



The Dominican Republic

Humanitarian Mission: Freedom Christian School



"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40

Sacred Steps: Mission Works

A hands-on service series empowering students to support humanitarian, medical, and community-based projects through meaningful outreach, cultural connection, and real-world impact worldwide.



Hammock Expeditions, LLC
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www.HammockExpeditions.com
www.STEMStudyTours.com



A Message From Our Team

At STEM Study Tours, we believe students learn best when they're immersed, engaged, and inspired. Every program is built with intention - blending hands-on discovery, academic depth, and meaningful experiences that help students see the world (and themselves) in new ways. Our goal is for each itinerary to spark curiosity, build confidence, and create moments students carry long after the trip ends. We're honored to partner with schools who share that vision and to help bring learning to life beyond the classroom.

— Michele & The Hammock Expeditions Team

Why Travel With Hammock Expeditions & STEM Study Tours

Schools choose us because we design programs that are organized, intentional, and built around real learning. Our itineraries combine strong academics with smooth logistics, giving teachers confidence and giving students opportunities to explore, ask questions, and grow. We partner with trusted local experts, communicate clearly, and support groups every step of the way so educators can focus on their students - not the logistics.

What Sets Us Apart

- **Purpose-Driven Itineraries** - Students actively participate in meaningful, real-world learning.
- **Safety, Structure & Professionalism** - From 24-hour support to vetted partners and clear communication, we ensure teachers can focus on their students while we manage the logistics.
- **Hands-On, High-Impact Learning** - Our programs emphasize field science, conservation, and experiential learning - the kind that sticks with students long after the trip ends.
- **Student-Centered Design** - We balance learning with fun, reflection with adventure, and structure with flexibility. Every day is crafted to keep students engaged, energized, and supported.
- **A Team That Travels With Purpose** - We're educators, planners, naturalists, and travel professionals who care deeply about student growth. Your goals become our goals.

Our Commitment to You

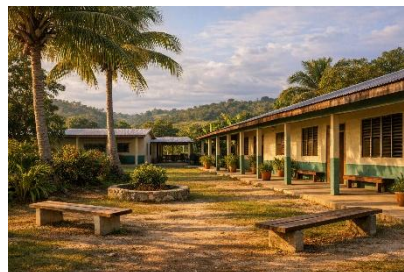
When you travel with us, you gain a partner who understands your vision, anticipates your needs, and delivers an experience your students will remember for years to come. We're here to support your school, empower your students, and make every moment meaningful.

We want to be your educational partner. Let us know how we may serve you.

Michele, Christina, Izzy, Dana, Taylor, and the Team



***Mission Works** is named in honor of Daryl Hall, whose passion for missions, compassion for others, and lifelong dedication to service shaped countless lives. His legacy lives on through every student who steps forward to serve with purpose.*



Dominican Republic: Where Service Meets Community

Where Service Finds Its Purpose: The Dominican Republic invites students into a vibrant, resilient community shaped by faith, culture, and the determination to build a stronger future. In the rural areas surrounding San Pedro de Macorís, families often navigate limited access to educational resources and economic opportunity, yet they do so with remarkable strength and hope. Serving here gives students a meaningful window into these realities and shows how education, encouragement, and practical support can create lasting change. This mission transforms the Dominican Republic into a living classroom where compassion becomes action and service becomes relationship.

A Journey That Deepens Compassion: Throughout the week, students witness how learning opens doors, how confidence grows through encouragement, and how small acts of service can ripple outward in powerful ways. They experience the warmth of Dominican community life, the importance of educational access, and the impact of faith-driven outreach. Through reflection, connection, and hands-on service, participants gain perspective, empathy, and a renewed sense of how purposeful work can shape the world around them.

The Mission: Freedom Christian School

Ramon Santana, Dominican Republic

This Mission Works program partners with Freedom Christian School, a ministry serving children and families just north of San Pedro de Macorís. Students step into a week of meaningful outreach and relationship-building alongside missionary families and local staff who are committed to long-term community impact. Whether assisting in classrooms, supporting English language learning, or contributing to building projects that expand educational opportunity, every task directly strengthens the school's mission and the futures of the children it serves.

Service at Freedom Christian School is deeply relational. Students offer one-on-one attention, encouragement, and practical help that supports both learning and connection. For those working in construction, each block laid represents new space, new possibility, and new hope for the community. For those serving in classrooms, speaking English and engaging with students provides skills and confidence that last far beyond the week. Every role matters - and every participant becomes part of the larger story of what God is doing in the Dominican Republic.



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Throughout the week, students are invited to reflect on purpose, stewardship, and the impact of service. Teams learn how short-term missions can support long-term ministry, and how they can continue championing Freedom's work from anywhere in the world. This journey is designed to deepen compassion, strengthen faith, and inspire students to see their own circumstances - and their ability to serve - in new ways.

Lodging & Transportation

Teams stay on the Freedom campus, a clean, safe environment shared with missionary families. Dormitory-style housing is separated by gender, with connected bathrooms, multiple showers, and provided linens and towels. Rooms are fan-cooled with no air conditioning. Groups may fly into either Santo Domingo (SDQ, ~45 minutes from campus) or Punta Cana (PUJ, ~1.5 hours). SDQ is strongly recommended for smoother arrival logistics. All transportation, meals, beverages, and on-site support - including translation and security as needed - are included.

Meals on Campus

All meals are provided on the Freedom Christian School campus and prepared by the local team. Students can expect simple, home-style Dominican dishes such as rice, beans, chicken, vegetables, and fresh fruit. Meals are nutritious, familiar, and designed to keep teams energized throughout their service days. Clean drinking water is available at all times, and beverages are provided with each meal.

The campus accommodates common dietary needs whenever possible, and teams should communicate restrictions in advance so the staff can prepare accordingly. Meals are shared in a communal setting, offering students a chance to connect, reflect, and enjoy time together outside of service hours.

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1 – Arrival & Orientation
Days 2–7 – School Service: Classroom or Building Projects
Day 8 – Depart for Home

Cultural Tips for Serving in the Dominican Republic

Approach with Humility: Dominican culture is warm, relational, and community-centered. Students should enter each interaction with a posture of listening, learning, and respect, recognizing that they are guests in a place with its own rhythms, traditions, and strengths.

Value Relationships Over Tasks: In the Dominican Republic, connection matters. A smile, a conversation, or a moment of encouragement can be just as meaningful as a completed project. Take time to engage with students, staff, and families — relationships are at the heart of effective service.

Communicate with Kindness: Many children at Freedom Christian School are eager to practice English, and your patience and encouragement make a difference. Speak clearly, celebrate effort, and remember that communication is about connection, not perfection.



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Honor Local Norms: Dress modestly, follow campus guidelines, and be mindful of how your actions reflect the mission you're supporting. Simple choices — like being punctual, staying positive, and showing gratitude — communicate respect.

Embrace Flexibility: Schedules may shift based on weather, school needs, or community priorities. Flexibility is part of serving well. A willing spirit and a positive attitude help teams adapt and support the ministry effectively.

Entry Requirements for the Dominican Republic

Entry requirements for the Dominican Republic can change, and all travelers are responsible for checking the most current information during planning and before departure. The guidelines below are accurate at the time of writing but are subject to change without notice. Always verify requirements through your government's travel authority and the official Dominican Republic migration and tourism websites prior to travel.

General Requirements (All Travelers)

- ✓ Valid Passport: Most travelers, including U.S., Canadian, U.K., and EU citizens, may enter the Dominican Republic for stays up to 30 days without a visa. A valid passport is required; U.S. travelers should ensure at least 6 months of validity beyond arrival.
- ✓ E-Ticket Form: All travelers must complete the free Dominican Republic electronic entry and exit form (E-Ticket) before arrival and again before departure. This digital form replaces paper immigration and customs documents.
- ✓ Return or Onward Travel: Immigration may request proof of a return or onward flight. Airlines often verify this at check-in.
- ✓ Tourist Card: The required tourist card fee is already included in airline tickets for air travelers; no separate purchase is needed.
- ✓ Visa Requirements: Most travelers do not need a visa for short stays (up to 30 days). Citizens of certain countries - including China, India, Cuba, Haiti, and others - must obtain a tourist visa prior to travel. Requirements vary by nationality, so travelers should confirm with the nearest Dominican consulate or embassy.

Other Ministry Opportunities

In the Dominican Republic, we are also able to offer Medical Missions.
Please contact us directly for further information.



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Freedom Christian School

Humanitarian Mission – The Dominican Republic



Mission Inclusions

International flights
All transportation
Lodging on the Freedom campus
All meals & beverages
Costs associated with service projects
Translation services & security as needed
Travel pack (water bottle, journal, luggage tags, and more)
Dedicated Trip Director

What's Not Included

Fully comprehensive insurance (**mandatory**)
Baggage costs, pay directly to airline if required
Baggage handling - everyone should be able to pull / load their own bag
Transfers to/from home airport
Lunches on travel days
Meal selections other than ones provided for the entire group (we are generally able to cater for allergy conditions, vegetarians, halal and in some cases vegan)
Cost of visas, visa waivers, passports or other legal requirements for entry/return
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel
Sightseeing / Entertainment / Transport not shown in Itinerary
Gratuities – local guides for sightseeing excursions, tour director
Credit card fees if individuals wish to pay via credit card instead of ACH
Additional taxes, fuel surcharges or fees levied by governments / suppliers

This mission is offered through our partnership with Freedom International Ministries. As always, our staff are available to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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