



**Are you looking for a Global Experience for your school or group or for your own personal development?**

Panamá Global Connections is sponsoring an exploratory trip for persons interested in an excellent global education and service-learning opportunity. The trip is open to:

- College and University faculty
- High school teachers
- Students (high-school, college, and graduate, professional)
- Researchers
- Community and religious leaders
- Professionals
- Adults looking for a unique way to learn about another part of the world

**Trip Objectives**

1. Develop cultural competency and global education skills
2. Network with U.S. and Panamá resources towards multi-disciplinary and sustainable project development
3. Learn about Panamá, it's culture and people, and the many educational opportunities it holds

**This trip is not for the faint-of-heart**

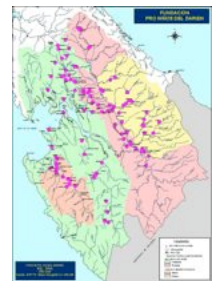


Darién province, the largest and most sparsely populated province in Panamá, is located in the south west part of Panamá. It is a region of dense tropical rainforest inhabited by the indigenous groups of Embera, Wounaan, and Kuna as well as several other distinct ethnic groups.

Until 20 years ago, there were no roads in Darién. The new highway access to parts of the province has opened the region to loggers, cattle ranchers, and landless peasants for the overcrowded interior. This influx of population is threatening both the indigenous population and the natural forest making conflicts over indigenous land rights an important local issue.

We will be partnering with a local foundation with 18 years of work with children and families in Darién. Their focus is on nutrition, health, education, and agriculture. We will be participating in their programs as well as exploring ways that we can expand their capabilities while providing learning opportunities for our groups.

**The map shows locations of Pro Niños de Darién projects**



Even now many areas in Darién are only accessible by four-wheel-drive vehicles, on horseback, by boat, or by foot. Many of the indigenous populations travel primarily by boat. We will be working throughout the region as well as visiting a national park that can only be reached by boat. Be prepared for rustic living conditions and plenty of physical activity.

### **Darién National Park**

This park contains the most extensive lowland tropical forest on the Central American Pacific coast. The park is a biosphere reserve for plants and animals with protected areas of beaches, everglades, and lagoons. The area is the natural land bridge between Central and South America with a huge variety of vegetation as well as a wide variety of animal and bird species. The park boasts 7 kinds of mammals only found here, 250 species of birds, and 56 endangered species of animals. There are four scientific stations in the park. We will spend the night in one of the rustic campgrounds in the park.



### **Dates**

**December 28, 2008 – January 9, 2009**

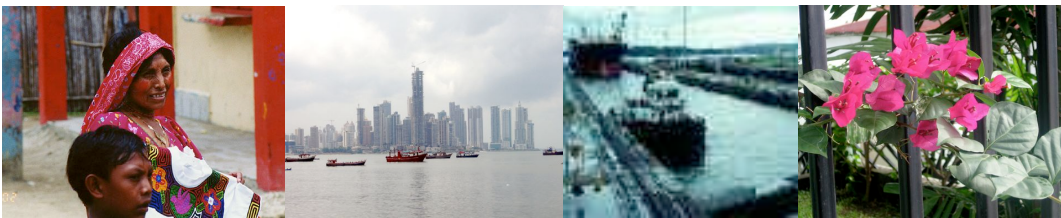
### **Cost of \$2,840.00 includes**

- Room and board (including all meals and potable water)
- Transportation
- Interpreters
- Activities
- PGC Administrative fees  
(Everything except airfare, shopping, and personal incidentals)

### **Post-trip add-ons**

For those who want to stay in Panama a little longer we offer the following 3-day excursions:

- 1. Boat tour of the Panama Canal and the city of Colon**
- 2. San Blas Island tour**



**For more information and applications contact**

[pgc@panamaglobalconnections.com](mailto:pgc@panamaglobalconnections.com)

Or call

Sumaya McDonald (614) 736-7980

Donna DeGracia (612) 817-3378