



## African Road 2026 Learning Trip

### Community of Togetherness and New Hope for Girls Kigali, Rwanda and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

With optional add on guided trips  
Zanzibar History and White Sand Beach Excursion  
and  
Rwanda, Akagera National Park, Ruzizi Luxury Eco-Tent Safari

July 8-19 (Departure on 7th and return on 20th)

Rwanda and Tanzania Learning Trip cost: \$5,750 (11 nights, 12 days in country)

Optional add ons: Glorious Zanzibar historic Stonetown and white sand beach excursion 20th-24th \$2000 includes r/t flights between Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar (5 nights, 6 days)

and Ruzizi Luxury Eco-Tent Safari in Rwanda, 25th-29th \$2,800, minimum four travelers for this option. Includes flight from Tanzania to Rwanda (five nights 6 days)

Trip Costs include all coordination, orientation, ground expenses, entry visas, lodging, meals, guidance, ground transport, entry fees, direct costs for our hosts, cultural experiences and entertainment, and flight from Rwanda to Tanzania.

Traveler responsibility: International airfare, travel medications as needed, comprehensive travel insurance (see requirements) souvenirs and alcoholic beverages.

### What is an African Road Learning Trip?

African Road Learning Trips are thoughtfully designed to give you an opportunity to experience East African culture and witness the power of community led change. You'll meet extraordinary Changemakers and see the impact of their work and African Road partnership.

On an African Road Learning Trip, we don't just visit projects, we connect with friends. We turn the idea of a 'traditional trip to Africa' on its head. Instead of asking you to come and fix, mend or build, we ask you to arrive open in heart and mind and ready to learn from community leaders in East Africa. They are the experts.

Each Learning Trip is a unique combination of deep conversation, great joy, challenging learning, meaningful team connection and hands on experience which add flavor and meaning to every trip. Activities for group reflection and team building are included each day.

Care is taken to provide expertise, lovely and comfortable lodging, fantastic food and a safe and enjoyable experience.

You are invited to join the African Road team for an unforgettable trip 2026 to Rwanda and Tanzania.



## Rwanda

In Rwanda, you'll be amazed by breathtaking scenery, a sparkling clean city, and forward thinking vision. You will savor fabulous culinary creations with delicious local ingredients and rest at night in the world famous Heaven Hotel.

Rwanda is a one-of-a-kind country, having overcome unthinkable violence, devastation and division to now being recognized as one of the safest and fastest developing countries in the world. Kigali is a remarkable destination with its beautiful hilly setting, clean streets, diverse dining options, and gracious people. Rwanda is also a teacher. Rwandans have come together to heal from the trauma of the past, engaging in reconciliation and practicing forgiveness for the sake of a better future.

In respect for the history of Rwanda and with an intent to learn from the history of this country we will make time to visit the Kigali Genocide Memorial. African Road Changemaker partner Philbert Kalisa of REACH, will help us grasp what the country has overcome as we will learn from genocide survivors and perpetrators who, guided by Philbert's work, have been through a remarkable process of healing and reconciliation together. There is much

we can learn from them. REACH is now moving to create community-based mental health supports to address mental health issues stemming from the history of trauma.

Time and experience at The Community of Togetherness with Changemakers Steven Turikunkiko and Peninah Mukashema is a centerpiece of this trip. Steven was the first Changemaker partner and the inspiration for the formation of African Road.

The Community of Togetherness serves hundreds of girls, boys, women and men in the rural area of Mulindi, Ndera Sector. You can anticipate and witness (and perhaps join in) incredible cultural dancing and drumming from Togetherness' own troupe and warm welcomes for everyone. You will witness social change taking place on the soccer field with the young people of Togetherness, push up your sleeves and learn from the women of Togetherness bakery, experience the joy of kids learning in a wonderful preschool and primary school.

Sports, beauty, joy, healing, inspiring leaders, dance, arts, innovative savings groups and small businesses, community-led development and genuine partnership are all hallmarks of this travel experience.

## Tanzania

Dar es Salaam is a bustling port city, sitting on the turquoise Indian Ocean. Industrious and multicultural with sights, sounds and flavors from across Africa, the Middle East, India and beyond. Warm and welcoming, a shining example of diversity and coexistence. Most importantly for our team, it is the home of the incredible New Hope for Girls Family, and Changemakers Consoler and Eliya Wilbert and the 60 plus girls in their healing care.

Consoler leads as a devoted mama and a brilliant doctor (Phd), as a trauma survivor and a joyful spirit, as a courageous person living with a disability and a deeply wise soul. Her kind husband Eliya is a loving dad to the girls in their care and a phenomenal facilitator of the VICOBA Plus process.

New Hope for Girls, is a unique model for a family based program for fostering, with healing, hope, love and strong community. The 60 plus girls who make up the New Hope for Girls family (along with the Wilberts own biological daughter and son)

have been rescued from treacherous circumstances and are loved, educated and empowered. You can feel the genuine joy that carries this full household forward. Learn how healing is possible in the most difficult circumstances and what genuine empowerment of girls and women can look like. Also, learn and see how African Road partners with New Hope for Girls to equip them toward sustainability. A highlight will be spending a day with the New Hope family playing, preparing food, dancing and celebrating together. We are excited to also visit the New Hope for Girls Forever Home construction site. Get ready for a story worth sharing!

Dar es Salaam is also home to the very inspiring Elimika VICOBA Plus women's cooperative. These vibrant and entrepreneurial women will share how VICOBA Plus mindset change, savings, innovation and strong community has changed their lives. We will visit small businesses, hear stories of creative enterprise and share joy- and surely, dance together.



# Itinerary

## July 2026 Itinerary

Subject to adjustment and moving parts!

### 7/7 Tuesday

The adventure begins! Flight departures from the USA.

### 7/8 Wednesday

MORNING - Arrival at Amsterdam Schiphol airport arrival and team rendezvous.

EVENING - Arrive in Kigali, Rwanda. Process our visa on arrival - all you need is your passport, your visa is pre-paid - and then collect our luggage. We will be greeted at the airport by Rwandan friends. Drive to the lovely Heaven Boutique Hotel in Kigali with check-in likely close to 9pm. You can look forward to a pleasing, safe and welcoming accommodation in a beautiful boutique compound, right next door to the famous Heaven Restaurant and Bar. Pool, Spa and Gym onsite. You'll have your own room (single or double as requested) with a private bath, air conditioning and tasteful aesthetic.

### 7/9 Thursday

MORNING - Enjoy local tea and coffee with your own french press and electric kettle in your room. Breakfast, coffee and tea are available from early morning onward. Gather for Initial introductions and instructions, and team orientation activities.

#### AFTERNOON

Lunch at Milles Des Collines (Hotel Rwanda site) to hear Steven Turikunkiko's story (founder of Togetherness) and meet President Peninah.

After lunch, travel to the Community of Togetherness for an introductory walking tour. Hear and then see the history of Togetherness, a remarkable community formed of 80 kids who were orphaned by the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda. The determination and vision of the young Steven Turikunkiko, helped people suffering trauma and left without family or resources, to be better off together than alone. Steven was African Road's inspiration for forming. Step by step, African Road has walked with the The Community of Togetherness as they have built a better future themselves. Today this community is a group of leaders who are serving their neighbors with what they have. Learn about effective community-led development and be inspired.

Return to town. Change money or have money changed.

#### EVENING

Dinner at Heaven.

	JULY	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## 2026 Learning Trip

TRAVEL DAY - JULY 7-8

**RWANDA - JULY 9-14**

**TANZANIA - JULY 15-20**

OPTIONAL:

**ZANZIBAR - JULY 21-24**

**SAFARI & KIGALI - JULY 25-29**

TRAVEL DAY - JULY 29-30



Steven, Peninah, & Philbert

### 7/10 Friday

#### MORNING

Breakfast meeting and preparation for Visiting the Genocide Memorial Centre in Kigali. This compelling memorial and museum, walks visitors through the historical setting and events that led to the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda. The Memorial Gardens are an internment site for over 250,000 people whose lives were taken. This important experience helps to frame the Rwandan story of recovery and healing. Visiting the memorial is an act of respect to the people we are spending time with and is instructive. Make a trip to the Gisozi Genocide Memorial and learn from the history of Rwanda.

#### AFTERNOON

Lunch at Gisozi Memorial Cafe, debrief and reflection.

Local fabric shopping excursion.

Return to the hotel for personally designed clothing measurements and a restful late afternoon.

#### EVENING

Dinner at the fabulous Khana Khazana Indian Restaurant.

## 7/11 Saturday

### MORNING

Breakfast

Local Market Tour

### AFTERNOON

Lunch in town at Mezze Fresh.

Drive to the The Community of Togetherness for a welcome Celebration Party, enjoy Togetherness choirs, cultural dancing and drumming, cheer on the Togetherness 'football team' and meet the leadership team.

### EVENING

Dinner at Sol e Luna - Brick oven pizza and fresh salads.



## 7/12 Sunday

### MORNING

Optional early morning Kigali run for the sporty team members.

Breakfast

We will spend the morning with Changemaker Rev. Philbert Kalisa - hear his story with an overview of the singular work of reconciliation and Unity building led by his organization REACH.

African Road friend, Changemaker Philbert began to work with genocide perpetrators and survivors in 1995. He brought people together through an incredible process, working to forge healing, forgiveness and reconciliation. REACH has helped many of these people then continue to live out daily life in peace together, through the formation of Unity Groups. African Road partners with REACH to bring and expand VICOBA Plus as a tool for furthering togetherness and providing tools and training to equip these group members to innovate, dream big and flourish financially.

The team will have a special and unforgettable opportunity to hear testimony from a perpetrator and a survivor who are now friends and who teach others how forgiveness and reconciliation are possible in the most difficult of situations.

### AFTERNOON

Shopping and local sights.

### EVENING

A delightful and memorable dinner at the home of Philbert Kalisa.

## 7/13 Monday

### MORNING/AFTERNOON

Breakfast and a morning departure for a hands-on learning day at Togetherness. Custom tailored clothing fitting at Ebenezer sewing cooperative.

Try your hand in the Togetherness Women's Bakery (and sample the baked goods!)

Rural neighborhood walk, Jerry can water carrying, sewing fun.

Picnic lunch.

### EVENING

Farewell dinner at Heaven

## 7/14 Tuesday

### MORNING

Pack and prepare for late morning departure for the Kigali Airport and onward to Dar es Salaam- order take-away lunch.

Prepare for warm and humid weather, and an even more heart-warming set of experiences in Tanzania.

### AFTERNOON

Flight and early evening arrival Dar es Salaam.

Arrive in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Process our Tanzania visas - all you need is your passport, your visa is pre-paid - and then collect our luggage. We will be greeted at the airport by friends from New Hope for Girls.

We will stay at the seafront Slipway Hotel, a lovely setting on the Indian Ocean, with a rooftop pool and plenty of room for walking. Slipway is surrounded by boutique shops, a variety of restaurants, bars and local handcraft shopping.

### EVENING

Dinner by the sea.

### 7/15 Wednesday

#### MORNING

Breakfast, coffee and tea are available from 6:00 am - 10:00 am.

Optional early morning city bridgework.

#### AFTERNOON

Lunch and team orientation. Time with Consoler and Eliya Wilbert: Learn about the history of New Hope for Girls, Consoler's unique methodology for healing and thriving and the potential for impacting Tanzania's foster care system and treatment of girls and young women in trauma.

Afternoon hotel swim, rest or shop.

We will be joined by Changemaker David Clemy, VICOBA Plus founder.

#### Early EVENING

Sundowners and a memorable dinner at the fantastic oceanside Mediterraneo.

### 7/16 Thursday

#### MORNING

Breakfast, coffee and tea are available from 6:00 am - 10:00 am.

#### LATE MORNING/AFTERNOON

Drive to Tabata neighborhood to meet the women of the Elimika VICOBA Plus Cooperative and learn about community-driven transformation.

Share a delicious meal, Learn about VICOBA Plus from these 'rock stars' of the VICOBA training, and from Founder, David Clemy himself. Hear stories of progress and community and learn a dance step or two. Enjoy Tuk-Tuk rides to visit Vicoba businesses in the Tabata neighborhood.

#### EVENING

Return to Slipway Seafront Hotel in Dar es Salaam.

Dinner by the Sea.

### 7/17 Friday

#### MORNING

Breakfast.

Learn about the Forever Home from Consoler and Eliya.

#### LATE MORNING

Visit the New Hope for Girls Forever Home construction site. This transformative project is the result of strategic planning for sustainability. You'll be able to see an incredible vision for care for girls and the expansion of a unique, effective methodology for healing taking shape.

Lunch

#### LATE AFTERNOON/EVENING

Following lunch we will make our way to the New Hope for Girls family home for introduction to a remarkable household and family. Experience Consoler's life work and remarkable methodology, be moved and inspired, and have fun! We will enjoy a family dinner and share the evening with this incredible family of nearly 70.

#### EVENING

Return to Slipway Hotel.



*Consoler, Eliya, & David*

### 7/18 Saturday

Breakfast.

#### LATE MORNING

A fun day with the New Hope for Girls family for a day of learning, interaction and play. We will play games, learn dances, read books, make juice and share a simple lunch together.

#### LATE AFTERNOON

Return to Slipway.

#### EVENING

Dinner by the sea.

## 7/19 Sunday

### MORNING

Breakfast

Early morning church service for those who have interest

Shopping or rest

### AFTERNOON

Farewell Lunch followed by

Team reflections and closure activities

### EVENING

7:00 pm Airport departures for those who are headed home

Dinner by the sea and overnight for those traveling to Zanzibar on Monday

## 7/20 Monday

Zanzibar History and White Sand Beach Excursion

### MORNING

Breakfast and check out

Flight to Zanzibar

Check in to the beautiful Mizingani Hotel in historic Stonetown.

### AFTERNOON

Swim in the lovely tiled hotel courtyard pool, take a stroll or rest and enjoy the salt air breeze.

### EVENING

Evening walk to the world famous Night Market food extravaganza.



## 7/21 Tuesday

### MORNING

Guided walking tour of fascinating Old Stonetown, a UNESCO historic designation and rich cultural experience.

### EARLY AFTERNOON

Swim, shop or rest.

### LATE AFTERNOON

### EVENING

Dinner at the stunning Upendo

## 7/22 Wednesday

### MORNING

Drive to beach paradise

### AFTERNOON

Relax and enjoy the pool.

### EVENING

Dinner by the sea.

## 7/23 Thursday

### FREE DAY

Spend a day on Zanzibar's renown white sand beaches, go for a sail in a Zanzibari Dhow, go on a Spice Farm Tour, visit the Mangrove forest (excursions are self-funded, generally ranging from \$50-\$150)

Or put your feet up.

### EVENING

Final Dinner together before departures.

### 7/24 Friday

MORNING

Flight to Dar es Salaam

EVENING

Flights back to US or

OPTIONAL ADD ON to Rwanda for those participating in the Ruzizi Luxury Tented Eco-lodge Safari.

Rwanda Ruzizi Luxury Tented Eco-lodge Safari Adventure

EVENING

Arrive in Kigali and overnight at Heaven Hotel.

### 7/25 Saturday

MORNING / AFTERNOON

Umuganda morning - option to join a community work project

Free day for spa, shopping, museums, reflection. Time in town: 'Question Coffee,' coffee cupping session, Tropical Gelato tasting, boutique shopping, local market.

EVENING

Favorite dinner outing



### 7/26 Sunday

MORNING

Safari team, departure for Akagere National Park.

Get ready to see zebras, warthogs, hippos, giraffes, baboons, impala, monkeys, amazing birdlife, and more -and hope for elephants, rhino and lions.

LATE AFTERNOON

Sunset boat ride.

EVENING

Welcome dinner at the gorgeous lakeside Ruzizi Luxury Tented Eco-lodge.

### 7/27 Monday

MORNING/AFTERNOON

Up at dawn for a full day safari drive!

EVENING

Special Claypot Bush Dinner by the lake.

### 7/28 Tuesday

MORNING

Leisurely breakfast and Safari drive through the National Park on return to Kigali

Stop by Togetherness

EVENING

Return to Heaven Boutique Hotel for the night.

### 7/29 Wednesday

Final day in Rwanda...visit city sights or rest and pack.

Evening flights home.

### 07/30 Thursday

Arrival Home

## Trip Costs

Rwanda and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania **\$5,750**

Optional add on Zanzibar guided excursion **\$2000**  
(includes r/t flights between Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar).

Optional add on guided Luxury Eco-Lodge Rwandan Safari **\$2,800** (includes flight from Tanzania to Rwanda-minimum four travelers).

One country option **\$3,500**

We are offering a one-country option for this particular trip but we do encourage travelers to join for the full team experience if at all possible. Much orientation takes place in Rwanda and sets the stage for Tanzania. The experiences, contexts, projects, history and Changemaker guides in each location are unique and equally inspiring.

Travel costs are all inclusive of lodging, meals, cultural experiences and excursions, ground transportation, entertainment, tips, admission fees.

Travelers cover their own international airfare, travel insurance\* and travel medications/vaccinations\*

\*Comprehensive Travel Insurance to meet criteria required.

## How to Apply

For more information and to apply to join the July 2026 Learning Trip: Send us a note at [office@africanroad.org](mailto:office@africanroad.org) to let us know you want to apply for the 2026 Learning Trip. We will be excited to hear from you.

We will then send you a link to an easy to fill online application form. When you complete it and submit it with the press of a button, you'll get a confirmation of application submitted and a request to make a **\$50** application fee payment.

We anticipate this trip to fill quite quickly. All applications will be reviewed and team members will be notified regarding their acceptance status by mid-March at the latest. For travelers selected and accepted for the Learning Trip Team, you will be sent trip deposit information (needed to hold your place) and final forms to complete.

This Learning Trip experience is one of a kind and is full of joy, learning, connection. You may find it life changing! Apply today! Visit the African Road blog to read what 2026 Learning Trip travelers had to say: <https://africanroad.org/team-dodo-reflections/>