



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.



South Dakota: The Land of Infinite Variety™

Known as the "Land of Infinite Variety," you'll experience everything from the cultural impact of Native Americans to the natural beauty of the Badlands.

OVERVIEW

On this program you will discover how Native American populations - past and present - have influenced every aspect of life here in South Dakota. From the sacred Black Hills to the wonders of the Badlands, Native Americans have spent generations living in harmony with the land here. Your objective on this program will be learning about Native American culture, and how to be a good environmental steward so we can care for these lands for many generations to come in collaboration with those whose ancestors once lived here. Explore the intersection of history, culture and the environment in a variety of ways as you learn more about your personal leadership style.

10-DAY PROGRAM

June 24 – July 3
July 6 – July 15
July 18 – July 27

Tuition: \$3,999
Service Hours: 15
Max Group Size: 30
Age Range: 14-19
Student-to-Staff Ratio: 8-to-1
Airport:

HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Explore the sprawling prairies and rich farmland that define South Dakota's landscapes
- ★ Support trail maintenance or reforestation efforts in a national forest
- ★ Learn about the South Dakota Native American population, their cultural significance and the issues facing them today
- ★ Spend an afternoon in the Badlands, hiking and hunting for fossils and rocks
- ★ Combine history and sightseeing while you visit some of western South Dakota's most famous national parks, landmarks and monuments

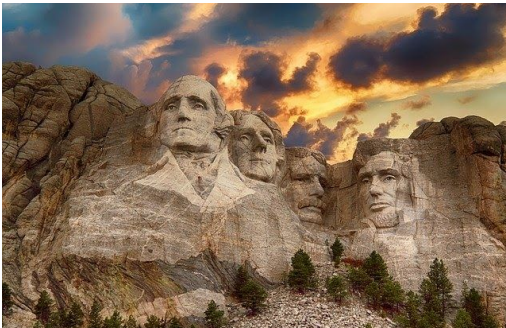
***No passport required for U.S. citizens.**

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

Support local environmental maintenance and protection efforts in the beautiful and historic landscapes of South Dakota. Contribute to trail maintenance and make sure that wild areas are accessible to all travelers and protected for all local wildlife. You will also help with reforestation efforts, focusing on restoring native tree species in the region. Then, help with sustainable infrastructure development on Pine Ridge Reservation. Support the Oglala Sioux Tribe on the 8th largest reservation in the U.S. through various projects as you learn about Native American history and culture.

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 SOUTH DAKOTA!

Touch down in Rapid City, the most direct gateway to the Blacks Hills and the Badlands. GLA staff will greet you upon your arrival, and our group will drive together to our Home Base. Home Base is a collection of camper cabins, allowing for a comfortable, yet rustic, program stay. Tonight we'll have a welcome dinner to get to know each other and prepare for the next week and a half!

DAY 2: VOLUNTEER + EXPLORE HISTORIC AREAS

We'll start our first full day in South Dakota with a volunteer project, supporting the forest service with reforestation efforts or trail maintenance. Help plant trees to improve the ecosystem for local people and wildlife alike or ensure that the local lands are accessible to visitors. Learn about the issues facing the natural lands of South Dakota and what is being done to combat the issues.

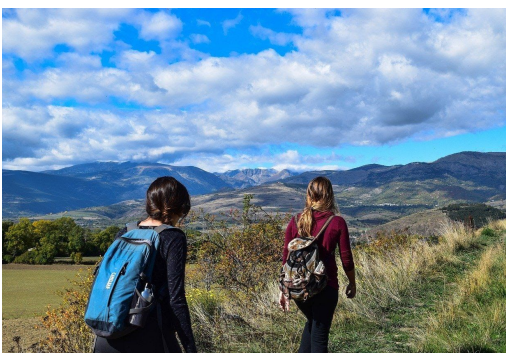
In the afternoon, dive into the history of the Keystone area with a visit to one of the most famous monuments in SD -- Mt. Rushmore -- as well as a hike and a visit to a mine where you will learn the history of the mining around Keystone and the carving of Mt Rushmore.



DAY 3: COMMUNITY SERVICE + FLUME TRAIL HIKE

You'll continue to learn more about environmental stewardship in South Dakota as you continue to work on local reforestation projects or trail maintenance. The service project work may become more natural to you as you get the hang of replanting local flora or clearing out overgrown trails and paths.

Spent your afternoon hiking on the Flume Trail, during which we will learn the history of the flume and mining and how it impacted the Black Hills. Due to its historical significance to South Dakotans, the Flume Trail has been designated a National Recreation Trail.





DAY 4: COMMUNITY SERVICE + CRAZY HORSE MONUMENT & CUSTER STATE PARK

Continue working to improve the local natural environment and start to see the progress you've made since your first day. What have you learned so far about the relationship between the environment, the local people and the native wildlife?

Explore another hugely important piece of cultural history at Crazy Horse Monument. Crazy Horse Monument is the world's largest mountain carving in progress and is a tribute to the protection and preservation of the culture, tradition and living heritage of the North American Indians. We'll also explore the abundant wildlife and natural beauty of Custer State Park, the largest and first state park in SD, most famously known for its bison herds.

DAY 5: BIKING EXCURSION

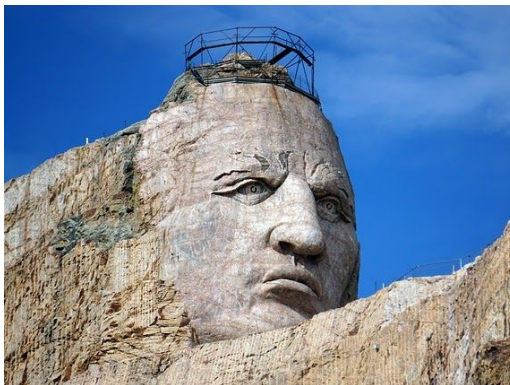
Prepare yourself for a full day of adventure as we go on a biking excursion on Mickelson Trail. We'll cycle through miles of national forest land as we cruise through the beautiful Black Hills. Gentle slopes and easy access mean you don't have to be an experienced cyclist to enjoy this incredible adventure. We'll stop along the trail for photo opportunities, rest time and a picnic lunch.



DAY 6: NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE AT PINE RIDGE RESERVATION + HIKING IN BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Today we're going to dive deeper into the culture and history of Native Americans in South Dakota. We will volunteer to support projects at Pine Ridge Reservation, the 8th largest reservation in the U.S. and home to members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. We will listen to an expert speaker and learn about the culture, history and current events on the Pine Ridge Reservation. We will eat here and learn how to make a Native American drum.

Today will also include another amazing adventure -- a wilderness hike in the famous Badlands National Park.



DAY 7: VOLUNTEER + ADVENTURE PARK

We'll get back to our environmental conservation efforts and support our previous project sites or start working on a new project. You may find even more meaning to our land preservation work after having heard from the native people of the land.

Then you're in for another day of adventure as we take on Rushmore Tramway Adventure Park. We may tube, slide or zipline through the park, with views of Mt. Rushmore in the distance.



DAY 8: COMMUNITY SERVICE + THE NORTHERN HILLS

On our last day of service in South Dakota, we will wrap up with a strong day of reforestation efforts or trail maintenance. Reflect on the impact you've made throughout your time on the program and what you've learned about the importance of land to all who live on it.

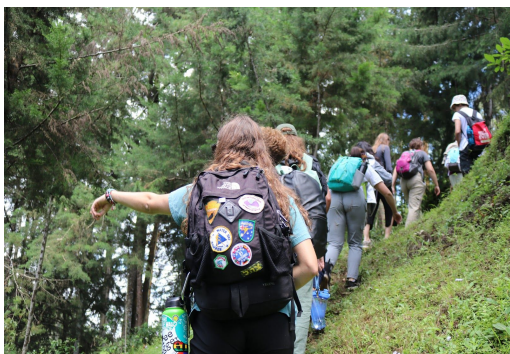
In the afternoon, we'll head to the Northern Hills, hiking and learning about the Wild West History in Deadwood, the location of the final frontier gold rush in North America.





DAY 9: LAKE EXCURSION + CELEBRATION!

Spend your final full day in South Dakota on a full-day lake excursion with stand-up paddle boards, pack rafts and kayaks. Choose your favorite water activity (or try your hand at a few!) as you and your fellow students explore South Dakota by water rather than land. Learn about the importance of natural water sources as you paddle and come to understand how the preservation of water serves the environment, the wildlife and the people who live here.



Wrap up your program with a special final dinner and consider how to best say farewell to your program peers and your home for the past week and a half.

DAYS 10: GOODBYE, SOUTH DAKOTA!

May we suggest getting up early for your final morning on the frontier? After breakfast, we'll depart for the Rapid City 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 SOUTH DAKOTA

GLA HOME BASE | Home Base is a collection of camper cabins near Rapid City, SD. Students will stay with roommates in rustic but comfortable, gender-segregated cabins. Bathrooms will be shared and there will be a shared shower house that has individual showers with dressing rooms.

FOOD | Students and staff will have breakfast and dinner together at Home Base, and to-go sack lunches will be taken along for service and excursion days. Students will have standard American fare and be able to try some South Dakota favorites.

CLIMATE | South Dakota has a continental climate with four distinct seasons. Summers are warm to hot, with average high temperatures between 80°F (26.7°C) and 90°F (32.2°C) in the peak of summer. Nights cool down quickly to an average of 50°F (10°C) to 60°F (15.6°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:

experienceGLA.com | +1 858-771-0645 | [@GLAteens](https://www.instagram.com/GLAteens)

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. 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 www.experiencegla.com/enroll.