



PROJECT SAFARI TO SURINAME & TRINIDAD

**D5610 and D7610 to D7030
January 29-February 9, 2012**

**Information and Application
for Rotarians to visit projects**

PROJECT SAFARI TO SURINAME & TRINIDAD

January 29-February 9, 2012

Announcing plans for a Project Safari with District 5610 and District 7610 to District 7030, which includes Trinidad, Tobago and Suriname, in the southern Caribbean. District 5610 is currently in progress with a latrine block at a Paramaribo school, sponsored by Rapid City and Rushmore Clubs. This project is scheduled to complete in October. District 7610 has a rainwater catch system project in progress near Rica, sponsored by Tracy Settle's club. Lara Quentrall-Thomas, DGE D7030 will identify other projects in their district and perhaps include on our itinerary.

A Project Safari (as outlined by RI President Ray Klingensmith, see application attached) is similar to a Friendship Exchange in that we are mostly Rotarians/spouses visiting another district's projects and clubs.

Suriname is paired with the state of South Dakota by the US State Department and many of its citizens have participated in exchanges.

The proposed trip begins at Port of Spain from 29 January to 1 February, 2012, lodging our group at the Hyatt Regency. We will meet Lara Quentrall-Thomas and other Rotarians, tour their projects, and spend some time relaxing at their beautiful beaches.

Then continuing on to Paramaribo 2 - 9 February, we lodge at the Hotel Krasnapolsky, centrally located downtown. We will tour the school project and perhaps others. We hope to attend a few club meetings, and enjoy the warm Rotarian hospitality that some of us have already received and wish to experience again! We will visit the huge marketplace and eat at great restaurants. We also have an optional choice of the Bergendal Adventure Centre for those who wish to experience a taste of the equatorial jungle. Cost based on size of group.

The cost of the two hotels, some breakfasts and the flight between Trinidad and Paramaribo is approximately \$1426/person double occupancy. Single fare is \$2076. The airfare to Port of Spain, Trinidad and from Paramaribo, Suriname is not included, expect to pay between \$1200-2000 per person depending on origination of flight. Costs are borne by each traveler, except for some ground transportation and any entertainment provided by the host clubs.

I'm hoping we recruit 10-16 persons. Please review the attached application and contact me soon. I will send further information and updates to interested persons.

Linda Peterson, D5610 RFE chair, Rotary Club of Rapid City

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DISTRICT 5610 TEAM MEMBER EXPECTATIONS FOR PROJECT SAFARIS

Guidelines for Rotary Project Safaris (As Proposed by Ray Klingensmith for Initial Safaris in 2010-11)

The following guidelines are suggested for Rotary Project Safaris to encourage and enable Rotarians to visit Rotary projects in countries other than their own. The objective is to assist Rotarians in visiting districts where funding for international service projects is truly needed, and it is my observation that when Rotarians see the effects of poverty, they respond generously and effectively. So we can now utilize our knowledge of Rotary friendship exchanges and National Immunization Days to improve our network of Rotary humanitarian projects around the globe! We can do even better what Rotary does best, which is **Building Communities – Bridging Continents!**

1. **Team Members.** The safari teams will be composed of five to eight Rotarians, who will view and evaluate Rotary projects for the purpose of encouraging financial support for such projects upon their return home. The teams may include non-Rotarian spouses of the team members, if the spouses are willing to participate in all of the project visits and to actively promote funding for the projects upon their return home.
2. **Sending Clubs or Districts.** Each safari team will be sponsored by a Rotary club or a Rotary district in the team's home country.
3. **Host Clubs or Districts.** The visit of each safari team will be sponsored by a Rotary club or a Rotary district in a country other than the team's home country.
4. **Travel Expenses.** The travel expenses of the safari team members will be paid by the team members themselves, including the food and lodging expenses in the host country. Local transportation will be provided by the host club or district.
5. **Length of Visit.** The visit of a safari team to a host club or district will last no less than five days and no more than seven days, unless the sending club or district and the host club or district agree on an extended time. The safari team will be free to visit other areas for normal tourist activities, either before or after the period of the Rotary safari, without assistance of the host club or district.
6. **Responsibility of Host Club or District.** The host club or district will furnish local transportation for the safari team to visit Rotary projects and tourist attractions in the host area with approximately one-half time allocated to service projects that need additional funding and the other half to tourist activities. The host club or district also will provide opportunities for the safari team to attend Rotary club meetings and other Rotary activities. The host club or district also will make suitable arrangements for the safari team to stay in hotels or motels in the local area. The expense of the local hotel or motels will be paid by the safari team members, and therefore, the team leader should be consulted in advance about the charges and services of the proposed hotels or motels. The schedule of activities for each team will be provided well in advance by the host club or district.
7. **Responsibility of Sending Club or District.** The sending club or district will verify that each member of the safari team is a Rotarian in good standing with his or her Rotary club or the spouse of a Rotarian in good standing. All team members must be genuinely interested in helping to develop and fund Rotary service projects in the host area.
8. **Responsibility of Team Members.** The safari team members will fulfill their responsibility to look for viable Rotary service projects in the host area and to seek funding for such projects when they return home. They also will be responsible for all of their own travel expenses, including food and lodging in the host area. Local transportation in the host area, as needed for the Rotary safari, will be furnished by the host club or district at no expense to the team members.
9. **Safaris Not Limited to Africa.** Although the safari name usually connotes trips to Africa, the Rotary Project Safaris may be arranged between clubs and districts anywhere in the Rotary world.
10. **The Four Way Test.** One of the purposes of the Rotary Project Safaris is to develop cooperative relationships between Rotary clubs and districts, and Rotarians involved in the safaris should be sure that the trips are beneficial to all concerned.

11. **Similar Rotary Activities.** It is recognized that many Rotary clubs and districts are already engaged in humanitarian service projects and visits in a manner similar to the Rotary Project Safaris. The safaris are not intended to replace or supplant any existing activities, but merely to provide a framework for additional Rotary clubs and districts to become involved in international service projects.
12. **Areas of Focus.** It is recommended that the host clubs and districts give first priority to projects within the six areas of focus of the TRF Future Vision Plan. It also is recommended that the host club or district communicate well in advance with the team leader about the type of projects that will be shown to the team members in order for the interests of the team members to be suitably matched to the projects to be visited in the host areas.

Goal of Proposed Project Safari to D7030: The primary goal of this safari is to visit the School Latrine project in Paramaribo. Additional projects in the area would be viewed. Rotary club visits and other tourism opportunities will be included.

Funding: Rotarians and their partners are responsible for their own expenses including airfare, hotels, meals, and incidental expenses. Occasionally, expenses for event tickets, dining out and admission fees over and above hosts' provisions are anticipated (an estimate will be given prior to trip). We hope to have local transportation provided by hosts. An application must be submitted with a \$50/person deposit check (non-refundable if accepted to team or alternate). These funds help to defray costs for name tags and gifts to hosts and clubs etc. In addition, some countries will require a visa, amount varies. Once selected for the team, you will be notified about requirements.

If we find a good arrangement, team members will participate in group purchase of airline tickets and travel as a team. It is best to arrive together as a team. Exceptions may consider arrival and departure times, and unavoidable travel interruptions such as weather, etc. It is advised to have emergency assistance and medical insurance or be self-insured. Air miles and personal discounts can be used when arranging airline tickets.

Gifts: It is advised to bring club banners or pins for exchanging at Rotary meetings. The District committee will arrange for name badges, cards, District and State pins or flags, as needed, for the team to hand out during their visit.

Duties of a team member: Be committed to go. Lead time is many months out to allow time to plan presentations, arrange project visits, and travel plan. Be of good health to permit travel. Willing to be a team member. Will have current passports and visa (if required). Visa assistance will be provided. Will attend team planning meetings prior to departure. Will serve as a good Rotary ambassador from our District.

Luggage: It is important to travel with a minimum of clothing and luggage as many foreign vehicles are small, necessitating a minimum of luggage. Climate is hot and humid and dress requirements will be suggested before departure.

Presentations: Team members will participate in presentations about our District to the host clubs. Team members should report to their own club upon return. It is suggested to gather information on projects that appeal to team members.

Additional information and specific arrangements for Exchanges may arise separately.

Contacts: Linda Peterson, 605-341-5006, pete2@q.com

For additional info, contact the RI handbook http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rfe_handbook_en.pdf

Building Cultural Awareness: Tips for Rotarians planning an exchange

Culture is complex. At times, the underlying social values, assumptions, and behaviors associated with a culture can be difficult to understand from an outside perspective. Exchanges provide many opportunities to explore new cultures and see your own culture through the eyes of others. Some features of culture, like language, dress, music, and food, will be immediately visible, while other features, like people's attitudes toward age, personal space, work, and time, may be subtle.

Though Rotarians share many core values, they are culturally diverse. As you prepare to interact with your exchange partners, resist the urge to automatically interpret their words, gestures, values, and other aspects of behavior according to the standards of your culture. Remember: Although a person's behavior may not make sense in your culture, your behavior may not make sense in his or her culture either. Attempting to understand the cultural background of your exchange partners will enable you to put cultural differences into context, understand your own culture on a more profound level, and make for a more enriching exchange experience. As you familiarize yourself with the language, customs, and beliefs of your exchange partners, you will improve your ability to function, interact, and communicate within a new cultural context.

During your exchange you will have a unique opportunity to forge lasting international friendships. Take full advantage of this opportunity by asking questions, communicating effectively, and actively participating in your exchange. Engaging other participants in an open dialogue is the best way to understand another culture.

Always keep in mind the greater purpose of your exchange. If you strive to be respectful and friendly, you will come away from your exchange experience having made new and lasting friendships. Ask past exchange participants about their experience, and they will probably tell you that a little temporary cultural anxiety was well worth the reward of new friendships made.



Participant Application: District 5610 Exchange with District 7030, Trinidad & Suriname
Date: January 29-February 9, 2012

District 5610 invites interested Rotarians to join the proposed Project Safari to Trinidad and Suriname.

The Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) is a program to foster international fellowship among Rotarians. The purpose of this document is to solicit applications from Rotarians who would like to host and/or travel as part of this exchange program.

A \$50 per person deposit is required with this application if you are applying to travel. (non-refundable if accepted for out-going RFE) Make checks payable to Rotary District 5610. Mail or email this application to:
Linda Peterson pete2@q.com 11585 Nemo Road, Rapid City, SD 57702 605-341-5006

Rotarian Applicant _____ Spouse/Partner _____

Rotary Club _____ Club # _____ Rotary Club _____ Club # _____

Interested in: hosting traveling traveling w/partner (check all applicable)

Home address _____ Home address _____

Home phone _____ Home phone _____

Work phone _____ Work phone _____

Cell phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____ Email _____

Occupation _____ Occupation _____

Photo of you and or spouse/partner or family photo attached or emailed

Age 20-40 41-60 61-80 81 + Smoking yes no

Languages spoken _____

Interests _____

Children names and ages if living at home or otherwise participating in the exchange:

Special considerations or restrictions that your hosts or guests should be aware of (dietary, pets, allergies, disabilities, etc.)? _____

Any other notes? _____

Have you traveled with RFE before? when? where? _____

I understand the expectations of RFE program as set forth in this application and the RFE Handbook Yes No

I understand that all information provided here is voluntary and may be shared with other participants Yes No

If interested in traveling, I am prepared to make all necessary travel arrangements and pay for costs Yes No

I am willing to give a presentation about my experience to other clubs Yes No

Signature _____ Signature _____

Date _____ Date _____