

## GAP YEAR PROGRAMS (SOME COMPANIES OFFER SUMMER AS WELL)

### ADVENTURES CROSS-COUNTRY

ARCC offers programs in language immersion, volunteer service, and sports in locations throughout USA, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. Program lengths vary, from 2 weeks to one month in summer for high school students, and 90 days fall semester for high school graduates. The Latin American Gap Semester from September to December includes homestay, volunteer work, teaching, in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Peru.

[www.adventurescrosscountry.com](http://www.adventurescrosscountry.com)

### AFRICAN CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE

Work with wildlife.

[www.conservationafrica.net](http://www.conservationafrica.net)

### ANANDA COLLEGE, NEW HORIZONS

Ananda College of Living Wisdom offers this gap year program of meditation, yoga, and reflection through writing and art, to discover how to live in harmony with others and with your own inner self. The program includes coursework at the Ananda College in Portland, OR area, followed by group travel and study in India with volunteer projects in local villages, and group travel in Italy. Participants gain practical skills focusing on Sustainable Living and Communities, Holistic Psychology, or Yoga Teacher Training. This program is for high school graduates and runs for one academic year, from mid-August through May.

[www.anandauniversity.org/gap-year](http://www.anandauniversity.org/gap-year)

### ART HISTORY ABROAD

AHA offers courses in European art and culture, while travelling through Europe. AHA offers two-week and six-week courses in Italy, and a 12-week fall semester course in London, France, and Italy. Summer courses are for ages 17 to 22.

[www.arthistoryabroad.com](http://www.arthistoryabroad.com)

### ASPIRE

Aspire by API (Academic Programs International) programs include summer study abroad, summer community service, and gap year academic programs by semester or full-year. Become a global citizen and expand your understanding of the world. Programs include guided field trips, social, recreational, and cultural activities, and language tutoring, in forty cities and eighteen countries throughout Latin America, Europe, China, Southeast Asia. Participants receive a certificate documenting service hours completed, and may earn college credits.

[www.aspirebyapi.com](http://www.aspirebyapi.com)

### AUSTRALIA

Choose among a wide variety of adventures, day trips, and guided tours designed for young adults.

High school in Australia or New Zealand, with classes in golf, marine studies, fashion, hospitality, aerospace, film, etc.

[www.highschool-australia.de](http://www.highschool-australia.de)

2013 Independent Traveller's Guide to Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji

[www.tntdownunder.com](http://www.tntdownunder.com)

General information

[www.southaustralia.com](http://www.southaustralia.com)

[www.adventuregoldcoast.com](http://www.adventuregoldcoast.com)

[www.safaripete.com](http://www.safaripete.com)

Internships

[www.sydneyinternships.com.au](http://www.sydneyinternships.com.au)

Au Pair jobs

[www.smartaupairs.com.au](http://www.smartaupairs.com.au)

Surfing Camp, Sydney

[www.surfcamp.com.au](http://www.surfcamp.com.au)

Climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge

[www.bridgeclimb.com](http://www.bridgeclimb.com)

Youth hostels throughout Australia and New Zealand

[www.yha.com.au](http://www.yha.com.au)

[www.stayatbase.com](http://www.stayatbase.com)

Wildlife Adventures, tour the outback and swim/dive with animals, Adelaide, Perth

[www.the-traveller.com.au](http://www.the-traveller.com.au)

Shark Cage Diving, Calypso Star boat tours

[www.sharkcagediving.com.au](http://www.sharkcagediving.com.au)

Kangaroo Island, off the beaten track, 2-day coach bus tour

[www.kiaadventuretours.com.au](http://www.kiaadventuretours.com.au)

Rural area on southern coast with Camel Surf Beach, Talia Caves

[www.coodliepark.com.au](http://www.coodliepark.com.au)

Lodging and guided tours 1-3 days, Fraser Island

[www.cooldingo.com](http://www.cooldingo.com)

[www.fraserexplorertours.com.au](http://www.fraserexplorertours.com.au)

[www.frasonrainbow.com](http://www.frasonrainbow.com)

[www.backpacknoosa.com.au](http://www.backpacknoosa.com.au)

[www.kanukapersaustralia.com](http://www.kanukapersaustralia.com)

[www.palaceadventures.com.au](http://www.palaceadventures.com.au)  
[www.thediscoverygroup.com.au](http://www.thediscoverygroup.com.au)  
[www.halselodge.com.au](http://www.halselodge.com.au)

Aboriginal art, hunting, gathering, day tour, Daintree coast  
[www.adventurenorthaustralia.com](http://www.adventurenorthaustralia.com)

Crocodiles, Darwin city  
[www.crocosauruscove.com](http://www.crocosauruscove.com)

Hostel/resort within Daintree Rainforest, beach and wildlife  
[www.capetribbeach.com.au](http://www.capetribbeach.com.au)

Hostels in city of Darwin  
[www.youthshack.com.au](http://www.youthshack.com.au)  
[www.melaleucaonmitchell.com.au](http://www.melaleucaonmitchell.com.au)

Snorkel Great Barrier Reef, Cape Tribulation, Daintree coast  
[www.oceansafari.com.au](http://www.oceansafari.com.au)

Snorkel Great Barrier Reef, Cairns  
[www.cairnsdive.com](http://www.cairnsdive.com)

Jungle Surfing Canopy Tours, ziplining  
[www.junglesurfing.com.au](http://www.junglesurfing.com.au)

Horseback riding on Cape Tribulation, Daintree Forest  
[www.capetribhorserides.com.au](http://www.capetribhorserides.com.au)

Cairns tours  
[www.njoy.net.au](http://www.njoy.net.au)

Scuba diving Great Barrier Reef  
[www.prodive Cairns.com](http://www.prodive Cairns.com)

Skyrail ride over rainforests  
[www.skyrail.com.au](http://www.skyrail.com.au)

Hostels in Cairns area, for backpackers  
[www.calypsobackpackers.com.au](http://www.calypsobackpackers.com.au)  
[www.jjsbackpackers.com](http://www.jjsbackpackers.com)  
[www.gilligans.com.au](http://www.gilligans.com.au)  
[www.dreamtimehostel.com](http://www.dreamtimehostel.com)

Sky Dive, east coast of Australia  
[www.australiaskydiver.com](http://www.australiaskydiver.com)

White water rafting, Tully River, near Cairns  
[www.ragingthunder.com](http://www.ragingthunder.com)

Wildlife, Billabong Sanctuary  
[www.billabongsanctuary.com.au](http://www.billabongsanctuary.com.au)

Backpacking resort, Bungalow Bay, Great Barrier Reef  
[www.bungalowbay.com.au](http://www.bungalowbay.com.au)

Sailing, Great Barrier Reef, Whitehaven Beach  
[www.whitsundaysailingadventure.com.au](http://www.whitsundaysailingadventure.com.au)

Ocean Rafting, reef snorkeling  
[www.oceanrafting.com.au](http://www.oceanrafting.com.au)

Hostel for backpackers, Airlie Beach  
[www.backpackersbythebay.com](http://www.backpackersbythebay.com)

Resort for young adults with beach and sports, Brisbane  
[www.uprisingbeachresort.com](http://www.uprisingbeachresort.com)

Relaxing resort in heart of city of Brisbane  
[www.bananabenders.com](http://www.bananabenders.com)

Recreation and Aboriginal cultural experience on the river, Brisbane  
[www.riverlife.com.au](http://www.riverlife.com.au)

Bush camping, 4WD vehicles, off-road motorbikes, Boobyjan  
[www.springbrookfarm.net](http://www.springbrookfarm.net)

Gold Coast lodging, shopping, surfing  
[www.harhourtowngoldcoast.com.au](http://www.harhourtowngoldcoast.com.au)  
[www.aquariusbackpackers.com.au](http://www.aquariusbackpackers.com.au)  
[www.backpackersinparadise.com](http://www.backpackersinparadise.com)  
[www.buddsinsurfers.com.au](http://www.buddsinsurfers.com.au)  
[www.islander.com.au](http://www.islander.com.au)

Byron Bay lodging  
[www.backpackersinnbyronbay.com.au](http://www.backpackersinnbyronbay.com.au)  
[www.melaleucabackpackers.com.au](http://www.melaleucabackpackers.com.au)

#### CARPE DIEM

Travel and/or volunteer for cultural immersion in one of several countries. Includes homestays in local communities. Travel and volunteer programs are offered in the USA (Navajo and Hopi Nations), India, Central America, South America, Southeast

Asia, East Africa, and the South Pacific. The 3 month travel program is offered in the fall semester, and the 3 month volunteer program is offered in spring semester. Participants can earn 18 credits for each semester. The programs qualify for FAFSA financial aid.

[www.carpediemeducation.org](http://www.carpediemeducation.org)

#### CIEE

The Council on International Education Exchange (formerly CST, Council on Student Travel) offers Gap Year programs for high school students and high school graduates to study abroad, including language study, cultural immersion, homestay, and community volunteer projects. The 4-week Leadership Academy is a summer program for high school students. Programs are offered in Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Europe, Latin America, and Africa.

[www.ciee.org](http://www.ciee.org)

#### CIP

The College Internship Program offers individualized social, academic, career and life skills classes for young adults with Asperger's, ADHD, and Learning Differences. Located in states of New York, California, Indiana, Massachusetts, and Florida. Students prepare for college or careers.

[www.cipworldwide.org](http://www.cipworldwide.org)

#### CLASS AFLOAT

Study while sailing on a tall ship to 20 ports worldwide, including North and South America, Africa, Europe, and islands in the Atlantic Ocean. Learn to sail and volunteer in West Africa, learn teamwork, and experience other cultures. Class Afloat is offered by West Island College International. High school students in grades 11 or 12, or high school graduates, may spend a semester or academic year at sea. High school graduates may take university classes in international relations, recreational leadership, environmental economics, astronomy, and marine biology, and earn college credits.

[www.classafloat.com](http://www.classafloat.com)

#### COLLEGE LIVING EXPERIENCE

Monterey Colleges and Universities offers individualized services to support students with exceptionalities, including autism, ADHD, Asperger's, non-verbal learning disorders, and specific learning disabilities. CLE helps students ages 18-28 years old, with academics, independent living, social skills, and career development. Students live in a student apartment complex and take classes at one of several nearby community colleges, vocational schools, or universities. CLE also offers a 3-week summer program in Denver for high school students entering their senior year or recently graduated. Locations include Monterey CA, Costa Mesa CA, Austin TX, Denver CO, Ft Lauderdale FL, and Washington DC.

[www.experiencecle.com](http://www.experiencecle.com)

#### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

This Ivy League college offers a choice of 3 pre-college summer programs. Students receive a Columbia University Statement of Attendance.

*New York City:* A academic program for students entering grades 9-12, or college freshmen. Two 3-week sessions at Columbia University include challenging college classes in a variety of subjects, on-campus activities and events, and mini field trips to explore New York City.

*Barcelona, Spain:* For students entering grades 11 or 12, or freshmen year of college. Study at the University of Barcelona and experience life in a Spanish city. The academic program includes 4 courses on Barcelona history, culture, and architecture. The 3-week program includes field trips to museums and nearby cities, as well as local activities (sports, concerts, shows, dining, etc.).

*Jordan (Middle East):* For students entering grades 11 or 12, or freshmen year of college. Study at the King's Academy with courses in Middle East history, religions, politics and society, current events, and environmental challenges. Travel to historical, cultural, and natural landmarks, and go camping in the desert. Tours are led by Bedouin Discovery, and by Friends of the Earth Middle East.

All programs include dormitory and meals, and students are supervised in dormitories and on all field trips by University of Columbia staff .

[Ce.columbia.edu/hs](http://Ce.columbia.edu/hs)

#### DYNAMY

Clark College offers programs combining academic course seminars and work internships, for theoretical study plus real world practical experience. Students may select seminar/internship programs in one or more of these three areas: Organizational Behavior (fall), Social Identity and Individual Action (winter), or Issues of Race, Class and Gender (spring). Internships (unpaid) are in fields such as Communications/Media/Arts, Athletics, Automotive, Business, Childcare/Education, Craftsmanship, Culinary, Environment, Health Care, Human Services, Information Technology, Law, Museum, Retail, and Science, plus many others. Clark College and the internships are located in Worcester, Massachusetts. Apartment housing is included and financial assistance is available. This is for high school graduates, who can earn 4 college credits for each of the three seminar/internship programs.

[www.dynamy.org](http://www.dynamy.org)

#### EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS

These are guided tours by Education First (EF). Some include language immersion, volunteer service projects, or leadership training. Tours are offered in many locations in North America, Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, Middle East, and South Pacific. The tour lengths vary from 7 to 20 days and are offered throughout the year. For students ages 12 and up. EF is an accredited educational institution so students earn college credits.

[www.eftours.com](http://www.eftours.com)

#### FRANKLIN SWITZERLAND

This independent American liberal arts academic institution offering a variety of classes in business, government, arts, environment, religion, language, etc. It is located in Lugano, in Italian-speaking Ticino, which is one hour from Milan. Students may explore Europe through weekend travel. The summer program consists of two 4-week sessions. Students attending for 8 weeks can register for up to 12 college credits.

[www.fc.edu](http://www.fc.edu)

#### GAP YEAR GURU

This is a gap year coaching service for selecting, planning, preparing for, and re-entering from a gap year experience. Deborah Friedman is a certified life coach.

[www.gapyearguru.com](http://www.gapyearguru.com)

#### GAP YEAR SOUTH AFRICA

This program combines volunteer service with sports and surfing. It aims to connect the developed and developing worlds. Volunteer projects are for 3 weeks, 5 weeks, 3 months, or 5 months.

[www.gapyearsouthafrica.com](http://www.gapyearsouthafrica.com)

#### GLOBAL CITIZEN YEAR

For highly-motivated young people interested in global issues, this program offers cultural immersion, leadership training, and apprenticeships in public health, education, business development, and environmental conservation, in Senegal, Brazil, or Ecuador. This is for high school graduates who have not started full-time college.

[www.globalcitizenyear.org](http://www.globalcitizenyear.org)

#### GLOBAL GAP

Projects Abroad offers the Global Gap program, for immersion into 5 communities around the world. Participants in this program do volunteer work at a day care center in Ghana, build homes and work for human rights in South Africa, teach English in Peru, choose a service project in Nepal in teaching, medicine, or conservation, and contribute to underwater nature conservation (includes Open Water diving certification) in Thailand. Participants live with local host families. The 8-month program starts in September and goes through early May, with a one-month winter break. This is for high school graduates and there is a maximum of 15 volunteers per program. The all-inclusive program fee of around \$30,000 (US dollars) includes food and housing, medical and travel insurance, ground transportation, 2 round trip tickets including home for winter break, sightseeing tours, and 24-hour support from local staff.

[www.projects-abroad.org](http://www.projects-abroad.org)

#### INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CENTERS

EF (Education First) offers programs in 7 languages, 17 countries, 41 schools. Live and study abroad for 2-52 weeks. Programs start every Monday.

[www.ef.com/ils](http://www.ef.com/ils)

### INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR EARTH STUDIES

Explore and volunteer with wildlife in Canada. Master dogsledding, see whales, rehabilitate injured animals, learn wildlife tracking, gain wilderness skills.

[www.earthstudies.ca](http://www.earthstudies.ca)

### INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ABROAD

ISA, (formerly LPI, Learning Products International), offers academic courses in language and culture in university settings. Some programs also offer opportunity for volunteer community service. Lodging may be in a local hotel, residence hall, or homestay with local host families. Locations include China, Costa Rica, Peru, England, France, Ireland, Italy, and Spain. Programs are for 1, 2, or 4 weeks during the summer and spring break. Students receive 4-5 hours of university classroom instruction daily, Monday-Friday. Guided day or overnight tours are included. For ages 14 and up; some programs require minimum age 15 or age 16. Students may earn college credits.

[www.studiesabroad.com](http://www.studiesabroad.com)

### LEAP

The Leap is a UK organization offering a variety of adventures and environments: from beach to bush, mountains to jungle. Leapers do volunteer projects in conservation, community, and ecotourism, in Africa, Asia, and South America. Programs are 6-10 weeks long, beginning in January, April, July, and September. Teams of 12+ volunteers include boys and girls age 18-27.

[www.theleap.co.uk](http://www.theleap.co.uk)

### LEAP YEAR

The LEAPNOW program is designed to allow young adults to make a graceful passage into adulthood. It includes training in yoga and meditation as well as other personal growth and life skills. It includes 9-10 weeks group travel and community work in India or Latin America, 4-7 weeks academic curriculum at campus in Northern California, and 12 weeks of internship (6,100 internships in 126 countries). It also includes 4 "inner-focused" retreats at the campus.

The entire program is nine months long: from September through May, or from January through August, for ages 17 -24 years. The program is accredited through Antioch University of Seattle, and students may earn 36 credits that may be transferable to other colleges and universities.

[www.leapnow.org](http://www.leapnow.org)

### MAXIMO NIVEL

Offers a variety of Spanish language and cultural immersion opportunities.

*Youth Spanish Camp:* Summer camp for 1-5 weeks, for ages 13-17. Live with a local host family and participate in Spanish language classes, fun activities, and weekend guided tours, in Costa Rica. Also available are sports track, service learning track, and AP Spanish exam preparation.

*High School Abroad:* Spend a semester or year in Costa Rica and live with a local host family. For high school students 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

*Native Spanish Program:* A variety of Spanish language courses including specialized professional terms such as business, medical, and law. The Tandem Conversation Program partners English and native Spanish speaking students. These programs run for 1-5 weeks and take place in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Peru.

*Adventure and Culture:* Learn Spanish language while enjoying travel and adventure. One week programs are Mini Adventure guided tour, Surf School, Scuba Certification, and Yoga Certification. Volunteer Adventure includes one week of guided tours plus one week of volunteer work. Choose between Costa Rica, Guatemala, or Peru.

*TEFL/TESOL:* 4-week, 150 hour course for teaching English as a second language and becoming certified. It is offered in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Peru.

[www.maximonivel.com](http://www.maximonivel.com)

#### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STUDENT EXPEDITIONS

Explore the world during summer educational travel expeditions, field workshops, photography workshops, and community service programs, with Nat Geo expert guides, photographers and filmmakers, and biologists. Expeditions are from 15 to 21 days, field and photography workshops for 12 days, and community service trips for 14 -15 days. They take place throughout the world: USA, Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, India, and China. For high school students who have completed 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

[www.ngstudentexpeditions.com](http://www.ngstudentexpeditions.com)

#### NEXT STEP CHINA

NSC offers several types of programs that may be combined for a personalized gap year experience:

*High School University Program:* learn Chinese language, take courses, and live on a Chinese university campus. Ages 15-18 yrs. Spring or fall semester.

*Teen Immersion Program:* includes 35 hours/week of rigorous 1-1 language tutoring and immersion into daily life in China.

*Summer Study and Travel:* 4 weeks intensive Chinese language classes and tutoring, followed by 2 weeks of travel.

*Kids Summer Camp:* learn Chinese at a university, go on 12 field trips, live in a 4-star hotel and eat at Chinese restaurants, with bi-lingual counselors. Ages 8-17 yrs.

*SAT, AP, IB Program:* individual tutoring to pass exams for the International Baccalaureate (IB) or SAT Chinese subject test, and for AP courses for college credit.

*Internship in China:* work at a Chinese company. For university students, graduates, and young professionals.

*Teach English in China:* NSC will help find teaching jobs and housing. Assignments are from one month to one-year, tutor individual students or teach in classroom.

For those already graduated from high school.

[www.nextstepchina.org](http://www.nextstepchina.org)

## NOLS

The National Outdoor Leadership School takes students on remote wilderness expeditions and teaches them technical outdoor skills, leadership, and environmental ethics. Guided tours include backpacking, kayaking, canoeing, river rafting, rock climbing, horse packing, sailing, and skiing in places such as the Adirondacks, Yukon, Patagonia, Tanzania, Scandinavia, New Zealand, and India. Prepare for a career in outdoor adventure tour guiding, wilderness emergency medicine, or learn life skills, leadership, and confidence that are useful in any career. Programs vary in length and may be for two weeks, one month, or a semester. Includes programs for ages from 14-15 year olds to 23 year and over. Students can earn an NOLS diploma and certifications. Courses are approved for college credit.

[www.nols.edu/wmi](http://www.nols.edu/wmi)

## SANSORI

"Travel and experience other cultures, deepen your mind-body connection, and discover ways to generate income from doing good." Travel in Canada, China, and Mexico. Also offers social enterprise internships and online business seminars. This is a nine-month program starting in August.

[www.sansori.org](http://www.sansori.org)

## SEA/MESTER

Study and travel aboard a sailing yacht and to ports of call. Learn seamanship, scuba diving, marine biology, oceanography, geology, meteorology, navigation, leadership, and communication. There are 4 sailing trips: Caribbean and Lesser Antilles; the Mediterranean, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and Polynesia; Australia and Indonesia; and Asia, Indian Ocean and South Africa. High school graduates and college students can earn college credits and certifications during a semester or full academic year.

[www.seamester.com](http://www.seamester.com)

## SUMMIT ADVENTURE

This ISAS (Immersion Service and Adventure Semester) program is a combination of outdoor adventure and cultural immersion. It includes rock climbing, backpacking, rappelling, mountaineering, cross-cultural ministry, and service. Locations are Sierra National Forest, Yosemite National Park, and the Andes of Ecuador. The program is 16 weeks long and includes home stay with an Ecuadorian host family and a week of language school. Participants are eligible to receive up to 18 college credits.

[www.summitadventure.com](http://www.summitadventure.com)

## UWC

A short course which combines a cultural experience in Costa Rica with personal advising from admission directors of selective US colleges and universities. It is a one-week summer program for college-bound students entering 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Dates in 2014 are June 29-July 6.

[www.uwccostarica.org](http://www.uwccostarica.org)

## VISIT OZ

Experience the life of the Australian outback while getting paid. After an introductory training course, choose among a variety of jobs in farming. There are also jobs in hospitality (hotels, restaurants) and domestic work (working for a family). The jobs may be seasonal work for 3-6 months, or a paid internship for 6-12 months. Pay is at least minimum wage minus room and board and taxes. Jobs are available for ages 18 and over, year round.

[www.visitoz.org](http://www.visitoz.org)

## VOLUNQUEST

This family run business provides opportunities to teach English in K-12 schools and after school recreation programs, as well as special needs or adult classes. Or you can volunteer in marine and reef conservation, and get certified as Advanced Open Water diver. These year-round programs include homestays on the Isla Mujeres, Mexico, and are for ages 18 years or older.

[www.volunquest.com](http://www.volunquest.com)

GAP YEAR CHART for other international programs, or see Ms. Dawn Allen for the copy.