

Kenya Project

Information Packet

Location: Kajiado, Kenya

Project Dates: June 11 - 23, 2020

Total Fee: \$1,800*

(participation fee of \$1,150 and excursion fee of \$650)

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 Maasai still encourage this harmful cultural ritual because of the dowry they receive. 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 comprised of 11 classrooms, a dining

Project Schedule

Thursday, June 11

Evening arrivals in Nairobi and travel to Kajiado

Friday, June 12

Orientation and first work day

Saturday, June 13

Worship in a Maasai village

Sunday, June 14 - Friday, June 19

Work days with midweek excursion to Amboseli National Park

Saturday, June 20

Worship at the Kajiado Adventist Church

Sunday, June 21

Travel to Masai Mara National Park, afternoon safari

Monday, June 22

Full day safari

Tuesday, June 23

Travel to Nairobi, shopping, evening departures from Nairobi

hall, and an inadequate, overcrowded girls' dormitory where three or four 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. Since beginning work on the campus in February of 2019, Maranatha volunteers have built new dormitories, bathrooms, an administration building, and classrooms. Volunteers on this project will continue the work at Kajiado by building new classrooms for the secondary school.

During the project, volunteers will have 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. The students would be greatly impacted by creative children's programs and health education, as well as spending time with 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 Tumaini Gardens Hotel in Kajiado. It is approximately 90 minutes from Nairobi and about 15 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, with corresponding mosquito nets. 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. A pool is located on the hotel grounds.



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

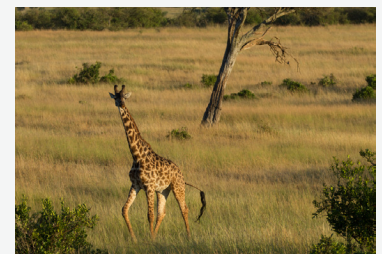
On the excursion, the group will stay at the beautiful Sopa Lodge. The hotel rooms are large with queen and king size beds, mosquito nets, hot water, WiFi, and private bathrooms.

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 (May 11). 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.

Excursions: Safari and Nairobi

Maranatha projects usually include a short excursion as part of the Maranatha experience. If you choose to add any additional trips that are 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.

The group will take a day off during the work week and visit Amboseli National Park on the Kenya-Tanzania border and about an hour from Kajiado. Amboseli 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!

At the end of the project, volunteers will travel to Masai Mara National Park, which is one of the largest parks in Kenya and is famous for the “Great Migration” where wildebeest, zebra, and many other animals travel between the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania and the Masai Mara in Kenya. This park is known for great viewing of the “Big Five” and many visitors see lions. On Sunday, the group will travel approximately seven hours to the park and enjoy an afternoon safari drive. They will spend the night at the beautiful Sopa Lodge and the following day enjoy an all-day safari with a sack lunch.

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.



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 \$1,150 (which is tax-deductible) and an excursion fee of \$650 (which is not tax-deductible).

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by May 11 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 – June 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 donations 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 for your participation fee before submitting it 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:** \$75-300

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 long wait times at the airport or be responsible for paying the additional transportation costs 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. Volunteers will travel together, by bus, to the project location.

Flights

Arrival | Please arrive in Nairobi (airport code NBO) between 6:00* p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 11.

**There is a flight on Ethiopian Airlines that gets in around 2:00 p.m. You're welcome to book this flight, but you will need to wait at the airport until the start of the scheduled pick up window.*

Departure | Please depart from Nairobi (NBO) anytime after 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23.

Arriving Early or Staying Late?

Kenya has some beautiful travel destinations. Some of you may choose to arrive before the project or stay after 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. They should plan



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

any additional travel before or after the Maranatha project dates to avoid any 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, 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
- **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 dates of intended travel (December 23, 2020). If you do not have a passport, United States (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 April 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.

Traveling With Minors

As countries continue to crack down on child-trafficking, it can make traveling with your child a little more difficult. Maranatha recommends that parents bring a copy of their child's birth certificate to prove the parent/child relationship in case you are questioned at immigration or hotels. Even if your child is a teenager, it can be important to have their birth certificate with you.

If a legal minor (under the age of 18 on the date you depart) is traveling without both parents or legal guardians, Maranatha also requires that two parental consent forms be completed and notarized. This form provides government entities with evidence that both guardians have consented to their child leaving the country with an appointed 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.

If you haven't already sent these forms to Maranatha, you can download a PDF of the Parental Consent Form at 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 for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommends vaccines for hepatitis A, 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.

How to Register

To register, please complete the online registration and pay the full participation fee or an initial deposit for at least half the total participation fee. You can make this payment by credit card online, over the phone, or with a check made out to Maranatha Volunteers International and mailed 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

Social Media

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



@maranathavolunteersinternational



@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.*

2020 MARANATHA T-SHIRT \$10



The 2020 Maranatha shirt is a poly/cotton heather blend by Bella + Canvas. Color is "heather true royal"; unisex sizing.

HARD HAT \$13



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.

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.

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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