

EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

Insight Trip to DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

July 20 – 27, 2012

TRAVEL TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO to experience how Opportunity's newest bank in the capital city of Kinshasa is bringing hope and transformation to people who have never had access to basic financial services. Each morning, put on your walking shoes to be inspired by the richness found in the life experiences of our clients, loan officers and staff. As you explore their world, discover the impact of savings, loans, insurance and training on families and communities.

SPEND TIME IN AN URBAN MARKETPLACE AND IN RURAL VILLAGES hearing stories of our clients' struggles and successes. Meet with Trust Groups as members pay back their loans, give each other moral support, and receive training from their loan officers. Then visit with individual members at their homes and places of business.

AFTER A BUSY WEEK, RELAX IN A BEAUTIFUL PARK outside Kinshasa featuring an ape sanctuary, botanical garden and historical fish market. Leave the DRC with wonderful memories, new friends and a commitment to become more involved in Opportunity's movement to end global poverty.

Odette Ngonza (left) and Monique Moseka Mwenbu (right) have received loans and training from Opportunity DRC Loan Officer Henriette Ndjoka Wembonyama. Odette says, "Thanks to Opportunity, we are now a family."



Itinerary

FRIDAY, JULY 20: Depart for Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

SATURDAY, JULY 21: Arrive this evening. Local Opportunity staff will meet you and take you to check in at the Hotel Memling, Kinshasa.

SUNDAY, JULY 22: After breakfast, attend church service with Opportunity staff at the International Protestant Church of Kinshasa, sleep in or enjoy a tour of the artist colony/tourist area called “Gombe” district. This is a great time and place to purchase souvenirs. Spend today recovering from your long international flight.

MONDAY, JULY 23: Join your fellow travelers for a breakfast orientation with Opportunity International-DRC/ CEO, Gilbert Lagaille and his management staff. Visit the main branch to meet leadership and staff. After lunch, spend the afternoon in the field meeting Opportunity clients.

TUESDAY, JULY 24: Spend the morning touring the Grand Marche in Masina, a million plus people inhabit this enormous marketplace where many of Opportunity International DRC clients own businesses. Break for lunch before heading back to the market for a Trust Group meeting and one on one client visits.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25: Visit Biamba Marie Mutombo Hospital founded by Opportunity Board of Advisor and NBA Star Dikembe Mutombo located in Messina, north of Kinshasa one of the most densely populated and impoverished areas of the capital. After a brief welcome address by Chief Administrator Mr. Manunga enjoy a tour of the hospital lead by the head physician. Spend the afternoon participating in a optional service project at the Mutombo Hospital which may include planting a flower garden or painting a mural on one of the hospital's waiting area walls.

THURSDAY, JULY 26: Spend the day visiting Opportunity DRC rural branches.

FRIDAY, JULY 27: Today enjoy a tour of Bonobo Ape Sanctuary. The park is called “Lola ya Bonobo” at Mont Ngafula—about an hour outside of the city. Visit the Kisantu Botanical Garden and see Kinkole Fish Market. This historical fish market has been set up to honor local fishermen who have contributed to the development of the economy of the region. A sumptuous meal of liboke with palm wine is an added attraction of this trip. Return home from this life changing trip with lasting memories.

OUR PRIMARY FOCUS IS YOUR SAFETY AND COMFORT

In our 20 years of conducting Insight Trips, we have always provided a safe and rewarding visit for our participants. Every trip is carefully planned in conjunction with local Opportunity staff and hospitality experts to ensure your safety and comfort. We will also offer you a guidebook that includes everything you need to know about traveling in that particular country.

Registration

HERE IS HOW TO REGISTER FOR YOUR INSIGHT TRIP:

- 1) Contact Regional Director, Carrie Slease or Coordinator, Janet Borth in Opportunity's international education department, at jborth@opportunity.org or 630-242-4125. Registration deadline is May 31, 2012 (Early registration discount of \$150 per person applies if registered by April 2, 2012.)

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- 2) Go to opportunity.org/insight
Complete the registration form and submit payment to secure your place.

SUMMARY OF COSTS:

\$3,130 payment to Opportunity International

Includes, all meals and beverages, hotel and tax (based on double occupancy), gratuity, local transportation, airport transfers, translator services, emergency evacuation insurance, partner staff and security costs, optional tours, all guides, and park entry fees. Does not include, U.S. – Kinshasa roundtrip air, incidentals, shots, passports, souvenirs and alcohol.

\$1,850 estimated airfare (from Chicago)
Airfare to be booked and paid for by the traveler.

\$4,980 total cost estimate

- 3) Make flight arrangements on your own or contact ADTRAV, Opportunity's preferred travel partner, at opportunitytravel@adtrav.com.
- 4) Prepare for departure. Make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after your intended departure date. Visit www.vp2go.com for assistance in obtaining a passport. Consult your doctor for any necessary immunizations and vaccines. For a traveler's health clinic near you, go to www.cdc.gov/travel.

To learn more, visit opportunity.org

Opportunity International is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Spotlight on DRC

LOCATION: Central Africa

CLIMATE: Tropical. hot and humid

TERRAIN: Vast Central Basin in a low lying plateau, mountains in the east

POPULATION: 71, 712,867

LANGUAGE: French, Swahili

GDP PER CAPITA: \$300