



MILLER CENTER AFRICA IMMERSION 2024





KARIBU - WELCOME!

It's our pleasure to have you join us on this transformative journey to Rwanda and Kenya. We have a unique opportunity to witness firsthand the power of social entrepreneurs transforming lives and advancing climate resilience in communities across Africa.

We have created an engaging itinerary with seven social entrepreneurs who have participated in Miller Center's flagship accelerator program. Many of these enterprises are hosting Santa Clara University students conducting action research projects as part of the Miller Center Lewis Family Fellowship program. For the first time ever, this immersion trip will witness our students working abroad.

Please be patient during our travels, as plans will almost certainly evolve for a myriad of reasons. With that caveat in mind, use this guide for a closer look at the details of our upcoming trip. It's designed to answer your questions and provide information to assist you in planning and packing for our adventure together.

We look forward to seeing you in Africa!

BRIGIT HELMS

Executive Director

ELI LATIMERLO

Senior Director, Development

KAREN RUNDE

Director, Alumni Programs

AFRICA IMMERSION TRIP

JUNE 18 - JUNE 27, 2024

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ABOUT RWANDA & KENYA

RWANDA

Located in East Africa, Rwanda is known for its tragic 1994 genocide but has since undergone a remarkable transformation. The government prioritized reconciliation and economic development, achieving notable progress in healthcare, education, and infrastructure. Today, Rwanda stands as a stable and growing nation. Currently, Miller Center has almost 30 alumni making an impact in the country. We will visit three: All Across Africa, Inkomoko, and Jibu. The country has embraced innovative solutions to address societal challenges. Initiatives focus on agriculture, technology, and sustainable development, contributing to Rwanda's reputation as a hub for social innovation. The government actively supports these efforts, fostering an environment conducive to social entrepreneurship and promoting positive change in the community.

KENYA

Kenya, located southeast of Rwanda, boasts a rich history marked by pre-colonial cultures and the struggle for independence. Known for its diverse landscapes, including the iconic Maasai Mara National Reserve, Kenya has emerged as an economic power in the region. Miller Center has more than 130 alumni operating in the country, and we will visit four: Deevabits, Nyota, Sistema.bio, and Solar Sister. Social entrepreneurship is thriving in Kenya, with a focus on addressing poverty and environmental issues. Nairobi, the capital, has been dubbed the "Silicon Savannah" for its innovative startups and social enterprises, leveraging technology and grassroots initiatives to bring about positive change. Government support and a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem contribute to Kenya's position as a leader in social entrepreneurship on the African continent.

DAILY ITINERARY

Below is the daily itinerary, subject to change.

All travel times are estimates

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

All guests arrive in Kigali, Rwanda, and check in to Ubumwe Grande Hotel.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

Visit Inkomoko in morning. Optional tour to Kigali Genocide Memorial. Afternoon meeting with Minister Paula Ingabire of Rwandan ICT Ministry. Dinner at Fusion Restaurant.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

Morning reception with US Ambassador Eric Kneedler at Kigali US Embassy & Rwanda Development Board. Visit Jibu in afternoon. Dinner at Le Petit Chalet.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Visit All Across Africa in morning. Evening reception at Centre Christus.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

Fly to Nairobi, Kenya, and check in at Sankara Nairobi.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

Optional excursion to Nairobi National Park and the Giraffe Sanctuary. Dinner at Cultiva.

DAILY ITINERARY

Below is the daily itinerary, subject to change.

All travel times are estimates.

MONDAY, JUNE 24

Visit Deevabits in morning. Dinner at Beit e Selam.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

Visit Solar Sister in morning and Nyota in afternoon. Dinner at The Talisman Restaurant.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

Visit Sistema.Bio in morning and evening reception with US Embassy in Nairobi 6 - 8pm.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

Depart for home.



TRAVELER LIST

BOB MACDONALD

BOB.MACDONALD@GMAIL.COM

Bob is Technical Program Manager at Google. He has over 30 years of experience spanning new business development, sales, and product management. Most recently, he led Google's Project Euphonia to retrain our smart devices to better understand people with speech impairments. Prior to Google, he spearheaded the creation of a high-growth division within New Focus, a privately held optics company, leading to a successful IPO in 2000. He cofounded Onetta, a telecommunications equipment venture, orchestrating its acquisition by a public company in 2004, and launched Skyline Solar, a concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) company. Bob has mentored over 20 enterprises with Miller Center and serves on our Advisory Board.

BRIGIT HELMS

BHELMS@SCU.EDU

Brigit is Executive Director of Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship and brings 30 years of experience creating and delivering innovative solutions to social and environmental challenges in 55 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America. She was previously vice president for the global development company DAI, CEO of the Multilateral Investment Fund (now IDB Lab), and senior expert at McKinsey & Company. At the World Bank Group, Brigit launched banking, agriculture, and forestry programs in East Asia and the Pacific through its International Finance Corp (IFC). She authored Access for All: Building Inclusive Economic Systems, is a member of the Forbes Nonprofit Council, and serves on the boards of AlphaMundi Foundation, Pomona Impact Foundation, and BRAC USA.

BOB SULLIVAN

RSS@UCSD.EDU

Bob is the founder of Releviate Therapeutics, a bio-pharmaceutical company developing a novel human antibody-based approach to treating neuropathic pain by potentially reversing the underlying pathophysiology of that pain. Prior, he was the founding Dean of the Rady School of Management at UC San Diego and the Stanley and Pauline Foster Endowed Chair. Spanning nearly two decades at Rady, Bob elevated the school, securing nearly a quarter of a billion dollars of community investments, overseeing its expansion, and boosting its global reputation. Previous roles include Dean at Carnegie Mellon's Graduate School of Industrial Administration and several posts at the University of Texas. He served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia for three years and lectured in production management at Haile Selassie I University, now known as Addis Ababa University.

CYNTHIA DAI

CYN@DAINAMIC.COM

Cyn is CEO of Dainamic Consulting, serving as an interim executive and advising high-tech startups and established firms, and social ventures on growth strategy. She has held adjunct faculty positions at UC Berkeley, Santa Clara University School of Engineering in partnership with Miller Center, and at D'Amore-McKim School of Business at Northeastern University and other universities, where she has taught (social) entrepreneurship, leadership, and impact investing. In 2022, she was appointed to San Francisco's Elections Commission. As rotating chair of California's first independent Citizens Redistricting Commission, she helped design 177 Congressional, State Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization districts that dramatically increased representation. Cyn has been a Miller Center executive mentor for 13 years and will facilitate our new Legacy Fellows program, an offshoot of our immersion experiences.

TRAVELER LIST

ELI LATIMERLO

ELATIMERLO@SCU.EDU

Eli's work centers on cultivating relationships between the social sector and industry that solve today's challenges and shape tomorrow's outcomes. His professional experience is diverse - reflecting acumen gained while holding leadership positions in the nonprofit, corporate, academic, and global business development sectors. As a development professional, Eli identifies and cultivates relationships between individuals, corporations, foundations, and the social sector that strengthen their value propositions while effectively measuring and evaluating impact. Eli is passionate about connecting resources with communities in need and has raised tens of millions of dollars to support meaningful causes.

JEFF MILLER

JEFF@JAMMVENTURES.COM

Jeff is President of JAMM Ventures. He chairs Miller Center's Advisory Board and serves on the Board of Trustees for Santa Clara University. He has over 40 years of high-tech experience. As CEO of Documentum, he oversaw its transformation into a NASDAQ-listed company with revenues exceeding \$200 million. Prior to this, Jeff was a venture partner with Redpoint Ventures and held management roles at Adaptec and Intel. Jeff is an Executive Board Member of the NBA Golden State Warriors. He also sits on the boards of Datameer Inc., Lithium Technologies, and ServiceNow, as well as several philanthropic boards including the American Prairie Reserve and the Golden State Warriors Community Foundation.

FRANCISCO PORTILLEJO HOYOS

FRANCISCO.PORTILLEJO@GMAIL.COM

Based in London, Francisco brings over 25 years of comprehensive experience in finance, spanning capital markets, treasury, asset & wealth management, fintech, and disruptive technologies. Since 2008, Francisco is Founder & CEO of Tack & Gybe Associates Ltd, a strategic advisory and management consultancy firm focused on startups and early-stage companies. Francisco is a fervent entrepreneur, fostering startups and innovation, as well as being deeply engaged in global NGO initiatives aimed at addressing extreme poverty, promoting local entrepreneurship, ensuring clean water access, and supporting children with special needs education. Francisco currently serves as a Miller Center executive mentor and a strategic advisor at Venture Partners of the University of Colorado Boulder and Cambridge Future Tech.

JENNIFER MERRITT FARIA

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Jennifer is Sr. Director of Academics at Santa Clara University's Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship, where she leads academic programming that advances Miller Center's mission to accelerate social enterprise that addresses global poverty and protects the planet. She additionally teaches courses on social enterprise research in conjunction with the Department of Sociology and the Miller Center Lewis Family Fellowship. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Vanderbilt University, a Master of Management degree from Northwestern University, a PhD in Sociology of Education from the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia, and a Master's degree in Pastoral Ministry from Santa Clara. Grounded in critical theory, informed by the Ignatian pedagogical tradition, and anchored in the principles of solidarity and accompaniment, her own research focuses on the ways university-community engagement initiatives can elicit "mutual transformation" and spiritual connection.

TRAVELER LIST

JIM LYONS

JLYONS@SCU.EDU

For more than a decade, Jim has served as Vice President for University Relations at Santa Clara University, overseeing Development, Alumni Relations, Marketing, and Events. Jim plays a pivotal role in enhancing institutional engagement and philanthropic support, notably contributing to the university's \$1B campaign, "Innovating with a Mission." With over 34 years in higher education, Jim previously led fundraising efforts at the University of Portland, including the \$200 million RISE Campaign. Actively involved in community organizations, he chairs Bellarmine College Preparatory's development committee and serves on several boards, including Bay Area Council and Global ADE, reflecting his commitment to educational advancement.

JULIE SULLIVAN

JHSULLIVAN@SCU.EDU

Julie, the 30th president of Santa Clara University, is the first layperson and woman to hold the position in SCU's 173-year history. With a focus on blending high-tech innovation and Jesuit Catholic values, she champions Catholic social teaching, education-based economic inclusion, anti-racism efforts, and environmental sustainability. Before Santa Clara, Julie served nine years as President of the University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, where she implemented innovative academic programs, prioritized student well-being, raised over \$100 million in scholarships, and oversaw the university's transition to Division I athletics. Julie previously served as Executive Vice President and Provost at the University of San Diego and held professorial roles at UC San Diego and UNC Chapel Hill. She also has extensive experience in nonprofit and corporate board service.

JOHN LAUER

JOHN.LAUER@OUTLOOK.COM

John has over 35 years of experience in international business and high tech. He most recently founded a software company in the Philippines and cofounded an online automobile auction. Both companies were acquired by KAR Global (now OPENLANE). Prior to that, he worked in various roles for Microsoft, including Vice-President of Worldwide Midmarket, Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Region in Tokyo, Regional Director for Southeast Asia in Kuala Lumpur, and Business Operations Manager for the Greater China Region in Taipei. John lived in Asia for over eight years and speaks fluent Mandarin.

KAREN MILLER

KAREN@JAMMVENTURES.COM

Karen is an active philanthropist. In 2015, she along with her husband Jeff, announced a \$25 million gift to advance social entrepreneurship at Santa Clara University. The transformative gift has enabled Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship – formerly known as the Center for Science, Technology, and Society – to continue and expand upon its mission. Committed to dignity and well-being for all, Karen co-directs the Millers' philanthropic efforts and previously served as a board member of the Golden State Warriors Community Foundation. Prior to this, Karen spent ten years at Intel in production management and administration.

TRAVELER LIST

KAREN RUNDE

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Karen joined Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship in 2015 and over the years has worked with hundreds of social enterprises all over the globe. In her current role as Director of Alumni Programs, she helps the social enterprise alumni community continue to scale their impact. Prior to joining Miller Center, Karen worked at As You Sow, promoting corporate social accountability in conflict mineral and cotton supply chains. Karen holds two Master of Science degrees in Environmental Studies & Sustainability Science from Lund University and Technological and Socio-Economic Planning from Roskilde University. She also has a BA from UCLA. In her spare time, she teaches barre classes at Pure Barre Burlingame.

KIM MCGUIRE

KIML_MCGUIRE@HOTMAIL.COM

Kim is President of The McGuire Family Foundation, a published author, co-founder of Weddingsonline.ie, and a community connector. She has been actively involved in the nonprofit space for 20+ years in Ireland and Utah. She currently serves the following organizations: Jewish Family Service, Voices for Utah Children, Park City Community Foundation, and the Santa Clara University Parent & Family Leadership Council. Prior to moving to Ireland, she was head of contract negotiations for International Broadcast Systems.

KATE SWEENEY

KSWEENEY@PERSPECTIVEAIA.COM

A passionate entrepreneur, Kate's career has spanned over 25 years in the contemporary art world. Based in London, her international art projects have traversed a multitude of countries. In 2005, she founded Perspective, an art consultancy specializing in the curation and management of fine art collections in a variety of corporate, mixed-use, healthcare, and public spaces. The company's focus is to provide innovative and engaging environments through artistic interventions, site-specific commissions, and creative partnerships. Kate also leads collaborative efforts via arts mentoring, community outreach programmes, and global initiatives involving women's entrepreneurial workshops and art education seminars in the UK and abroad.

VIVIAN MCGUIRE

VMCMCGUIRE@GMAIL.COM

Vivian is the founder and CEO of Street Capital, a private investment company launched in 2001 with offices in Dublin, Ireland and Park City, Utah. Prior to founding Street Capital, Vivian co-founded Allen McGuire & Partners in 1989, a private equity investment company based in Dublin, Ireland. Prior to this, Vivian spent six years as a Vice President with Goldman Sachs & Co.

ALL ACROSS AFRICA

All Across Africa is a resource and distribution platform that unites artisans (98% women) in Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, and Ghana with wholesale (including Costco), retail, and end-user customers.

All Across Africa Team: Alicia Wallace, Cofounder and CEO; Greg Stone, Cofounder and CEO; and Modeste Shumbusho, Country Director.

Impact: Improved 36,000+ lives through creation of 550 material sourcing jobs and 9,300 secondary sourcing jobs. 94% of artisans have investments and 88% have created savings accounts.

Miller Center Support: Miller Center has accompanied All Across Africa through 11 programs since 2016, including our 2018 ScaleOut cohort, Alumni Business Planning program, three fellowships, and two internships. Awarded Miller Center's 2022 Social Impact Excellence Award.

Traction: Generated first profit in 2016, now earns USD 5M in revenue, and secured contracts with World Market, Nordstrom, and Starbucks.



2024 Miller Center Lewis Family Fellows:



Clara Gallagher, Psychology and Anthropology Major



Delaney McMillan, Psychology Major and Entrepreneurship Minor

DEEVABITS

Deevabits improves access to quality solar products and customer financing through PAYGO model that enables the unbanked rural poor in Kenya to access credit.

Deevabits Team: David Wanjau, Founder and CEO

Impact: Distributed over 30,000 solar products in remote rural areas and as a result, positively impacted over 170,000 people. Reduced energy expenditure by an average of \$54 over the lifetime of a product.

Miller Center Support: Miller Center accompanied Deevabits through seven programs since 2015, including 2022 In-Residence and two Investment Readiness programs.

Traction: Generated over USD 1M in revenues and increased staff size by 37%.



2024 Miller Center Lewis Family Fellows:



Dana Hoballah,
Psychology Major



Wanyu (Mary) Xiang, Public Health Science and Biology double Major, and Sustainable Food Systems Minor

INKOMOKO

Inkomoko offers business advisory, access to finance, and market linkages to entrepreneurs in Africa. They are the largest lender to refugee entrepreneurs in Africa.

Inkomoko Team: Sara Leedom, Cofounder and COO; Julienne Oyler, CEO; and Aretha Ragwasore, Rwanda Managing Director

Impact: Served over 57,000 clients, of which 30,000 are refugee entrepreneurs and more than half are women. Invested more than USD 13M with a 96% repayment rate. 85% of the businesses they support are thriving.

Miller Center Support: Participated in first accelerator in 2018. Most recently, co-hosted two entrepreneur recruitment events. Receives bespoke mentoring around board governance support.

Traction: Inkomoko started in Rwanda in 2012 and now has offices in Kenya, Ethiopia, and South Sudan working with 10,000+ entrepreneurs a year.



2024 Miller Center Lewis Family Fellows:



Emil Chaia
Finance Major



Jeremy Trattler
Economics Major

JIBU

Jibu capitalizes, equips, and trains emerging market entrepreneurs in Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Uganda, Burundi, Zambia, and DR Congo to launch and grow essential service franchises, with drinking water as the anchor product.

Jibu Team: Galen Welsch, Cofounder and CEO; Brenda Cyuzuzo, Marketing and Communication Officer; Tabvi Obert Motsi, Creative Director

Impact: Launched 160 franchises distributing 490M litres of pure water. Providing access to safe drinking water at 75% less than the cost of bottled water.

Miller Center Support: 2022 Impact Excellence Award. Participated in 7 programs since 2014, including the Social Enterprise Advisory Council and hosted two fellowships.

Traction: Scaled geographically to seven countries across Africa. Top-performing Jibu franchise owners generate more than USD 150,000 per year per franchise with a 20-25% take home profit, breaking even within months of launch.



2024 Miller Center Lewis Family Fellows:



Julia von Gersdorff
Anthropology Major



Yael Grimaldi
Marketing Major

NYOTA

Nyota collaborates with women and youth-led small holder farms in Kenya to grow vegetables for its speciality sauces and flagship line, "Frozen Isle," consisting of fresh frozen African indigenous vegetables and contemporary vegetables.

Nyota Team: Florence Mogere, Founder and CEO

Impact: Improved the lives of 30,000 people and increased farmer revenue by 30% by reducing post-harvest food loss by 30%.

Miller Center Support: Participated in first accelerator program in 2023 and was later invited to Fall 2023 In-Residence and SOCAP.

Traction: Working with 100+ small holder farmers, selling more than 200,000 units in over 60 Kenyan locations.



SISTEMA.BIO

Sistema.bio provides biodigester technology, training, and financing to transform waste into renewable energy and organic fertilizer in Latin America, Africa, and India.

Sistema.bio Team: Madrin Maina, Director East Africa

Impact: Installed over 63,000 biodigesters, processed 26.7M m³ of organic waste, produced over 53M m³ of clean energy per year, and created enough fertilizer for 345,000 hectares per year. All this has reduced CO₂e emissions by over 557,000 tons.

Miller Center Support: 2023 Impact Excellence Award. Participated in 10 programs since 2017, including the Energy Access India cohort, 2023 Fall In-Residence, and hosting two fellowships. Miller Center Capital provided funding to bridge working capital requirements for growth in Kenya.

Traction: In 2022, they closed Series B investment, generated USD 11.3M in revenue, and began collecting income from carbon credit contracts.



2024 Miller Center Lewis Family Fellows:



Jessica Garofalo
Environmental Sciences Major



Mia Ingram
Environmental Sciences Major

SOLAR SISTER

Solar Sister eradicates extreme energy poverty by providing economic opportunities to African women through essential services and training that enable women entrepreneurs to build sustainable businesses.

Solar Sister Team: Katherine Lucey, Founder and CEO; Finorah Manyala, Country Director

Impact: Mitigated over 1.4M metric tons of CO₂e and recycled 5,000+ out-of-warranty solar products. Positively impacting over 3M lives by saving end-users over USD 170M.

Miller Center Support: Participated in five programs and hosted student fellows five times since 2012. Received Social Impact Excellence Award in 2022. Highlighted in SCU Professor Leslie Gray's 2017 Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship's report, "Turning on the Lights: Transcending Energy Poverty through the Power of Women Entrepreneurs."

Traction: Enhanced economic prosperity for more than 10,000 female entrepreneurs through training and support, including digital literacy training to over 430 women. Provided 7,926 loans totaling USD 618,000 to enable more women to join their ranks.



2024 Miller Center Lewis Family Fellows:



Elizabeth Pierson, History and Political Science double Major



Morgan Vodzak
Marketing Major



PLANNING & PACKING

TRAVEL INFORMATION

PASSPORTS

Be sure your passport is valid for 6 months from entry and has three blank pages (one for Rwanda and two for Kenya). It's a good idea to have a digital copy of your passport details page on your mobile phone and additional paper copies in your hand luggage.

VISAS

Although we are only visiting Rwanda and Kenya, we recommend that travelers obtain the East African Tourist Visa, which allows entry into Rwanda and Kenya on a single visa. This visa is available online to US passport holders and can significantly simplify the process of obtaining a visa.

NOTE:

Travelers must have their flight, lodging, and Yellow Fever Certificate information available to upload.

E-VISA DETAILS:

Entry through Rwanda required

Maximum visit: 90 days

Multiple entries: Yes

Requires:

- Passport
- Return Ticket

PLANNING & PACKING

SMART TRAVELER ENROLLMENT PROGRAM:

We recommend all travelers register with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) so that the Department of State, via our embassies and consulates, can better assist travelers in an emergency. The program is free of charge, and the benefits include:

- Receiving important information from the Embassy about safety conditions in your destination country, helping you make informed decisions about your travel plans.
- Helping the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency, such as a natural disaster, civil unrest, or family emergency.
- Helping family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency.

CURRENCY:

Both countries widely accept credit card(s) and USD paper currency. Visa is the most commonly accepted credit card. To ensure convenience for small purchases, we recommend that you carry some Rwandan Francs (Rwf) and Kenyan Shillings (KES) in small denominations. You may exchange currency at the airport or bank ATMs. Currency Converter.

Torn, taped, or slightly mutilated paper money will not be accepted by local businesses, so beware when you exchange dollars for shillings and francs. Banks will accept them so if you end up with damaged bills, you can take them to the nearest bank to receive new bills to use.

EXPENSES:

As part of the immersion trip, meals, hotel rooms, airport transfers, and daily transport are covered expenses.

Please pay for personal expenses, such as gifts, spa treatments, and tips, with your personal credit card at the time of purchase. Some tip guidance: guides US \$10 to \$20 per day per guest; porter US \$5 to \$10; private driver US \$20 to \$30.

In local markets, bargaining can be a fun part of the experience and an expected activity. Please also consider that store owners will probably go as low as pushed to secure a sale, but these sales ultimately support the livelihoods of them and their families.

PLANNING & PACKING

ELECTRONICS:

You will need a British-style Type G power plug adapter for compatibility with the electrical outlets in both Rwanda and Kenya. The Type G socket has three rectangular prongs arranged in a triangular pattern.

Note that while a plug adapter allows you to physically connect your device to an outlet, it does not change the voltage. Both Rwanda and Kenya operate on a voltage of 240V, compared with 120V in the United States. If your electronic devices are not dual-voltage or compatible with 240V, you may also need a voltage converter. Most modern cell phones and laptops are designed to be dual voltage.

LANGUAGE:

We recommend practicing some key phrases in Kinyarwanda (Rwanda) and Swahili (Kenya) for your trip. Phrases are located in the back of this guide.

GROUP COMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA:

To communicate with the group most rapidly while in Africa, we are setting up a WhatsApp text group. [You can join the group using this link.](#)

PLANNING & PACKING

PACKING LIST

WHAT TO WEAR:

Rwanda and Kenya share similar weather patterns in June. During this time, anticipate temperatures ranging from lows of 50 degrees F to highs of around 75 degrees F. Both countries experience relatively dry weather, minimizing the likelihood of rain.

Opt for light and comfortable clothing made from travel-friendly fabrics. Creating versatile combinations with a few key pieces is advisable. Pack business attire for meetings at the embassies and with government officials. Some other social events may call for slightly more formal attire. Jeans and other casual wear are suitable for on-site visits to social enterprises. While daytime temperatures are generally mild, be prepared for cooler evenings.

OTHER PACKING ADVICE:

In your carry-on bag, include all necessary medications and preferred toiletries. Hand sanitizer and travel-sized sanitizing wipes are recommended, as some toilet facilities may be less developed, with a potential shortage of toilet tissue.

A small daypack will be helpful in keeping extra layers, sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses, cameras, and other essentials together during our excursions.

HEALTH & SAFETY

YELLOW FEVER:

A yellow fever vaccination is required to travel to Rwanda and between African countries.

MALARIA:

Prescription medicine is recommended to prevent malaria. Depending on the medicine you take, you will need to start taking this medicine multiple days before your trip, as well as during and after your trip. There are potential side effects so talk to your doctor about which malaria medication you should take.

OTHER IMMUNIZATIONS:

Other immunizations, such as COVID-19 and Typhoid, are recommended.

OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION:

The CDC provides in-depth and comprehensive health information for travelers on items such as vaccines and medicines, safe travel, and recommended packing lists.

- [CDC Travel Information for Rwanda](#)
- [CDC Travel Information for Kenya](#)

We also suggest you contact your personal physician for professional advice on all vaccinations and immunizations, as well as other medications you personally might need to ensure optimal health while traveling.

TRANSPORT & ACCOMMODATIONS

AIRPORT TRANSFERS:

As a reminder, airport transfers are a covered expense and are added to the master bill automatically. Once we receive your flight details, we will send you details about your airport pick-up.

AIRLINE FLIGHTS:

Travelers are responsible for their flights to Rwanda, the intracontinental flight from Rwanda to Kenya, and return flight home.

DAILY GROUND TRANSPORTATION:

Daily ground transportation to site visits will be in a passenger van that we have pre-arranged.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Guest room reservations have been made for you in your surname.

Rwanda, June 18 - 22: Umbumwe Grande Hotel

Kenya, June 22 - 27: Sankara Nairobi

MEALS:

Breakfast is served daily at the hotel. Lunch is included in all excursions.

There will be three formal receptions. We will organize dinners at different restaurants each evening that you may opt in to attend. You are welcome to opt out and make your own dinner plans on any night.

RECOMMENDED MEDIA TO EXPLORE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT:

Read Miller Center's annual report covering our fiscal year from July 2022 – June 2023. It was an exciting year as we embraced travel again – participating in conferences in Kenya, Ghana, Mexico, and Malaysia, co-hosting events around the world, from Indonesia to Zambia, and engaging with our social enterprise partners where they are delivering impact.

PODCASTS:

Inkomoko - Inkonversation

Founders of Impact: Galen Welsch of Jibu (2024)

Line of Sight: Creating Value from Waste with Sistema.bio (2024)

Line of Sight: Exploring the Foundation of Miller Center with Jim Koch and Eric Carlson (2023)

MOVIES:

Sometimes in April, starring Idris Elba and nominated for a primetime Emmy, tells the story of two brothers divided by marriage and fate during the 100 horrifying days of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. The film was shot in Rwanda with Rwandans participating in the filmmaking and is generally considered a historically faithful portrayal.

BOOKS:

Adventure Finance: How to Create a Funding Journey That Blends Profit and Purpose by Aunnie Patton Power

Challenges the effectiveness of the venture capital model for the vast majority of startups, highlighting the potential of diverse businesses often overlooked by traditional funding channels. Miller Center is gifting this book to you, and it will arrive in your travel kit.

Inside Hotel Rwanda (2014) by Edouard Kayihuru and Kerry Zukus

Tells the story of survivor Edouard Kayihura and what life was really like during those harrowing days in the infamous hotel.

RECOMMENDED MEDIA TO EXPLORE

BOOKS

Rwanda Inc. (2014) by Patricia Crisafulli and Andrea Redmond

Eighteen years after the genocide that saw Rwanda abandoned by the West, the country has accomplished an extraordinary turnaround.

Land of Second Chances: The Impossible Rise of Rwanda's Cycling Team (2013) by Tim Lewis

The extraordinary true story of four men, Adrien Niyonshuti, Tom Ritchey, Jonathan Boyer, and Paul Kagame, determined to rebuild the hopes of a broken nation.

Unbowed (2007) by Wangari Maathai

Nobel Peace Prize winner, Wangari Maathai, a charismatic, humble single mother of three, chronicles her struggle from rural life, her fight for an education, and her extraordinary life as a political activist, feminist, environmentalist, and founder of the Green Belt Movement in Kenya.

A Grain of Wheat (2012) by Ngugi wa Thiong'o

Days ahead of Kenya's independence from Britain and set in the backdrop of the Mau Mau rebellion, a group of villagers' lives are transformed by the 1952-1960 Emergency Period, in which colonialists detained and tortured civilians.

BASIC WORDS & PHRASES FOR TRAVELERS

English is one of the official languages spoken in both Rwanda and Kenya. In addition to English, Rwanda has Kinyarwanda, French, and Swahili as official languages, while Kenya recognizes Swahili and English as its official languages. Here are a few phrases to try:

RWANDA – KINYARWANDA:

Murakaza Neza: Welcome!

Muraho: Hello

Komeza: Please

Murakoze: Thank you

Mwaramutse: Good morning

Mwiriwe: Good afternoon / Good night

Amakuru?: How are you? (formal)

Oza nziza: Good

Nitwa...: My name is...

Icyubahiro: What is your name?

Aho ndiho: Nice to meet you

Sibyo/Imbabazi: Excuse me

Ndagira umutima: I'm sorry

Nshobora kubona?: Can you help me?

Ndagushaka: I am lost

Aho genda...: Where is...

Ndagira inzu ya...: I'm looking for a...

Hano: Here

Hacu: There

Ku nshuro ya bamwe: On the left

Ku nshuro ya bibiri: On the right

Mu cyaho: Straight ahead

Ku rugamba: At the corner

Sa saa ngaha?: What time is it?

Bihe byiza?: How much is it?

Konti, kubyo gusa: The bill, please

Amafaranga: Money

Sinakubwira Kinyarwanda neza: I do not speak Kinyarwanda very well

Mutaramenyeshya igifaransa?: Do you speak Kinyarwanda?

Aho biterwa ibiribwa by'umuntu: Where are the public restrooms?

BASIC WORDS & PHRASES FOR TRAVELERS

KENYA - SWAHILI:

Karibu: Welcome!

Hujambo: Hello

Tafadhali: Please

Asante: Thank you

Habari za asubuhi: Good morning

Habari za mchana: Good afternoon

Usiku mwema: Good night

Habari yako?: How are you? (formal)

Habari yako?: How are you? (informal)

Nzuri: Good

Jina langu ni...: My name is...

Jina lako nani?: What is your name?

Nafurahi kukutana nawe: Nice to meet you

Samahani: Excuse me

Pole: I'm sorry

Naweza kupata msaada?: Can you help me?

Nimepotea: I am lost

Mahali gani...: Where is...

Natafuta...: I'm looking for a...

Hapa: Here

Pale: There

Kushoto: On the left

Kulia: On the right

Moja kwa moja: Straight ahead

Kwenye kona: At the corner

Ni saa ngapi?: What time is it?

Bei gani?: How much is it?

Bili, tafadhali: The bill, please

Pesa: Money

Sisemi Kiswahili vizuri: I do not speak Swahili very well

Unasema Kiingereza?: Do you speak English?

Mahali pa choo cha umma: Where are the public restrooms?

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Miller Center
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For over 25 years, Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship has been a leader in the global social enterprise movement. With an emphasis on climate resilience and women's economic power, we accelerate social entrepreneurship to end poverty and protect the planet, guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Located at Santa Clara University, we fuse the entrepreneurial spirit of Silicon Valley with the university's heritage of social justice, community engagement, and global impact. Miller Center has served more than 1,400 social entrepreneurs based in over 100 countries that are impacting hundreds of millions of lives.

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