

Kenya Open Team 2

Information Packet

Location: Meru, Kenya

Project Dates: August 30 – September 14

Participation Fee: \$1,050

Excursion Fee: \$775

Flight to Nairobi is not included in the participation fee



Maranatha in Kenya

Maranatha's first volunteer projects in Africa took place in 2008, during a major construction effort in Mozambique. Since then, Maranatha has expanded to several other African countries including Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Angola and Ghana. In 2016, Maranatha kicked off a new effort in Kenya, with plans to construct 15 school classrooms and 70 churches, in addition to water wells.

Project Overview

Volunteers on this project will serve two communities.

First, volunteers will construct a new girls' dormitory at the Kiirua Adventist School in the town of Kiirua. There are 132 students attending the elementary and secondary school, and 24 of the young girls live in a dormitory that is 25 years old. It is in very poor condition. Bugs, rain, wind, and dust invade the dilapidated space, and the girls report feeling very cold at night. The school is losing students because of the poor conditions, and they are in desperate need of a new building. Construction will include completing the block work for a new dormitory building.

Second, volunteers will assemble three One-day Church frames for congregations in the nearby communities of Kiengo, Kiirua, and Subuiga (Ameru tribe). These congregations currently worship outside with only the trees to shield them from the sun and rain. The construction of a new church frame will not only give them protection from the elements, but it will also establish a sense of permanence and purpose as they worship their God. In these towns, you will also have the rare opportunity to witness tribal life. These villages have little to no western influences. The people live in huts and wear traditional clothing.

Meru is a relatively poor area and would be greatly impacted by other outreach activities such as children's programs and health

Project Schedule

Tuesday, August 30
Evening arrival and overnight in Nairobi.

Wednesday, August 31
Travel to Meru and orientation

Thursday, September 1 – Friday, September 2
Work days

Saturday, September 3
Worship with the Samburu tribe

Sunday, September 4 – Friday, September 9
Work days

Saturday, September 10
Worship with the local congregations. Dormitory Dedication.

Sunday, September 11
Travel to Nakuru National Park, afternoon safari

Monday, September 12
Travel to the Masai Mara, afternoon safari

Tuesday, September 13
All day safari in Masai Mara

Wednesday, September 14
Morning safari, return to Nairobi, evening departures from Nairobi

education. If we have enough volunteers, we would like to offer these programs to the community. If you are interested in leading or helping to lead these activities, please contact Maranatha.

Accommodations

The group will spend the first night in Nairobi. We will stay at a 3-star hotel called the Fahari Hotel, with air-conditioning, hot water, and Wi-Fi. All bedding and towels are provided, but you may want to bring your own washcloth since they are not commonly provided in Kenya.

During the project, the group will stay at the Meru Slopes Hotel, located approximately 45 minutes from each construction site. The hotel has comfortable beds, private bathrooms, air-conditioning, hot water, Wi-Fi, and a pool. The group will meet in one of the conference rooms for morning and evening worships, and the group will cook in the kitchen at the hotel. The group will travel together by private bus each day.

For more information about and photos of the hotel visit www.meruslopeshotel.com.

Excursion: \$775

At the end of the project, volunteers will visit two game reserves in Kenya: the Masai Mara, one of the largest national parks in Kenya, and a smaller reserve, Lake Nakuru National Park. On Sunday, volunteers will depart from Meru and drive to Lake Nakuru where they will take an afternoon safari drive. Lake Nakuru is known for its large population of flamingos and rhinos.

The following morning, the group will drive to Masai Mara, which will take about six hours, but the journey will be well worth the wait. Within a few hours of being at the reserve, it is possible to see the “Big Five” (lion, leopard, water buffalo, rhinoceros, and elephant) as well as many other wild animals including zebras, giraffes, hippopotamuses, wildebeests, cheetahs, antelope, vultures, hyenas, and much more! The group will arrive in the afternoon and enjoy an evening safari in an 8-seater land cruiser. They will spend the night at the beautiful Sopa Lodge in the game park. The following day, the group will have an all-day safari with a break for lunch at the hotel. On the 14th, the group will take another morning safari after breakfast before driving back to Nairobi to catch their departure flights home.

The excursion is considered part of the entire project. The cost of the excursion will cover all hotels, food, transportation, and activities and park entrances.

For photos of the Masai Mara excursion accommodations visit www.sopalodges.com/masai-mara-sopa-lodge/overview

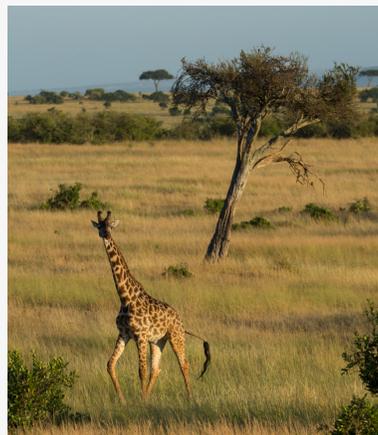
Expenses

The participation fee of \$1,050 covers housing for 12 nights, three vegetarian meals a day, ground transportation to and from the airport and project site, secondary accident insurance, a Maranatha t-shirt, and luggage tags.

The excursion fee of \$775 covers housing for three nights, ground transportation, three meals a day, all park entrance fees and safari drives.

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by July 25 in order to confirm the hotel and excursion. Please wait for confirmation of acceptance on the project before purchasing your airfare.

If you are fundraising or receiving donations, please either have them sent directly to you or work with your local church treasurer to collect funds and issue tax-deductible receipts, since it is difficult for Maranatha to track individual small checks. If your church will not work with you, please wait until you have collected the full amount of your participation fee before submitting your participation fee to Maranatha.



Estimate of Additional Costs

Flight to Nairobi \$820-1500

Passport \$130 or \$110 for renewal

Visa \$51+service charge

Yellow Fever Vaccine \$75

Malaria Medication \$50-100

Leadership

Terry Schwartz | Project Coordinator

Terry joins the group from Lincoln, Nebraska, where he lives with his wife Dina. They have served together with Maranatha in many countries including India, Curacao, Ecuador, Ghana, Zimbabwe, and Brazil. Terry is the author of *Never Alone*, a book about the impact Maranatha has had on his life while dealing with cancer. He gathers strength from participating on Maranatha mission trips. When they aren't traveling, Terry and Dina enjoy photography and outdoor activities.



Bruce Schwartz | Construction Superintendent

Bruce has volunteered with Maranatha all over the world including India, Honduras, Peru, Mozambique, Zambia, Curacao, Zimbabwe, and Brazil. When not on a mission project, Bruce, his wife Angie, and his son Andrew, reside in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he has worked as a building contractor for about 30 years. In his free time he enjoys traveling, snow skiing, woodworking, or golfing. On this trip, Bruce is looking forward to returning to Africa and seeing the immense progress that can take place in such a short amount of time with the One-Day School.



Richard Salsbery | Head Cook

Richard joins the team from Portland, Oregon and has done a little of everything throughout his life. From teaching at academies to traveling the world, he has taken advantage of many experiences. Richard started volunteering with Maranatha in 2008 and has since served on many projects, often working in the kitchen as the head cook or assistant cook. He has cooked for campouts, banquets, and, of course, mission trips!



Shayne Daughenbaugh | Spiritual Coordinator

Shayne joins the group as the spiritual coordinator for the project. He spent 18 years as a youth pastor; however, he has recently stepped away from that ministry in order to focus on creating a spiritual community for those who are disinterested and disengaged from the typical church setting. He currently works as a sales representative for an electrical contractor in Nebraska, where he resides with his wife, Janell, and their two kids Xavier and Ellie. In his free time he enjoys traveling with Maranatha as well as training for and taking part in extreme challenge courses, pushing past what he thought he could do. His experiences easily transfer into his spiritual life as he wants to expect more from his faith than what he thought he could. We serve a much bigger God than we sometimes think!



About Kenya

Kenya is located in Eastern Africa with its westernmost point at Lake Victoria, the largest lake in Africa, and the easternmost point at the coastline of the Indian Ocean. This beautiful country is a little smaller than the state of Texas in the United States and boasts a range of landscapes. There are flat plains, dense forests, wetlands, snow-capped mountains, desolate deserts and white-sand beaches.

But it isn't just the geography of Kenya that is diverse. Kenya is also home to more than 40 people groups, including the famous Maasai people. Each of these groups has their own rich culture and way of life, including elaborate and colorful dress, jewelry, dances, music, and language.

Some of the original inhabitants of the region were herders who took care of their animals and farmed the region. The Swahili people built the city of Mombassa into a major port city and established trade links that reached into Arabia, Persia, and India. The area was largely colonized by England by way of the Imperial British East Africa Company in 1888, and in 1920, the colony was renamed Kenya after the highest mountain in the region. In the early part of the 20th century, many European farmers, who became wealthy producing coffee and tea, settled the highlands. Kenya eventually received its independence in 1964.



Travel Information

Volunteers will purchase their own plane tickets to the capital city of Nairobi (see below). The group will spend one night in Nairobi before traveling by chartered bus to the Meru region. Please wait for confirmation from Maranatha before purchasing your airfare to ensure there is still space on the project.

Arrival | Please plan to arrive in Nairobi, Kenya, (airport code NBO) on a flight scheduled to arrive between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, August 30.

Departure | Please plan to depart from Nairobi (NBO) anytime after 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14. The group will return from the excursion on Wednesday afternoon, so be sure to book your ticket out of Nairobi in the evening.

Resources

Azumano Travel: 800-454-4099 or by email with Erle at edpenha@ciazumano.com

Butler Travel: 503-879-5005 or by email with Nathanael at nathan@butlertravel.com or with Ellen at ellen@butlertravel.com.

Kayak: www.kayak.com

When contacting the Azumano or Butler travel agencies, make sure you mention Maranatha to receive a discounted service charge.

Entry Requirements

All passports must be valid for at least six months from the dates of intended travel (February 14, 2017). If you do not have a passport, U.S. citizens can apply at any U.S. post office or online at <http://travel.state.gov>. Canadian citizens can apply online at www.passport.gc.ca. It can take up to two months to complete the entire process, so plan accordingly to give yourself enough time to receive your passport.

In addition to a passport, travelers must also have a valid tourist visa for the country of Kenya before traveling. A travel itinerary, along with a document outlining the process with complete visa requirements and tips for filling everything out, will be sent to you with your confirmation.

Citizens of other countries, please consult the Kenyan embassy or consulate in your home country for entrance requirements.

Facts and Figures

Capital:
Nairobi

Population:
45.9 Million

Language:
Kiswahili, English, indigenous languages

Climate:
Tropical along Coast. Arid inland.

Religion:
Christian 83%, Muslim 11%

Currency:
Kenyan Shilling

Staying Healthy

Maranatha requires that every volunteer have a current tetanus vaccine (within the last 10 years). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommend vaccines for hepatitis A and B, typhoid, yellow fever, and an oral antimalarial medication other than chloroquine.

Some of these you may already have and some of them you may deem unnecessary for this trip. You should schedule a consultation with a travel clinic doctor to talk about the medical risks in Kenya and the ways to minimize them.

Malaria, Yellow Fever, and Mosquitos

Malaria and yellow fever are both life-threatening disease transmitted primarily by mosquitos. Malaria transmission is known to take place throughout the entire country, and yellow fever is present in all areas except for the coastline. Maranatha suggests you speak with a medical professional regarding malaria and yellow fever prevention options. Malaria is prevented through several different oral medications. Each has different side effects and dosages, so speak with a travel clinic doctor before making a decision on whether to take a certain medication. When considering preventative medications for malaria, keep in mind that chloroquine is NOT effective in Kenya. The malaria strain present in the country is considered to be chloroquine-resistant. Yellow fever is typically prevented by a vaccination.

Giving Opportunity

This group will have the opportunity to construct a new girl's dorm for the Kiirua Adventist School. Many of these young ladies come from impoverished families and have only the most basic necessities. The directors of the school has informed Maranatha that there is a great need for new mattresses at the school. Currently, many of the students are sleeping on thin, worn foam pads, and some students have no padding at all. Are you willing to help? For just \$50 you can provide a new mattress, bed sheets, pillow, pillow sheet, blanket, towel, and a trunk. If you would like to support this program, please donate to Maranatha and mark your donation Kenya Open Team 2 Extras – Girls Dorm Mattresses - Kiirua

How to Register

To register, please complete the online registration and pay the full participation fee or an initial deposit of at least half the total participation fee. You can make this payment by credit card online or over the phone or with a check made out to Maranatha Volunteers International and sent to the address below. If for any reason you need to cancel your participation, Maranatha will do our best to refund your deposit up until one month before travel. After that point, \$150 is non-refundable, and the remainder will depend on the reservations and the project arrangements already made.

Register online at Maranatha.org or over the phone.

Contact Information

Phone: (916) 774-7700

Fax: (916) 774-7701

Email: volunteer@maranatha.org

Website: www.maranatha.org

Mailing Address:

Maranatha Volunteers International
990 Reserve Drive
Suite 100
Roseville, CA 95678

Canadian Payments Only:

Maranatha Volunteers International
Association
c/o V06494C
PO Box 6494, Station Terminal
Vancouver, BC V6B 6R3

THE MARANATHA

STORE

BUY MARANATHA MERCHANDISE!

Share the spirit of service with Maranatha-themed apparel and accessories.



CAP \$12



All cotton and easy to pack, this cap is sure to keep the sun off your face on a mission project and at home.

WATER BOTTLE \$15



The autospout water bottle by Contigo features a one-touch-button spout for convenient one-handed drinking. It also has a spout shield to protect the spout from debris and dirt when not in use—perfect for the project site.

HARD HAT \$11



This MSA V-Gard hard hat, with Staz-On suspension, ensures excellent shock absorption on the job site.

**TO ORDER, VISIT [MARANATHA.ORG/STORE](https://www.maranatha.org/store)
OR CALL (916) 774-7700**

All prices are excluding sales tax and shipping.