

CHCA Intercession 2022

January 3-14, 2022

Course Name: South Florida National Parks	
Instructor(s): Joe Vanderkolk / Sharon Figgs	
Course Type: Domestic US Overnight	Service Hours: 6
Maximum enrollment: 48	Minimum enrollment: 24
Length of trip (if applicable): 8 days	7 nights
Cost:	\$ 2,995

Overview: Students will explore 3 National Parks in South Florida; Everglades NP, Biscayne Bay NP; Dry Tortugas NP. Other highlights include a tour of the Art Deco District & Millionaires' Row in South Beach; a 30,000 gallon aquarium at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park (Key Largo) with an educational program at a Turtle Hospital; guided tour of Fort Jefferson on Dry Tortugas NP along with snorkeling; Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory; Harry Truman Little White House; Ernest Hemmingway Museum

- Course Goals:**
- Develop appreciation and exposure to wildlife habitats of South Florida
 - Students will earn 6 Service Hours by volunteering in National Parks
 - Interact with rich variety of eco-systems and learn of ways to sustain these environments
 - develop friendships among fellow students

Reading Component: Excerpts from "The Worldview of the Kingdom of God"

Writing Component: Students will keep a daily journal about their experiences. Student groups will also give Powerpoint presentations prior to our trip pertaining to our upcoming trip.

Description:

We will fly to/from Cincinnati/South Florida on Delta Airlines. Once in South Florida, we will have a Charter Bus and large Passenger Vans as our modes of transportation. While in South Florida, we will be staying at two different hotels (Hampton Inn & Suites and Double Tree Hotel). Rooms will consist of 2 Queen beds, with 4 students per room. Students will visit 3 National Parks (Everglades NP, Biscayne Bay NP, Dry Tortugas NP, along with a Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo). Students will also go snorkeling, visit a 30,000 gallon salt-water aquarium, visit the Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory. Students should expect to do a considerable amount of physical activity, whether it be walking, hiking, snorkeling, etc. Students will have the opportunity to earn 6 hours of service while volunteering in Biscayne Bay NP & Everglades NP (3 hours in each). Students will also visit the Harry Truman Little White House and the Ernest Hemmingway Home & Museum

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Sample Daily Plan:

7:00 am Breakfast at hotel
8:00 am Group Devotions
8:30 am Depart hotel
9:00 am Everglades National Park (guided hike with Naturalist; narrated tour of "The River of Grass"; Picnic Lunch included)
2:00 pm Volunteer Service Opportunity in Everglades National Park
5:00 pm Return to hotel
6:30 pm Depart for Dinner (included)
8:30 pm Return to hotel
10:00 pm lights out

This course is well suited to: Students who enjoy nature, wildlife, and the outdoors in general.

Cost: \$2,995.

Additional costs: Many meals are included (breakfast and dinner), but most lunches (6) are not included in the price of the trip. Students will need to bring money if they wish to purchase any souvenirs.

Other Information:

We will be taking some boat / ferry rides. If your student has a tendency to get seasick, please have them bring appropriate medication.

Families who choose for their students to travel should understand that if their student has to quarantine due to a positive Covid test, a parent will need to come to stay with the student for that period of time. A chaperone will need to stay with the student until the parent arrives, and the family will be responsible for any cost associated with changes to the chaperone's return travel plan and the cost to quarantine in that location.