



The Rotary Friendship Exchange program gives Rotarians (including spouse or significant other) the opportunity to host and visit Rotarians around the world. In addition to experiencing other cultures and making lasting friendships, an exchange provides a strong foundation for carrying out other international activities and service projects.

The primary goal of a Friendship Exchange is to build greater international understanding and goodwill. In addition, exchange participants can learn how their vocations are practiced in other parts of the world, observe new customs and cultures, and promote an appreciation of cultural diversity worldwide. District 6250 currently has two RFE opportunities in 2015!

OUTBOUND DATES	LOCATION	CONTACT	INBOUND DATES
Jan 10-21, 2015	D3850 The Philippines (Current itinerary includes visiting Bacolod, Iloilo, Kalibo and Boracay)	Darla Leick dleick@msn.com (715) 506-0044	TBD
March, 2015	D9600 Eastern Australia (includes Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands)	Jack Haase jack.c.haase@gmail.com 507-313-1128	September, 2015

You will see that there are inbound dates and outbound dates because this is a Rotary Friendship **Exchange**. Discuss the hosting opportunity with your club. Although it may not be possible for each attendee's club to host, it is a great way for your Rotary club to experience a short term visit (usually 2–3 days) from an inbound team! It also allows for additional dialogue if you are planning to work together on a joint project. Here is a bit more information about each RFE:

D3850 Islands along the Western Coast of Central and Southern Philippines

Our 2014 RFE was postponed due to the devastation from super typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda, but has been rescheduled to January 2015! While we plan to attend Rotary meetings and/or projects, the itinerary will focus most of our time being actively engaged in activities with Rotarians and locals. Activities may include visiting a primary school, a cut flower farm, observing a pineapple fiber cloth demonstration and capiz shell craft making, as well activities associated with their beautiful waters and beaches – including Boracay which boasts the world's most beautiful beaches. Our hosts are looking forward to welcoming our group with sincere Filipino hospitality. Team Maximum: 8

D9600 Eastern Australia including Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands

Brisbane is in District 9600 and the district extends north and west from Brisbane. The district also includes, Papua, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Nauru. The exchange will occur in March of 2015, likely the latter half of such month, coinciding with their district conference. The Aussie team is tentatively scheduled to come to our district in September of 2015. Team Maximum: 12

Cost: Each RFE is unique, but the largest portion of costs is the airfare for outbound air travel. Occasionally there will be some hotel stays, meal expenses, entrance fees, and public transportation costs, as well as any personal travel beyond the planned RFE itinerary. Team members are expected to assist in hosting inbound RFE team members and sharing in local hosting activities. Whether outbound or inbound, this program is not financially supported at the District level.

In 2005, D6250 experienced their first RFE to India and since then our district has returned to India for a second RFE and has also participated in Friendship Exchanges to New Zealand, two to Sweden, England, Turkey, Uganda/Kenya, and Nigeria.