



Santo Domingo



SUNDAY- Arrival Santo Domingo/Homestay

Arrive in Las Americas International Airport. Greeting by SAS language school staff in the airport lobby. Although Santo Domingo is a modern and cosmopolitan city, it is the birth place of the American civilization. Founded in 1496, it is the oldest city of the New World, and its Colonial Zone, with more than 300 monuments, has been classified by UNESCO as a Worldwide Heritage for Humanity Site.

MIDDLE CLASS DOMINICAN FAMILIES live throughout the city in quiet and secure residential neighborhoods.

Accommodations are comfortable and located as close as possible to the Hispaniola language school. All families are chosen through a rigorous selection process and housing conditions are periodically checked by the school staff, which is always available to handle any situation, however are, that may arise. Everyone speaks Spanish in the home. Students normally share with one or two other group members of the same general language ability. Daily roundtrip transfers from your home are included.

MONDAY- THURSDAY – Daily Language Classes

Hispaniola Language School was founded in 1995. Classrooms are located in the historic Zona Colonial in a colonial mansion that has been converted into a modern office building.

Daily student language classes focus on conversation, with grammar as a tool in learning. Students live a cultural and linguistic experience through the teaching methodology and their interaction with host families and local people. Class size averages 4 students per native teacher, assuring individual attention and ample opportunity for participation.

The following *InterACTIONS* are included:

- Monday: Orientation. Explore the Colonial Zone with your Dominican teachers. Learn about and visit historical buildings, forts, museums, ambar and jewelry shops. Lunch in a local hotel.
- Tuesday: Enjoy a panoramic ride along the Malecon, the city's breezy seafront boulevard. Continue through modern Santo Domingo, with its parks, high rise office buildings, outdoor cafes, and malls. Today's class is in the Botanical Garden. Lunch is included. Later, enjoy a relaxing ride on the tourist train. Witness the natural flora of the island and areas dedicated to palm trees, orchids and exotic plants.
- Wednesday: Drive along the scenic coast to La Playa de Caleta for a group conversation class. Then, enjoy a refreshing swim or choose to relax on the beach.
- Thursday: Following class, receive your Certificate of Participation. Then, return to the shops and boutiques.

FRIDAY – SOMOS Humanitarian *InterACTIONS*

Participate in our exclusive SOMOS humanitarian total experience. You'll receive a list of the most needed items and visit a local 'super', where you'll have an opportunity to purchase those supplies (budget \$15 each). You'll spend the day in the community of La Piedra, a short drive from Santo Domingo. Later, play baseball before enjoying a delightful Dominican "tipico" lunch. Conclude with a short hike (moderate) to the Ni Rahu Taino Cave for a guided eco-historical tour. Witness the most incredibly beautiful stalactites and stalagmites, columns and "flow" formations that you could ever imagine, many of them shimmering with mineral crystals. Before departing, you'll learn merengue, bachata, and reggaeton!

SATURDAY– Isla Saona

Enjoy a panoramic drive along the coast to Bayahibe, where you'll board a catamaran to Isla Saona, commonly referred to as "Paradise Island". Explore all the amazing natural treasures that Saona Island has to offer, the largest island in Dominican waters. Our sustainable nature tour takes you off the beaten path to discover virgin beaches, mangrove forests, and coastal lagoons. Enjoy an amazing lunch at the sleepy fishing village of Mano Juan, visit a local turtle conservation center, and take a dip in an amazing sand bar in the middle of the ocean.

SUNDAY - Return to USA



SUNDAY DEPARTURE
8 days/7 nights



7 NIGHTS
Homestay

7



MEALS
All meals are provided