



INSIGHT TRIP FAQs



WHAT IS AN INSIGHT TRIP?

Insight Trips are safe, eye-opening and unforgettable adventures that are authentic to each host country. Participants will be immersed in a country and spend time with experts in the field and local hosts that know the culture inside out – their personal perspective will give you an intimate understanding of the culture and how Opportunity works alongside families to make significant and lasting changes. Best of all, you'll be able to visit families and see firsthand just how much small loans are transforming their lives and strengthening their communities.

At Opportunity, we are passionate about transforming lives around the world. We host Insight Trips so we can share with you the hope, gratitude and opportunity you bring to families who are working hard to leave poverty behind.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The trip cost varies depending on a number of variables such as what country is visited and how long the trip is for. In general, we suggest that you budget A\$1,500 which is payable to Opportunity to cover:

- Accommodation
- In-country transport (Including any internal flights, airport transfers and ground transportation)
- All meals
- Translators
- Sight seeing.

The trip cost does not include:

- Round trip international airfare
- Travel insurance
- Visa application costs (if applicable)
- Vaccinations.

These must be arranged by each participant.

Please be aware that trip costs are subject to change and will be confirmed prior to departure

HOW DO I REGISTER?

To register for an insight trip or to speak to someone further about a trip, please email insighttrips@opportunity.org.au. You will be sent a registration form to complete along with other forms required to participate in a trip.

At the time of registration, you will also be required to pay a \$500 per person deposit to secure your spot on the Insight Trip. This deposit is not refundable if you cancel within one month of trip departure. If for any reason it is necessary for Opportunity to cancel the trip, your deposit will be returned to you in full. Details for payment can be found on the registration form.

WHO WILL LEAD THE TRIP?

All of our group Insight Trips are led by an experienced Opportunity staff member from Australia. The group will also be accompanied by some of our in-country staff, partner organisation staff and a translator to help you interact with families you meet.

HOW LONG IS THE TRIP?

Insight Trips are generally one week in length. Usually, we ask that you arrive on the Sunday evening before the trip begins. Trips generally finish on the following Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Travellers are welcome to extend their stay in-country either before or after the official Insight Trip. Please note that all arrangements for this extra time must be made by the individual. Opportunity is not responsible for travellers during this additional time.

HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE IN THE GROUP?

To ensure that you get the most out of your trip, we like to keep our group sizes small. Group size is generally between 8-10 people.



WHAT SORT OF FOOD, ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT CAN I EXPECT?

Travelling outside your comfort zone and outside the 'western world' is always an experience in itself. During your Insight Trip you will have the opportunity to visit different communities in both rural and urban settings and witness the local lifestyle.

When choosing accommodation and transport methods, the security of our travellers is always our first priority. We work with local staff to secure vehicles from reputable and trusted companies which are air-conditioned and fitted with seatbelts.

Accommodation may differ according to location but will generally be four-star hotels where possible. Single, double and twin share rooms are available and must be requested at the time of registration. Please note that a single supplement fee will apply for those who wish to have their own room.

Food can be one of the most exciting elements of international travel. There may be some familiar fare but often you'll be confronted with the new, interesting and sometimes weird wonders of the culinary world. It's an adventure, but we always take care when selecting meal venues and often return to restaurants which are tried and tested.

CAN I DRINK THE WATER IN THE COUNTRY I VISIT?

In many destinations it is not advisable to drink the local water, so we recommend purchasing bottled water instead. Your trip cost includes the purchase of some water, available daily in the transport vehicles for the duration of your trip. Bottled water is also often provided free of charge in hotels on a daily basis.

I HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS - WILL THEY BE CATERED FOR?

We endeavour to accommodate all dietary requirements but, in some out-of-the-way places, it is difficult to guarantee. We will advise if there are places on the itinerary where this is the case.

Please let us know at the time of registration of any food requirements or allergies that we should be aware of. It is also a great idea to bring a card with your dietary requirements written in the local language which can be shown at restaurants if you are unsure or are away from the rest of the group.

WHAT ARE THE MEDICAL AND VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS?

Please see your local GP or a travel doctor for details and advice about current vaccination requirements.

DO I NEED TRAVEL INSURANCE?

Travel insurance is compulsory for all travellers and should be taken out at the time of booking your flights. You must provide proof of your travel insurance policy prior to departure; you will not be able to join the trip without it.

IS THERE AN AGE LIMIT FOR TRIP PARTICIPATION?

When travelling alone you need to be 18 years and above. However we love family groups, so if kids are travelling with their parents, please contact us to discuss.



DO I NEED A VISA?

Depending on the country of travel and the country your passport is issued by, you may be required to obtain a visa. While we do provide the following information regarding visas, we always recommend that participants conduct their own research to ascertain individual visa requirements.

INDIA

Australian passport holders require a valid visa for entry into India. The Indian Government provides an e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) scheme through the Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) facility. Eligible Australians may apply for an e-TV for tourism-related travel of 30 days or less. The e-TV is a single entry visa. You can apply for the e-TV at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html>. Please note that not all international airports in India allow passengers to enter with an e-TV. Please check that the port you wish to enter allows for entry with this type of visa before completing the application process.

PHILIPPINES

Holders of Australian passports can enter the Philippines without a visa if they intend to stay for 30 days or less for tourist or business purposes, provided they have a return or onward travel ticket and their passport is valid for at least six months beyond the intended stay in the Philippines. Visits exceeding 30 days will require a visa.

INDONESIA

Australian passport holders may enter Indonesia without a visa for a short stay of up to 30 days. Travellers intending to remain in Indonesia for more than 30 days can apply for a visa on arrival. This incurs a fee of US\$35. Travellers who enter Indonesia under the visa-free facility are not entitled to extend their stay and must apply for a visa before entering the country. Visitors who enter via the visa-free facility

must enter and exit through certain ports.

Note: the visa information provided here is subject to change without notice.

To organise your visa, please contact the relevant local embassy or consulate or visit a travel agent to arrange.

WHAT SAFETY AND SECURITY PROCEDURES ARE FOLLOWED?

Understandably, safety and security are important issues when travelling overseas. Opportunity prioritises the safety and security of all its participants and staff. With this in mind, a number of precautions and safeguards are in place to make all trips as safe as possible.

These precautions include:

- Opportunity monitors world events closely, making operational decisions based on informed advice from a number of sources, including the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) travel advisory and International SOS. We register all guests with DFAT prior to departure. International SOS is available to all travellers to provide 24/7 emergency assistance. More information on how to contact International SOS while in country is provided in a pre-departure trip booklet given to all travellers.
- An Opportunity staff member will accompany the group for the entirety of the trip.
- All trips begin with a briefing session which will help you to be aware of potential issues that may arise and things to be aware of in each country. Daily briefings are also undertaken to go through each day's activities.
- The itinerary, accommodation and transport mode between cities are all selected with security and safety as the highest priority.
- All travellers are required to purchase travel insurance before departure in case of emergency.
- All travellers are required to provide next of kin details in case of emergency. A staff member in Australia will be on standby should an emergency arise.