

opinion & CAMPUS LIFE

PRICE COMPARISON: AFRICA VS. THE U.S.

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Staff Writer

Anyone who has been to Africa begins to comprehend its abundance. It is not merely a continent where people live in the jungle and roam around naked. It is filled with diversity, nature and wildlife. The people are no different from the people of the Western World. They go out to restaurants and movies and even shop. The biggest contributor to Africa's growth is trade. Are the prices of goods and services in Ethiopia and Kenya any different from the United States?

Ethiopia is located on the eastern horn of Africa. It is a developing country where 85% of the population depends on agriculture. The markets mainly include coffee, flowers, leather, gold and oilseeds. The price of modern or western clothing, shoes and handbags are a bit expensive compared to traditional Ethiopian clothing as well as clothes in the United States. People of Ethiopia enjoy the company of others at all times. They enjoy life by attending coffee ceremonies and going to restaurants or an azmari bet (a place where you can eat and enjoy live cultural performances).

Fitness centers there have fewer customers compared to gymnasiums in America because obesity is rare. The shopping centers vary from supermarkets and malls to flea markets and boutiques. 99% of the people buy food on Saturday mornings. When shopping anywhere in Ethiopia, a tourist must always bargain for 2/3 or 1/3 of the selling price. For electronics, there are two choices,

made in China or company made. Cell phones made in China are very cheap, but they do not last long because they are of poor quality. The latter might vary from Nokia, Samsung, etc., and they are cheaper than cell phones in the US.

One of the neighboring countries' to Ethiopia is the Republic of Kenya. The Republic of Kenya is a beautiful country with rich scenery, culture, religion, safaris and a prominent social center. Nairobi, the capital, is the 4th largest city in Africa. The main exports are tea, coffee and petroleum products. Ida Githu and Esther Wamunyu are students from Kenya studying at Meredith College. Kenyans love outings, like going to the movies or night clubs. Such entertainments are much cheaper and accessible to all ages with the exception of drinking. Public transportation is easily accessible and reliable at a very low price. Since public health is so cheap, there is no necessity for health insurance, unlike the U.S.

The statement that Africans get a dollar a day has shocked the World for centuries. Esther pointed out that the reason in general why people survive on a dollar a day is because things are cheaper. A dollar in Ethiopia is worth 9.89 *birr* while in Kenya it is worth 80 shilling. In conclusion, living in Africa costs less than living in the United States. ■

TOP 10 BAR SPECIALS IN RALEIGH

Aubrey Jones
Staff Writer

Don't let the economy hold you back from going out and having a good time! Check out these specials for the cheapest ways to enjoy Raleigh.

Amra's
106 Glenwood Ave
Sunday Night – Live Music
½ priced wine

Flying Saucer
328 W Morgan St
Monday Night
Pint Night

Blue Martini – Live Music
116 N West St # 100
Wednesday Night
Free Appetizers for Ladies with purchase of Cosmo

Rum Runners
208 E Martin St
Wednesday Night –
Dueling Piano night
\$5 cover \$1.25 well drinks \$2 beer

Red Room:
Thursday Night
1/2 off Sangria and Paella
Free salsa lessons

Buckhead Saloon
411 W. Morgan St.
Wednesday Night – College Night
No cover until 10:30

Pantana Bob's
3025 Hillsborough St
Thursday Night
No cover for ladies before 11pm

Haven Lounge
606 Glenwood Ave.
Thursday Night
\$10 cover, open bar all night

Lucky B's
609 Tucker Street
(Off Glenwood Ave.)
Thursday Night
\$1.50 Domestic beer

Sushi Blue Café
301 Glenwood Ave
½ priced sushi Tuesday
10pm-12am and
Thursday Night 11pm-1am