

Ghana

June 9th to 20th, 2012

This is not a trip for the faint hearted. No comfortable hotels, hot water or electricity on this adventure. Just real interaction and immersion into the culture and life style of the villagers in the Ashanti Region (Central Ghana near Kumasi).

You can become a part of this culture for a short time, and make a difference in the lives of local families. On this adventure, you will help one or more families build a home in the community, helping them achieve a dream of safe and decent housing. You will be living and working with the families, you will be working alongside a team of local builders and community members. In addition to hard work, the trip will include activities like visiting an orphanage/school, a market and other places of interest.



A GV Team and Habitat family celebrates the completion of a new house.

[Ghana country profile](#)

We are looking for enthusiastic, fun-loving, dependable, hardworking and open-minded people who don't mind getting their hands dirty. If that description fits you, please join us.

About Ghana

Ghana is located on the Gulf of Guinea only a few degrees north of the equator in western Africa, situated between Cote d'Ivoire and Togo. The climate is tropical: warm and dry along the southeast coast; hot and humid in southwest and hot and dry in the north.

Ghana's population is nearly 23 million. The country's ethnic groups include Akan (45.3 percent), Mole-Dagbon (15.2 percent), Ewe (11.7 percent), Ga-Dangme (7.3 percent), Guan (4 percent), Gurma (3.6 percent), Grusi (2.6 percent), Mande-Busanga (1 percent) and other smaller tribes making up the rest.

Christianity is the dominant religion in Ghana, accounting for 68 percent of the population. Muslim (15.9 percent) and other traditional tribal religions (8.5 percent) account for most of the other faith traditions in the country.

English is the official language, but Ghanaians speak many different languages and dialects, including Asante (14.8 percent), Ewe (12.7 percent), Fante (9.9 percent), Boron, or Brong (4.6 percent), Dagomba (4.3 percent), Dangme (4.3 percent), Dagarte (Dagaba; 3.7 percent), Akyem (3.4 percent), Ga (3.4 percent) and Akuapem (2.9 percent).

Accra, the capital of Ghana, is a thriving city. Accra is the political, commercial and cultural center of Ghana. It was founded in the 15th century by Ga settlers and became a magnet for the economically active, including local and foreign industry owners, manufacturers and workers. Its status and location as a good natural port and fishing center and as the hub for local trading industries make it just as important today.

About Habitat for Humanity Ghana

Habitat for Humanity Ghana began in 1987 and now operates in 65 affiliates, having built more than 5,000 houses in 145 communities countrywide. HFH Ghana uses the community-managed affiliate concept through which committees made up of local volunteers manage each affiliate. The partnership between HFH Ghana and the local communities and other stakeholders facilitates the goal of providing shelter for more families.

HFH Ghana homeowners are mostly farmers who own small plots of land they cultivate by hand. Even with a good harvest, these farmers do not earn more than US\$50 per month, and they struggle to care for their families. The farmers are able to afford a mortgage with HFH Ghana, which is never more than 20 percent of their monthly income.

For more information about HFHG visit www.habitatghana.org.

Types of construction for volunteers

A typical HFH Ghana house is composed of two bedrooms and a hall, with an external latrine and washroom. Houses typically have a concrete foundation, walls made of sun-dried earthen blocks plastered with cement and aluminum roofs. Volunteers can expect to participate in all stages of construction.

Standard itinerary

Day 1, typically Saturday: Depart for Ghana.

Day 2, Sunday: Arrive in Accra; greeted at airport by HFH Ghana staff; travel to hotel; dinner and overnight in Accra.

Day 3, Monday: Breakfast at hotel; travel to host project site with HFH Ghana staff; welcome and orientation with local staff member; welcome dinner.

Days 4–7, Tuesday–Friday (typical work day): Breakfast served before traveling to work site; work from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. with lunch on site; free time after work to clean up; dinner; time for team activities.

Day 8, Saturday: Visit market, orphanage, etc.; possible half-day work on build site, if desired; cultural experience in the community

Day 9, Sunday: Visit local church; other cultural activities (vary based on host project location).

Day 10, Monday: Breakfast served before traveling to work site; work from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. with lunch on site; possible visit to local school for half-day; free time after work to clean up; dinner; time for team activities..

Day 11, Tuesday: Breakfast served before traveling to work site; work from 8 a.m.–12 p.m. with lunch on site; Closing celebration and house dedication; travel to Accra; Dinner and overnight at hotel

Day 12, Wednesday: Breakfast at hotel; depart for home.

Accommodations

Teams will be staying in completed Habitat houses. These facilities may not have electricity, plumbing and running water. Mosquito nets are generally needed. Breakfast and dinner is provided where team members are lodged, and lunch is provided on site.

Program cost

\$1950

(For more details about what is included in this cost, visit [Global Village program cost.](#))

Build a better world: Take the Global Village Challenge

Habitat for Humanity International is challenging Global Village volunteers to make an even greater impact on the global issue of poverty housing. We are asking all GV teams to help us raise an additional \$1.1 million in the coming year to support Habitat's building projects worldwide. Take up the challenge! Join us in sharing our story and building a better world!

Team leader

Ray Fowell has worked on and lead a number of HFH projects in Europe, Central America, Asia and Africa. This will be his 14th trip and 9th as a team leader. His passion is working in far-off lands with like-minded people willing to get their hands dirty, have fun and make a difference.

[Click here](#) for a link to the team leader profile for Ray

If you are interested in joining this team of fun loving individuals or just want more information, contact Ray at:

E-mail: ray@sovereign-estates.com.

Or call: +44 7983575271 (remember the time difference, he is on GMT)

Or Skype him at: raymundo1952