



International Travel and
Hosting Fellowship



Connections July 2025

ITHF now has over 1000 members



Dear Fellow ITHF Rotarians,

It is a true honor and privilege to serve as your President for the 2025–2027 term.

As we begin this new Rotary ITHF chapter, I extend a warm welcome to all who joined us at the Rotary International Convention. I also want to express heartfelt appreciation to those who volunteered their time to promote our incredible fellowship. A special thank-you to our faithful long-time members who continue to embody the mission of ITHF—remaining active in the fellowship, opening their homes, traveling together, and embracing the richness of diverse cultures, customs, and friendships.

As a proud Rotarian and ITHF member for over 25 years, I've experienced the incredible value of this fellowship through hosting, being hosted, and connecting with fellow members around the world—both in person and virtually. These moments have created deep, lasting friendships and meaningful global bonds.

Over the past few years, I've had the joy of serving as Membership Chair and President-Elect, working alongside Past President Madhu, our dedicated board, and several active committees. Together, we've strengthened our fellowship, reinvigorated our membership, and expanded our global connections.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to continue building on this momentum. Our goals include strengthening the work of our existing committees—Membership, Public Relations, Website, Vice Presidents, Virtual Tours, and Tours—while also welcoming new volunteers and fresh ideas. By engaging more members, especially from underrepresented regions, we can offer even more meaningful opportunities for connection, travel, and cultural exchange.

I warmly invite your ideas, energy, and involvement as we work together to ensure ITHF remains vibrant, inclusive, and engaging—especially for the next generation of globally minded Rotarians. Thank you for being part of this remarkable fellowship. The friendships we share across borders are what make ITHF so special. I look forward to serving with you and continuing our shared journey in the years ahead.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at lichalic3@me.com.

Virtual Tour Committee Update

Anyone who would like to volunteer to be on this Committee should contact Chair Ligia Corredor at lichalic3@me.com and Co-Chair Simmy Ahluwalia at simmy.ithf@gmail.com.

July 25 and 26 - Newcomer orientation post convention

Sep 26 and 27 - Cambodia (to be confirmed)

Oct 24 and 25 - Coffee/ Connections

Dec 5 and 6 - Holiday session

Tours Currently Being Offered By the Tour Committee

Galapagos & Peru with Alonso—October 2025—see flyer below for the combined Galapagos/Peru Tour or a tour only to the Galapagos or to Peru

Kerela and Southern India with Siva—January 19-30, 2026 - see flyer below

Hiroshima Peace Tour—May 11-21, 2026—registration is now open;

Post RICON Taipei Tour of Taiwan—June 18-22, 2026.

Looking for Dedicated Members to Join Four Key Committees in ITHF

1. Tour Committee

- Help guide planning of convention tours.
- Review and approve exciting group tour ideas suggested by fellow members.
- Help grow our community with engaging outreach strategies.

2. Virtual Travel Committee

- Organize and host virtual sessions by ITHF members.
- Provide opportunities for members to connect and share stories of their trip experiences in virtual get-togethers.

3. **Membership Committee** is planning to have two new subcommittees to Promote ITHF. If interested in volunteering contact: Membership Chair elect Andrew (Andy) Ullman. andyuco@gmail.com

If you're interested in contributing your skills, enthusiasm, and ideas, please contact Ligia Corredor at email: lichalic3@me.com for further details.

DO YOU HAVE A TALE TO TELL ABOUT MAKING A CONNECTION

Please share your tales with Sheila Hart, Editor of Connections at email: sheilahart@shaw.ca.

Articles should be no more than 250 words. Include a photo or two.

If your article is used in Connections, you will receive a one year membership in ITHF.



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



**Group limited in
25 participants**

A STUNNING JOURNEY TO PERU + GALAPAGOS 2025 Experience the Majesty of the Andes & the Wildlife in Galapagos

Starting: October 6th, 2025 (in Quito Airport - UIO)

Finish: October 27th, 2025 (from Lima Airport)

Duration: 22 Days / 21 Nights

Itinerary Overview:

Language: English

1	06-Oct	Mon		arriving in Quito	Quito	La Casona
2	07-Oct	Tue	B	Quito tour	Quito	La Casona
3	08-Oct	Wed	B	Flying to Baltra LA 1411 08:44 11:15	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
4	09-Oct	Thu	B	Santa Cruz Island tour	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
5	10-Oct	Fri	B	morning boat to Isabela and tour Island	Isabela Island	La Casita de la Playa
6	11-Oct	Sat	B	boat tour to Santa Cruz, Darwin Center	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
7	12-Oct	Sun	B	boat tour to Española and San Cristóbal	San Cristobal	Galapagos Sunset
8	13-Oct	Mon	B	San Cristóbal tour	San Cristobal	Galapagos Sunset
9	14-Oct	Tue	B	fly to Lima LA1418 - 12:08 22:35	Lima Airport	Wyndham C. del Sol
10	15-Oct	Wed	B, L	fly to Juliaca LA 2147 - 08:55 10:30	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
11	16-Oct	Thu	B, L	Titicaca Lake tour	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
12	17-Oct	Fri	B, L	driving to Ollantaytambo, tour in Písaq	Ollanta	Sol Natura Hotel
13	18-Oct	Sat	B, D	Ollanta tour + train to Aguascalientes	A.Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
14	19-Oct	Sun	B	hiking Machu Picchu and explore the	A.Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
15	20-Oct	Mon	B	train to Ollanta + Chinchero tour	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
16	21-Oct	Tue	B, D	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
17	22-Oct	Wed	B	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
18	23-Oct	Thu	B	fly to Lima LA 2237 - 14:40 16:10	Lima	Javier Prado
19	24-Oct	Fri	B	driving to Paracas, boat tour Ballestas	Nasca	San Isidro G Hotel
20	25-Oct	Sat	B, L	fly over Nasca Lines	Lima	Best Western Plus
21	26-Oct	Sun	B	Miraflores Tour & Lima city tour	Lima	Best Western Plus
22	27-Oct	Mon	B	fly back home LA8040 09:30 16:20		



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL

Program:

21 nights in Ecuador and Peru, visiting Titicaca Lake, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Nasca and much more.

Hotel program with personal assistance:

- 2 nights in Quito
- 6 nights Galapagos
- 1 night Lima Airport
- 2 nights in Puno at Titicaca Lake
- 6 nights at Sacred Valley, including Cusco and Machu Picchu
- 3 nights in Lima
- 1 Night in Nasca

Transfers by plane included:

- Flight ticket Quito/Isla Santa Cruz and return from Isla San Cristobal/Quito
- Flight Quito/Lima, next day Lima/Juliaca
- Flight Cusco/Lima

What's included:

- Boat – inside Galapagos (boat taxis aren't included)
- Transfers to attractions. Tickets to all mentioned attractions in the program.
- Local guide in Galapagos and Peru, speaking English.
- Hotel nights in Ecuador, Galapagos and Peru – 21 nights in total
- Flights Quito, Galapagos, Lima, Juliaca returning to Lima. Flight over Nasca lines.
- Tickets to all geological sites in Peru
- Train to Machu Picchu and Boat tour in Ballestas Islands (giant chandelier)

What's not included:

- food and beverages outside program
- anything not specified.

Price per person in a double or triple room:

Galapagos + Peru Program: starting from **US\$7.260,00** * (single supplement: 2,080.00)

* Ask for payment plans and method



ALONSO CAMPOI | Brazilian Travel

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BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL PRESENTS

AN AMAZING JOURNEY TO GALAPAGOS 2025

Discover the Enchanted Galápagos Islands, a Journey like no other

Imagine a place where nature reigns supreme, where wildlife approaches without fear, and each day feels like a new chapter of a living documentary. Welcome to the Galápagos Islands — one of the most extraordinary destinations on Earth!

Program:

8 nights in Equator, visiting Galapagos Archipelago.

Hotel program with personal assistance:

- 2 nights in Quito
- 6 nights Galapagos

Transfers by plane included:

- Flight ticket Quito/Isla Santa Cruz and return from Isla San Cristobal/Guayaquil

What's included:

- Boat – inside Galapagos (boat taxis aren't included)
- Transfers to attractions. Tickets to all mentioned attractions in the program.
- Local guide in Galapagos

Dates:

Starting: October 6th, 2025 (in Quito UIO Airport)

Finish: October 14th, 2025 (from Guayaquil GYE Airport)

Duration: 9 Days / 8 Nights

Language: English



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL

Program Overview:

1	06-Oct	Mon		arriving in Quito	Quito	La Casona
2	07-Oct	Tue	B	Quito tour	Quito	La Casona
3	08-Oct	Wed	B	Flying to Baltra LA 1411 08:44 11:15	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
4	09-Oct	Thu	B	Santa Cruz Island tour	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
5	10-Oct	Fri	B	morning boat to Isabela and tour Island	Isabela Island	La Casita de la Playa
6	11-Oct	Sat	B	boat tour to Santa Cruz, Darwing Center	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
7	12-Oct	Sun	B	boat tour to Española and San Cristóbal	San Cristobal	Galapagos Sunset
8	13-Oct	Mon	B	San Cristóbal tour	San Cristobal	Galapagos Sunset
9	14-Oct	Tue	B	fly to Lima LA1418 - 12:08 14:54		

Our service: complete assistance guide speaking Spanish and English

Price per person in a double room:

Whole Program: starting from US\$2.980,00* (only Equator trip)

Single supplement: USD1,050.00

* Ask for payment plans and method



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BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL PRESENTS
AN AMAZING JOURNEY TO PERU 2025
Experience the Majesty of the Andes & the Mystique of the Incas

Brought to you with the soul and flair of Brazil, and designed for discerning travelers seeking cultural depth, comfort, and unforgettable memories.

Dates:

Starting: October 14th, 2025 (in São Paulo GRU Airport)

Finish: October 27th, 2025 (from Lima, last stop GRU Airport)

Duration: 14 Days / 13 Nights

Language: English

Program:

13 nights in Perú, visiting Titicaca Lake, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Nasca and much more.

Itinerary Overview:

1	14-Oct	Tue	-	Leaving from São Paulo	Lima	Wyndham C. del Sol
2	15-Oct	Wed	B, L	fly to Juliaca LA 2147 - 08:55 10:30	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
3	16-Oct	Thu	B, L	Titicaca Lake tour	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
4	17-Oct	Fri	B, L	driving to Ollantaytambo, tour in Pisaq	Ollanta	Sol Natura Hotel
5	18-Oct	Sat	B, D	Ollanta tour + train to Aguascalientes	A. Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
6	19-Oct	Sun	B	hiking Machu Picchu and explore the	A. Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
7	20-Oct	Mon	B	train to Ollanta + Chinchero tour	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
8	21-Oct	Tue	B, D	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
9	22-Oct	Wed	B	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
10	23-Oct	Thu	B	fly to Lima LA 2237 - 14:40 16:10	Lima	Javier Prado
11	24-Oct	Fri	B	driving to Paracas, boat tour Ballestas	Nasca	San Isidro G Hotel
12	25-Oct	Sat	B, L	fly over Nasca Lines	Lima	Best Western Plus
13	26-Oct	Sun	B	Miraflores Tour & Lima city tour	Lima	Best Western Plus
14	27-Oct	Mon	B	fly back home LA8040 09:30 16:20		



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL

What's included:

- Flights from Lima to Juliaca and Cusco to Lima.
- Flight over Nasca lines.
- Tickets to archaeological sites surround Cuzco e Sacred valley
- Train to Machu Picchu
- Van making all transportation to attractions
- Boat tour in Ballestas Islands (giant chandelier)

Our service: complete assistance guide speaking Spanish and English

Price per person in a double or triple room:

Whole Program: starting from US\$3.540,00* (only Peru trip)

Single supplement: USD1,290.00

* Ask for payment plans and method

What's not included: food and beverages; tickets to the attractions, when not nominated; anything not specified



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BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



KERALA - KANYAKUMARI SOUTH INDIA TOUR

A JOURNEY THROUGH 'GOD'S OWN COUNTRY'

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Cultural Immersion:

Visit iconic landmarks including Meenakshi Temple, Vivekananda Rock Memorial, and ancient churches of Kochi.

Backwater Bliss:

Experience a traditional houseboat cruise through the tranquil backwaters of Alleppey.

Hill Stations & Tea Estates:

Breathe in the fresh mountain air of Munnar and explore its lush green tea plantations.

Wildlife Adventure:

Boat safari at Periyar National Park with a chance to spot elephants and more.

Art & Performance:

Witness Kerala's classical arts like Kathakali and Kalaripayattu in their traditional setting.

Spiritual Serenity:

Enjoy sunrise and sunset at Kanyakumari – the confluence of three seas.

Rotary Fellowship:

Interact with local Rotary Clubs and participate in service project visits.

Local Flavours:

Relish traditional Kerala cuisine, including banana leaf meals and a curated cooking session.

Comfortable Stays:

Stay in premium resorts and hotels offering comfort, hospitality, and stunning views.

Comfortable Travel:

Private A/C coach with professional escort from arrival to departure.



Tour Dates: January 19 to January 30, 2026



Minimum Participants: 20 | Maximum Participants: 30



Registration Deadline: October 15, 2025



Accessibility: Transport for disabled individuals available with separate vehicles at extra cost.



Day	Date & Weekday	Meals	Daytime Activities	Night Stay/(Hotel)
1	19-Jan-2026 (Monday)	Nan	Arriving Trivandrum/ Transfer to Hotel Trivandrum,	Meet and Greet (Vivantha)
2	20-Jan-2026 (Tuesday)	B, L, D	Exploring Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum): Discover the highlights of the capital city, including visits related to Rotary projects, showcasing their community impact.	Trivandrum South Rotary club (Vivantha)
3	21-Jan-2026 (Wednesday)	B, L	Engaging Experiences: Participate in a special Ministers' visit (subject to confirmation) and immerse yourself in the captivating illusions and entertainment at Magic Planet.	Trivandrum (Vivanta)
4	22-Jan-2026 (Thursday)	B, L	Journey to the Misty Hills of Ponmudi: Embark on a scenic day trip to Ponmudi, a charming hill station known for its winding roads and breathtaking views that truly capture your heart.	Trivandrum (Vivanta)
5	23-Jan-2026 (Friday)	B, L	Art, History, and Compassion: Experience the awe-inspiring Jadayu Earth Center, home to the world's largest bird sculpture, and visit Gandhi Bhavan, a sanctuary where over 1,200 individuals have found rehabilitation and hope.	Alleppy (Sterling Lake Palace, Alleppy)
6	24-Jan-2026 (Saturday)	B, L	Enchanting Backwater Cruise in Alapppy: Glide along the serene backwaters of Alapppy on a traditional houseboat. Witness the unique lifestyle of the region and enjoy views of lush paddy fields stretching along the waterways.	Kochi (Radisson Blu)
7	25-Jan-2026 (Sunday)	B, L	Exploring the Historic Charm of Kochi: Discover the cultural tapestry of Kochi with visits to the historic Mattancherry Palace (Dutch Palace), the ancient Jewish Synagogue, the iconic St. Francis Church, and conclude your day with a captivating Kathakali performance at a local theatre, showcasing Kerala's vibrant classical dance form.	Kochi (Radisson Blu)
8	26-Jan-2026 (Monday)	B, L	Scenic Drive to Munnar's Tea Hills: Enjoy a picturesque drive from Kochi to Munnar, passing through stunning landscapes, cascading waterfalls at Cheeyapara and Valara, and the scenic beauty of Neriamangalam.	Munnar (Nature Zone Jungle Resort)
9	27-Jan-2026 (Tuesday)	B, L	Immersed in Munnar's Greenery: Explore the sprawling tea plantations that carpet the hills of Munnar. Visit the Eravikulam National Park, home to the Nilgiri Tahr, and experience the scenic beauty of Mattupetty Dam and its surroundings.	Munnar (Nature Zone Jungle Resort)
10	28-Jan-2026 (Wednesday)	B, L	Adventure and Culinary Delights in Munnar: Embark on a refreshing trekking experience through the hills. Later, delve into the art of tea making with a visit to a Tea Museum and participate in an engaging cooking demonstration showcasing local flavors.	Munnar (Nature Zone Jungle Resort)
11	29-Jan-2026 (Thursday)	B, L	Journey to Thekkady's Wildlife Haven: Travel from Munnar to Thekkady via the scenic Gap Road, stopping at viewpoints to capture the beauty of the region, including glimpses of dams and plantations.	Thekkady (Green Woods)
12	30-Jan-2026 (Friday)	B, L	Wildlife Encounters in Thekkady: Experience the renowned Periyar National Park with a boat safari (subject to availability). Enjoy an opportunity to witness elephants in their natural habitat (if available), followed by a visit to a spice plantation and a captivating Kalarippayattu (traditional martial art) performance.	Thekkady (Green Woods)
13	31-Jan-2026 (Saturday)	B, L	Transition to Kanyakumari via Madurai: Begin your journey towards Kanyakumari, with a stop in Madurai to meet local Rotarians and visit the magnificent Meenakshi Temple, a vibrant example of Dravidian architecture.	Kanyakumari (Sparsa)
14	01-Feb-2026 (Sunday) B, L		Witnessing the Confluence in Kanyakumari: Experience the breathtaking sunrise at Kanyakumari Beach, visit the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and the Thiruvalluvar Statue by boat, reflect at the Our Lady of Ransom Church, enjoy a leisurely beach walk, and witness the mesmerizing sunset at the confluence of three seas.	Kanyakumari (Sparsa)
15	02-Feb-2026 (Monday)	B, L, D	Cultural Exchange and Farewell in Kovalam: Travel back towards Trivandrum, with a meaningful interaction with students at the NVKS School in Attoor. Enjoy a traditional lunch served on banana leaves, followed by a relaxing evening and a farewell dinner at the exquisite Taj Green Cove Resort Trivandrum.	(Taj Green Cove Resort Kovalam)
16	03-Feb-2026 (Tuesday)	B	Departure: After breakfast, you will be transferred to Trivandrum International Airport for your onward journey, filled with cherished memories of your Kerala and Kanyakumari exploration.	

Tour Package Rate:

USD 2,997 per participant sharing a double room.
USD 3,988 per person, based on single occupancy.

Contact for Registration and Queries

Sivaprasad S Pillai Administrator, International Travel and Hosting Fellowship (ITHF)
Email: pillai.sivaprasad@gmail.com Telephone: +91 96330 69336

Notes:

1.Meals:B- Breakfast, L,-Lunch, D-Dinner

2 Inclusions:

- Accommodation for 15 nights
- Daily Breakfasts on Day 02 to Day 16
- Lunch on Day 02 to 15(Lunch on Day 06 will be in the Houseboat).
- Dinner on Day 02 and Day 09. Farewell Dinner on day 15 at Taj Green Cove Resort, Kovalam
- An enchanting Day Cruise with Lunch aboard a traditional Houseboat in Alleppey.
- Services of a professional English-speaking Escort throughout your journey, from arrival to departure.
- All transportation and sightseeing as per this itinerary in a comfortable AC 35-seater Coach.
- All applicable toll charges, parking fees, driver's allowance (bata), fuel costs etc.,

3 Exclusions:

- Any meals not explicitly mentioned in the inclusions.
- International or domestic airfare.
- Any items or services not specifically listed under "Inclusions."
- Porterage at hotels and airports, personal tips, insurance, laundry services, alcoholic beverages..
- All expenses of a personal nature.
- Any additional costs incurred due to unforeseen natural calamities or events beyond our control.
- Any increase in government taxes/fuel costs that may lead to a rise in surface transportation costs.

4. Other guidelines

- Airport pick-up and drop-off services during non-standard hours may attract additional charges.
- Sightseeing schedules are subject to adjustments based on time constraints and weather conditions.
- The content of this plan is subject to change, if unforeseen circumstances demand adjustments

Steve and Noko Yoshida's 10 Day Hiroshima Peace Tours May 11-21, 2026

Please view this lovely video about the forthcoming tour https://youtube/ErR_XTLVLDOQ



“OHO” ITHF Japan tour, 11-21 May 2026 with Noko and Steve Yoshida.

Steve and Noko are currently in the process of redesigning this tour to make it more affordable and to include a service component.

We call this our “OHO” (pleasant surprise) tour, ie., Oishi (delicious), Heiwa (peace) and Onsen (Japanese hot springs). In other words, you will delight in Japanese cuisine, relax at Japanese hot springs, and be inspired by the message of peace in Hiroshima and sustainable living on Osakikamijima Island. And there is more.

Steve Yoshida states “Hiroshima is the home of my ancestors. So it was natural that I would visit. But what I found changed my life. Such a beautiful city, lots of trees and greenery, the inspiring peace museum, 7 rivers flowing through it, friendly and kind people, we decided to spend time in Hiroshima every year. Then we made a discovery. An island called Osakikamijima nearby in Japan’s Inland Sea. It is one the most beautiful spots in Japan.

We met many interesting people on the island, who taught us about sustainable living from the land and sea. About working and sharing together in harmony with nature.

We want to share what we learned with our ITHF friends. So this is not just a sightseeing tour, although we will visit temples, historical sights and stay at Japanese inns with onsen (spa). It is engaging a peaceful, happy way of life that is unique and inspiring.”

The 2024 Nobel Peace Prize went to the organization of Hiroshima A-bomb survivors. You will meet one of them.

Accommodations, breakfast and dinner, transportation, English speaking guide, all taxes and fees.

For more information contact Steve Yoshida at email: steveyoshida@gmail.com or phone 1-808-500-3221

Embark on an Unforgettable Journey and Experience the Heartbeat of Taiwan June 18-22, 2026

!



After the 2026 Rotary International Convention, we sincerely invite you to join this five-day cultural immersion tour.

Wander through the historic alleys and temples of Tainan, where the rich heritage of Taiwan comes to life. Witness the breathtaking sunrise over the rolling sea of clouds at Alishan. Cruise across the serene waters of Sun Moon Lake, embracing the harmony of nature. Stroll through the charming Hakka Mountain town of Miaoli, where nostalgia and warm hospitality create a truly unique experience.

This is more than just a trip—it's a cherished memory in the making, shared with ITHF friends from around the world.

Seats are limited, so reserve your place early and be part of this extraordinary journey!

Rotary International Convention Taiwan Cultural Discovery Tour Description:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wkedooHvV7B9wiALkeXNDJQeEO76lg2x/view?usp=sharing>

Contact Information

ITHF VP Michael from D3482, RC of Taipei Metro East, Taipei, Taiwan

e-mail: michael.fh.chen@gmail.com

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TRIP TO TANZANIA EXCEEDED TAM AGOSTI-GISLER'S EXPECTATIONS

My recent trip to Tanzania exceeded expectations and one of the reasons is Rotary! As a member of Rotary International Travel and Host Fellowship (ITHF), I perused the membership list and discovered a host in Arusha, the city from which safari tours to many of the country's national parks begin. I discovered a new host named Roselyn Kagaruki, who had just signed up after learning about ITHF at the Singapore RICON House of Friendship booth in May 2024. She told me that my friend and I would be her first guests and first Alaskans she'd met and invited us to stay with her. I asked for recommendations on safari tour companies since there were so many options and, in the end, we chose one belonging to a friend whom Roselyn has known since grade school. After our fabulous visits to Tarangire, Manyara, and Serengeti National Parks as well as the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, we were indeed very pleased with her recommendation.

Upon our arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport, Roselyn met us just outside the doors with a large Rotary ITHF Welcome poster that she had printed. I love that idea of a welcome poster and am going to replicate it for use with my future guests! As we drove the 45 minutes back to her home, we chatted about many of the wonderful projects that her club, RC Arusha Mount Meru, were involved in as well as my club, Anchorage East Rotary. After getting freshened up in her lovely, spacious home, we were off to visit the nearby Njiro Secondary School. In addition to meeting the principal, some staff and students, we delivered school supplies, including many pens and pencils donated by the businesses of my fellow Rotarians. I was happy to meet the Interact Club's sponsor-teacher and see the garden that Interactors are growing to provide food to the school and learn gardening skills. (I am my district's Interact Chair, and I helped found two Interact clubs at high schools in Anchorage, so the program is near and dear to my heart.) For the past several years, Roselyn's club has provided this school's adolescent girls with reusable period supplies that allow them to continue attending school during their cycles.

Our next stop was at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Arusha where more connections were made and Roselyn, as her district's Assistant Governor, was able to check-in. After the meeting, we were invited to visit the Uhuru elementary school nearby to see the washrooms they had just finished installing as part of their WASH Project. Working with their local government, this club has been able to build boys' and girls' washrooms in most of the municipal elementary schools, which, of course, positively impacts school attendance.

Lastly, we visited the St. Elizabeth Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and witnessed preemie babies thriving as a result of the incubator beds that her club has provided. This private hospital now has such a high rate of survival for these babies, that the government hospital often refers preemies to them for care! I know it is heartwarming for these Rotarians to know they are directly saving lives!

On another day, Roselyn took us to meet the sisters at the private Notre Dame School and where we also delivered school supplies and took a tour.

We stayed with Roselyn three nights –before our safari, after our safari and after a visit to the country's famous spice island of Zanzibar. It was quite convenient to leave the extra bag at her home in which I'd brought the school supplies while on safari, and to leave our camping gear there while in Zanzibar, all the while knowing it was secure. Not only was she a delightful host on each occasion, but she also took us to the bank to get Tanzanian money, to a local museum, the Maasai market and two different restaurants where we tried local and national specialties like kuku mnafu - chicken and greens; kisamvu - cassava leaves; mbuzi – grilled goat meat; ugali – boiled maize flour; and chips mayai - eggs with fries baked inside. We also enjoyed testing the local lager aptly named Kilimanjaro! Roselyn greeted us each morning with a great breakfast that started with a wonderful smoothy she made from fresh mango, papaya and ginger that was much appreciated! We enjoyed meeting her delightful daughter and learning about her family in our many conversations. I look forward to hosting her in my home in the future, perhaps after 118th Rotary International Convention in Hawaii from June 5-9, 2027 since there are direct flights from Honolulu to Anchorage!

