

# Democratic Republic of Congo Trip Information

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## Projects and Costs:

ROW participates in the following programs

Feeding program for 150: \$5,000 annually;  
River blindness treatment for 100,000 + \$15,000 annually;  
Hospital Supplies \$12,000 annually;  
Bibles \$4.00 each (we need 3000 a year);  
Church construction \$20,000 per church;  
Ship construction \$45,000 per ship;  
We also hold worship services and clinics in remote villages.

## Itinerary:

This trip is exhausting and very difficult at best. Need a passport, purchase Kenya and Congo visas at the borders. Malaria, parasite, and worm prevention required. Yellow fever immunization is a must. Travel route to Congo determined by airlines. Usually we go from Detroit, Michigan to Amsterdam to Nairobi to Kigali to Goma to Lusambo.

While in route to Congo we stay in hotels and the Presbyterian Guest House in Kigali, Rwanda. Once we are in Congo we overnight at a hotel in Goma and stay in tents in the bush. There are no sanitary facilities and we bathe in the Sankuru River. The sandbar is our restroom and we each dig our own "cat hole". Each person is self-sufficient as far as gear is concerned. The trip is at least 12 days in length.

## **Food and Water:**

We eat in restaurants on the way to Congo. Once in country, Pappa Akula Munkanga is our chef. Rice, beans, greens, fish and chicken make up the diet. Bring a water filter!!!

## **Logistics:**

Commercial airlines carry us as far as Kigali, Rwanda. From there we take vans across Rwanda to Goma in the DRC. Once in Congo we fly either via Air Serv or Russian pilots and Antonov military planes. Landing in Lusambo is on dirt strip. Once on the river we travel via dug out and on our new 40 foot wooden ship. Charter flight carries us out of the bush back to Goma. **Lots of hiking in sand-need back pack and MUST be in solid physical shape.**

## **Available dates:**

Teams go in June and July as best weather.

## **Length of Trip:**

At least 12 days.

## **Approximate costs:**

\$4500- \$5000 per person is the expected cost - most of this is airfare.

## **Team Size and Age:**

18 or older in age, small teams - less than 12 team members is best. Each team member must be invited to attend Congo- this is not open to everyone- age, physical condition, previous experience, and ATTITUDE are deciding factors. Whiners, loners, self-centered, “problem folk” need not apply. Thank you.

**What to take:**

You must be completely self sufficient in the bush. We will go over this in detail during the preparation for the trip.

**Cultural notes:**

This is the most remote place left in the world. Recent civil unrest makes it that much more difficult to navigate. The people of the DRC are precious and very dear to us. French and tribal languages are spoken. Patience is a must. Concerns include diseases, snakes, charter air service, politics, and logistics. This trip is definitely NOT for just anyone.