

# NEXTdestination

Seniors visited prospective colleges.



“ BROWN IS MY SECOND CHOICE, BUT I LOVE THE AREA AND THE MASCOT IS MY FAVORITE ANIMAL.”

--Samuel Cano Cabrera '22



“ NORTHWESTERN WOULD BE A DREAM. THE CAMPUS IS GORGEOUS AND HAS A GREAT VIEW OF CHICAGO.”

--Kate Perez, '22



“ I FELL IN LOVE WITH BOSTON COLLEGE. THE CAMPUS IS BEAUTIFUL AND I SEE MYSELF THERE.”

-- Florentine Bullrich, '22



**SOARING.** Sophomore **Diego Collazo** defied gravity during his vacation in Mexico, during a sky diving excursion. After overcoming his initial fear, he relaxed and enjoyed the sights. “It was really cool, even though I was scared at first it was a great experience,” said Collazo. He also tried ziplining and other adventurous activities. Photo provided by Diego Collazo, from Sky Dive Playa del Carmen

# stepping OUT

With countries re-opening, students began to travel again.

Flying through the air, sophomore Diego Collazo enjoyed the sights during his skydiving adventure in Mexico, while vacationing with his family in July. At first he felt a bit scared, but managed to set his fears aside and enjoy the ride.

“Skydiving in Mexico was a surreal experience. I was kind of scared when I was on the plane but once the parachute opened, I looked down and it was really cool to see the water,” Collazo said, “coming down, I felt accomplished that I had conquered my fear.”

As countries began to lift their travel restrictions, many felt safe to travel again, as COVID-19 infection rates continued to decline and vaccines were more readily available. Still, many countries maintained traveling guidelines and safety measures, such as requiring a negative COVID-19 test, or wearing masks. Such was the case for junior Jade Garcia, who traveled with her family to the Dominican Republic.

“If you were walking around or in the golf carts, you didn’t need one. To eat at restaurants and go into the beach you

needed to be wearing a mask and once you were seated then you could remove it. Anyone who was going to be traveling out of Casa de Campo in DR had to take a Covid test and have their results back before the flight.” Garcia said.

Instead of packing up and heading out of town, many also opted for a local “staycation.” Going to the beach, watching the sunrise, going to the movies, and catching up with friends, were some of the easygoing activities Miami offered. Some seniors took advantage of their free time to start working on college applications, and studying for the SAT and ACT exams.

“I stayed in Miami for the majority of the summer and I had a really good time while also being really productive. I was able to see my friends whenever I wanted without the stress of homework, but I was also able to get college applications done. I did take advantage of my time at home to work on my college essays and study for the SAT,” senior Sasha Boyers said.

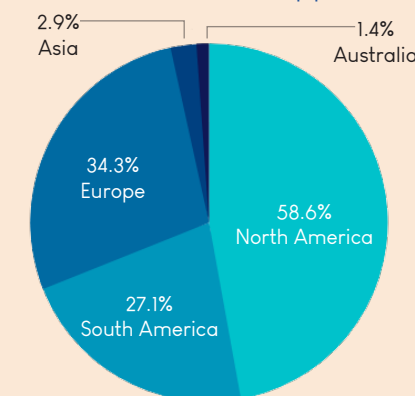
Article by Paola Avazian



- 1. SHARING HIS PASSION FOR BASEBALL,** senior Erick Delgado spent his time working at Gulliver’s baseball camp for elementary-aged children. “I had a lot of fun working with the kids and being able to share my love for the sport,” Delgado said.
- 2. STROLLING BY A WARM BAHAMA SUNSET** was a welcome treat for senior Sofia Aspillaga after spending the day on the beach in Bimini. This was the first time Aspillaga had been out of her house since the 2020 pandemic. “This trip was an unforgettable experience. I have been waiting to go on vacation for so long and it was a good escape from Miami” Aspillaga said.
- 3. A DOSE OF HISTORY WAS IN STORE** for freshman Natalia Aguilar. Aguilar and her family took a trip to Washington D.C. to visit national landmarks. “There seemed to be a lot of tourists, and places were crowded. Most places required to wear a mask inside,” Aguilar said.
- 4. DURING HER TRIP TO GREECE,** freshman Julia Fogel was finally reunited with her best friend, whose family moved their last year. “It was so fun to finally go on vacation. Greece is absolutely beautiful,” Fogel said.

## WHEREto?

Easing restrictions allowed for travel opportunities.



A poll of 70 students showed that the majority traveled within North and South America during the summer, and a small percentage traveled to other continents such as Europe and Asia. “This summer, I traveled to Ecuador to visit my family. Since Covid it has been hard to travel to other countries, but because of more lenient traveling restrictions, I was able to visit my family,” said sophomore **Olivia Johnson.**