



SPRING BREAK SERVICE LEARNING

Brochure

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Do something worthwhile during your Spring Break and participate in a service learning placement during your time off school while supporting a global initiative and contributing to a better world?

What is Alternative Spring Break Service Learning?

Alternative Spring Break Service Learning is your chance to travel with a purpose during your time off school and contribute to a local community in a meaningful way.

If you love to travel abroad, consider yourself a little adventurous and would like to do something different as an add-on experience to your field of study, alternative spring break service learning is just for you.

It's an out of the ordinary experience that allows families to contribute to sustainable local projects and make a positive impact altogether.

Why participate in an Alternative Spring Break Service Learning?

Participating in an alternative Spring Break Experience is the perfect way to combine experiential learning and career development at the same time.

Not only that, being abroad will teach you to out of comfortable and therefore more flexible and adaptable given you a competitive edge for your future career. The skills you will acquire while doing an Alternative Spring Break Service Learning are invaluable and will take you over the competitive edge upon graduation and as you apply for jobs.

Whether you get involved in a conservation project working with wildlife, or a community project, you will experience the educational components of our projects including respect for others and their cultures, understanding the challenges facing millions of people every day, as well as learn the specific objectives of your chosen project.

SPRING BREAK SERVICE LEARNING



What type of projects can you do as a Spring Break Volunteer?

The projects offered are all currently located in Central and South America for easy access and given the time constraint. All projects involves working with the local community and are short term, high impact type of projects.

If you don't see what you like, contact one of the Kaya advisor to explore other opportunities.

Belize Spring Break Organic farming Volunteer Week

BELIZE

The project

Join this Belize Spring Break Organic farming volunteer week and do something different this year. You will work on a small farm, cultivating sustainable organic food for a home that supports abused and abandoned children. The project also supports children who, at 16, have to leave the state orphanage system by providing them with accommodation. The project uses traditional planting and irrigation methods to grow quality produce. Crops include cassava, corn, grapes, lemongrass, pine nuts and herbs. In addition to growing organic crops, the farm also has animals such as ducks, sheep, goats and chickens. There are two phases to the project, the first being a home for 10 girls aged 16-17, and the second a children's home. The aim is to provide a supply of fresh, nutritious food to the children's home on a regular basis. Be a part of this organic farming project through volunteer during your Spring Break and help some disadvantaged children of San Ignacio.

Role of the volunteer

Volunteers on this organic farming project will participate in a range of activities. You will be asked to dig, plant and irrigate the crops. You may also be required to help out with the local winemaking process as the proceeds from it are used to fund the project. There will be an opportunity for you to work in the aromatic herb garden, preparing plots and assisting with landscaping.

When you finish your work, enjoy an exciting caving trip to the Actun Tunichil Muknal.

This project is perfect for spring break students, who can contribute to the provision of a sustainable and organically-grown food garden for the children's home. Volunteers will gain valuable cultural insight and work closely within the local Belizean community.

Skills required

As a volunteer on this project in Belize, you should be prepared to get your hands dirty and have a real enthusiasm to get stuck in wherever you are needed. Volunteers with skills and experience in working with crops and an interest in organic farming and nutrition will find this project interesting.

Most of all volunteers who can bring enthusiasm and a willingness to join in will have a great Spring Break experience. You will be asked to send your CV/resume before being accepted onto this project.

Why choose this project

- ✓ Share your enthusiasm to help support the organic initiative by providing an extra pair of hands required to keep the momentum up.
- ✓ Contribute to providing a regular supply of organic and nutritious fruit and vegetables to the children's home.
- ✓ Use your Spring Break constructively to contribute to this amazing food access and nutrition initiative and make your time away from university stand out from the crowd.

Project location

You will be based in San Ignacio and the surrounding villages. This project is on a farm 15 minutes outside of San Ignacio. San Ignacio, also referred to locally as Cayo, is located 2 hours from Belize City and is a tourist centre. The town and the surrounding communities consist of a diverse population of Creole, Maya and Mestizo. San Ignacio is located in pleasant tropical hills with a wide, shallow river running through the centre, a place where local families and volunteers love to swim. You can visit nearby Maya ruins and for the more adventurous take part in caving and swim deep into a cave system to see a 2000-year-old Mayan artefacts site and also many skeletons!

Project facts

Duration: 1 week

Requirements: Age 18+

Location: San Ignacio and Cayo District, Belize

Working hours: 6-8h per day

Project availability: Spring break only.

Contact a Kaya Placement Advisor to discuss your dates.

Arrival day: Saturday

What's included

Accommodation: Shared room or tent in a campsite on a farm

Meals: 3 meals a day

Airport pick up: Airport pick up and drop off at Belize City International Airport

Training: orientation and project induction provided

Support: 24-hour support

Excursion Planning: Actun Tunichil Muknal in the ultimate 1-day jungle and cave adventure

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Costa Rica Spring Break Volunteering Week

COSTA RICA

The project

Want to do something amazing with your Spring Break this year? Join us in San Jose for a week of community volunteering helping abandoned and underprivileged children in the city's children's homes, community and day care centres. The children's homes care for children who have been abandoned or removed from their families by the government for their safety. The children's progress is monitored and attempts are made to find families for the children where possible. Community centres provide assistance to poor families, running various community initiatives including daycare for their young children, support with learning, a feeding programme and housing for teenage orphans. Spend your Spring Break this year helping others.

Spring Break in Costa Rica will give you the opportunity to discover some of the amazing things that attract tourists to this amazing country. You will be exposed to cultural activities such as a cooking class and Spanish lessons as well as exploring some of the amazing sights and having lots of fun - the choice is yours! So whether it is exploring the cloud forest, relaxing in the hot springs or white water rafting, bring your enthusiasm and positive attitude to support local families, and give something back during your time in Costa Rica this Spring Break!

Role of the volunteer

Volunteers for Spring Break will be able to help staff to entertain the children by playing games, running activities and supporting the local staff. If you have specific skills or experience please let us know. Volunteers will be asked to think about how they would like to spend their week before they arrive in Costa Rica and come prepared with some ideas and activities for the children.

Your Spring Break will follow a similar itinerary to this:

- Sunday - arrival, orientation, project induction and meet your homestay family
- Monday - Spanish survival
- Tuesday through Thursday - Volunteering with a children's project in San Jose
- Friday - Rainforest canopy tour above the cloud forest with optional zip wire activities or exhilarating white water rafting through the jungle with a lunch picnic
- Saturday - A choice between 1) touring the stunning Arenal Volcano, visiting a centre for artisans and relaxing at the best local hot springs OR 2) visiting a coffee plantation and learning about and sampling Costa Rica's delicious coffee followed by a visit to the stunning La Paz Waterfall 3) travelling through Manuel Antonio National Park and relaxing on one of Costa Rica's pristine beaches
- Sunday - departure

Skills required

This project is open to all and enthusiasm and a willingness to join in are a must. Spanish is required for this placement (Independent User Level B2 of CEFR). Those with intermediate / Advance Spanish can spend 100% of Tuesday - Thursday volunteering. Those with little Spanish will split their time: mornings will be spent volunteering and afternoons learning Spanish. You will be asked to send your CV/Resume before being accepted onto this project.

Why choose this project

- ✓ Provide an extra pair of hands to help the local staff as they are already busy taking care of the day-to-day needs of the children.
- ✓ Spend your Spring Break getting involved with meaningful community work while exposing yourself to a new culture, language and country!
- ✓ Practice and improve your Spanish skills, all while having fun!

Project location

Your project is located in the San Jose region, which boasts all the amenities of a modern city while being surrounded by lush flora, fauna, natural parks and mountains. Costa Rica is an interesting place to visit and is the perfect place for those who love adventure and nature. From the capital city, where the volunteers are based, you are within easy reach of beaches, volcanoes and forests of all kinds. Everything is accessible within 5 to 6 hours by public bus.

Project facts

Duration: 1 week

Requirements: Age 18+

Location: San Jose, Costa Rica

Working hours: Depends on Spanish levels skills

Project availability: Spring Break between the end of February and 1st week of April.

Arrival day: Sunday

What's included

Accommodation: Single or shared room in a family homestay, depending on availability

Meals: 2 per day

Airport: pick up from San Jose International Airport

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site orientation and project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

Laundry

Tours as per the itinerary

Spanish lessons (for non-native Speakers)

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Airport Drop Off to San Jose International

Extra activities on the tours e.g. zip wire activities, treatments etc

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Spring Break Volunteering on a Sustainable Community Project in Ecuador

ECUADOR

The project

Spend your Spring Break volunteering in Ecuador on this sustainable economic and community development initiative supporting 50 families in their efforts to preserve their cultural identity and community. In 1995, with support from NGOs and international cooperation, the project was started and focused on community organisation and conservation. Using sustainable approaches including organic gardening, small-scale dairy processing factories, jam making from local resources and ecotourism, they have been building sustainable livelihoods and manageable tourism. Spend a week volunteering, immersed in the local community and help the project to continue the progress that has been made while enjoying a full day excursion to a popular excursion around Quito.

Role of the volunteer

Spring Break volunteers will be involved in a couple of activities, due to the length of their placement. The exact activities will be determined nearer to your placement but could include:

- Environmental education for local school children.
- Forestry research of how to use local resources on non-industry related purpose, for example orchids, medical plants etc.
- Organic gardening - planting, clearing and harvesting organic plants to support local women.
- Physical agriculture work on family farms.
- Community based activities such as maintaining camping trails, developing composting systems, maintaining the camping area etc.
- Jam making, food processing or local cheese production

There is always plenty to do and volunteers will also find themselves participating in social events, sporting activities and festivals that are important to the community.

Skills required

Spring Break volunteers are not required to have any specific skills apart from Spanish. You will need to be a confident Spanish speaker (level B2 Independent User of CEFR) to participate in activities and to gain the most out of the project and your homestay placement.

All volunteers should be flexible, patient, creative and come with a can-do attitude to get the most out of this placement and to make the maximum contribution to the community. Anyone with an interest in organic gardening, jam making, horticulture, early childhood education or community development will really enjoy this placement. You will be asked to send your CV/resume before being accepted onto this project.

Why choose this project

- ✓ Dedicate your Spring Break to participate in an amazing experience that also contributes to an ongoing program supporting sustainable livelihoods and preserving culture.
- ✓ Spend time to the benefit of the community and the environment, and gain incredible insight into local customs.
- ✓ Meet the project beneficiaries and share your ideas and experiences with the local community, as well as build up experience to add to your CV/resume while improving your Spanish speaking skills.

Project location

You will arrive into the city of Quito and depending on the arrival time of your flight you may have some time to explore the city. On the Sunday, you will travel to a local excursion with the local team depending on the day you arrive. On day 3, you will head out to the small town where your project is based, an hour North of Quito. Set high up in the cloud forest it is part of a municipal natural reserve and is a beautiful place to stay. On the Saturday, you will arrive back in Quito with time to attend the City Tour. This is a great opportunity to sample a little of Quito and also experience Ecuador's beauty.

Project facts

Duration: 1 week

Requirements: Age 16+

Location: Near Quito, Ecuador

Working hours: Half day on Monday, Tuesday - Friday, full days

Project availability: Spring Break

Arrival day: Any Saturday in March

What's included

Accommodation: Homestay or Volunteer house at project, hostel in Quito for the 1st 2 nights

Meals: breakfast and lunch from the Sunday

Airport pick up: Airport pick up and drop off in Quito

Training: Pre-departure pack, on-site orientation on Saturday and project induction included

Support: 24-hour support

Excursion Planning: Sunday excursion as planned by the local team
Transfer to and from project site to Quito
Local SIM card and phone: (deposit of \$50 required for handset)
City Tour in Quito

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Transfers to and from your project

Meals beyond those listed above

Optional excursion on the Sunday on your arrival weekend please speak to an advisor if you want to know more

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check.

Project Costs for Spring Break Service Learning

COUNTRY	PROJECT	1 WEEK PRICING		2 WEEKS PRICING		EXTRA WEEKLY PRICING	
		Price GBP (£)	Price USD (\$)	Price GBP (£)	Price USD (\$)	Price GBP (£)	Price USD (\$)
Belize	Belize Spring Break Organic farming Volunteer Week	£1133	\$1768				
Costa Rica	Costa Rica Spring Break Volunteering Week	£876	\$1304				
Ecuador	Spring Break Volunteering on a Sustainable Community Project in Ecuador	£1325	\$2068				

Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

Thank you for choosing to apply for placement on a Kaya programme. We are committed to providing you the best support as you prepare for the experience of a lifetime, which is why we have laid down the following terms and conditions. By checking the agreement of these terms and conditions you have accepted to abide by the rules laid down in this agreement, and we suggest that you read the details carefully and speak to us if you require any further clarification. Please note there may be additional conditions that apply to individual placements.

Application Instructions

Apply online: <https://www.kayavolunteer.com/book-now>. Upon receipt of the application and deposit, we will secure the position on the Program for successful applicants. Deposits will be refunded for all unsuccessful applicants. Kaya will contact all applicants within 2 weeks of receipt of the application. Applications will not be considered without a programme deposit. Standard program deposits are GBP£180/US\$315 and are non-refundable. A small number of our placements have an additional deposit, due at application confirmation, which are also non-refundable. These are outlined in details of these individual project placements. All deposits paid will be applied towards the total program fee.

Deadlines, Dates and Prices

Applications are accepted throughout the year and are subject to limited space availability. Programs are priced individually and displayed on the Kaya website alongside each project. Deadlines are based on the dates of the desired placement. Some programs and project placements fill up prior to their published application deadlines. Apply early to secure your space. Important deadlines for the Kaya Programs are:

Early Application

Application can be made up to 1 year in advance, however arrangement and communication of the programme specifics will commence 2-3 months prior to programme start.

Application Deadline

3 month prior to programme start. Last minute bookings will be considered on an individual basis. Last-minute bookings are advised that their placements arrangements may require more flexibility to accommodate.

Total Fee Due

8 weeks prior to programme start – unless specified for a particular project.

Late Payment

Payment deadlines are displayed on the invoices provided. It is important to meet these deadlines to secure your placement, and missing these deadlines may result in the cancellation of your placement. Where a payment extension is requested, this will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will incur a late payment fee of £35/\$60 basis.

Program Start and Finish Dates, Current Prices and What's Included are displayed on the Kaya website alongside each project. Details shown on printed materials are subject to change. Projects prices are reviewed annually and bookings for the following year may differ from those listed. Payments may be made in GBP or US\$.

Date and Project Changes

Upon application, you will receive an interview within which your programme and program dates will be confirmed. We encourage you to stick to these as the projects plan around your participation. One date or program change made prior to 8 weeks before departure will be accommodated for, at no charge, subject to availability. Placements moved to the following year may be subject to price increases. After 1 change has been accommodated for, any future changes made will be subject to an administration charge of GBP£40 / USD\$70 – payable at time of change. For project changes where the original project incurred an additional deposit over the standard GBP£180 / USD\$315 fee, the additional deposit amount will NOT be transferable to your new project. Date changes requested within 8 weeks prior to departure will be considered on an individual basis, the original payment deadlines will apply and changes will be subject to an administration charge of GBP£40 / USD\$70 – payable at time of change. Placement changes within 8 weeks prior to departure are typically not accommodated for due to project commitments made at that time.

Trip Cancellation & Refund Policy

Kaya reserves the right to cancel any program if there are insufficient registrants (where minimum numbers apply) or if Kaya determines it is in the best interest of the applicant's safety and quality of programming to cancel the program. Kaya is not responsible for other costs incurred by applicants preparing for the trip.

Should a program be canceled by Kaya, for any reason, applicants will be offered the option of positions in other Kaya Programs or a full refund on all fees paid.

For participants wishing to cancel or shorten their program, the following terms apply:

Program deposits are non-refundable for Participants who have been accepted into the program. Program deposits will be fully refunded to unsuccessful Participants.

Participants who cancel more than eight (8) weeks prior to the program start will receive a refund on any program fee paid, less the deposit. Individuals who cancel or shorten their program, for any reason (including health, bereavement and visa issues) less than eight (8) weeks prior to the program start or during the program will not receive any refund, and we encourage you to approach your travel insurance to seek compensation in this instance. We are happy to provide proof of payment and cancellation if required. Travel insurance with trip cancellation coverage is strongly encouraged for this reason.

If the Participant cancels for any reason, the Participant must notify Kaya in writing. The cancellation will be effective upon receipt of the written notification by Kaya to info@kayavolunteer.com. Careful planning goes into developing volunteer and intern programs for every individual applicant. As a result, Kaya and our host communities and partners incur substantial administrative and planning costs, including accommodation reservation fees, prior to the start of each program.

Kaya strives to ensure sustainable projects and quality programs for Participants. The Refund Policy is defined in an effort to protect and accomplish these goals. Kaya deals with each situation fairly, in consideration of well-established policies, and with the best interests of community members and Participants in mind.

Program Flexibility

Kaya programmes are different from travel or adventure programmes. Each development project and work experience placement is unique and often cannot be implemented exactly as planned for a variety of reasons. Itineraries shown are a guide and the order of activities may be shifted in line with factors, including, but not limited to the weather, changing project needs and individual situations. Project activities shown cover most areas that you may be asked to get involved, but additional activities may arise that require your assistance and not all activities shown may be carried out in the period of your stay. Applicants are advised that these variables may require changes before or during a programme. Part of the challenge and growth opportunity is in adapting to changing conditions and overcoming the obstacles they may present.

Legal Jurisdiction, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risks

European Participants:

Participants booking their placements on kayavolunteer.com enter a contract with Kaya Responsible Travel Ltd of The Arches, North Campus, Sackville St, Manchester, a company registered in England and Wales (company number 6885700). This contract is governed by English law under the exclusive jurisdiction of English courts.

Participants from North America and other Non-European countries:

Participants booking their placements on kayavolunteer.com enter a contract with Kaya Responsible Travel Ltd, part of the Global Educators Inc consortium of 17 New South St, Suite 303, Northampton, MA, a company registered in the state of Massachusetts, USA. This contract is governed by the laws of the State of Massachusetts, U.S.A., excluding Massachusetts's conflict of laws rules, regardless of your location. You hereby expressly consent to exclusive jurisdiction and venue in the federal and state courts located in Massachusetts U.S.A., for all matters or disputes arising out of or relating to these Terms and Conditions or your access or use of the Website.

All Participants:

In organising and managing volunteer projects, work experience placements, group programs, and courses, Kaya, its agents, employees, and staff give notice that they act solely on behalf of and for the benefit of the participants, on the express agreement that Kaya shall not be liable, financially or otherwise, for non-performance or unsatisfactory service; for the injury to persons including death, for loss of or damage to property, for accident or delay, and/or for expenses arising from strikes, weather, quarantine, sickness, government regulation, civil unrest or war, or from any act or omission of Kaya agents or employees, and/or airline, mail services, rail, bus company, vehicle rental entity, hotel, restaurant, or other suppliers of service.

Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

By submitting this application form the participant assumes all of these risks and agrees to indemnify Kaya, its officers, directors, and employees harmless for any and all liability that may arise in connection with participation in the Kaya Programs. Kaya reserves the right to refuse any applicant admission to any programme if he or she is deemed ill suited for the programme. Important programme information will be sent to the email address provided on the application. Photographs, videotapes, and/or statements of participants may be used in promoting Kaya. Kaya publishes programme and project photos on a monthly basis on the Kaya website. These photos and videos are available for participant, friends, family, and interested individuals to download, email, or print for personal use. Photography usage for distribution purposes will be considered on an individual basis on application to Kaya.

Participants accept that they will be subjected to various physical and emotional demands and accept that the standard of living, including food, hygiene and accommodation in the relevant country may be below the general standards of their own country. The Participant also understands that certain risks may arise, including, but not limited to, hazards of travelling in remote areas; travel by automobile, van, bus, airplane, boat, train or any other means of conveyance; the forces of nature; civil disturbances; national or international conflicts; terrorism; arbitrary itinerary changes made by foreign governments or vendors; dive related accidents, boat accidents; interacting with dangerous wildlife; personal injury or illness from the local environment; accident or illness in remote locations without immediate evacuation or medical facilities; or negligent acts of third parties. The Participant asserts that they know, understands and appreciate these and other risks inherent in the programme, agrees that participation is completely voluntary and assumes all risk associated with the programme.

Kaya shall have no responsibility for any activities undertaken by the Participant outside the scope of those directly relating to the programme, including activities that may have been recommended by Kaya staff, or its partners, within the location. For all excursion activities Kaya acts as an agent, not a principle of the activity. Any information provided by Kaya, including but not limited to information about visas, vaccinations, healthcare, climate, group sizes and packing requirements is given in good faith for information and educational purposes only but without responsibility on the part of Kaya or its partners.

Travel Documents and Insurance

All participants must possess a valid passport for their Kaya trip. Participants are responsible for any costs associated with visas, airport taxes, obtaining the proper travel documents for their trip, and changes to flight itineraries. All participants must have valid, comprehensive health and travel insurance during the time of their programme covering risks associated with a 'Force Majeur' event, medical emergencies and repatriation. Details of insurance must be supplied to Kaya prior to commencement of any programme. Kaya reserves the right to refuse entry to programmes if insurance details are not supplied.

Behavioural Expectations

By joining a Kaya Program, the participant assumes certain obligations to Kaya, its community, and other programme participants. If on-site programme directors determine a participant fails to meet the behavioural expectations set out in this contract and within Kaya's Code of Conduct document, that participant will be asked to leave the programme.

Participants asked to leave under these circumstances will not receive a refund. In addition to other programme responsibilities, as a programme participant you are responsible for:

- Being in sufficient good health to undertake the programme.
- Acting in an appropriate and respectful manner towards the local people, fellow travellers, programme participants, and staff in accordance with the customs, laws, regulations, and ordinances of the country of placement.
- Communicating effectively your interests, skills, limitations, and needs to home community members and programme staff members.

Age

Participants must be aged 18 years over at time of pick up, unless expressly agreed in advance by Kaya. Kaya reserve the right to cancel and application or terminate a placement without refund if false proof is found to have been supplied.

For participants under 18 yrs, who have been accepted onto a Kaya programme, parental consent is required and participants agree to our Code of Conduct, which includes strict policies about alcohol consumption. Where accepted, participants under 18 yrs will be not be offered any different or additional service or treatment to other participants. All participants under 18 yrs must participate in an interview and require a reference from a professional person who has known them for over 2 years.

Disclosure

All participants must disclose at time of application any pre-existing or existing medical conditions (including depression and eating disorders) and disabilities. Some placements may require doctor's notes as a requirement for participation – some which may be dictated by legal requirement or liability purposes. Any medical conditions arising after Application and prior to Placement must be disclosed to Kaya prior to placement commencement. Kaya reserve the right to refuse Application based on these disclosures if deemed necessary for the safety of the participant and the project. Kaya reserve the right to cancel and application or terminate a placement without refund if false information or lack of disclosure is found to have been supplied. Kaya is not held responsible for the administration or monitoring of any medication. While Kaya make every effort to establish safety conditions and risk assessment, Participants are warned that the general standards of health, safety and hygiene in many countries visited may not be of comparable standard to Western countries and hence a risk of injury and illness is inherent to this venture.

Some placements may require a police criminal background check, conducted by the government. This check shall be carried out at the applicant's expense with guidance from Kaya. Some placements require proof that volunteers are clear of certain medical conditions, through the provision of a health certificate. This check shall be carried out at the applicant's expense.

Complaints

If a Participant wishes to lodge a complaint in relation to their programme, they shall first bring the complaint to the attention of the in-country coordinator, who will make reasonable efforts to deal with and, where possible, resolve the complaint within a reasonable time. If a Participant feels that complaint is not being dealt with adequately by their in-country coordinator they should then contact the Kaya placement advice team to escalate the issue. If the coordinator is unable to resolve any serious complaint, and the participant chooses to terminate their placement early and depart the project, they shall provide the coordinator with a written version on event prior to departure. Refunds cannot be provided for early departure unless extreme circumstances are found, which will be determined at the sole discretion of Kaya. Issues reported after the end of a programme which were not reported during the programme, giving the site team an opportunity to address the issue in country, will not be considered for any compensation. Participants agree that Kaya shall not be liable for damages or compensation relating to any claim regarding inconvenience, disappointment, discomfort or loss of enjoyment.