

# Travel Requirements and helpful suggestions for the Andrew Connally School of Preaching (ACSOP) in Arusha, Tanzania

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## Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver EXTENSION SCHOOL

On behalf of the ACSOP we want to express our appreciation for your willingness to partner with us as we train preachers to spread the gospel of Christ. The following information will be helpful as you plan your trip. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

### Tickets, Visas, Passports, and Permits...Oh my

When traveling to Arusha you will need to book your tickets for Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO). Ticket prices vary dramatically due to the large tourism industry in the area. Ticket prices generally range from \$1300.00 - \$2300.00. Another option is to fly into Nairobi, Kenya. Sometimes flying into Nairobi can save a good bit of money depending on the time of year. Before booking a ticket to Nairobi please keep the following in mind:

- Nairobi is a 4 hour drive from Arusha. While we are glad to come and get you, we too live on support, hence, we ask that our expenses are covered. This includes the fuel expense of \$125.00 per vehicle, visa expense of \$50.00 per person, hotel expense of \$30.00 per person per night (1 night stay). Of course, these expenses can be shared if traveling with company.
- You will have to purchase a Transit Visa upon landing in Nairobi. The cost is \$20.00.
- Time is a factor for many of our visitors. Traveling to Nairobi will add two days of travel to your trip and a few more hours on a plane.
- All this being considered, sometimes enough money can be saved to justify flying into Nairobi.

A passport with at least six months remaining until expiration from the day you leave Tanzania is required. If you do not have a passport contact your local post office for the nearest passport center. Applications and instructions can be found at <https://www.usps.com/shop/apply-for-a-passport.htm>.

When landing at JRO (or entering Tanzania from Kenya) it is necessary to purchase a one year multi-entry Visa. The cost is \$100.00 and needs to be paid using U.S. Dollars. It is best to use a \$100.00 bill dated 2003, or newer, with no tears or marks.

Unfortunately, the current government requires that anyone entering the country to participate in the work of an organization, such as the ACSOP or church of Christ, must pay a \$550.00 temporary (three months) work permit fee. Many religious organizations have been putting pressure on the government to return this fee to its previous price of \$120.00 but thus far to no avail. DO NOT worry about paying this fee at the airport. After arriving at ACSOP we will gather your passport and your funds and obtain the necessary permit on your behalf at the Arusha immigration office.

The entry and exit fees/taxes are included in your ticket purchase price, therefore no other fees are due upon leaving the country.

## Food, Lodging, Shots, and Moolah

Our guests stay in rooms provided at the ACSOP. A donation of \$5.00 per day covers the room, utilities, cleaning and laundry expense. Wireless internet is slow, but available.

Generally, guests are on their own for breakfast. Our lounge has a microwave, small refrigerator, coffee maker, dishes and silverware. Lunch plans vary from day-to-day and can include eating at one of the missionary homes, eating with the students, eating out or having a snack in your room. Dinner is arranged by the missionary families unless otherwise requested. It is important to remember NOT to drink the tap water. We will make arrangements for bottled water to be available. Some restaurants have ice available however, ask one of the missionaries if it is a safe location before ordering.

How much money you need while here is a personal preference. It is best to bring \$100 bills or \$50 bills as the exchange rate is better. All bills need to be clean and dated 2003 or newer. If you contact your bank ahead of time they can arrange the needed currency. Souvenirs are readily available and vary in price from a \$1.00 carving to an \$800,000.00 piece of Tanzanite. The current exchange rate is 1585 Tsh (Tanzania Shillings) = \$1.00. The average visitor can easily stay 10-14 days with \$600.00-\$700.00 (excluding your visa and work permit). More is necessary if planning to go on safari at one of the local game parks.

When you are a few months away from traveling to Tanzania it is a good idea to go ahead and get your immunizations. Don't wait until the last minute as some immunizations require more than one dose with time in between doses. The country requires a Yellow Fever immunization. Highly recommended is Hepatitis B. Hepatitis A is optional. MMR booster should be considered along with updated Tetanus and Typhoid immunizations. There is much concern by travelers about Malaria. Dr. Smelser, a local missionary doctor, and Stephanie Stafford, a registered nurse, strongly recommend taking a malaria prophylaxis. It is recommended you see your family doctor for the best meds to suit your personal needs. Make sure the meds are for the East Africa region. We always recommend that a visitor take a regimen of Malaria medicine home with them "just in case" as it takes at least 10 days to show signs of malaria. The medicine is less than \$10.00 and is cheap insurance.

## Courtesy Call

As a guest teacher we ask that you dress neatly in casual clothes, ties and jackets are not required. The same applies while visiting area congregations. You are welcome to wear a tie/jacket, however, Khaki's and a nice pullover or short sleeve button down shirt are the norm. Women need to wear a skirt and blouse or a dress (below the knees when sitting down) to any religious activity. To wear pants, or shorts, is highly offensive and will be a distraction to the local people. Outside of religious activities modest clothing, including pants, is acceptable.

If bringing any electronics please note that Tanzania's current is 220v/50hz. Most modern computer power cords are both 110v and 220v and can be used with a plug adaptor. However, check your power cord rating to determine if a transformer is required. Transformers can be purchased at WalMart, Target, etc. Make sure that the transformer you purchase can sustain the amount of power required to run the appliance. Never tax the transformer for more than 80% of its rated usage. For example, a 1200 watt hair dryer needs a transformer that can handle 1500 watts or more.

As a courtesy you might be asked to bring items in your suitcase for the ACSOP or one of the missionaries. While most things missionaries' need are now available in the country, many imported items are very expensive and there are some personal "likes" that are not available. Almost all airlines allow for two, 50lb bags (currently, British Airways allows 3 for missionaries). If your stay is short, perhaps you could pack one suitcase for yourself and allow one suitcase for missionary items. It is the cheapest way for us to receive goods and is more appreciated than you could ever imagine.

More questions? Feel free to contact us:

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