

## WorldVenture & DTS Houston Ghana Mission Trip 2024 Info and FAQs

**Goals/Mission Statement:** Our mission is to prepare the church in Nkwanta to reproduce servant leaders by modeling the life of Christ in others. We seek to promote the formation of Christian leaders resulting in a strong local church committed to disciple-making that results in sending well equipped missionaries throughout Africa and the world.

### Trip Dates:

Mar 1 – Mar 12, 2024 (12 days total)

*Possible flight schedule (KLM/Air France)*

March 1<sup>st</sup> – 3:25pm; Houston – Amsterdam – Accra; arrival 7:55pm March 2<sup>nd</sup>

March 11<sup>th</sup> – 10:10pm; Accra – Amsterdam – Houston; arrival 2:35pm March 12<sup>th</sup>

### ON THE GROUND SCHEDULE

- ARRIVAL – MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Road Travel To Kraachi Nkwanta (Approximately 8 Hours)
- March 4<sup>th</sup> – Cultural Lessons/Nkwanta Market Day
- March 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Leadership Development Conference
- March 9<sup>th</sup> – Road Travel Back To Accra
- March 10<sup>th</sup> – Cultural Lessons (Slave Castles, Kakum National Forest)
- March 11<sup>th</sup> – Nkrumah Museum, Independence Square, Art Center;
  - Departure Day – Arrival At Airport 2 Hours Before Flight

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE			
DATE	CORE	THEOLOGY/MINISTRY	LEADERSHIP
MARCH 5 <sup>TH</sup>	BIBLE STUDY METHODS	BIBLICAL COUNSELING	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
MARCH 6 <sup>TH</sup>	OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY	FOUNDATIONS FOR WOMEN IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP	
MARCH 7 <sup>TH</sup>	NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY	MISSIONS	PASTORAL THEOLOGY & CHURCH LEADERSHIP
MARCH 8 <sup>TH</sup>	PRINCIPLES OF FAITH	BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW	

**Note: This schedule is only a sample of the some of the core bible, leadership and biblical counseling needs that the local church community needs. Once you have solidified your team, feel free to adjust appropriately.**

## FAQs

### **1. Who are our DTS and WorldVenture team leaders?**

- Dr. Lloyd Chinn – Global Director Africa - WorldVenture
- Dr. Pierre Cannings – Dean of DTS - Houston
- Dr. Ekpedeme Wade – Assistant Professor of Counseling Ministries

### **2. Where will we stay?**

Upon Arrival: Hephzibah Christian Centre – Peduase, Ghana

During the Conference: Kilimanjaro Hotel – Nkwanta, Ghana

Upon Return to Accra: Hephzibah Christian Centre

### **4. How much do I need to pay for this trip?**

*Trip fee.* The trip fee of \$1765 covers your round-trip international flights, travel insurance, and the required visa to enter the country. Travel insurance benefits include international medical insurance that covers up to \$10,000 if you are injured or become ill; evacuation costs up to \$100,000; and travel assistance for situations such as lost luggage and foreign legal assistance.

DTS will cover the cost of all your all lodging, all in-country transport, and all meals on non-excursion days (when participants are responsible for their own meals).

Pre-registration Deposit	\$100*
<b>Due date:</b>	
Oct 1, 2023	
Trip fee balance due	\$ 1665
Nov 15, 2023	
<b>TOTAL trip fee</b>	<b>\$ 1765</b>
*deposit nonrefundable	

*Additional costs.* The only additional cost would be any souvenirs or snack purchases. In Ghana, VISA is a very well accepted credit card, but American Express is very limited. Advise your bank that you will be traveling and there will be no issue. If you prefer to use cash – you can bring it with you. Ensure that you have only \$50 and \$100 bills and that there are no tears in the money, as it will not be accepted at the money exchange. ATMs in Ghana are also very safe and will help you to avoid having too much cash on hand.

You will be responsible for lunches and dinners on outing days.

An *unnecessary* cost is credit card fees. If planning to use a credit card, make sure your bank does not charge a foreign transaction fee on each purchase. Such a fee can run from 1–3% of per transaction. Apply in advance for a credit card that charges no foreign transaction fees.

### **5. What is the refund policy?**

Unless DTS cancels the course, the deposit is nonrefundable. We may make an exception of the person cancelling recruits someone to take his or her place. The lodging and meal portion of the program fee may be refunded according to the following schedule:

- 45–31 days prior: 50% of program cost.
- 30–15 days prior: 25% of program cost.
- 14 days or less: No refund available.

### **6. How do I get on the list?**

Turn in the registration form and pay the deposit. Once we receive the form, we will provide info on how to pay the remaining balances, as well as plan time for cultural sensitivity training. Available spots are limited, so we will operate on a first come, first served basis (with priority given to current students).

### **7. Who may participate?**

*Current students spouses, and alumni.* Priority is given to current students over alumni. Current students will receive WEC credits for participation in this trip, and do not need to attend or watch extra chapels for WEC week.

*Only those in good enough health to walk a lot.* This is a physically demanding trip in places that can't possibly adhere to OSHA standards. Participants may be asked to walk up to 1.0 miles per day. All participants must be able to carry all their own luggage for up to a half mile.

*People who understand the difference between ministry work and sight-seeing.* We will not necessarily see the typical top tourism sites in Ghana, as our agenda is oriented to the missional goals, not tourism.

### **8. What do I need to know about passports/visas?**

If you don't have a passport already, you should begin the process to obtain one as far in advance as possible before your departure. You can find out more information about obtaining a passport online at the State Department.

Citizens from the United States must present a passport *valid for at least three months beyond the intended stay in Ghana*. Visas are required for Americans to visit Ghana, and we will purchase these for you. The VISA application **MUST** be completed online at [www.ghanaembassydc.org](http://www.ghanaembassydc.org). Once you have completed the form, print it and give all necessary documents to us so that we can have it done.

Important: If you are not a US citizen, it is important that you check on your country's policies on travel to Ghana, especially since COVID. In addition, if you live in the US, we suggest that you

consult with the director of international student services at DTS to make sure that your student visa will allow you to re-enter the US after the trip.

**9. Is it easy to find ATMs?**

ATM's are very accessible in the capital city of Accra.

**10. How should I plan to dress?**

Overall, pack casual, comfortable clothing. Traditional values are still present for many locals in Ghana, so plan to dress modestly. Shorts are allowed for men; but women must not wear anything too short to hide the back of the knee; so, capri pants are appropriate. While teaching, men will need to dress appropriately as will women – dresses are skirts. Comfortable walking shoes are a must.

We will provide a more detailed packing list closer to the trip time.

**11. Will I have much free time?**

Free time will be in the evening after dinner and daily debrief.

**12. Contact info in Ghana**

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**Janet B. Chinn, +233 59 824 5323, [J.Chinn@WorldVenture.com](mailto:J.Chinn@WorldVenture.com)**

Questions? Contact Dr. Pierre Cannings at [pcannings@dts.edu](mailto:pcannings@dts.edu) or 713-530-7427 (cell).

**Details subject to change.**