

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.



# Oregon: The Great Pacific Northwest™

Get off the beaten path and experience the hidden gems of the Pacific Northwest, from Crater Lake to the redwoods and beyond.

## **OVERVIEW**

On this program you will experience a once-in-a-lifetime adventure in a region known for its stunning natural beauty. While Oregon is a nature lover's paradise, it also faces challenges from many fronts to its climate, forests, lakes and other native ecosystems. Your mission will be to learn how to be a reliable environmental steward as you tackle meaningful service projects that contribute to the long-term health of Oregon's many natural habitats. Learn about the land of our ancestors through immersive experiences working and appreciating the land and the cultural history behind it. Then take to the great outdoors, from Crater Lake National Park to the Redwood Forest and beyond.

#### 14-DAY PROGRAM

June 14 - June 27 July 2 - July 15 Tuition: \$5,299 Service Hours: 25 Max Group Size: 30 Age Range: 14-19

Student-to-Staff Ratio: 8-to-1 Airport: In RDM / out MFR

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Be immersed in the incredible natural landscapes of the Pacific Northwest
- ★ Collaborate with local nonprofits and focus on environmental projects
- ★ Visit world-renowned parks, including Crater Lake National Park and Redwood State Park
- ★ See the intersection of environmental conservation, nature tourism and holistic health firsthand
- ★ Learn your personal outdoor leadership style

\*No passport required for U.S. citizens.

#### SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

You will work with two different nonprofits committed to creating the next generation of environmental stewards. With the first nonprofit, Discover Your Forest, you will get your hands dirty as you assist a variety of ongoing projects to restore and replenish high-use recreation areas in the natural ecosystem. Learn about the complex intersection between recreation and preservation of natural and wilderness landscapes while hearing firsthand from professionals on their personal journeys of pursuing a career in the outdoors! The second nonprofit, Rusk Ranch Nature Center, is committed to educating youth about their natural world while working to restore land for enhanced recreation activities. Assist Rusk Ranch Nature Center with invasive species plant removal and other ongoing projects they have at the time of the program. Enjoy their butterfly pavilion while on-site, a special experience.

## 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 OREGON!

Touch down in Redmond, Oregon, a small town in the high desert with expansive views of the Cascade Mountain Range. GLA staff will greet you upon your arrival, and our group will drive together to our Home Base at Camp Suttle Lake, approximately 45 minutes away. Even on this short drive, you will begin to see different ecosystems that are unique to this area. The Home Base is a summer camp outfitted with fire pits, ping pong tables, and open space to enjoy nature. Just a short walk away is a crystal clear mountain lake. Tonight we'll get to know each other and prepare for the next two weeks!



## DAY 2: ORIENTATION & ROCK CLIMBING

Oregon is chock full of adventure activities, and no visit is complete to Central Oregon without a visit to the world renowned Smith Rock State Park. Start the morning learning about your peers and the lay of the land during an interactive orientation. Take the afternoon to visit Smith Rock State Park where you will experience rock climbing and hiking in this unique landscape like no other.



## DAY 3: COMMUNITY SERVICE BEGINS

After a hearty breakfast, we'll embark on our first day of service. We'll kick off the event with a special land acknowledgment from a tribal member that will ground us into the ecosystem and the importance of our work for the week, then assist with an ongoing biological surveying project alongside experts in the field to learn more about the intricacy of these systems and the different species we are identifying. Define what makes a 'public land' and learn how important public lands are in supporting a balanced community and natural ecosystem. After this first day of service, you'll enjoy a slow and relaxing afternoon at the lake near the Home Base. The water may be cold, but the reward is an invigorating swim in crystal clear high mountain lake water.









#### DAY 4: COMMUNITY SERVICE & RAFTING

For your second day of community service, you will visit the desert and help with invasive species removal of this delicate ecosystem. Prepare to get your hands dirty with some fun and physical work! In the afternoon, experience the one-of-a-kind desert scenery complete with old-growth forest, lava rock formations and osprey flying overheard as you enjoy a thrilling ride down the scenic Deschutes river. Take a walk in downtown Sisters, Oregon for some snacks, ice cream or strolling before heading back to the Home Base for the night where we will do some leadership activities before putting the day to rest.

#### DAYS 5 - 6: SERVICE & FUN

Work hard on your two last days of service with Discover Your Forest, assisting with a fire management and stream restoration project while continuing to learn from professionals in the field. Afternoons will be spent enjoying the nearby lake, where you may choose to kayak, paddleboard or for those with remaining energy, a hike around the entire lake. Our time in Central Oregon is ending soon, so enjoy a sunset hike and reflect on what you've learned so far. At night, spend time around the campfire as a group to reflect and share what you have learned so far!

#### DAY 7: WRAP UP & TRANSFER

Today you will transition from the High Desert of Central Oregon to Southern Oregon, enjoying the transition and new landscapes along the way. Perhaps you'll do one last service project to finish off anything that remains, or if the group is feeling energetic, go on a special hike to another pristine lake with eagles soaring overhead before loading into the vans and relaxing. The drive takes about 4 hours, during which we will take our time and enjoy the journey -- stopping wherever we want -- to enjoy ice cream or a swim in a lake if the weather allows. It's a 'choose your own adventure' sort of day! Settle into our Home Base, which is another comfortable but remote summer camp with more scenery to explore.

#### DAY 8: CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK

A full day of new experiences awaits! Sleep in and enjoy a delicious breakfast before we gear up for the 1.5 hour drive to Crater Lake National Park. Crater Lake is the deepest lake in the United States, and one of the most pristine on Earth. Experience this sleeping volcano by driving a portion of the rim to take in the awe-inspiring view. Next, take a boat to the island in the middle of the lake where you can soak in this truly unique landscape as you learn about the geological event that shaped what you see and the Native Americans who witnessed this magnificent volcanic masterpiece unfold 7,700 years ago. Relax on the drive back to the Home Base where we will settle back in for the night and enjoy the brilliant starry night by the campfire.

## DAY 9: RELAX & EXPLORE

We are now a little over half-way through the program. Spend the day relaxing at the Home Base with a slower pace. Sleep in, enjoy some personal time in the morning and participate in a leadership workshop. Spend the afternoon hiking around the forests of the Home Base, which boasts beautiful hiking trails along with a natural waterslide and swimming hole! Enjoy this favorite Oregon past-time as you soak in this beautiful natural landscape with your











peers. Spend the evening in reflective Mentor groups; what do you hope to get out of the remainder of this experience? What have you learned so far?

## DAY 10: ROAD TRIP TO SOUTHERN OREGON

Continue your journey of Oregon as we begin our 3-hour drive deep into the Southern Oregon Valley. Take the slow route and enjoy stopovers along the way to enjoy the views. We began our program in a more populated city, and will end our program in one of the most rural communities. This will help us get a snapshot of Oregon's social and environmental diversity while also illuminating the disparities that exist in the U.S. between urban and rural life. Settle into our Home Base and then visit your new service site for this portion of the program to get to know the organization and what you will be doing for the next few days. Enjoy a beautiful sunset and another swim at the swimming hole next to our Home Base if the weather permits.

## DAY 11: COMMUNITY SERVICE & OREGON CAVES

Today, we will get our hands dirty supporting the Rusk Ranch Nature Center, which provides underserved youth access to outdoor education in this small rural community. Learn from their leadership team and work alongside their crew to support ongoing projects at the time of our visit. We may help with invasive species removal, bio-swale development, or meadow restoration projects. Whatever project we support, we will learn about the importance of our work and how it can be a framework for other small communities to fill a much needed educational need. The afternoon will take you to one of the most unique landscapes on earth -- underground! The Oregon Caves have been uniquely managed to take people underground and learn about the delicate ecosystem below ground. Wear your warm clothes, as this tour is cold! Learn about this history of how this cave system was formed and first discovered by humans, the difference between stalactites and stalagmites, and the extensive preservation installed to ensure this ecosystem remains intact for years to come.

#### DAYS 12: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Onward, volunteers! Finish up your last day of service with a bang, as we dedicate the bulk of the day to finish our projects. The afternoon will hold some relaxing downtime and exploration to put your feet in the river and rejuvenate your bones after a big day of hard work. Spend the evening enjoying the stars as you begin to wrap up your time in Southern Oregon.

#### DAY 13: REDWOODS & OCEAN ADVENTURE

The Redwood National Forest is a sight to behold! Get up close and personal with these forest giants today. We will leave the Home Base early in the morning to maximize our day of fun. Embark on the windy and picturesque road of highway 199 as we weave our way towards the coast. En route, we will stop to enjoy the pristine (and cold) Smith River -- where some may opt to take a swim if they are feeling brave enough. Drive through Stoute Grove, a paved road that takes you deep into the Redwood Forest where we will pull over and enjoy time to hike around and marvel at the giants of the forest. We will end our drive at the coast, where we will enjoy a picnic on the coast and allow the fresh winds to enliven your senses. We'll take our time to enjoy this beautiful landscape and return when we feel like we've had enough. The evening will be spent wrapping up our time together, as we reminisce about our journey together, what we have learned, and what we hope to take home



with us and back out into the world.

### DAY 14: GOOD-BYE, OREGON!

Time to bid each other and Oregon goodbye. After breakfast, we'll depart for the Medford airport together, and GLA staff will make sure that everyone is checked in for their flight and ready to embark on their journey home. Safe journeys!

## TRAVELING TO OREGON

GLA HOME BASE | Students will stay in 3 different Home Base locations over the course of this program. Each of them are rustic cabins in a camp-like setting. Students will bring their own sleeping bags and pillows for dorm-style lodging. Students will stay with roommates in comfortable, gender-segregated rooms. Bathrooms will be shared and have hot water showers. Each location has unique offerings on-site such as open fields and campfire rings with a lake, or swimming hole within walking distance!

FOOD | Hearty and balanced meals will be provided for students. Picnics and outdoor eating will be a normal activity. Expect to help clean up and support the lodge community after meals.

CLIMATE | Oregon is known for all types of weather any month of the year, so the packing list calls for lots of layers just in case. Days are expected to range between  $60^{\circ}F$  ( $50.5^{\circ}C$ ) -  $85^{\circ}F$  ( $30^{\circ}C$ ) and nighttime temperatures from  $38^{\circ}F$  ( $3.3^{\circ}C$ ) -  $50^{\circ}F$  ( $10^{\circ}C$ ). Mosquitos are not typical during the day, but should be expected during sunrise and sunset.

## **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:



#### **NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES**

Every year brings new and exciting opportunities for experiences we can offer students on our programs. While this program is being planned for 2021, 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 <a href="https://www.experiencegla.com/enroll">www.experiencegla.com/enroll</a> .
experienceGLA.com   +1 858-771-0645   @GLAteens