

COMPASSION FIELD EXPERIENCE
UGANDA

FEBRUARY 2017



COMPASSION INSIGHT TRIP TO UGANDA

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY – MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2017

Compassion is excited to offer you the opportunity to be involved in an amazing Insight Trip to Uganda.

This Field Experience will give people the chance to experience Compassion's work firsthand and meet our incredible workers in the developing world. This is your opportunity to see how Compassion works and to judge for yourself if it truly does transform the lives of children living in poverty.

Please Note: Dates may change slightly depending on availability. We will inform you of any changes as soon as possible.



OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

This Insight Trip is to Uganda. This Field Experience will be fully hosted by Compassion staff. We plan to depart Australia on Wednesday 15 February 2017 and arrive back on Monday 27 February 2017; however, these dates may change depending on the availability of flights.

The principal purpose of the Field Experience is to see how Compassion works with local churches to provide critical, ongoing support from the womb to the workforce to children, families and communities through four core programs:

- Child Survival Program
- Child Sponsorship Program
- Leadership Development Program
- Critical Interventions

During this Field Experience, you will experience firsthand the everyday issues and challenges confronting those living in poverty. You will be able to talk directly to parents, children, church leaders and our dedicated local staff to gain a better understanding of poverty, its forms and its solutions. Australians support Critical Interventions by giving to Critical Needs, and support the Child Survival Program through the Mums and Babies Critical Need.

You will be challenged and inspired—perhaps even bewildered or angered—as well as changed by what you see, hear and experience, and by the relationships you will form.

In Uganda, you will visit mothers and their infants in our Child Survival Program and see firsthand the many ways children benefit from our Child Sponsorship Program. You will have the opportunity to meet with the students in the Leadership Development Program. Finally, you will see the incredible work of our Critical Interventions, from providing fresh water wells and sanitation, to potentially life-saving medical interventions that help to protect children.

Compassion's Holistic Child Development Model



 Funded through local and sponsorship resources

 Funded through non-sponsorship resources



COMPASSION IN UGANDA

COUNTRY STATISTICS

Capital:

Kampala

Population:

37.10 million

Adult literacy rate*:

Male 85.3%, Female 71.5%

Access to improved drinking water:

Urban 95.5%, Rural 75.8%

Life expectancy:

Male 53.54 years, Female 56.36 years

Religion:

Roman Catholic 41.9%, Protestant 42%, Muslim 12.1%, other 3.1%, none 0.9%

Infant mortality rate**:

59.21/1000

Percentage living below the poverty line:

19.7%



*Percentage of persons aged 15 and over who can read and write

** Number of deaths of infants under one year old in a given year per 1000 live births in the same year



FAST FACTS

- Uganda is subject to armed fighting amongst hostile ethnic groups, rebels, armed gangs, militias, and various government forces.
- One-third of Ugandan children suffer from growth stunting, an often irreversible condition resulting from chronic malnutrition during early childhood.
- Uganda is vulnerable to changes in the world price of coffee, its main export earner.
- Forty per cent of Ugandan girls are married by age 18.

RELIGION

Christians constitute approximately 84 per cent of the population—41.9 per cent of the population are Roman Catholic, 35.9 per cent are Anglican, 4.6 per cent are Pentecostal and 1.5 per cent are Seventh-Day Adventist. Muslims comprise approximately 12 per cent, and a variety of other religions are practised, including traditional indigenous religions.

CURRENT ISSUES

Uganda continues to deal with the aftermath of the brutal two-decade long civil war which terrorised the country's north. The war, between rebel group the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), led by Joseph Kony, and government forces, is Africa's longest-running armed conflict. During their 26-year reign of terror, the LRA abducted more than 30,000 children, forcing them to become soldiers, weapon carriers, and sex slaves. At the height of the conflict, children accounted for approximately 90 per cent of the LRA's forces. Since the LRA was pushed out of Uganda—and into neighbouring countries—in 2006, the majority of the 1.8 million displaced people have returned home or resettled. However, 30,000 people remain displaced, unable to find durable solutions.

A generation of children remain traumatised by the war. Former child soldiers, some of whom were forced to commit atrocities on their own families, experience social stigmas and missed education opportunities. Girls kidnapped as 'wives' often return with children born in captivity, and many experience post-traumatic stress disorder. Former child soldiers must be rehabilitated and reintegrated into society, a process made difficult by a lack of resources.

Despite making progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS over the last two decades, the prevalence rate has again begun to rise and now affects over seven per cent of the Ugandan population. Nearly 1.5 million people live with HIV/AIDS in Uganda, with 64,000 deaths due to the disease every year. Uganda has one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in the world.

COMPASSION IN UGANDA

Compassion International began working in Uganda in 1980. Currently, over 92,300 children participate in Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program activities at 344 child development centres across Uganda. Compassion Australia assists more than 9800 of these children. Compassion's Child Survival Program and various Critical Interventions also operate throughout the country. Our goal is to reach out to Ugandan children; helping to provide them with the opportunity to rise above their circumstances and become all God has created them to be.

INSIGHT TRIP DETAILS

- Compassion Australia will arrange all flights, including transfers and transportation within Uganda, organise clean and comfortable accommodation and provide all meals and bottled water.
- It is the traveller's responsibility to seek medical advice regarding necessary immunisations or medication prior to leaving Australia.
- During the visit, the traveller will be hosted by local Compassion staff from Uganda, who will arrange all local travel and meals and will be on hand at all times to help with translation.
- There will be some time available for shopping, visiting local markets and sight-seeing. Our local staff will host and guide this time to ensure the traveller gets the most from the experience.
- Some travellers may wish to depart the main party at the conclusion of the visit in Uganda, and make their own arrangements to travel privately before they return to Australia. Compassion partners with Escape Travel, an Australian-based provider that can assist with personal travel arrangements.
- The Field Experience Leader will contact the traveller to provide them with further details, and also conduct pre-Field Experience training to prepare for the visit and help connect the members of the group.

“For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.”

—Isaiah 61:11, NIV



COST

The estimated cost of this Field Experience, including flights, accommodation, meals and internal transport, is \$4790 per person, based on twin-share accommodation and economy class airfares.

**Price is subject to airfares and exchange rate fluctuations. Final price will be advised once airfares have been confirmed.*

INVOICING

You will be issued with two invoices to cover the total cost of this Field Experience:

1. Invoice one will be for the three payments below. Each payment will be listed as a separate item on the invoice with its own due date.
 - Deposit of \$300 (or \$200 for an early bird rate), which must be paid by the due date on the invoice to secure your place on the Field Experience.
 - First instalment which will cover the bulk of the Field Experience costs, due approximately six months before the Field Experience.
 - Second instalment which will cover the balance of your Field Experience package, due approximately three months before the Field Experience.
2. Invoice two is for any additional costs related to visiting your sponsored child, and will be sent out one or two months before the Field Experience. If you do not incur any costs related to visiting your sponsored child, you will not receive this second invoice.

More information on invoicing will be sent to travellers closer to the date of departure.

What's covered in your total cost?

- International flights leaving from Sydney. Trips depart from Sydney and all travellers must depart with the group. [If feasible, occasional exceptions may be made for travellers from Western Australia.]
- Accommodation in Uganda
- Taxes
- On the ground travel costs
- Meals and bottled water
- Compassion Field Experience leader, local guides and translators
- Travel insurance

What's not covered in your total cost?

- Any extra travel you want to do outside of the trip schedule, including domestic flights in Australia to meet the group for departure
- Visas, if required
- Pre-travel vaccinations/immunisations and medications
- Costs related to meeting your sponsored child
- Any additional food requirements above what is supplied
- Any souvenirs or gifts you purchase during your travels

We will communicate any and all pricing changes immediately.

Please Note: a portion of the cost of your Field Experience is used to fund the travel of the Field Experience Leader. This allows Compassion to use as much of our supporters' gifts and donations as possible for our child development programs.



TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is required for the entire length of your travel and will be organised by the Compassion Travel Centre. You will be provided with the details of your travel insurance when your registration on the Field Experience has been finalised. Compassion Australia will not be liable for travellers who fail to comply with the travel insurance terms, conditions or other policy obligations.

VISAS

Compassion will contact you regarding visa requirements and associated Field Experience costs for your visit. Visa conditions may change at any time.

GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Compassion recommends that you check the Australian Government Smart Traveller website: www.smarttraveller.com.au for more information about travelling overseas and the country you will be visiting. Information available at this website includes country specific travel advice, health and safety information, and general travel tips.

BASIC TRIP OVERVIEW

On this Field Experience, we will spend our time in Uganda, with opportunities to travel through urban and rural areas.

The trip will include activities such as:

- Visiting Compassion's church-based projects and witnessing Compassion's ministry to children firsthand
- Meeting with individual families in their homes
- Meeting young leaders who have been sponsored through Compassion's program
- Games and activities with the children
- An opportunity for some sight-seeing and shopping at local markets

MEETING YOUR SPONSORED CHILD

If you sponsor a child with Compassion or have supported a critical intervention in Uganda, you may be able to visit at an additional cost. We will do our best to arrange this visit for you, and provide you with a cost estimate as quickly as possible. Please give us plenty of warning, as we will need to arrange these meetings well in advance of our departure. If you don't already sponsor a child in Uganda, why not do so before you go!

HOW TO REGISTER

To register for an Insight Trip:

- Visit www.compassion.com.au/insighttrip and complete the online form
- Or phone 1300 22 44 53 to speak to a Compassion Travel Centre representative

Once you have registered your interest, the relevant forms will be emailed to you for completion. Once these forms have been returned to Compassion, your registration can be completed.

CANCELLATIONS

Your deposit cannot be refunded if you decide not to go on the Insight Trip.

To ensure the best possible prices, airfares must be booked as soon as the team is finalised. This means if you cancel your place on the trip after airfares are booked, you will be responsible for all cancellation fees including the non-refundable deposit. If you are planning to meet your sponsored child, these costs will also need to be covered in the event of a cancellation.

You will be required to pay 100 per cent of the costs if you cancel 0–31 days before the trip departs.

Please Note: Only written cancellations will be accepted.

“I will treat you with such kindness that your nation will grow strong, and I will also keep my promises to you.”

—Leviticus 26:9, CEV

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Compassion Australia

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