Service Warrior Expedition

7 Days, 6 Nights Saturday - Saturday
Fundraising Goal $1,000 Trip Cost $1500

Day 1

Welcome to Haiti! Your plane arrives in Port-Au-Prince in the early afternoon, where you'll be met by your group leaders. Indulge in a delicious Haitian dinner at the Charming Quartier Latin in Petionville to kick off this week of new experiences.

Day 2

We'll enjoy our first glimpse of Haiti in the morning-time with a drive to a beautiful viewpoint on the outskirts of Port-Au-Prince. When we get back, we'll load up the vans and head up to Mirebalais in the Central Plateau. It's a beautiful drive so try not to doze off. In the afternoon, prepare to tour the Partners In Health University Hospital in Mirebalais and listen to experts discuss the biggest public health challenges facing Haiti today, and what's being done to combat them. We'll visit the grounds for the future site of Summits Academy, and take a tour of a nearby Summit's school to get a sense of what education looks like in the Central Plateau.

Day 3

Today will be a full day of service in the Central Plateau. After breakfast, we'll head to one of the Summits schools and get to work on a service project that your trip leader has planned with the school director's guidance. Examples include painting, light landscaping, or classroom improvements. Before wrapping up for the day, we'll sit down with the teacher of the Summits School and engage in a dialogue about the state of education and development in Haiti. Don't be afraid to ask loads of questions about what it's like to go to school or be a teacher in Haiti – your program leader can translate if needed.

Day 4

For early risers, one of your leaders will lead an optional sunrise hike through the beautiful terrain surrounding Mirebalais. It's a good idea to get after it early on in the day, before the sun is too hot. Otherwise, the group will be heading out to Lacolline shortly after breakfast to visit one of the highest performing schools in the Summits network. We will tour the grounds and engage with the amazing community there before going to lunch at Zanmi Agrikol, the agricultural branch of Partners in Health. Here we will learn about the interconnectedness of health, economic development, and education in Haiti. We'll take an afternoon tour of a local peanut factory and play a game of soccer before heading back to Port au Prince for dinner with a Summits partner.

Day 5

This morning will be spent travelling to the beautiful Cap-Haitien in the north of Haiti. Upon arrival we'll be hitting the beach. Kick back on the pristine manicured sand of Labadee Bay and enjoy a whole host of amenities – go for a swim, chill out, work out, go for a hike, take a nap – the choice is yours. We'll come together again for dinner at the acclaimed hotel restaurant.

Day 6

The time has come to visit Haiti's most treasured national landmark – the Citadelle La Ferriere. Take in all of the natural beauty of Haiti on the hike to this UNESCO World Heritage site, built in the early 19th century to defend Haiti from an attack from the French. Spend the evening enjoying a delicious farewell pizza dinner at Lakay Restaurant in downtown Cap-Haitien.

Day 7

Enjoy a leisurely morning before heading to the airport to catch your flight back home.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are Summits Expeditions right for me?

At Summits we are seeking globally minded citizens who want to infuse a sense of purpose into their next adventure. If you are passionate about social justice and seeing the world, we're looking for you.

I've never been to Haiti and I don't really know that much about it.

We do not expect all of our travellers to be full-fledged experts about Haiti. Having said that, the more you can learn about the history and culture of Haiti in advance of the trip, the more productive we can be during our time together.

Here are some resources to get started:

The Big Truck that Went By: How the World Came to Save Haiti and Left Behind a Disaster by Jonathan Katz
Education in Haiti on Wikipedia
PBS Egalite for All: Toussaint Louverture and the Haitian Revolution (2009)
Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder
Haiti After the Earthquake by Paul Farmer
The Black Jacobins by C.L.R. James
The Rainy Season by Amy Wilentz

Do I need travel insurance?

Travel insurance is optional, but recommended.

Is it safe to travel to Haiti?

Summits takes the wellbeing of our travelers extremely seriously. While it is true that Haiti has a history of political instability, it rarely affects tourists, and our team on the ground in Port au Prince is constantly monitoring this situation to advise on the safest possible measures for our trips. You can feel confident about the level of safety on our expeditions, and if for some reason that changes, you will hear from us. We will not put anyone in a situation we feel is unsafe.

What medical information is important to know? Do I need immunizations?

To better inform your trip with Summits Expeditions, you should check out the following resources:
MD Travel Health - Haiti CDC Haiti

Will there be wifi?

Most of the hotels we use do have wifi, but it is not uncommon for the connection to come and go intermittently in Haiti.

Do I need a visa?

You do not require a visa to enter Haiti. You will, however, be required to pay a $10 tourism fee upon arrival into Port au Prince.

Who arranges the flights?

Individuals will be responsible for booking their own flights in and out of Haiti. Summits will provide the time frame during which travelers are expected to leave and depart so we can maximize our time in Haiti. Summits will book and arrange all domestic flights for our travelers.

Is the price of airfare included in the program cost?

International flights are an additional cost separate from the program tuition. If your expedition includes a domestic flight within Haiti, this will be included in the program cost.

What am I expected to fundraise?

Yes, for the weekend warrior trip we ask that travelers raise a minimum of $500, and $1,000 for the service warrior trip. 100% of the money raised will go towards supporting the Summits schools in the Central Plateau. We will provide you with a fundraising guide upon registration to help you get going.

How and when do I pay for the trip?

Summits requires a $300 deposit upon registration in order to hold the participant's place on the Expedition. The full program cost must be paid directly to Summits two months in advance of the expedition start date. In the event that a participant registers for a Summits Expedition less than two months before the start date, the full cost of the program will be due upon registration.

What if I have to cancel?

If a participant wishing to withdraw from the Expedition has already paid the full program cost, (s)he is entitled to a 60% refund of the total program cost, provided that the withdrawal notice is received by Summits one month or more in advance of the Expedition start date. For full cancellation policy, contact expeditions@summits.org.

Email expeditions@summits.org to register today.