



Impact Travel

social enterprise in action
on an unparalleled international adventure

Impact Travel - When “Travel for Good” is *Great*

A Note from Arnold Duijzer, Program Manager, Spark Ventures



8 Impact Travel
opportunities
already on the
2016 calendar

I joined Spark Ventures about a year ago, with a background in travel and tourism. Within our team, my role is necessarily diverse, but my work on our Impact Travel adventures is undoubtedly my favorite part of the job.

Spark Ventures has managed to curate incredibly unique travel opportunities, and in the past year, these travel offerings have significantly grown. Through partnerships with impressive luxury travel vendors to customized trips focused on young professionals, women, and families, we have been expanding what it means to learn, do good and have fun while traveling.

29 Repeat
Travelers



In my first year at Spark, I have had the opportunity to travel to both Nicaragua and Zambia to experience impact investing first-hand, and build relationships with the children and local leaders at our social impact partners. Please consider joining us on one of our upcoming trips.

Arnold Duijzer



Dedication to all the Elijahs

A Personal Account from Sue Bernstein, 3-time Zambia Impact Traveler and Spark Supporter

Just before my last visit to Zambia in January 2014, Elijah came to Hope House (the orphanage here at Hope Village). I don't remember all the details, but I know he had lost both his parents. He lived with his grandmother, who was ill-equipped to care for him. There was a lot of red tape and a slow process to get him into Hope House. And he had a brother, who could not be taken in to the orphanage with him. What I do remember vividly was an adorable frightened boy who seemed almost shell-shocked when I first saw him. Over the four days of last year's visit, he did seem to blossom a bit and by the end of our stay, he was actually participating in the dancing and singing, and even giving us visitors a few smiles. But, I always wondered how he would fare, and what would happen to his brother.

Fast forward to Day 1 of this visit when we gathered at Hope House for our welcome dinner, which starts with the Hope House orphans singing some rousing Zambian welcome songs and prayers. As the kids came to join us in the "family room" (which is our home base while at Hope), I found myself pointing out Elijah to a fellow traveler and telling him how Elijah had first come to Hope the previous year. But, I was perplexed because he seemed so much smaller than I remembered him. Then, as more kids came in, I learned that that smaller child wasn't Elijah. It was his younger brother Charles... He was at the orphanage, too! And Elijah had grown into a smiling, more confident boy, with a bounce to his step and his smile a more constant part of his personality.

I continue to be awed by their dedication to these vulnerable children, and encouraged by the smiles on the faces of all the Elijahs they serve.

At the farewell dinner at Hope House, Elijah sang with so much more confidence and enthusiasm than he had in 2014. He seemed to dance in and out of the room. It was a transformation that only comes with the kind of love and attention he is receiving at Hope.

These teachers and staff members here are an amazing, dedicated group of people, who seem unfazed by circumstances that are almost unbelievable unless you see them in person. I continue to be awed by their dedication to these vulnerable children, and encouraged by the smiles on the faces of all the Elijahs they serve.

Impact Travel - A Growing Trend

Increasingly, Travelers Seek to Leave a Positive Impact with their Travel Dollars

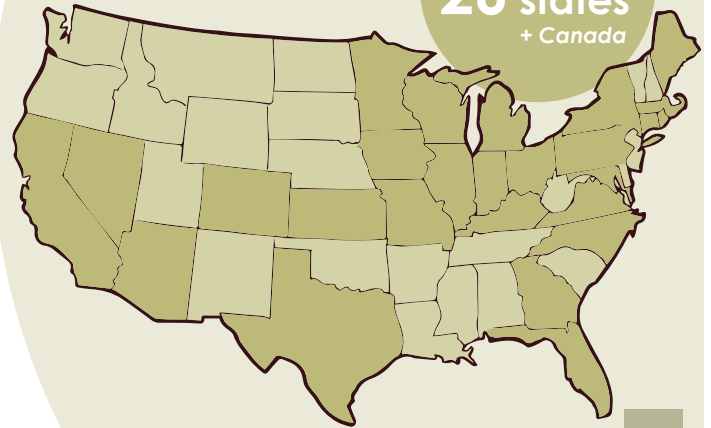
"Volunteer Travel" used to be limited to student life. In recent years, however, "doing good" has become a sought out travel experience for everyone from young families to business executives to retirees. Spark Ventures' long-standing community partnerships and our focus on sustainable practices puts our Impact Travel program at the leading edge of this trend.

On an Impact Travel adventure, you will experience:

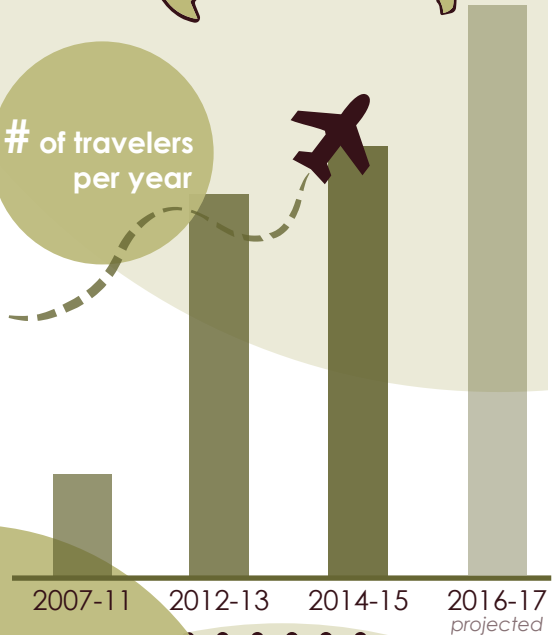
- Hands-on volunteering with children & local leaders
- Impact investing in sustainable food & agriculture
- Incredible natural beauty & cultural highlights

However, perhaps most importantly, the Spark Ventures trips fit within our larger commitment to business driven philanthropy - a model that strives to empower communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

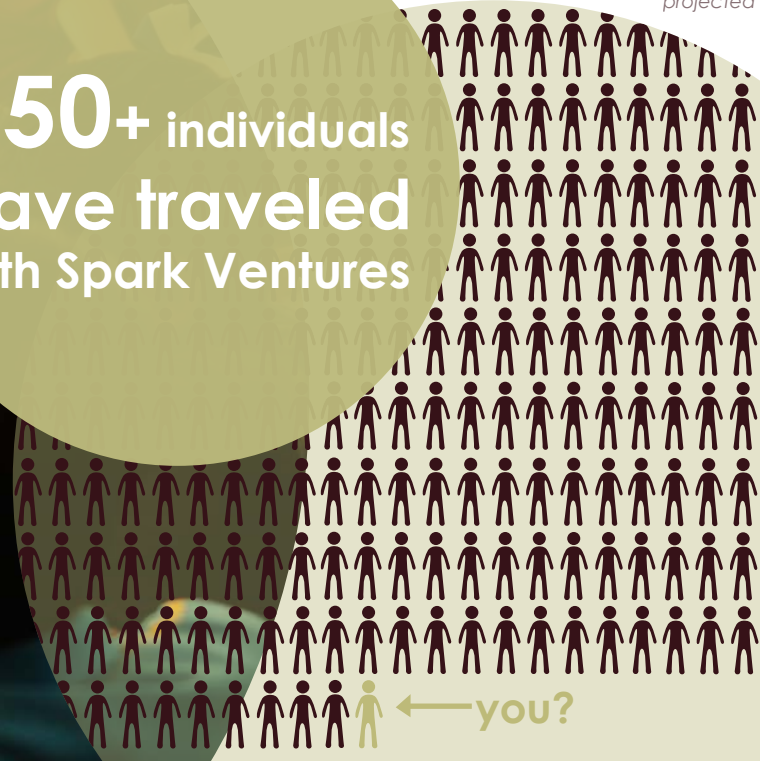
Travelers from
26 states
+ Canada



of travelers per year



350+ individuals
have traveled
with Spark Ventures



Meet Azalia Toruño

A Las Tías Success Story

Azalia is 16 years old and an incredible young woman - illustrating the influence Spark Ventures' social impact partners can have in the lives of vulnerable youth.

Living with her grandmother, who only finished first grade, Azalia is a scholarship recipient with a straight A average. Learn what Azalia dreams for her future and more about this impressive young woman at:

sparkventures.org/azalia



Plan Your Legacy

Have you considered making provisions for Spark Ventures in your estate? Contact Tina Erickson, Vice President of Development (terickson@sparkventures.org or 773.293.6710), to learn more about how to incorporate Spark Ventures into your will or estate plan.

sparkventures
business driven philanthropy

134 North LaSalle Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60602
773.293.6710

View this report online: sparkventures.org/investorreports

