizean cuisine has traditional dishes from each ethnic group and region. The GLA cooks at Home Base will provide many options for you to sample! Fuel your service and adventure with delicious, freshly cooked Belizean flavor! Enjoy staples like coconut rice and beans, savory stewed chicken, fried plantains, fresh-caught fish, warm fry jacks, and an abundance of fresh tropical fruit, balanced daily with familiar Western favorites

CLIMATE

March and April are two of the driest and sunniest months in Belize, marking the peak of the dry season and an ideal time for travel. Daytime temperatures frequently reach the upper eighties to low nineties, cooling off into the mid-seventies at night. Gentle Caribbean trade winds keep the coastal cayes comfortable and create balmy, tropical evenings.

LEADERSHIP

Global Leadership Adventures started as an educational institute, so we continue to think and act like educators—not tour operators—as we deliver life-changing programs. We intentionally weave a leadership curriculum into the daily experience on our programs. Through group discussion, meaningful service, workshops, speakers and excursions, staff guide students to reflect on program events through the lens of leadership, and celebrate outstanding examples of leaders they encounter in the local community. Lending this context to the experience creates opportunities for students to dig deep into their vision, purpose and knowledge of themselves and the world.

ABOUT GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ADVENTURES

Global Leadership Adventures was founded in 2003 by Fred Swaniker, a native of Ghana, TED Fellow and educational entrepreneur whose work has been praised by Barack Obama. Born as a global extension of the revolutionary African Leadership Academy, Global Leadership Adventures now operates programs centered around leadership, sustainable community service projects, and meaningful travel across Africa, Asia, Europe or the Americas. Through life-changing adventures, we strive to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it.

GLA HAS BEEN FEATURED IN:

The New York Times
USA TODAY
NBC NEWS
The Boston Globe
seventeen

OUR EXPECTATIONS

BE PRESENT | Our mission at GLA is "to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it." To that end, we expect GLA students to maintain high standards of personal behavior and to be open-minded. The environment may be different, sometimes shockingly so. GLA will challenge students as they are expected to work hard and be present physically and mentally for all activities. We also ask students to take a step back from regular use of technology - particularly their smartphones - so as to maximize their engagement with the program and their fellow participants. Students may get hot, dirty and bug-bitten along the way, but their experience can transform their perspective. The goal is for each student to return home having had a life-changing experience.

NO TOLERANCE | GLA has a no-tolerance policy towards drugs, alcohol, tobacco and disruptive behavior. Those who violate or are suspected of violating this policy will be immediately dismissed from the program at the sole discretion of GLA staff.

COMMUNITY-LED EXPERIENCES | GLA makes every effort to offer thoughtfully crafted programs for teens and young adults. Detailed planning and exhaustive communications with partners are indispensable parts of our program development process. However, occasionally service and activities are adjusted from session to session, due to weather, changing needs of our local community partners and/or various cultural celebrations and customs. We expect participants to be open-minded and flexible, willing to embrace the experience when plans change. GLA makes every effort to communicate adjustments to students and families with advance notice. We expect you to be open-minded and flexible.

MENTORSHIP | GLA is not a therapy program. Our staff are highly skilled, professional, caring and fun, but they are not licensed therapists. GLA programs can be physically and emotionally demanding, and applicants should be in good physical and mental health.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

At Global Leadership Adventures, we welcome age-eligible teens who are excited about the opportunity to travel to apply for our programs. To ensure a safe and meaningful experience for everyone in the group, we follow essential eligibility criteria. While out intent is not to be exclusionary, it's important to note that GLA programs are not therapeutic programs and are not able to support struggling teens seeking behavior or mental health outcomes.

Applications are carefully considered and screened to align with these criteria. It is not uncommon for GLA to require supporting documentation or information in the application screening process to confirm eligibility or suitability for program participation. Failure to disclose full medical history may also result in the application not being accepted, additional fees, and/or removal from the program. Please discuss with our team for any further clarification or concerns and visit **https://www.experiencegla.com/policies/essential-eligibility-criteria/** to view the full essential eligibility criteria list.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

CONTACT US | Want to learn more about Global Leadership Adventures and our available programs? Our Admissions Team has expertise and insights into our slate of program offerings, and we're happy to answer any questions you might have. We have collectively visited or staffed many of our GLA programs around the world, and we have advice to share on everything from getting your travel documents together to what a typical day on a program is like. Call us at 1-858-771-0645 any time during office hours for assistance.

ENROLL NOW | We encourage you to enroll on your 1st choice program as early as you can! In fact, our most popular programs fill up early every year, and many students end up putting off the quick and easy application process only to end up on the waiting list. The best way to ensure that you save your spot is to place your deposit and apply early. You can easily enroll online at **www.experiencegla.com/enroll.**