

KENYA

AND

ETHiOPiA

ADD-ON



**ACTS OF
WISDOM**



**VOLUNTEER &
EXPLORE KENYA**



HOW IT STARTED:

In 2013, our founder, Brad Otto, embarked on a mission with his home church to build water wells and address the water crisis in Ethiopia. During a visit to an open-air market, a brother and sister approached him with a simple request. As Brad didn't speak Amharic, he turned to the group's guide, Yohannes, to understand their plea. To his surprise, they were asking for a pen—just a pen so they could do their homework.

This humble request for a basic tool, rather than money or food, profoundly impacted Brad. It underscored the vital role of education in providing hope and a pathway out of poverty. Education is one of the top three factors that can help lift individuals out of poverty, yet 145 million children worldwide lack access to it. Even those who can attend school often face severe shortages in stationery, essential resources like water, books, adequate facilities, and teaching aids.

Since 2014, Acts of Wisdom has been dedicated to addressing these needs in schools across Ethiopia, Liberia, and Uganda. We all seek to make a difference, and we believe that focusing on education offers the most significant impact. By nurturing important social connections through education, we can create lasting positive change, fostering love, care and a better world. Peace begins with education.

WHAT WE DO:

Acts of Wisdom's primary goal is to make the schools we serve some of the top schools in their areas. And we are doing that. From providing school books, and school supplies, expanding classrooms, building libraries, and ensuring the teachers have the proper materials to teach.

Acts of Wisdom has brought down dropout rates **from 35% to .9%**, and our schools are at the top when it comes to students' performance.

In our programs we make sure all of our students have not only their school supplies, but also nutritious meals.

For our girls who represent 60% of our student population we also offer them a place to stay while on their periods, a place where they feel safe, they have access to sanitary products, and can stay in a clean environment and most importantly are able to continue their education with no interruptions.

REQUIREMENTS

A passport that's valid for more than 6 months.

Valid travel VISA.

Yellow Fever Vaccination Card.

All travel recommended vaccines. Please see CDC website for the latest recommendations.

Open heart and flexibility to adapt while volunteering.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Your travel fees helps us cover the cost of daily transportation, airfare, accommodations, breakfast and dinner, park entrance fees. What's not included is alcohol purchases and souvenirs and tips to support our tour guides and translators. Some lunches will also be on your own.

Please note that Acts of wisdom is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. The program fees for this trip do not generate direct financial contributions to the organization.

Aside from your normal packing essentials we recommend:

- Lightweight, breathable clothing: Preferably cotton or moisture-wicking fabric, Kenya has a tropical climate, so expect hot and humid weather.
- Rain gear: compact umbrella or lightweight rain jacket
- Comfortable walking shoes and sandals : For exploring cities and rural areas.
- Wide-brim hat or cap: For sun protection.
- Swimsuit: Liberia has beautiful beaches.
- Universal travel adapter: Kenya uses Type A, B, or C plugs with 120V/60Hz power.
- Reusable water bottle with filter.

Good to know:

- Kenya is relatively conservative, so avoid overly revealing attire, especially in rural areas.
- Kenya's official **language is Swahili and English widely used and spoken**, but you will have your tour guide with you at all times. Ethiopia's official language is Amharic.
- Make copies of your travel documents (passport) and carry it with you, we recommend you leave your valuables in a safeplace at the hotel.

WHAT TO PACK

DAY 1 - 2 TRAVELING TO KENYA

DEPARTING FRIDAY
MARCH 6TH

Depart Houston late afternoon/early evening to Nairobi.
We arrive in Nairobi late Saturday evening. Transfer to hotel.

DAY 3 MAR. 8- TRAVEL TO NAKURU

MORNING
(7.00)
TRAVEL
(10.00)
DINNER
(18:00)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart Hotel and Travel to Nakuru
to checkin in at Airbnb and say
hello to our guides and hosts for
the trip.
Dinner at Airbnb.

EXPLORE
KENYA
MARCH 6TH -
13TH

DAY 4 MAR. 9- VOLUNTEER AT THE SCHOOL

MORNING
(7.00 - 8.00)
VOLUNTEER
(8.00 - 16.00)
EVENING
(17.00 - 19.00)

Breakfast at the Airbnb.

Visit Solai Nyakinyua Elementary School.
Welcome ceremony, visit with staff and
students on accomplishments.

Drive back to the Airbnb for dinner.

DAY 5 MAR. 10- VOLUNTEER AT THE SCHOOL

MORNING
(7.00 - 8.00)
VOLUNTEER
(8.00 - 16.00)
EVENING
(17.00 - 19.00)

Breakfast at the Airbnb.

Visit School and deliver supplies if needed,
interact with students, and watch student
program.

Drive back to the Airbnb for dinner.

DAY 6 MAR. 11- SOLAI COFFEE FARM

MORNING
(7.00 - 12.00)

Breakfast at the hotel.

EXPLORE
(12.00 - 17.00)

Visit Solai Coffee Farm and learn about the coffee process in Africa. *Acts of Wisdom partners with Solai Coffee to not only help farmers but reinvest in the school.*

DAY 7 MAR. 12- SAFARI

MORNING
(7.00 - 12.00)

Breakfast at the hotel.

EXPLORE
(12.00 - 17.00)

Safari in the morning and then late lunch at Lake Nakuru (Lunch is on your own this day)

DAY 8 MAR. 13- SIGHTSEEING TBD

MORNING
(7.00 - 8.00)

Breakfast at the hotel.

VOLUNTEER
(8.00 - 10.00)

After breakfast we will drive to the school for our last day of volunteering with the kids.

EVENING
(10.00 - 19.00)

End of Day sight seeing to be determined.

DAY 9 MAR. 13 - TRAVEL DAY

MORNING
(7.00 - 8.00)

Breakfast at the hotel.

TRAVEL
(8.00 - 20.00)

Departures to either the United States or for those with Ethiopia add-on to Addis Ababa

DAY 10 MAR. 15 - TRAVEL AND SIGHTSEEING

MORNING

Fly to Gonder

SIGHTSEEING

Sightseeing of the historical and religious sites of the medieval city.

EVENING

Dinner

DAY 11 MAR. 16- VOLUNTEERING AT THE SCHOOL

MORNING

(7.00 - 8.00)

Breakfast at the hotel

VOLUNTEER

(8.00 - 12.00)

Drive to QolaDiba and visit the project sites and volunteer with the kids.

EVENING

(17.00 - 19.00)

Dinner

DAY 12 MAR. 17 - DAY OUT

MORNING

(7.00 - 8.00)

Breakfast at the hotel.

DAY OUT

(8.00 - 19.00)

Have a day out in QolaDida and the surrounding area

DAY 13 MAR. 18 - TRAVEL DAY

MORNING

Breakfast at the hotel.

TRAVEL

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Addis, connect the other flight to Mekelle: on arrival at Mekelle we will drive to Alamata.

DAY 14 MAR. 19 - VISIT SCHOOLS

MORNING

(7.00 - 8.00)

Breakfast at the hotel

TOUR

(8.00 - 19.00)

Have a visit to the schools and other socio-economic infrastructures which were destroyed because of the war Ethiopia had years ago

DAY 15 MAR. 20 - TRAVEL AND FAREWELL

MORNING

Drive to Mekelle and catch the flight back to Addis.

AFTERNOON

Spend time with family, shopping and farewell dinner

EVENING

Transfer to the airport for the flight back to the United States

DAY 16 MAR. 21 - TRAVEL

AFTERNOON

Arrive back in the United States



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

1. Do I need a visa to travel to Kenya or Ethiopia?

Yes, U.S. citizens are required to obtain a visa to enter both countries. You'll need a **valid passport (with at least six months of validity beyond your travel dates)**, a completed visa application, a recent passport photo, and a copy of your travel itinerary. **Processing times vary.**

2. What vaccinations are required before traveling to Kenya or Ethiopia?

The Yellow Fever vaccination is mandatory for all travelers entering both countries, and you'll need to carry a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate as proof.

Other recommended vaccinations include: Hepatitis A and B, and you should also consider taking anti-malaria medication and bring mosquito repellent to prevent mosquito-borne illnesses.

3. How long is the flight from the U.S. to Kenya, and what is the best way to get there?

The total flight time from the U.S. to Kenya depends on your departure city and layovers. The journey typically takes 15–20 hours.

4. What currency is used in Kenya and Ethiopia, and should I exchange money before arriving?

We will help you exchange money once we arrive in the country.

5. What are the key health and safety tips for traveling to Kenya and Ethiopia?

Health: Drink only bottled or filtered water, and avoid ice or uncooked foods that may have been washed in unclean water.

Safety: Both countries are generally safe for travelers, but petty theft can occur. Keep your belongings secure, and with you at all times and avoid walking alone at night, especially in unfamiliar areas.



TRAVEL FEES \$2,250

For Kenya only. Single occupancy add \$200.

ETHIOPIA ADD-ON \$1,700

Single occupancy add \$300.

FROM OUR FOUNDER. BRAD OTTO

As the founder of Acts of Wisdom, I want to personally thank you for taking the time to learn more about our mission and the work we are doing across Africa. Your visit means more than words can express—not only to me but to the children, families, and communities we serve.

It is no small thing to give your time and energy to come all the way here, to walk alongside us, and to see firsthand the impact of the work we do. Meeting the children in our programs, hearing their laughter, and witnessing their determination to learn and grow is something I hope stays with you as it does with me every day.

I hope you leave with a heart full of joy, unforgettable memories, and a deeper connection to the power of education in transforming lives. From the vibrant classrooms to the eager smiles of our students, every corner of this journey tells the story of resilience, hope, and the belief that education can and does change everything.

As you return home, I ask you to help us share these stories. Spread the word about the incredible potential these children hold and the urgent need to support their dreams. Together, we can inspire more people to join us in building a brighter future through education.

From all of us at Acts of Wisdom, thank you for being part of this journey. Your presence here, your compassion, and your willingness to engage mean the world to us. We are truly grateful for your support and hope to welcome you back one day to witness how your encouragement and advocacy continue to shape lives.

With gratitude and blessings,

Brad Otto
Founder, Acts of Wisdom

THANK YOU!



ACTSOFWISDOM