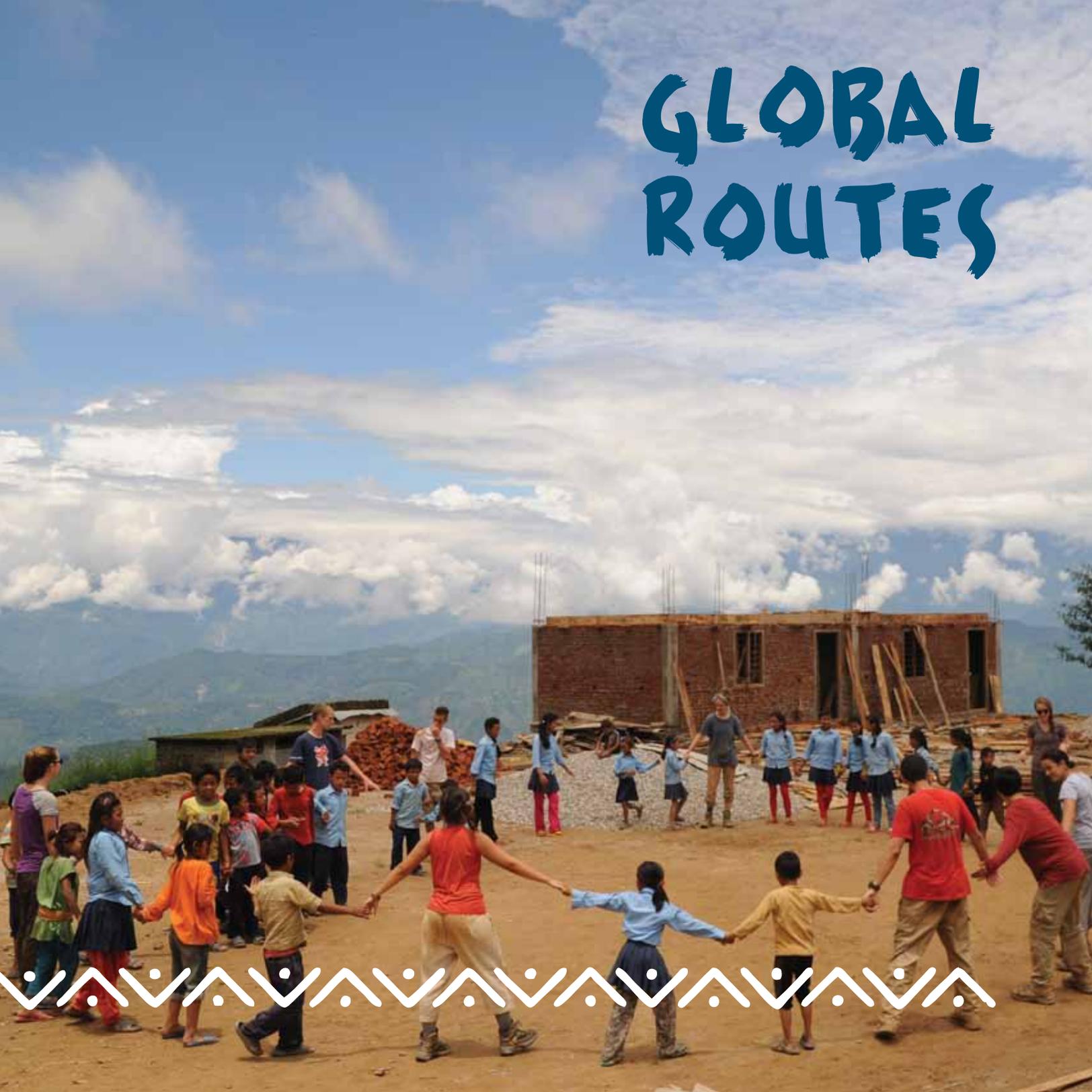


# GLOBAL ROUTES





**WE BELIEVE IN...**

CELEBRATING THE NATURAL WORLD  
THE JOURNEY OVER THE DESTINATION

**THE GROUP**

FARMER TANS & STRONG ARMS

THE HUMOR OF STUMBLING YOUR WAY THROUGH A SECOND LANGUAGE

SPONTANEOUS DANCE PARTIES

**THE INDIVIDUAL**

THE JOY THAT RESIDES IN SERVING OTHERS

**WE ARE GLOBAL ROUTES**

**WE STAND FOR...**

ADVENTURE THROUGH EXPLORATION

MUTUAL EXCHANGE

STEWARDSHIP & A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

**OPTIMISM**

LIVING IN THE MOMENT

**SELF AWARENESS**

INDIVIDUALITY & COMMUNITY

**WE ARE GLOBAL ROUTES**





## OUR MISSION



**As peoples of the world become increasingly interdependent we must recognize that we live in a global community. The future of this community depends upon our self-knowledge as well as upon mutual understanding and respect among diverse cultures. Global Routes deepens the roots of our shared community by fostering personal and international development. Undertaking volunteer work overseas allows North American youth the opportunity to push past stereotypes and misconceptions to build strong relationships and self-understanding, as well as buildings.**

The first Global Routes program, initiated in Kenya in 1986, was a pilot program cultivated by our parent organization, Windsor Mountain International (founded as Interlocken in 1961). This program was the very first community service program of its kind. Through our foreign exchange programs, participants extend themselves by living and working with people in small, rural communities throughout the world.

Appropriate grassroots community development and homestays in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean are at the core of these experiences.

Students work side by side with their host families on projects selected by the community, such as constructing a school, clinic or community center or teaching local children.

Global Routes is a non-governmental organization committed to strengthening our global community through volunteer work overseas. To this end, we design foreign exchange programs that bring people with different world views together through community service projects.



# MAPPING YOUR JOURNEY

Through our unique combination of service, immersion, adventure and leadership you will gain profound perspectives of another country, another culture, the world and yourself.



## DIRECTED BY SERVICE

With the goal of supporting greater levels of sustainability and self-sufficiency worldwide, each Global Routes program has a **primary service project** that is designed by and implemented alongside community members. Rising above differences in culture, language or resources, together we build schools, design lesson plans, harvest crops, plant gardens, play games and become a community. You and your group are also encouraged to **pursue your own passions** by initiating **secondary projects** of your own creation.

## DEEPENED THROUGH IMMERSION

Finding connection in another part of the world is one of the most rewarding outcomes of a Global Routes experience. During the service portion of our programs, students live with **host families** in pairs or as a group in a central building in the community. Our host families are carefully screened, selected and supervised by both our in-country staff and Global Routes leaders. **Immersion in a rural village** is also an ideal time for you to work on your **language skills**.



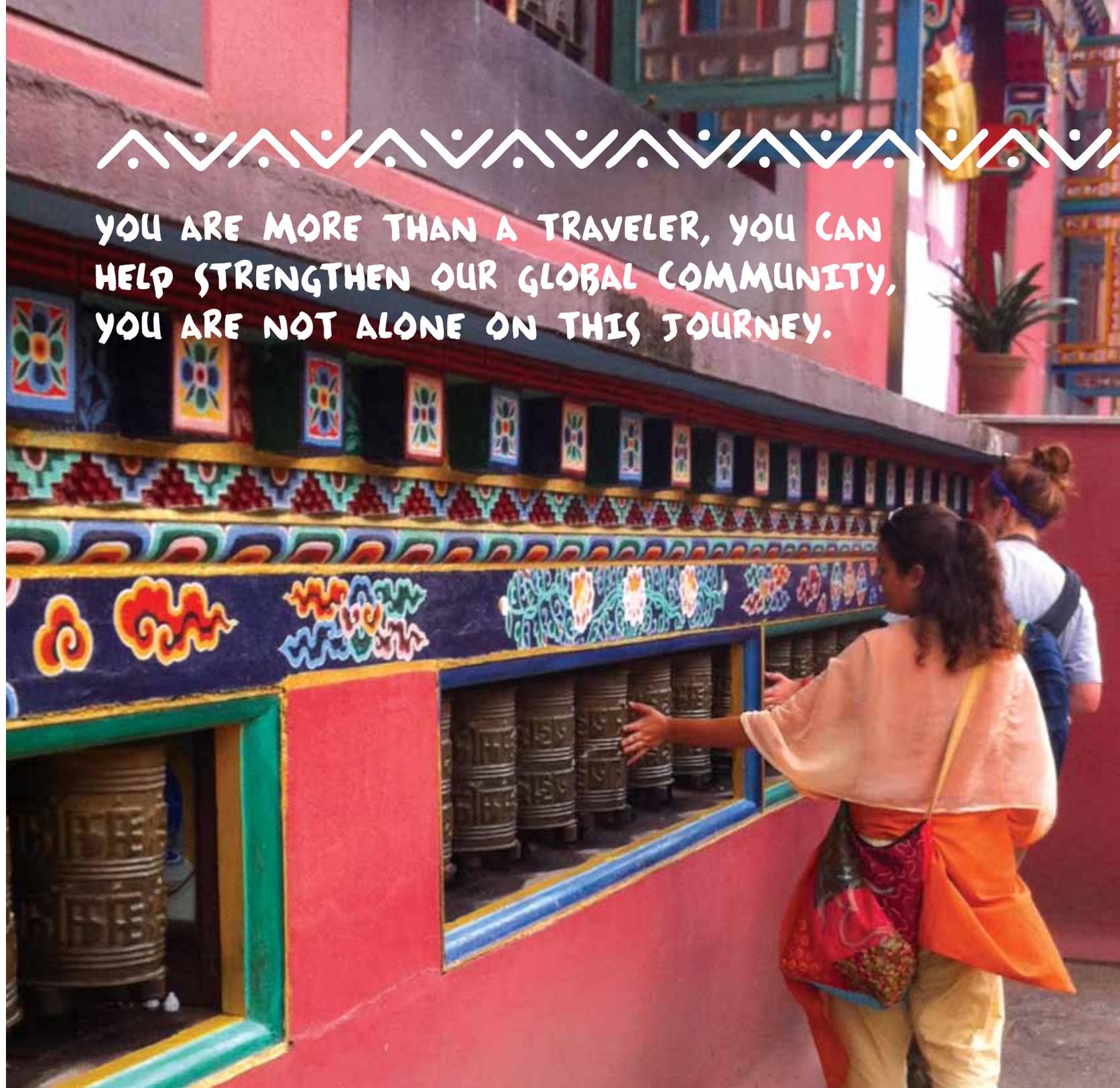
### BROADENED WITH ADVENTURE

Snorkeling in turquoise waters, trekking beneath 20,000 foot mountain peaks or negotiating for a hammock in a bustling bazaar are moments that mark our growth and joy as global explorers and citizens. **Learning to be an independent, responsible and respectful traveler** is perhaps as valuable a rite of passage as any other on a Global Routes program. **Push yourself** physically and feel empowered as you summit high peaks, brave whitewater-rapids and trek through tropical rainforests. **Exciting travel and cultural activities** challenge you to open your mind to new adventures and to **take chances** that you may have previously believed impossible. This, in combination with your volunteer service to a community, offers a profoundly greater **connection to a place and its people** than can be found by simply experiencing a country as a tourist.

### CONTEXTUALIZED BY LEADERSHIP

We are a professional team of educators, administrators, travelers and ambassadors who are **deeply committed** to facilitating safe and **meaningful international experiences** for young adults.

**A combination of truly exemplary field staff** and local leaders take our programs from paper to reality. In addition to being warm, bright, compassionate, energetic, creative and competent, each leader has extensive experience working with high school and college aged participants. Global Routes field leaders must be at least 24 years of age, certified in CPR and First Aid, have far-reaching travel experience and complete our intensive interview process and training program. One of our highest priorities is sustaining excellence in leadership.



YOU ARE MORE THAN A TRAVELER, YOU CAN HELP STRENGTHEN OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY, YOU ARE NOT ALONE ON THIS JOURNEY.



## OUR PROGRAMS

### HIGH SCHOOL

Our 2 to 5 week summer programs are ideal for high school students who are interested in pursuing a service project coupled with a homestay or community group-stay experience. Upon completion of your program, you will also receive a certificate for 50-100 community service hours.

### GAP YEAR & COLLEGE

Our unique Gap Year and College programs are the stage for an incredible exchange of culture, ideas, language, and service to one another. In our quest to be of service to others, one of our greatest contributions is our curiosity and desire to learn. When we ask a question, we show our interest, allow for reflection, open dialogue, and invite collaboration. Our unique Gap Year and College programs are the stage for this incredible exchange of culture, ideas, language, and

service to one another. Whether you are teaching in a classroom in Ecuador, constructing a community center in Kenya, or working with doctors in India, you and your group will find many meaningful ways to engage in the life of the communities you call home for the semester.

### CUSTOM

Global Routes works closely with schools, organizations, groups and other inspired individuals to create Custom Programs. This is an ideal option for those groups who are interested in language immersion, global studies, volunteerism and group building opportunities. With the Global Routes hallmark of sustainable community service at their core, these programs are further customized based on the unique interests, goals, dates, destinations and budgets of our partners.

## OUR THREE PART MODEL PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK FOR YOUR EXPERIENCE:

### ORIENTATION

The journey begins in your international destination. There, apprenticeships with artisans and explorations of mountains, rainforests and temples await. Program leaders and local experts lead workshops and discussions that guide participants firsthand through their initial exposure to the culture, language, traditions and environment of the host country. The simultaneous development of trust and friendships among the participants and leaders contributes to this powerful foundation in preparation for the projects and homestay ahead.

### SERVICE & HOMESTAY

An authentic immersion experience is the hallmark and highlight of all Global Routes programs. Our unique approach focuses the majority of a program's time within one rural community, and on one primary service project that has been selected by that community. Living in homestays, participants work on their service projects and step into the rhythm of daily life alongside their local hosts.

### TRAVEL ADVENTURES

Places of world-renowned beauty and adventure create the backdrop for every group's final days of reflection and celebration. Global Routes works closely with professional guides and outfitters to craft activities such as kayaking, snorkeling, white water rafting, wildlife safaris and traditional drumming and dance workshops. At the seeming edge of the world, soak up days of sun, adventure and relaxation while celebrating your great contributions and discoveries.





## OUR SERVICE MODELS

**The heart of each Global Routes program is grounded in an authentic and meaningful cross-cultural immersion experience. The combination of a unique community-based service project and authentic homestay experience is what makes Global Routes unique in this field of experiential education and serves as the platform for the true learning that students have during their time abroad with Global Routes.**

The service projects are always chosen and organized by our host-communities and in collaboration with our local contacts. Students work side-by-side with community members.

The friendships created last a lifetime. Many students continue to exchange letters with their host-families; some students return to visit their host communities.

Whenever we return to host communities, we are impressed by the emotion and the fondness with which the families remember their North American “sons” and “daughters.” These relationships, together with immersion in a lifestyle so different from their own, have tremendous significance in the minds and hearts of our students.



### CONSTRUCTION

Work together in the spirit of collaboration to build, paint, or remodel a community center, playground, or school classroom. You can expect to work hard on the project while enjoying the company of community members who work eagerly alongside your group. Participate in budgeting and time management, and learn basic vocabulary in the local language around

the work site. Building school desks, planting trees, painting a mural, or starting a soccer tournament are examples of other secondary projects. Through building these physical foundations and bridges you will simultaneously create strong bonds with the host community as you support a project that will directly affect their community.





## LEADERSHIP

Guided by experienced trip leaders, you will take the time to get to know the people of your host community—the children, the teenagers, the adults, and the elders—and then, after learning a bit about the local culture, your group, collaborating with community members, will design and facilitate a five to ten day summer camp for the children of the community. These friendship camps are the core of our

leadership service programs, and a unique and ideal way to build friendships, collaborate and learn. Stretch your leadership skills through learning about program preparation, facilitation, and reflection. Students interested in teaching and leadership will have the chance to realize their skills in an authentic teaching situation with children from a completely different cultural background.



## FARMING



Get your hands in the dirt as you spend your days assisting farmers and their families with their land and community projects. As the world becomes more dependent on big farms, learn about small-scale farming and sustainable agriculture practices. In addition to helping farmers plant and harvest, explore how crops are packaged and sold. Engage with community members to better

understand the fair trade movement and how it directly affects your host community. Some of the farming service programs will also be trained to lead healthy nutrition and cooking workshops with their host community's youth. Through these workshops help promote healthy cooking and local food. When you return home you will have a new perspective on where your food comes from.



# AFRICA



KENYA  
SOUTH AFRICA  
TANZANIA  
UGANDA

Among the soft prairie grass and acacia trees, expansive herds of wildebeest, **elephants and zebras roam free. Play games with children** at a local orphanage, learn to **cook ugali** with your host mother, and dance to local beats with new-found friends. Learn first-hand about grassroots efforts to battle the devastating effects of poverty and explore South Africa's history of apartheid and revolution. **Together with community members** construct a classroom for a grade school, teach English and facilitate a friendship camp for local school children as you learn the local language and **join in the rhythms of life** in the African heartland. Hike the fertile slopes of Mt. Meru, **traverse the desert** on the back of a camel, experience the spice isle of Zanzibar as you sail the clear waters of the Indian Ocean in a wooden dhow. While the simplicity of life in the African village belies the complexity facing the continent today, the true joy of just being in the landscape will touch your heart like no other experience.



# ASIA



CAMBODIA  
CHINA  
INDIA  
NEPAL  
THAILAND

The countries of Asia reach out boldly to entice, incite and **shock the senses** with exotic spices, silken fabrics and sacred teachings. Snorkel along pristine beaches, **trek** beneath breathtaking peaks in the Himalayas or into Hilltribe villages. Assist with **community development projects** and education initiatives as you settle into your host community and learn about daily life in your village. Add a classroom onto an existing school, build a sala or open-air meeting place and **plant trees and communal gardens**. Stretch your mind and body as you learn from internationally renowned yoga instructors in India or wander through Buddhist and Hindu temples in Nepal. Observe elephants at a rehabilitation center in Thailand, trek to high peaks in Nepal, or hike atop China's Great Wall. The vibrancy of Asia will **captivate your mind and soul** as you **practice living in the moment**.



# US & CARIBBEAN



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
PUERTO RICO  
THE GRENADINES  
UNITED STATES

The diversity of the landscape throughout the US and Caribbean ranges from vast grassy plains to lush tropical rainforest. Learn about the different farming practices used as the terrain changes, harvest cacao beans, learn about nutrition and help sell vegetables at a local farmers market. Experience the joy of creating a Friendship Camp for children. Join your group and community members as you pass cinderblocks from hand-to-hand and dig irrigation systems towards completion of a future school or sustainable garden plot. Your combined efforts result in the construction of a valued space for farmers to gather, children to learn and crops to grow. Explore beautiful beaches, swim in local watering holes and under waterfalls. Gain a new appreciation for your surroundings and learn the critical link between development, sustainability and fostering healthy communities



# CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA



BELIZE  
BOLIVIA  
COST RICA  
ECUADOR  
NICARAGUA  
PERU

Explore Central and South America's **remarkable variety of habitats**, biodiversity, landscapes and people that weave together to make this region as rich culturally as it is geographically. Meet the indigenous peoples from the High Sierra to the Sacred Valley. **Find your sense of adventure** as you trek to ancient Incan ruins of Machu Picchu, hike a volcano and canoe through remote jungle, catch a wave on your surfboard in the turquoise waters off Uvita, raft down the Rio Napo in the Amazon basin or kayak to the islands of Lake Titicaca. **Celebrate the vibrancy** of rural family life and **put your Spanish skills to the test** as you teach your host community English. Work alongside children and adults alike to improve soccer fields and community health clinics. **Taste local coffee** and learn about cocoa and coffee farming and fair trade practices. Try your hand at picking coffee beans, weaving, gardening and making homemade tortillas as you become one with the colorful tapestry of life in the Andes.



**“My leaders made the experience. They are so committed to the program, the group and each of us as individuals...I admire each of them differently but as a team they worked to frame our intentions and ensure our growth.”**

- Hannah, Tanzania Program Participant



**PROGRAM LEADER**

**FABIO DEOLIVEIRA COEHLLO**

As a former sea kayak guide and environmental science instructor, he loves the outdoors. Currently he is an Elementary School Bilingual Teacher, fluent in Portuguese and Spanish and has spent six seasons with Global Routes. B.A., Social Communications/Journalism, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil. Elementary School Bilingual Teaching Credential, San José State University. MA in Linguistics, San Jose State University. TOEFL certified.



**PROGRAM LEADER**

**CHAU TRAN**

Since 2011, Chau has led Global Routes summer programs in Ecuador and Belize and semester programs in East Africa and Costa Rica. She has studied, worked, volunteered and traveled throughout Europe, Latin America, Asia and the U.S. Chau currently works as a school social worker in Berkeley, CA where she is also training to be a yoga teacher and eating ice cream as frequently as possible. MSW in Social Work, Columbia University, B.A. in English & a Minor in International Studies, University of California, Berkeley. Wilderness First Responder.



**LOCAL FIELD STAFF**

**RAUL CABRERA**

Raul connects us with host communities and service projects in the San Luis de Pambil area of Ecuador. He is very committed to the organization he and his brother, Carlos, founded, that works towards “green progress” in over 200 communities. As an Ashoka social entrepreneur he is excited about projects that improve quality of life without damaging the surrounding environment and has been with Global Routes for seventeen years.



**LOCAL FIELD STAFF**

**MOHAMED IDD MSECHU**

As one of our local Tanzania coordinators, Mohammed manages our service projects and homestays in the Arusha area. He lives alongside our groups in the host communities where he participates as a cultural liaison and translator. “Mo” (as the students like to call him) is also a cook for two different safari companies and leads some of his own safaris. He enjoys working with Global Routes because he feels that the students help the people of Tanzania meet some of their many needs.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## WHO PARTICIPATES IN A GLOBAL ROUTES PROGRAM?

Global Routes draws students from across North America and the world who have a passion for adventure, cross-cultural immersion, contribution and personal growth. Our participants are looking for something more rigorous than a teen-tour and more culturally engaging than a strictly wilderness or adventure program. Global Routes participants return as more confident, directed, self-aware and adventurous global citizens.

## WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?

We expect you to have a positive attitude, demonstrate patience and flexibility in the face of the inherent challenges of life in a developing country, be sensitive to the beliefs and customs of the local people and their culture, contribute to a positive group experience and abide by our student contract. No previous building or teaching experience is necessary.

## WHAT ARE THE LIVING CONDITIONS?

For students on our 3 to 5 week programs, you and another group member live with a host family as a pair. The homes will be simple and rustic within the same village as the rest of the group. Students on 2 to 2.5

week programs stay all together as a large group in small family run guest homes, at farming cooperatives with group housing or in small hostels. Gap year and college students, you will live alone in the homestay and may be in separate but neighboring communities to other group members. Host families are selected for their warmth and friendliness, and homes may not have electricity or indoor plumbing.

## HOW DO YOU SELECT COMMUNITIES AND HOST FAMILIES?

In each destination we work with in-country staff who identify appropriate communities and who interview and select every host family. Prior to the start of your program, one of your leaders makes an additional visit to your community to meet with village leaders, members of the project committee and all host families. We go to new communities and use new families nearly every year. This keeps the experience unique and special for communities and students alike.

## HOW LONG DO WE WORK EVERY DAY? WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE'RE NOT WORKING?

The work day varies depending on which type of program you choose (high school, gap year/college or custom), but all participants take on a secondary project

that matches their interests in addition to the main service project. Workdays can range from 4-8 hours. After the workday is over, you have a chance to enjoy time with community members, explore the area, play with local children or simply have some down time.

## CAN I APPLY THE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS TO MY SCHOOL REQUIREMENT?

We present all students with a certificate noting the number of completed community service hours. You will complete anywhere between 50 and 100 community service hours, depending on your program.

## DO I NEED TO SPEAK THE LOCAL LANGUAGE?

While many of our programs do not have language prerequisites, most Spanish-speaking destinations do require previous classroom study or equivalent exposure. Please see our website for specific requirements by program.

## WILL THERE BE VEGETARIAN FOOD OPTIONS?

We make every effort to accommodate dietary restrictions to ensure that each student is well-fed. There may be occasions when it is not possible

to obtain a different meal or when people do not understand the dietary restriction and are therefore unable to prepare the meal accordingly. In these cases we ask you to be culturally sensitive, flexible, patient and open to trying new things.

## DO I NEED A PASSPORT? WHAT CLOTHES SHOULD I PACK? WHERE DO I MEET MY GROUP?

Once enrolled we provide you access to a password-protected webpage designed specifically for your program. There we post information about passports and visas, detailed packing lists, all necessary travel information, your leaders and group, and much more.

## WHAT ABOUT HEALTH AND SAFETY?

We take every precaution to ensure a safe and healthy experience. We provide you with a comprehensive list of immunization recommendations for your program to make certain your preventive inoculations are up-to-date. Each of your leaders is certified in First Aid and CPR and travels with an extensive medical kit. We have highly competent medical contacts in each destination who we call upon for assistance when necessary.



WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Please visit us at [globalroutes.org](http://globalroutes.org) for detailed program descriptions, dates and destinations and information about upcoming informational events.

To reserve a space in one of our programs, submit a program application online by clicking **APPLY** on our website, [globalroutes.org](http://globalroutes.org). Please be sure to review the Terms and Conditions attached to the application.

**CONTACT US!**

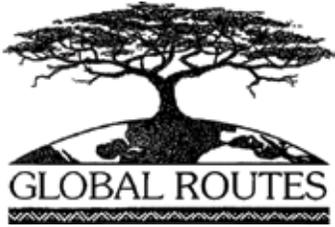
We enjoy speaking with you. Please call or email our office with your specific interests or questions.

**413.585.8895** or [mail@globalroutes.org](mailto:mail@globalroutes.org)



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SET OUT WITH AN OPEN MIND  
AND THE FREEDOM THAT COMES  
WITH TRAVELING LIGHT. GIVE  
MORE THAN YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD  
TO OFFER AND RETURN WITH MORE  
THAN YOU HAVE EVER HAD.

