

It's with great excitement that I reach out to you today with a special invitation for our upcoming community trip to the Ivory Coast in West Africa, happening January 6th – 20th 2025.

We're gearing up for another epic journey, and we'd love for you to be a part of it! Our 2025 trip to the Ivory Coast promises to be a blast, filled with opportunities to explore, learn, and make a real difference in the lives of others.

We've put together a packet with all the juicy details about the trip, including the itinerary, payment plan, and trip application. Trust me, it's going to be a wild ride, and we wouldn't want anyone else by our side but you!

So what do you say? Ready to dive into the adventure and create some more unforgettable memories with us? We sure hope so!

If you have any questions or just want to chat about the trip, don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to make sure you're as psyched about this trip as we are!

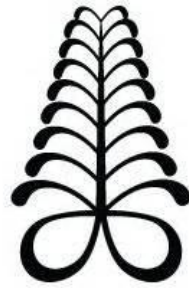
Cheers to new adventures,

Carrie Kangah

AYA Project Trip Coordinator / Founder

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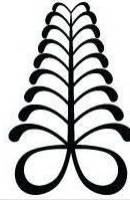
Welcome to our amazing adventure! Get ready for a journey filled with experiences that you won't soon forget. It's time to step out of your comfort zone and immerse yourself in a new cultural experience like never before. During this trip, we'll be more than just travelers—we'll be active participants in community projects, working and living alongside the very communities we serve. From lending a helping hand to experiencing local traditions firsthand, every moment promises to be meaningful and memorable. So buckle up and get ready to embark on an unforgettable adventure of a lifetime. Together, we'll make a difference, forge lifelong connections, and create cherished memories along the way. Let the adventure begin!

Please review the information included in this packet. If you have any questions or concerns, or if you know of anyone else who would like to take part in this year's adventure, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're limiting our group to 10 participants this year to ensure the best experience in a small, cohesive working group. To secure your spot, please make sure to reserve it by sending your trip deposit as soon as possible. Once we receive your deposit, you will receive confirmation from the AYA project that your place on the team has been secured.

Throughout the trip, we'll be staying in guesthouses and hotels that provide basic amenities, including air conditioning, private bathrooms, and access to WiFi. Most of our meals will be prepared by our host team and will include comfort food options in an "American" style, ensuring that everyone feels at home and satisfied during our journey. We're excited to embark on this journey together and create unforgettable memories in the Ivory Coast!

The AYA project will host three meetings prior to traveling with the team. Our first meeting will focus on reviewing the trip itinerary, details of the projects we'll be working on, and fundraising activities that will be taking place. This meeting will ensure that everyone is well-informed and prepared for the journey ahead. The second meeting will be dedicated to discussing what to pack and how to prepare for travel. We'll cover essential items, travel documents, health precautions, and any other important considerations to ensure a smooth and enjoyable trip. Finally, we'll have a pre-departure meeting to go over any last-minute details, address any remaining questions or concerns, and ensure that everyone is feeling confident and excited about the adventure.

ahead. Exact dates for these meetings are to be determined, but rest assured they will be hosted over Zoom and recorded for those who are unable to attend live. We believe that these meetings will be invaluable in ensuring that everyone is well-prepared and informed for the trip of a lifetime to the Ivory Coast. We can't wait to embark on this journey together!



2025 AYA Project Community Action Team Preliminary Itinerary

This outline is just the beginning of our grand adventure. Together, we'll stretch our boundaries, step out of our comfort zones, and dive headfirst into a whirlwind of life-changing experiences. Get ready for laughter, learning, and loads of unforgettable moments!

January 6 th	<p>Get ready to mark your calendars because January 6th is the day our adventure to the Ivory Coast kicks off! We'll meet up at Hancock Airport in Syracuse, where our flights, courtesy of Delta/Air France, will take us on an unforgettable journey. And yes, we're going coach economy class, because who needs first class when you've got the thrill of exploration ahead?</p> <p>Now, brace yourselves, because this day is going to be a marathon. With two layovers en route, we're looking at around 21 hours of travel time. So, slip into your comfiest attire, pack your sense of adventure, and get ready to dive headfirst into the unknown. Remember, we're all about stepping out of our comfort zones and embracing the extraordinary!</p>
January 7 th	<p>After a long journey, we'll touchdown in Abidjan, the vibrant capital of the Ivory Coast, late at night. But fear not, because our fantastic host team will be there to greet us at the airport. From there, it's off to the guest house where a delicious meal will be waiting for us. We highly recommend fueling up and getting some well-deserved rest because we've got an exciting agenda ahead of us!</p> <p>And here's some good news: the guest house or hotel where we'll be staying is equipped with WiFi, so you can easily reach out to your loved ones and let them know you've arrived safely. It's all about staying connected and ensuring peace of mind as we embark on this unforgettable journey together.</p>
January 8 th	<p>Today, we're keeping it relaxed as we dive into exploring the vibrant capital with a knowledgeable guide leading the way. We'll soak in the</p>

	<p>sights and sounds of the city, taking in its rich culture and fascinating history.</p> <p>But wait, there's more fun in store! We'll make a pit stop at a shopping mall, where you can snag any last-minute essentials you might have forgotten or stock up on delicious snacks for the journey ahead.</p> <p>As the day winds down, we'll aim for an early night, gearing up for a potential adventure at the night market. Get ready to tantalize your taste buds with an array of street foods and snacks, all while immersing ourselves in the vibrant local scene. It's bound to be an evening full of flavor and excitement!</p>
January 9 th	<p>Get ready for an adventure-packed day as we venture about 50 minutes outside the city to visit some wild hippos! It's bound to be a thrilling experience, getting up close and personal with the incredible wildlife of the Ivory Coast.</p> <p>After our wild hippo encounter, we'll make our way back to the city, where we'll settle in for a cozy night's rest. But don't get too comfortable because bright and early tomorrow, we're hitting the road again, leaving the city behind as we head for the bush! Get ready to dive deep into the heart of nature and create unforgettable memories in the wilderness</p>
January 10 th	<p>Get ready to rise and shine bright and early today as we embark on an exciting journey to beat the city traffic and dive deep into the bush! Today marks a significant milestone as we venture into the heart of the Bini forest for an overnight adventure. Get ready for an epic experience like no other!</p> <p>Our day will be filled with awe-inspiring moments as we trek through the bush, immersing ourselves in the rich flora and fauna of the region. Prepare to be amazed as we learn about the intricacies of cocoa and rubber plantations, gaining valuable insights into the local economy and culture.</p> <p>But that's not all—get ready to tantalize your taste buds with a traditional meal and dive into some fun-filled activities that'll have you smiling from ear to ear. As night falls, we'll retire to raised tents, embracing a primitive lifestyle that offers a glimpse into the challenges faced by some of our communities. It's a humbling experience that sheds light on the diverse realities of life, reminding us of the importance of empathy and</p>

	<p>understanding. Get ready for an unforgettable adventure that promises to leave a lasting impression on our hearts and minds</p>
January 11 th	<p>After a hearty breakfast amidst the serene beauty of the forest, we'll bid farewell and embark on the next leg of our journey to Yomssukkro, the focal point of our mission. This is where we'll truly become members of the communities we're working with, diving deep into our shared goals and aspirations.</p> <p>As we hit the road, we'll make time for a delicious lunch en route, fueling up for the adventures that lie ahead. Upon our arrival in Yomssukkro, we'll head straight to the guest house to unwind and recharge. After a night in the jungle, some well-deserved naps might be in order! But fear not—the guest house boasts modern amenities like air conditioning and Wi-Fi, ensuring our comfort and connectivity throughout our stay.</p> <p>Come evening, we'll gather for a delightful dinner at the guest house, savoring the flavors of the region as we settle into our new home for the remainder of our time in Yomssukkro. Get ready for a journey filled with meaningful connections, unforgettable experiences, and the promise of making a real difference in the lives of others.</p>
January 12 th	<p>Get ready to dive into action-packed day as we kick start our morning with a village tour, immersing ourselves in the vibrant community of Yomssukkro. Our agenda includes meeting with the esteemed king and elders to discuss our collaborative efforts in uplifting the community. We'll have the privilege of visiting traditional homes and families, gaining firsthand insight into their way of life and cherished traditions.</p> <p>But that's not all—our journey continues as we explore the vital pillars of the community, from farms teeming with life to the bustling clinic and school in Nadarkro. It's an opportunity to witness the heart and soul of this resilient community, learning from their resilience and determination.</p> <p>As the day winds down, we'll shift gears to organize our supplies and fine-tune our program for the days ahead. It's all hands on deck as we prepare to make a meaningful impact and create lasting change together. Get ready for a day filled with discovery, connection, and the promise of a brighter future for all</p>

January 13

Today, we're gearing up for an exciting event: Children's Day in Nadarkro! Our mission is simple yet impactful—to bring joy and essential supplies to the children of the community.

Get ready to spread smiles as we distribute new clothes, toys, and shoes to bright-eyed youngsters eager to embrace the day's festivities. But it's not just about gifts; we'll also be hosting engaging activities focused on handwashing and hygiene, empowering children with knowledge that can last a lifetime.

With around 200 kids expected to join the fun, it's bound to be an exhilarating yet heartwarming experience. So, gear up, pack those supplies, and get ready to make a difference—one child at a time!

January 14

Today marks an important milestone as we host Days For Girls, a transformative initiative aimed at providing reusable period kits to girls in rural areas. The need for these kits and accompanying education is undeniable, as they have a profound impact on the lives and health of every girl we reach.

This project isn't just about distributing kits; it's about empowerment and dignity. By equipping girls with the tools they need to manage their periods safely and hygienically, we're opening doors to education, opportunity, and a brighter future.

As we continue our legacy of service, with six years of distribution under our belts and approximately 400 kits already distributed by the AYA project, we're reminded of the immense impact we've had—and the potential to do even more. Today, as we hand out these kits, we're not just providing essential supplies; we're giving girls the gift of confidence, dignity, and a sense of possibility. It's a privilege to be part of this journey, and we're honored to make a difference in the lives of these remarkable young women

January 15

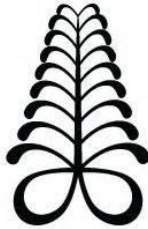
Get ready for an exciting day as we prepare to host a community event that promises to be unforgettable! While the details are still to be determined, one thing's for sure—it's going to be a celebration of community, connection, and shared experiences.

	<p>Stay tuned as we finalize the plans and get ready to come together for a day filled with laughter, camaraderie, and the spirit of togetherness. Whether it's a cultural showcase, a sports tournament, or a special workshop, one thing's certain—today is all about celebrating the strength and resilience of our community.</p> <p>So, gather your enthusiasm and get ready to make memories that will last a lifetime. It's going to be an event to remember</p>
<p>January 16</p>	<p>Today is all about embracing the laid-back vibes and enjoying the best of what the Ivory Coast has to offer. We'll kick off our morning with a leisurely tour of the Basical and the local alligators, immersing ourselves in the natural beauty of the region and perhaps even making some new reptilian friends along the way!</p> <p>But the real highlight of the day awaits us in the afternoon: our annual PEACE soccer tournament. This beloved community event brings people together from far and wide, uniting them in the spirit of friendly competition and camaraderie.</p> <p>As teams face off on the field, the excitement is palpable, with cheers and laughter echoing throughout the stadium. And in the true spirit of sportsmanship, all participants will receive a medal and soccer equipment to support their continued passion for the game.</p> <p>So lace up your cleats, grab your gear, and get ready to kick it with the best of them. It's bound to be a day filled with unforgettable moments and the joy of coming together as one community, united in the love of the beautiful game.</p>
<p>January 17</p>	<p>Today is a blank canvas, waiting to be filled with the vibrant colors of community spirit and connection. While the details of our event are still taking shape, one thing is certain—it's going to be a day to remember!</p>
<p>January 18</p>	<p>As our time in the Ivory Coast draws to a close, we're not quite ready to say goodbye just yet. We'll kick off our final day with one last community event in the morning, a chance to come together and celebrate the bonds we've formed and the memories we've shared.</p>

	<p>In the afternoon, we'll begin the bittersweet task of bidding farewell. We'll take the time to say our goodbyes to the wonderful people we've had the privilege of meeting and working alongside during our stay. And as a special honor, we'll have the opportunity to meet with the King, expressing our gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality we've received.</p> <p>Though our departure looms on the horizon, the memories we've made and the connections we've forged will stay with us long after we've said our farewells. So let's cherish these final moments together, reflecting on the impact we've had and the legacy we leave behind. Until we meet again, Ivory Coast, thank you for an unforgettable journey</p>
<p>January 19</p>	<p>What a perfect way to bid farewell to the Ivory Coast! We'll kick off our day bright and early, setting our course for a day of sun, sand, and sea at the beach. Our destination: Grand Bassam, where pristine beaches and glorious weather await us.</p> <p>As we soak up the coastal beauty, we'll also take the opportunity to indulge in some last-minute shopping for souvenirs, capturing memories of our unforgettable journey to cherish for years to come.</p> <p>But the day's delights don't end there! We'll gather for an incredible farewell dinner on the beach, surrounded by the gentle lull of the waves and the warmth of our host team's hospitality. It's a moment to reflect on the incredible experiences we've shared, the bonds we've formed, and the adventures that have left an indelible mark on our hearts.</p> <p>So, let's raise a toast to new beginnings, lifelong memories, and the enduring spirit of adventure. Here's to the Ivory Coast and the incredible journey we've embarked upon together!</p>
<p>January 20</p>	<p>As our time in the Ivory Coast draws to a close, we can't help but feel a tinge of sadness as we begin our journey homeward. Today marks another long day of travel, with our sights set on returning to Syracuse, NY.</p> <p>We'll bid farewell to Abidjan as we board our Delta flight, bracing ourselves for approximately 22 hours of travel time, including a time change. It's a bittersweet moment as we reflect on the memories we've</p>

made and the connections we've forged during our time in this beautiful country.

But as we head back to familiar ground, let's carry with us the lessons learned, the friendships formed, and the experiences that have enriched our lives. Our arrival back in the US on the 23rd will mark the end of this incredible journey, but the impact of our time in the Ivory Coast will stay with us forever.



2025 Trip Payment Plan & Fees

Get ready for an adventure with our budget-friendly trip plan! We've sliced and diced the expenses into easy, manageable payments. Just a heads up, though: payments to the airline, Visa, and travel insurance are like the first pit stops on our journey—once you're in, there's no turning back!

Got questions or want to share some excitement? We're all ears!

And hey, let's not forget the fun part: we're also on a mission to spice up our fundraising game! Join us in making some waves and raising funds for our project supplies. It's all about teamwork and having a blast along the way!

Delta Round Trip Syracuse To Abidjan	\$1700.00
Travel Insurance	\$110.00
Room & Board	\$1800.00
Visa	\$90.00
	\$3700.00
Trip Deposit Due By July 1 st - Goes Towards Air Fair Deposit	\$400.00
August Payment Due By 31 st	\$650.00
September Payment By 31st	\$650.00
October	\$500.00
November	\$500.00
December	\$500.00
January Due By The 1st	\$500.00

All payments will be seamlessly processed through online banking for your convenience. After each transaction, expect a detailed invoice sent directly to your email inbox