



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.



WYOMING: Grand Teton & Yellowstone Excursion™

Learn about ecology, wildlife and public lands against the backdrop of two of the nation's most famous national parks.

OVERVIEW

On this program you will experience two of the most famous American National Parks: Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park. These two cornerstones form the foundation of your expedition here in Wyoming, and are two major bucket list items to check off! You will be based in Grand Teton to learn about public lands, conservation and wildlife, and you'll take an overnight excursion to Yellowstone as well. Make a meaningful difference tackling local community challenges by supporting nature services nearby. Finally, learn about ecological and water protection challenges as you discover the cultural and geological history of this frontier state.

10-DAY PROGRAM

July 20 – July 29

Tuition: \$4,999
Service Hours: 20
Max Group Size: 15
Age Range: 14-19
Student-to-Staff Ratio: 8-to-1
Airport: JAC

HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Spend time in spectacular National Parks: Grand Teton and Yellowstone
- ★ Work with land management, park service or forest service agencies
- ★ Explore the rich history of Native Americans and nearby public lands
- ★ Camp overnight in Yellowstone National Park while seeking out wildlife in the park
- ★ Learn about ecology, geology, cultural history and water protection in a stunning landscape

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

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

Connection to place is the starting point for service on this program. Service projects in remote areas are situational in the context of community, so you'll learn about not only the ecological needs in this area, but also cultural and economic factors. Students will have ample opportunities to work with land management agencies, the park service or the forest service. Combine your efforts with those of your peers who share your passion for environmental stewardship. Together, you may take part in trail maintenance, the mitigation of invasive species or sustainable infrastructure support efforts.

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 WYOMING!

Touch down in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, just minutes from Grand Teton National Park. GLA staff will greet you upon your arrival, and our group will drive together to our Home Base about half an hour away. Home Base is an outdoor school campus with multi-story lodges. Tonight we'll get comfortable in beautiful Wyoming, get an introduction to the national park that we'll be living in and get to know each other before we kick off our adventure.

DAYS 2-5: GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE + ACTIVITIES

What's the best part about staying minutes away from an incredible national park? It means we get to go into Grand Teton National Park nearly every day! For the next couple of days, we'll be heading into the park to find our destination for the day. We may start by hiking on a trail and learning about the local ecology, then heading to a national site or going canoeing on a lake. We could partner with the park service to do trail maintenance, mitigate invasive species or provide physical support for infrastructure projects. We'll determine our projects by the needs that the park service rangers deem most necessary at the time we're there.

The history of public lands is rich here in Wyoming and you're going to learn all about public land management. We'll also learn about pre-American history and the Native American populations who lived and continue to live on these landscapes. There will be opportunities for cultural exchange on top of your learning about ecology and environmental science.

In the evenings, be prepared for some interactive workshops led by expert instructors. We could have an investigation workshop into animal tracking and learn what to look for on trails to figure out what types of animals live nearby. We will also dive into local wildlife issues in Grand Teton. You may take a (guided) evening hike or a sunset canoe, as well!

DAY 6: YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK EXCURSION

Now that you've spent so much time in Grand Teton, why not take a break and





head to another wildly popular park, the famous Yellowstone National Park? We'll take a quick hour-long drive to Yellowstone and take in the incredible geology of the park, with its canyons, rivers, forests, hot springs and of course, geysers -- including its most famous, Old Faithful. You'll have a chance to compare Yellowstone to Grand Teton National Park and see an array of wildlife, such as bears, bison, wolves, moose, elk and antelope.

We'll spend the night front-country camping in the park, keeping an eye out for the wolves and bears we may see in their natural habitat. Spend a night under the stars, away from light pollution and in the fresh air of a national park treasure.



DAY 7-8: RETURN TO GRAND TETON

Now that we're back in our home park, we'll continue our service projects alongside the national park service or another land management agency. We'll look at our service work situated in the context of the community and evaluate not only the ecological impacts, but also the cultural and economic factors at play. Through all the work we've done thus far and will continue to do, you'll learn how to navigate personal challenges and how to be self-aware as you manage the complex challenges in the world.



We'll also check out a national historic landmark in the park at the location where conservationists wrote the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Wilderness Act officially defined the term "wilderness" in the U.S. and protected more than 9 million acres of federal land, so you'll be visiting a hugely significant site of U.S. conservation history.

DAY 9: GRAND TETON FAREWELL + STARGAZING

We'll spend our final day in Grand Teton National Park, wrapping up our service projects and tying together everything we've learned throughout the last week and a half. Consider everything you've done to contribute to the ecological health of the park and how you've supported the maintenance and protection of public lands.

This evening, we'll have the most incredible send-off with a stargazing, astronomy-focused workshop. Our stargazing expert guides will bring an inflatable star lab and professional telescopes so we can connect to the cosmos. We will learn what we are seeing in the night sky and how to properly use the equipment they've brought along. The high elevation, low humidity and lack of light pollution where we are located makes for ideal stargazing conditions.



DAY 10: GOOD-BYE, WYOMING!

It's time to say goodbye to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks that you've called home, although we suspect you may be back. After breakfast, we'll depart for the Jackson Hole 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 WYOMING

GLA HOME BASE | Home Base is an outdoor school campus with multi-story lodges, right by Grand Teton National Park. Students will stay with roommates in comfortable, gender-segregated rooms in the lodge. Bathrooms will be shared and students will have (supervised) access to playfields, playground, picnic table and outdoor seating options, covered porches with rocking chairs, and paved biking and running trails.

FOOD | We'll have typical American fare at the lodge for breakfast and dinner, and we'll carry our lunches to our destination each day. Expect to help clean up and support the lodge community after meals.

CLIMATE | You'll need to bring lots of layers. Summers in Jackson, WY are warm with low humidity, with average high temperatures between 75°F (23.8°C) and 85°F (29.4°C), while nights drop dramatically to an average of 37°F (2.7°C) to 45°F (7.2°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. 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.