

Kenya Project

Information Packet

Location: Kajiado, Kenya

Project Dates: March 4-17, 2020

Total Fee: \$1,800 *

(participation fee of \$1,200 and excursion fee of \$600)

Children 12 and under: \$1,650

(Age determined on the start date of the project)



**All amounts listed in document are in U.S. dollars.*

** International flights are 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 work at the Kajiado Adventist School and Rescue Center, located about 90 minutes from the capital city of Nairobi. This school started in 2000 with the mission to empower Maasai girls and give them a safe place to escape a culture that encourages child marriages and female genital mutilation (FGM). FGM is illegal in Kenya, but many Masai still encourage this harmful culture because of the dowry they receive, and it mostly happens in rural areas, where the law is more difficult to enforce.

Girls who do not want this future have no choice but to run away to a place like Kajiado. The girls who find the Kajiado Center essentially become orphans because their families do not want them to return as they have "disgraced" them. So the center takes care of the girls until they graduate from secondary school, or in some cases, university. It is a sad reality for many girls in Kenya, but the Kajiado Center has provided hope and a better future for more than 2,000 girls since its inauguration. On top of that, there are still more girls on the waiting list.

When Maranatha first visited Kajiado the campus was currently comprised of 11 classrooms, a dining hall, and an inadequate,

Project Schedule

Wednesday, March 4
Evening arrivals in Nairobi and travel to Kajiado

Thursday, March 5
Orientation and first work day

Friday, March 6
Work day

Saturday, March 7
Worship in a Maasai village

Sunday - Friday, March 8-13
Work days

Saturday, March 14
Worship at the Kajiado Adventist Church

Sunday, March 15
Travel to Amboseli National Park, full day safari

Monday, March 16
Full day safari

Tuesday, March 17
Return to Nairobi, Giraffe Centre, shopping, evening departures from Nairobi

overcrowded girls dormitory where several girls had to sleep in each twin bed. In addition, one of the classrooms was being used as a boys dorm. The school also educates boys because they have come to understand how important it is for the girls to form healthy, appropriate relationships with boys in the process of their education. While the girls don't pay to live at the school, the boys do pay tuition, providing much-needed funding for the school budget.

Currently, the school is in desperate need of new dormitories and bathroom facilities for both the girls and boys, as well as a new administration building. Maranatha has also agreed to build a secondary school for the campus so that the girls can continue their education in this safe environment.

Maranatha volunteers started work at Kajiado in February of 2019 with the construction of two dormitories for the younger girls. Volunteers on this project will continue the work at Kajiado. The assignment of which exact building the group will work on is still to be determined.

During the project, volunteers will have the opportunity to visit and worship with an Adventist congregation of the Maasai tribe. In this village, you will have the rare opportunity to witness tribal life in Kenya.

The volunteers on this project will also have the unique opportunity of working with the students at Kajiado. They would be greatly impacted by creative children's programs and health education, as well as spending time with child counselors who have experience working with children who have a history of trauma. If you are interested in leading or helping with any of these activities, please contact Maranatha.

Accommodations

During the project, the group will stay at the Enchula Resort in Kajiado. It is approximately 90 minutes from Nairobi and about 10 minutes to the job site at the Kajiado School.



The hotel is quite nice with clean rooms, comfortably furnished with either two twin beds or one queen. Each room has a private bathroom with hot water. Linens are provided, but plan on bringing your own washcloths. The rooms do not have AC. Weather in Kajiado will range from the 60s to 80s Fahrenheit during this time frame. If you want it to be cooler, you may consider bringing a battery-operated fan to use during the project. WiFi is available, but it will not be as fast of a connection as what you might expect at home.

The group will meet together for meals and worship at the hotel. Each day, the group will travel to the Kajiado School by private buses.

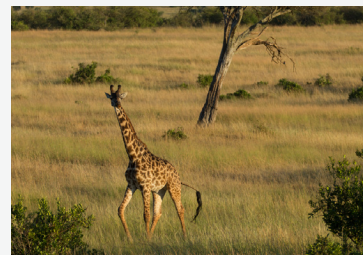
On the excursion, the group will stay at the beautiful Sopa Lodge at Amboseli National Park. The hotel rooms are large with queen and king size beds, mosquito nets, hot water, WiFi, and private bathrooms. For more information and photos visit: www.sopalodges.com/amboseli-sopa-lodge/overview

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 before the final deadline for the project (February 3). During the project, there may be some single occupancy rooms available for an extra cost of \$500 per person. Single occupancy rooms on the excursion have an additional cost of \$250 per person. If you are interested in a single occupancy room, please email volunteer@maranatha.org or call (916) 774-7700.

Excursion: Masai Mara and Nairobi

Maranatha projects usually include a short excursion as part of the Maranatha experience. If you choose to add any additional trips not in Maranatha's plans, please plan to do those either before or after the project dates so you won't miss out on any of the Maranatha experience.

At the end of the project, volunteers will experience some of Kenya's extraordinary wildlife. On Sunday morning, the volunteers will depart from Kajiado and drive approximately two hours to Amboseli National Park.



Located southeast of Nairobi, on the Kenya-Tanzania border, Amboseli National Park is one of the top ten national reserves in Kenya and boasts amazing views of Mount Kilimanjaro. The park is famous for being the best place in Africa to get close to free-ranging elephants, and it is possible to see the “Big Five” (lion, leopard, water buffalo, rhinoceros, and elephant), as well as many other wild animals including cheetahs, giraffes, zebras, antelopes, crocodiles, and much more! The group will spend two full days in the park.

On Tuesday, the group will return to Nairobi, where they’ll visit one of the city’s most popular attractions: The Giraffe Centre. Here volunteers will get to experience an up-close-and-personal encounter with giraffes. Then volunteers will stop at a local market for souvenir shopping before heading to the airport that evening for their flights home.

The excursion is considered part of the 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 | Project Coordinator

Loretta has volunteered with Maranatha since 2003 when she joined the Ultimate Workout as an Insight magazine reporter. Throughout the years she has served as an outreach coordinator, spiritual coordinator, and project coordinator for many different open team projects. Although the Pittsburgh Steelers will always hold their allegiance, Loretta, her husband Darryl, and their five amazing children, now call North Carolina home. While not on a Maranatha project, Loretta works as a writer. Her leadership of Maranatha projects focuses on connecting volunteers with Christ, and she looks forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will work on this project.



Lorin Rubbert | Construction Superintendent

Lorin is from North Dakota, where he resides with his wife Luanne and works as a construction superintendent in the oil industry. He has also worked as a farmer and pilot for more than 40 years. He likes spending time in his remote wilderness cabin in northern Saskatchewan, where he enjoys photography, flying, and hanging out with family and friends. Lorin became involved with Maranatha after reading a copy of Maranatha’s magazine, The Volunteer. After his first trip, he fell in love with India and the people he met there, and he has returned to serve as a construction superintendent for many Maranatha projects in India. On this trip, Lorin will be heading to Kenya to lead the construction aspect of the project in Kajiado.



Expenses

All amounts listed are in U.S. dollars.

The total fee of \$1,800 covers housing, three vegetarian meals a day, ground transportation to and from the airport and project site, translators, local 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 \$1,200 (which is tax-deductible) and an excursion fee of \$600 (which is not tax-deductible).

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by February 3 due to application processing time. Wait for confirmation of acceptance on the project before purchasing your airfare.

Payments can be made by cash or check sent to the Maranatha office in California (please include your name and “Kenya Project – March 2020”) 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:** \$900 - \$1,500
- **Passport:** \$130 or \$110 for renewal
- **Visa:** \$51 + service charge
- **Yellow Fever Vaccine:** \$75-200

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.

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 Mombasa 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 in the highlands. Kenya eventually received its independence in December 1963.

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 a long wait at the airport until our leaders arrive, or you may be responsible for paying the additional transportation expense for your individual airport transfer.

Please complete the online registration and wait for confirmation from Maranatha before purchasing your airfare to ensure there is still space on the project. Once everyone has arrived at the airport, volunteers will travel together by bus to the project location.

Flights

Arrival | Please plan to arrive in Nairobi (airport code NBO) between 6 p.m.* and 10 p.m., in the evening of Wednesday, March 4.

**There is a flight on Ethiopian Airlines that gets in around 2 p.m. You are more than welcome to book this flight, but you will need to wait at the airport until we can send someone to meet you during the scheduled flight arrival window.*

Departure | Please plan to depart from Nairobi (NBO) anytime after 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, March 17.



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

Arriving Early or Staying Late?

Kenya has some beautiful travel destinations. Some of you may choose to arrive earlier than March 4 or stay beyond March 17 to explore the country on your own. Since our volunteers bring so much to the shared experience of the project, we ask that volunteers be a part of the entire Maranatha project during the advertised dates. Please plan any additional travel before or after the Maranatha project dates to avoid mid-project interruptions. Those choosing to add additional travel are responsible for making their own hotel and transportation arrangements for the time outside of the arrival and departure windows listed above. If you have any questions, please 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

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, mention Maranatha to receive a discounted service charge.

Entry Requirements

Below are the requirements for U.S. and Canadian citizens. If you hold a passport from another country, please consult the Kenyan embassy or consulate in your home country for entrance requirements.

Passport | All passports must be valid for at least six months from the date of intended travel (September 17, 2020). 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.

Tourist Visa | In addition to a passport, travelers must also have a valid tourist visa for the country of Kenya. 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 good for three months from the date of issue, so Maranatha recommends waiting until the first of January to apply. 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 15 and under do not need a Kenyan tourist visa, according to the Kenyan Department of Immigration Services.

Staying Healthy

Maranatha requires every volunteer to 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. 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 mosquitoes. 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 about malaria and yellow fever prevention. 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 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

Social Media

Share your mission trip with family and friends! And be sure to tag us on social media!



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@gomaranatha



@maranatha

Use our hashtag,
#maranathavolunteersinternational
when posting, so we can feature
your trip!

THE MARANATHA

STORE

BUY MARANATHA MERCHANDISE!

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

2019 MARANATHA T-SHIRT \$10



The 2019 Maranatha shirt features a 50th anniversary logo on the sleeve, made with a poly/cotton heather blend by Bella + Canvas. Mens cut only; color is "heather deep teal."

HARD HAT \$13



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

MARANATHA.ORG

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



TO ORDER, VISIT MARANATHA.ORG/STORE OR CALL (916) 774-7700

All prices are excluding sales tax and shipping.

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. Available in Khaki and Navy.

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.

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