



Please see the **NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES** at the bottom of this sample itinerary for details on program changes.

Please note that program activities may change in order to adhere to COVID-19 regulations.



Maine: New England Service Adventure

Explore picturesque Maine, where you'll work to support two distinct service tracks designed to help you learn and engage with this unique and historic state.

OVERVIEW

On this program, you'll have the opportunity to support two different types of service projects: engage with the topic of social justice as you work with nearby refugee communities and tackle the environmental challenges facing lakes and the woodlands of northern New England. Whether you're out on a hike through Maine's abundant forests, kayaking in one of the state's many waterways, or discovering the quaint and traditional towns of this northernmost New England state, you'll also find exploration and fun around every corner.

21-DAY PROGRAM

July 5 - July 25

Tuition: \$6,999

Service Hours: 50

Age Range: 14-19

Student-to-Staff Ratio: 8-to-1

Airport: PWM

14-DAY PROGRAM

July 5 - July 18

Tuition: \$5,299

Service Hours: 35

Age Range: 14-19

Student-to-Staff Ratio: 8-to-1

Airport: PWM

HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Learn about social justice, and serve and engage first hand with community members in this distinct international refugee state
- ★ Work alongside refugee youth from Syria, Iraq and parts of Africa
- ★ Learn more about Maine's native tribes and various efforts with the green revolution
- ★ Kayak, canoe and hike to see quintessential Maine
- ★ Revel in Maine's lush and wide open spaces, surrounded by nature and wildlife
- ★ Go sailing along the famous coastline (21-day only)

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

In this unique program, you'll work on projects related to two themes -- social justice and environmental stewardship. Many towns in Maine have embraced resettled refugees, particularly youth from Syria, Iraq, and parts of Africa. Learn about the challenges they face, and help pivot to practical solutions. Service may include community advocacy or physical projects to support social justice initiatives. On the environmental side, Maine's wilderness is under threat from climate change and environmental pressures. Help by working on habitat preservation and restoration projects. This may include supporting the Lake Association or Forest Service, local Native tribal groups, and other local conservation initiatives.

SAMPLE ITINERARY: DAILY BREAKDOWN

Actual schedule and order 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 MAINE!

Touch down in Portland, the most populous city in Maine (and not to be confused with the city in Oregon!) GLA staff will greet you upon your arrival, and our group will drive together to our Home Base on a private school campus, approximately an hour and fifteen minutes away. Home Base is a dormitory on the campus of a historic preparatory school, located in a lush and rural small town. Tonight we'll get to know each other and prepare for the next two (or three!) weeks.

DAY 2: ORIENTATION + THEMATIC INTRODUCTIONS

We'll dive into an in-depth orientation today, learning about your new home for the next couple of weeks. We'll go over program objectives and start to discuss the aspects of social justice and environmental stewardship that are most relevant to Maine and its citizens. Throughout our program, our group will be supporting different service projects that focus on both social justice and environmental stewardship efforts. On this unique program, you'll have the opportunity to lend a helping hand to the resettled refugees who now call Maine home, as well as the natural environment that is threatened by climate change and human activity. In addition, we'll learn from some of the indigenous tribal people who have called this land home for generations.

We will scope out a community service site or meet with one of our local partners to get an introduction to the needs of the community and to go over expectations for us as volunteers. Throughout the day, we'll also get to know each other better with group activities and meals together on campus and we'll get together to watch the sunset.





DAY 3-5: SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Over the next couple of days, we're going to dive into our community service projects, likely starting our work on social justice projects. Many towns in Maine have embraced resettled refugees, particularly youth from Syria, Iraq, and parts of Africa. We're going to learn about the challenges they face, as well as work with local organizations to help support practical solutions to these challenges.

There are various pieces to the social justice puzzle, so our service projects may include community advocacy, youth education efforts or physical infrastructure projects, depending on the needs of our organizational partners at the time. No matter the exact project, we'll support efforts that aim to educate, advocate for and pursue equity for the refugee population in Maine.



DAY 6: HIKING ADVENTURE + ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING

We'll take a break from our service work to enjoy the natural beauty that Maine has to offer. Lace up your hiking boots as we go trekking under the wooded canopies of some of the state's many nature trails. While we exercise and take in the natural environment, we'll also learn about how the changing climate and urbanization are affecting the once-pristine local environment we are visiting.



DAY 7-9: ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Now that you've had a chance to explore some of Maine's environmental wonder, it's time to take steps toward community efforts to protect the natural environment. You'll meet with local leaders and learn firsthand from guest speakers about environmental stewardship in the state and help by working on habitat preservation and restoration projects. We'll work with local organizations that are dedicated to preserving Maine's wilderness, including all local flora and fauna. This work may include supporting the Lake Association, Forest Service or local indigenous communities.



DAY 10-11: ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

We've spent the past few days supporting environmental efforts, so now let's enjoy two days exploring one of the nation's most incredible parks, Acadia National Park. We'll travel to the coast to take in the stunning mountains, conifers (cone-bearing trees with needles) and wildlife that Maine has to offer. We'll hike some of the park's most popular trails and have a picnic lunch overlooking the incredible landscape.



We'll also have a chance to bicycle and explore the picturesque seaside town of Bar Harbor, which is known as the gateway to Acadia National Park. We can enjoy the coastal beauty while watching for yachts and lobster boats and perhaps we'll take a stroll down the historic Bar Harbor Shore Path.

DAY 12: COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTINUES

Let's get back to work supporting the environmental or social justice efforts we have learned so much about thus far. We'll continue with our work as we learn about a local youth center and the work they do, as we help contribute to youth education efforts and infrastructure support.

We may also use this time to support a local lake association that has a



mission to protect Maine's lakes and water quality. How does the water quality in local water sources affect the overall environment of a city or community? What can we do to support the protection of these lakes and other water sources, both here and at home? What is the situation with tribal lands and what work can be done to help in the conservation efforts?

DAY 13: KAYAKING & CELEBRATION

Today is our last full day with the full group of students (as only some will continue for the full 21-day duration), so why not use this day to celebrate the incredible work and learning you've done so far? We'll head to one of the beautiful freshwater lakes that Maine is known for and hop in a kayak to enjoy the water and the surrounding views. Reflect on how the lake associations we previously worked with are protecting these waters for wildlife and for local recreational uses, as well.

Later in the afternoon or evening, we'll come together on campus for a final celebration as a team. We may have a bonfire after dinner and check out the stunning night sky while we're at it.

DAY 14: DEPARTURE OR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Today, our 14-day program students will leave us, so after a final breakfast together, GLA staff will take those students back to the Portland airport to get them ready for their journey back home.

The 21-day students will go with another staff member to continue on in community service efforts and meet with another local leader who is dedicated to local humanitarian efforts.

DAYS 15-17: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Onward, volunteers! Here, students will continue working with the refugee-focused community projects and environmental projects to add another 15 hours of service to their record book. We will deepen our learning surrounding these themes, as well as our own leadership development as we really hone our styles and consider how we can be the change.

DAY 18: SERVICE, CANOEING & BONFIRE

After a morning of volunteering and continuing our support of local social justice or environmental initiatives, we will have an afternoon of adventure. We will head to a nearby lake and canoe to some of the many little islands that can be found. We will dock and enjoy a picnic lunch, possibly foraging for famed Maine blueberries before wrapping up a bonfire on the banks of the lake. This is a day to really appreciate the unique landscape that Maine offers and to enjoy our remaining time as a group.

DAY 19: FINAL SERVICE PROJECT DAY

With one final day of service, 21-day program participants will have earned more than 50 hours of community service throughout this service-learning adventure! The communities and stakeholders will bid us farewell and we'll consider how the impact doesn't end here, and what students can do to continue working on these solutions in their hometowns or elsewhere in the world.





DAY 20: SAILING & CELEBRATION!

No trip to Maine is complete without seeing the land from the sea. Maine is well-known for its coastline and there's no better way to explore the coast than by taking a sailboat in the bay. This sailing adventure will allow us to see the famous coastline, try to spot whales and learn about the local wildlife and environment. We will celebrate together all the impact we have created and the friendships we have forged.

After our day on the water, we'll come together for a farewell dinner and a closing activity.

DAY 21: GOOD-BYE, MAINE!

It's time to say goodbye to your home for the past three weeks, as well as all the friends and mentors you've made. After breakfast we'll depart for the Portland airport together, and GLA staff will make sure that everyone is checked in for their flight and ready to embark on their journey home.

TRAVELING TO MAINE

GLA HOME BASE | Home Base is a dormitory on the campus of a historic preparatory school, located in a lush and rural small town called Readfield. Students will stay with roommates in comfortable, gender-segregated rooms; bathrooms will be shared and have hot-water showers. Students will be able to explore the campus during free time, including the athletic center and athletic fields.

FOOD | On the day-to-day, meals are healthy and balanced and will consist primarily of typical American fare (sandwiches, salads, pastas, chicken, etc.) served in the campus dining hall. (And perhaps we'll have a chance to try one of the most iconic Maine foods, lobster rolls!)

CLIMATE | Maine is warm and humid during the summer months, with average high temperatures between 75°F (23.8°C) and 80°F (26.6°C) in this part of the state. Nights drop to an average of 55°F (12.7°C) to 60°F (15.5°C).

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

NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES

Every year brings new and exciting opportunities for experiences we can offer students on our programs. As such, 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.

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO PROGRAM ACTIVITIES DUE TO COVID-19

Due to the global pandemic caused by COVID-19 outbreaks around the world, please note that program activities may change in order to accommodate COVID-19 regulations. In particular, service projects and other activities that typically involve close contact or engagement with members of the local community may be curbed, altered or skipped depending on staff evaluations on the ground and/or at the discretion of our Executive Director and Director of Program Operations & Risk Management. Every effort will be made to provide an exceptional experience on-location, at whatever level of community interaction is deemed safe at the time.

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 culture 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 contribution can transform the community. 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.

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 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.