

Reach Out (At) Rwanda (ROAR!)

Dates: March 6-21

Projected Cost: ~\$2,100

Leaders:

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The juxtaposition of its beautiful countryside and the bloody events of its recent past make Rwanda an incredibly interesting place to do service abroad. The genocide, one of the worst in recorded history, levied untold psychological damage on the survivors.

But out of such rampant destruction, something incredible was born. The Agahozo Shalom Youth Village provides a loving and introspective community for orphans of the genocide. These youths have lived through countless traumatizing experiences and the village helps them process what they've been through.

Reach Out (At) Rwanda will spend a week of our trip in the village, working, listening to and doing all we can to support the young inhabitants. As the village is still in its first year, we will have the opportunity to help with important construction projects. As we build and play alongside the villagers, we will share and be shared with, but perhaps most importantly learn from them. The experience in the village stands to be once in a lifetime, as these kids have experienced something unique and the chance to talk with them should not be taken lightly.

After our stay in the village, it's on to the traveling portion of our journey! Rwanda boasts lush forests, endless mountains (it is often referred to as "The Land of a Thousand Hills"), and diverse wildlife. As Rwanda is only the size of Maryland, we will get to see much of the country even with out limited time. Among the highlights: game spotting in Akagera National Park (maybe we'll even be lucky enough to see a Silverback Gorilla or a Black Rhinoceri!), relaxing on the banks of idyllic Lake Kivu, checking out the markets in Butare, and exploring Rwanda's capital, Kigali.

Long story short, this trip is going to be life-changing in more ways than one. We hope you join us!