



## PROGRAM DETAILS

### Location

Fortaleza, Brazil

### Arrival Airport Code

FOR

### Max Group Size

28

### Program Dates

July 10 - July 30, 2010

### Duration

21 days

Saturday to Friday

### Tuition

\$4,595

## Overview

This program takes students to Fortaleza, on the northeast coast of Brazil. While the country is well known for its amazing beaches and vibrant culture, it also has the largest economic inequality between classes in the world.

Defending the Rights of Children heavily emphasizes service, learning, and leadership projects with some Portuguese language classes. The program is based outside the city of Fortaleza in an area called Maracanaú.

Through volunteering you will form connections with the local children and learn about the issues they face. Child labor, exploitation, and violence have all conspired to rob children of their childhood. By teaching and interacting with local children you will help give them back their youthful innocence and act as a role model, showing them an alternative. Besides volunteering, you will have the chance to explore the country's white sand beaches, sugar cane plantations, attend a soccer game, and enjoy one of Brazil's most popular water amusement parks.

## Community Service

Service is an integral part of the program, every morning we will go to these centers for at risk youth, called Polos de Convivência, and work with the local children. You really get to know people on a personal level and learn first hand about the struggles these children face in their daily lives. This is a special opportunity to really do some meaningful service and have a positive impact on children who have very few options for their futures and often miss the chance to live as a child. We will play sports and games, teach English, arts and crafts, and share our unique skills. One night a week we volunteer at a street side soup kitchen serving food to homeless people in downtown Fortaleza. **You will earn 50 hours of community service during this program.**

## Learning

You will learn about the economic class issues in Brazil from exceptional guest speakers, and also about Brazil's rich culture through dance and percussion lessons and Portuguese language courses; all of which will allow students to gain a full spectrum overview of the country and really understand the issues and develop ideas to affect positive change. We will visit a variety of non-profit organizations, who are working to defend children's rights. One such organization is a hip-hop movement to detour youth from gangs and violence, another teaches children percussion music as an alternative to drug use and a third provides counseling and educational courses to the poorest of the poor in the slum areas or favelas.

## Excursions

Brazil offers some of South America's most breathtaking natural landscapes; we will explore the red sand dunes of Morro Branco, the white sand beaches of Combuco Beach, and even sand board down massive dunes into a refreshing lake. We will cruise the beach on dune buggies and learn the Afro-Brazilian martial art and dance, capoeira. We will also visit a sugarcane farm, attend a soccer game, and enjoy a day of fun at Brazil's most popular water amusement park.

## Lodging

In Brazil you'll live on the campus of a first class high school with like-minded students from around the world. Our partner school in Brazil is Colegio 7 de Setembro, one of the top schools in the city. The campus is a relaxing home base to return to after volunteering, and students always love the pool.





**Disclaimer: Actual activities may vary from printed schedule**

## **Day 1: Saturday > Arrival and Welcome**

Students will be met at the airport in Fortaleza, code FOR, by a member of the GLA staff. We will travel about 20 minutes to Maracanaú, the site of our campus. We will have a brief welcome, and then students will have free time to get to know each other, settle in or enjoy the pool.

## **Week 1: Sunday - Thursday**

Orientation, First week of Community Service, Overview of Children's Issues in Brazil

The week begins with a thorough orientation of GLA, Brazil, and our various service sites. We will attend a welcome ceremony, hosted by one of our partner polos, and on the first day meet some of the children who you will be working with.

Every morning students will work in the polos. Afternoons will consist of cultural activities, Portuguese classes, and guest speakers on topics such as: the Brazilian economy, children's challenges and hardships, and cultural norms. On Wednesday evening we will prepare soup with a local organization who will then take us to downtown Fortaleza to distribute food to the homeless and hungry.

## **Weekend: Friday - Sunday**

Students will visit an NGO called Movimento Hip Hop in a neighboring favela and learn how this organization teaches hip hop dance to sway kids away from gangs. We will visit a local open air market to sample Brazilian food, clothes and art. Students will learn capoeira on the beach, spend a day at Combuco beach sand boarding, riding dune buggies and possibly riding horses along the beach. On Sunday evening we will watch a Brazilian documentary to finish up the weekend and get us ready for another week of volunteering.

## **Week 2: Monday- Thursday > Community Service, Microcredit, Banking and Soccer**

We will continue volunteering in our polos. During the afternoons, we will learn about the culture and social leaders. One afternoon, we'll visit an NGO that teaches street children to play percussion and we'll also learn to play Brazilian beats! Another evening, we will volunteer with a local soup kitchen. One day we will visit a groundbreaking NGO, Banco Palmas, which has pioneered a new form of microcredit in Brazil.

## **Weekend: Friday- Sunday**

On Friday, we will attend a ceremony of an indigenous Brazilian community, and then travel to another NGO called Quatro Varas, which provides counseling and courses to the people of the favelas. In the evening we will experience a soccer game with Fortaleza's home town team! You will go on an excursion to Morro Branco, a beach with beautiful red sand cliffs. On the way we will stop at a historic sugarcane plantation and in the evening we will attend a craft market. On Sunday we will travel to Beach Park, Brazil's most popular water amusement park.

## **Week 3: Monday- Friday**

In the mornings students will begin to complete their service projects and to say goodbye to our new friends. In the afternoons students will wrap up the leadership sessions, Portuguese classes, and visit a cultural center. In the evenings students will have the keynote speaker, participate and attend a Forró, folk dance, at a local churrascaria. Student will depart on the last Friday.



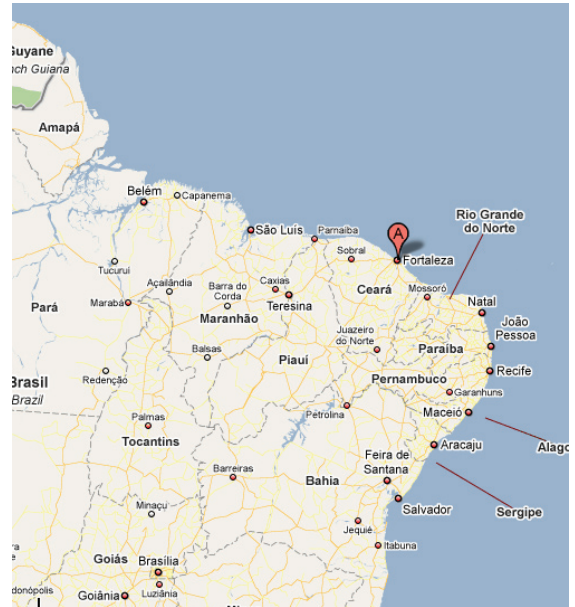


### Tuition includes

- » All meals and lodging
- » All ground transportation (including airport pickup)
- » All excursions and entrance fees
- » Veteran trip leaders
- » Supplies for service project
- » Travel medical insurance
- » Laundry

### Does not include

- » International airfare
- » Souvenirs
- » Snacks



GLA has been featured in...

The New York Times

The Boston Globe



BALTIMORE TIMES ONLINE



### About us

Global Leadership Adventures, established in 2004, is an international community service-learning program for high school students. GLA is unique because of its focus on leadership development and first-hand learning about global issues. Students learn first hand from social pioneers around the world who are creating positive social change in their communities. Students are taught to use their heart, as well as their head, to become agents of positive change across borders.