

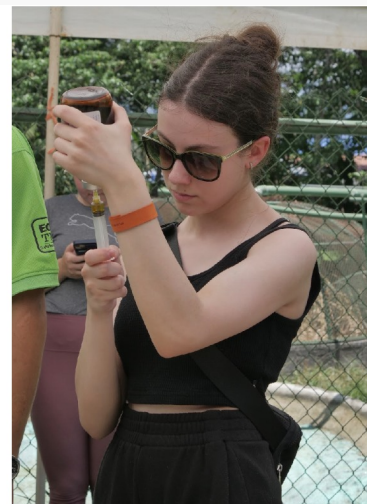
Grace's Experience in Costa Rica 2023

Published 4/10/2024 by [Dong Ho Lam](#)

Introduction

Welcome to our Global Learning blog! Today, we are thrilled to share Grace's captivating journey as a Veterinary Technician student in the lush landscapes of Costa Rica during the summer of 2023. Through our Faculty-led Program Abroad (FLPA), Grace embarked on an adventure that not only expanded her academic horizons but also offered profound personal growth and cultural insights. Let's dive into her story and explore the transformative experiences that awaited her in this vibrant country.

Grace's Experience in Costa Rica 2023



My name is Grace, and I am a Veterinary Technician student who participated in the Faculty-led Program Abroad (FLPA) in the summer of 2023 with Global Learning Programs (GLP) in Costa Rica.

My time in Costa Rica was life-changing and exceeded my expectations. From the friendships formed to the knowledge and skills gained, this study abroad opportunity was transformative. As a first-time traveler, I was eager to develop my confidence and skills further, while also appreciating the biodiversity, different cultures, and new environments to broaden my perspective beyond Ontario.

One of my most memorable moments was challenging ourselves during a night walk in the Veragua Rainforest, where we saw a variety of species from snakes and bats to tarantulas and frogs. The highlight was turning off our flashlights and absorbing the sounds around us, which made me realize there's so much more to life than I had imagined.



Night Walk in Veragua Rainforest

Another unforgettable experience was working on the farms and being invited into homes to practice speaking Spanish and English. Trying amazing new foods and learning the importance of patience in cross-cultural communication were key takeaways. This patience is crucial as a new Veterinary Technician graduate, especially when explaining medical terms and procedures to clients or dealing with fearful and anxious animals.

During your time abroad, you quickly realize this is more than just a trip; it's a deep dive into a new culture. You meet new people, form lasting friendships, and acquire skills specific to your program.



Searching for Sloths



Getting Ready for Snorkelling



Breakfast with Friends



Making Chocolate



Beach Clean Up

This study abroad opportunity has been unforgettable, and I wished it could have lasted longer. I've learned so much and brought back valuable insights, from living the "pura vida" lifestyle to being a better global citizen. I recommend this experience to anyone who has the chance; it will provide a new appreciation and perspective on the world around you.

Conclusion

Grace's journey in Costa Rica is a vivid testament to the transformative power of global learning. Her experiences reflect the deep impact that such programs can have on a student's personal and professional development. Immersed in the rich biodiversity and culture of Costa Rica, she gained valuable skills, forged lasting friendships, and embraced the essence of the 'pura vida' lifestyle. We hope Grace's story inspires other students at Seneca Polytechnic to seize the opportunity to explore, learn, and grow in a global context. Stay tuned for more inspiring tales from our global adventurers, showcasing the endless possibilities that await beyond the classroom.

tags : student-blog

