

EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

Insight Trip to GHANA

June 1 – 8, 2012

PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES each morning to see firsthand Opportunity International's innovative approach to educational finance in helping to break the cycle of poverty in the next generation. Meet with school proprietors receiving loans hoping to boost the development of their schools for children in rural and urban areas throughout Ghana. Learn about our dreams for building a sustainable, holistic, educational model that can be supported through microfinance loans and replicated throughout the developing world.

FALL IN LOVE with the children of Ghana as you participate in service projects at a school in Kumasi and in Accra. Discover the critical role these schools play in children's futures.

VISIT OUR THRIVING BANK in Accra and participate in Trust Group meetings where you'll hear stories of our clients' struggles and successes and see development in action. Near the end of your stay, travel to Cape Coast to see Ghana's historical and cultural highlights, including the unforgettable Elmina Castle and Slave Fort.

THROUGH YOUR EXPERIENCES, you'll envision a world in which all God's children have access to the quality education they need to secure higher paying jobs, build strong families and help in the economic development of their countries. You'll leave Ghana with amazing memories, new friends and a renewed sense of how you personally can help make that world a reality.

Joyce Opoku dreamed of starting an early childhood facility that would help provide children living in poverty with a good foundation for first grade. In 2005, the Lucky Child Daycare Center opened with seven pupils in a concrete block house in a poor suburb of Kumasi, Ghana. As the school proprietor, Joyce received 16 weeks of training in business management and accounting skills, and took out a six-month loan of 2,000 cedis (\$1,300) improve the facility. Joyce has since repaid the loan, is better able to manage the school's finances and is helping 150 children embark on the path to a better future.



Itinerary

FRIDAY, JUNE 1: Depart for Accra, Ghana.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2: Arrive in Accra this evening. You will be met by Novotel Hotel's shuttle service and taken to the Novotel Hotel. Have dinner on your own and get a good night's rest.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3: After breakfast, attend church service with Opportunity staff in Accra, sleep in or enjoy a city tour. Relax or shop in the local market this afternoon. Attend an early evening orientation and dinner at the hotel before getting a good night's sleep.

MONDAY, JUNE 4: After breakfast, meet with OISL leadership and get an overview of their educational finance program. Spend the day in the field visiting Opportunity International funded schools. Share conversation and dinner with OISAL's CEO, Cosmus Kowuoche for traditional African fare to discuss the day's events.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5: Participate in a service project with students and staff at Opportunity funded school. Have dinner with Ghanaian Government officials involved in education.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6: In the early morning, fly to Kumasi where you will meet Opportunity staff and leaders at our Kumasi branch. Get an overview of Opportunity's plan to reach more Ghanaians living in poverty, and visit with rural Trust Groups and clients. Check into the Golden Tulip Hotel where you will enjoy a poolside dinner with African entertainment.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7: After breakfast check out of your hotel before touring an Opportunity funded school. Participate in a service project with school staff and students. Fly back to Accra late this afternoon and check into your hotel and relax before a debrief dinner with your fellow travelers and Opportunity Ghana leadership.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8: Sleep in and relax or take a city tour of Accra today. You can take a day trip to Elmina Castle where you will tour the slave Fort on the Cape Coast, or spend the day on one of the world's most magnificent beaches. Freshen up for a farewell dinner with your traveling companions before heading to the airport to catch your departure home. Fly out tonight with lasting memories and a renewed vision for how you can help end global poverty.

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.

To learn more, visit opportunity.org

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

Registration

HERE IS HOW TO REGISTER FOR YOUR INSIGHT TRIP:

1) Contact your regional director or Janet Borth in Opportunity's international education department, at jborth@opportunity.org or 630-242-4125.
Registration deadline is April 06, 2012.
Early registration discount of \$150 per person applies if registered by February 3, 2012.

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

SUMMARY OF COSTS:

\$3,038 payment to Opportunity International
Includes, all meals and beverages, hotel (based on double occupancy), gratuity, local transportation, airport transfers, translator services, emergency evacuation insurance, partner and staff costs, one day tour. Does not include U.S. – Accra round-trip air, optional tour, incidentals, shots, passports, souvenirs or alcohol.

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

\$4,888 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.

Spotlight on GHANA

LOCATION: Western Africa bordering the Gulf of Guinea, between Cote D'Ivoire and Togo

CLIMATE: Tropical, warm and dry along southeast coast

TERRAIN: Mostly low plains

POPULATION: 23,350,927

LANGUAGE: English and African languages, including Akan, Moshi-Dagomba, Ewe and Ga

GDP PER CAPITA: \$1,400