

# Kenya Project

## Information Packet

**Location:** Kiutine, Kenya

**Project Dates:** June 14-28, 2018

**Total Fee:** \$1,625

(Participation fee of \$975 and excursion fee of \$650)

**Children 12 and under:** \$1,475

(Age determined on the start date of the project)



*Flight to Nairobi is not included in the participation fee*

## Maranatha in Kenya

Maranatha's first volunteer project 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 drill water wells and construct churches, school classrooms, dorms, and dining facilities.

## Project Overview

Volunteers on this project will build new block buildings for the Kiutine Seventh-day Adventist School, located approximately an hour northeast of Meru, Kenya. The students at this secondary school live in less than adequate conditions. The dormitories are small and cramped with dirt floors. The walls have holes where bugs, mice, and snakes can easily enter. The showers are open to the elements, only enclosed by a fence, and the floor is mud and rocks. There is no running water, and students use buckets to bathe.

Maranatha has committed to drilling a water well, building new boys and girls dormitories, new bathroom buildings, and a kitchen and dining hall. Several Maranatha groups will be working at this campus in the summer and fall of 2018. Volunteers on this project will be constructing one of the buildings. The exact building assignment is still to be determined based on the current construction progress up to that point.

During the project, volunteers will also visit and worship with Adventist congregations of the Samburu tribe. Prior to Maranatha's work, these congregations met under trees for worship. Now, several congregations meet in One-Day Church structures, which not only protect them from the elements but also

## Project Schedule

**Thursday, June 14**

Evening arrivals and overnight in Nairobi

**Friday, June 15**

Travel to Kiutine and orientation

**Saturday, June 16**

Worship with the local congregations

**Sunday, June 17 - Thursday, June 21**

Work days

**Friday, June 22**

Half work day and dedication

**Saturday, June 23**

Worship with the local congregations

**Sunday, June 24**

Travel to Nairobi

**Monday, June 25**

Travel to the Masai Mara, afternoon safari

**Tuesday, June 26**

Full day safari at Masai Mara

**Wednesday, June 27**

Return to Nairobi

**Thursday, June 28**

Nairobi activities and evening departures

provide a sense of permanence and purpose as they worship God. In these towns, you will have the rare opportunity to witness tribal life in Kenya.



This area of Kenya is relatively poor and would also be greatly impacted by outreach activities, such as children's programs and medical and dental clinics. 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

In Nairobi, the group will stay in guesthouses on the campus of the East Central African Division of Seventh-day Adventists (ECD). The accommodations are nice and clean. You can expect double occupancy rooms with bedding and mosquito nets. Most of the rooms are set up in groups of four, with roommates sharing one bathroom with hot water.



During the project, the group will stay at the Maua Basin Hotel in Maua, Kenya, which is located about 45 minutes from the school construction site. Overall the accommodations are basic and range between a 1- and 2-star hotel. The rooms are nice and clean, but it is not a resort. We mention this in advance so you can adjust your expectations for this mission trip.

The rooms are comfortable with a mix of twin and queen beds with private bathrooms. Linens and mosquito nets are provided; washcloths are not commonly provided in Kenya, so plan on bringing your own. The hotel does not have air-conditioning or Wifi. The group will have meals at the hotel and meet in one of the conference rooms for worships. Each day, the group will travel to the Kiutine school by private buses.



On the excursion, the group will stay at the beautiful Sopa Lodge at the Masai Mara. The gardens surrounding the lodge are lush and mature with many examples of local fauna. The hotel rooms are large with queen and king size beds, mosquito nets, hot water, Wi-Fi, and private bathrooms. For more information and photos of the Sopa Lodge visit [www.sopalodges.com/masai-mara-sopa-lodge/overview](http://www.sopalodges.com/masai-mara-sopa-lodge/overview)



Volunteers should plan on staying in double occupancy rooms with a roommate. If you would like to room with someone in particular, please let us know prior to the final deadline of the project. At this time, single occupancy is not available.

## Excursions

At the end of the project, volunteers will experience some of the wildlife of Kenya at the Masai Mara. On Sunday morning, the volunteers will depart from Meru and drive approximately six hours back to Nairobi where they will again stay at the ECD campus..

The next morning, the group will travel another six hours to the Masai Mara, one of the largest national parks in Kenya and one of the top 10 African safari destinations. 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 afternoon and evening safari drive. 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 sack lunch.

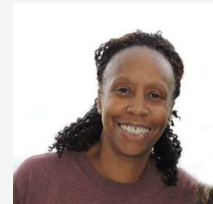
On the 27th, volunteers will return to Nairobi and spend the night. The following morning the group will visit two of Nairobi's most popular attractions: The David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage and the Giraffe Centre. Both of

these attractions give opportunities for up close and personal interactions with the animals. Ever wanted to feed an elephant or get licked by a giraffe? Now's your chance! After the elephant and giraffe encounters, volunteers will stop at a local shopping bazaar before heading to the airport for their flights home.

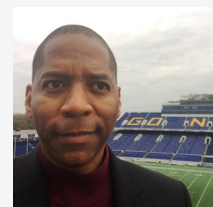
The excursion is considered part of the entire project. All hotels, food, transportation, activities, and park entrances during the excursion days are covered by the excursion fee paid to Maranatha.

## Leadership

**Loretta Spivey, Co Project Coordinator** | Loretta has worked with with Maranatha since 2003. Throughout the years she has served as an Insight magazine reporter, as well as an outreach coordinator, spiritual coordinator, and project coordinator on several Maranatha projects, including the Ultimate Workout, Multiple Group Project, and several Open Team projects. In each role, she has focused on connecting participants with Christ. Although the Pittsburgh Steelers still hold her allegiance, her family now calls Kernersville, North Carolina, home. She and her husband have five amazing children; most of them have participated in mission trips. She looks forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will work on this project.



**Mark Washington, Co Project Coordinator** | Mark first got involved with Maranatha when his good friend, Loretta Spivey, convinced him to join her on an Ultimate Workout project in Mexico. Since then he has joined several Maranatha projects in a variety of roles. He joins the group from Washington, DC where he works for the US Department of Education and volunteers as a firefighter and EMT-B. He and his wife have two young adult children, both of whom have also volunteered with Maranatha. In his free time he enjoys sports, civil war history, and completing triathlons. Mark is thrilled about joining a project in Africa and is excited help build a school campus that will extend the joy and blessing of learning in a decent environment.



## Expenses

The total fee of \$1,625 covers housing, three vegetarian meals a day, ground transportation to and from the airport and project site, translators, excursions, short-term travel insurance, a Maranatha t-shirt, and luggage tags. For accounting purposes, this fee is broken down into a participation fee of \$975 (which is tax- deductible) and an excursion fee of \$650 (which is not tax-deductible).

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by May 1 due to application processing time. Wait for confirmation of acceptance on the project before purchasing your airfare.

All prices are listed in US Dollars. Payments can be made by cash or check sent to the Maranatha office in California (please include your name and “Kenya Project – June 2018”) or by credit or debit card online or over the phone.

For Canadian tax-deductible receipts, payments must be made by check to the Maranatha Volunteers International (Canada) Association (address located at the end of this information packet. At this time Maranatha cannot issue tax-deductible receipts for credit card payments.

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: \$850 - \$1500
- Passport: \$130 or \$110 for renewal
- Visa: \$51 + service charge
- Yellow Fever Vaccine: \$75
- Malaria Medication: \$50 - \$100

## 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 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 home to more than 40 people groups, including the famous Maasai people. Each of these groups has their own 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 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 attained wealth through coffee and tea production, settled the highlands. Kenya eventually received its independence in 1964.

## Travel Information

Volunteers will purchase their own plane tickets to the city of Nairobi. If you arrive or depart outside the posted time frames, you may have long wait times at the airport or may be responsible for paying the additional transportation for your individual airport transfer. It may also result in missed portions of the project experience.

Please complete the online registration and wait for confirmation from Maranatha before purchasing your airfare to ensure there is still space on the project. Together volunteers will travel together by bus to the project location.

### Flights

#### Arrival

Please plan to arrive in Nairobi, Kenya (airport code NBO), between 6pm and 10pm in the evening of Thursday, June 14.

#### Departure

Please plan to depart from Nairobi (NBO) anytime after 5:30pm on Thursday, June 28.

### Arriving Early or Staying Late?

Kenya has some beautiful travel destinations. Some of you may choose to arrive earlier than June 14 or stay beyond June 28 to explore the country on your own. Please make your own hotel and transportation plans for any days outside of the Maranatha project dates. The Maranatha dates are firm and any extra travel must coincide with the arrival and departure windows above. If you have any questions, feel free to call Maranatha at (916) 774-7700.

### Travel Resources

**CI Azumano Travel:** 800-454-4099 or by email with Erle Dpenha or Azumano Team at [corporatetravel@ciazumano.com](mailto:corporatetravel@ciazumano.com)

**Butler Travel:** 503-879-5005 or by email with Nathanael at [nathan@butlertravel.com](mailto:nathan@butlertravel.com) or with Ellen at [ellen@butlertravel.com](mailto:ellen@butlertravel.com).

**Kayak:** [www.kayak.com](http://www.kayak.com)



### Facts and Figures

**Capital:** Nairobi

**Population:** 45.9 million

**Language:** Kiswahili, English, and indigenous languages

**Climate:** Tropical along coast. Arid inland

**Religion:** Christian 83%, Muslim 11%

**Currency:** Kenyan shilling

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

## Entry Requirements

**Passport** | All passports must be valid for at least six months from the dates of intended travel (December 28, 2018). 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](http://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.

**Tourist Visa** | In addition to a passport, travelers must also have a valid tourist visa for the country of Kenya before traveling. A document with complete visa requirements and a travel itinerary with project addresses will be sent to you with your confirmation. The Kenyan visa is done online and is good for three months from date of issue, so Maranatha recommends waiting until the end of April. Currently, U.S. and Canadian visitors are also able to get visas upon arrival in Nairobi; however, Maranatha recommends processing the visa ahead of time to avoid the extra paperwork and delays when you arrive in Kenya.

Minors ages 16 and under do not need a Kenyan tourist visa, according to the Kenyan Department of Immigration Services.

If you are from a country other than the U.S. or Canada, please check with the Kenyan Embassy in your region for the most up-to-date entrance requirements.

## Traveling With Minors

If you are traveling with a legal minor (under the age of 18 on the date you depart), both parents or legal guardians must travel with the minor. Otherwise, you must have two parental consent forms notarized. This provides government entities with evidence that both guardians have consented to their child leaving the country with the other guardian and Maranatha. One original must be mailed to Maranatha, and the other original must stay with you while you travel. If a parent is divorced, the missing parent still needs to sign the form unless the parent traveling with the minor has sole legal custody. In that case, a copy of the divorce paperwork, indicating sole custody, must also be included. If a parent has died, a copy of the death certificate must be included.

You can download a PDF of the Parental Consent Form at [www.maranatha.org/resources](http://www.maranatha.org/resources). This form will ask for two people as appointees of the minor. The first appointee will be the guardian traveling with the child. The other will be Loretta Spivey, Maranatha's project coordinator for this Kenya Project..

## Staying Healthy

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

You may already have some of these vaccinations and they may still be good for this trip. Others you may deem unnecessary for this trip. Maranatha recommends that you schedule a consultation with your physician or a travel clinic to discuss the medical risks in Kenya and the ways to minimize them.

## Malaria, Yellow Fever, and Mosquitoes

Malaria and yellow fever are both life-threatening diseases, 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 prevented by a vaccination.

## 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 their 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](http://Maranatha.org) or over the phone.

## Contact Information

**Phone:** (916) 774-7700

**Fax:** (916) 774-7701

**Email:** [volunteer@maranatha.org](mailto:volunteer@maranatha.org)

**Website:** [www.maranatha.org](http://www.maranatha.org)

**Mailing Address:**

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

**Canadian Payments Only:**

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

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### 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.

**MARANATHA.ORG**

\*All confirmed volunteers on an International Maranatha Open Team receive a Maranatha t-shirt as part of their participation fee.

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