

Some Participants' comments in their evaluation of the Karibu 2009 experience

What aspects of the program were beneficial to you?

- The immersion experiences and the guidance by guides, brothers and sisters on the immersion experiences
- Visiting the sites the East Africa Brothers are working at
- The sharing by the Brothers of their ministries in Nairobi, Eldoret and Yambio
- The inputs of stimulating lecturers on aspects of African Culture
- The time together at Nakuru and Ngorogoro National Parks
- The living in a community of different people and getting to know them was the most beneficial. It called for looking into attitudes & behaviours in addition to learning about different cultures. (2)
- The sense of community we developed.
- The immersion. So well organized.
- The wide variety of experiences throughout the program
- The listening circles after immersion
- The walk to the Maasai village to visit the chief with many wives
- Lecturers well chosen
- Team well put together with different roles
- Living with other people and coming to a better understanding of myself
- The immersion was very challenging.
- We were assisted by excellent guides who gave us a glimpse of their life and their village
- Working in schools, working in slum areas, communicating g with people
- I felt very welcomed
- I was given a deeper understanding of life in Nairobi and Arusha

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What aspects of living in a different culture did you find most challenging?

- The food: I missed my hamburgers
- Not knowing the language (2)
- Meeting Brothers and other members of the Edmund Rice Network from other parts of the world
- Moving out of my comfort zone and interacting with people from other parts of the world
- Constantly having kids swarm me because I'm white
- Our different viewpoints on our way of living
- Cleanliness
- Being out of my comfort zone
- Trying to make sense of the culture
- Unable to taste the real Africa due to fear of sickness
- Trying to understand how a country in the 21st century could let people live like this, not just a country but people throughout the world.
- Difficult to understand the concept of not having free education, health care and social welfare which is common to us.
- The roller coaster of emotions and the inability to control them

How did you find the immersion experiences?

- Good. Being able to see poverty and disease was very enlightening
- Excellent. Well planned, giving different experiences
- Great. Encountering many wonderful Africans
- I rate them highly. I appreciated the organization in having so many things planned
- I loved working in Kibera and the opportunity to see other sites in Nairobi and Arusha
- The immersion provided me with the 'greatest' experience of my Karibu program
- My teaching for one and half hours each day was complemented by the opportunity to roam the village