



# WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS IT & WEBSITE DESIGN GHANA

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**AKWAABE - which means "welcome" - is never more meaningful than in Ghana. The Ghanaian people are among the friendliest in Africa.  
So ... AKWAABA to this beautiful country!**

From the moment you step out of the airport in Accra, you will realise that you have landed in Africa! En route to your accommodation, you'll pass by run-down shacks on dusty dirt roads, and half completed buildings with people all around you selling anything and everything whilst waiting at the traffic lights.

There is no mundane routine here: you are now on 'African time' and every thing is far wilder, yet much more relaxed. The air is filled with a warm equatorial breeze and unusual aromas and sounds; a mixture of charcoal, debris and fufu or beny slowly cooking over an open pot along with the chitter-chat of the tribal language of Twi being spoken. You then realise that you have finally arrived in Ghana.

Ghana is very much isolated from what goes in the Western world. While walking around the streets of Accra you won't find any Beckham shirts, Mc Donald's or any other touristy gimmicks - just real people living real Ghanaians lives.

**Ghana is warm, friendly and remarkably safe. If you are looking for a truly authentic African cultural experience, Ghana certainly will not disappoint you!**



## DESCRIPTION

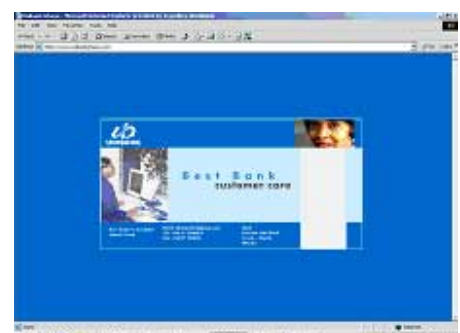
The IT Company we work with is a new media/internet company and was founded in 2001 by Robin Kwakofi. The company is engaged in interactive media development, applications development and E-business development.

Focused on both multimedia and server side technology, the IT Company has created a number of award winning sites and helped advance the state of Web Africa, operating from the early days when most of the usual suspects in Web Africa were still cutting their teeth.

The Company has created a number of websites for small and big companies, not only in Ghana and West Africa, but also in the UK.

**Some of the sites that Cytterra have produced include;**

- Hydra Form Estates
- Continental African Trading Agency
- ITC for Government 2004



## YOUR PLACEMENT

This IT Company is a very serious placement. As the company is fairly new but at the same time growing very fast, you will find that you will be kept very busy during your time.

The Company utilises two types of skills, programmers and graphic designers. You will be expected to do one of the two types of work, depending on where your skills lie.

You'll be given a project to work on and if you find that you are using a package that is unfamiliar to you, you'll be given the opportunity to learn the software and then commence on the project - so you will probably find that during your project you could find yourself using a number of different tools and environments.



***I generally spend the majority of my day coding and designing the website. Since I've been made project manager on this project, I have a great deal more responsibility than I feel I would get back in the UK doing similar work.***

All your work is very team-orientated and for this reason it is important that you can work in a team. If you have a passion for multimedia and you apply yourself well, you'll have a great placement!

All the computers in the office currently use Windows XP. When web designing, you'll write your own HTML and Java script coding. You will find yourself using a mixture of packages, both graphic and multimedia, like Photoshop and Flash MX. Other packages that you could find yourself using are 3D Max and Maya.

***"The work I'll be doing is exactly what I wanted to get experience of, so thanks very much!"***  
Omar Choudhary,

## FEEDBACK FROM ONE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS:

*"You get real responsibility on projects once you're familiar with the software/hardware/programming languages that the firm uses. Though you're not just thrown into the deep end, Robin (my manager) is always willing to help out with any problems.*

*Since this placement is in Ghana, the atmosphere at CS is very laid back. I love it! The work colleagues in the office are all very friendly too.*

*You're free to work almost whatever hours you like. Working hours are loosely based around 9am – 5pm weekdays, though, they really are flexible. So you can work longer/shorter days, weekends or evenings if you like. As long as you get the work done it's fine!"*

## ACCOMMODATION

**(Photo right:** Welcome to the Prince Perbi house hold, one of our host families in Ghana)

You will most likely stay with a host family. They will look after you superbly and often our volunteers comment on how great it was to feel as though they are part of the community. The majority host families will do their best to make you feel happy and part of their family. At times you may even be embarrassed by their extreme generosity.



***"I finish work on average between 5pm and 6pm and spend most evenings socialising with other Travellers volunteers around Accra."***

Most of our volunteers have found that staying with families in Ghana is a great opportunity to mix and integrate with the local Ghanaians, something that many western visitors miss out on.

## GHANA – GENERAL INFORMATION

**Currency:** Cedi (c) = 100 psewas.

£1.00 = c13,603 (as at 15/07/03, but exchange rates may fluctuate).

A pint of beer can cost 5,000 -15,000 Cedis which is about 40p-£1.10

Soft drinks like Fanta cost about 2,000-10,000 Cedis which is about 14p-74p

A packet of cigarettes can cost about 15,000 Cedis is £1.10p

So it can be cheap for a good night out.

**Full country name:** Republic of Ghana

**Area:** 238,540 sq km (93,030 sq mi)

**Population:** 19.7 million

**Capital city:** Accra (pop 1.3 million)

**People:** Akan (44%), Mole-Dagbani (16%), Ewe (13%), Ga (8%), Guan, Gurma, Gonja, Dagomba

**Language:** English (official language), Ewe, Ga, Twi

**Religion:** Christian (60%), Muslim (15%), traditional African religions (25%)

**Government:** Parliamentary democracy

**President:** John Agyekum Kufuor



## ACCRA – THE CAPITAL CITY

Accra, on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea, is both big-city hectic and African laid-back. Accra may not be one of the prettiest cities by Western standards, but there is something else this African city has that makes up for lack of planning and fancy buildings.

It is a wonderful city to experience. It is full of character, has a warm feel, is extremely friendly and feels very safe. It also has some great beaches!

Spend a few hours in the breezy capital of Accra and you'll swear the wind and waves off the Gulf of Guinea have infused the land and people with equatorial warmth. It is a city that is young, wild and full of soul and here you'll sample the true African spirit. During the day, the streets are full of market stalls and vendors where you can browse and buy mouthwatering foods, colourful Kente cloth, beads, or baskets. Don't forget to practice your haggling.



During the night the city comes alive with the traditional Ghanaian 'spot' bars and the sound of live drumming music in the warm night air. Village-specific festivals and events occur throughout the year.

***Accra itself is fascinating, very different from home. Very noisy, dusty and hot, but really colourful and vibrant. Particularly impressed by the palm trees, amazing variety of little stalls and shops and the women balancing huge bundles on their heads! We've felt very safe so far - very little hassle from people, most of whom have been really welcoming.*** Caroline Allen – Law Placement

## The next step

If you would like to join us on one of our exciting projects then please fill in either an online application form at our website ([www.travellersworldwide.com](http://www.travellersworldwide.com)) or one that is attached to our brochure. Once you have booked and confirmed your place we will send you detailed pack information regarding your placement and country.

**I do hope you join us and please do call or email if you have any questions at all about this or any of our other projects – 01903 502595 or email [info@travellersworldwide.com](mailto:info@travellersworldwide.com)**

If you would like to know more about Travellers in general, or about any of our other projects we run in over 18 countries worldwide, please visit our website at [www.travellersworldwide.com](http://www.travellersworldwide.com)

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