



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Who can participate in the Forever Connected Ghana Artisans Trip?

The program is currently designed for a cohort of five male participants between the ages of 13 and 18 who are interested in leadership development, cultural immersion, experiential learning, entrepreneurship, and exploring the African diaspora.

If additional sponsorship and support are secured to expand the program to a second cohort of five participants, and an appropriate female chaperone is available, the additional cohort may include female participants.

When does the trip take place?

The program is tentatively scheduled for approximately two weeks during the last week of June and first week of July.

Exact travel dates are finalized after participant selection and once airfare, scheduling, and program logistics have been coordinated to best support the group experience.

How long is the trip?

The experience is generally planned for approximately two weeks.

What makes this trip different from a regular tour?

The Forever Connected Ghana Artisans Trip is not simply a sightseeing experience.

Participants actively engage with artisans, local communities, leadership discussions, and cultural experiences that encourage personal growth, reflection, creativity, and connection.

The trip focuses on experiential learning rather than passive tourism.

What artisans will participants work with?

Participants may spend time learning directly from:

- Bead makers
- Brass workers
- Wood carvers
- Waist bead creators
- Drum makers
- Other traditional craftspeople and entrepreneurs

Each experience includes hands-on learning and cultural discussion.

What types of cultural and historical experiences are included?

Participants may visit a variety of historical, cultural, and community locations throughout Ghana.

Experiences may include:

- Historical landmarks connected to the African diaspora
- Cultural centers and museums
- Local markets and artisan communities
- Beaches and community spaces
- Entrepreneurial and creative spaces

Specific locations and activities may vary based on scheduling, logistics, and group needs.

What expenses are included in the program?

Program costs include:

- Lodging accommodations in Ghana
- Airfare to and from Ghana
- In-country group transportation
- Airport pickup and drop-off in Ghana
- Daily cultural and artisan experiences
- Entrance fees for scheduled group activities
- Group leadership discussions and reflection activities
- Some meals during the trip
- Ghanaian guides and program support staff
- Adult supervision and chaperones

What expenses are participants responsible for?

Participants and families are responsible for:

- Passport costs
- Visa or visa-on-arrival fees
- Required fundraising participation
- Personal spending money
- Additional snacks or personal food preferences
- Souvenirs and optional purchases

Is there a fundraising requirement?

Yes. Participants must complete a \$1,500 friends-and-family fundraising campaign to help support the experience.

Fundraising guidance and support will be provided.

Are passports and visas included?

No.

Participants are responsible for obtaining passports and covering visa-related costs.

Depending on timing and logistics, families may either:

- Apply for a traditional visa through the Ghana Embassy, or
- Utilize Ghana's visa-on-arrival option, if available.

The Forever Connected team will provide guidance and support throughout the process.

Is Ghana safe?

Ghana is widely considered one of the safest and most stable countries in West Africa.

Participants travel within a structured and supervised environment supported by adult chaperones, Ghanaian guides, and organized transportation staff.

How are participants supervised?

Participants travel as part of a supervised cohort with adult chaperones, Ghanaian guides, and dedicated drivers.

The program includes:

- Structured schedules
- Organized activities
- Coordinated transportation

- Regular check-ins
- Reflection circles
- Ongoing mentorship and support

What are reflection circles?

Reflection circles are guided group discussions that allow participants to process their experiences throughout the trip.

Students discuss topics such as:

- Leadership
- Identity
- Accountability
- Relationships
- History
- Personal growth
- Cultural experiences

These conversations help transform the experience into deeper educational and personal growth.

Will participants have free time?

Yes.

While the trip includes structured activities and group experiences, participants will also have opportunities for recreation, shopping, relaxation, and informal social connection.

Can parents or other adults attend?

A limited number of adult chaperones may join the experience based on available space.

Chaperones are responsible for their own airfare. Lodging (as part of the group), transportation, and many meals are provided at a nominal cost.

Do participants need prior international travel experience?

No prior international travel experience is required.

The program is designed to guide participants and families through the process before departure and throughout the trip.

How can I support the program?

Community members, businesses, churches, fraternities, sororities, and organizations may support the program through:

- Sponsorships
- Student scholarships
- Fundraising support
- Community partnerships

How can I request more information?

For additional information, please contact:

Steppingstones Management Services, LLC
202.345.0282
admin@stepms.com